

NW Flow Snow Conf Call Minutes for Dec 12, 2013

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

NWA Mtg Sandy extended abstracts:

They are done and submitted! Thanks for all the work authors!

Possibility of Sandy NWFS journal article:

There appears to be enough interest among the group (primarily the authors of the NWA Sandy presentations/articles) to pursue a more formal journal that would summarize the NWFS aspects of Sandy, and probably would really need to focus on some unique details of the event (such as the gravity and mountain waves and observations seen in radar/satellite). The other aspects (general NWFS introduction, Sandy synoptic set up, and anomalous moisture and trajectories) could all be summarized as a lead in to more of these mesoscale details. Need to explore this a little more.

The other aspect that was discussed but still not decided was whether or not to pursue a special issue of [Hydrological Processes](#) dedicated to Eastern Snow Conference topics (and we would have to agree to present the NWFS aspects of Sandy at this conference in one or two parts...maybe not 4 like NWA), or to consider an AMS journal such as Weather and Forecasting. There are pros and cons to each. In any case, Doug's recommendation to "strike while the iron is hot" is a good one, so we need to decide and begin pursuing that very soon. Steve K will start a draft outline on the Google Drive folder with the other Sandy files, which is meant to be added to and fleshed out a bit by the entire team. This will include all the potential aspects we could focus on, so comments on this should include more details of these unique aspects and some opinion about which we should put the most emphasis on. Also, App State student Daniel Martin could also participate since he has done some related work (analysis maps, and working with the Sandy data from Roan Mtn).

Potential focus topics for upcoming season:

More discussion about the three topics we seem to have honed in on for now:

- Incorporating High Res (especially convective-allowing) model solutions into the gridded forecast process, specifically with NWFS events. GSP continues to lead this with a multi-model (convective-allowing) ensemble, which now includes some HRRR members (time-lagged). They will continue to keep us updated, probably share some examples, and as a group we can brainstorm ways to best utilize this in forecasting methodology and ways to improve the approach, including validating it.

- Use of Snow-Liquid Ratio data from Poga Mtn to better anticipate future SLRs and which atmospheric variables are most important for anticipating those in NWFS events. App State, RNK, MRX, and GSP all expressed interest in this project, and Baker has expressed that some App State students might be interested in helping with this.
- Validating model forecasts of moisture depth and radar echo characteristics with the Poga Mtn MRR, and possible downstream data sets that are part of HMT-SEPS, and also UNC-A soundings. Can focus on using BUFKIT output from local WRF models that some offices are producing for Poga Mtn, but other forecast data sets that we can get a hold of would also be good to consider. Again, App State students might be available to help with this.

We will likely have a special call some after our next routine NWFS call in January to brainstorm with a few of these students on what specifically we want to do on these second two projects and what data we would need.

Other projects/data for upcoming season:

Doug and UNC-A students have already had some successful U/A launches in Asheville this season, and are seeking the next opportunity.

Next call:

Wed Jan 8, or Fri Jan 10 (before the Spring semester starts). We'll determine which of these and the time via Doodle. As mentioned above, there will be another call for those interested later in January to talk specifically about the second of the two focus topics above.