The Iris Project at Five Years:

How a Grassroots Rapid Prototyping Project has Grown to Support NWS Operational Needs

Where did Iris come from?

- Iris grew from a series of separate, but related projects during the period 2008 to 2010.
- Developers saw a need to standardize a framework to provide consistent data storage and georeferencing capacity for contact, impact, event, and communications data used by the NWS.
- The Iris team has always been virtual: field offices, regional offices, and now headquarters.

What can Iris do?

- Manage all contacts for an office, including NWS specific data.
- Display all observations in an are of concern, rank them in anyway needed, display criteria alerts, and directly create LSR text products from observations.
- Generate storm reports is any format desired by clicking on a map.
- Provide a heads up display for situational awareness use mashing together warnings, reports, and contacts on a map.
- Drives iNWS to alert customers to warnings, and powers Wireless Emergency Alerts to provide cell phone alerts to the public.
- Full impact management capabilities are now in development.



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Wireless Emergency Alerts Share/Email This Page









So, what is Iris?

- At the core, Iris is a PostGIS enabled Postgresql database.
- Wrapped around the database is the Iris framework, providing methods for storing and retrieving the stored information via web services.
- Using the framework are clients like the Iris Web Interface, iNWS, and others.

Iris and the Virtual Lab

- The Iris team heavily uses the Virtual Lab Redmine and Jenkins development tools.
- The Iris Web application actually opens directly to the Redmine ticketing system to allow users to open tickets (works great!)
- All source code is managed by the Virtual Lab git repository.
- Framework builds and Java documentation is automatically generated upon commit.

Let's have a look:

http://iris-devweb.crh.noaa.gov/index.html?wfo=arx

https://collaborate3.nws.noaa.gov/projects/iris?jump=welcome