

WFSU-TV SATELLITE SUPPORT SERVICES

Information Sheet

WFSU-TV manages The Florida Transponder for the state. With the Florida Transponder, we distribute the 24 / 7 government program service, The Florida Channel, as well as other feeds for state agencies and organizations. It is our goal to provide you with any satellite and related production services you may need to communicate with any audience, large or small, around the state or across the country. We are also here to provide your school or agency with the information you will need to convert any existing satellite downlink system or network to receive digital feeds from the Florida Transponder.

DVB-S2

Programming on the Florida Transponder utilizes the DVB-S2 format. "Digital Video Broadcasting - Satellite - Second Generation" (DVB-S2) is an enhanced DVB specification. The system allows transmission of one or more MPEG-2 audio/video streams, and is capable of using various modulation schemes with concatenated encoding. For programming on the Florida Channel we utilize the 8PSK modulation format, with a Symbol Rate of 3.2 Mega Symbols and FEC of 2 / 3.

DVB-S2 Integrated Receivers/Decoders (IRDs)

There are a number of manufacturers who make DVB-S2 IRDs. Downlink sites should research which models suit their needs or budget. But, they should be sure that any IRD that might be suggested is capable of DVB-S2 reception. Standard DVB-S IRDs -- including those they may already have in-house -- may not be compatible with this newer DVB form.

Picture and Signal Quality

Reception of these digital feeds can be susceptible to interference from the weather -- rain and heavy cloud cover -- so "tiling" or "pixilation" of your picture is something that will happen on occasion. Downlink Sites can take steps to minimize those problems.

Sites should do regular maintenance on their downlink dishes to ensure the best quality signal. That includes making sure the dish is peaked and that it is aimed correctly for optimum reception. SES Americom, the company that owns SES-2 -- the satellite the Florida Transponder calls home -- regularly posts Center-of-Box information on their website: <https://extranet.ses.com/18723856/center-of-box>

When you click on the "SES-2" selection, a new page will come up which details COB for SES-2 for a period of several days. This information is updated regularly, so you can check your dish throughout the year.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The times referenced on this page are GMT (Greenwich Mean Time) / UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) which you [will have to convert to your local time \(click to check\)](#).

For More Information

If you need more information on how you can utilize this communications resource, or have any questions about DVB-S2; the equipment necessary for sending or receiving digital feeds; or any other questions related to the Florida Transponder, call Rick Potrikus at (850) 645-6021.