

October 22, 2010 Conference Call Notes

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Research topics: Steve K, Larry, Doug, and Baker continue to work on categorization of NWFS events, and are starting with basic synoptic scale classifications (using what was done for the Great Smoky Mtn Nat'l Park snowfall study) so we can understand how some of these events evolved from and the sorts of air masses involved, but eventually will look at sub-types within what we are calling NWFS (pure upslope or post-frontal, wrap-around/deformation in comma head of large cyclone, clipper, etc). We are starting with a dataset of NWFS cases at Poga Mtn from 2006-2010, and have added a few more where parts of WV received snow yet Poga Mtn did not. Once we complete this initial classification, we will post something on the Google sites.

Blair and others at GSP are now working with an interested UNC-A student on the Froude # relationship with NWFS events, hopes to have an update to share with the rest of the group by the November call.

Related to the CIPS Analog Tool for winter events, Chad Gravelle from CIPS at St. Louis Univ will be making a presentation for the staff at WFO RAH on Nov 5 (2pm) via GoToMeeting which all of us in the NWFS group will be invited to. The email with the specifics has been sent out. If you are interested, but cannot make the one on the 5th, there is another opportunity to participate in essentially the same session (likely with a NE U.S. example instead of SE U.S.) on Nov 3rd hosted by the Caribou WFO. Contact Todd Lericos (todd.lericos@noaa.gov) if you want to sign up for this one.

Field project plans: Baker is hoping to hear about the proposal for the MRR and LIDAR at Poga Mtn by early November and will keep us posted. Has a few resources left from previous years to potentially do a couple soundings from his site. Doug still planning to conduct upper air field project this winter with launches from Warren Wilson College a little east of UNCA.

Modeling: RENCi HME project focused on collecting the BUFR soundings from all contributing members for a coordinated list of stations within the domain, with the goal of producing ensemble sounding files which can be utilized with BUFKIT 10.7 software. Brian needs the BUFKIT formatted output from the local WRFs involved and is starting to see some of them come in now, so soon should have some ensemble output ".buz" files to send back out for use in BUFKIT 10.7.

cstar_nwfs Listserv: Steve will do a test of this today, and encourage folks on the list to begin to use it more this upcoming winter (and perhaps with La Nina we'll have an active NWFS year), and also will send the instructions back out to the list on how to sign up in case any current forecasters want to join. There are a total of 30 people on the listserv now.

Next call: We proposed Friday Nov 19 at 9am for our next call.