

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

Prepared by: USA

**Fifth WMO Workshop on the Impact of Various Observing
Systems on NWP**

Date: 15.12.2011

Sedona, Arizona (USA), 22-25 May, 2012

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**INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS
ON MATERIAL ARRANGEMENTS**



Cathedral Rock, Sedona – Copyright: Tomas Castelazo

Opening of the Session

The *Fifth WMO Workshop on the Impact of Various Observing Systems on NWP* is hosted by the Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation and will be held at the Sedona Rouge Hotel (website: <http://www.sedonarouge.com>, tel. +1 928-203-4111, or +1 866-312-4111), in Sedona, Arizona, on May 22-25 2012. The Workshop will be conducted in English. The Workshop will open at 09:30 AM on Tuesday May 22 2012, and it will finish at 12:30 PM on Friday May 25.

Hotel Accommodation

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.

Registration of participants

All participants will be automatically registered upon check-in at the Workshop hotel. Participants will receive identification badges by the Workshop staff stationed outside the meeting room immediately prior to the opening of the meeting.

Workshop website, contact information

Updated information about the Workshop can be found on the following WMO website:
<http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/OSY/Meetings/Wshop-Impact-NWP-5/index.html>

Requests for information should be directed at the Local Organizing Committee:

Dr. James G. Yoe
JCSDA
5200 Auth Rd
Camp Springs, MD 20746, USA
Email: james.g.yoe@noaa.gov
Tel.: +1 301 763 8000, ext 7121

Internet facilities

Free wireless internet connection will be available throughout the hotel.

Entry formalities

Entry of foreign nationals into the United States is subject to US immigration and customs rules and procedures. All participants should possess a valid passport. Foreign nationals who need an entry visa are requested to apply for it from the nearest US Embassy. More details about visa requirements for various nationalities and required travel documents can be found on the following US State Department website: http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/temp_1305.html.

Transportation

The nearest major airport is Sky Harbor in Phoenix, Arizona, about two hours from the Workshop venue. Several major airlines have direct flights to Phoenix from a variety of domestic airports. The only non-stop international flights to Phoenix from outside North America depart from London Heathrow. International travelers originating elsewhere will have to transfer to a connecting flight inside the United States. Major international US airports that are well connected to Phoenix include Charlotte, Philadelphia and Washington Dulles for those coming from Europe and Africa, and Los

Angeles or San Francisco for those coming from the Asia/Pacific region or South America. The small local airport in Sedona is used for general aviation only and has no scheduled airline flights.

The organizers will provide for ground transportation from Phoenix Sky Harbor to the Workshop hotel in the afternoon/evening on Monday May 21, and from the hotel back to Sky Harbor on Friday May 25 immediately after the closing of the Workshop. More details about exact pick-up and drop-off times will be made available on the WMO website about one month prior to the meeting.

Financial services

The official currency of the United States is the US Dollar (USD). Major credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express) are accepted nearly everywhere. Banks and ATM can be found at the following locations near the conference venue:

Wells Fargo Bank – 2201 West State Route 89A (across the street from the hotel)

Bank of America – 1771 West State Route 89A (within 1 mile of the hotel)

Chase Bank – 1300 West State Route 89A (within 2 miles of the hotel)

ATM at Safeway (grocery store across the street from the hotel)

Currency exchange can be found at all major ports of entry into the United States and at Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport (Terminal

Things to see and do

The city of Sedona is located at an altitude of about 4500 ft (1350 m) in the Sonoran Desert of Northern Arizona. The setting is dominated by the so-called Red Rocks of Sedona that offer both visual appeal and numerous hiking possibilities. The spectacular scenery combined with the generally sunny climate has made Sedona a preferred location for filmmakers, with more than 60 Hollywood movies filmed either totally or partly in the immediate surroundings. In addition to hiking, the backcountry can also be explored on mountain bike, horseback, by air or by jeep. The Grand Canyon is 110 miles north, and the former ghost town of Jerome is nearby as well. Walnut Canyon, Meteor and Sunset Craters, Lowell Observatory and Montezuma's Castle and Well are all just a short drive away.

Weather, local time

Like much of Arizona, Sedona has a desert climate that characterized by considerable day-night temperature differences. Summers are quite hot, but due to the altitude the weather should not be excessively hot in May. The mean maximum temperature is 28 C (82 F) while the mean minimum temperature is only 9 C (49 F). Total mean precipitation for the month is 18 mm.

Sedona is in the Mountain Time Zone (GMT/UTC – 7h). Note that most of Arizona, including Sedona, remains on Mountain Standard Time (MST) throughout the year and does not switch to Daylight Saving Time during the summer months.

Electricity

Electric current in United States is 110V, 60Hz. A flat two-pin plug system is used. Most laptop power supplies will work on either 110V/60 Hz or 220V/50 Hz, so no transformer is necessary. However, a plug adaptor (commonly sold at major airports) will be required.

In case of emergency

In the event of an emergency requiring e.g. police or ambulance call 911.

NOTE: If you have any special **food requirements** (e.g., allergies, vegetarian etc.), please add those to the hotel registration form.

Scientific Organizing Committee:

- Erik Andersson, ECMWF (Chair)
- Carla Cardinali, ECMWF
- John Eyre, Met Office
- Ron Gelaro, NASA/GSFC
- Florence Rabier, Meteo-France
- Lars Peter Riishojgaard, JCSDA
- Yoshiaki Sato, JMA

Local Organizing Committee:

- Lars Peter Riishojgaard, JCSDA (Chair)
- Sid Boukabara NESDIS/STAR
- Ken Carey, Noblis
- Ron Gelaro, NASA/GSFC
- Jim Yoe, NCEP

Local area map:

