

NW Flow Snow Conf Call Minutes for Dec 15, 2011

Participants from ASU, UNC-A, WFOs GSP, JKL, CHS (yes, Charleston, SC!) and RNK

Kentucky Mesonet update:

Black Mtn site (4,100 ft in Harlan Co) having some issues with comms (cell coverage) so unfortunately may not be on-line in time for this winter, but most likely well before next winter.

Dr. Mahmood (KY Mesonet, Wrn Kentucky Univ), and Eric Thomas (Morehead State) are still interested in the group but were not able to make this call.

Research topics review:

Categorization work and synoptic map composite projects continue. Have done sample composites and based on feedback have likely finalized the domains, projections, parameters, times, etc we want to create maps for, and so the VA Tech student can dive into this in January after the break. Still not likely to have 2011 data in the NARR dataset on ESRL page, but perhaps by early January we'll get lucky and it will be there.

Baker beginning outlines of two papers related to the classification work that he will initially share with Doug, Larry and Steve K (the others working with the classification project) for input.

Steve K will try and figure out if sharing the Google Sites NWFS projects page will work with the new NOAA gmail accounts so NWS folks can use their work accounts to access it vs. their personal gmail accounts. Steve will share with those @noaa.gov accounts as soon as he figures out how this will work.

Field projects:

App State mobile mesonet unit now has an acronym (although I didn't write down what it stands for Baker): MOPRAMS! Since they are still working on the tower component, for this winter it will stay close to home, up by the Broyhill Inn on the SW side of campus/town. Should be able to display the data in real-time, including liquid equiv), on the App State current conditions web site for Avery/Watauga Co.

Successful first IOP by Doug and UNC-A students with several sondes launched during Dec 7 minor event. Hoping for more active winter pattern though!

Models:

Steve K mentioned plans to make some small changes to local WRF at RNK, primarily to domain (shifting back to NW to clip part of Great Lakes), and hopefully getting NASA SPoRT soil moisture working with initialization. Already has the SPoRT SSTs, but not taking advantage of Great Lakes since not quite in current domain.

Misc:

Blair was on the call from CHS and expressed thanks for being a part of the team while at GSP, and he plans to stay in the NWFS loop even though not actively involved.

Future calls:

The sub-group working on categorization of events, which includes all snow events at Poga Mtn (Baker, Doug, Larry, and Steve K) will likely utilize future NWFS calls to remain on the line after our usual agenda items have been discussed, to work on pseudo-realtime classification of any events that have occurred since the previous call. Others are welcome to listen in, but we'll announce an "end" to the NWFS call, and then review recent events in an attempt to classify them based on the synoptic scheme previously established (see the Google sites page for more info).

Next call Friday Jan 13 @10am.