

June 10, 2011 Conference Call Notes

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

Research topics: Categorization work continues on the database of 2006-2010 NWFS events at Poga Mtn NC, and an additional smaller set of events at McRoss, WV COOP site (on days when no snow was observed at Poga Mtn). The 2010-11 set of events at Poga Mtn has also been categorized. We should be completed with all this by early July, and will have one consolidated database of these events. The synoptic classification scheme is taken from the Great Smoky Mtn Snowfall study (Perry, Konrad, Hotz, Lee). We will update the Google sites page when we are done. We also plan to continue classifying events in upcoming seasons and try to classify them based on this same scheme, and consider if we need any additional categories. With these events classified, we can move forward with some other projects such as map composites, modeling of specific events and testing if NWFS with certain large scale patterns is handled better by models vs. others, and also thermodynamic analysis overhead and upstream in terms on convective nature and whether the overall synoptic pattern is related to thermodynamic characteristics in anyway. Gary at NCSU is interested in this last aspect and may have some undergrad students who could help with research in this area.

Potential field projects for next season: NSF funding is a "go" for the App State mobile trailer with a variety of atmospheric sensors, some of which are for fine particulates in support of other areas of research at ASU, but these experiments are not expected to be taking place in the winter, and there is flexibility in terms of availability and mobility of the unit to help with near surface observations in NWFS events. Roan Mtn and Mt Rogers were discussed as possible locations to consider.

Proposal for UNC-A mobile weather trailer to support educational initiatives is currently waiting on a decision, and if approved could also be available for data collection during events. This would include a sounding system.

A VA Tech faculty member in Geography has funding for several mobile mesonets, and Steve will be in communication with him to find out the status and potential for utilizing any of these for NWFS data collection this winter.

Briefly discussed the demise of the atmospheric science section at RENC1 and end of modeling support, although we are not sure about collaboration or use of MRRs in the future. In July we will contact former RENC1 employees heading to the UNC Institute of the Environment and see what we can learn about future collaborations.

Manuscript to review: Doug Miller has drafted a manuscript on his recent modeling efforts with NWFS events, to be submitted to Weather and Forecasting, and he would like everyone to review by July. If possible, be prepared to provide comments by our July 8th call. The manuscript can be found [here](#).

Next call: Next call is tentatively scheduled for July 8, 9am. The main topic will be comments related to Doug's manuscript.