

NW Flow Snow Conf Call Minutes for Oct 13, 2016

Participants from AppState, UNC-A, GSP, MRX, JKL, ERH, and RNK

Hi Res model QPF validation study:

We have 5 events saved off on AppState server (the server has been moved to a location not freely available to all of us but it's still there and Baker can get us any model data when we are ready for it). A few are pretty minor events, but there are a couple that are more significant (at least in terms of overall snow starting from a synoptically-driven pattern). We do need to continue to collect more, of all varieties that end in NWFS or are purely NWSF from start to finish.

Here again is the Google sheet to help document the events we have saved off, and has color-coded events to help keep track (purple is NWFS, blue synoptic scale winter events, and green flooding. May use red for severe if we choose to save any of those.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1VPfixrV9AIA9as3GNFtdrYhkEcxAsutMfStI2YFR7mY/edit#gid=0>

We decided to begin determining what kind of observational data we need to help with the model validation efforts, and we can start now by using one of these cases as a template; we chose Jan 22-23, 2016 due to its impact. We will create a document with the types and location of observations needed (mainly snowfall measurements, but also liquid equiv, the temporal resolution needed, radar mosaics, soundings including special UNC-A launches if available, etc). **Steve will start that in Google docs to get us started.**

Regional snowfall and liquid equiv hi res analyses for our cases

GSP creates nice GIS-based analyses of snow and liquid equiv following events for their CWA, and **Pat agreed to pursue with GSP's GIS focal point what it would take to create this for a larger domain** (what additional data files and QC would be needed) for creating these for some of the events already in our database but also going forward for future events.

Brian also reminded us that NOHRSC is producing pretty high quality snowfall analyses and eventually will be upgrading to a version with even more terrain resolution, and we may want to consider those for our study as well as evaluating how these capture NWFS event details based on our knowledge. See the NOHRSC Snowfall website:

http://www.nohrsc.noaa.gov/interactive/html/map.html?var=snowfall_24_h&snap=1&bgvar=dem&shdvar=shading&o9=1&o13=1

Concerns about quality of some snow reports:

Discussion lead to a decision to pursue to what degree our offices have conducted training recently for our observers (official climate, COOP, or even CoCoRaHS) and if there are resources we need to improve this, we can pursue videos on CoCoRaHS site or other plans in coordination with ERH. **Steve will contact the OPLs** in each of our offices to determine what sort of training is routinely done or has been recently, and are there additional resources such as a video or live presentation that they could use. **Baker will also check with Nolan Doesken (Colo State/CoCoRaHS) to see if he is willing to provide a live presentation.**

Creating VLab page for the NWFS collaboration group

Brian, in coordination with GSP, will begin to set up a VLab site for our group where we can eventually transition much of the material and links from the GSP-maintained web page, and will also allow ongoing communication with our group and for anyone of us to post thoughts, links, or other resources.

Future calls/communication:

We will continue this winter with monthly calls, and **Steve will send out a Doodle poll for the November call.** We will make room for a student of Baker's to make a presentation on research he is working on related to teleconnection relationships with NWFS (if he is available at the time we choose).