

August 25, 2006 Conference Call Notes

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Sorry I didn't get these together sooner, but have been out of the office and busy with the fringes of Ernesto and other priorities. Here are the highlights of our call:

[Blair gave another nice update](#) (1.32 MB file) on the latest model runs he has done for the 10-11 Feb 2005 case, one of three events he has now completed model runs on for his Master's thesis. Experimental runs showed first that the PBL scheme makes a significant difference in overall precip (the MYJ PBL scheme actually seemed to shift the lake effect band a bit west off Lake Michigan and south across the southern Apps compared to the YSU scheme), heat and mstr sfc fluxes on the whole contribute a lot to both lake bands coming off L Michigan and the overall upslope over the Apps...especially the zone that can be traced back to coming off the lake, and when just turning off the mstr flux over water compared to all fluxes turned off over water, there wasn't a huge difference, suggesting that maybe heat fluxes over water are more important (at least in this case?). It was suggested that the heat fluxes by themselves do need to be turned off separately in the exp runs to see this for sure.

While Blair is wrapping up his thesis work (although may consider a few more experimental runs if it can be done remotely), it is clear that even more sensitivity runs need to be done, so we explored who might have interest and how to fund other students. Doug Miller @ UNC-A has a number of undergrads doing modeling work who would be interested, and a COMET Partners award could support an undergrad (but not enough for a grad student). Steve K will contact Jeff W in ER SSD to ask about options for COMET and other funding. CSTAR III may still be able to include a small bit of NWFS research (perhaps more in line with role of special instruments such as Sandra Yuter's vertical pointing radar on Baker Perry's farm in Avery Co?). We'll have to wait and see how much CSTAR support, if any, there will be.

A reminder that it would be great if local models that have overlapping domains over the Apps, that BUFR sounding locations should be coordinated to be the same in these locations, and especially we should add the lat/lon of Sandra Yuter's radar at the Perry farm. A lat/lon will be made available to those who need it.

Baker will contact Chip Konrad to find out about any continuing climatology research at UNC-Ch related to NWFS, and how the rest of us could potentially help with that.

We're going to try going to monthly calls again, at least by October, partially to discuss winter events as they take place this season and we gain access to some new data and can compare NWP results from several local models (the fcst soundings at the same sites will be important for this), but also to keep in touch as we explore potential new funding resources and support students continuing the great modeling work Blair and Gary started. We will switch the time to 1pm on the last Friday of each month. So if we decide to have a call in September, it would be at 1pm on the 29th. If not, our next call will be Oct 27.

Thanks to everyone who participated on the call, and please comment on or add to these notes if I didn't get it quite right or forgot something.