

**AVE Met Briefing**  
**Thursday, November 5, 2004**  
**Rennie Selkirk**

*Ames AVE forecasting page is*  
<http://bocachica.arc.nasa.gov/AVE/Forecasting.html>  
*Links appear to be good this morning.*

**SUMMARY**

*Today*

This morning low-level cloudiness is spreading southward across the Gulf in cool northerly continental outflow. Broken cloudiness should underlie the flight track over the Gulf. The jet streak is moving in from the west and some wisps of upper tropospheric cloudiness may present themselves over the Gulf as well.

Excellent flying conditions.

*Sunday*

The NCEP cloud fraction plots for Sunday evening (point your browser to the Day 2 plots at [http://bocachica.arc.nasa.gov/AVE/rh\\_omega\\_plots.html](http://bocachica.arc.nasa.gov/AVE/rh_omega_plots.html)) indicate that middle and upper-level cloudiness will be approaching the continental portions of the AURA track over the upper level ridge in front of the cutoff low over California. Forecast descent at upper levels continues throughout the weekend across the general AVE theatre of operations, although we note again the wisps of lifted tropical moisture entering the Gulf from Mexico evident in this morning's satellite loop [<http://bocachica.arc.nasa.gov/AVE/central/png/index.html>.] So don't expect Sunday to be as clear upstairs as today certainly.

Below are the current NWS forecasts:

***Southeast Texas Zone Forecast***  
***National Weather Service Houston/Galveston TX***  
***430 AM CST Thu Nov 5 2004***

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/hgx/productview.php?pil=HGXZFPHGX&version=0>

<b>Today</b>	Sunny. Highs in the lower 70s. N winds 5 to 10 mph.
<b>Tonight</b>	Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s. NW winds ~ 5 mph.
<b>Saturday</b>	Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s. W winds 5-10 mph.
<b>Saturday night</b>	Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 40s. SW winds ~5 mph.
<b>Sunday</b>	Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s. W winds 5-10 mph.
<b>Sunday night–Tuesday</b>	Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 50s. Highs in the upper 70s.
<b>Tuesday night</b>	Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 50s.
<b>Wednesday</b>	Partly cloudy with a 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s.
<b>Wednesday night</b>	Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 50s.
<b>Veterans day</b>	Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 60s.

**Area Forecast Discussion**

**National Weather Service Houston/Galveston TX**

**0525 AM CST Thu Nov5 2004**

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/hgx/productview.php?pil=HGXAFDHGX&version=0>

High pressure will dominate area weather thru the weekend. Mostly sunny skies and 25-30 degree diurnal temperature spread should be the rule. Expect onshore winds to resume late Monday or Tuesday as the Hi moves off to the east and next lee side system (associated with H5 low currently over California) gets going. Medium range models in pretty good agreement bringing next front into the region next Wednesday night or Thursday. Will maintain low chc pops already in the forecast for now & adjust as necessary with time. Both ECMWF & GFS models showing another cutoff low near Baja late in the week so confidence in clearing cloud cover/POPs post-frontal passage is currently on the low side given progged SW flow aloft.

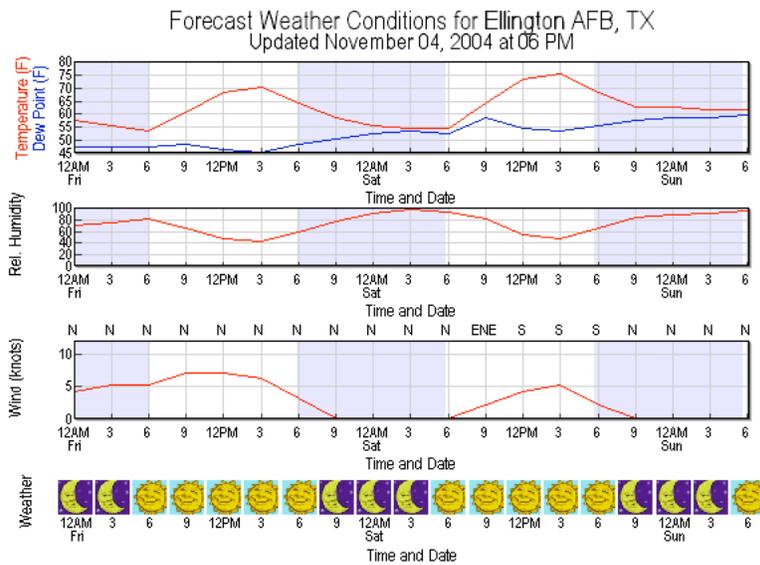
Aviation...

Great flying conditions through the forecast period: VFR at all sites with light winds. Did mention some light ground fog at KLBX after 08Z Saturday morning.

Marine...

Reinforcing surge of cool air has moved across the waters. Pressure gradient will relax by afternoon. Winds are at their strongest now and will diminish through the morning. Will keep caution up for 20 to 60 nm waters but should be able to drop this by 18Z at the latest. Excellent boating conditions this weekend with very light winds/seas.

**Ellington Forecast from the Weather Underground**



[This graphic pasted from <http://www.wunderground.com/MOS/DisplayMOS.asp?AirportCode=KEFD&SafeCityName=Ellington&StateCode=TX>]