

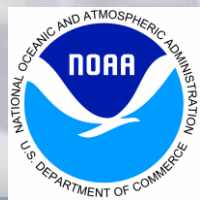
# **Land Prediction in NCEP Modeling Systems: *Current Status and Future Plans* (*NGGPS Land Team*)**

**Michael Ek<sup>1</sup>, Helin Wei<sup>2</sup>, Jesse Meng<sup>2</sup>, Rongqian Yang<sup>2</sup>,  
Youlong Xia<sup>2</sup>, Yihua Wu<sup>2</sup>, Weizhong Zheng<sup>2</sup>, Jiarui Dong<sup>2</sup>,  
Caterina Tassone<sup>2</sup>, Roshan Shresha<sup>2</sup>**

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Environmental Modelling Center (EMC)  
College Park, Maryland, USA

<sup>2</sup>NCEP/EMC and I.M. Systems Group (IMSG)  
College Park, Maryland, USA

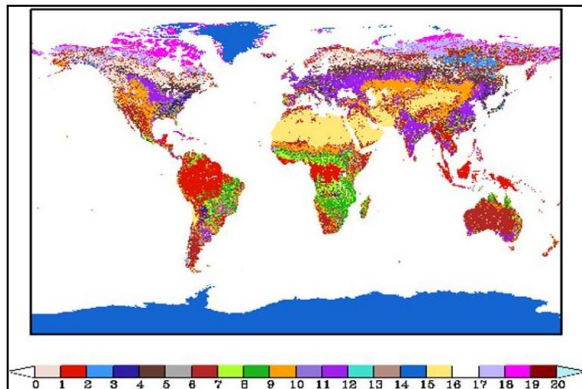
**...and a large number of collaborators!**



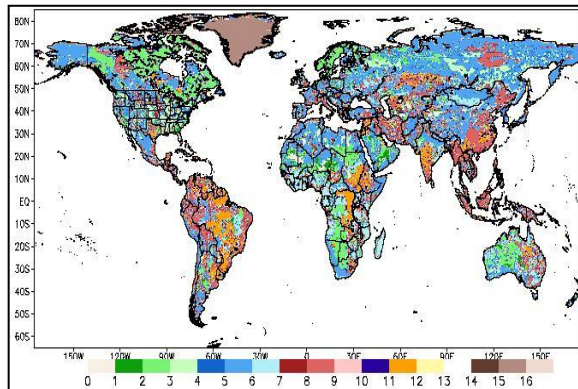
# Outline

- **Update on Improvement of Land Surface Modeling in NGGPS:**
  - **Land data sets**, e.g. land use/land cover (vegetation type), soil type, surface albedo, snow cover, surface roughness, etc.
  - **Land Data Assimilation Systems (LDAS):** provide initial land states for NCEP modeling systems.
    - GLDAS
    - NLDAS
  - **Physics:** appropriate to represent land-surface processes (for relevant time/spatial scales) and assoc. LSM model parameters.
    - Rapid temperature dropoff during sunset
    - Cold biases over cold region
- **Summary/Future**

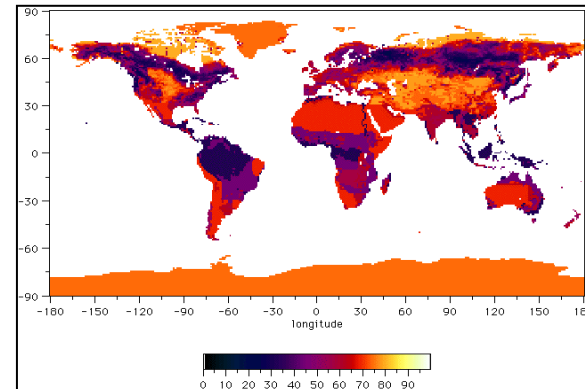
# Land Data Sets Used in NCEP Modeling Systems



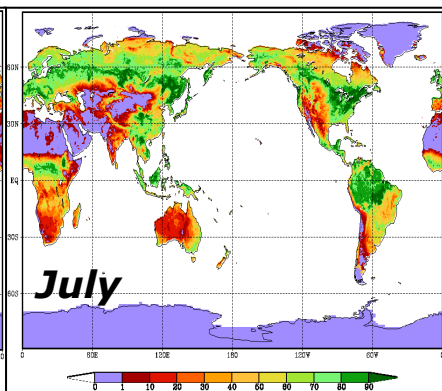
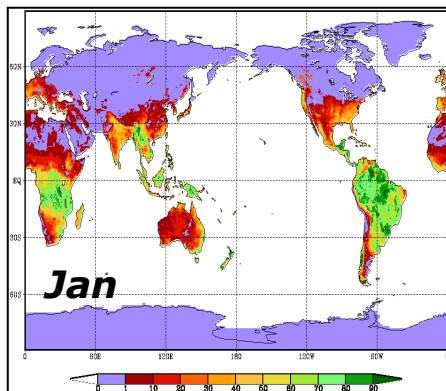
**Vegetation Type**  
(1-km, IGBP-MODIS)



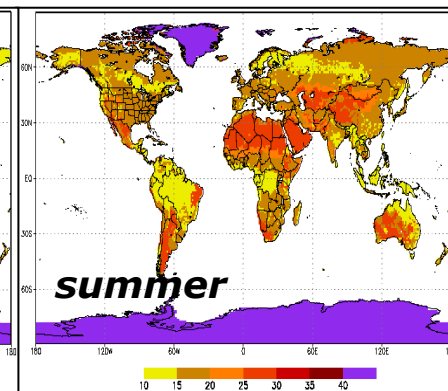
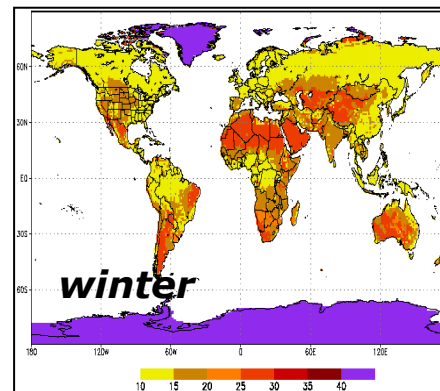
**Soil Type**  
(1-km, STATSGO-FAO)



**Max.-Snow Albedo**  
(1-deg, Robinson)



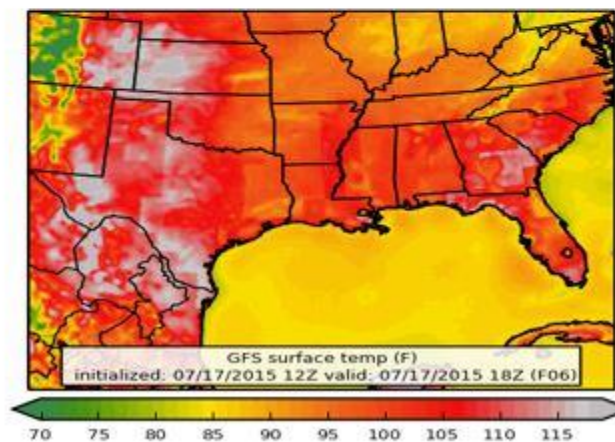
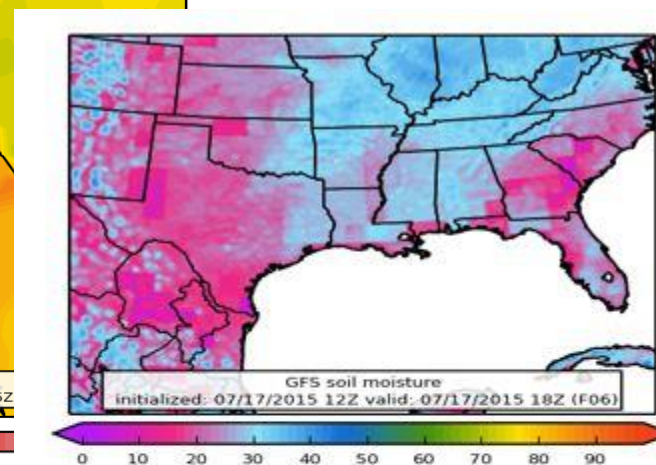
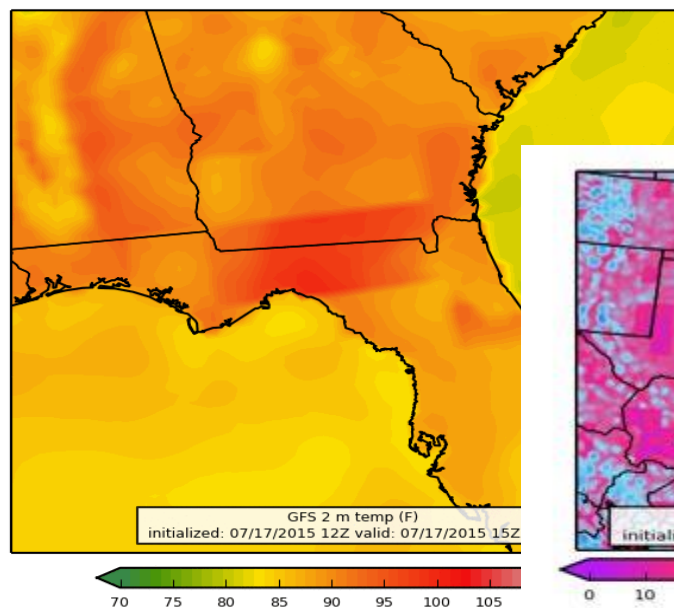
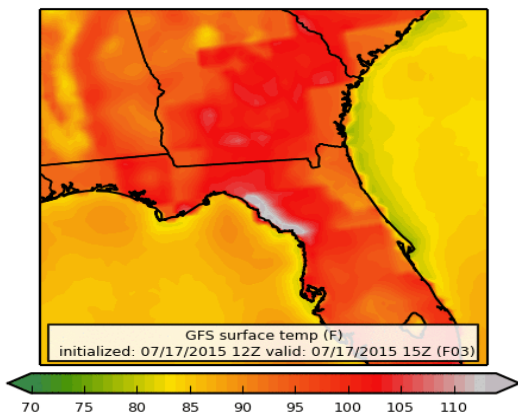
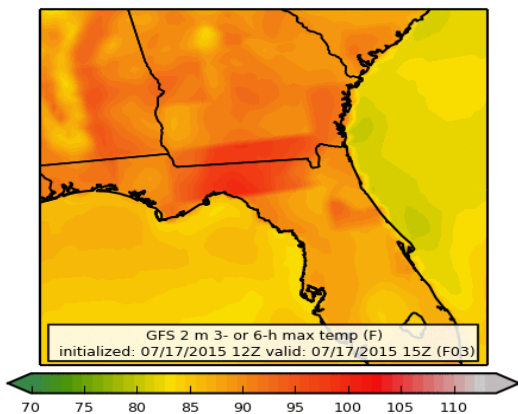
**Green Vegetation Fraction (GVF)**  
(monthly, 1/8-deg, NESDIS/AVHRR)



**Snow-Free Albedo**  
(seasonal, 1-deg, Matthews)

- Climatologies: fixed/annual, monthly, weekly.
- Near real-time observations, e.g. GVF "becoming" a land state.

# Land Data Sets Used in NCEP Modeling Systems



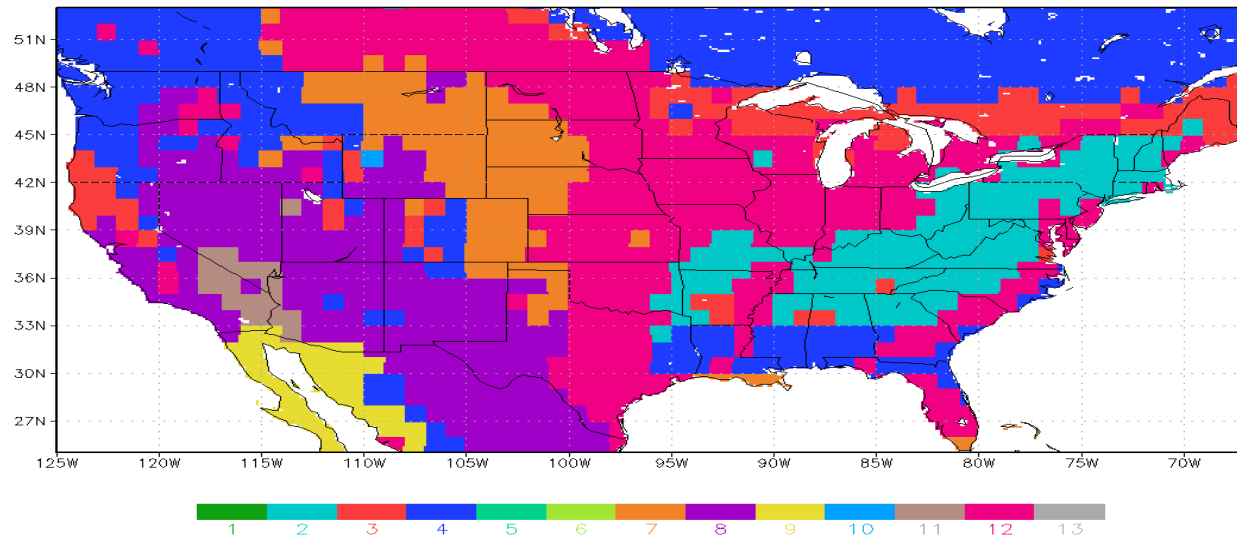
**Tiling or blockiness readily apparent**

From Corey Guastini NCEP/EMC MEG Jul 23, 2015

# Land Data Sets Used in NCEP Modeling Systems

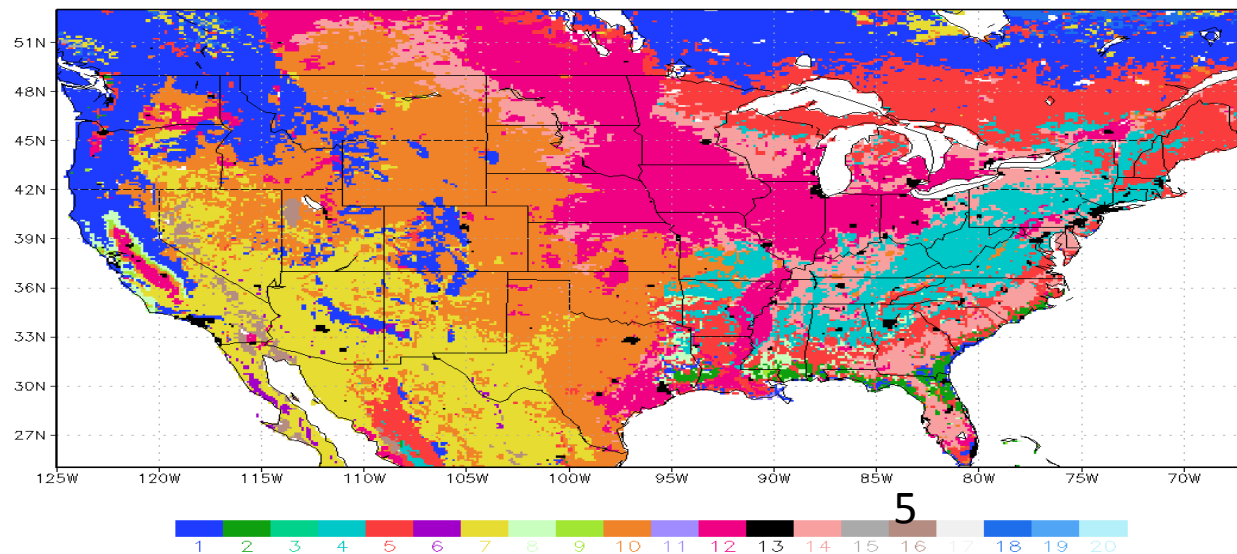
- 1: broadleaf-evergreen trees
- 2: broadleaf-deciduous trees
- 3: broadleaf and needleleaf trees
- 4: needleleaf-evergreen trees
- 5: needleleaf-deciduous trees (larch)
- 6: broadleaf trees with groundcover
- 7: groundcover only (perennial)
- 8: broadleaf shrubs with perennial groundcover
- 9: broadleaf shrubs with bare soil
- 10: dwarf trees and shrubs with groundcover (tundra)
- 11: bare soil
- 12: cultivations (the same parameters as for type 7)
- 13: glacial ice

GFS SIB VTYPE T1534



- 1: Evergreen Needleleaf Forest
- 2: Evergreen Broadleaf Forest
- 3: Deciduous Needleleaf Forest
- 4: Deciduous Broadleaf Forest
- 5: Mixed Forests
- 6: Closed Shrublands
- 7: Open Shrublands
- 8: Woody Savannas
- 9: Savannas
- 10: Grasslands
- 11: Permanent wetlands
- 12: Croplands
- 13: Urban and Built-Up
- 14: Cropland/natural vegetation mosaic
- 15: Snow and Ice
- 16: Barren or Sparsely Vegetated
- 17: Water
- 18: Wooded Tundra
- 19: Mixed Tundra
- 20: Bare Ground Tundra

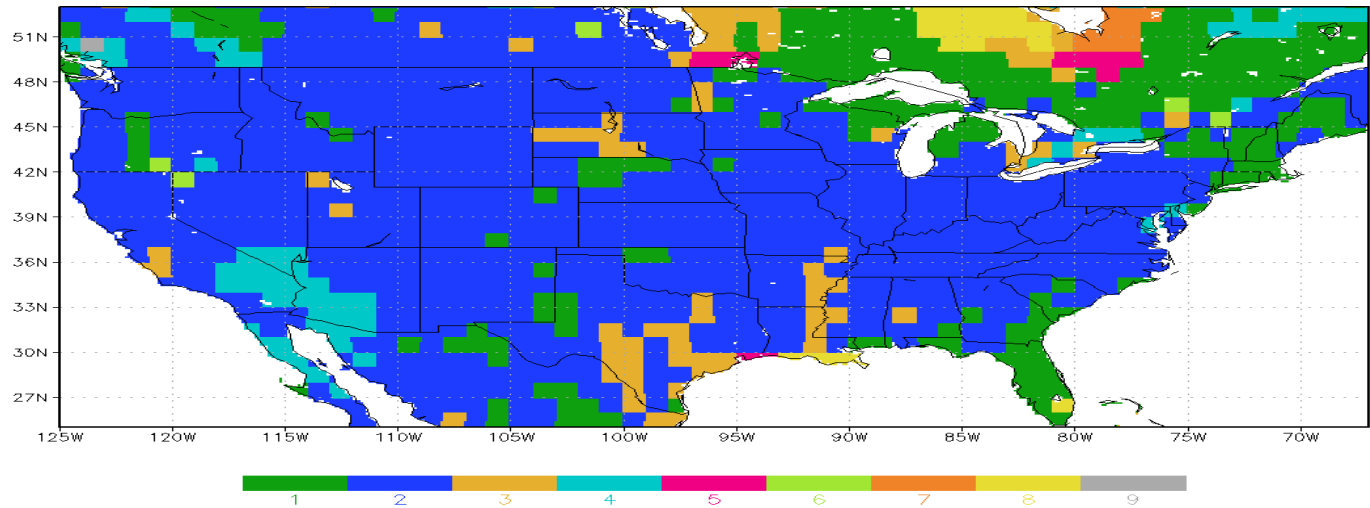
GFS IGBP VTYPE T1534



# Land Data Sets Used in NCEP Modeling Systems

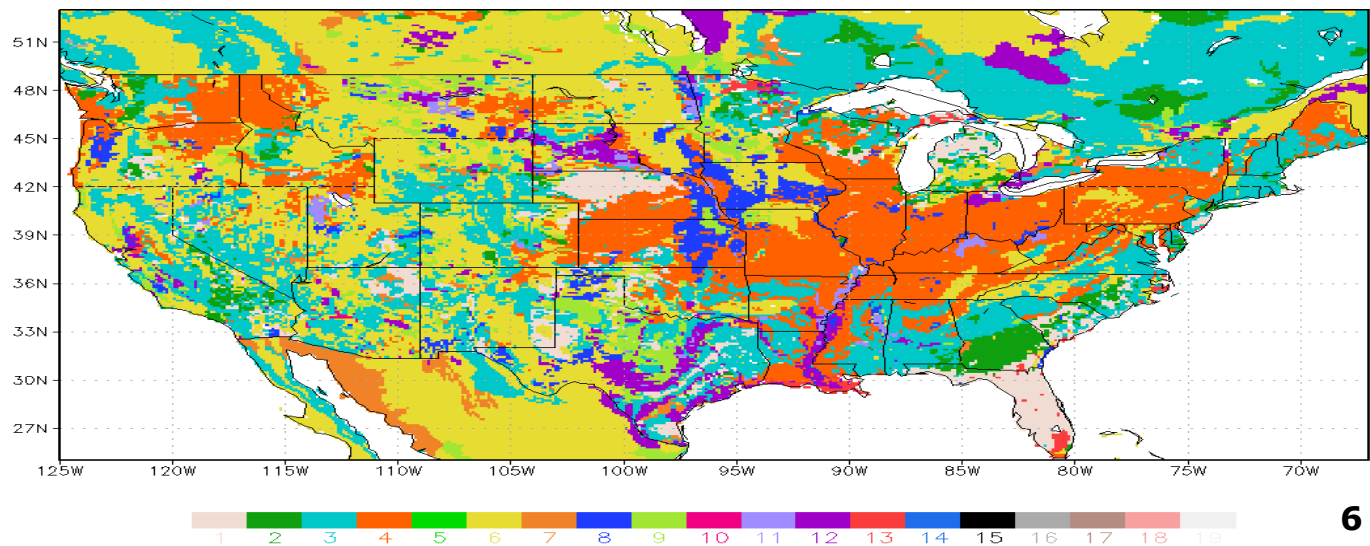
- 1: loamy sand
- 2: silty clay loam
- 3: light clay
- 4: sandy loam
- 5: sandy clay
- 6: clay loam
- 7: sandy clay loam
- 8: loam
- 9: glacial ice

GFS ZOBLER STYPE T1534



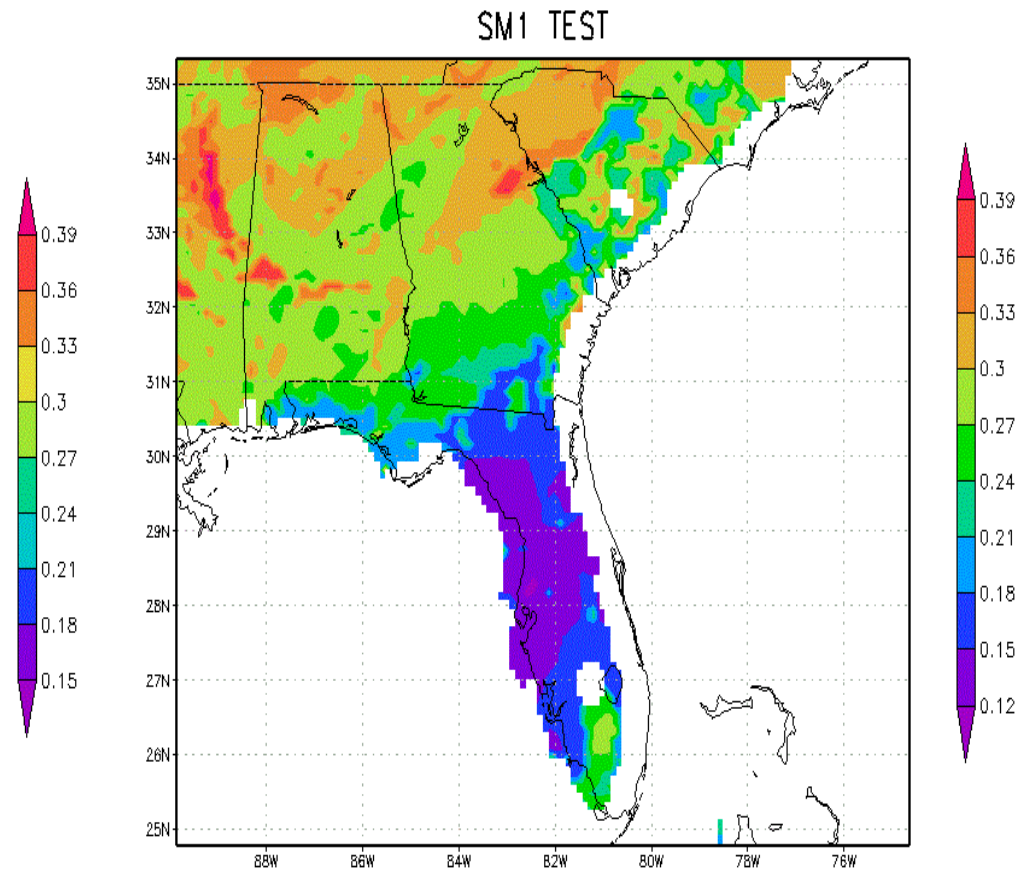
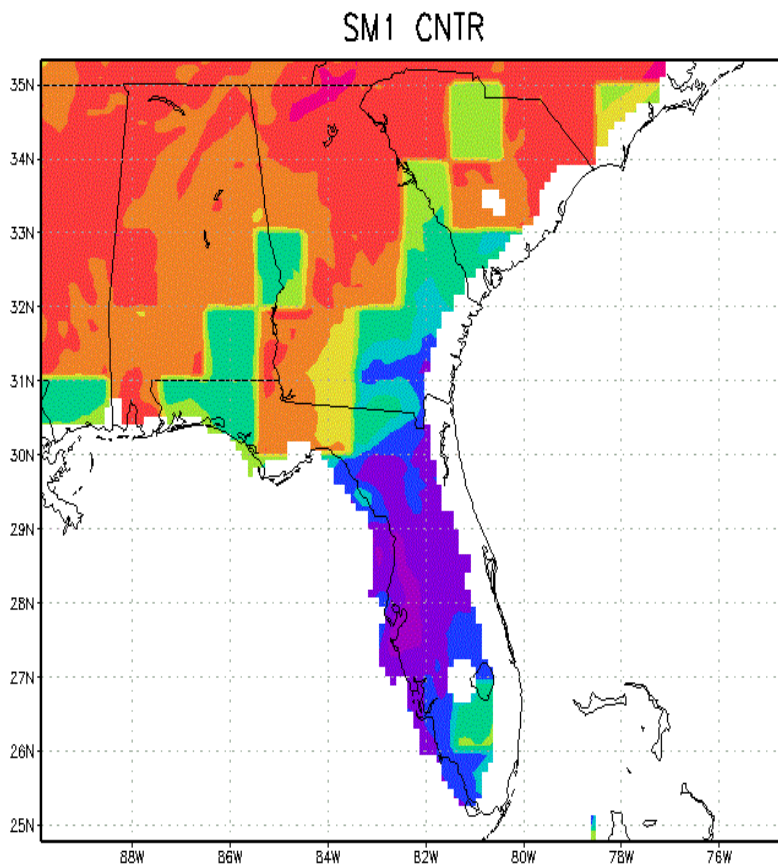
- 1: sand
- 2: loamy sand
- 3: sandy loam
- 4: silt loam
- 5: silt
- 6: loam
- 7: sandy clay loam
- 8: silty clay loam
- 9: clay loam
- 10: sandy clay
- 11: silty clay
- 12: clay
- 13: organic material
- 14: water
- 15: bedrock
- 16: other (land-ice)
- 17: playa
- 18: lava
- 19: white sand

GFS STASGO STYPE T1534



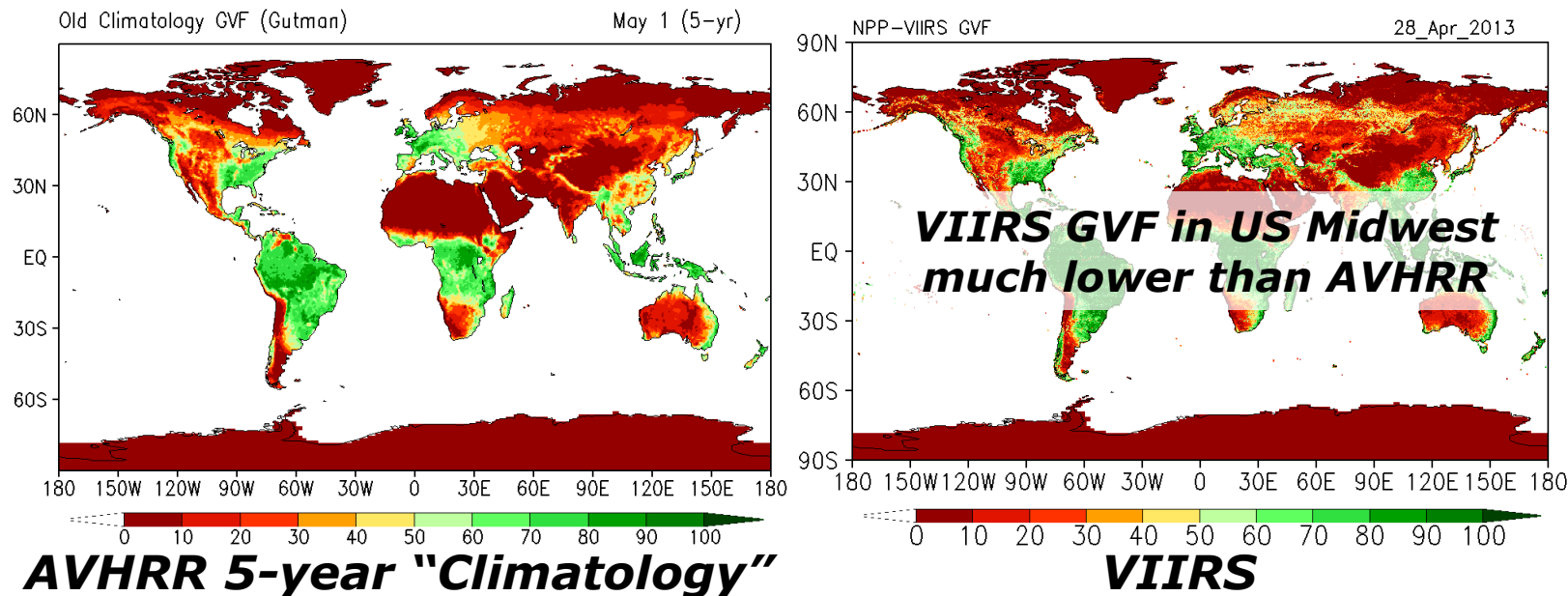
# Land Data Sets Used in NCEP Modeling Systems

The issue of tiling or blockiness due to the coarse LSC data was solved first soil layer moisture 18h fcst 2015122200



# NGGPS Project: Incorporate near-realtime Green Vegetation Fraction (GVF), validation with LST

## • Climatology vs. near real-time GVF.



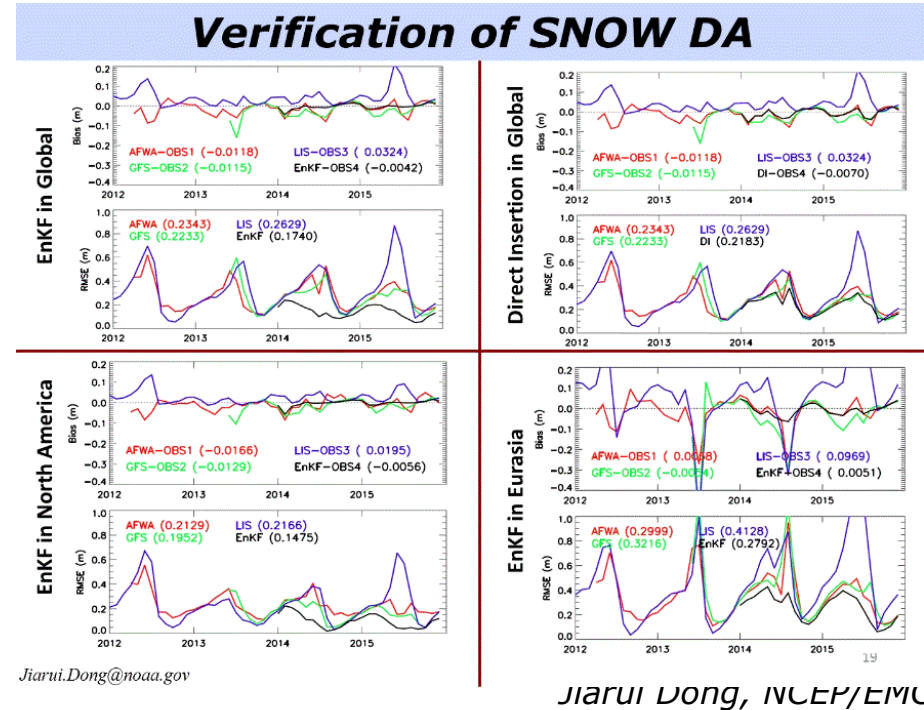
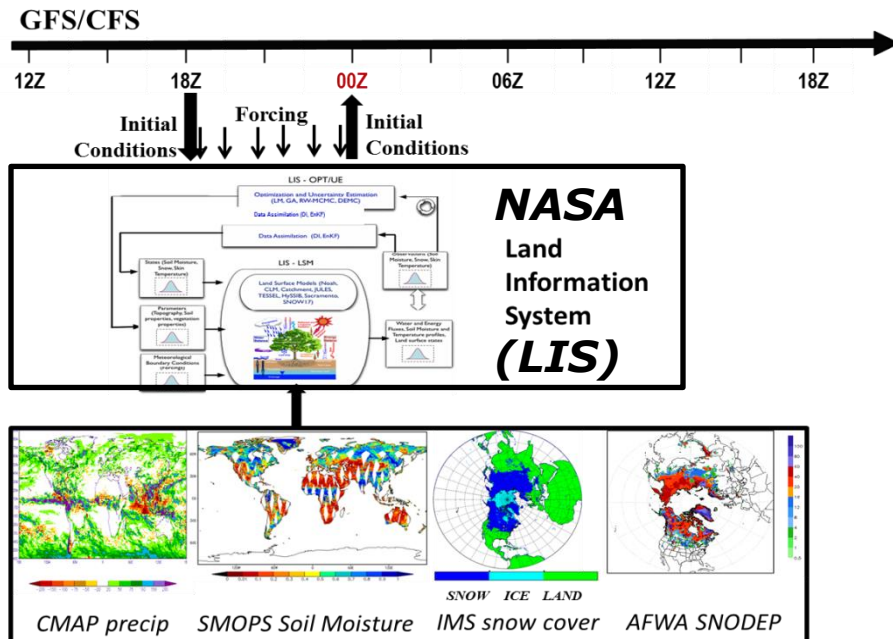
- **Ingest into NCEP models** where near real-time GVF leads to better partition between surface heating & evaporation --> impacts surface energy budget, PBL evolution, clouds & convection.
- Initial summertime GFS tests in 2013, 2014, 2015 show improvements in low-level temperature and dew point, land-surface temperature.
- Part of a broader effort for land product data set ingest with focus on internal consistency among various products (i.e. albedo, burned area, soil moisture, etc).

*Weizhong Zheng, Yihua Wu (NCEP/EMC), Bob Yu, Ivan Csiszar, Marco Vargas et al (NESDIS/STAR)*



# NGGPS Project: Satellite-based Land Data Assimilation in NCEP Modeling Systems

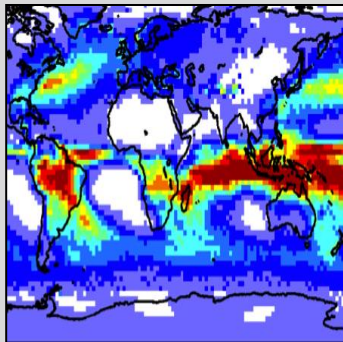
- Use NASA Land Information System (LIS) to serve as a global Land Data Assimilation System (LDAS) for testing both GLDAS, NLDAS.
- LIS EnKF-based Land Data Assimilation tool used to assimilate:
  - **Soil moisture** from the NESDIS global Soil Moisture Operational Product System (**SMOPS**).
  - **Snow cover area (SCA)** from operational NESDIS Interactive Multisensor Snow and Ice Mapping System (**IMS**), and AFWA **snow depth (SNODEP)** products.



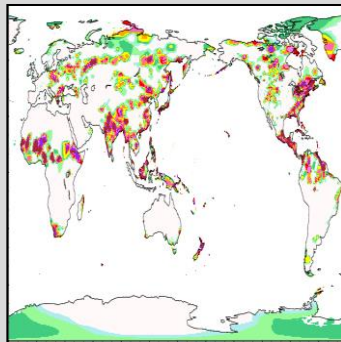
# Current Global Land Data Assimilation System (GLDAS) at NCEP **Operational in CFSv2 at NCEP 01 April 2011**

- **Noah surface model** runs in semi-coupled mode with Climate Data Assimilation System version (CDASv2); daily update provides initial land states to operational Climate Forecast System version 2 (CFSv2).
- **Forcing:** CDASv2 atmospheric output, & “blended” precipitation, snow.
- **Blended Precipitation:** CPC **satellite** (heaviest weight in **tropics**); CPC **gauge** (heaviest **mid-latitudes**); **model** CDASv2 (**high latitude**).
- **Snow:** IMS cover & AFWA depth, *cycled if within 0.5-2.0x “envelope”*.
- **30+ year global land-surface climatology.**
- Research/partners supported by the NOAA Climate Program Office, Modeling, Analysis, Predictions, and Projections (MAPP) program.

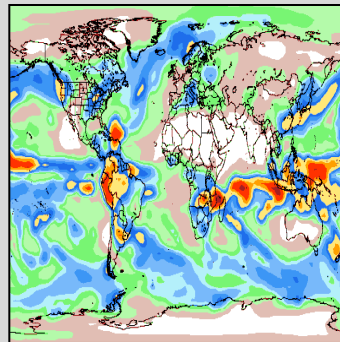
## Precipitation



**CMAP**

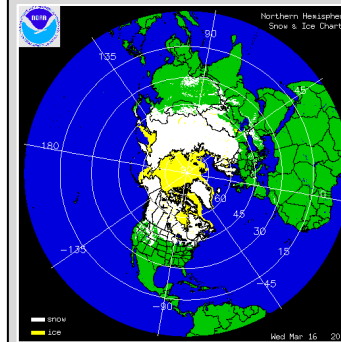


**Surface gauge**

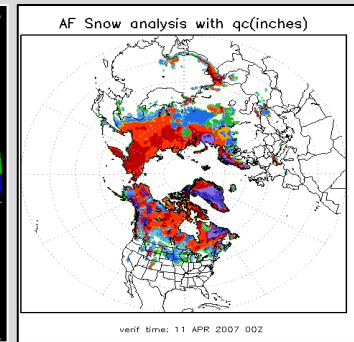


**GDAS**

## Snow



**IMS cover**

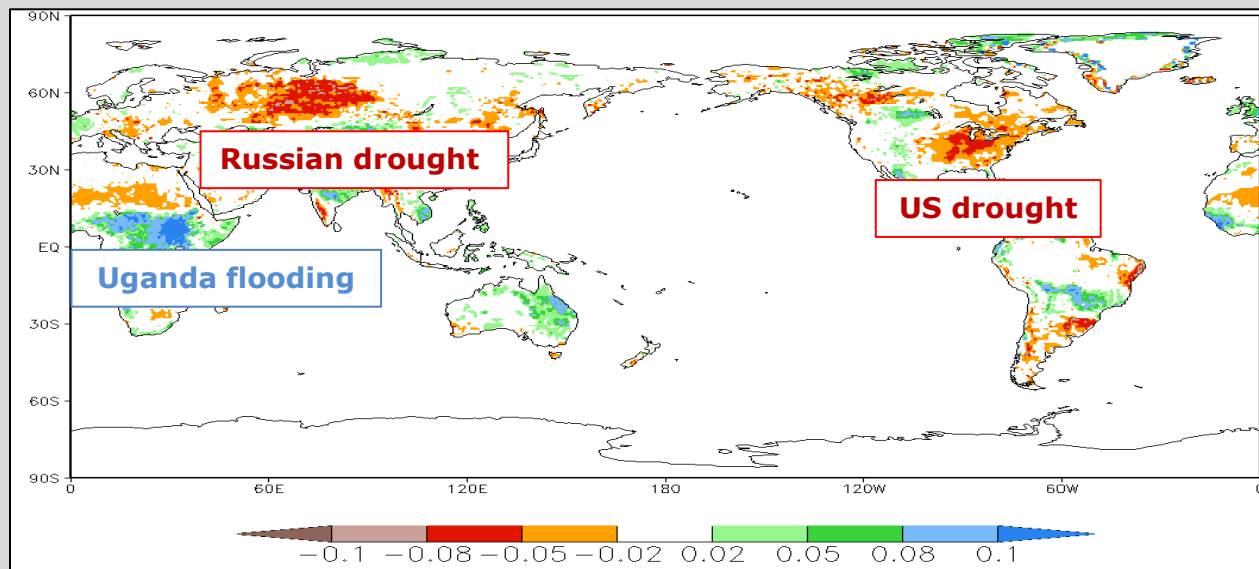


**AFWA depth**

Jesse Meng, NCEP/EMC

# Global Land Data Assimilation System (GLDAS) version 2

- **Motivation:** NCEP CFS Reanalysis ran 6 simultaneous “streams”; soil moisture time series may have trends and discontinuity due to insufficient land surface spin up ( $\sim 1$  year, where  $\sim 10$ -years+ required).
- **Solution:** Retrospective single-stream GLDAS2 with 10-year spin-up procedure to resolve the issues of spin-up and stream discontinuity.
- Significantly **improved soil moisture time series** in the **semi-arid regions** and **cold regions** where longer spin-up period required.
- **Reasonable** soil moisture **climatology**, energy/water budget closure.

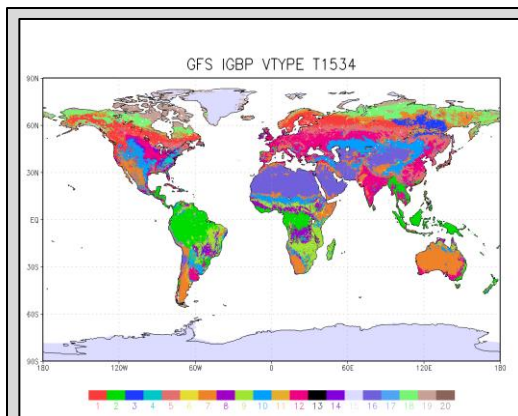


**July 2012 Soil  
Moisture Anomaly  
from NCEP GLDASv2**

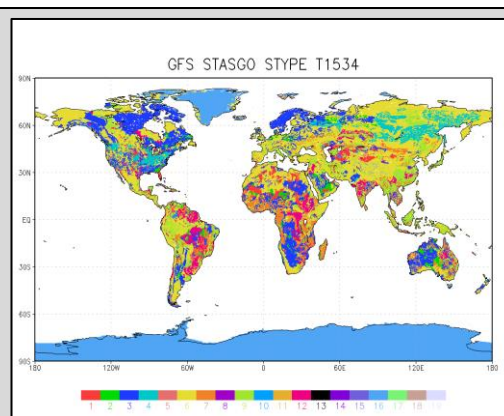
Jesse Meng, NCEP/EMC

# LDAS Upgrade: Implementation of GLDAS in GFS

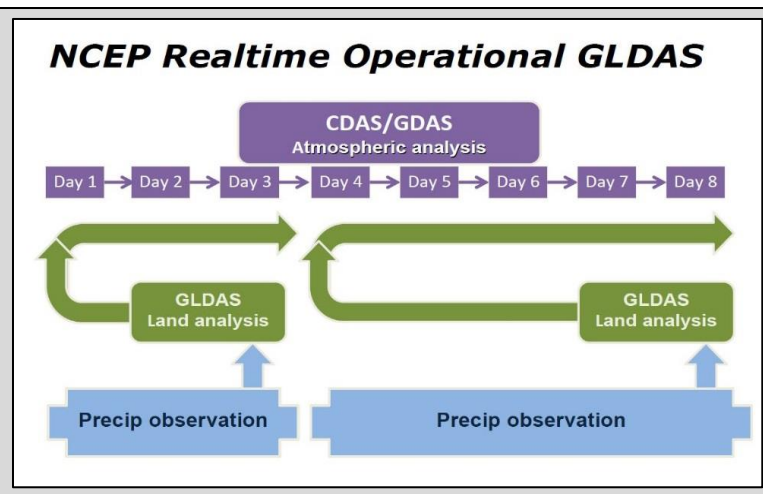
- CDASv2/GLDAS paradigm: adapt for Global Forecast System:
  - Noah land model physics upgrades; accommodate higher-res. GFS.
  - Land surface forcing/downscaling, e.g. precipitation.
  - Land data sets, e.g. land-use, soils, green vegetation fraction (GVF).
  - Land data assimilation, e.g. snow, soil moisture.
  - Replace soil moist. nudging which uses CDASv2/GLDAS climatology.
  - Hydrology/river routing for ocean coupling. (*National Water Center*)
  - Eventually one global high-resolution LDAS for all NCEP systems.
- Continue to work with partners: Noah LSM model development group; NWS NGGPS land/other teams; supported by NOAA/CPO/MAPP; part of CPO/MAPP Task forces on reanalyses, model development, drought.



**Vegetation Type Data**



**Soil Type Data**



Jesse Meng and Helin Wei, NCEP/EMC

# LDAS Upgrade: GLDASv2.2 with New Precipitation Forcing

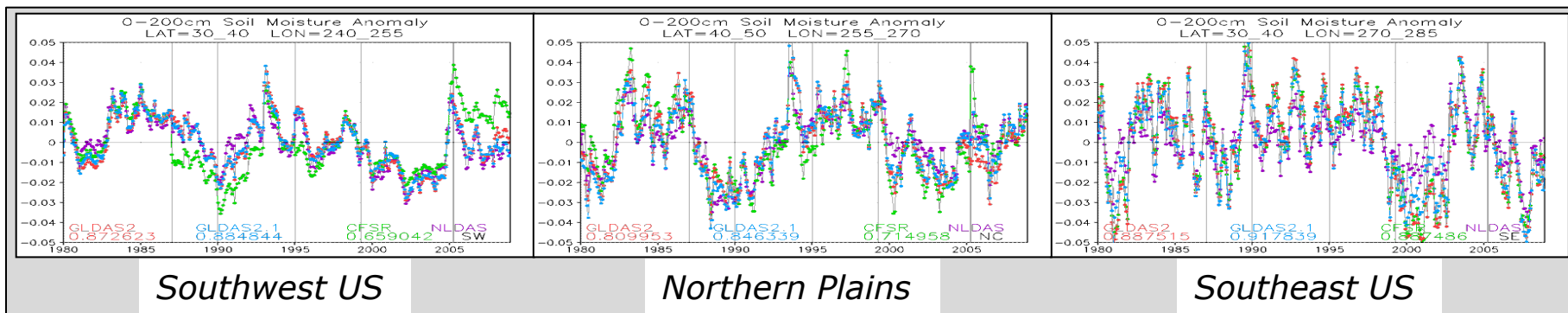
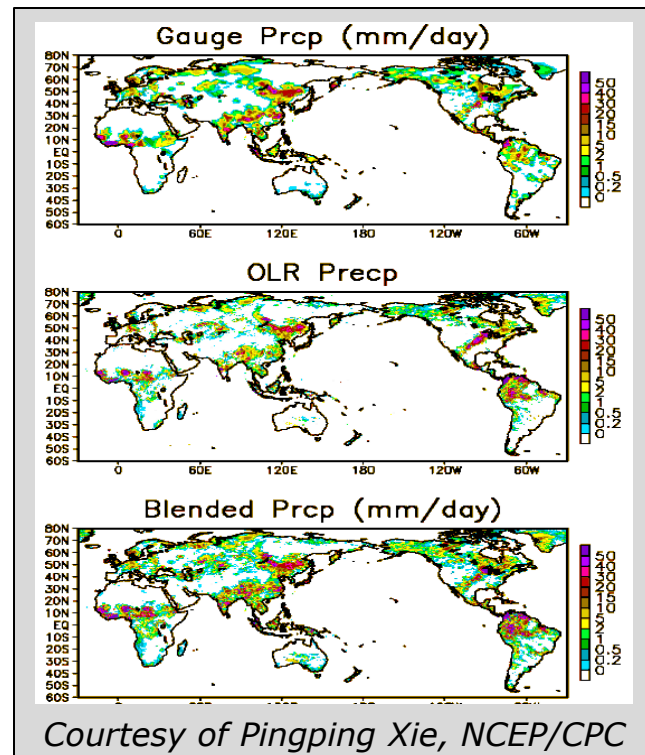
## Precipitation Data:

- Gauge-satellite blended analysis of daily global precipitation.
- 0.25° lat/lon over the global land.
- Global daily analysis, 0.25-deg, 1979-present.
- Blending information from different sources:
  - CPC daily gauge analysis.
  - GPCP monthly gauge data.
  - OLR-based precipitation estimates.
  - CMORPH-based precipitation estimates.

## Preliminary Results:

- Improved soil moisture spin-up & anomalies.

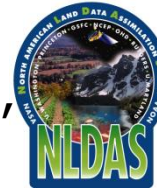
Supported by NOAA/CPO/MAPP.



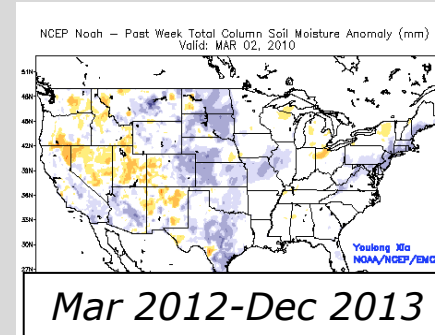
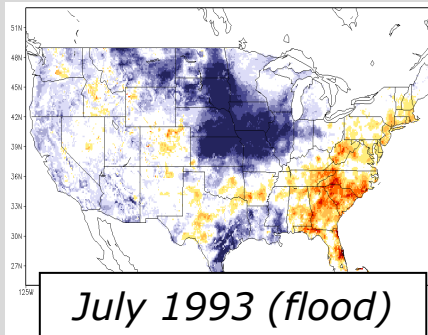
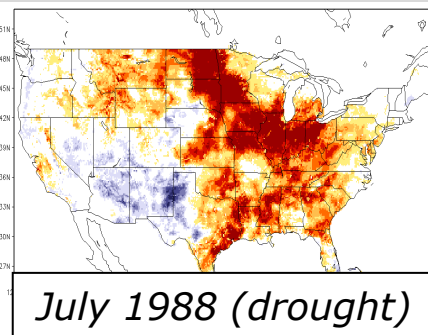
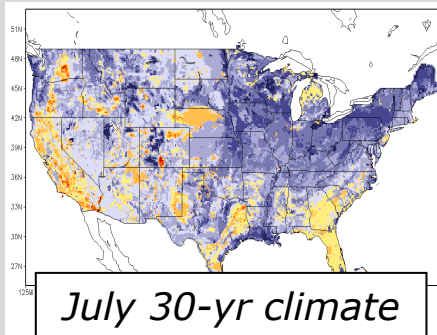
Jesse Meng, NCEP/EMC

# North American Land Data Assimilation System (NLDAS) Operational at NCEP 05 August 2014

- **Land models:** Noah, SAC, VIC, Mosaic run in “uncoupled” mode.
- **Forcing:** NCEP Climate Prediction Center obs precip (gauge-based, radar/satellite disaggregated), and atmospheric forcing from NCEP North American *Regional Climate Data Assimilation System*.
- **Output:** 1/8-deg. land & soil states, surface fluxes, runoff/streamflow.
- **Climatology** from land model assimilation runs for 30+ years provide **anomalies** used for **drought monitoring**; supports USDM, NIDIS etc.
- **Comprehensive evaluation** of **energy fluxes**, **water budget** and **state variables** using in situ and remotely-sensed data sets.
- **Evaluate** land-atmosphere **coupling metrics** for NLDAS climatology.
- NOAA/CPO/MAPP-supported partners: NCEP, NASA, **Princeton**, UW, NWC.



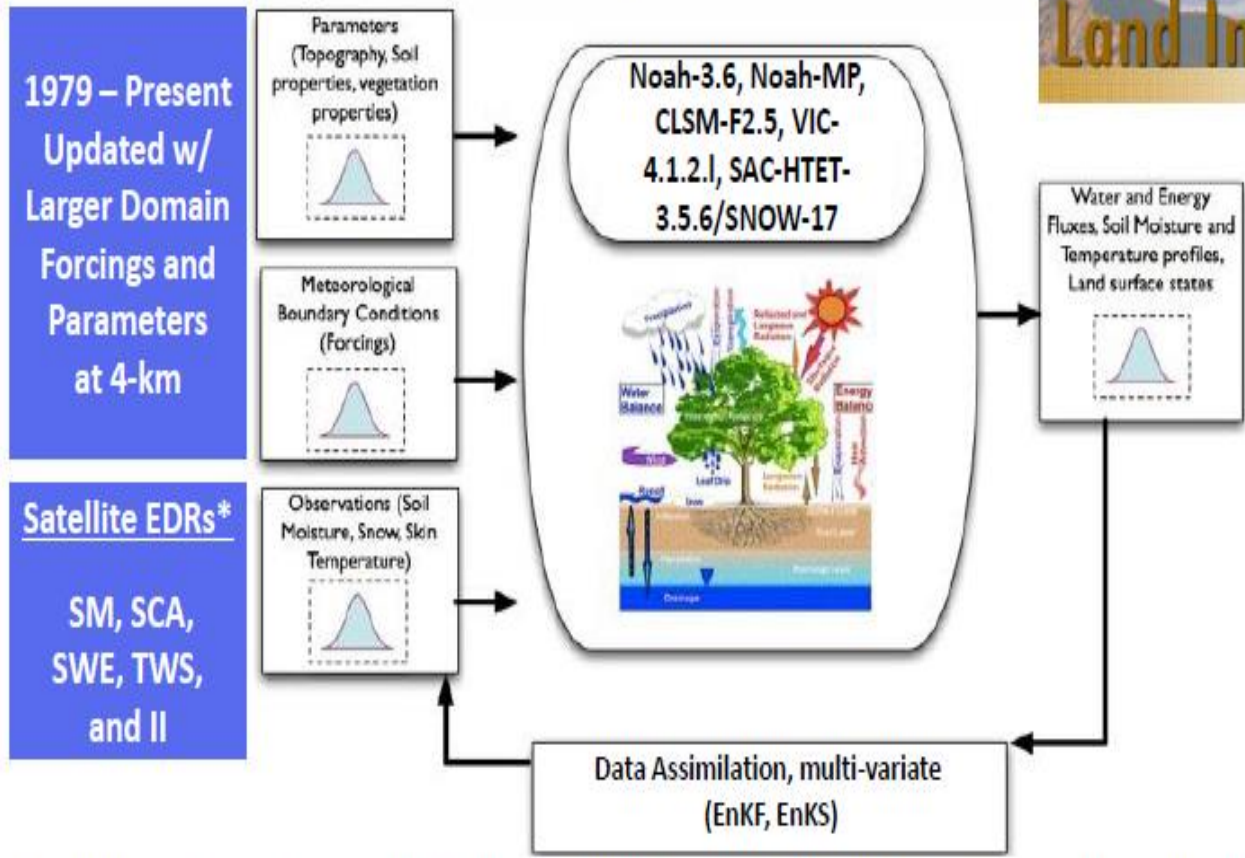
[www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/mmb/nldas](http://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/mmb/nldas) [ldas.gsfc.nasa.gov/nldas/NLDAS2valid.php](http://ldas.gsfc.nasa.gov/nldas/NLDAS2valid.php)



*NLDAS four-model ensemble monthly soil moisture anomaly*

# Next Generation NLDAS within Land Information System (LIS) and Actual Data Assimilation (Snowpack, Soil Moisture, GRACE)

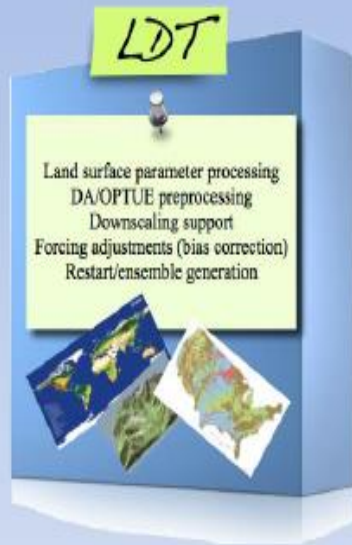
## LIS-based next phase of NLDAS



The **Land Information System (LIS)** is a flexible land-surface modeling and data assimilation framework developed with the goal of integrating satellite- and ground-based observed data products with land-surface models.

\* Satellite-based Environmental Data Records (EDRs): soil moisture (SM), snow-covered area (SCA), snow water equivalent (SWE), terrestrial water storage (TWS), & irrigation intensity (II)

# The LIS modeling suite



Land surface Data  
Toolkit (LDT)

**Data Preprocessor**



Land Information System

**Modeling and  
Assimilation**

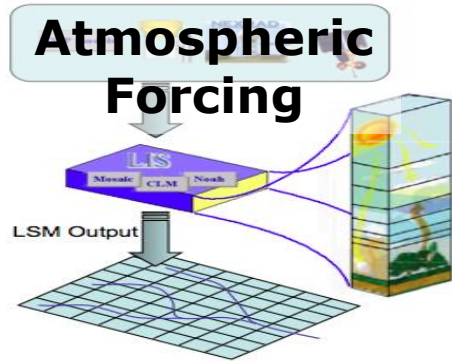


Land surface Verification  
Toolkit (LVT)

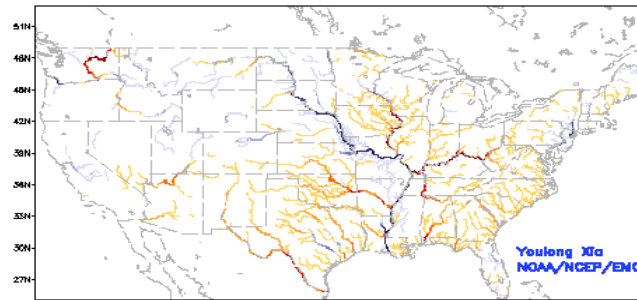
**Evaluation and  
Validation**



# NLDAS Connection: Hydrology, River-Routing

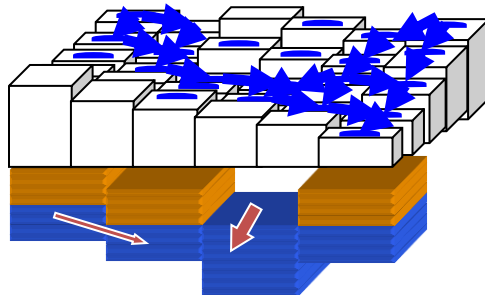


## Ensemble mean daily streamflow anomaly (NLDAS)

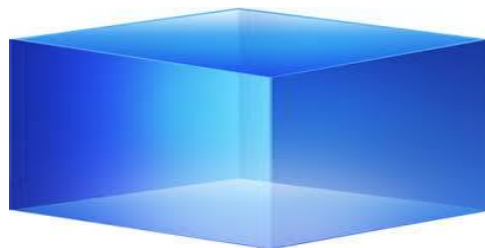


Hurricane Irene and  
Tropical Storm Lee,  
20 August – 17  
September 2011

## Surface flow

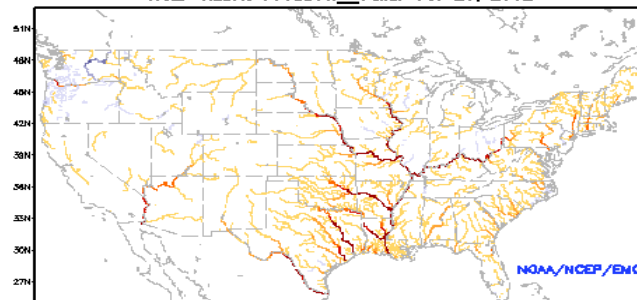


## Saturated subsurface flow



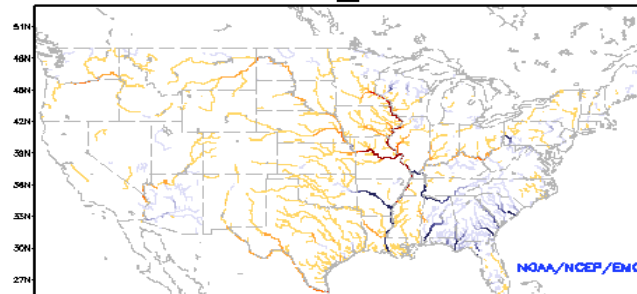
## Groundwater

Ensemble-Mean: Current Streamflow Anomaly ( $m^3/s$ )  
NCEP NLDAS Products\_\_Valid: OCT 29, 2012



Superstorm Sandy,  
29 October – 04  
November 2012

Ensemble-Mean: Current Streamflow Anomaly ( $m^3/s$ )  
NCEP NLDAS Products\_\_Valid: SEP 01, 2013

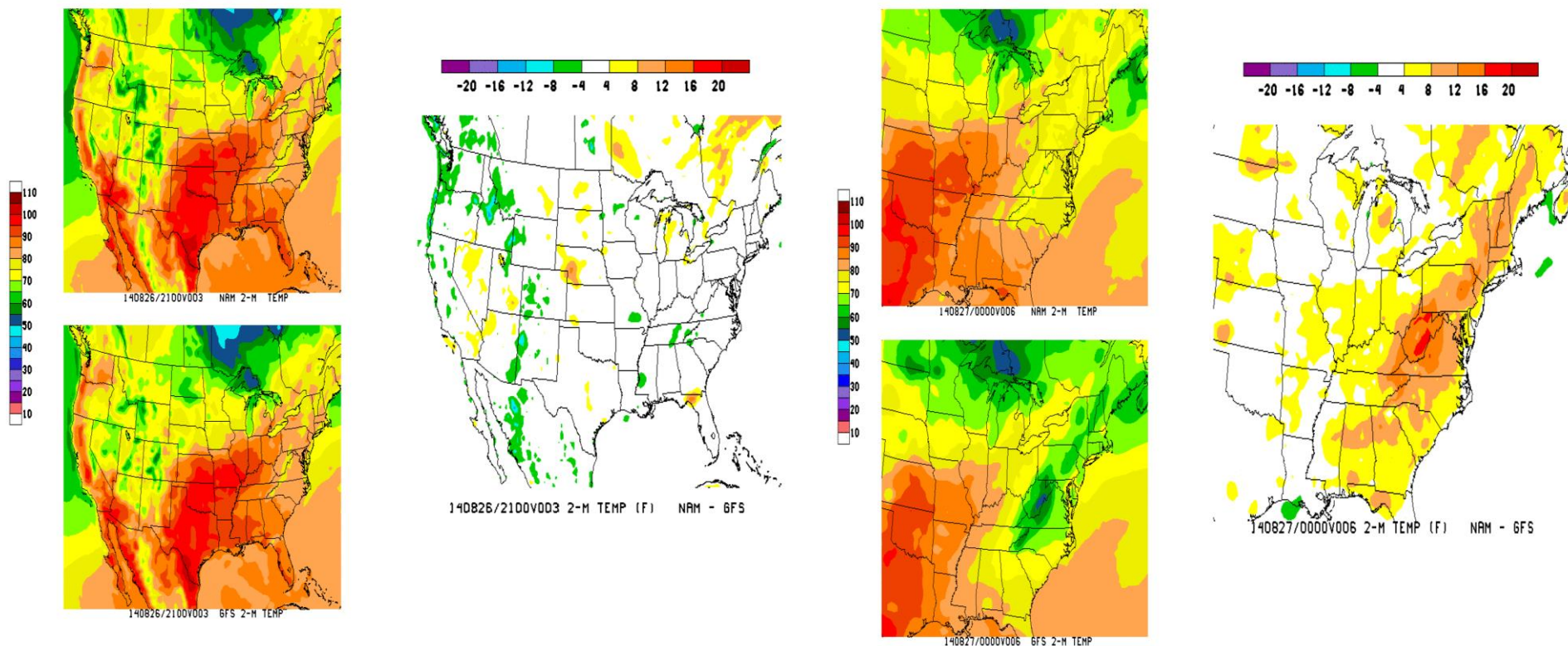


Colorado Front Range  
Flooding, September  
2013

*Close Coordination with Office of  
Water Prediction (OWP) on National  
Water Model(NWM)*



# Model Physics Improvement: Decoupling



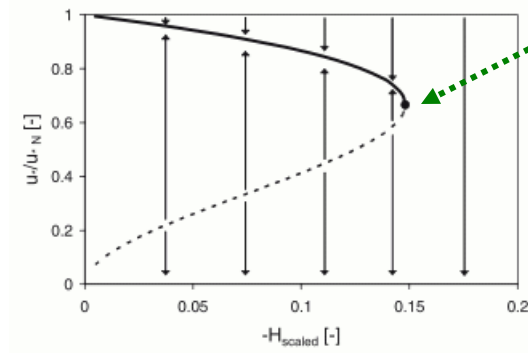
**GFS T2m Rapid drop after sunset (from Manikin, NCEP/EMC MEG)**

# Model Physics Improvement: Decoupling

## Approach to fix excessive cooling of T2m in GFS

“Excessive cooling and decoupling”: surface roughness, soil thermal diffusivity, vegetation layer, turbulence, etc.

- Limit the system not beyond the turning point (MO stability parameter):



turning point

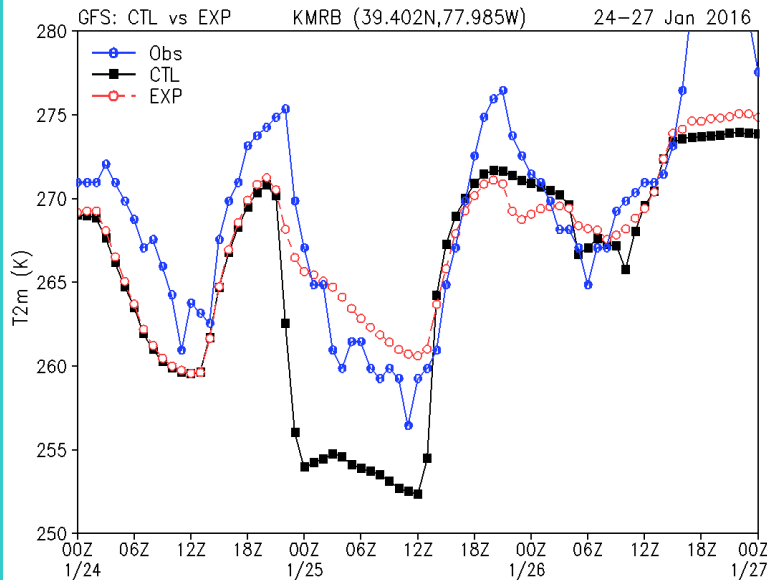
$$z/L < z/L|_M = \ln(z/z_0)/[2*\alpha*(1-z_0/z)]$$

Here  $z_0$  is the momentum roughness length, and  $\alpha=5$ .

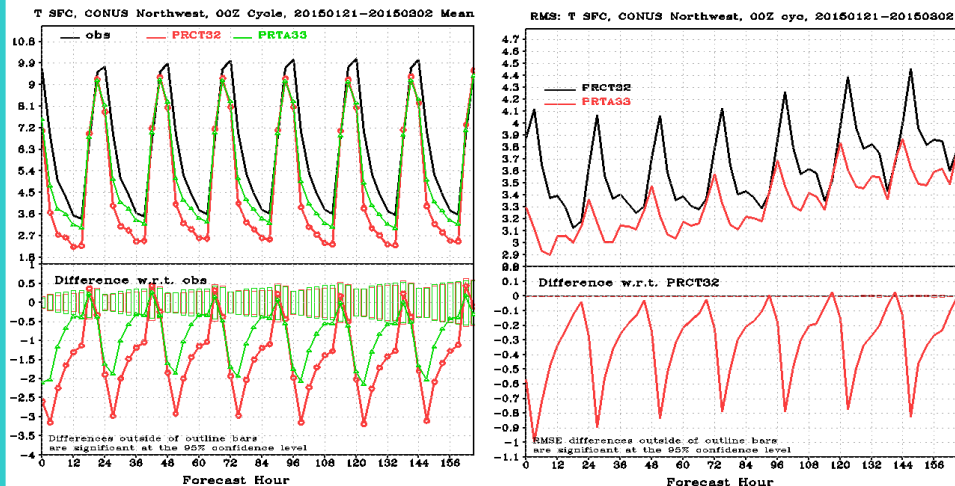
Van de Wiel et al.

# Model Physics Improvement: Decoupling

## T2m @ MRB Matinsburg RGNL, WV



## T2m @ Northwest: 1/21-3/2, 2015



Reduced cold bias afternoon and nighttime (~ 1.2 °C);  
 Reduced RMSE afternoon and nighttime up to 1.0 °C (~ 25% RMSE).

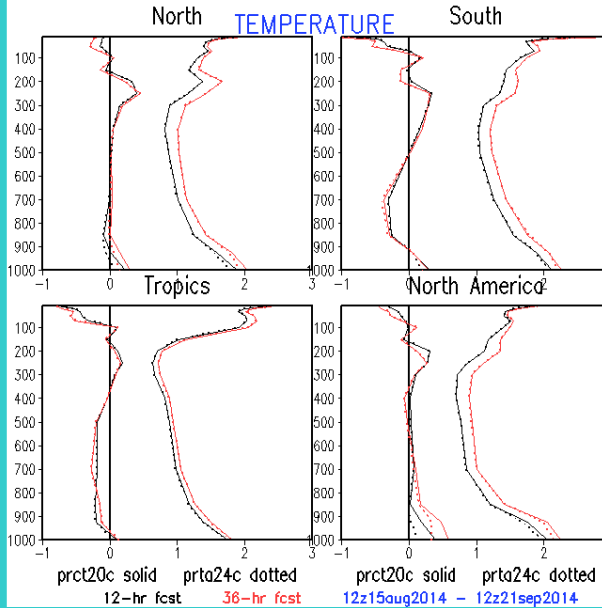
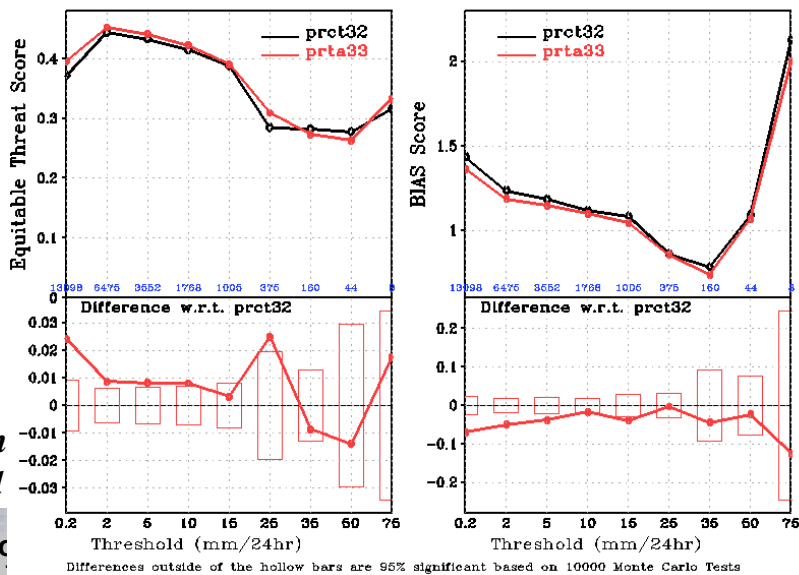
### Pr skills (CONUS) f36-f60

1/21-3/2, 2015

Improved scores for light and medium precipitation and reduced

their bias NCEP ENVIR MODEL

### CONUS Precip Skill Scores, f36-f60, 21Jan2015-02Mar2015 00Z Cycle



### T fits Obs:

8/15-9/22, 2014

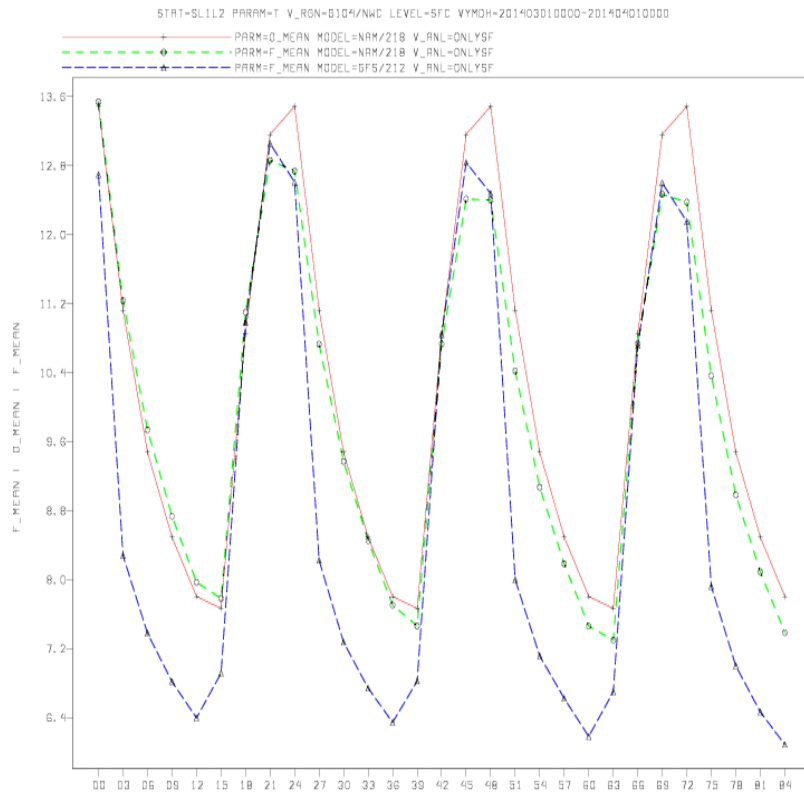
Reduced temperature bias and RMSE near the surface.

# Model Physics Improvement: Cold Biases

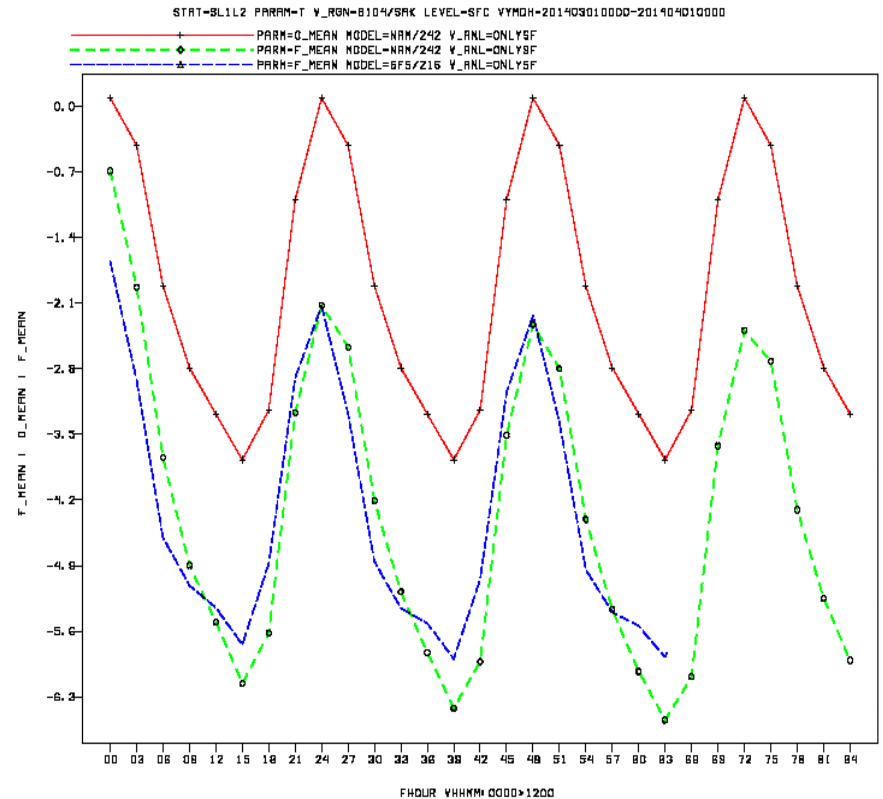
- Cold temperate bias over snow

## Alaska, NW, NE

- Stable boundary
- Decoupling
- Surface exchange coefficient (Ch)
- Snow albedo being too large



NWC T2m, March of 2013



Southern Alaska, T2m, March of 2014

## Revised ground heat flux under deep snow

[32] The ground heat flux under snow condition is computed in Noah as

$$G = (T_1 - T_{\text{soil}(1)}) \cdot \frac{DF_1}{DTOT},$$

$$DTOT = \Delta Z_s + \Delta Z_{s1},$$

$$DF_1 = F_{sn} \frac{\Delta Z_s K_s + \Delta Z_{s1} K_{s1}}{\Delta Z_s + \Delta Z_{s1}} + (1 - F_{sn}) \cdot K_{s1},$$

[34] To remove the Noah deficiency in computing  $G$  under deep snow condition (which is primarily caused by using a single bulk snow layer in Noah), we revise the ground heat flux by limiting the minimum value of  $DF_1/DTOT$  used in equation (7a) by

$$G = (T_1 - T_{\text{soil}(1)}) \cdot \text{Max}(DD_{\min}, DF_1/DTOT), \quad (8)$$

where  $DD_{\min} = 7 \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-1}$ , as motivated by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) land model (see <http://www.ecmwf.int/research/ifsdocs/CY28r1>). Figure 2 shows that equation (8) (Exp. 4) improves the Noah simulation of SWE and snow depth.

Citation: Wang, Z., X. Zeng, and M. Decker (2010), Improving snow processes in the Noah land model, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 115, D20108, doi:10.1029/2009JD013761

## MAX Snow Albedo (upper bound over deep snow)

### •Radiation driver

Diffuse Albedo: 0.90(vis) 0.75(nir)

Direct Albedo:

-- low zenith angle same as diffuse

-- high zenith angle: 0.98~1

Usually substantially higher than that in Noah LSM (below)

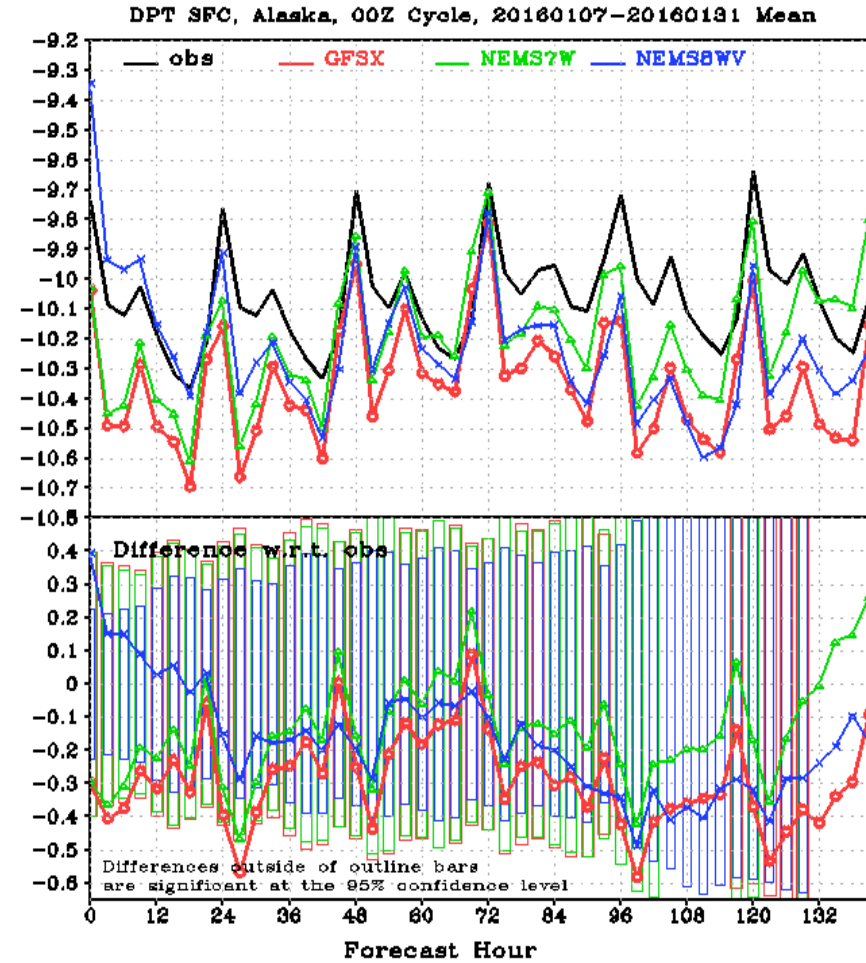
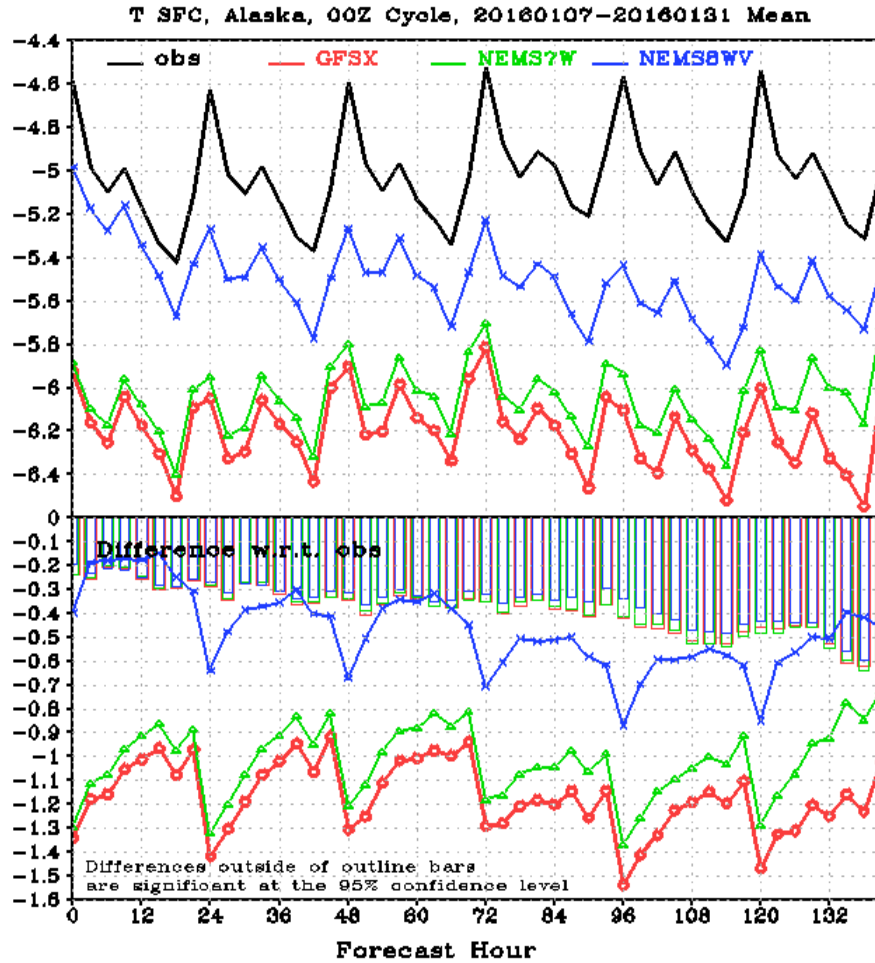
### •Noah LSM

Based on global field of Maximum Snow albedo

# Model Physics Improvement: Cold Biases

reduced cold bias

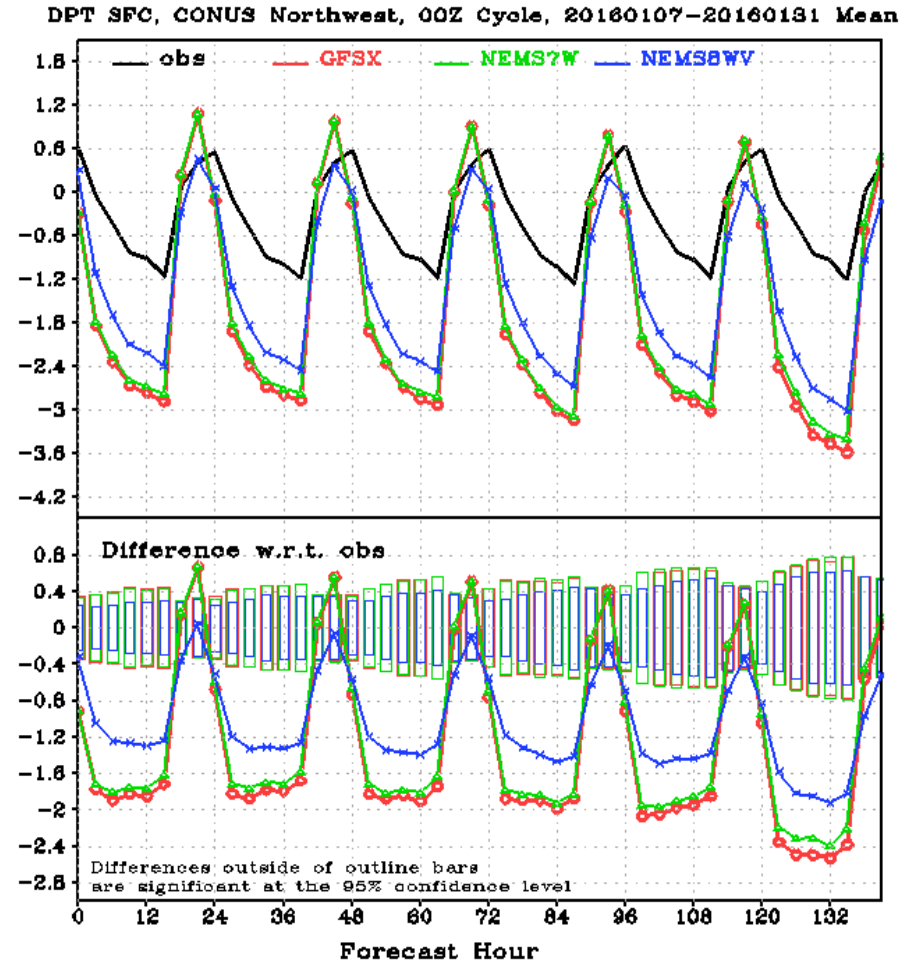
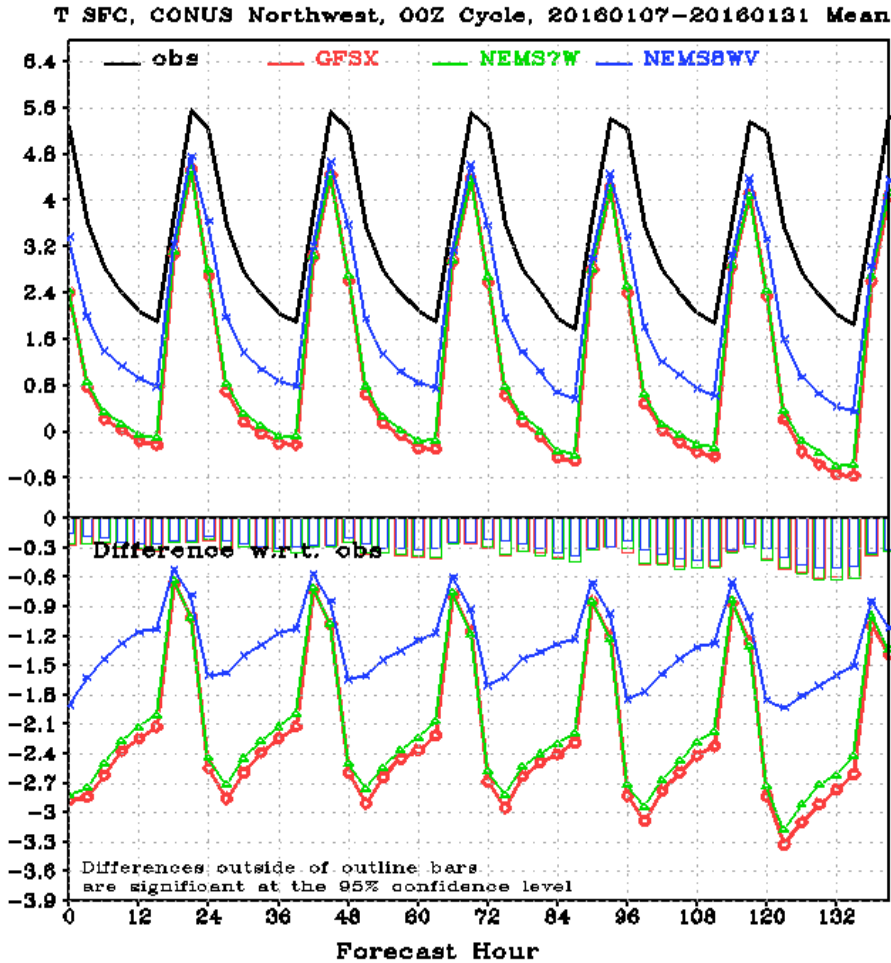
2m-T and Td over Alaska, January of 2016





# Model Physics Improvement: Cold Biases

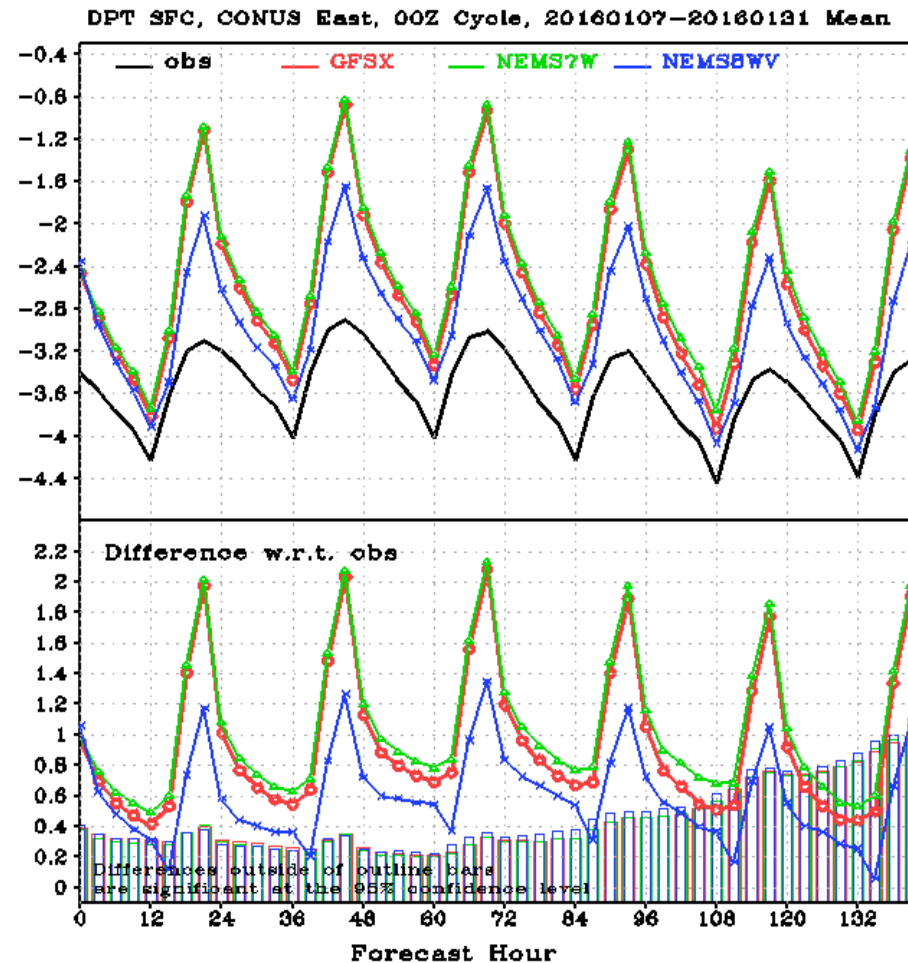
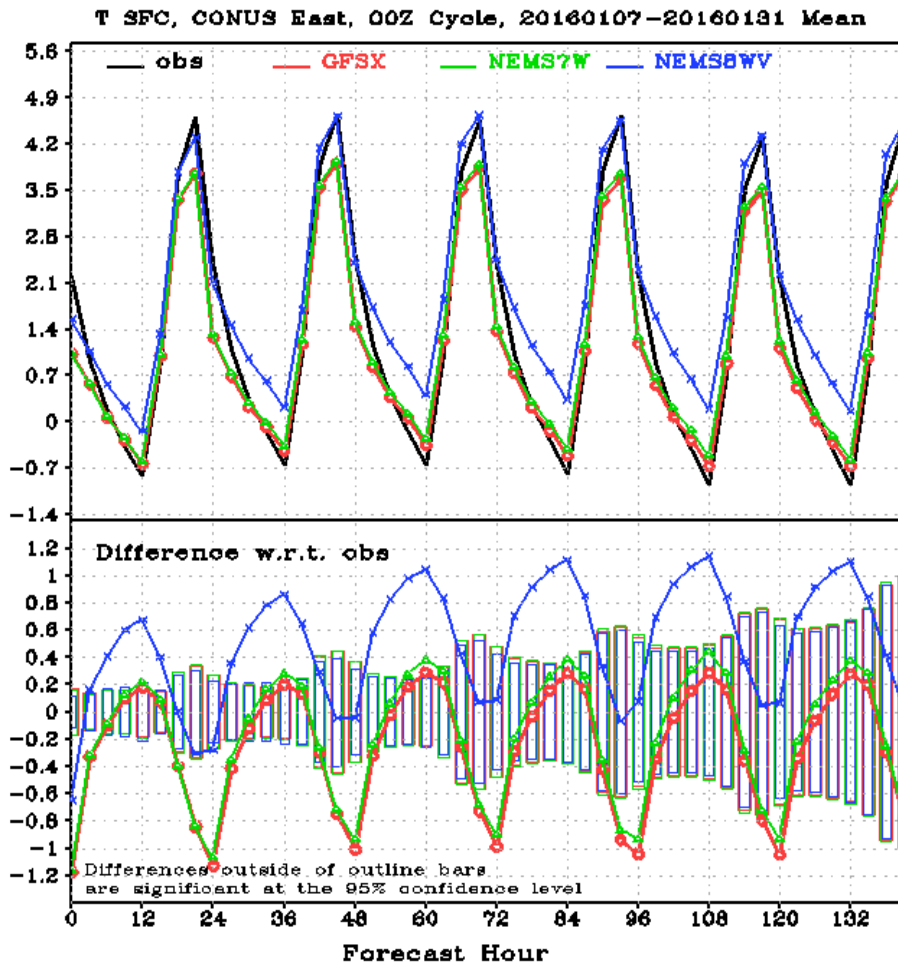
2m-T and Td over NW CONUS, January of 2016



reduced nighttime cold bias, but still have significant day/nighttime cold bias

# Model Physics Improvement: Cold Biases

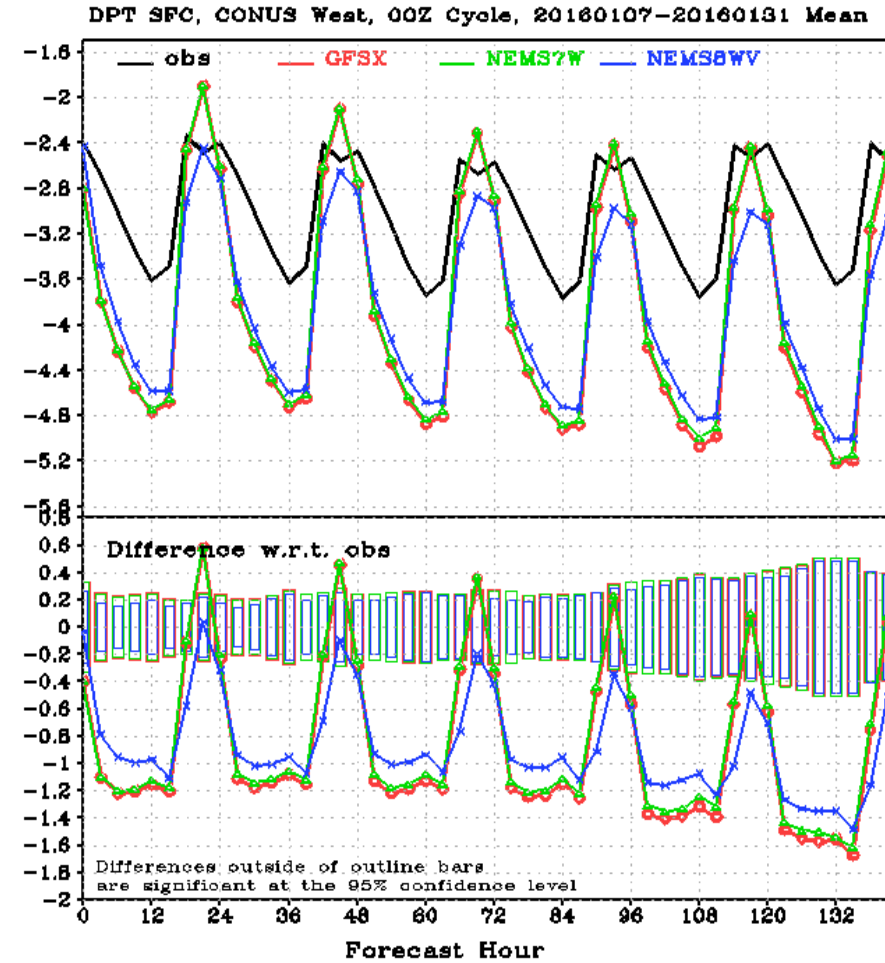
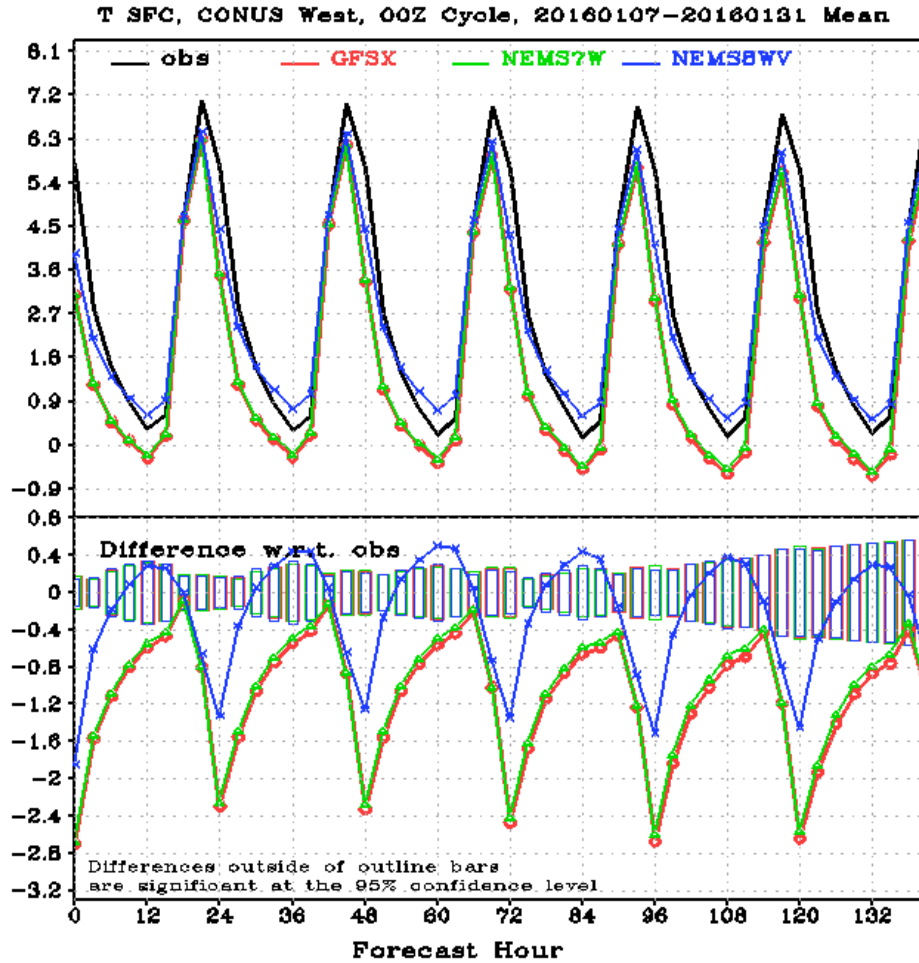
2m-T and Td over East CONUS, January of 2016



reduced daytime cold bias, nighttime warm bias likely  
due to more ground heat flux from new soil texture

# Model Physics Improvement: Cold Biases

2m-T and Td over West CONUS, January of 2016



reduced cold bias

# Proposed Changes for the Next NEMS Implementation

- IGBP 20-type land classifications and STASGO 19-type soil classifications
- The new MODIS-based snow free albedo from BostonU/Mark-Friedl (JCSDA funded)
- The new MODIS-based maximum snow albedo from UAZ/Xubin (JCSDA funded)
- Fanglin's diurnal albedo treatment
- Unify two aspects between radiation driver and Noah LSM
  - Snow cover
  - Snow albedo
- Fix excessive cooling of T2m
- Increase ground heat flux under the deep snow

# ***Land Prediction at NCEP: Summary/Future***

- **Improve & unify Noah land model and GLDAS/NLDAS at NCEP:**
  - Forcing, e.g. precipitation, & land data sets, e.g. near-realtime GVF.
  - Run GLDAS, NLDAS under NASA Land Information System (LIS): parallel run environment, latest land model versions, land data sets, data assimilation/validation tools for e.g. **snow**, **soil moisture**.
  - Land model physics improvements, including next-generation “Noah-MP” with dynamic vegetation, etc; account for agriculture, irrigation, etc; lakes; hydrology/groundwater/river-routing.
  - Higher resolution and downscaled forcing and model output.
  - Enhance land model spin-up procedures.
  - Extend domain/resolution of NLDAS to North America, to then “merge” with GLDAS for global models (GFS, CFS), providing **unified initial land conditions** for all NCEP regional, global and climate models.
  - Comprehensive hierarchy of model development and evaluation.
- *Land models role expanding for weather & climate in increasingly more fully-coupled Earth-System Models (atmosphere-ocean-land-ice-waves-aerosols) with **connections** between **Weather & Climate** and **Hydrology, Ecosystems & Biogeochemical** cycles (e.g. **carbon**), and **Air Quality**, models and communities, i.e. under community model development, e.g. NOAA Environ. Modeling System (NEMS).*