Chapter 4

WIMS Basics

This chapter provides the information necessary to understand how WIMS is organized. It will enable efficient navigation of the WIMS system.

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The Initial WIMS screen following logon is made up of three parts: The Banner section at the top, the WIMS menu structure on the left and the Dashboard on the right.

BANNER SECTION

The Banner section is found at the top of each WIMS screen.

This banner section provides three items:

- Version information, as shown in the example above, is Ver. 1.2.0.
- FastPath field for quick navigation
- Navigation Tree hyperlink, which outlines all WIMS menu items.

FASTPATH FIELD

The FastPath field, on the top banner, allows users to type the FastPath for the exact page that is needed. Instead of clicking through menu items to get to Display RAWS Data the user simply types the FastPath DRAWS and selects the Go button.

Navigation Tree

Selecting the Show Navigation Tree link on the top banner will open a list of WIMS screens in outline form. When first opened the outline contains the same hyperlinks as the WIMS Main Menu. Each item of the outline is a FastPath and is also a hyperlink that will take users to that page.

Clicking on the plus box to the left of the menu item will expand that item to list all its sub-menus or pages. The plus box changes to a minus box when all items are expanded. To close items in the outline, click on the minus box.

The following shows the Navigation Tree fully expanded.

- DATA - Data Entry and Manipulation
  - OBS - Observations
    - NOBS - New Observations
    - EOBS - Edit Observations
    - DOBS - Display Observations
    - DRAWS - Display Remote Automatic Weather Stations
  - FCST - Forecasts
    - DFCST - Display Forecasts
      - DPFCST - Display Point Forecasts
      - DTFCST - Display Trend Forecasts
    - NFCST - New Forecasts
      - NPFCST - New Point Forecasts
      - NTFCST - New Trend Forecasts
    - EFCST - Edit Forecasts
      - EPFCST - Edit Point Forecasts
      - ETFCST - Edit Trend Forecasts
  - STA - Station Information
    - MSTA - Maintain Station
      - NSTA - New Station
      - ESTA - Edit Station
      - LSTA - List Stations
      - DSTA - Delete Stations
      - ENFDR - Display/Edit Default NFDRS Parameters
    - MSIG - Maintain Special Interest Groups
      - NSIG - New Special Interest Groups
      - ESIG - Edit Special Interest Groups
      - DSIG - Delete Special Interest Groups
      - LSIG - List Special Interest Group
      - EAVG - Display/Edit NFDRS Weight Assignments
    - MACL - Maintain Access Control Lists
      - NACL - New Access Control Lists
      - EACL - Edit Access Control Lists
      - DACL - Delete Access Control Lists
      - LACL - List Access Control Lists
  - DNFDR - Display National Fire Danger Rating
    - DIDX - Display Index Format
    - DIDM - Display Index (Moist) Format
    - DMGR - Display Manager Format
    - DSHR - Display Short Format
    - DAVG - Display Weighted Average
    - DABR - Display Abbreviated Format
  - PLST - Data Capture for OBS/FCST/NFDR
- UTIL - Utilities
  - PROFILE - Profile Setup
  - LUSER - WIMS User List
- NWSPROD - NWS Products
  - FWFCST - Fire Weather Forecasts
  - RED FLAG - Red Flag Warnings
  - SPOT - Spot Forecasts
  - SMOKE - Smoke Management Forecasts
  - ONARR - Various Other Narractives
- FMWS - Fire Management Web Sites
  - NIFC - National Interagency Fire Center
  - FAMFAH - F&AM Fire Application Helpdesk
  - WFAS - Wildland Fire Assessment System
  - FWX - Boise NWS FWX
  - WRCC - Western Regional Climate Center
  - NWS - National Weather Service
  - USFSFTP - U.S. Forest Service FTP Site
  - RAWS - Remote Automated Weather Station Homepage

One FastPath not shown on the Navigation Tree is ENRR – Recalc.

To Exit the Navigation Tree select one of the hyperlinks or type a FastPath in the FastPath field on the top banner and select the Go button.

FASTPATHS

FastPaths may be confusing for new users but remembering the following information will help.

FastPaths are the quickest way to move around WIMS.

FastPaths include specific prefixes that are common throughout the WIMS system:

D – Display

E – Edit

H – Help

L – List

M – Maintain

N – New

FastPaths also include some specific suffixes:

OBS – Observations

FCST – Forecasts

STA – Station Information

SIG – Special Interest Group

ACL – Access Control Lists

RAWS – Remote Automatic Weather Station

NFDR – National Fire Danger Rating

AVG – NFDRS Weighted Averages

Some commonly used FastPaths

LUSER – List User

DIDX – Display Index Format

PROFILE – User Profile Setup

PLST – Data Capture for OBS/FCST/NFDR

EXIT – Exit WIMS

DASHBOARD

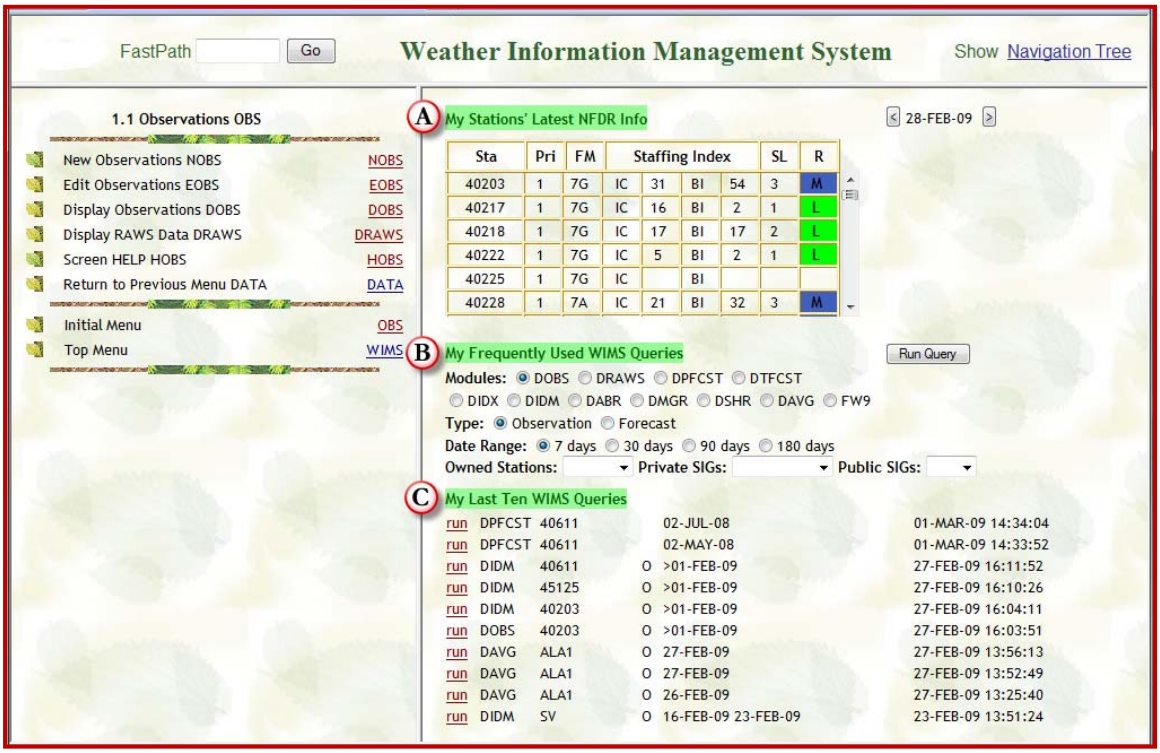
The WIMS Dashboard was introduced in WIMS version 1.2.0, it provides station outputs, and facilitates the running of queries to generate specific outputs.

The Dashboard is divided into three main sections:

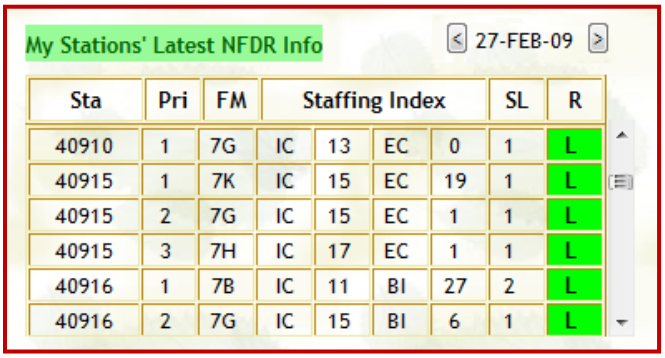
A My Stations' Latest NFDR Info

B My Frequently Used WIMS Queries

C My Last Ten WIMS Queries



Section A – My Stations' Latest NFDRS Info is a table that includes all stations the user owns or has Edit Station access to as assigned in the stations Access Control List - ACL. The section also includes a date selector. The current date is default to the screen but selecting the arrows will move the date backward or forward.



The table has columns for:

- Sta - station ID
- Pri – Priority – there will be a row for each of the priority lines of the stations NFDRS parameters (a station with 3 priority lines will have three rows in the table)

Sta	Pri	FM	Staffing Index				SL	R
40243	1	7G	IC	19	BI	30	2	L
40243	2	7B	IC	15	BI	39	2	L
40243	3	7T	IC	19	BI	45	3	M
40243	4	7F	IC	22	BI	26	2	M

- FM - Fuel Model – each fuel model of the station will be listed

Sta	Pri	FM	Staffing Index				SL	R
40243	1	7G	IC	19	BI	30	2	L
40243	2	7B	IC	15	BI	39	2	L
40243	3	7T	IC	19	BI	45	3	M
40243	4	7F	IC	22	BI	26	2	M

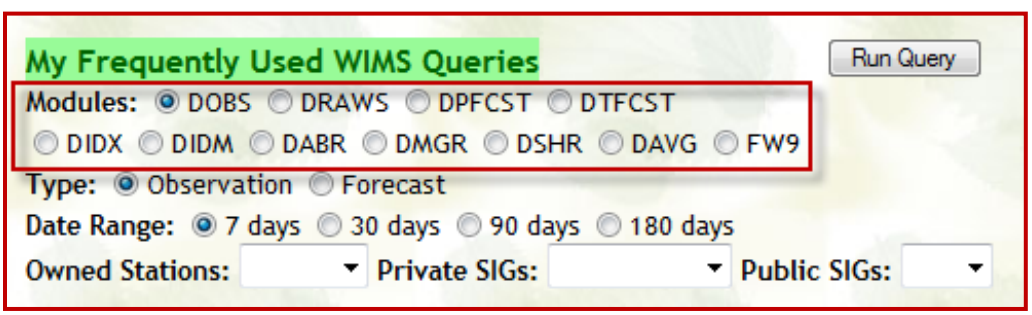
- Staffing Index – includes NFDRS output for the IC (ignition component) and the designated staffing index. In this example the station has two priority lines, each with a fuel model and a specified staffing index. Priority 1 is run on a 7C fuel model for the staffing index BI – Burning Index. Priority 2 is run on a 7G fuel model for the staffing index EC – Energy Release Component.

Sta	Pri	FM	Staffing Index				SL	R
40611	1	7C	IC	10	BI	20	2	L
40611	2	7G	IC	9	EC	0	1	L

- SL - Staffing Level – calculated by WIMS, based on the number of decision classes and the percentile breakpoint values set in the stations NFDRS parameters.

- R - Adjective Rating – based on the Staffing Index and Ignition Component. The column is also shaded per the standard Adjective Rating designators.

Section B - The **My Frequently Used WIMS Queries** section allows the user to select a module to query.



The Query can be run on a module simply by selecting the radio button.

The query is then filtered by:

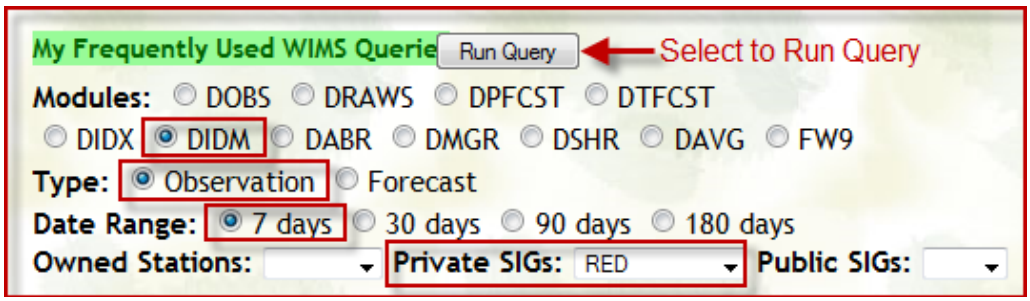
Observation type: Observed, Forecasted or Special

Date Range: 1, 7, 30, 90 or 180 days.

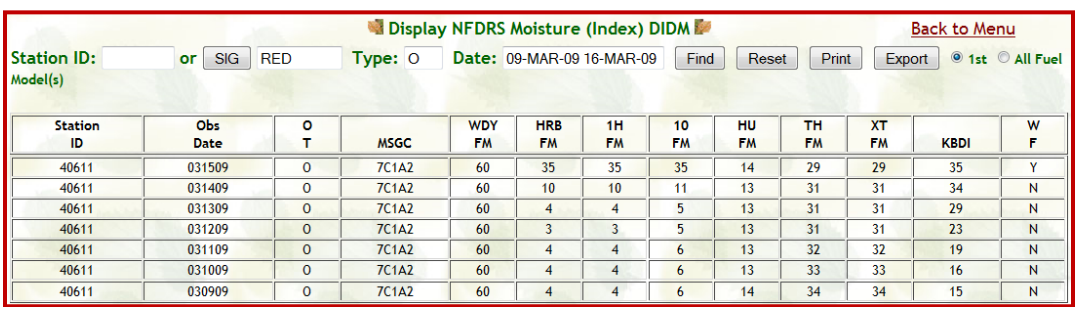
Queries can be run on Individual stations under Owned Stations, a Special Interest Group under Private SIGS or a Public SIG. There are dropdown lists under each which are populated base on the User ID.

Select the "Run Query" button to start the query.

In the example below the "My Frequently Used WIMS Queries" is set to query SIG RED, for DIDM outputs for daily observations for the previous 7 days.



The results of the query are displayed below.



Station ID	Obs Date	O T	MSGC	WDY FM	HRB FM	1H FM	10 FM	HU FM	TH FM	XT FM	KBDI	W F
40611	031509	O	7C1A2	60	35	35	35	14	29	29	35	Y
40611	031409	O	7C1A2	60	10	10	11	13	31	31	34	N
40611	031309	O	7C1A2	60	4	4	5	13	31	31	29	N
40611	031209	O	7C1A2	60	3	3	5	13	31	31	23	N
40611	031109	O	7C1A2	60	4	4	6	13	32	32	19	N
40611	031009	O	7C1A2	60	4	4	6	13	33	33	16	N
40611	030909	O	7C1A2	60	4	4	6	14	34	34	15	N

Section C - The **My Last Ten WIMS Queries**

The last 10 queries run by the user are stored to allow for easy repeat use.

To repeat a query, simply select the "run" hyperlink for the query.

Each Query is a line of the list. The most recent query is at the top of the list.

The Query list line includes:

1. FastPath of the query
2. Name of the station or SIG
3. Type of observation (O/F/S)
4. Date range of the query in the standard WIMS date format
5. Date and time the query was run.

WIMS MENU

The WIMS menu structure displayed in the initial WIMS screen will be the WIMS Main Menu.

Each menu within the WIMS system contains menu/page descriptions plus hyperlinks that provide navigation to sub-menu pages.

Every menu has a link for help on that particular menu. In the example on the left, the help is for the WIMS Main Menu – HWIMS. Help for the DATA page would be HDATA.

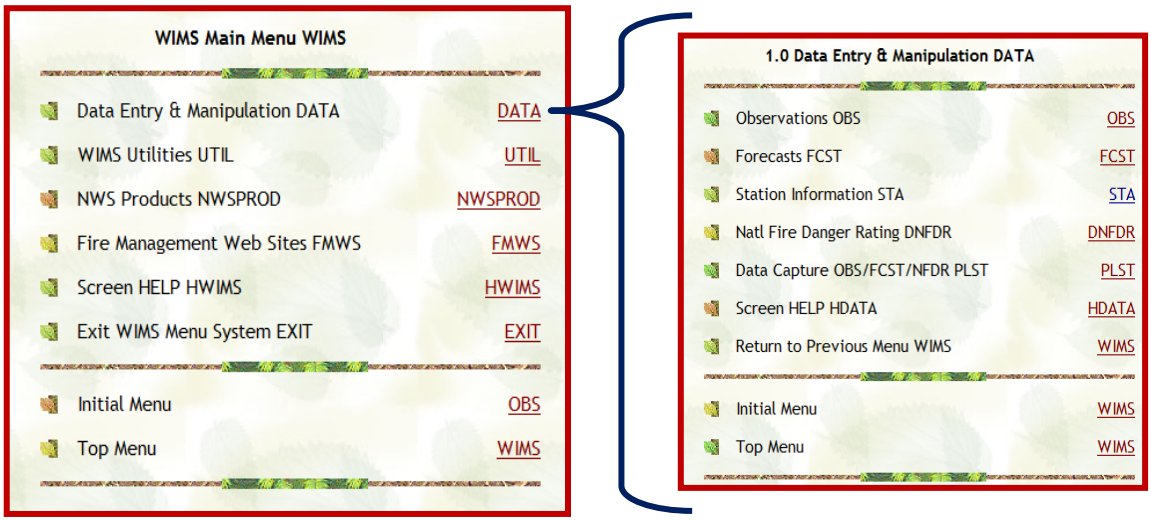
Below help is a link for the previous menu. In the case of the WIMS menu a previous screen is to exit WIMS.

Each menu also has links at the bottom called **Initial Menu** and **Top Menu**. The hyperlinks take you back either to the WIMS Main Menu or to the menu that is set as the Initial Menu upon logon.

NOTE: The initial menu can be changed in a Users Profile – PROFILE.

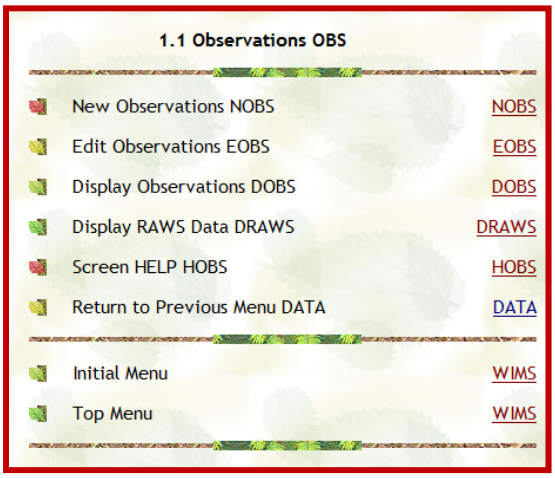
In the example above the Initial Menu is OBS. The default initial menu is WIMS.

Below on the left is the WIMS Main Menu.



Selecting the DATA link from this menu opens the Data Entry & Manipulation DATA menu.

The Data Entry & Manipulation menu has its own unique menu items. Selecting the OBS link will open the Observations OBS menu. From the OBS menu, selecting the DRAWS link will open the Display RAWS Data DRAWS form.



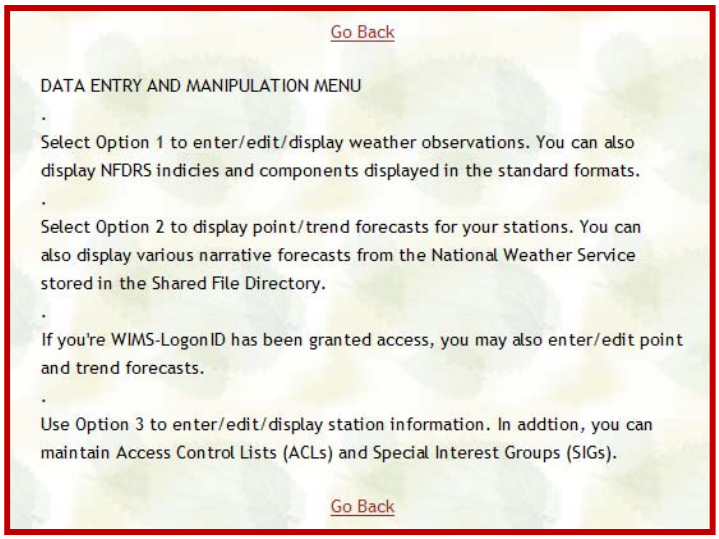
GETTING HELP

You can receive limited assistance using the current WIMS system help facility, which includes general WIMS menu and form help.

To obtain user support and system administration services, contact the F&AM Fire Applications Helpdesk at 1-800-253-5559, or (208)-387-5290. For after hours support, leave your name, phone number with area code, WIMS logon ID, agency name, and a detailed message. The Helpdesk will contact you on the next business day

SCREEN HELP

Selecting Screen Help on a menu will open an information page. To close the information page select the Go Back link on the top or bottom of the page. This is the HDATA (Help on Data Entry and Manipulation Menu) information page.


Go Back

DATA ENTRY AND MANIPULATION MENU

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Select Option 1 to enter/edit/display weather observations. You can also display NFDRS indicies and components displayed in the standard formats.

.

Select Option 2 to display point/trend forecasts for your stations. You can also display various narrative forecasts from the National Weather Service stored in the Shared File Directory.

.

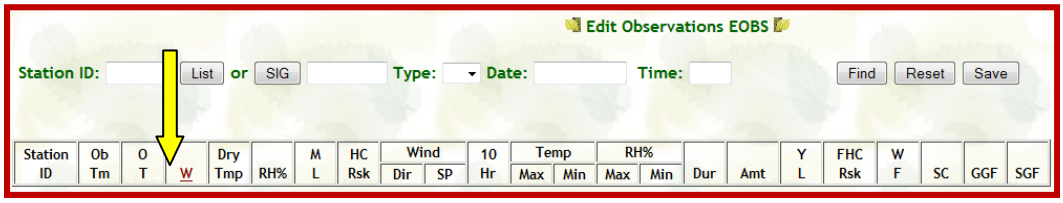
If you're WIMS-LogonID has been granted access, you may also enter/edit point and trend forecasts.

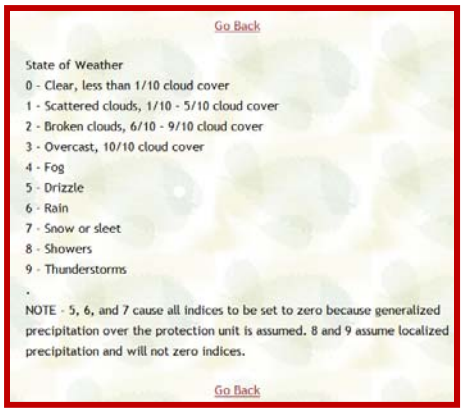
.

Use Option 3 to enter/edit/display station information. In addtion, you can maintain Access Control Lists (ACLs) and Special Interest Groups (SIGs).

Go Back

The Display Observations DOBS and Edit Observations EOBS pages have a hyperlink in the form header that opens a display of the State of Weather options. In the EOBS form example below the W in the form header (fourth column from the left) is the hyperlink.



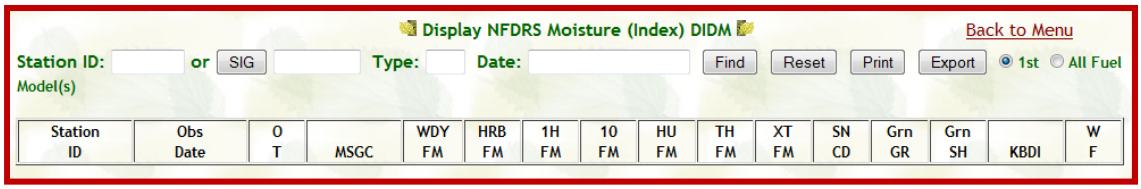


Clicking on the W opens the State of Weather information page.

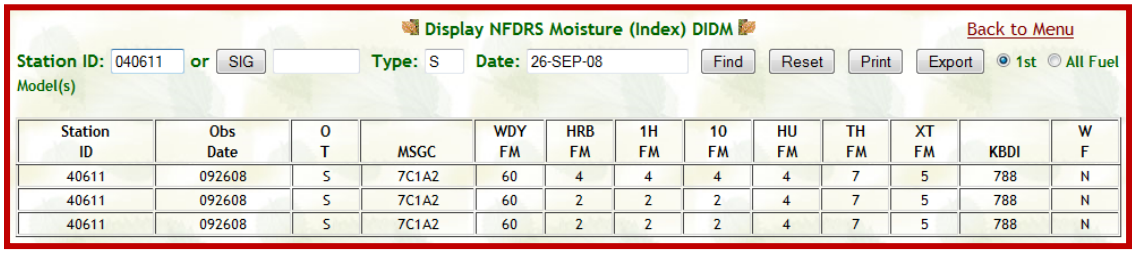
To close the information window click on the Go Back link.

WIMS SCREEN CONTENTS

WIMS forms contain basic screen items. Display forms such as Display Observations DOBS and Display NFDRS Moisture (Index) DIDM have fields to select and filter data.



The DIDM in this example has fields for Station ID or SIG, Type (observation type) and Date. The DIDM form also gives users the ability to filter for just the first fuel model of the station or to view all fuel models. The Back to Menu hyperlink in the upper right of the example will return the user to the Display DNFDR menu of which DIDM is a menu item.



Station ID	Obs Date	O T	MSGC	WDY FM	HRB FM	1H FM	10 FM	HU FM	TH FM	XT FM	KBDI	W F
40611	092608	S	7C1A2	60	4	4	4	4	7	5	788	N
40611	092608	S	7C1A2	60	2	2	2	4	7	5	788	N
40611	092608	S	7C1A2	60	2	2	2	4	7	5	788	N

In the example above, the user utilized the filter fields to view the September 26, 2008 Special Observation DIDM outputs for station 040611 first fuel model.

WIMS STANDARD BUTTONS

WIMS forms contain buttons that perform functions for that screen. The button definitions are listed in the table below:

Button	Function
Find	Selecting Find will perform a query based on the parameters specified in the form.
Reset	Selecting Reset will reset all of the values that have been entered in the current form.
Print	Selecting Print generates and opens a text file that can be saved or printed. Print in DRAWS generates the first page of RAWS data for printing.
PrintAll	Selecting PrintAll button generates and opens all pages of RAWS data(extra sensors)
Save	Selecting Save will save the values entered for the current form.
Export	Selecting Export will generate a comma delimited text file.

Output forms such as DIDM or DIDX have the following buttons.

Input or edit forms such as EOBS will have the following buttons

DATE FORMAT

The Date field of WIMS forms requires a specific format. If the date is entered incorrectly the user will receive the message: Error: Observation Date – invalid date range

DD - Day (01, 10, 31)

MMM – Month (jan, jun, aug)

YY – Year (99, 07, 08)

A request for a single day of data: DD-MMM-YY (01-Dec-99)

A request for a window or specific range of data (two options).

DD-MMM-YY space DD-MMM-YY (01-Aug-08 16-Aug-08)

DD-MMM-YY-DD-MMM-YY (01-Aug-08-16-Aug-08)

To generate data from one point forward use the > (greater than) symbol before the starting date.

> DD-MMM-YY (>20-JAN-08)

HOW TO GENERATE A WIMS QUERY

A query is entering information into the sort fields of a WIMS screen and selecting the Find button. Information on sort field content requirements have been covered in this chapter.

Example: Viewing RAWS Observations

1. In the FastPath field of the WIMS screen top banner enter the FastPath DRAWS
2. Select the Go button or use the Enter key of your keyboard.
3. Enter the Station ID
4. Or enter the SIG
5. Enter the Date(s) or Date Range
6. Enter Start Time. If the Start Time Field is left blank as in the example below the request will return RAWS observations just for 01-OCT-09. If the entry to the Start Time was 12 then the request would return the last 24 hours of RAWS observations and the 1200 observation would be at the top of the data.
7. Select the Find button to generate the report.

The results of a DRAWS screen query can be seen below.

8. Notice the screen now shows Page: 1 2

8

Page: 1 2 Remote Automatic Weather Station Display DRAWS Back to Menu

Station ID: 012701 or SIG Date: 02-OCT-08 Start Time: Find Reset PrintAll Print Export

Station ID	Obs Date	Obs HH	Obs MM	O T	Dry Tmp	RH	Wind Dir	Wind Sp	Temp Max	Temp Min	RH% Max	RH% Min	RGauge	Hrly Prcp	BVlt	BPress	Fuel Temp
012701	02-Oct-08	8	26	R	58	89	129	1	75	44	100	34	9.69	0.0	12.8		56
012701	02-Oct-08	7	26	R	50	100	157	1	75	44	100	34	9.69	0.0	12.7		51
012701	02-Oct-08	6	26	R	45	100	139	0	75	44	100	34	9.69	0.0	12.7		44
012701	02-Oct-08	5	26	R	44	100	191	0	75	44	100	34	9.69	0.0	12.7		43
012701	02-Oct-08	4	26	R	45	100	158	0	75	45	100	34	9.69	0.0	12.8		44
012701	02-Oct-08	3	26	R	46	100	187	0	75	46	100	34	9.69	0.0	12.7		44
012701	02-Oct-08	2	26	R	46	99	94	0	75	46	99	34	9.69	0.0	12.8		45
012701	02-Oct-08	1	26	R	47	98	96	0	75	47	98	34	9.69	0.0	12.8		45
012701	02-Oct-08	0	26	R	48	97	158	0	75	48	97	34	9.69	0.0	12.8		47

Clicking on the 2 will open the second page of data for the query. The second page displays additional data generated by the RAWS station. Each column has header information on its contents which are called SHEF codes. The SHEF codes listed in the example below are: MM (Fuel Moisture, Percent); UX (Wind Direction, Degrees Peak); UP (Wind Speed, Miles Per Hour, Peak); and RD (Solar Radiation, WATTS).

Page: 1 2 Remote Automatic Weather Station Display DRAWS Back to Menu

Station ID: 012701 or SIG Date: 02-OCT-08 Start Time: Find Reset PrintAll Print Export

Station ID	Obs Date	Obs HH	Obs MM	RAWS Sensor Data MM	UX	UP	RD
012701	02-Oct-08	8	26	24	26	2	250
012701	02-Oct-08	7	26	25	95	2	79
012701	02-Oct-08	6	26	24	0	0	25
012701	02-Oct-08	5	26	23	0	0	0
012701	02-Oct-08	4	26	22	0	0	0
012701	02-Oct-08	3	26	21	98	1	0
012701	02-Oct-08	2	26	19	345	2	0
012701	02-Oct-08	1	26	17	82	2	0
012701	02-Oct-08	0	26	15	24	2	0

NOTE: If you want to Print a DRAWS query report, remember the Print button generates only screen 1. PrintAll button must be used to generate a print/text file for screens 2 or 3.

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