



# Evaluation of Operational and Experimental CMAQ Ozone and PM

<http://airquality.weather.gov>

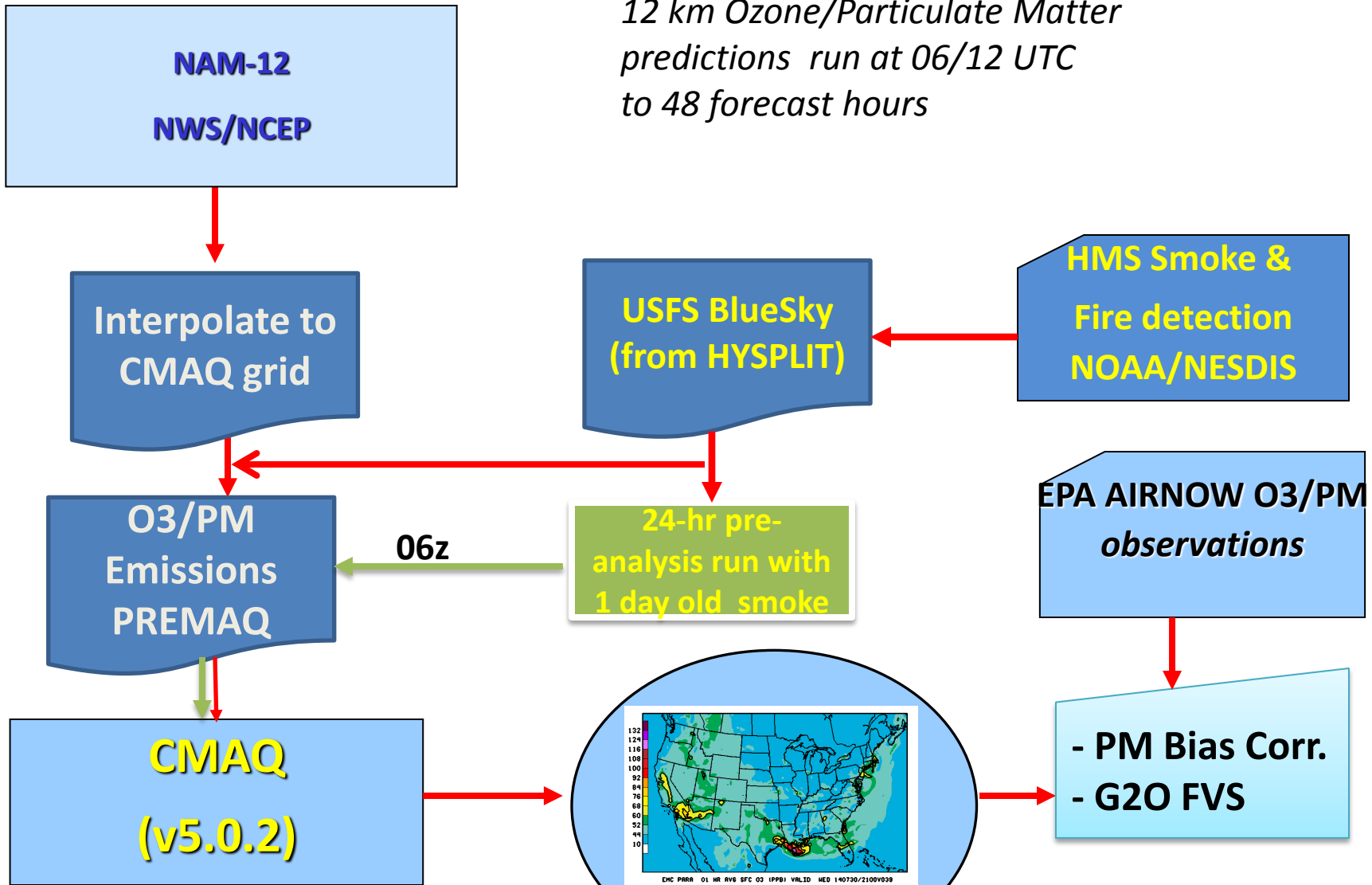
Jeff McQueen, Jianping Huang, Ho-Chun Huang,  
Perry Shafran, Geoff DiMego – NCEP/EMC  
Pius Lee, Li Pan, Daniel Tong –NOAA/ARL  
Ivanka Stajner, Sikchya Upadhayay – NWS/STI

September 14, 2016



# CMAQ Air Quality Forecasting System

*12 km Ozone/Particulate Matter predictions run at 06/12 UTC to 48 forecast hours*



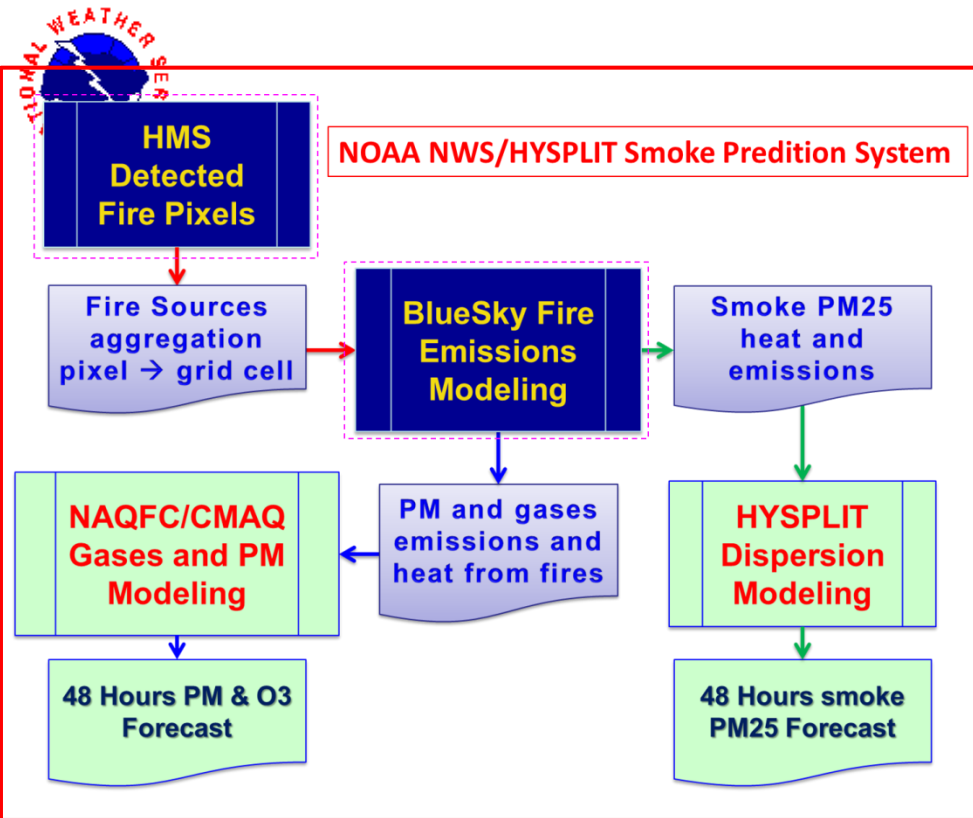
NDGD Display

Jianping Huang



# CMAQ weaknesses Identified

- Overprediction of ozone in Eastern U.S. in Summer
  - Especially along coastal cities (NYC, DC, Cleveland)
    - Update National Emission Inventory point sources to 2011 (project to 2016)
    - *Reduce NOx emissions based on OMI satellite trends*
    - *Update CMAQ chemistry/biogenic emissions to EPA V5.0*
- Underprediction of particulate matter (PM) in Summer and near wild-fires
  - *Update 9 year old USFS BlueSky smoke emission system*
  - *Introduce 24 h pre-analysis cycle to correct fire time mismatch with CMAQ initial time*
- Underprediction of Ozone and PM when strong fires are present outside CMAQ domain
  - *Test NGAC full aerosol predictions for CMAQ lateral boundaries*
- Overprediction of PM during winter-time stagnation episodes (cold, stable)
  - *update emissions/chemistry as in bullet 1*

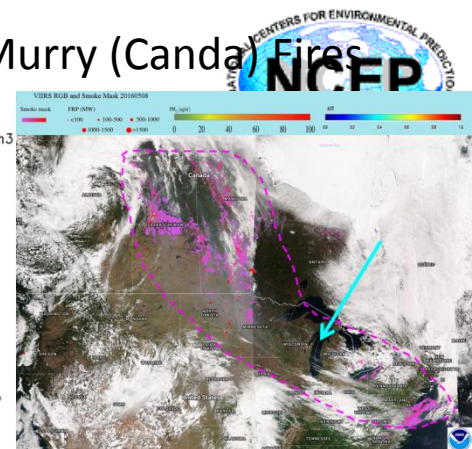
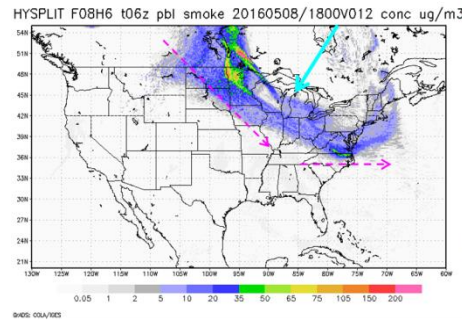


### New Updated BlueSky:

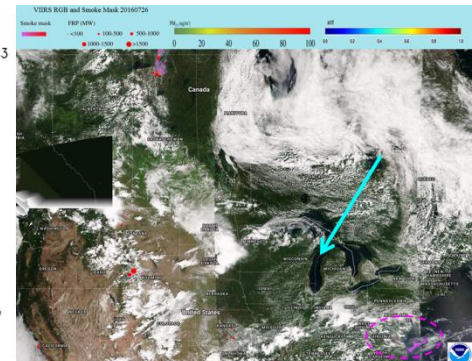
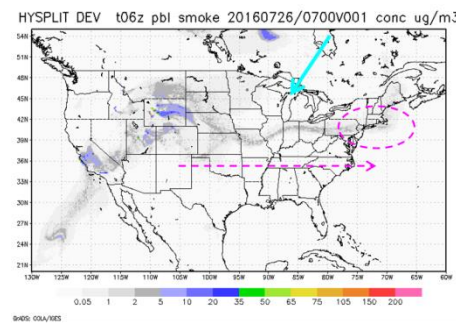
- The Fuel Characteristic Classification System version 2 (FCCS2) which includes a more detailed description of the fuel loadings with additional plant type categories.
- Explicit fuel load map for Alaska
- improved fuel consumption model and fire emission production system (FEPS).

Courtesy Ho-Chun Huang, EMC

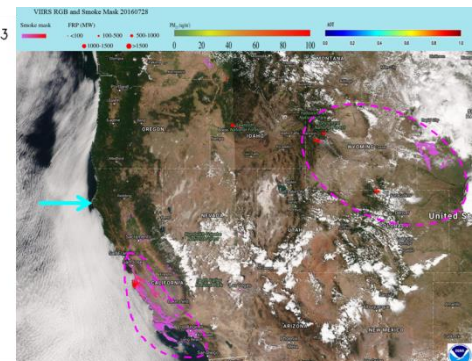
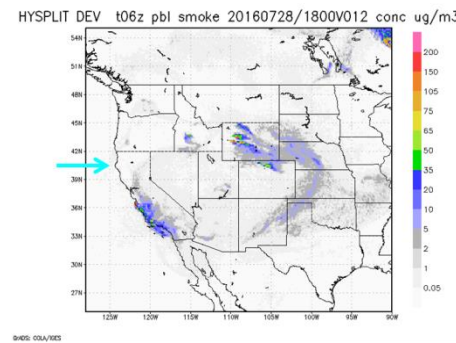
### May 2016 Ft McMurry (Canda) Fires



### July 2016 Northern Wyoming Fires



### July 2016 California Big Surf Fires



HYSPLIT/Smoke prediction

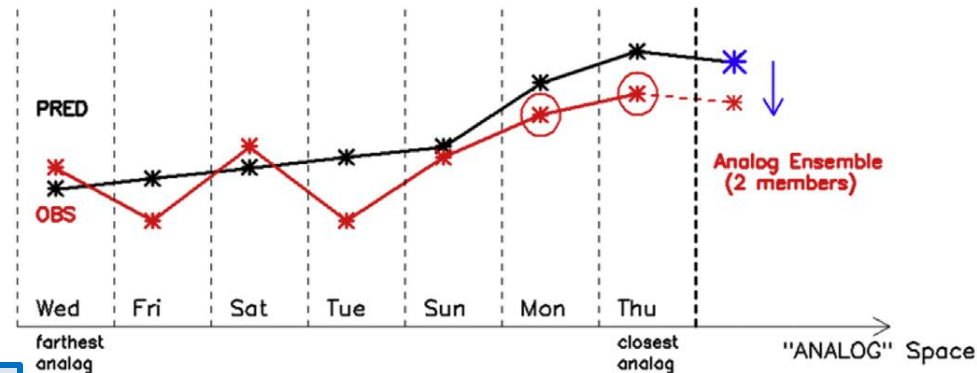
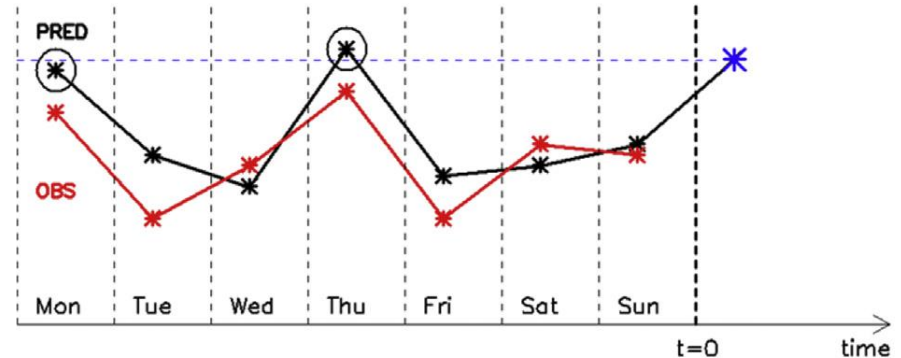
eIDEA Smoke Mask

# Analog Ensemble for PM<sub>2.5</sub> Bias Correction

- **Analog metric is determined by (Monache et al. 2011)**

$$\|F_{t'}, A_{t'}\| = \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \frac{w_i}{\sigma_{f_i}} \sqrt{\sum_{j=-\tilde{t}}^{\tilde{t}} (F_{i,t'+j} - A_{i,t'+j})^2},$$

where  $F_t$  is current NWP forecast valid at future time  $t$ ,  $A_{t'}$  is analog at past time  $t'$ ,  $N_v$  is the number of variables,  $\tilde{t}$  is half the number of additional computation time,  $w_i$  weight,  $\sigma_{f_i}$  standard deviation



## Implementation in NAQFC

- Variables for Analog search: PM<sub>2.5</sub>, T<sub>2</sub>, WS/WD
- Ensemble members: 5
- Training period: one year

(Source: Djalalova et al., 2015)

- **Resolution Changes**

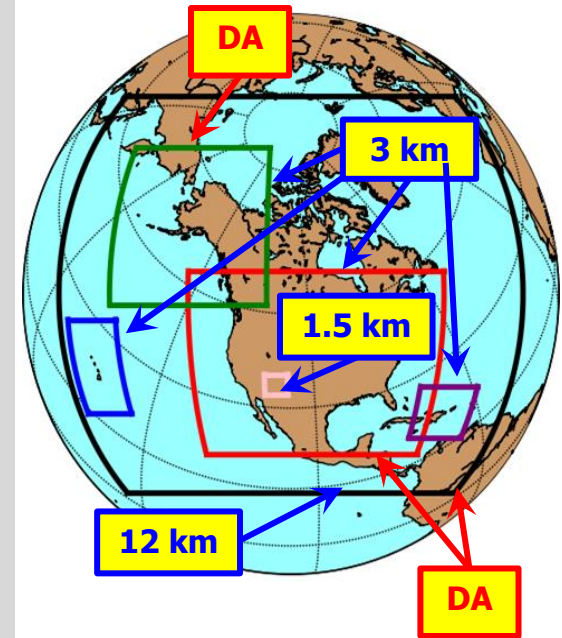
- CONUS (4 km) and Alaska (6 km) nests → **3 km**
- Sync AK and CONUS On-Demand Fire Weather nests → **1.5 km**

- **Select Model Changes**

- Updated microphysics → **Improved stratiform precip., better anvil reflectivity, lower peak dBZs, smaller areas of light/noisy reflectivity (rain treated as drizzle), improved nest QPF bias in warm season, reduce warm season 2-m T warm bias**
- More frequent calls to physics → **Physics/dynamics more in sync (e.g. improved upper air, improved nest QPF)**
- Improve effect of frozen soil on transpiration and soil evaporation → **Improve cold season 2-m T/Td biases**
- Adjustment to convection in 12 km NAM → **Improve QPF**
- Modify latent heat flux treatment → **Improve visibility along CA coast**

- **Data Assimilation:**

- DA cycles for 3 km CONUS and AK nests → **Much less ‘spin-up’ time**
- Use of Lightning and Radar Reflectivity-derived temperature tendencies in initialization
  - **Improved short-term forecasts of storms at 3 km**
  - **Improved 00-12 hr QPF**
- New satellite radiances, satellite winds → **Improved Initial Conditions**



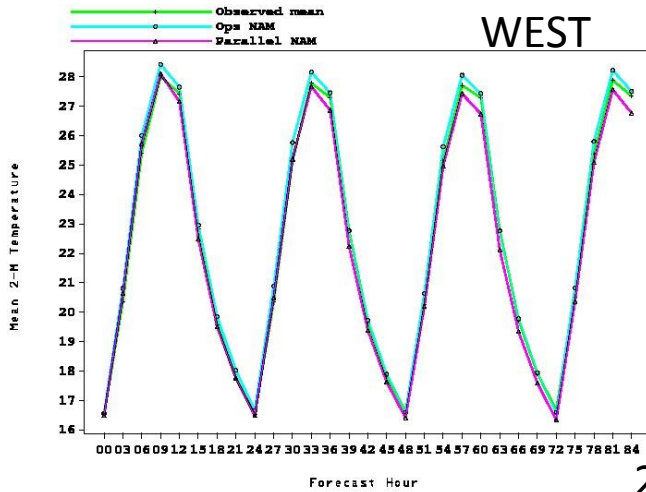
**DA: Data Assimilation Cycle**



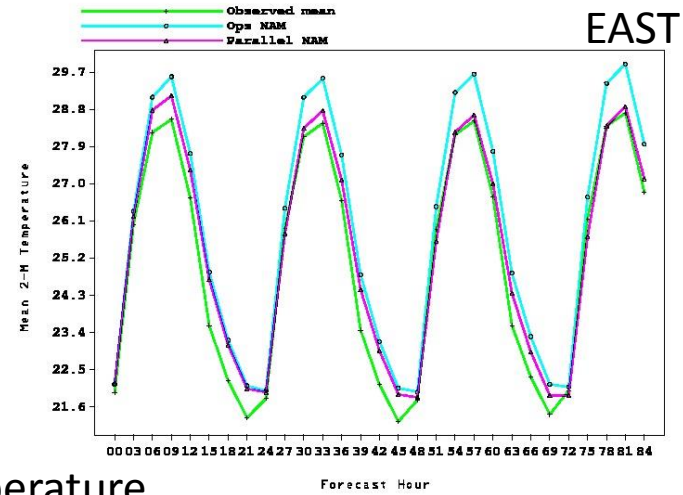
# Upcoming NAM Q1FY17 Upgrade



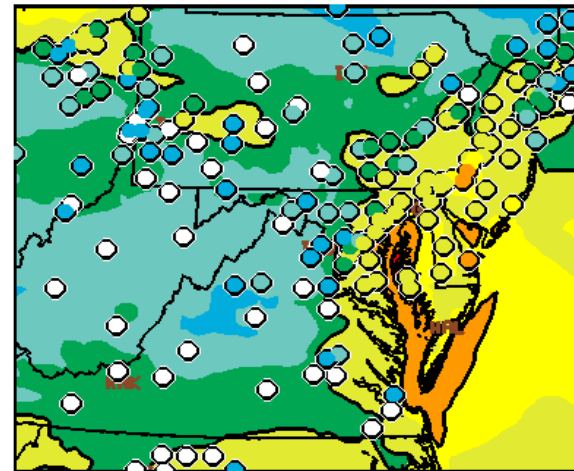
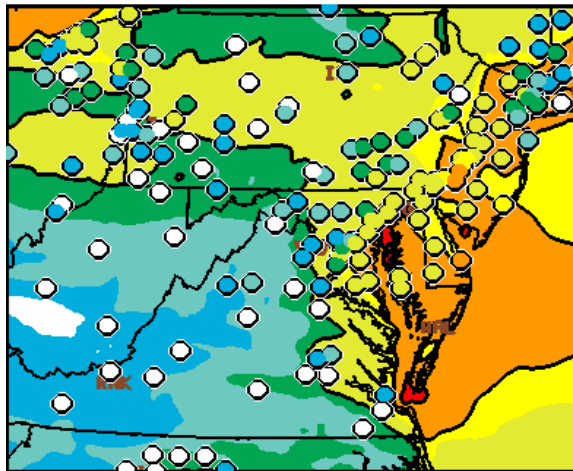
Mean 2-M Temp vs. sfc obs (12Z cycle) over the Western US for ops NAM and p11 NAM forecasts from 201607190000 to 201608291200



Mean 2-M Temp vs. sfc obs (12Z cycle) over the Eastern US for ops NAM and p11 NAM forecasts from 201607190000 to 201608291200



### 2 m Temperature



NAM - CMAQ V4.7

NAM-X - CMAQ V4.7

40.0 45.0 50.0 54.5 65.0 70.5 86.0 106.0

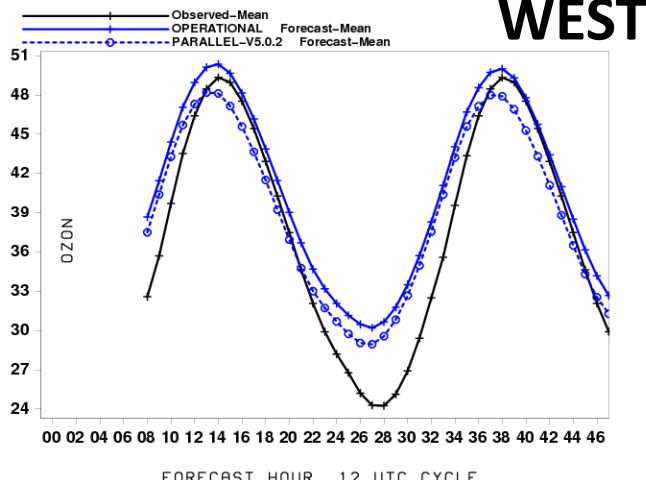


# NAM-CMAQ V4.7.5 vs V5.02

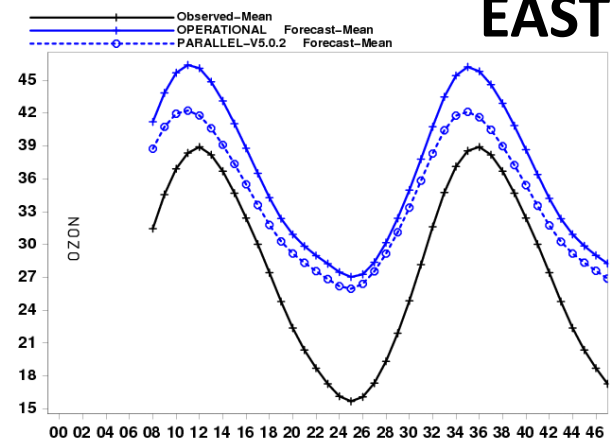


## Ozone West vs East August 2015

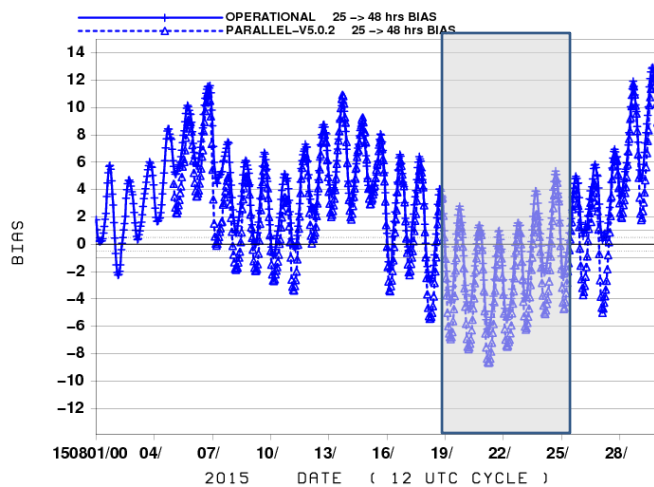
8-h Avg OZON obs (PPB) avged by fcst hrs  
20150801 to 20150829  
West-US



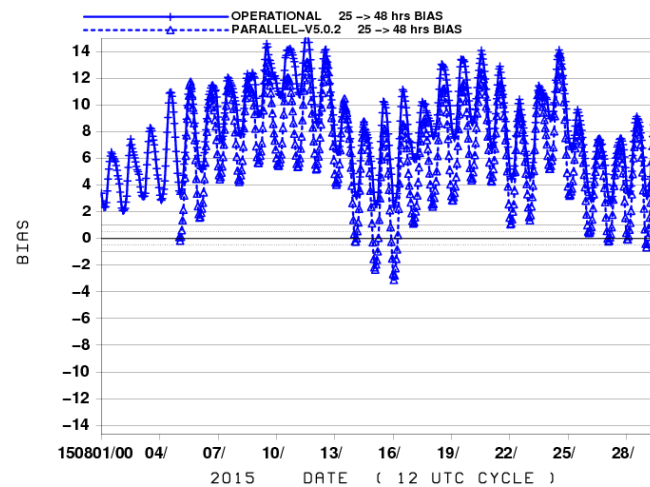
8-h Avg OZON obs (PPB) avged by fcst hrs  
20150801 to 20150829  
East-US



DAY 2 8-h Avg OZON BIAS (PPB)  
West-US



DAY 2 8-h Avg OZON BIAS (PPB)  
East-US



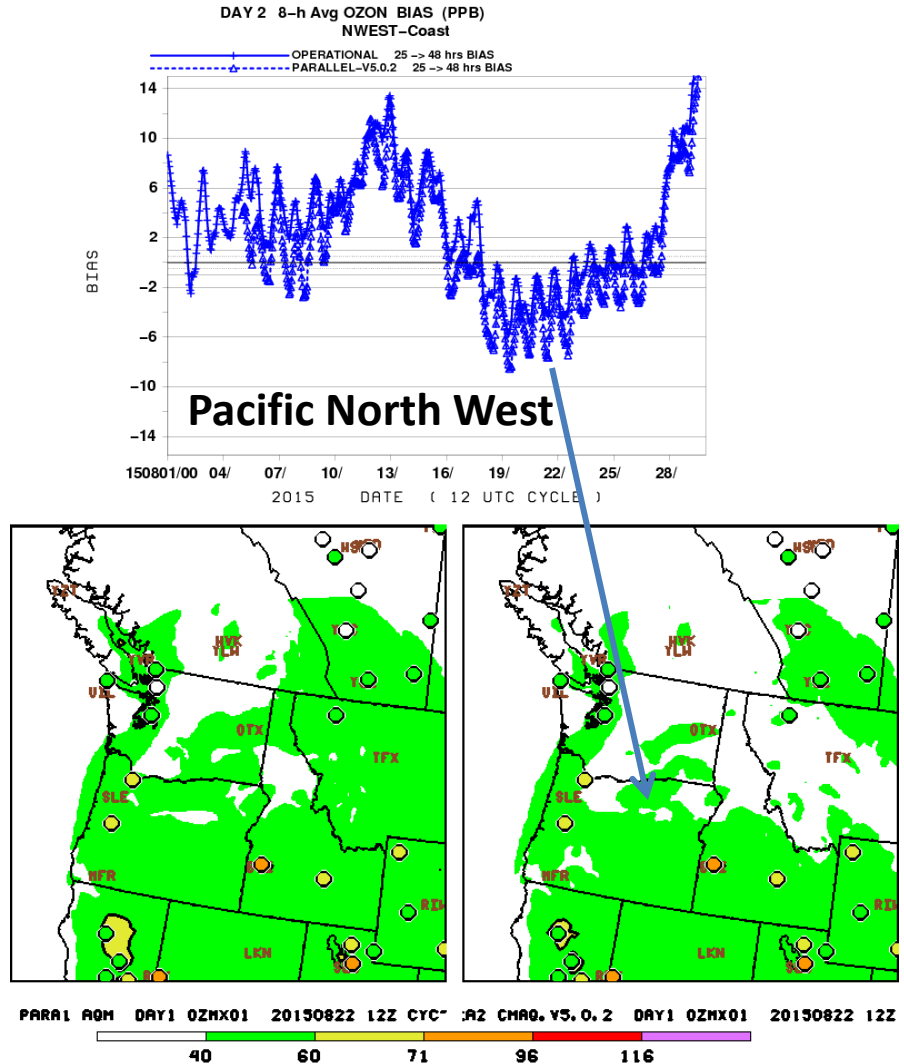
Improved over the East  
Underprediction over the West esp during active fires





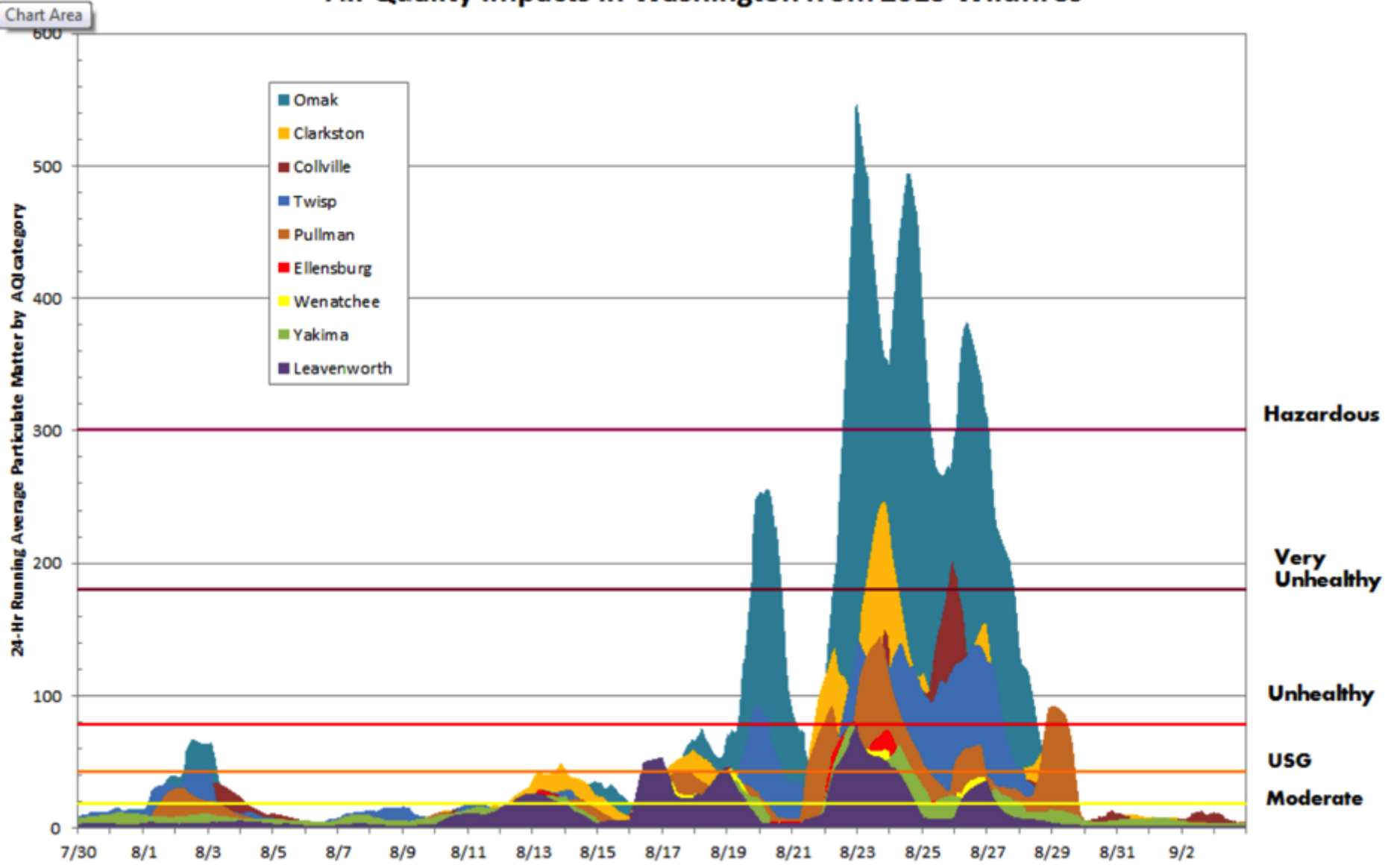
# NAM-CMAQ V4.7.5 vs V5.02

## Ozone Underprediction near fires (August 2015)



Importance of wild fire gas emissions on ozone: 8/22/15

# Air Quality Impacts in Washington from 2015 Wildfires



From: Narrative Timeline of the Pacific Northwest 2015 Fire Season. USDA Forest Service.

[http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/docs/Reference\\_Materials/2015\\_Timeline\\_PNW\\_Season\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/docs/Reference_Materials/2015_Timeline_PNW_Season_FINAL.pdf)

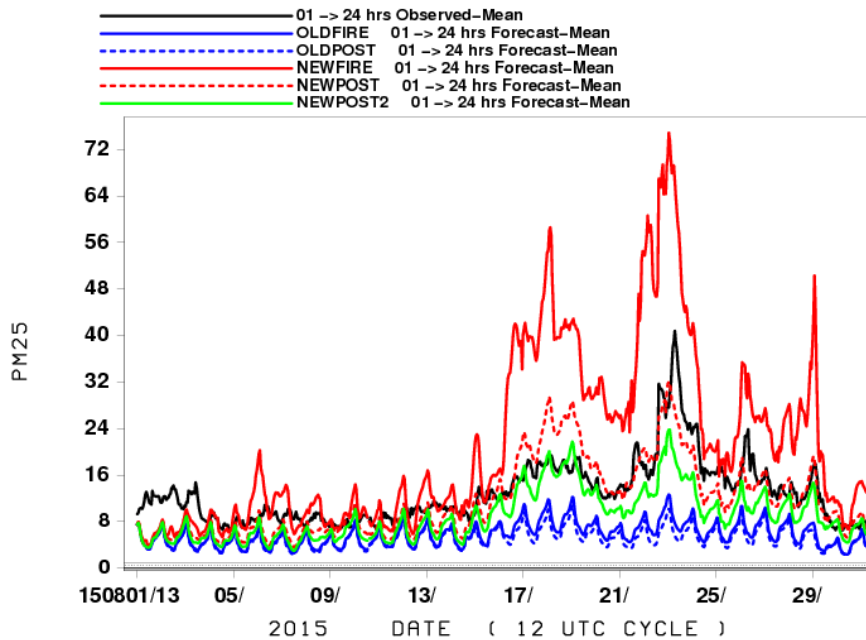


# CMAQ V4.7 PM Performance

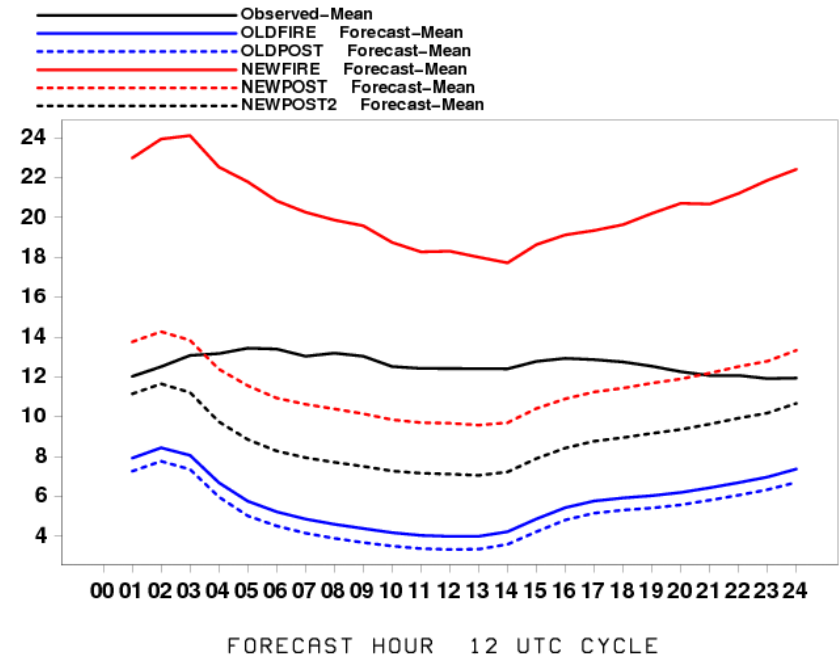
## Aug 2015 Western U.S. Wild Fires



DAY 1 1-h Avg PM25 obs (ug-m3)  
West-US



1-h Avg PM25 obs (ug-m3) avged by fcst hrs  
20150801 to 20150831  
West-US

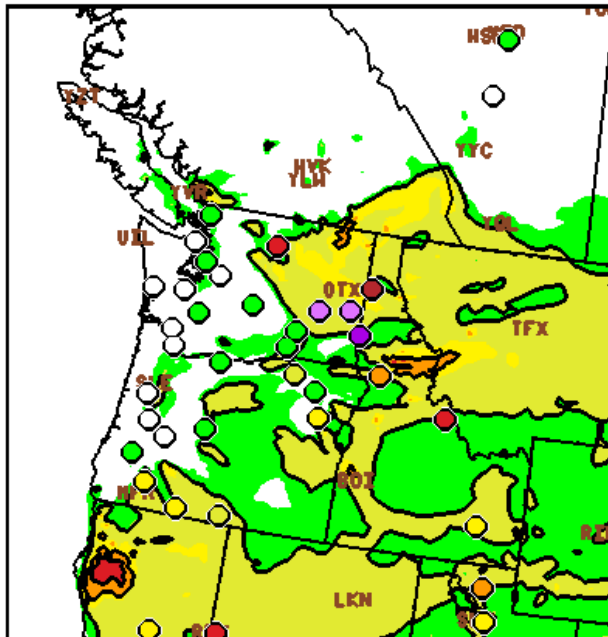


- Impact of fire initialization time (*solid vs dashed red line*)
- Impact of different BlueSky systems (*dashed blue vs dashed red line*)

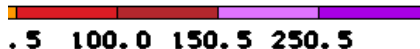
# Western Fires

August 21, 2015 1hr PM2.5 Max

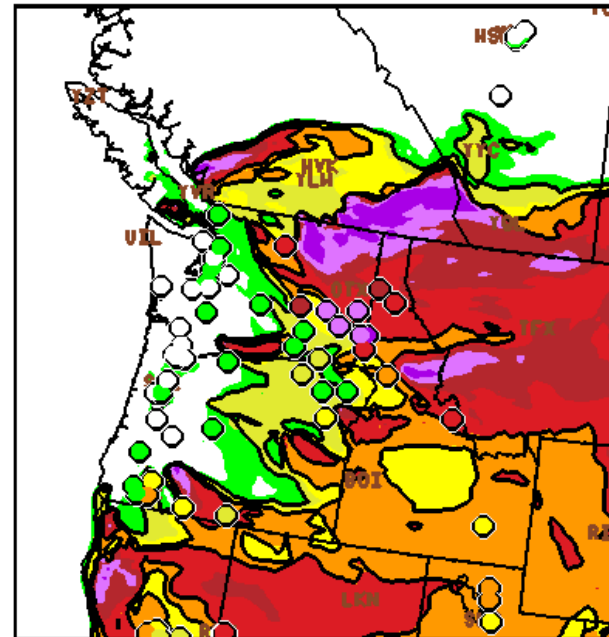
Operational V4.7



PARA1 DAY1 PMX01 20150821 06Z CYC



BlueSky v3.5.1 &  
Current day locations



PARA NEWPOST2 DAY1 PMX01 20150821 12Z C'

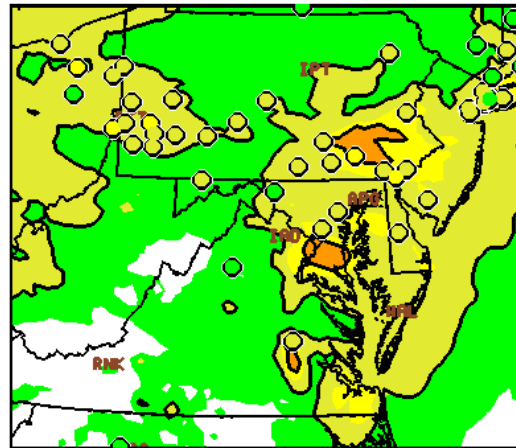
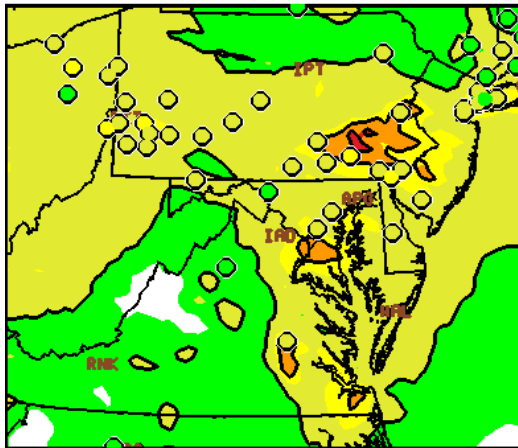
Operational runs: Most sites impacted by fire smoke are severely under-predicted.  
Experimental tests: Updated BlueSky and use of current day fire info



# V4.7 vs V5.02 1 hr max PM

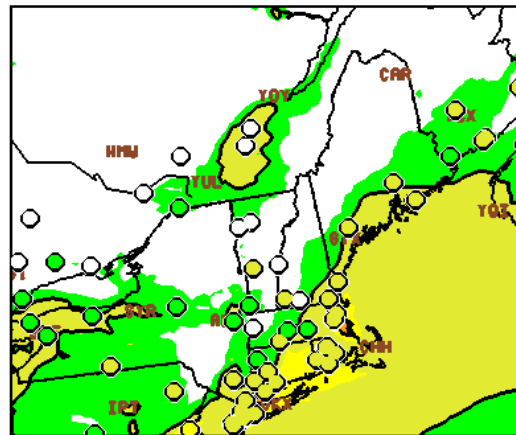
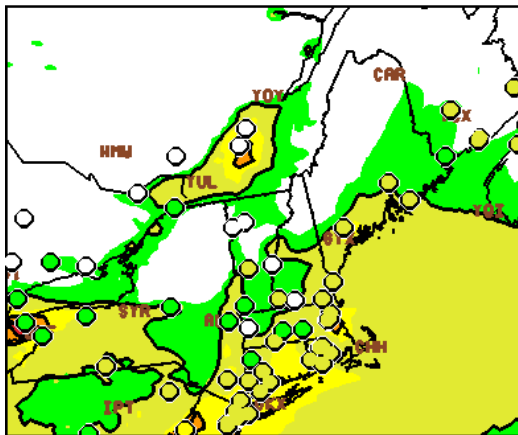


## Winter Case



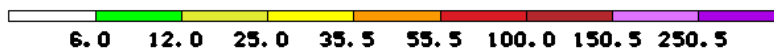
2/17/16

PROD AQH DAY1 PMX01 20160217 12Z CYC- :A2 CHAQ.V5.0.2 DAY1 PMX01 20160217 12Z



2/21/16

PROD AQH DAY1 PMX01 20160221 12Z CYC- :A2 CHAQ.V5.0.2 DAY1 PMX01 20160221 12Z



Large improvements to correct for overprediction during Eastern U.S. stagnation episodes

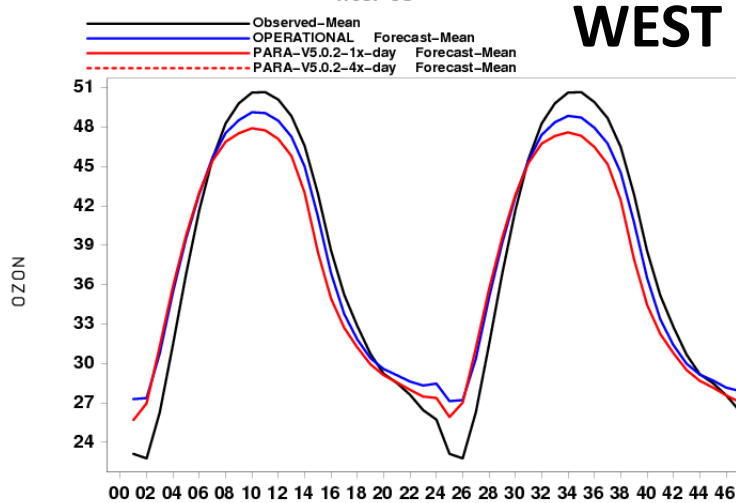


# July 2016 NRT Prediction

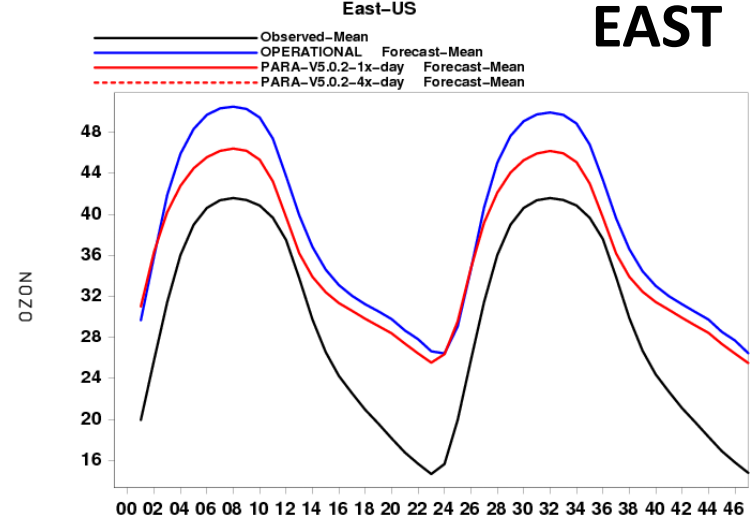
## 1 h avg Ozone



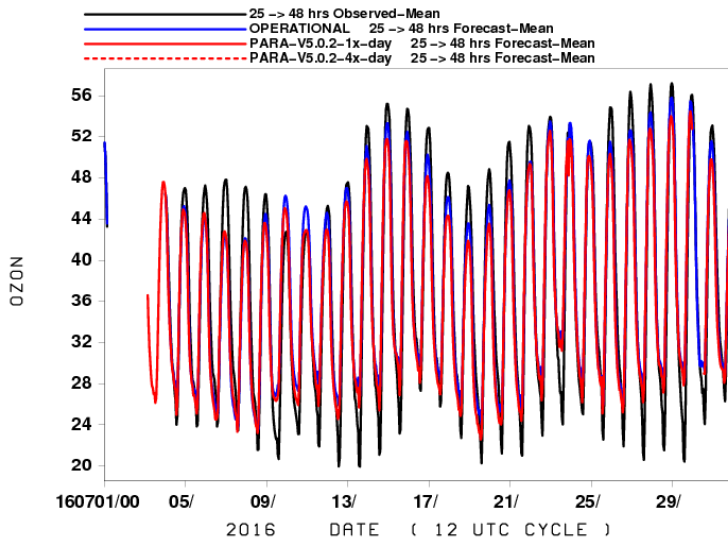
1-h Avg OZON obs (PPB) avged by fcst hrs  
20160701 to 20160731  
West-US



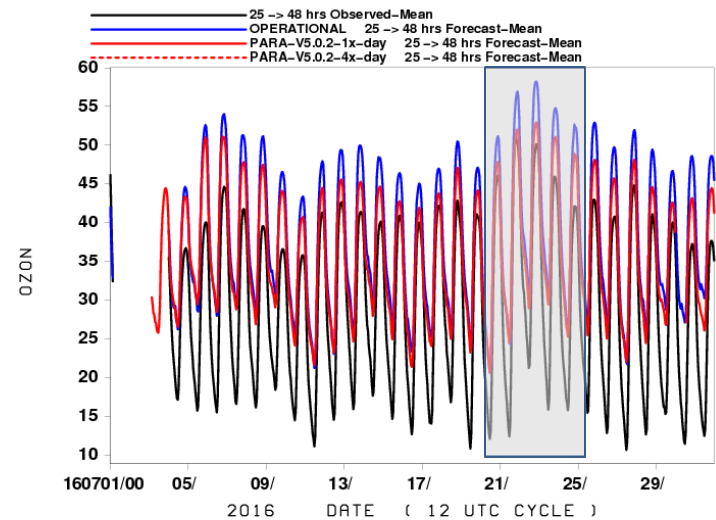
1-h Avg OZON obs (PPB) avged by fcst hrs  
20160701 to 20160731  
East-US



DAY 2 1-h Avg OZON obs (PPB)  
West-US



FORECAST HOUR 12 UTC CYCLE

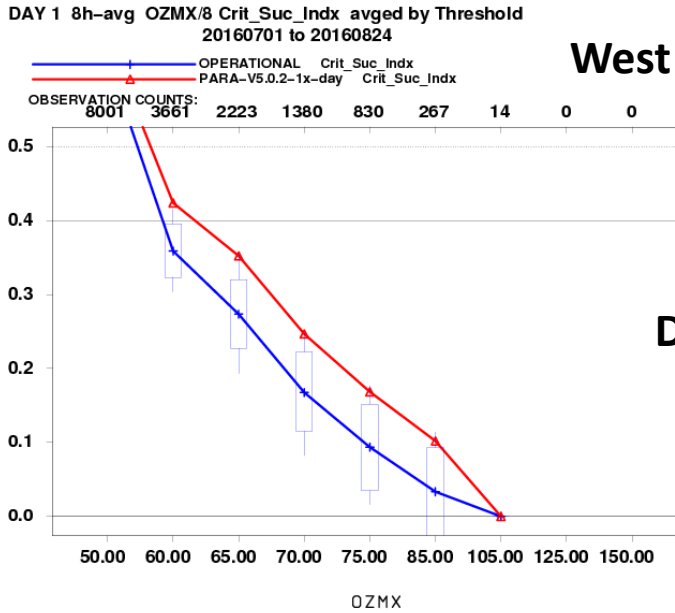


- Continue to see improvement in ozone over-prediction over the East

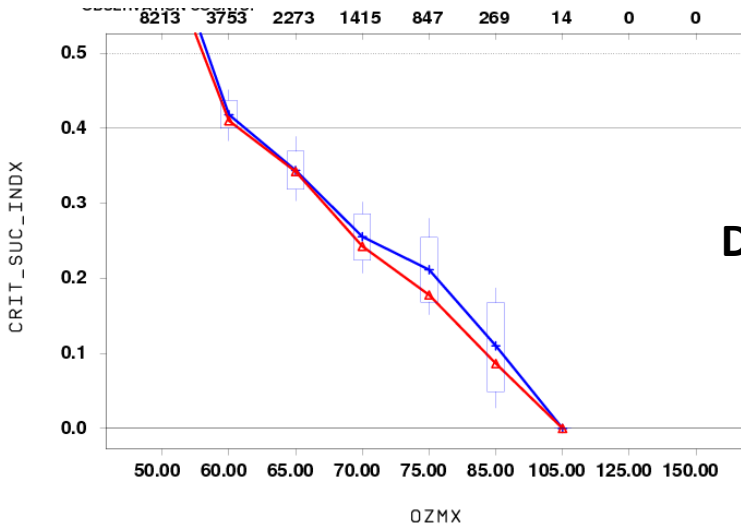
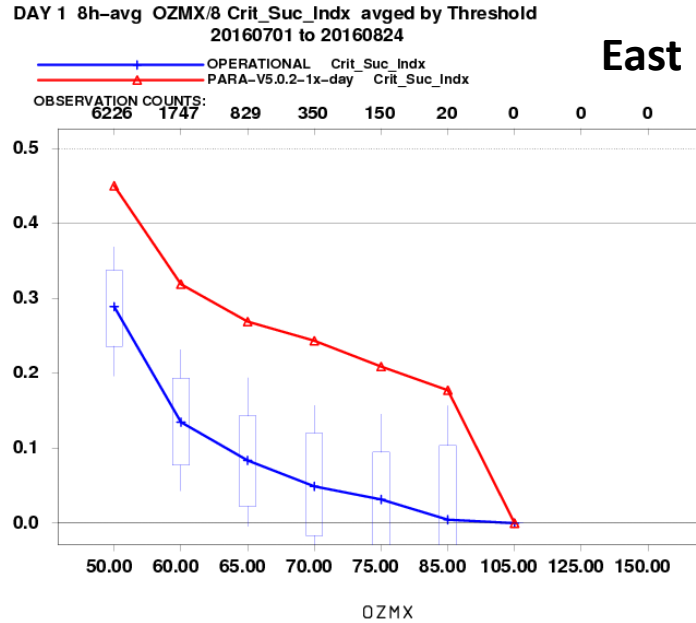


# July-August 2016 NRT Prediction

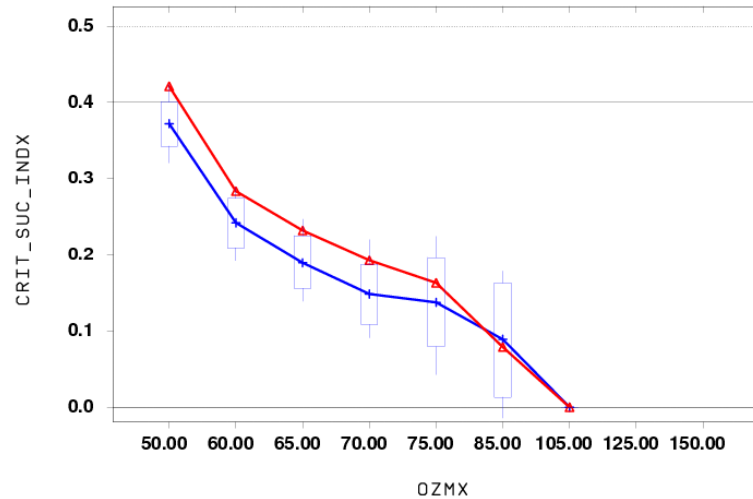
## 8 h avg Ozone Skill Score (CSI)



**DAY 1**



**DAY 2**



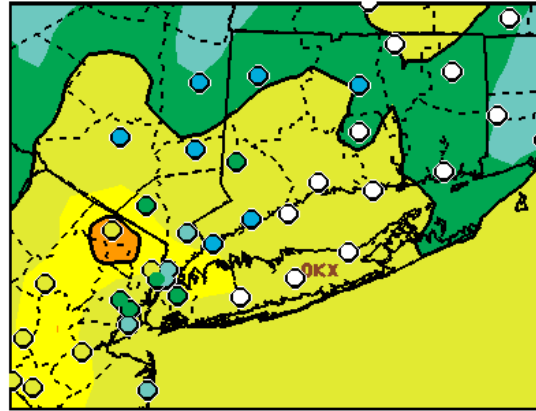
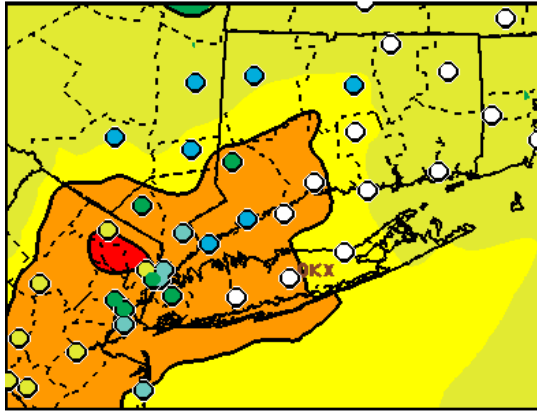
**Larger improvement for Day 1 CSI**



# Summer 2016 NRT prediction



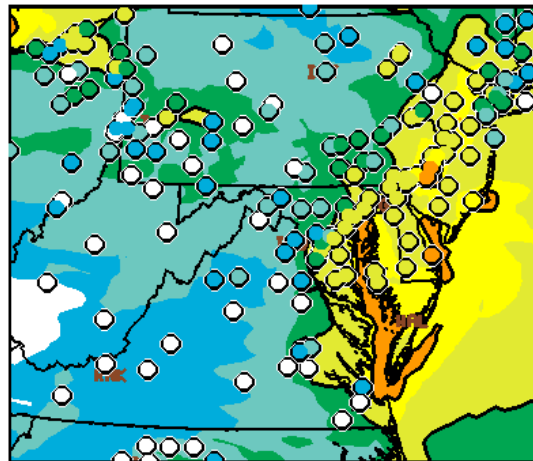
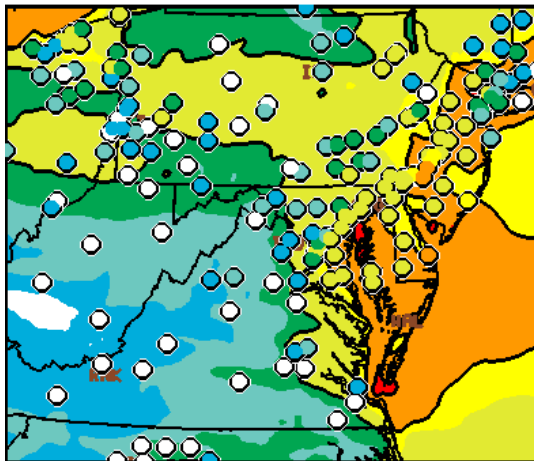
July 08, 2016 12Z run Day 1 8h Max ozone forecast



V5.02: Large improvement for non-event

PROD DAY1 OZMX08 20160708 12Z CYC~

:A2 CHA0. V5. O. 2 DAY1 OZMX08 20160708 12Z



V5.02: - Improved upon strong overprediction for Eastern Shore, NJ and NY  
- underpredict S. NJ, DE code orange

PROD DAY1 OZMX08 20160708 12Z CYC~

:A2 CHA0. V5. O. 2 DAY1 OZMX08 20160708 12Z



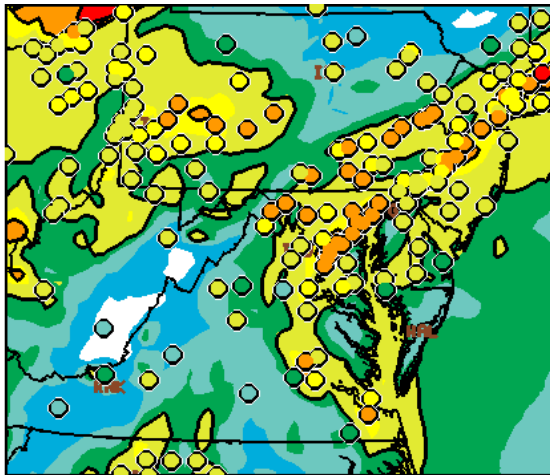
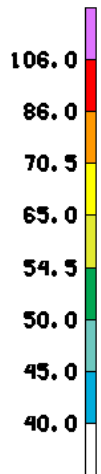




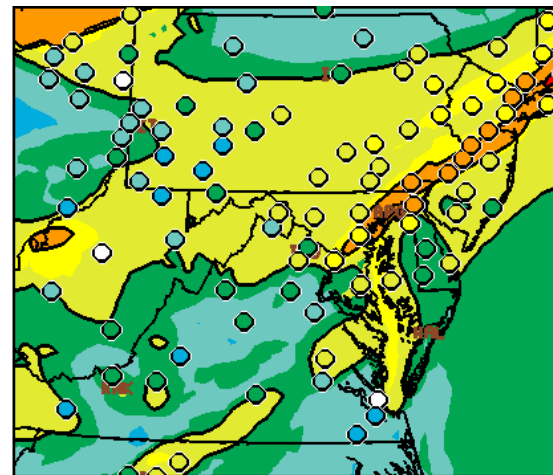
# Summer 2016 NRT prediction



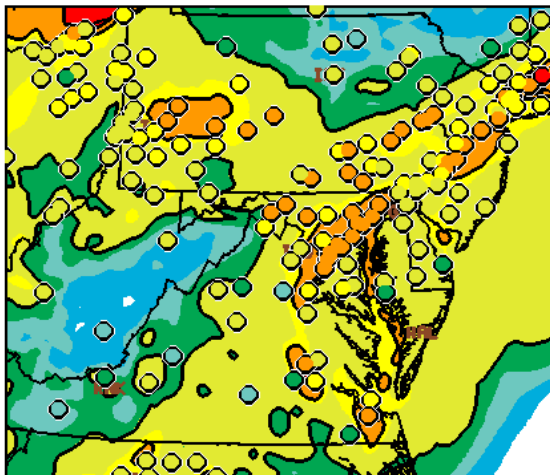
July 21-22, 2016 12Z run Day 1 8h Max ozone forecast



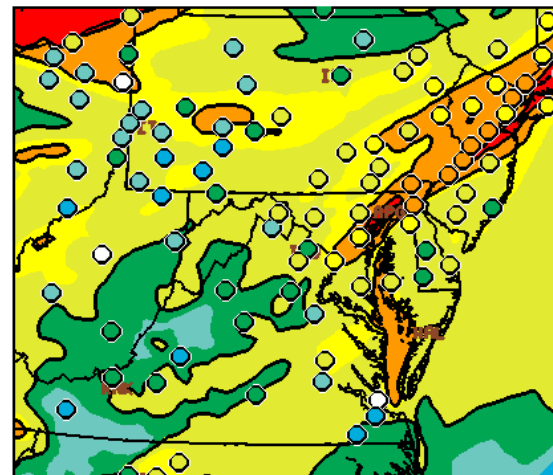
PARA2 CHA0. V5.0.2 DAY1 OZMX08 20160721 12Z CYC



PARA2 CHA0. V5.0.2 DAY1 OZMX08 20160722 12Z CYC



PROD DAY1 OZMX08 20160721 12Z CYC



PROD DAY1 OZMX08 20160722 12Z CYC

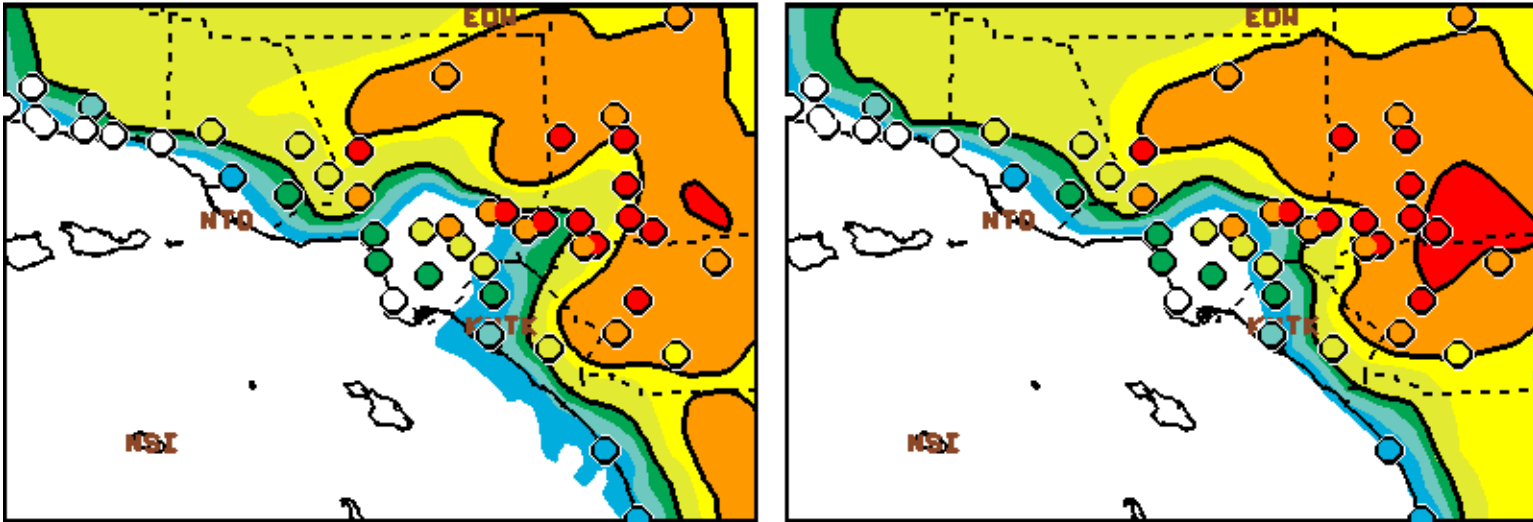
V5.02: - Can miss some exceedences (7/21/16) but improved Overpredictions on 7/22/16 in NE PA, NY, NY



# Summer 2016 NRT Prediction



July 12, 2016 12Z run Day 2 8h Max ozone forecast



PROD DAY2 OZMX08 20160712 12Z CYC- :A2 CHAO.V5.0.2 DAY2 OZMX08 20160712 12Z

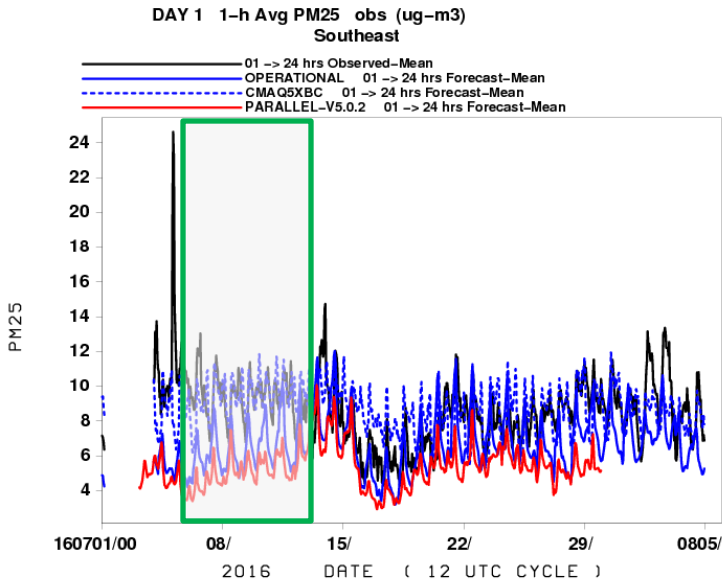


V5.02 more ozone formation in NOx saturated California

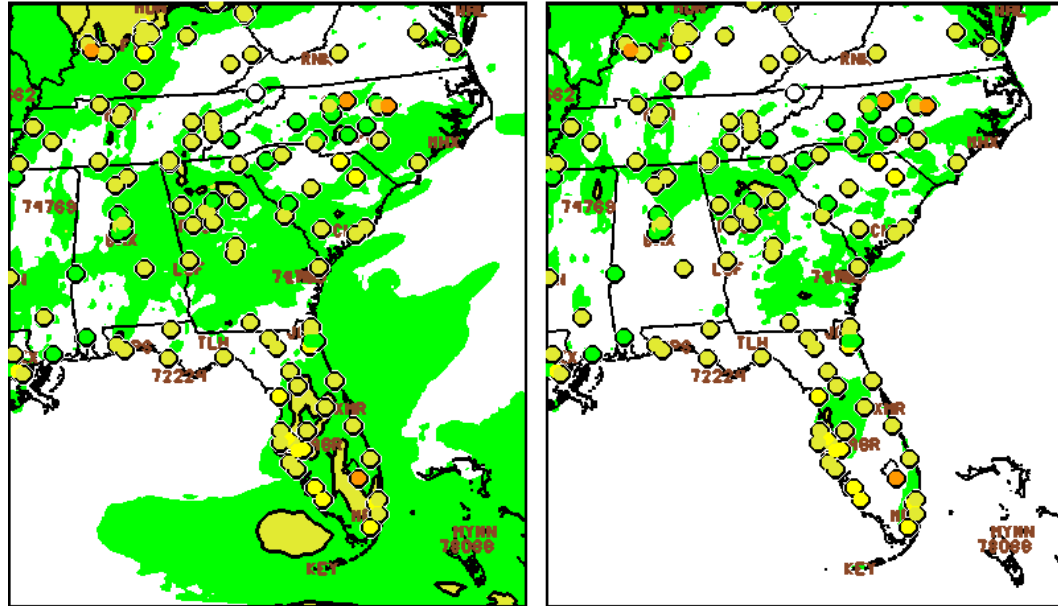


# Summer 2016 NRT Prediction

## July 6, 2016 Dust event



Southeast



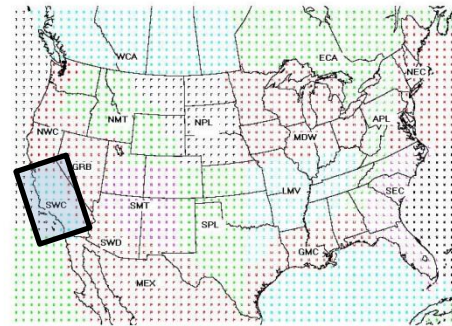
PROD DAY1 PMX01 20160706 12Z CYC 02 CMAQ.V5.0.2 DAY1 PMX01 20160706 12Z  
6.0 12.0 25.0 35.5 55.5 105.0 150.5 250.5

- V5.0.2 misses Saharan Dust Intrusion (red line)



# JULY 2016 NRT Prediction

## 1 h avg PM : South West U.S. Fires

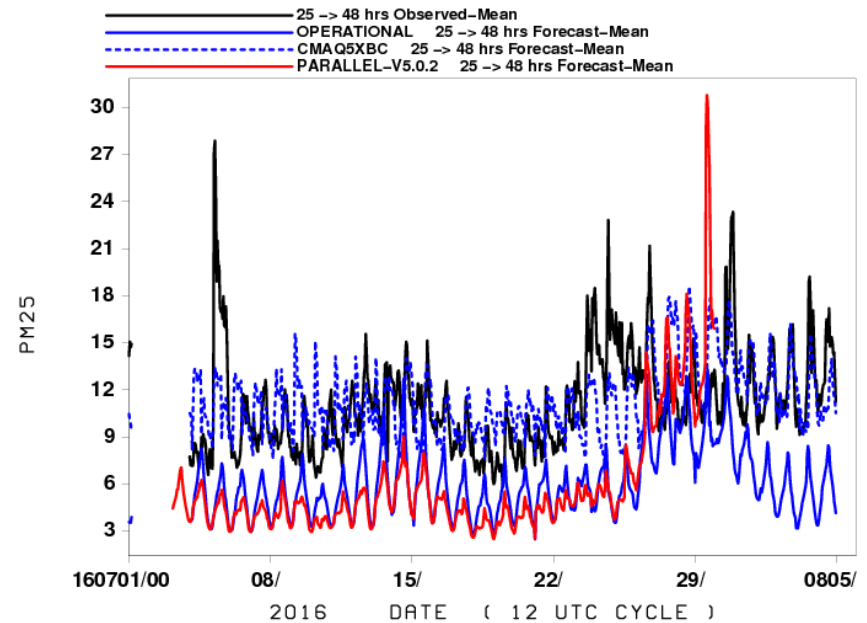
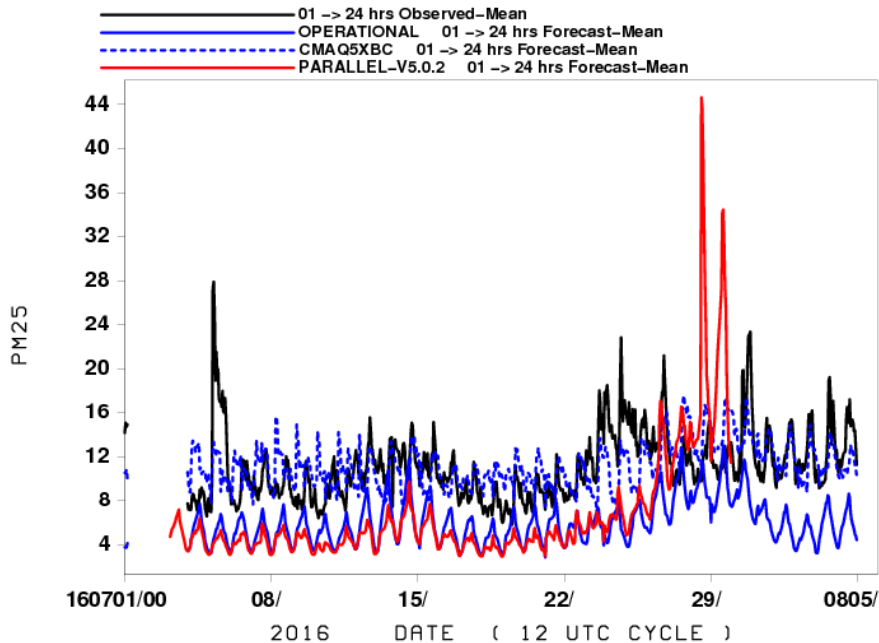


DAY 1 1-h Avg PM25 obs (ug-m3)  
SWEST-Coast

DAY 1

DAY 2 1-h Avg PM25 obs (ug-m3)  
SWEST-Coast

DAY 2

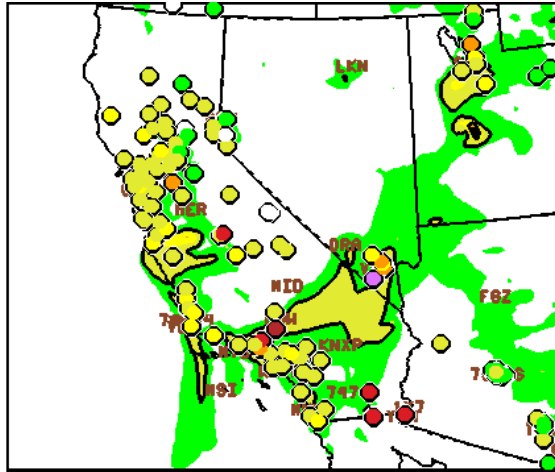
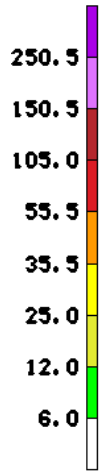


South West Coast

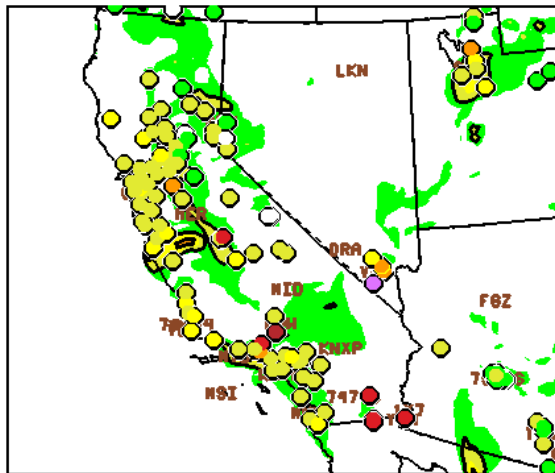
- Overprediction of wild fire smoke events in AM
  - No diurnal emissions profile used

# PM California Fires

July 24, 2016 12Z run Day 1 1hr Max PM2.5 forecast

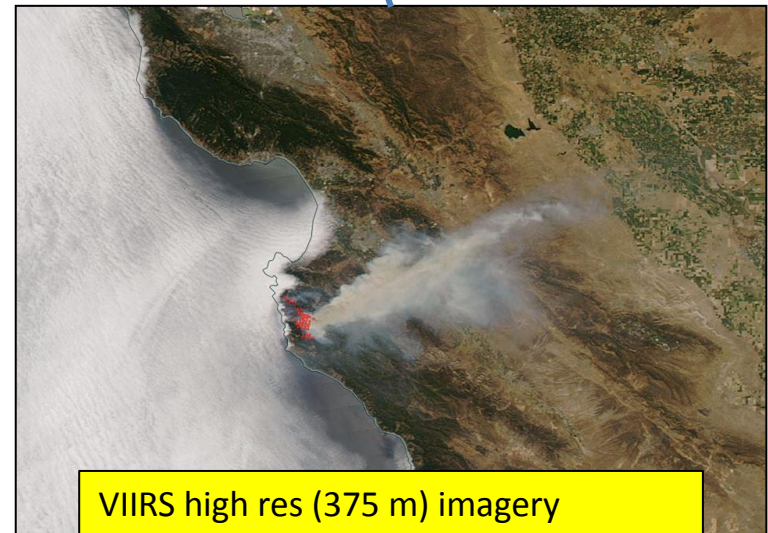
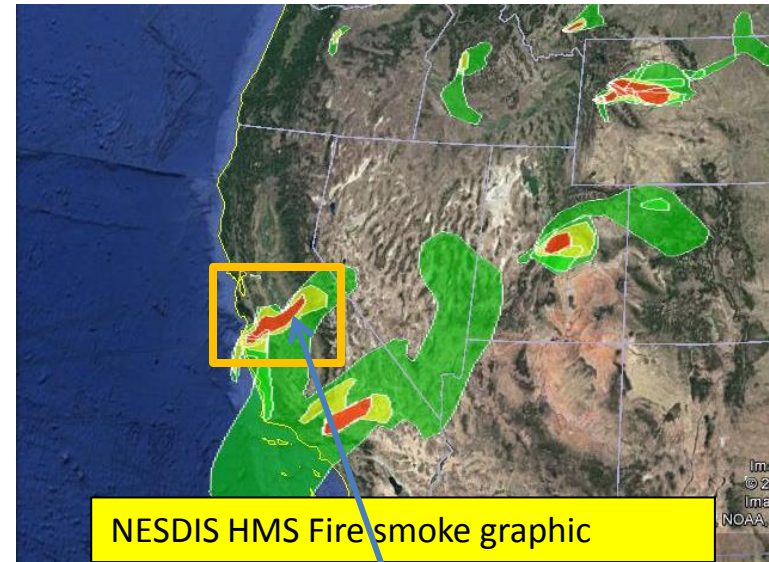


PARA2 CMAQ\_V5.0.2 DAY1 PMMX01 20160724 12Z CYC

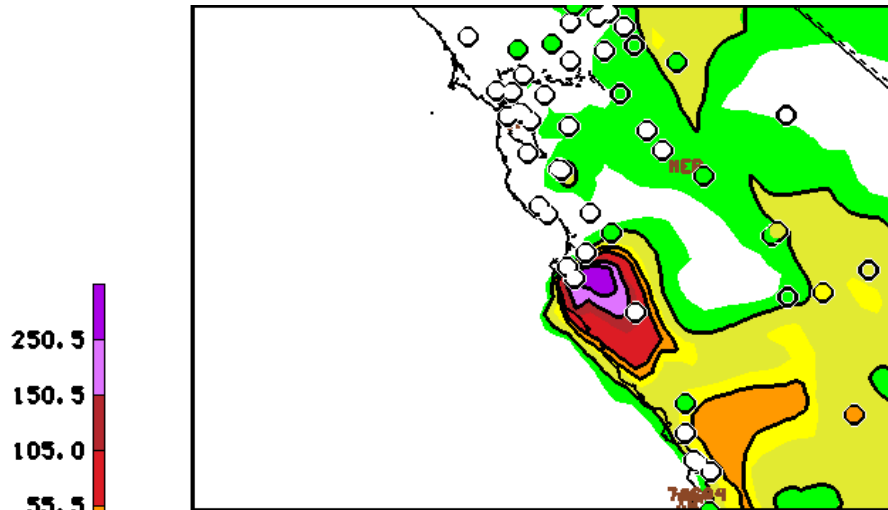


PROD DAY1 PMMX01 20160724 12Z CYC

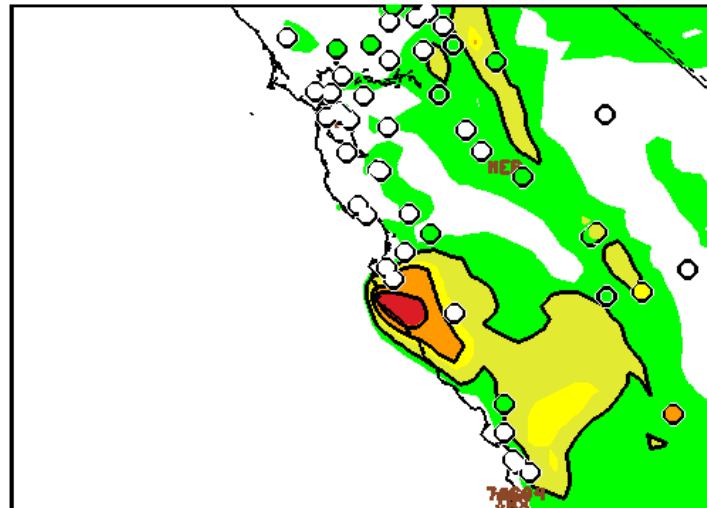
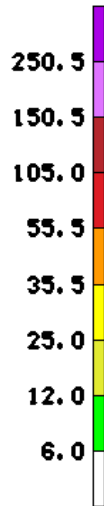
Some signature from fires in V5.02



# July 29, 2016 Big Sur Fire forecast and comparison to PM measurements



PARA2 CHAQ. Y5. O. 2 PM2501 FRI 160729/1300V001

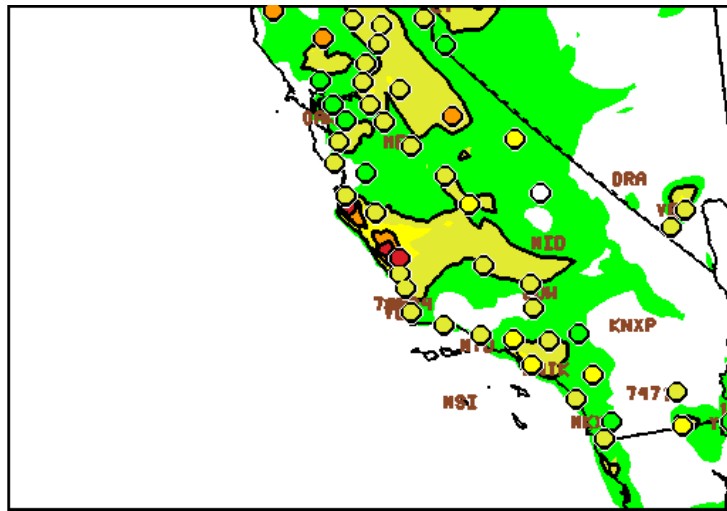


PROD AQH PM2501 FRI 160729/1300V001

- Smoke Emissions
- Location
  - Magnitude
  - Ejection height
  - Diurnal evolution

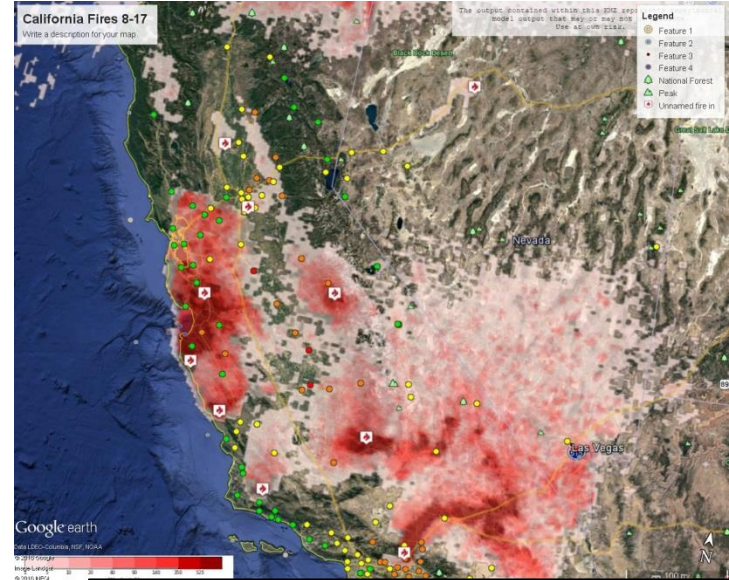


# August 17, 2016 Big Sur and Blue Cut Fires

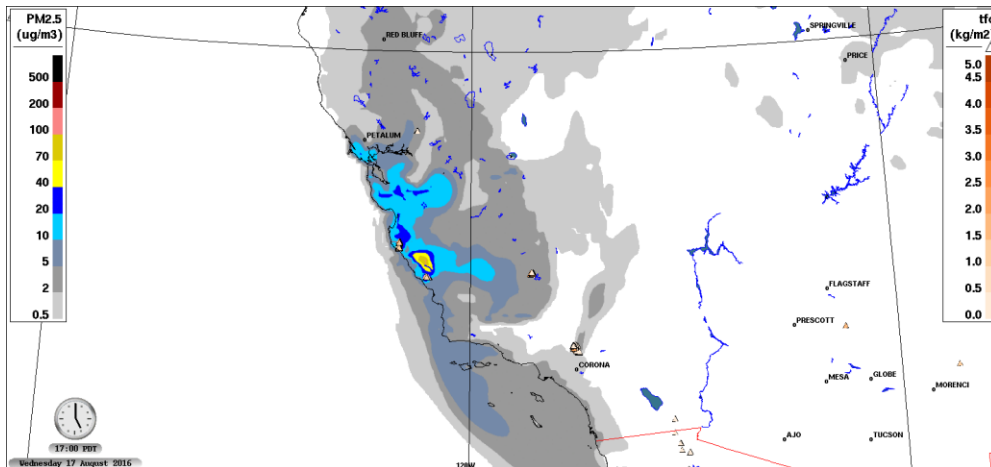


PARA2 CMAQ\_V5.0.2 DAY1 PMX01 20160816 12Z CYC

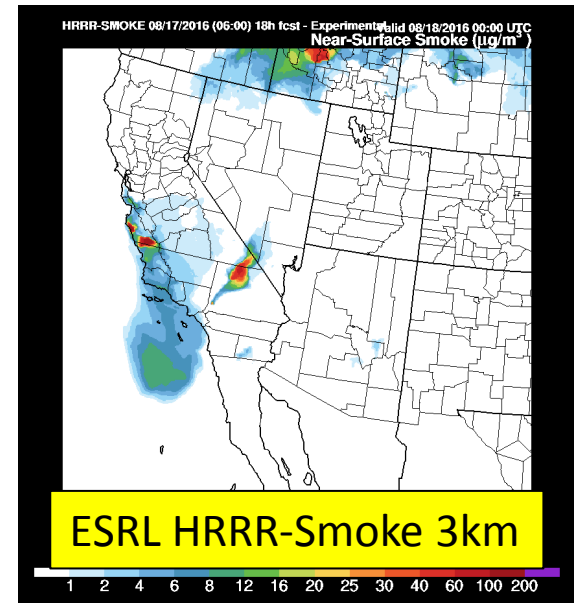
NAM-CMAQ 12 km total PM



USFS NAM-Nest HYSPLIT smoke



Env. CA. GEM-MACH



ESRL HRRR-Smoke 3km



# Summary

## – *Ozone*

- Improvement correcting over-prediction esp along coasts
  - Long Island Sound
  - Lake Erie/Michigan and Ohio Coastline
- Much improved for Southwest and marginal or non-events

## – *PM*

- Large positive impact near forest fires :
  - updated BlueSky and 24 h pre analysis run
  - Underprediction when external sources (Saharan dust, Canadian fires) are impacting CONUS

## – FY17 Implementation Remaining Issues

- Inclusion of NGAC boundaries correctly
- Run time and CPU usage
- NAM-X impact (positive so far, more optically dense clouds)
- Smoke plume impact
  - Decreases with forecast time
  - Emission timing and ejection height uncertainties



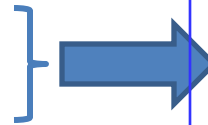


# Potential future emphasis

- Assimilation of satellite data (AOD, radiances..)
- Near real-time fire locations, strength, emissions
  - Top down (satellite) vs Bottom up (BlueSky) approaches
  - Improved plume rise algorithms
  - Canadian, Mexican & external source impacts

## – Unification of AQ systems

- HYSPLIT smoke/dust → NGAC Aerosol
- CMAQ ozone & total PM
- HRRR-smoke



**USWRP ESRL/EPA FV3-CMAQ**  
- *Inline allows for High Resolution*

- Temporal (Kalman Filter) bias correction
- Improved Evaluation
  - use of VIIRS/GOES-R..
  - Operational models for field experiments (ESRL FireX 2018, NASA FASMEE)