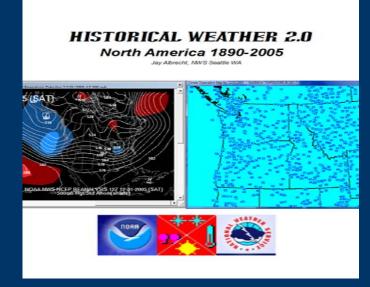
#### **Historical Weather Viewer 2.0:**

-a Major Update to a Computer Application that Combines Climate Observations with NCEP Reanalysis Data

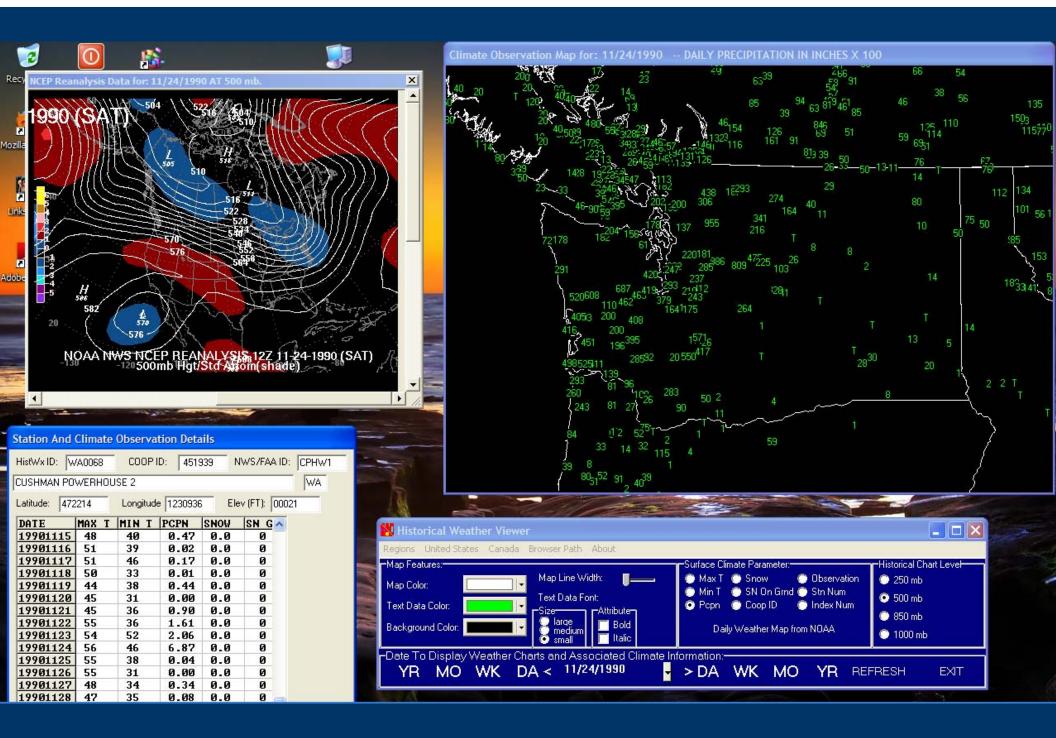


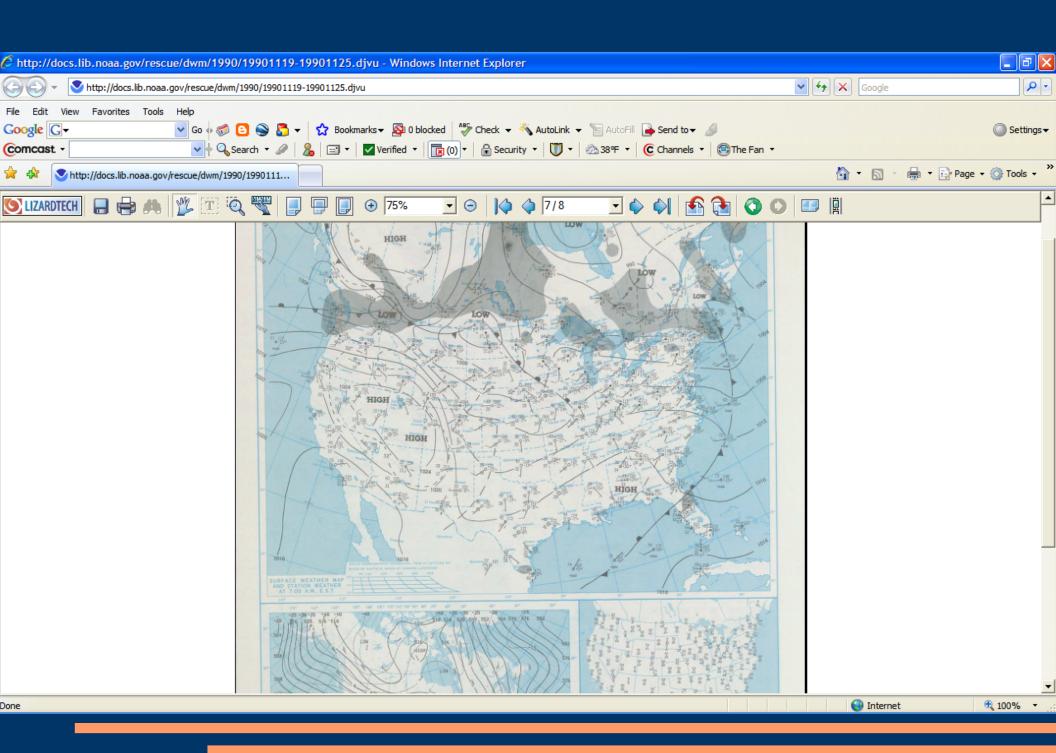
Jay A. Albrecht Senior Forecaster

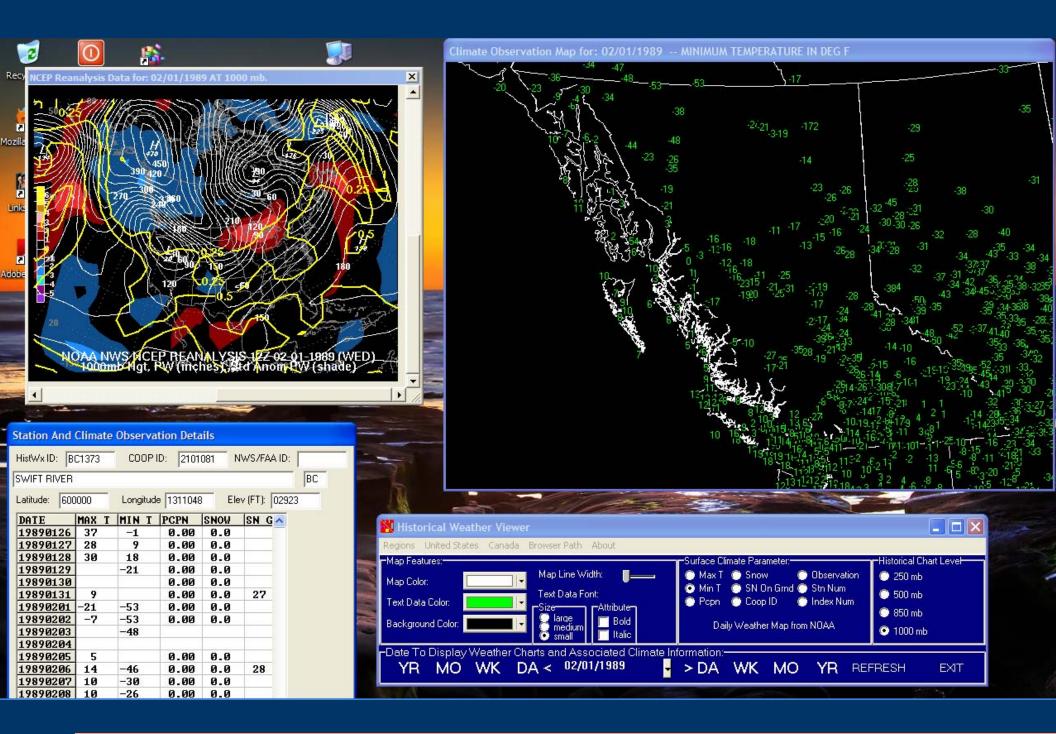
National Weather Service Forecast Office, Seattle Washington

### **Historical Weather Viewer 2.0**

- *Surface climate database covers*: 01/01/1890-12/31/2005 for all of North America. Many more U.S. locations available than in the previous version of the program.
- *Available upper-air chart data*: 12z NCEP reanalysis for 250-, 500-, 850-, and 1000-mb isobaric surfaces for the period 1948 through 2005.
- *Climate observations include*: daily maximum and minimum temperature (deg F), daily precipitation (hundredths of an inch), daily snowfall (tenths of an inch), and snow on ground (whole inches).
- *Program*: intuitive interface and navigation features; dynamic zoom, click on observation for attributes and 31-day time series, Daily Weather Map download from NOAA







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#### **APPLICATION DATABASE**

- Data coverage: All of North America including: Contiguous United States, Canada, Alaska, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands, Mexico, portions of the Caribbean. (Hawaii is not included)
- *Daily Climate Observations*: derived from digital data supplied by the WMO, Utah State University, Environment Canada, and NOAA Regional Climate Centers.
- *Climate observations available for all available sites in coverage area.* Previous version of the program only contained a subset based on limited data provide by NOAA Regional Climate Centers through xmACIS.

## **Potential Application Uses:**

- *Operational Forecast Preparation*: compare and contrast upcoming weather patterns with historical events.
- *Case Study Preparation*: Determine favored upper-air patterns for heavy precipitation and temperature extremes. Study mesoscale variations within a forecast area in varying upper-air patterns. There area many possibilities.
- *Training*: e.g., new forecasters or forecasters moving from one location to another
- *Emergency Managers*: use application to compare past events with upcoming events when forecasters give reference dates in forecast discussions or watch/warning products.

# Hardware Requirements

- Microsoft Windows XP operating system or later
- **6.0** GB Storage (can be compressed to 4.0 GB on a NTFS formatted drive.)
- *NOINSTALL application*: it can be "installed" anywhere (portable hard drive, large thumb drive, LAN, local drive). No Windows registry changes are made
- *Need a DVD-ROM* to install
- *Monitor resolution of 1200x1024* optimal (other resolutions work but cause viewing difficulties)
- *Application runs well on a modest machine* by today's standards (Pentium 4 1.8 Ghz, 512 MB RAM).
- *High-speed Internet connection, IE 7.0+ or Mozilla 2+* needed to download and view Daily Weather Map data from NOAA Central Library

#### Software Attributes

- **Dynamic mapping** algorithms support zoom and unzoom while maintaining Lambert-Conformal map projection
- *Map data* can be displayed for any North American region, state, province, or NWS forecast area
- *Simple GUI program* written in C++ using Borland C++ Builder 5.0

# **Planned Upgrades/Enhancements**

- Add ability to display upper air data plots on a map for North America (00Z and 12Z) – specifically for mandatory levels between 1000 and 100 mb.
- Make upper air data available for all days 1948-present
- Click on map for display of a specific Skew T-log P plot
- Reprogram the application in Java to make available to Linux/Unix/Mac users
- Program as a web application or applet for possible inclusion on NWS web sites.

comments/questions/requests: send to jay.albrecht@noaa.gov