

February 18, 2011 Conference Call Notes

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

Research topics: Synoptic classification/categorization work has been taking place on this current season's snow events (not just NWFS) from Baker's Poga Mtn database. We also hope to complete synoptic classification of the NWFS event database from Poga Mtn with additional cases from McRoss WV for the 2006-2010 period, by mid March this year. We can post these on the Google sites page when completed.

Modeling: Brian's last call with us as a state employee at RENCi in Chapel Hill, as he will be moving on to a position in NOAA's ESRL in Boulder to work on high res ensemble modeling on a national scale. He has expressed interest in keeping in the loop with the NWFS group, although the 7am Mountain Time calls may be hard to make! (We can consider some different times once in a while for his convenience!). The RENCi HME will continue to chug along, but no new development is planned. Any problems with the model or it's output may be difficult for anyone at RENCi to troubleshoot until such time as they get a replacement for Brian, but we should let him know anyway, along with Ken Galluppi (galluppi@renci.org) and Jessica Proud Losego (jproud@renci.org). We thank Brian for all his excellent contributions and support with access to output from the HME as we begin to learn how to use these datasets for forecast challenges such as NWFS, and wish him luck in his new position!

Larry raised a question about the potential for trajectory output in the NWS (AWIPS) or from other sources besides what is available from ARL (mostly through HYSPLIT). He agreed to send out some feelers to learn if there is anything available currently or what the future might have in store for AWIPS II. One ARL web source for pre-run trajectories from the NAM can be found [here](#).

Steve Z noted that the Penn State BUFKIT site now has SREF .buz and .buf files available for download from many locations nationally. The web site can be accessed [here](#).

Steve Z mentioned a few interesting observations while attending an NCEP Winter Wx Experiment last month with regard to how HPC generates their snow forecasts, using a blend of high res model output and coarser resolution output, which does give some detail in the mountains.

Next call: Let's try Mar 18 (9am). Backup would be Mar 25th.