



NOAA's NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE Western Region Notes

April 6, 2006

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Leadership Corner: Leaders that Serve

Taken from "The Secret: What Great Leaders Know and Do"

By Ken Blanchard and Mark Miller

Submitted by Donna Mills

What is the secret? Great leaders SERVE!

True heroism is remarkably sober, very undramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but the urge to serve others at whatever the cost. ---Tennis star Arthur Ashe

Five Practices That Help Leaders SERVE Others

1. See the future. A compelling vision stirs passion within you. It tells everyone who you are, where you are going, and what will drive your behavior. Values are the beliefs that drive our behavior. They are the cornerstones of an organization's culture. Every organization has values. Not every organization has articulated them. When values are published they can be repeated, recognized and rewarded.
2. Engage and develop others. You must have the right people, in the right roles, fully engaged if you are going to accomplish your goals. Everything that you will accomplish as a leader ultimately hinges on the people you have around you. Without this piece, your success as a leader will be greatly limited. The cost of a "Bad Hire" is emotional energy, time, low moral, declining performance, missed opportunities, recruiting, selecting and training new people. The greatest waste in business is human potential.

Developing others is the separation between the best leaders and lesser leaders. Your success in developing people is based on your ability as a leader to help them discover their strength zone and grow in that area. Helping people leverage their strengths is one of the most rewarding parts of the leader's role.

3. Reinvent continuously. First, great leaders reinvent continuously on a personal level. They are always interested in ways to enhance their own knowledge and skills. The very best leaders are learners. Great leaders find their own approaches to learning---some read, some listen to tapes, some spend time with mentors. They do whatever it takes to keep learning. They realize that if they stop learning, they will stop leading. Leaders must also work to instill the desire for improvement into the people doing the day-to-day work. The leader may champion this cause, but the people make it happen.

4. Value results and relationships. The way to maximize your result as a leader is to have high expectations for both results and relationships. If we can take care of our customers and create a motivating working environment for our people, we will be successful. Remember.....leaders touch a heart before they ask for a hand.
5. Embody the values. All genuine leadership is built on trust. There are many ways to build trust. One way is to live consistently with the values you profess. If I say customers are important, my actions had better support that statement. If I choose to live as if customers are not important, people will have reason to question my trustworthiness. Also, if I am deemed untrustworthy by my people, I will not be trusted or followed as a leader.

Everyone can be great, because everyone can serve. ---Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION

Statement of the Week: WR MSD is featuring a series of three winter weather products between Thursday, March 30 and Friday, March 31 from WFO Sacramento. Sacramento issued an Outlook early on March 30th for an approaching winter storm system in the mountains of Northern California. The Outlook was followed that same afternoon by a Winter Storm Watch, and then a Winter Storm Warning (and Snow Advisory) the following Friday morning. The outlook provided a broad “heads-up” and, while not highly detailed regarding impacts, it did provide expected snow levels and mentioned potential for “up to one and a half feet” of snow Friday and Saturday. The Watch provided more detail on expected locations, and remained consistent overall on snow levels and expected amounts. Similarly, the Warning/Advisory provided yet more detail, but was consistent with the previous Watch and Outlook. This series of products is a very fine example of the sequence of information which allows our customers to prepare for the coming change, providing greater detail regarding the expected impacts as the forecast firmed up. Nice work, Sacramento!

Outlook:

000

WWUS86 KSTO 301412

SPSSTO

SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SACRAMENTO CA
612 AM PST THU MAR 30 2006

CAZ013-014-063-064-068-069-310000-
SHASTA LAKE AREA / NORTHERN SHASTA COUNTY-
BURNEY BASIN / EASTERN SHASTA COUNTY-
MOUNTAINS SOUTHWESTERN SHASTA COUNTY TO NORTHERN LAKE COUNTY-
CLEAR LAKE/SOUTHERN LAKE COUNTY-WESTERN PLUMAS COUNTY/LASSEN PARK-
WEST SLOPE NORTHERN SIERRA NEVADA-
612 AM PST THU MAR 30 2006

...MORE SNOW IN STORE FOR NORTHERN CALIFORNIA MOUNTAINS...

A COLD LOW PRESSURE SYSTEM DROPPING OUT OF THE GULF OF ALASKA WILL BRING ANOTHER ROUND OF SNOWFALL TO THE MOUNTAINS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. LIGHT PRECIPITATION WILL BEGIN OVER NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AS EARLY AS THIS AFTERNOON WITH PERIODS OF MODERATE TO OCCASIONALLY HEAVY PRECIPITATION EXPECTED TONIGHT THROUGH SATURDAY MORNING. SNOW LEVELS WILL START OUT FAIRLY HIGH THIS AFTERNOON...RANGING FROM AROUND 4500 FEET ACROSS THE NORTHERN MOUNTAINS TO AROUND 6000 FEET OVER THE NORTHERN SIERRA NEVADA. SNOW LEVELS WILL BEGIN TO DROP TONIGHT AND FRIDAY TO BETWEEN 3500 AND 4500 FEET FROM THE NORTHERN MOUNTAINS TO THE SIERRA AND THEN CONTINUE TO DROP A BIT MORE ON SATURDAY AS COLDER AIR FILTERS IN TO THE AREA. THIS COULD BRING SOME SNOWFALL DOWN TO THE HIGHER ELEVATIONS OF LAKE COUNTY. ALTHOUGH THIS SYSTEM IS NOT EXPECTED TO BE A HUGH SNOWFALL PRODUCER...FREQUENT PERIODS OF SNOW OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS WILL ADD UP. SEVERAL INCHES UP TO A FOOT OF NEW SNOWFALL CAN BE EXPECTED OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS WITH ELEVATIONS ABOVE 7000 FEET RECEIVING UP TO 1 AND A HALF FEET OF NEW SNOW BETWEEN TONIGHT...FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

A BRIEF BREAK IN THE MOUNTAIN SNOWFALL LATE SATURDAY AND EARLY SUNDAY WILL BE FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER ROUND OF PERHAPS HEAVIER RAIN AND SNOW SUNDAY AFTERNOON INTO EARLY NEXT WEEK.

IF TRAVELING INTO THE MOUNTAINS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS...BE PREPARED TO ENCOUNTER DELAYS AS PERIODS OF HEAVY SNOWFALL WILL CAUSE HAZARDOUS DRIVING CONDITIONS AND ROAD RESTRICTIONS AT TIMES. BE SURE AND CARRY TIRE CHAINS AND CHECK THE LATEST ROAD AND WEATHER REPORTS BEFORE DEPARTING.

\$\$

SMITH

WATCH:

000

WWUS46 KSTO 302320

WSWSTO

URGENT - WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SACRAMENTO CA
320 PM PST THU MAR 30 2006

A WINTER STORM WILL BE MOVING INTO NORTHERN CALIFORNIA LATE TONIGHT AND EARLY FRIDAY AND WILL LINGER IN THE REGION THROUGH SATURDAY MORNING. THE STORM WILL BRING MODERATE AMOUNTS OF SNOW AND WIND TO THE AREA.

A STRONGER WINTER STORM IS EXPECTED TO MOVE INTO THE REGION LATE ON SATURDAY.

CAZ014-068-310730-
/O.NEW.KSTO.WS.A.0016.060331T1800Z-060401T1200Z/
BURNEY BASIN / EASTERN SHASTA COUNTY-
WESTERN PLUMAS COUNTY/LASSEN PARK-
320 PM PST THU MAR 30 2006

...WINTER STORM WATCH IN EFFECT FROM FRIDAY MORNING THROUGH LATE FRIDAY NIGHT...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN SACRAMENTO HAS ISSUED A WINTER STORM WATCH...WHICH IS IN EFFECT FROM FRIDAY MORNING THROUGH LATE FRIDAY NIGHT.

SNOW LEVELS WILL BEGIN NEAR 4500 FEET LATE TONIGHT AND DROP TO NEAR 3500 FEET BY FRIDAY EVENING. SNOWFALL AMOUNTS AT MID-LEVEL ELEVATIONS WILL BE SIX TO EIGHT INCHES AND UP TO A FOOT OF SNOW IS EXPECTED AT THE HIGHEST ELEVATIONS. SOUTH WINDS WILL GUST UP TO 40 MPH AT TIMES...ESPECIALLY FRIDAY EVENING.

A WINTER STORM WATCH MEANS THERE IS A POTENTIAL FOR SIGNIFICANT SNOW...SLEET...OR ICE ACCUMULATIONS THAT MAY IMPACT TRAVEL. TRAVELERS AND LOCAL RESIDENTS SHOULD MONITOR WEATHER FORECASTS FOR UPDATED INFORMATION.

\$\$

CAZ069-310730-
/O.NEW.KSTO.WS.A.0016.060331T2200Z-060401T1500Z/
WEST SLOPE NORTHERN SIERRA NEVADA-
320 PM PST THU MAR 30 2006

...WINTER STORM WATCH IN EFFECT FROM FRIDAY AFTERNOON THROUGH SATURDAY MORNING...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN SACRAMENTO HAS ISSUED A WINTER STORM WATCH...WHICH IS IN EFFECT FROM FRIDAY AFTERNOON THROUGH SATURDAY MORNING.

SNOW LEVELS WILL DROP TO NEAR 4000 FEET BY FRIDAY EVENING. SNOWFALL AMOUNTS AT MID- LEVEL ELEVATIONS WILL BE EIGHT TO TEN INCHES AND MORE THAN A FOOT OF SNOW IS EXPECTED AT THE HIGHEST ELEVATIONS. SOUTH WINDS WILL GUST UP TO 40 MPH AT TIMES... ESPECIALLY FRIDAY EVENING AND SATURDAY MORNING.

A WINTER STORM WATCH MEANS THERE IS A POTENTIAL FOR SIGNIFICANT SNOW...SLEET...OR ICE ACCUMULATIONS THAT MAY IMPACT TRAVEL. TRAVELERS AND LOCAL RESIDENTS SHOULD MONITOR WEATHER FORECASTS FOR UPDATED INFORMATION.

\$\$
KJ

WARNING:

000
WWUS46 KSTO 311208
WSWSTO

URGENT - WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SACRAMENTO CA
408 AM PST FRI MAR 31 2006

A SPRING STORM MOVING THROUGH NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WILL BRING PERIODS OF HEAVY SNOWFALL TO THE MOUNTAINS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA TODAY AND TONIGHT. GUSTY WINDS WILL ACCOMPANY THIS WEATHER SYSTEM ESPECIALLY AT THE HIGHER ELEVATIONS. DECREASING SHOWERS ARE EXPECTED SATURDAY AFTERNOON AND NIGHT WITH ANOTHER WEATHER SYSTEM EXPECTED TO MOVE INTO NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ON SUNDAY.

CAZ014-068-010030-
/O.UPG.KSTO.WS.A.0016.060331T1800Z-060401T1200Z/
/O.NEW.KSTO.WS.W.0014.060331T1800Z-060401T1500Z/
BURNEY BASIN / EASTERN SHASTA COUNTY-
WESTERN PLUMAS COUNTY/LASSEN PARK-
408 AM PST FRI MAR 31 2006

...WINTER STORM WARNING IN EFFECT FROM 10 AM THIS MORNING TO 7 AM PST SATURDAY...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN SACRAMENTO HAS ISSUED A WINTER STORM WARNING...WHICH IS IN EFFECT FROM 10 AM THIS MORNING TO 7 AM PST SATURDAY FOR WESTERN PLUMAS COUNTY INCLUDING LASSEN PARK AND FOR THE BURNEY BASIN. THE WINTER STORM WATCH IS NO LONGER IN EFFECT.

SNOW LEVELS TODAY ARE EXPECTED TO REMAIN AROUND 3500 FEET THEN DROP A BIT DOWN TO AROUND 3000 FEET TONIGHT. SNOWFALL AMOUNTS ABOVE 3500 FEET BETWEEN TODAY AND TONIGHT ARE EXPECTED TO RANGE FROM AROUND A FOOT IN THE BURNEY BASIN TO AS MUCH AS A FOOT AND A HALF OVER WESTERN PLUMAS COUNTY. IN ADDITION TO THE SNOWFALL... SOUTH WINDS WILL GUST UP TO 40 MPH AT TIMES ESPECIALLY THIS EVENING.

TRAVELERS AND LOCAL RESIDENTS TO THE WARNING AREA SHOULD MONITOR WEATHER FORECASTS FOR UPDATED INFORMATION.

CONDITIONS CAN DETERIORATE RAPIDLY IN WINTER WEATHER SITUATIONS, SLOW DOWN AND ALLOW EXTRA TIME WHEN TRAVELING. PRACTICE YOUR WINTER SAFETY

RULES, CARRY TIRE CHAINS AND KEEP AN EXTRA FLASHLIGHT, FOOD, AND WATER IN YOUR CAR IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.

\$\$

CAZ069-010030-
/O.UPG.KSTO.WS.A.0016-060331T2200Z-060401T1500Z/
/O.NWS.KSTO.WS.W.0014.060331T2200Z-060401T1800Z/
WEST SLOPE NORTHERN SIERRA NEVADA-
408 AM PST FRI MAR 31 2006

...WINTER STORM WARNING IN EFFECT FROM 2 PM THIS AFTERNOON TO 10 AM PST SATURDAY...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN SACRAMENTO HAS ISSUED A WINTER STORM WARNING...WHICH IS IN EFFECT FROM 2 PM THIS AFTERNOON TO 10 AM PST SATURDAY FOR THE WEST SLOPES OF THE NORTHERN SIERRA NEVADA. THE WINTER STORM WATCH IS NO LONGER IN EFFECT.

SNOW LEVELS TODAY ARE EXPECTED TO REMAIN AROUND 4000 TO 4500 FEET TODAY THEN DROP A BIT DOWN TO AROUND 4000 FEET TONIGHT. ABOUT A FOOT AND A HALF OF NEW SNOWFALL IS EXPECTED ABOVE THE 4000 FOOT LEVEL FROM TODAY THROUGH SATURDAY MORNING. IN ADDITION TO THE SNOWFALL...SOUTH WINDS WILL GUST UP TO 40 MPH AT TIMES ESPECIALLY THIS EVENING.

TRAVELERS AND LOCAL RESIDENTS TO THE WARNING AREA SHOULD MONITOR WEATHER FORECASTS FOR UPDATED INFORMATION.

CONDITIONS CAN DETERIORATE RAPIDLY IN WINTER WEATHER SITUATIONS, SLOW DOWN AND ALLOW EXTRA TIME WHEN TRAVELING. PRACTICE YOUR WINTER SAFETY RULES, CARRY TIRE CHAINS AND KEEP AN EXTRA FLASHLIGHT, FOOD, AND WATER IN YOUR CAR IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.

\$\$

CAZ013-063-010030-
/O.NEW.KSTO.SN.Y.0017.060331T1800Z-060401T1500Z/
SHASTA LAKE AREA / NORTHERN SHASTA COUNTY-
MOUNTAINS SOUTHWESTERN SHASTA COUNTY TO NORTHERN LAKE COUNTY-
408 AM PST FRI MAR 31 2006

...SNOW ADVISORY IN EFFECT FROM 10 AM THIS MORNING TO 7 AM PST SATURDAY...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN SACRAMENTO HAS ISSUED A SNOW ADVISORY...WHICH IS IN EFFECT FROM 10 AM THIS MORNING TO 7 AM PST SATURDAY FOR THE MOUNTAINS OF NORTHERN SHASTA COUNTY SOUTHWARD TO NORTHERN LAKE COUNTY.

SNOW LEVELS TODAY SHOULD RANGE FROM ABOUT 3500 FEET OVER SHASTA COUNTY TO AROUND 4000 FEET NORTHERN LAKE COUNTY. SNOW LEVELS WILL DROP TONIGHT TO AS LOW AS 3000 FEET. UP TO ONE FOOT OF NEW SNOW IS POSSIBLE BETWEEN TODAY AND EARLY SATURDAY MORNING ABOVE THE 4000 FOOT LEVEL. BREEZY SOUTH WINDS CAN BE EXPECTED AS TIME AS WELL.

A SNOW ADVISORY MEANS THAT PERIODS OF SNOW WILL CAUSE PRIMARILY TRAVEL DIFFICULTIES. BE PREPARED FOR SNOW COVERED ROADS AND LIMITED VISIBILITIES...AND USE CAUTION WHILE DRIVING.

\$\$



Scott Carpenter displays WFO Billings' new touch-screen kiosk at the Billings, MT, Clinic Science Expo.

WFO Billings supports regional science fair: Staff members from WFO Billings volunteered to serve as judges for the 18th Annual Billings Clinic Science Expo Science Fair on March 17. The regional science fair included projects from more than 480 student participants representing 72 schools in 18 counties. The top students in the high school division received an expenses-paid trip to Indianapolis for the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in May. The NOAA "Taking the Pulse of the Planet" Award was given to Cole Mauch, an eighth grade student from Livingston, Montana. Cole's project, entitled "Earth's Magnetic Personality," looked at the impact of changes on the earth's magnetic field.

WFO Billings members Matt Solum and Scott Carpenter presented a NWS exhibit on March 18 when the science fair projects and other exhibits were available for viewing by the general public. Billings organizers estimated more than 700 people visited the exhibit area. The NWS exhibit included the ever-popular Van de Graaf generator and WFO Billings' new touch-screen computer kiosk featuring the weather.gov web site.



Meteorologist intern Julie Holcombe receives an enthusiastic response to a weather question from Seattle area students.

WFO Seattle participates in water festivals:

Hydrologic program manager Brent Bower and meteorologist intern Julie Holcombe participated in a pair of water festivals on March 21-22.

The Tacoma-Pierce County's annual Water4Life Festival was held on the campus of Pacific Lutheran University. Sessions about "Water and Weather – Forecasting Floods," were presented to approximately 1,200 fifth-graders. Students learned about the water cycle, participated in demonstrations of rainfall runoff from different surface types, and made flood forecasts for different scenarios.

The following day, the annual H₂O-2006 Water Festival

was held at Highline Community College in Des Moines, WA, and included additional presentations to 1,400 fourth- and fifth-graders. Other featured speakers were Washington Governor Christine Gregoire and King-TV meteorologist Jeff Renner.

WFO Elko provides outreach and science fair support: Elko general forecaster Steven Ippoliti conducted a tour for 20 high school girls during a recent countywide Career Day. The office also conducted its first DataStreame class after an email supporting the education initiative was sent to all teachers by the county's school superintendent. Rick Arkell, Steven Ippoliti, Roham Abtahi and Jeff Savadel have paired up with one or more teachers for individualized guidance through the course.

In other Elko outreach, several staff members served as judges for the Elko County Science Fair on March 13-14. Science officer Steve Apfel joined Rick Arkell and Roham Abtahi in judging high school entries, while Jeff Savadel judged entries from fifth-grade students.



Dave Soroka is interviewed by KION-TV during Flood Safety Awareness Week.

Flood Safety Awareness Week for San Francisco Bay

Area: WFO Monterey conducted a successful Flood Safety Awareness Week for the San Francisco Bay area on March 20-24.

WCM Dave Soroka held a series of live and taped interviews for three radio stations throughout the week as well as an interview with a television station serving Monterey and Salinas. He highlighted the "Turn Around, Don't Drown" campaign and promoted a public service announcement involving a local radio personality who was trapped in a vehicle while trying to cross a flooded roadway during the New Year's floods in the area.



David Sweet, WFO Oxnard forecaster, shares his forecasting expertise with two students while Dave Danielson, SOO (rear left), and Terry Schaeffer, Ventura Rotary Club president (rear right), look on.

WFO Oxnard hosts local high school students: WFO Oxnard hosted two Ventura High School students on March 22 as part of a program sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ventura and the Ventura High School Career Center. The purpose of the visit was to explore different career fields and real-life experiences in a working environment. This experience will help them set goals in their remaining years of high school. The students spent three hours shadowing forecasters at WFO Oxnard to learn about the duties and responsibilities of a National Weather Service meteorologist and the tools used to prepare forecasts.

WFO Oxnard visits fire weather officials: During February and March, Dave Gomberg, senior forecaster and fire weather program leader at WFO Oxnard, organized meetings with fire officials from Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara counties, as well as the city of Los Angeles, Angeles National Forest, Los Padres National Forest, and

the San Luis Obispo County Division of the California Department of Forestry.

The meetings included a review of NWS forecast and warning products, including the new graphical and digital products, discussions of user needs and product improvement, and a presentation on GIS applications of the NDFD by Jayme Laber, WFO Oxnard Service Hydrologist and GIS program leader. Jayme also showed users how to download GRIB data from the NDFD server and convert the data for display in their GIS applications. The audiences were particularly impressed with a wind-speed map Jayme made that demonstrated the flexibility of customizations possible with the digital data. Other staff members who participated in the outreach include Mark Jackson (MIC), Eric Boldt (WCM), Ben Moyer (Senior Forecaster) and Dessa Emch (OPL).

Pacific Northwest Weather Workshop in Seattle: The annual Pacific Northwest Weather Workshop was held at the NOAA Western Regional Center in Seattle on March 3-4. The program presented a theme of "Climate, Climate Change, and Weather of the Pacific Northwest." Approximately 140 people attended, including several students from Penn State and representatives of the Meteorological Service of Canada. In addition to local presentations from NWS Seattle and the University of Washington, presenters also came from NCEP Ocean Prediction Center, NWS offices in Spokane, Boise, Portland, Salt Lake City, and Juneau. Presentations ranged from recent findings regarding the impact of anticipated climate change on water supply, to severe convection in Alaska and the new Seattle heat warning program. The next workshop will be held March 2-3, 2007.

Nordic Club outreach in Medford: Senior forecaster Mike Stavish of WFO Medford spoke to the Southern Oregon Nordic Club on March 6 at the Medford library. The club has been organizing outings, mostly for cross country and telemark skiers, for over 20 years. Mike covered a variety of topics, including weather fundamentals (fronts, high- and low-pressure systems, clouds), and explained terrain-driven precipitation, area microclimates, and annual precipitation. He also reviewed safety items about hypothermia, wind chill dangers and preparing winter travel survival kits, as well as local and national web-based sources to retrieve forecast information. Mike's presentation prompted a lot of group interaction, and he answered questions ranging from tsunami information to NOAA Weather Radio All-Hazards and the meaning of POPs.

WFO Seattle gives NOAA Weather Radio All-Hazards Presentation: WFO Seattle WCM Ted Buehner gave an all-hazards NWR presentation at a city of Seattle-Magnolia district citizen preparedness meeting called "Survivor Magnolia." The presentation emphasized using one key tool to receive all-hazards warning messages at any hour of the day. The presentation tied together several hazard presentations by the Port of Seattle and Burlington Northern Railroad that addressed topics such as earthquakes and business preparedness. Ted also displayed NWS preparedness materials and demonstration weather radio models to more than 160 people at the event.



NOAA press conference supported by Spanish-speaking forecaster: Miguel Miller, forecaster from WFO San Diego, was interviewed in Spanish by Telemundo TV about the Spring Outlook during a NOAA press conference in Phoenix March 16. His presence at the national media event helped provide Spanish-speaking audiences with first-hand information to better prepare for the warmer, drier days ahead throughout the Southwest U.S.

Idaho Aviation Festival: WFO Boise participated in the annual Idaho Aviation Festival on March 10-11. Over 800 attendees gave the office a prime opportunity to interact with the local general aviation community. Along with a presentation board and accompanying handout, a wireless Internet connection allowed WFO staff members Dawn Fishler, Ken Parker and Dave Groenert exhibit the variety of weather data available to the aviation community from both national and local NWS web pages. Forecaster Dave Groenert also presented several one-hour seminars about obtaining and interpreting weather information for flight planning purposes.

SCIENTIFIC SERVICES DIVISION

Required Training Reminder: The regional training deadlines are:

COMET Module: NWS Support During Hazardous Materials Emergencies.

Due: April 30, 2006

Available through the NOAA E-Learning system at <http://e-learning.doc.gov/noaa/>.

Bi Annual SOO/DOH Professional Training Report/Plan and Intern Reports

Due: April 30, 2006

Guidance for a new report format was sent on March 16.

One Spring WES Training Case:

Due: June 1, 2006

The WES TA-Lite that is normally associated with the WES case is **not** required. This provides the office with more time to finish the COMET Hazards module, launch the AWOC Winter track, and prepare for spring/summer severe weather season.

AWOC Winter Track Facilitator TeleTraining

Due: April to early June 2006

AWOC Winter Track:

Due by November 30, 2006

Begins June 2006. No local fall WES case studies or TA-Lite are required.

Verification Plan Implementation Timeline

Step	Mod-Note Description	Mod-Note	Install time	Release Date	Initial Mod-Note Training	Mod-Note Completion Deadline	Initial User Training (web module)
1a	Clean up decoding and ingest of Mesowest data	WR06-003	<1 hour	3/16/06	* 3/22/06	3/31/06	NA
1b	Update MatchObsAll tool to latest version (v 0.98)	Cook email	<1 hour	3/22/06	* 3/22/06	4/15/06	NA

2	Install the QC Tool Mod-note	WR06-004	1 hour	3/16/06	* 3/22/06	4/15/06	Yes 3/22/06 PDX- how to use application SSD – when to QC
3	WR version of BOIVerify	WR06-005	3 hours	3/16/06	*3/29/06	5/1/06	Yes 2-3 web modules Date TBD

* Will use SOO/DOH conference calls to introduce/roll out each Mod-Note.

SSD Science Plan: WR/SSD sent a copy of the 2006/2007 WR Scientific Service Division Science and Technology Plan to each WR office. This plan combines that current suite of projects into one document. The projects, such as the WR verification project, have been vetted with the offices through a variety of teams and procedures.

AWIPS Build 7.2 Contents: The contents of the AWIPS Build 7.2 are nearly finalized. This build will be released next fall.

- **AWIPS Infrastructure**
 - Decommission Data Servers
 - MHS and NIS Master
 - COTS Change
 - Degib 1.76
 - Convert RFC Archiver Databases & Software to PostgreSQL
 - Decommission WWA
 - IFPS Service Backup Enhancements
- **WarnGen**
 - TOR Product Changes
- **Radar**
 - Send environmental data from AWIPS to RPG
 - Generate products for non-assoc. user requests (e.g, RCS, VCS, ULR, USP)
 - Add products to TDWR SPG
 - Candidates are: composite reflectivity (CZ and/or ULR), VAD wind profile (VWP), Vertically Integrated Liquid (VIL).
- **Model data**
 - GFS BUFR Sounding Data
 - Full suite of SREF products for CONUS and OCONUS
 - 40 km RUC products upgraded to 13 km
 - LAMP Products (Text, BUFR, gridded)
 - OPC and TAFB Offshore Gridded Significant Wave Height Forecasts
 - Analysis of record (Real-Time Mesoscale Analysis – RTMA)
 - Simulated Reflectivity from WRF
 - High Resolution Global SST Analysis
 - SPC Convective Outlook

- GOES Low Cloud Base
- Climate: Preliminary F6
- **Hydrology**
 - Operational Implementation of Distributed Hydrologic Modeling
 - Includes display menu and map menu changes
 - WHFS HydroView Enhancement to Replace “Mapper” (complete 7.1 work)
 - Integration of RFC QPE tools into a common National System (complete 7.1 work)
- **Satellite**
 - Polar Microwave Products
 - Marine sfc winds, rainfall rate, SST, total precip water
 - Cloud Amount DPI
- **NWRWAVES**
 - Fix DRs
- **NCEP’s NMAP Integration**
- **GSD’s LAPS/MSAS Integration**
- **Decision Assistance**
 - SCAN Enhancements
 - SAFESEAS Enhancements
 - Fog Monitor
 - FFMP Enhancements
 - Guardian
 - System for Nowcasting Of Winter Weather (SNOW)
 - LSR Enhancements
- **GFE**
 - **A&C**
 - Hurricane Conference TCV Con Ops Changes
 - Tropical Cyclone Watch/Warning Product (TVC) changes
 - Call to Actions- hurricane events
 - Directive
 - 10-503 AFM/PFM: Only sample the first period from the current time until the end of the first period, rather than the entire project
 - PoP temporal coverage directive change
 - Pop, Sky Refinement
 - General
 - Allow reset of practice VTEC table and grids with simple GUI to aid testing and practicing
 - Ifps Server: change GFETEST to use GFETEST, then BASE, thus ignore SITE
 - Allow Automated Test cases to run on GFE machine
 - Text Formatter Enhancement
 - Period Combining Refinement. Period combining time descriptors.
 - Allow lower case output in formatters
 - Simple tables refinement in formatters
 - Better support for local hazards and local headlines
 - Expire Time: algorithm change when multiple activities present
 - FWF Enhancements
 - FWS useRH and Virgil's tabular FWS

- Add HZ.A HZ.W VTEC Codes for Hard Freeze
- Change Headline Order for non-marine products
- GFE GUI
 - Show "Update/Correction Mode" on Transmit in the Product Editor
- Smart Tool
 - View WCL: aborts if no data with 6 hours of present
- Text Formatter DRs
 - Tom Springs fix for incorrect sky wording
 - Virgil M. Multiple-Element-Table update
 - Total Snow and Storm Total Snow changes
 - Visibility should filter rankList in formatter
 - VTEC ETN not resetting during year change
 - Null swell does not work
- **Aviation Forecast Preparation System (AVNFPS)**
 - Overhaul TWEB QC Routines
 - Generate TAF-based Tactical Decision Aids
 - Produce tabular output from monthly climatology
 - Enhance guidance TAFs from LAMP
 - Enhance aviation flight category monitoring
 - Enhancements for ceiling and visibility
- **RSA Modifications**
 - LDAD storage changes to accommodate more frequent reports
- **Software maintenance**
 - *Maximum of 140 DRs from previous releases*
 - 7.2 DR list due on April 3, 2006

COMET Outreach Program – Funds Available: OST has provided COMET funds to support approximately 18 COMET Partners projects in 2006. Proposals for Partners Projects are accepted throughout the year. Partners Project features include:

- Collaborative effort with an NWS office or multiple offices
- One year in length
- University budgets average \$7,000 (\$10,000 maximum)
- Typically involve one NWS forecaster and one university faculty member, rather than a group (as is usually the case with Cooperative Projects)
- Topics generally focus on a single case study or analysis problem
- Partners projects may also be used to fund small local/regional workshops.

For more information, please go to the COMET outreach web site:

<http://www.comet.ucar.edu/outreach/index.htm>

Upcoming Science Workshops

IMET All-Hazards Workshop - May 22-26: The workshop, taught by first responders in the urban fire and law enforcement community, will provide an opportunity for IMETS and trainees to learn first hand about how non-wildfire incidents will operate and what those first responders concerns are, allowing the IMET to tailor services to these type of operations. The workshop will be held in Boise ID, May 22 to 26. Please contact Heath Hockenberry or Larry VanBussum for more information.

Great Divide Workshop – Oct 3-5: The Tenth Annual Great Divide Weather Workshop will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Billings, Montana on October 3-5, 2006. WFOs Billings and Glasgow are sponsoring this workshop focusing on the exchange of weather and hydrologic forecasting information unique to the Northern Rockies and High Plains. A call for papers and registration information will be made available during the spring of 2006. More information can be obtained by contacting WFO Billings at 406-652-0851, or in WFO Glasgow at 406-228-4042. You can also email any questions to: wr.great.divide.workshop@noaa.gov.

New WR Science Publications **Technical Memorandums**

- WR-TM 274 - **Climate of Prescott, Arizona,**
By Bob Fogarty, and Mike Staudenmier
- WR-TM 275 - **Climate of San Diego, California 3rd Edition**
By Noel M. Isla and Jennifer L. Lee

Training Update

COMET - Satellite Hydrometeorology (SHyMet) Course: The course prepares interns for the latest polar orbiting and geostationary satellite data and products in the warning and forecast programs. The course is a combination of web-based instruction and teletraining and takes approximately 16 hours to complete. The primary target audience is interns.

Course Web Page - http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/training/shymet/intern_intro.asp

First Course Offering - Starts 3 April 2006

Note: To register for this course, first send email to shymet@ssec.wisc.edu and you will be sent setup instructions. DO NOT go to E-Learning LMS site to register until you review these instructions.

Warning Decision Branch – AWOC: AWOC Winter Track Facilitator Orientation Teletraining is open for registration. The Orientation session will introduce course facilitators to the Winter Weather track of the AWOC via teletraining. The course will include learning and performance objectives, an outline of instructional components, roles and responsibilities of students and facilitators, course administration (including registration and testing), timelines for delivery, and course completion requirements.

Sessions are scheduled from April 20, 2006 to June 1, 2006. All members of AWOC Facilitator mailing list have been enrolled in the Orientation session. If you wish to change Facilitators for this version of AWOC, please refer to e-mail from Mark Mollner dated February 10, 2006. To register for your AWOC Winter Track Orientation session go to: <https://wdtb.noaa.gov/security/logon.aspx>

A reminder: the AWOC Winter Track is mandatory for all Western Region WFO meteorologists

Teletraining Sessions for April: The Virtual Institute for Satellite Integration Training (VISIT) calendar for April is now available. Offices can register for the teletraining sessions by sending email to: visit@comet.ucar.edu. The teletraining calendar is now at: <http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/visit/ecal.asp>

The teletraining planning calendar with other sessions is at: <http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/visit/planning.html>

The current sessions planned for April are:

- Monitoring Gulf Moisture Return with GOES Imagery (Basic, April 5,12)
- Modern Severe Weather Parameters (Basic/Intermediate, April 13)
- GOES Sounder Data and Products (Basic, April 11)
- GOES High Density Winds (Basic, April 17)
- Mesoscale Analysis of Convective Weather Using GOES RSO Imagery (Basic, April 11)
- Forecasting Convective Downburst Potential Using GOES Sounder Derived Products (Basic, April 6,20)
- Use of GOES/RSO imagery with other Remote Sensor Data for Diagnosing Severe Weather across CONUS (RSO 3) (Intermediate, April 18,19)

Several recorded VISIT session are available via LMS: <http://e-learning.doc.gov/coursecatalog/index.cfm>. Then, go to National Weather Service Courses and search on VISIT.

All previous sessions including those with recorded instructor audio and annotations are available at: <http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/visit/ts.html>

SYSTEMS OPERATIONS DIVISION

Upper Air Work: Jim McClellan, Tom Page, and Randy Miller, traveled to the San Diego Upper Air facility to build an observer space in the new building.

New UPS: Lee Jenson and Mike Belarde installed a new APC UPS at WFO Spokane. Lee and Mike previously installed a new APC UPS at WFO Pendleton. This installation makes the 4th APC UPS installed this fiscal year (WFO Hanford and WFO Eureka). The next UPS upgrade will be at WFO Pocatello.

EMRS Meeting: Sean Wink and Joe Lachacz traveled to Kansas City to attend the EMRS meeting which was combined with two additional meetings: Facilities Program and the Electronics Program Management meetings.

Safety Alert: Last April and May, Western Region had 8 incidents reported. This represented almost 25% of the total incidents reported for Fiscal Year 2005. Six of the incidents involved personnel lifting incorrectly or tripping. Please keep the following in mind:



Correct Lifting Techniques:

- Stand close to the load
- Bend your knees - not your back
- Let your legs do the lifting
- Get Help with heavy or awkward loads!
- Use the right tools (hand trucks, hand carts)



Common cause of Trips/Falls:

- uncovered cables, wires, or extension cords across aisles or pathways
- clutter, obstacles in aisles, walkways, and work areas
- rumpled or rolled up carpets/ mats, carpets with curled edges
- irregularities in walking surfaces (e.g., thresholds, gaps)
- changes in elevation or levels (e.g., unmarked steps, ramps)