

Notes from CAT-II Meeting Tuesday January 5, 2010

Attendees

CAT-II Representatives from APRFC, MBRFC, NCRFC, MARFC, OHRFC, SERFC, WGRFC, CBRFC, and LMRFC were present.

Present in Silver Spring at the CAT workshop:

Billy Olsen, ABRFC
Rob Shedd, Ron Horwood, NERFC
Rob Hartman, CNRFC
Harold Opitz, Joe Intermill, NWRFC
Jon Roe, OHD HSEB Chief
Chris Dietz, OHD HSEB, CHPS Project Manager
Edwin Welles, Micha Werner, Deltares
Joe Gofus, Paul Tilles, OHD HSEB
Others (various)

Document reference: none

Agenda:

1. CAT-II status report on forcings; status of data flows to NOHRSC

WGRFC: not done much over the holiday. They have written a script to forward data to NOHRSC. They have MPE/DQC installed and are just beginning to work with it.

OHRFC: have been using GFE for ~6 months. They are archiving data. They have ofsde for chps running, but no mean areals yet and no transfer of data to NOHRSC yet.

SERFC: still configuring GFE; expect to do this from mid-Feb to June. No archives at this time. They haven't had training yet. They have set up MPE/DQC for SERFC and OCONUS, but have no practice or training. Data using ofsde for chps is running and expect to get data flowing to NOHRSC by the end of the week. Question: should they send HEC-RAS boundary conditions to NOHRSC? If so how? RobS said he's sending QINE and tidal flows; refer to the sample file he distributed.

APRFC: are conducting comparisons; looking into station definitions MAT vs. PRISM 1971-2000. How to get new PRISM into DQC? Ask Paul Tilles or MarkG. They extract MAP and MATs for shipping to NOHRSC. Found that running the script on a cron doesn't work right.

NCRFC: Not much progress using GFE; have done some work with DQC. They have noticed a low bias in DQC versus MAP. They are waiting for IP address information in order to get data to NOHRSC.

CBRFC: very close to transmitting data to NOHRSC

LMRFC: Have been running GFE for ~one month. Not much progress since the last call. They are pushing ofsde and other data to NOHRSC. Includes boundary flows for hydraulic models. Can they send MATs from GFE? Possibly - FEWS cannot ingest SHEF .B format.

MARFC: just back from the holidays, busy catching up. No progress.

MBRFC: slowly getting GFE up and running. Data are coming out of the database, but they are having trouble getting it to NOHRSC. The RFC must set up a route in their AWIPS router to send data through LDAD to NOHRSC. MBRFC can get support from any of the CAT RFCs, including their buddy NW. Should RFCs send a backlog of data? Yes if possible; APRFC sent 10 days. MAPs and MATs are the most important. Ofsde extracts stages and flow; you can use an alternative mechanism but make sure the SHEF is not .B because FEWS can't ingest. MARFC noted there's a snapshot feature with the NAS where you can get a history of OFS files.

The following RFCs need to get their data flowing to NOHRSC (and Deltares) immediately: CBRFC, NCRFC, MARFC, OHRFC. These are scheduled to get their software installations beginning next week, at which point Deltares is looking to install pre-tested configurations (live data are not currently available for testing these configurations – this could cause a delay). These 4 RFCs are very close to getting data flowing.

2. Status of Mod Note (hardware install)

An early draft has been made available. The formal document is being routed through proper (OOS) channels, so AWIPS Program Managers will be aware of the installs.

3. Lessons Learned from NERFC re. using MPE/DQC

NERFC has been doing a lot of work with MPE/DQC in recent months. They are finding it's vital to scrub the precip database. Now that they're in the snow season, they found that DQC will use a wide variety of sources not traditionally QC'd – if left untouched then the quality of grids will be reduced; but the cleanup significantly increases the manual effort. RFCs must determine what reports will/won't be allowed into the system from defined stations. Alaska said they keep a winter list (no unheated tipping buckets) and a different summer list. DQC will use all defined stations in the list even if they've been non-reporting for several years. Could this explain why NCRFC sees a low bias? Unfortunately you can't reduce the list too much or there'll be no stations left! Need some reliable gauges. How to turn off DQC stations? There are 2 ways: one is to edit the station list and comment out unwanted ones; another is to go into the database and remove the location (but the latter takes a long time).

4. Need for a second MPE/DQC GoTo meeting

Do RFCs want another GoTo meeting on MPE/DQC? A couple of RFCs have requested one. Some suggested topics were provided by Paul Tilles; RFCs should email others directly to Paul. Another meeting could be held late January – preferable before the Migration training. Paul will distribute information.

5. **Other**

What are the logistics for the Training class in February? Chris will send out details later this week.

Is there any progress on performance? NERFC reports ingesting SREF faster than the old method; but the processing speed is still substantially slower – about 4-8 times slower. Deltares is dedicating resources to performance improvements.

6. **Next CAT-II conference call:** Tuesday February 2, 2010.

Action Number/Item	Who	Notes
C2-03102009-01: Capture changes to BOC-II from this meeting; distribute updated version of BOC-II document	Rob Hartman	Closed (updated version emailed on 3/10/09 to cat_2 infolist)
C2-03102009-02: Distribute “matrix” from the OHD (“national”) Forcings Team, which describes CAT strategy/requirements for transition to CHPS in the absence of NWSRFS pre-processors	Harold Opitz	Closed (matrix emailed on 3/10/09 to cat_2 infolist)
C2-03102009-03: Each CAT-II RFC to prepare initial version of their entry for the Forcings “matrix”	CAT-II attendees	Closed (all responses received via email by 3/24/09)
C2-03102009-04: Get statement from Deltares whether FEWS has capability to identify sensitive/proprietary data that must be excluded from external reports (BOC requirement)	Harold Opitz	Closed (email sent by Chris on 3/24/09 to cat_2 infolist).
C2-03102009-05: Distribute notes from this meeting to the cat_2 infolist	Chris Dietz	Closed (emailed on 3/10/09 to cat_2 infolist)
C2-03172009-01: Distribute notes from this meeting to the cat_2 infolist	Chris Dietz	Closed (emailed on 3/20/09 to cat_2 infolist)
C2-03242009-01: distribute to all of the CAT-IIs instructions (also script?) originally developed by Joe Ostrowski for the purpose of identifying NWSRFS operations in active use	Chris Dietz	Closed (emailed on 3/25/09 to cat_2 infolist)
C2-03242009-02: review list of operations to make sure they’re accurate; please notify RobH if any critical operations are missing	All CAT-IIs	Closed (emails received)
C2-03242009-03: review list of operations in BOC-II doc to make sure it matches the original script output we gathered	Chris Dietz	Closed (emails received)
C2-03242009-04: update (correct, complete) the Software Migration Mapping document; distribute the updated version to the cat_2 infolist	Deltares/Edwin Welles	Closed. (available on the CHPS wiki under Documentation > Gap Analysis & Migration Mapping)

Action Number/Item	Who	Notes
C2-03242009-05: Compile and distribute to the CAT-II a matrix showing every RFC's response for AI # C2-03102009-03	OHD/TBD	Closed. Sent via email by Mark Glaudemans to cat_2 infolist on 3/27/2009
C2-03242009-06: Time series output from HL-RDHM must ingestible into CHPS; HSMB will define a format (e.g., SHEF) for said HL-RDHM output and change the HL-RDHM software accordingly	OHD/HSMB	Hold for post-BOC-II; HSMB has received the necessary details, but the requirement isn't needed until beyond February 2011.
C2-03242009-07: For agenda April 7 meeting: report from NERFC on their investigation into a replacement HWG process.	Rob Shedd	Closed. Presented as part of the 4/9/09 monthly briefing.
C2-040720090-01: Find out status of Baseflow implementation in OHD (incl MODs)	Chris Dietz	Closed. Now irrelevant, since no RFC uses BASEFLOW.
C2-040720090-02: Check to see if cat_2 infolist is working correctly. NCRFC reports not receiving some mailings.	Chris Dietz	Closed per email from Mike DeWeese on 4/22/09.
C2-041420090-01: Send out an email on preparing for CHPS prototype hardware IP addresses	Randy Rieman	Closed. Information distributed during Buddy visits.
C2-041420090-02: Send out documentation to cat_2 infolist on ER approach/procedures for RFC site backup	George McKillop	Closed by email to cat_2 infolist on 4/20/09.
C2-041420090-03: Send list of Techniques used to Chris (including esp)	CAT-II	Closed
C2-041420090-04: Let Chris know if you use IHABBS and if so, which version	CAT-II	Closed 4/29/09
C2-04212009-01: Forward to the cat_2 list documentation on DailyQC's algorithm to fill in missing station data.	Mark Glaudemans	Closed 7/30/09 via email
C2-04212009-02: Come up with an alternative mechanism to define Techniques that are in operational use at all RFCs; solicit results from all RFCs	Deltares/Edwin, Joe Ostrowski	Closed. Report provided at meeting on 4/21/09

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C2-04282009-01: Draft a list of Techniques and distribute to CAT-II	Deltares/Edwin	Closed. List created 5/13/09
C2-04282009-02: Review and provide feedback on list of Techniques from AI # C2-04282009-01	CAT-II	Open. List sent to CAT but did not send yet to CAT-II
C2-04282009-03: Determine a single XML format for describing rating tables for ingest into CHPS; send examples using the agreed format to Deltares/Edwin	Harold, Mike DeWeese	Closed/Canceled. 11/6/09: Deltares has determined they will ingest legacy NWSRFS format rather than define an interim XML format and then change when WaterML comes along.
C2-04282009-04: Distribute functional requirements document for USGS rating tables retrieval and processing.	Dave Reed	Closed. Forwarded to the cat_2 infolist on 4/28/09
C2-04282009-05: Come up with a proposal for ingesting NOHRSC SMWE data into CHPS to meet OHRFC's requirement	CAT	Open
C2-04282009-06: Add to the next CAT call agenda an item to discuss a national approach for alternative to IHABBS as a basin delineation and UHG development tool.	Chris	Open
C2-009222009-01: Compile and distribute to Deltares a list of CAT-II CHPS focal points gathered during the buddy visits.	Chris	Closed. Email sent to cat_2 infolist on 9/23/09.