January 22, 2010 Conference Call Notes

Provided by: Steve Keighton, SOO - Blacksburg, VA (RNK)

Future research ideas: We spent a little time getting into the Google sites page and adding a few names to the research topics. We really need to have everyone think about these carefully and consider adding your name (or office name) to at least one (more if you can) as soon as possible. Adding your name means a commitment that you or your office will help lead that particular project, not just that you are somewhat interested, so do not add your name to too many; bite off what you think you can chew. If for some reason you need guidance getting to the page with the list of topics and editing it to add your name, or if you have any questions about the topics, contact Steve K. The Power Pt presentation with more details about the projects will be sent with these minutes as well. There is also a link to the power pt presentation embedded within the Nov 2009 minutes.

Next step once we have small groups for each topic will be some attempt at prioritization, and then begin collaborating within the small groups on fleshing details of what needs to be done, what resources (i.e., funding), and perhaps some sense of a timetable as well.

Steve and Doug will do some exploring of the Google Site capability to see if there is an easy way to add links for each topic to updates on the research, or related materials (even references); there should be. The idea is to begin to flesh out the plans for each topic, and share what we doing as we progress, all using this site.

To access the NWFS Google site (and everyone should have been invited through their gmail accounts), go to sites.google.com, and login with your gmail account, and you should have a link to it. Add any info about yourself to the "Teams" section (link on the left), and add your name or office name to any topics you want to be involved with under the "Research Topic List". Please try to do this before the end of January if you can!

Other news: Despite the likely end to LORAN-C service on Feb 8 (required to retrieve wind info from the launches), the UNC-A field project will continue the rest of the season as events present themselves, since we'll still have thermodynamic profiles from the sondes. Next opportunity could be early next week. Again, they will consider any significant winter precip event. Funds are also being pursued for a more permanent GPS-based system to support an educational initiative.

If WFOs have any quality snowfall and SWE data aside from COOP or CoCoRaHS sites (especially in data void areas), it still would be helpful to get those to Doug. Especially for the Dec 18-19 major snowfall event.

Potential new project this spring at ASU focused on SE flow heavy precip events, with soundings potentially launched either at Boone or Grandfather Mtn.

No new info on the RENCI HME status since Brian wasn't on the call, but it is certainly up and running, and output available via ftp. Web site still not totally ready yet.

Steve Z shared links to various model output being pulled in from NCEP by Rich Grumm at State College. This includes a "parallel" high res version of the GEFS. Fields available are limited, but the climate anomaly output and about one month's archive of past runs more than make up for it! Here are some links:

SREF fields w/anomalies: http://eyewall.met.psu.edu/rich/sref/Models.html (there are no SREF basic fields w/out anomalies)

NAM basic fields (w/out anomalies): http://eyewall.met.psu.edu/rich/nam/Models.html

NAM fields w/anomalies: http://eyewall.met.psu.edu/rich/NAM/Models.html

GFS basic fields (w/out anomalies): http://eyewall.met.psu.edu/rich/gfs/Models.html

GFS fields w/anomalies: http://eyewall.met.psu.edu/rich/GFS/Models.html

GEFS fields w/anomalies: http://eyewall.met.psu.edu/rich/gefs/Models.html (there is no GEFS fields w/out anomalies)

Next call: Feb 12th, 10am EST (2nd choice is Feb 19, if I hear many cannot make the 12th).