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General Update Items:

RAINEX web site established. URL is: www.joss.ucar.edu/rainex

Please see the web site for project overview, details of past and upcoming meetings and their summaries, planning activities and operations plan.

RAINEX Project timeline is prepared and available on the web site. Please provide comments and updates to J. Moore/R. Houze.

EOL development tasks subject to adjustments in timing based on competing activities for the outfitting of the NCAR HIAPER aircraft.

Both AOC P-3 aircraft (N42 and N43) are available for hurricane work on 1 June 2005. The G-IV (N49RF) may not be ready until late June.

AOC will provide dual satellite communications and otherwise upgrade P-3s (e.g. on board LAN, etc) so they are identical for 2005 season.

NRL installation of dropsonde release system will be completed by the end of April. EOL staff to visit NRL next week to finalize plans.

Action Items:

Set-up meeting at AOC (Moore to coordinate) as early as possible among NOAA/AOC (McMillan et. al.), NCAR/RDP (Burghart/Daniels), RAINEX (Brodzik), NOAA/NESDIS (Chang) and JOSS (Meitin) to discuss technical details of LF radar processing, and transmission from the NOAA aircraft to the ground.

Brodzik needs to contact Paul Chang about current workstation configuration and data transmission to the ground.

NRL needs to contact AOC Commanding Officer to make formal request for support at McDill during RAINEX.

NOAA aircraft ground and airborne testing over the next several months will be coordinated with AOC (McFadden and McWilliams). N43 will generally be available into the summer for ground and airborne testing except during the hurricane preparedness City Tour (29 April-6 May). N42 will be used on a field project from 15 March-8 April. Testing during other times will be possible.

AOC (McFadden) to request NRL aircraft be added to the National Hurricane Operations Plan. This will be done at the Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference (IHC) in March.

Access to AOC on McDill AFB requires advanced notification and application through AOC. This should be done at least one month prior to arrival. A master list of all RAINEX participants to be at McDill AFB needs to be prepared over the next several months. This will be coordinated by JOSS with AOC.

Purchase of dropsondes for RAINEX needs to be started quite soon. Hock to contact USAF regarding inventory of "old" sondes that might be accessed by RAINEX. Purchase of "new" sondes to await status of availability of old sondes. Purchase of new sondes may be subject to certain availability constraints at the manufacturer.

NCAR/RAF will install airborne data system on NRL P-3 during July ELDORA installation period at Jeffco

Chen and Meitin to follow-up on requirements for real time operational data needed to support in-field modeling efforts at RSMAS.

Operations Plan preparation will get started with Houze and Moore coordinating the effort. See outline on the web site.