

NW Flow Snow Conf Call Minutes for Aug 11, 2015

Participants from UNC-A, AppState, RLX, JKL, RAH, RNK, and ER SSD

NCEP Update from Brian Miretzky

Brian (ER SSD) provided a summary of near term and down-the-road improvements expected to various models, as well as new ensemble suites. For NWS folks, you can access the slides at this Google address:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Drhkn5Pom0AJ1igpKae0VxTThe5MrMflqBYaGpoanR4/edit#slide=id.p>

A couple of things to think about stemming from this presentation:

- The FTP server for accessing current and archived models is no longer available, but the NCDC NOMADS server is the way to go and data will be just as timely on this server. (nomads.ncdc.noaa.gov)
- We may want to consider if there is any way we can utilize the verification analysis tool (DTC MetViewer) mentioned in slide #8 for aspects of NWFS. We will want to wait for this new version in 2016 and it may require some spin-up/training.
- Since HiRes ensembles are a major focus at NCEP ("HREF" coming this Fall) and getting more and more use in NWS offices, we may want to consider specifically how various types of output for QPF/Snow/P-type could be used in the forecast process for NWFS events. Do the mean fields contain enough high res terrain influence based on our knowledge of NWFS climatology? Is there any way we can use the probability output to enhance the QPF/Snow grids we are already producing? How can we work the new HREF into our evaluation project (see below)?

Hi Res model QPF validation study:

Reminder that AppState is keeping the following for a 7-day running archive:

- HiResW-ARW (4km, new cycle every 12 hrs, out to 48 hrs)
- HiResW-NMMb (same as above)
- NAMnest (NMMb) (4km nest, new cycle every 6 hrs, out to 60 hrs)
- HRRR (3km, new cycle every hour, out to 15 hrs)

If there are any significant severe weather events the remainder of this warm season, or heavy rain events (especially tropical moisture and/or atmospheric rivers) we can request that as well, but please keep this project in mind as we approach this next winter season. Make a request for a specific time window by contacting either Baker Perry (lbperry@appstate.edu) or Steve Keighton

(stephen.keighton@noaa.gov) and this will be passed along to the AppState IT contact, Daryl Cook. The 7-day running archive is available at the site below, and we will let you know how to access any permanent archives (so far there are none):

<http://climate.appstate.edu/Data/noaa/>

We may or may not be able to add any of the new NCEP datasets, such as the HREF, to this archive given the size, but it something potential worth considering at some point. There may be other ways we can evaluate or at least subjective verify some of the newer high res output from NCEP.

Doug Miller is hopeful that he will have a student or two sometime this upcoming year who will be interesting in helping to evaluate any cases we may identify and archive. We will be talking more about the specifics of this project as the year goes on.

Sandy journal update:

Reviews of first draft of Sandy snowfall manuscript submitted to Wea & Fcstg are back and editor would like to see some major revisions before publication. The co-author team has met and believes we can address these concerns, but it will take some time, and now have a deadline of Nov 1 to get the next draft back to WAF. The editor-in-chief was hopeful we could do this since there have been no other articles on Sandy in WAF, and only a few in MWR.

Special soundings this summer and beyond:

For any especially significant severe weather or heavy rainfall events the remainder of this summer, UNC-Asheville may consider special launches, and Oak Ridge Labs in TN may as well. Coordinate with Doug Miller regarding Asheville soundings and David Hotz (WFO MRX) for Oak Ridge (and cc: me or the entire group if you would). Doug is hopeful that there will be funding this winter to launch again in the Asheville area for significant winter storms and will keep us informed.

MRR prospects:

No MRR at Poga Mtn or Boone as the one that was there before is committed to a project in Peru for the next few years. Doug may be in touch with Ana Barros at Duke to see if a state-supported one may be moved into the mountains of wrn NC this winter.

Future calls:

Out next call will be in October, and after that we will plan on having monthly calls again throughout the winter. **Steve will send a Doodle poll** to set up the October call. The Sandy co-authors will likely have some additional calls.