

Fifth WMO Workshop on the Impact of Various Observing Systems on NWP Sedona, Arizona, May 22-25, 2012

Second Circular

1. General Information

The Fifth WMO Workshop on the Impact of Various Observing Systems on Numerical Weather Prediction will be hosted by the Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation at the Sedona Rouge Hotel in Sedona, AZ, from 22 to 25 May 2012. The meeting is organized for the WMO Commission for Basic Systems by the Expert Team on the Evolution of the Global Observing System and is sponsored by NASA, the NOAA/NESDIS GOES-R Program Office, and the THORPEX program.

The previous four workshops in this series took place in Geneva (April 1997), Toulouse (March 2000), Alpbach (March 2004) and Geneva (May 2008). Results from Observing System Experiments (OSEs), both with global and regional aspects were presented and conclusions were drawn concerning the contributions of the various components of the observing system to the large scale forecast skill at short and medium range (Workshop Proceedings were published as WMO World Weather Watch Technical Reports TD No. 868, 1034, 1228 and 1450).

Since the last Workshop was held in 2012, some significant changes and developments have affected the global observing system and more efforts have been devoted to meso-scale observing and assimilation systems. There has also been a trend toward using techniques other than OSEs to document data impact, such as adjoint-based sensitivity to observations or ensemble-based sensitivity. Field experiments have been carried out, in particular through the THORPEX project, and the use of targeted data has been assessed. At the Fifth workshop, the results will be reviewed in plenary discussion sessions and a consensus view will be formed. Conclusions to help guide the design of an optimized Global Observing System for NWP will be drawn. A Scientific Program for the Workshop is included in this Circular.

Participation in the Workshop is by invitation only, and at this point in time, the scientific program is full and no additional contributions will be accepted. Individuals interested in participating in the discussion are invited to contact the Chair of the Scientific Organizing Committee.

The workshop will be conducted in English. As for the first four workshops it is planned to produce a workshop report to be published as a WMO Technical Report.

Additional and updated information about the meeting is posted on:

<http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/OSY/Meetings/Wshop-Impact-NWP-5/index.html>

2. Venue, Accommodation, Registration and Transportation

The Workshop will be held at the Sedona Rouge Hotel in Sedona, Arizona. Participants are responsible for their own reservations at the Sedona Rouge. The meeting organizers have reserved a block of rooms at the US government rate of USD 129 per room per night (taxes excluded). Reservations should be made with the hotel directly, using the following toll free number: +1 866-312-4111, and participants should identify themselves as being part of the “Fifth WMO Workshop” group in order to get this preferential rate. Reservations should be made no later than **April 15, 2012**. Rooms may still be available after this date, but availability cannot be guaranteed, and the preferential rate will no longer be valid.

Note that the preferential rate is valid for the dates (nights) of May 20 through May 24 only. Participants who may wish to arrive early and/or stay longer at the venue will be offered rooms at a rate of USD 206 per night for the weekends prior to and following the workshop.

The closest major airport is Phoenix Sky Harbor (PHX) in Phoenix, Arizona, roughly two hours away by car. The organizers plan to arrange shuttle transportation from PHX to the meeting venue in the afternoon and evening of Monday, May 21 (the day before the start of the meeting), and from the venue back down to PHX immediately following the close of the meeting on Friday, May 25.

Participation in the Workshop is free of charge. However, registration is required. This serves the dual purpose of confirming your attendance and helping the organizers schedule the departure times of the shuttle transport on May 21. Participants are requested to register at the following web address as soon as possible, and **no later than April 15, 2012**:

http://www.jcsda.noaa.gov/meetings_2012WMOWkshp.php

3. Organization

Scientific Organizing Committee:

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Carla Cardinali, ECMWF

John Eyre, Met Office, UK

Ron Gelaro, NOAA/GMAO, USA

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Local Organizing Committee:

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