NW Flow Snow Conf Call Minutes for Nov 8, 2011

Participants from ASU, UNC-A, WFOs GSP, MRX, and RNK

Research topics review:

Discussion of work on categorization and creating composite maps, including minimum threshold for how many cases required in a category for creating composite, what fields to generate, domain, and best data source to use. Looks like there is a web site for using higher res NARR data (3 hr intervals, and more fields) that Larry pointed us to, otherwise the NCEP/NCAR data is also available. Steve K and a student are experimenting with pros and cons of each option, and will begin creating sample composites over the next few weeks. The team working on categorization will be having a separate call in late Nov.

Froude # research is likely to continue at GSP based in interest from some other forecasters.

Field projects:

Doug and UNC-A students still trying to nail down a site to launch from in Buncombe Co NC, but are hoping to be ready to go by Dec 1.

David Hotz will coordinate with Oak Ridge labs on possible support for upstream launches during more significant events.

ASU has two mobile trailers with various instrumentation, used primarily during warm season air quality/ozone data collection, but are available this winter for use by Baker. Considering Roan Mtn on TN/NC border as one possible site, but still working on logistics. Other locations in Watauga or even Ashe Co NC may be considered as well.

Ed Ray reports via email that a new Kentucky Mesonet station at Black Mountain (over 4,100 ft in Harlan Co) appears to be going forward, with concrete pouring for the foundation expected to take place the week of Nov 14. There is already a station in Letcher Co (1152 ft) and one in Pike Co (2,774 ft). The site for viewing KY Mesonet data is http://www.kymesonet.org/live_data.html We may have folks joining us on future calls from the KY Mesonet and also Morehead State Univ.

Future calls:

Steve K will send out a Doodle calendar poll for scheduling a December call.