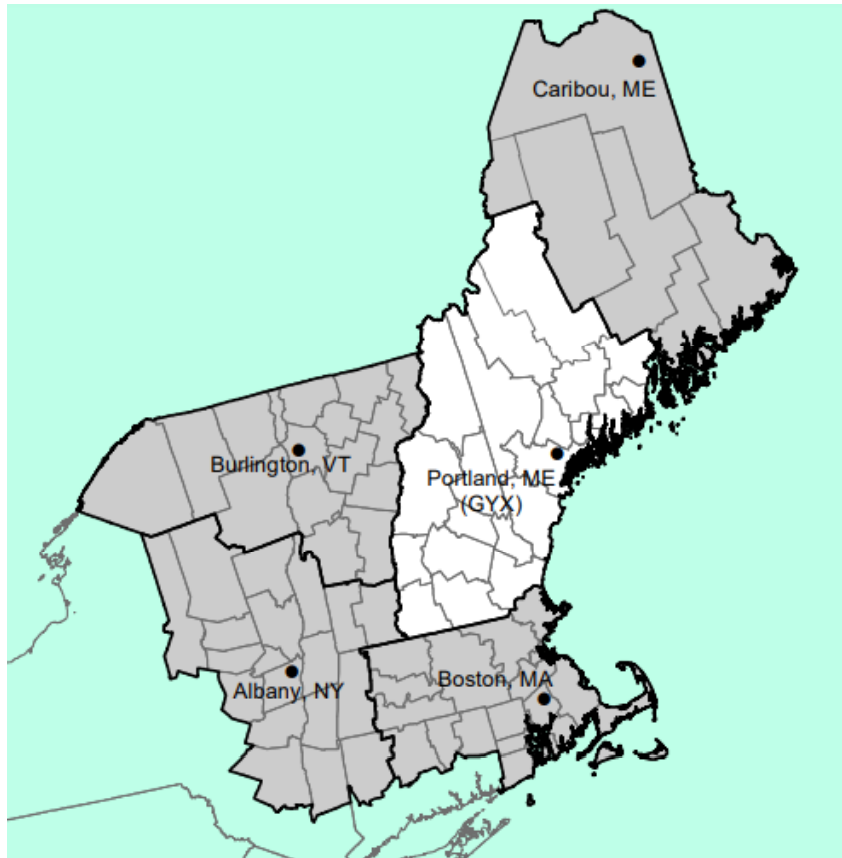


# Request for Information Strips for GYX SKYWARN



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# Project Genesis

- This past fall, Charlie Rocheleau W1CPR accepted the newly created position of SKYWARN Coordinator for Belknap County, NH.
- Since he and KB1TCE have been promoting the use of Response for Information strips for data gathering, weather spotting seemed to be a perfect application.
- This has some similarities to Radio Relay International's WXOBS national weather observation effort except that it is tailored to GYX's specific needs and format.

# GYX SKYWARN Data Collection

- GYX has a specific format for SKYWARN weather information gathering.
- Usually incoming data will require manual editing.
- Sometimes too little data or too much.
- What is desired is a method that will facilitate data gathering in a format that can be directly imported into the GYX spreadsheet.
- GYX is considering the adoption of the Request for Information (RI) strip format that has been introduced by Region 1 SHARES and Winlink.

# GYX Spreadsheet

- Uses Google Sheets
  - Access & editing by GYX staff, SKYWARN Coordinators
  - Very specific format

	NWS USE (Logged)	RI STRIP IF USED	DATE	TIME (L=LOCAL Z=ZULU)	CALL SIGN	SPOTTER ID	SOURCE	LOCATION (Road, Town)	STATE
2									
3	No	GYX WEATHER	1/2/2026	2220Z	WO1J	CU330	Amateur Radio	314 POPE RD, WINDHAM	ME

CURRENT WEATHER	SNOW/SLEET (*Note if Storm Total)	ICE ACCRETION	RAINFALL (*Note if Storm Total)	HAIL SIZE	WIND SPEED & DIRECTION
CLEAR & COLD	1.4*	NA	0,01*	NA	WNW @ 2

STORM DAMAGE (Wind / Flooding / Ice Jams) and Other Detailed Information	MODE	NETS
NONE	Personal Observation	REPEATER 147.045

# Information Gathering Comparison

GYX Spreadsheet	NH ARES	Waldo County RACES
DATE	Date	Date
TIME (L=LOCAL Z=ZULU)	Time (24hr)	Time
CALL SIGN	Call-sign	Place
SPOTTER ID	Location	Weather
SOURCE	Temp	Temp.
LOCATION (Road, Town)	Skycover	Barometer
STATE	Wind/Gusts	Wind
CURRENT WEATHER	Pressure	Wind Direction
SNOW/SLEET (*Note if Storm Total)	Precipitation	Wind Chill
ICE ACCRETION	Comments	
RAINFALL (*Note if Storm Total)		
HAIL SIZE		
WIND DIRECTION & SPEED		
STORM DAMAGE		
MODE		
NETS		

# Corresponding GYX RI Strip

The RI is the header to a slant (/)delimited spreadsheet. Responses become the data lines in that spreadsheet.

GYX WEATHER/DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)/TIME (HHMML OR HHMMZ)/CALL SIGN/SPOTTER ID (or NA)/SOURCE (Amateur Radio, Trained Spotter, Media, Public Service Radio, Other 3rd Party, Direct Messaging)/LOCATION (Road, Town)/STATE (ME, NH, OA)/CURRENT WEATHER (Relevant info, be brief)/SNOW, SLEET (Inches or NA, if storm total add \* e.g. 2.6 or 3.5\*)/ICE ACCRETION (Inches or NA)/RAINFALL (Inches or NA, if storm total add \* e.g. 2.6 or 3.5\*)/HAIL SIZE (Inches or NA)/WIND DIRECTION & SPEED (AAA@MPH)/STORM DAMAGE (Wind, flooding, ice jams, other details)/MODE(Personal Observatin, FM Repeate. Winlink, DMR, Direct Messaging. For others leave blank)/NET (Name of radio net or other e.g. email, SLACK)//

Sure looks complicated!

# The RI Response Tool

**GYX Request for Information Strip Reader and Response Creator**

[Setup](#) Click to add your agency/group name to title [Operator Info - Read Please](#)

**Request** Character count:  of  [Insert a Standard Information Strip](#) [Instructions for Standard RI Strips](#)  
Max length is 700 characters

1. Select RI Strip

[Parse Strip](#)

2. Parse RI Into a Table

Strip Question	Answer
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3. Fill Out Table

[Create Reply Strip](#)

4. Click to Create Reply Strip

[Copy Strips to Clipboard](#)

5. Copy Reply Strip and Transmit

[Submit](#) [Reset Form](#)

Form based on a concept by the SHARES Region 1 Interoperability Group Version 1.4R3

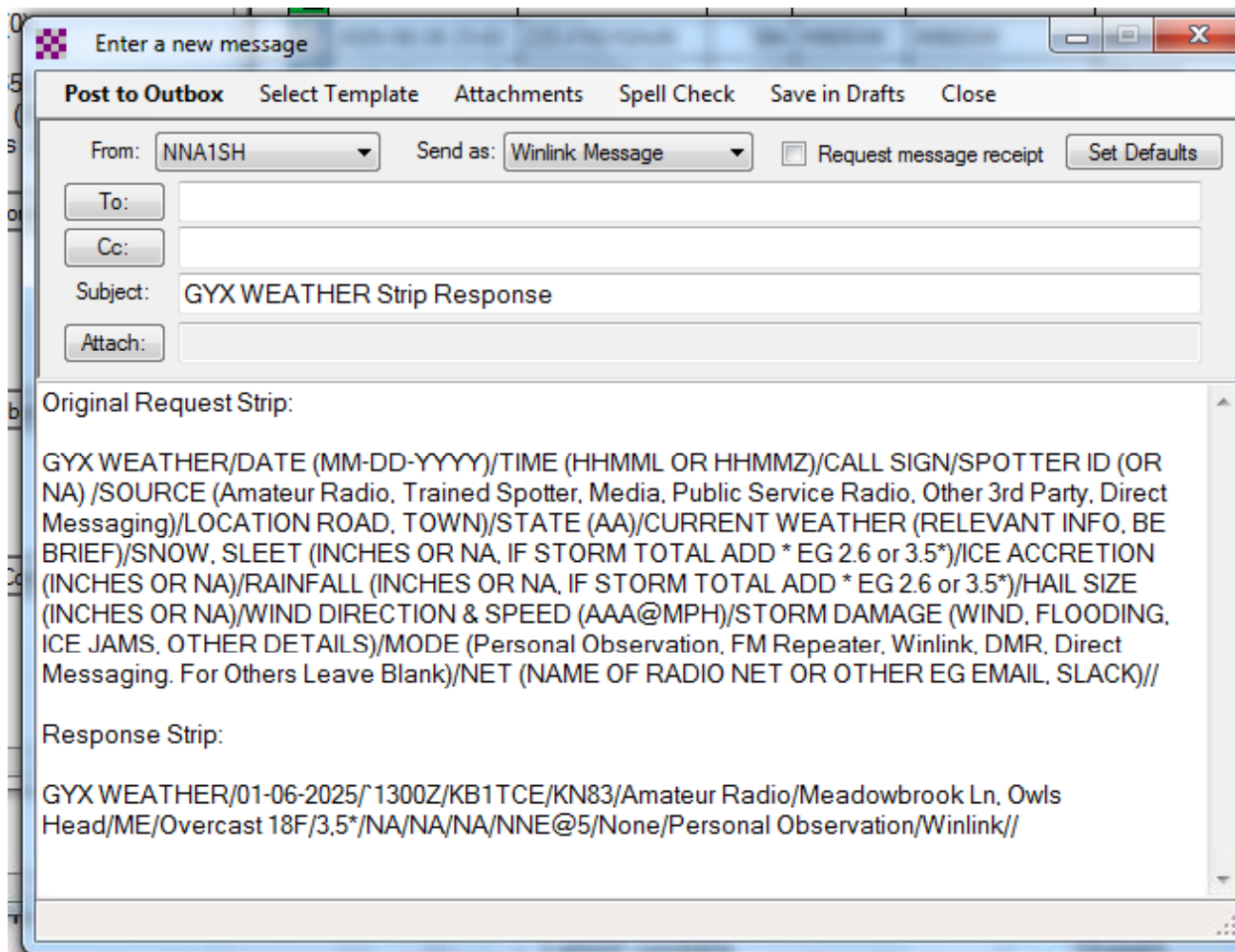
# The Table and Response Strip

Strip Question	Answer
GYX WEATHER	GYX WEATHER
DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)	01-06-2025
TIME (HHMMZ OR HHMMZ)	`1300Z
CALL SIGN	KB1TCE
SPOTTER ID (OR NA)	KN83
SOURCE (Amateur Radio, Trained Spotter, Media, Public Service Radio, Other 3rd Party, Direct Messaging)	Amateur Radio
LOCATION ROAD, TOWN)	Meadowbrook Ln, Owls He:
STATE (AA)	ME
CURRENT WEATHER (RELEVANT INFO, BE BRIEF)	Overcast 18F
SNOW, SLEET (INCHES OR NA, IF STORM TOTAL ADD * EG 2.6 or 3.5*)	3,5*
ICE ACCRETION (INCHES OR NA)	NA
RAINFALL (INCHES OR NA, IF STORM TOTAL ADD * EG 2.6 or 3.5*)	NA
HAIL SIZE (INCHES OR NA)	NA
WIND DIRECTION & SPEED (AAA@MPH)	NNE@5
STORM DAMAGE (WIND, FLOODING, ICE JAMS, OTHER DETAILS)	None
MODE (Personal Observation, FM Repeater, Winlink, DMR, Direct Messaging. For Others Leave Blank)	Personal Observation
NET (NAME OF RADIO NET OR OTHER EG EMAIL, SLACK)	Winlink

GYX WEATHER/01-06-2025/`1300Z/KB1TCE/KN83/Amateur Radio/  
Meadowbrook Ln, Owls Head/ME/Overcast 18F/3,5\*/NA/NA/NA/NNE@5/  
None/Personal Observation/Winlink//



# Submit to Winlink Message Pane or Copy/Paste to Any Application



The screenshot shows a window titled "Enter a new message" with a standard Windows-style title bar (minimize, maximize, close buttons). Below the title bar is a menu bar with the following options: "Post to Outbox", "Select Template", "Attachments", "Spell Check", "Save in Drafts", and "Close".

The main form area contains the following fields and controls:

- From:** A dropdown menu showing "NNA1SH".
- Send as:** A dropdown menu showing "Winlink Message".
- ☐ **Request message receipt**
- Set Defaults** button
- To:** An empty text field.
- Cc:** An empty text field.
- Subject:** A text field containing "GYX WEATHER Strip Response".
- Attach:** An empty text field.

Below the form fields is a large text area containing the following text:

Original Request Strip:

GYX WEATHER/DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)/TIME (HHMM or HHMMZ)/CALL SIGN/SPOTTER ID (OR NA) /SOURCE (Amateur Radio, Trained Spotter, Media, Public Service Radio, Other 3rd Party, Direct Messaging)/LOCATION ROAD, TOWN)/STATE (AA)/CURRENT WEATHER (RELEVANT INFO, BE BRIEF)/SNOW, SLEET (INCHES OR NA, IF STORM TOTAL ADD \* EG 2.6 or 3.5\*)/ICE ACCRETION (INCHES OR NA)/RAINFALL (INCHES OR NA, IF STORM TOTAL ADD \* EG 2.6 or 3.5\*)/HAIL SIZE (INCHES OR NA)/WIND DIRECTION & SPEED (AAA@MPH)/STORM DAMAGE (WIND, FLOODING, ICE JAMS, OTHER DETAILS)/MODE (Personal Observation, FM Repeater, Winlink, DMR, Direct Messaging. For Others Leave Blank)/NET (NAME OF RADIO NET OR OTHER EG EMAIL, SLACK)//

Response Strip:

GYX WEATHER/01-06-2025/1300Z/KB1TCE/KN83/Amateur Radio/Meadowbrook Ln, Owls Head/ME/Overcast 18F/3.5\*/NA/NA/NA/NNE@5/None/Personal Observation/Winlink//

# Non-Winlink & Non-Ham Observers

- The RI Reader & Response Creator will work outside of Winlink Express. All you need is a computer with a browser.
- For example, the NCS of a Voice Storm Net can record observer information in the tool's table (it helps if the net participants have a copy of the tool or at least the fields). NCS then compiles the response strips in a text editor and forwards to the coordinator.
- Non-ham observers can use the tool to create response strips and submit them via email.

# Links

- GYX SKYWARN Web Page: <https://wx1gyx.net/>
- GYX Draft Winlink-RI Web Page: <https://wx1gyx.net/gyx-response-creator/>



- Region 1 Interop Standard RI Page with GYX WEATHER download: <https://ne-interop-emcomm.org/standard-strips.html>

Thanks to:

Donald Dumont – GYX Warning Coordination  
Meteorologist

Peter Fulton WO1J – GYX SKYWARN Amateur Radio  
Coordinator

Charlie Rocheleau W1CPR – Belknap County SKYWARN  
Coordinator

Shawn KC1VBS, Barbara KC1SSY, Brit AB1KI and Joe  
AB1YO for testing the numerous iterations of the strips

Questions to: [shansen@belljar.net](mailto:shansen@belljar.net)