

## Precipitation Summary – Google Maps Interface

Product Description Document  
California Nevada River Forecast Center (CNRFC)

### Part 1 – Mission Connection

1. Product Description:

The “Precipitation Summary – Google Maps Interface” utilizes the Google Maps API to display provisional precipitation data obtained from automated gages. This precipitation data includes totals ending at intervals of 1, 2, 3, 6, 12, and 24 hours. Also, 6 hour synoptic precipitation totals (ending 18, 00, 06, and 12 UTC) and 24 hour synoptic precipitation totals (ending 12 UTC) are available.

2. Purpose / Intended Use:

This product allows users to view a majority of the precipitation gages collected by the CNRFC geographically. This includes over 1300 precipitation gages stored in the databases at the CNRFC.

3. Audience:

Since this product is available through the CNRFC website, there is a wide spectrum of expected users. Some of these users include: other government agencies and emergency managers, the media, and the general public. The CNRFC is expected to use this interface when monitoring weather and hydrology from and away from the office.

4. Presentation Format:

The “Precipitation Summary – Google Maps Interface” will be made available on the CNRFC website. Certain overlays are available to users in order to help locate certain features more easily. These include: CNRFC Area of Responsibility, Counties (OR, CA, and NV), Drainage Basins, and Recent Burn Areas. Also, the user can click on a data point to obtain more information about the station location and data available. To view this interface, visit the following internet link:

[http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/google\\_precip.php](http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/google_precip.php)

5. Feedback Method:

Feedback will be obtained from users via the CNRFC Webmaster account. A link to the email address is available on the “Precipitation Summary – Google Maps Interface”.

6. Examples:

### Precipitation Summary - Google™ Maps Interface

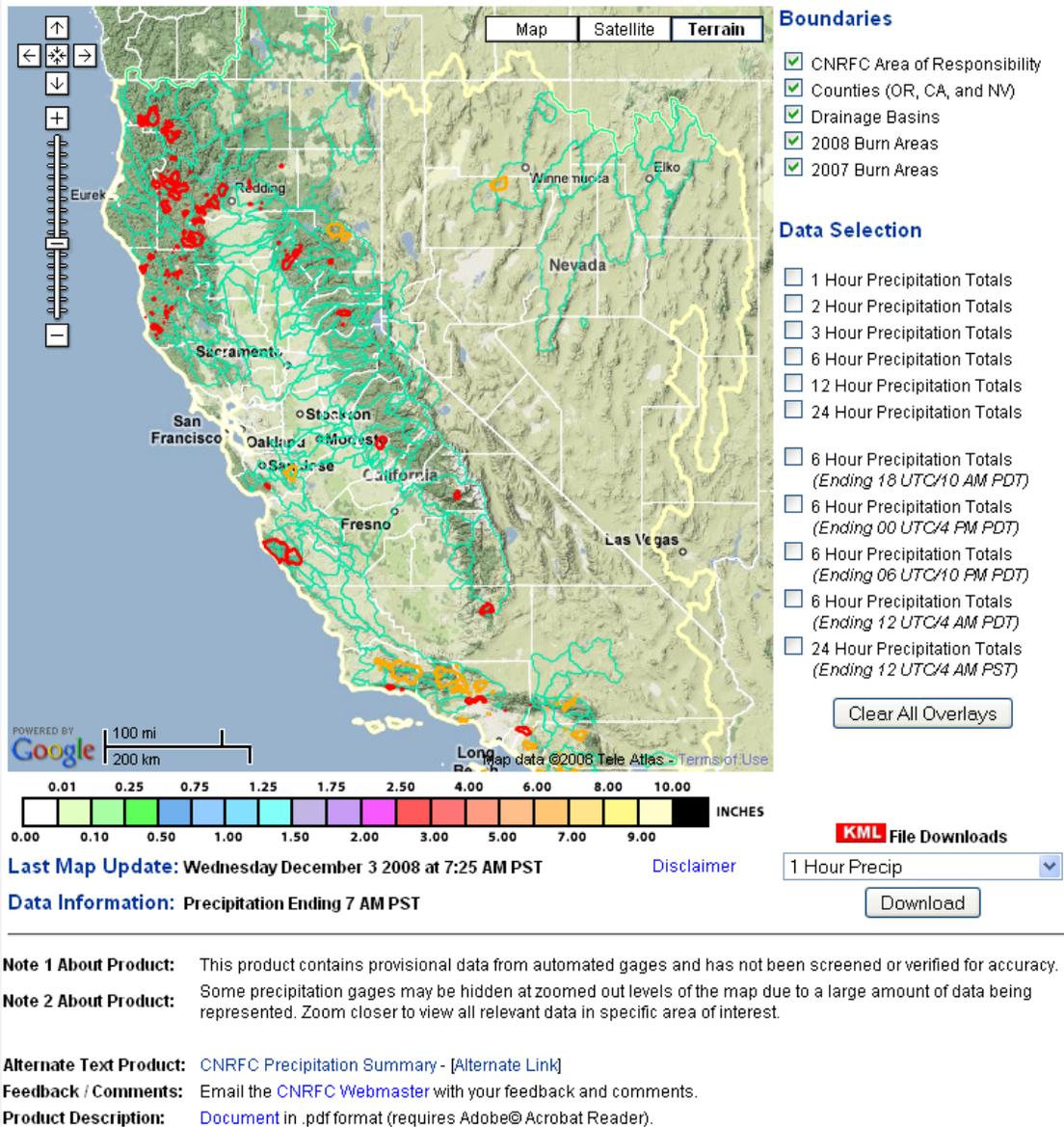
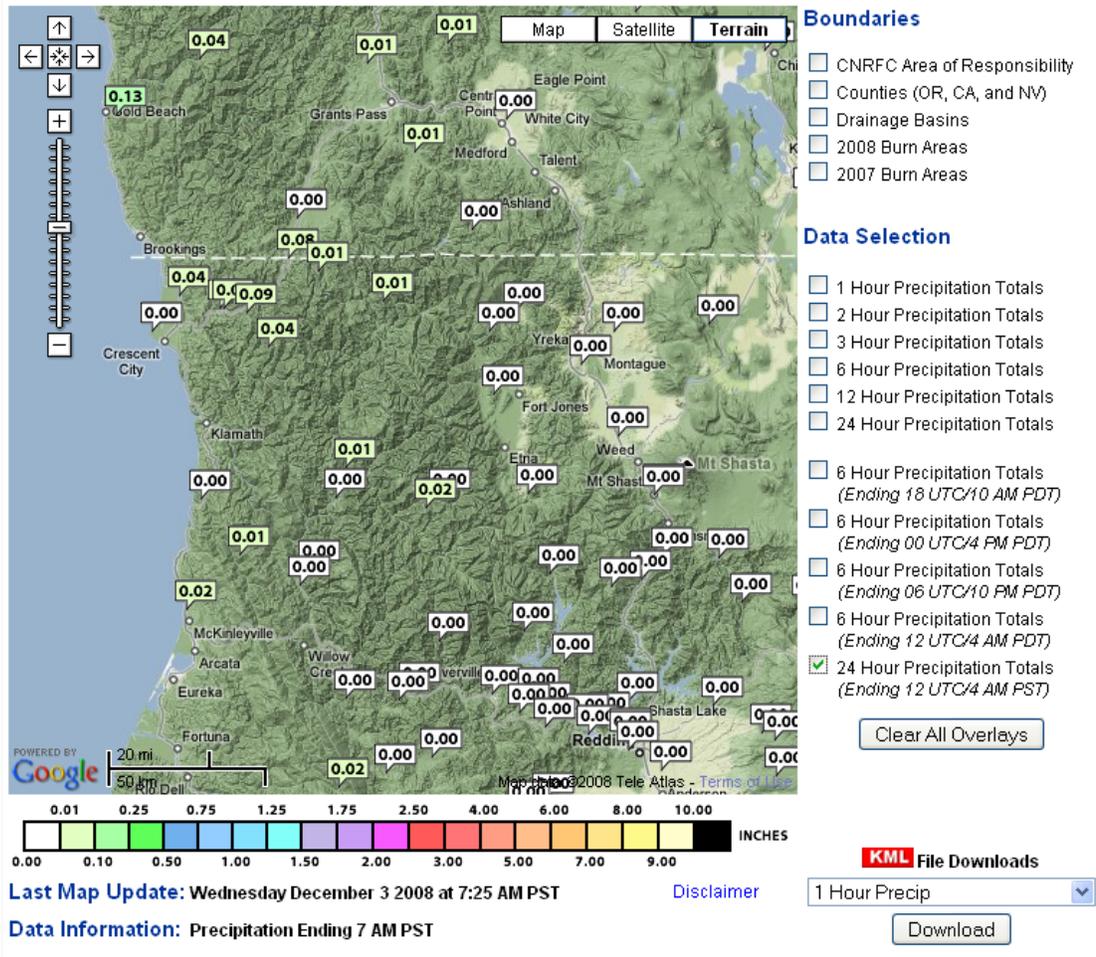


Figure 1: This image shows the “Precipitation Summary – Google Maps Interface” with all of its backgrounds loaded.

## Precipitation Summary - Google™ Maps Interface



**Note 1 About Product:** This product contains provisional data from automated gages and has not been screened or verified for accuracy.

**Note 2 About Product:** Some precipitation gages may be hidden at zoomed out levels of the map due to a large amount of data being represented. Zoom closer to view all relevant data in specific area of interest.

**Alternate Text Product:** [CNRFC Precipitation Summary - \[Alternate Link\]](#)

**Feedback / Comments:** Email the [CNRFC Webmaster](#) with your feedback and comments.

**Product Description:** [Document](#) in .pdf format (requires Adobe® Acrobat Reader).

Figure 2: This image shows the “Precipitation Summary – Google Maps Interface” with data points loaded. The interface has been zoomed into southwest Oregon and northwest California.

## **Part 2 – Technical Description**

### 1. Format and Science Basis:

The “Precipitation Summary – Google Maps Interface” utilizes the Google Maps API. There is flexibility in how the map appears, and the selections a user can manipulate. The “Precipitation Summary – Google Maps Interface” allows the user to select 3 types of map backgrounds. These include: the standard map, the satellite map, and terrain map. Also, the ability to zoom is included. Several backgrounds are also included for toggling by the user, as well.

Precipitation data are collected from over 1300 gages located throughout the CNRFC area of responsibility (and areas just outside the boundary). These are automated gages and data is provisional. There are several types of retrieval for precipitation gages. These include: GOES (Satellite), ALERT (Radio), Phone Interrogation, and ASOS.

This product is completely automated, and no workload impact is expected.

### 2. Product Availability:

The precipitation data are updated several times per hour, at 15, 25, 35, 45, and 55 minutes past the top of the hour. This ensures that the most precipitation gages are included each hour.