

Notes from CAT-II Meeting Tuesday Mar 9, 2010

Attendees

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

CAT: NERFC (Rob Shedd).

Others: Chris Dietz, OHD HSEB; Edwin Welles, Deltares;

Document reference: none

Agenda:

1. Migration from NWSRFS to CHPS

- Training feedback
- Progress since training
- Plans for upcoming months

CBRFC – We are making some progress, becoming familiar with the process. We re-migrated some segments originally configured during class. We are exploring redefining segments based on what we now know. We will have 3 people dedicated to migration in the upcoming months. We want to get 1 small area (~20 segments) migrated in time for the Spring runoff.

OHRFC – We migrated 12 forecast groups (~50-60 segments); it has gone smoothly. As mistakes are made they are fixed and re-migrated. 8 or 9 forecast groups have already been uploaded into the live system. Grids are not yet flowing into the live system; just SHEF temperature and precip. We will have 3 people working on migration.

MARFC – The training and follow-on support visits were very helpful; the buddy support was “fabulous”. We have configured 3 segments in the SA successfully. We are focusing on streamlining the IDs so we have only 1 or 2 defined per segment, not 12. We will have 3 people working on the migration effort.

NCRFC – The training in Kansas City was good and the on-site support very effective. We will have 5 people dedicated to migration once the extras come up to speed. We are in flooding now for the next month or two, so it’s unlikely we’ll be able to keep anyone working on this. We migrated several segments during training and have all data feeds working, including grids.

WGRFC – The training was good; Peter and Micha clearly know a lot. There is a big learning curve. Our site support visit is tomorrow. This means we’ve had a week to work with the system – we have migrated 1 forecast group (~25 segments) in the SA system. We have not tried uploading to the live system yet. We took our gridded forcings to class; Peter might be able to work on them on the flight back from Alaska. We expect to have 2 people on migrations; 1 person on forcings.

LMRFC – Ditto about the training. We learned a lot – but there is a big learning curve. 4 forecast groups have been migrated and uploaded to the live system; 5-6 forecast groups have been migrated on the SA system. Approximately 50 segments total. The operational system is running; all forcings/grids are going into it – we did make a change today. We are waiting to see what flooding comes, but if conditions permit we plan to have 3 people doing migrations and 3 people on forcings.

SERFC – Ditto on the training. The site visit was very helpful with setting up the data flows on the live system. We have 2 people working on migration. We are checking the forecast groups, cherry-picking the easy/well-defined ones. We have 2 migrated forecast groups on the SA system. We are going to take a step back and re-defining the segments. The live system is up and running. The forcings are going in – grib1 MAPX from MPE, and grib1 FMAPs (GFE scripts are being used to create grib1 FMAPs from HPC QPF guidance). Ofsde output is going into the live system. MAPs are coming (SHEF). We are not using DQC yet. We are practicing uploading from the SA to the live system. We'll upload an extra 3 forecast groups today. We were pleasantly surprised that display of OCONUS was straightforward and everything plotted easily. [OCONUS: Alaska has no Hawaiian streams modeled, so they have no experience to report.]

MBRFC – Training was good, but we struggled at first. We were able to migrate 3 forecast groups (~25 segments), and have most forcings going into the live system (more to follow). Our strategy is to have 3 people work/learn together for a couple of weeks, then separate and work alone. We are at a standstill now due to some staff outages. We need to make some changes to our OFS. Plus we are now getting into flooding season. Since we don't want one person to get way ahead of the other 2, we probably won't get much chance to work on migration in the near future.

APRFC – We just finished training, software installation, and on-site support visit. The training was really good. We got most segments migrated – 14 forecast groups with ~8-10 segments per group; but we haven't combed through them yet to check. We have some homework ahead with naming conventions – we'll need to redefine some segments. On late Friday we uploaded configurations to the live system but we haven't had a chance to check them yet. Most of our forcings are working; we did see a problem with gridded temperatures being in Kevin. We plan to have 2 people full-time and 1 extra, with a total of 3 people working on migrating to CHPS.

RobS pointed out that this is going amazingly well. Compared to the CAT one year ago this is much better. The CAT has apparently accomplished its mission of relieving much of the pain for the CAT-II.

Action: none.

2. Next CAT-II conference call

Chris will target early April – one month from now. She will distribute information closer to the time.