

New NWSChat feature: "All Chats" tab in NWSChat "live" browser-based client.

In response to Recommendation 5 from the [Joplin, Missouri, Tornado – May 22, 2011 Service Assessment](#), as well as suggestions from users, we have developed a new feature in the NWSChat "Live" interface (nwschat.weather.gov/live) which will be available in the near future.

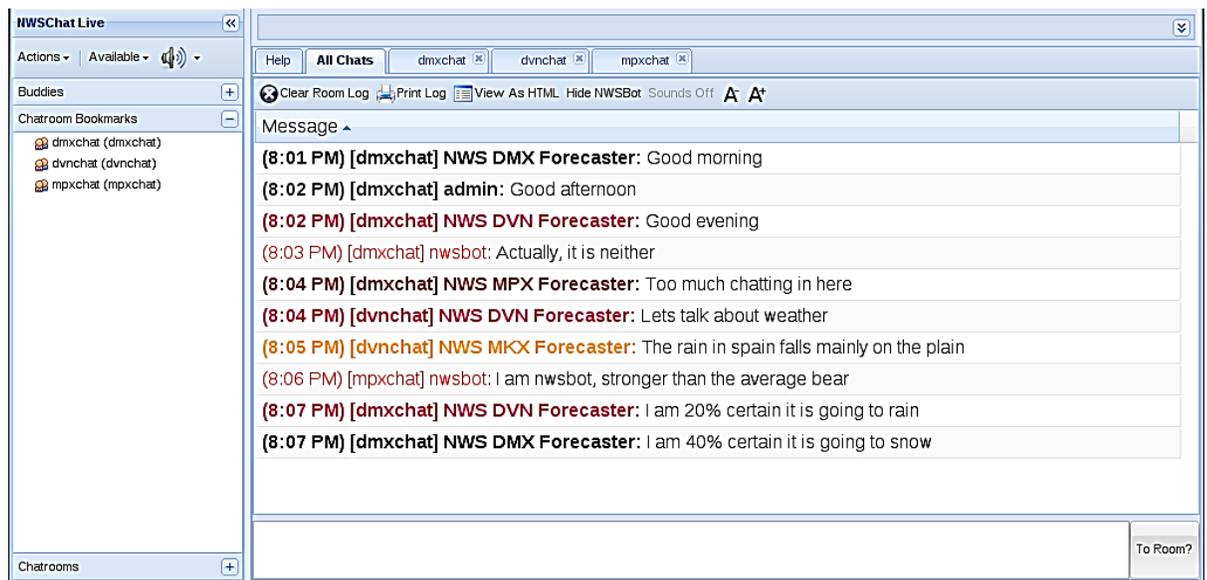
Recommendation #5

"The NWS should continue to improve collaboration tools for our partners. Partners requested improvements to the current NWSChat display to include a "dashboard" interface to allow them to more easily monitor multiple offices at the same time."

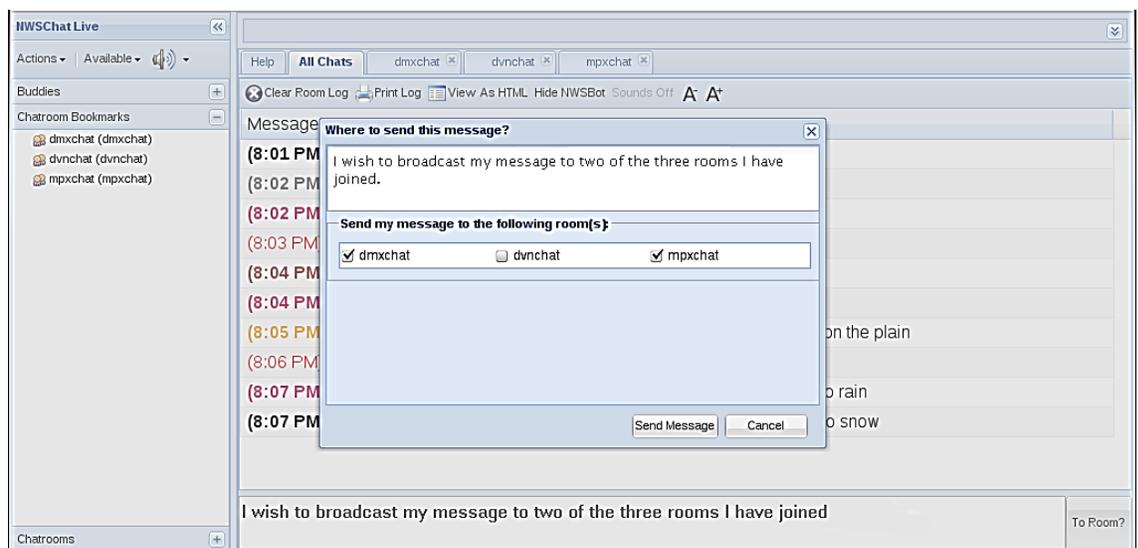
The new feature consists of an "All Chats" tab on the "live" web-based NWSChat client. The tab shows all conversations from all the rooms joined by a user (all other opened chat room tabs) on one pane. When typing in that window, one can select which room(s) will receive the message; this allows users to broadcast a message to multiple rooms simultaneously.

We hope this feature will benefit most of our users and can save time when communicating with, or monitoring multiple rooms. Below are sample 'screen shots':

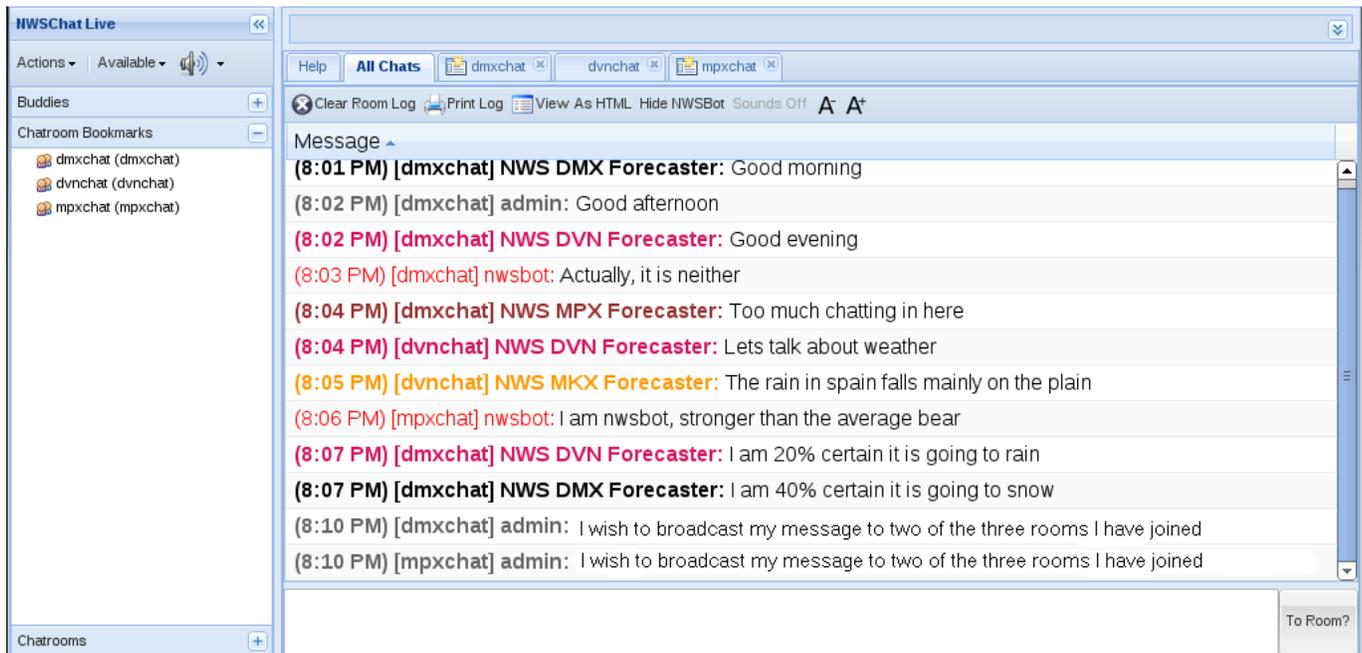
The *All Chats* tab shows conversations from all rooms, allowing you to 'monitor multiple offices at the same time'.



When typing in *All Chats*, a pop-up window allows you to select which room(s) will get the message. This allows you to 'broadcast' to multiple rooms.



The result of selecting two of the three rooms for the message is seen in the All chats tab below (obviously, each of the selected rooms would also show the typed message in their own tab).



All Chats Q&A

Q. Will *All Chats* be available for other clients?

A. We do not have the resources at this time to develop that capability for other clients (e.g. Pidgin).

Q. Will *All Chats* be available to all live users or only NWS users?

A. The new tab will show up for all NWSChat Live users regardless of their affiliation.

Q. Can partners use *All Chats* to send a message to more than one room?

A. Yes, the "To Room?" feature is enabled for all live users.

Q. Does *All Chats* include one-on-one (Chat with user) chats?

A. No. *All Chats* only shows group chats (chat room) conversations.

Q. Are "Members Only" (private) chat rooms included?

A. Yes. If you join a private room, it is included in your *All Chats* pane.

Q. If private rooms show up in my *All Chats*, won't non-members see the conversations in their *All Chats* tab?

A. No. The *All Chats* tab is populated for each user only with conversations from chat rooms which they joined. A user who is not a member of a private room cannot join that private room; therefore they will not see the conversations from private rooms which they cannot join.

Q. If I join a room anonymously, will conversations from that room show in *All Chats*, and can I send a message from *All Chats* to rooms which I joined anonymously?

A. Conversations from anonymously joined rooms ARE included in the *All Chats* pane, however the anonymous rooms do not show up in the selections of rooms to include messages typed in the *All Chats* pane, therefore you cannot send a message from *All Chats* to rooms which you joined anonymously.

Q. Can I exclude a room from *All Chats*?

A. No, every room which you have joined (currently have an opened tab) is included.

Q. Does *All Chats* include conversations from 'ad-hoc' rooms created?

A. Yes.

Q. Can I close or opt-out of *All Chats*?

A. No, the *All Chats* tab is always available and conversations from all joined rooms will be visible when the tab is selected. The user does not need to take any action to join All Chats.

Q. Is there a limit to how many rooms I can join and have in *All Chats* at any one time?

A. There is a practical limit of how many tabs one can see at a time, but no actual limit of rooms you can join.

Q. Does *All Chats* work for both map and no-map versions of live?

A. Yes.

Q. I still have an unanswered question, who do I contact?

A. Please feel free to contact carlos.diaz@noaa.gov or nwschatadmin@noaa.gov, we will try to answer any questions you have.

Special thanks to Daryl, our developer, the NWSChat Admin Team, and the NIDS team for all their support.