



PACIFIC REGION TECHNICAL NOTES

82-026
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Annual Review (1982) of the Pacific Region Technical Notes

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INTRODUCTION

This note is presented as the last technical note of the year and as the 1982 annual review of the Pacific Region Technical Notes (PRTN). Not only is this a review by the editors, but also a review by the eleven Pacific Region operational weather offices who are participants in these communicatory notes.

Each year this review is conducted to summarize the years' Technical Note publications and to assess their worth. Based on the notes' value to operational forecasting, a decision is made whether they should be continued or discontinued for the coming year.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

During the past year 26 technical notes were published (see Appendix A). In terms of quantity, this compares with 51 in 1978, 40 in 1979, 47 in 1980, and 34 in 1981. The reduced number of notes during this year is partly attributable to the fact that the PWC meteorologists were heavily engaged in marketing activities such as familiarization/consultation/training trips, meetings, and visits.

The range of subjects covered by the notes fell into two main categories. These are satellite interpretation and verification/evaluation which reflect the priorities of the PWC for meteorological satellite development and self appraisal. Surprisingly, in contrast to past years, more notes were written on subjects related to verification/evaluation than meteorological satellite development. This reflects PWC's increased involvement in marketing activities.

Of the 26 notes published, 21 were authored by PWC, 2 by WO4's, 2 by Scientific Services, and 1 by Data Acquisition staff members. The participation shown by these figures is an improvement over last year and a return to the previous participatory level. These results are very encouraging to the editors of these notes.

Each year the size of the distribution list for the Pacific Region Technical Notes has increased. At the conception of the notes in 1978, they were only distributed within the AES Pacific Region. The distribution at present extends outside the AES and to our colleagues in the U.S. National Weather Service Western Region (see Appendix B).

RESPONSE TO QUESTIONNAIRE

In 1978, a commitment was made to the Pacific Region weather offices that the PRTN would be assessed annually. In order to review the PRTN and assess its performance, each year an identical questionnaire has been sent to the 11 Pacific Region weather offices. The offices able to respond by the time of this writing were:

Vancouver, Victoria, Castelgar, Kamloops, Fort St. John, Fort Nelson, Penticton, Kelowna, Terrace, Prince George.

A summary of the responses from the questionnaire is given in Appendix C.

EDITOR'S SUMMATION

As stipulated in the first technical note 78-001, the purpose of these notes is to provide a medium for timely dissemination of technical operational information pertinent to the members of the Pacific Region. It is this criteria which each annual review considers in order to determine whether the recommendation for continuance or termination be made to the office of the Regional Director.

Based on the editor's review and the results of the questionnaire, it will be recommended that the notes be continued through 1983.

The "turn around time" for publishing the notes has deteriorated over the past year due to an attempt to make the notes more "letter perfect" because of their outside Pacific Region distribution. Keeping notes timely and properly edited has become a problem because the entire Pacific Region AES during 1982 had only one word processing terminal.

Comments made on the questionnaire suggest that the technical notes are becoming too theoretical. This dangerous slide towards esotericism can best be countered by encouraging increased participation by regional weather offices.

APPENDIX A

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Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-002 February 25, 1982
RECORD RAINFALLS AT AND NEAR VANCOUVER
Jacques Albert, Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-003 April 1, 1982
HOVMOLLER DIAGRAM RE-EXAMINED AT THE PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE
David Grimes, Supervising Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-004 May 10, 1982
MINIMUM TEMPERATURE FORECAST FOR THE OKANAGAN FOR FEBRUARY 8,
1982
Pat Morin, Supervising Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-005 June 1, 1982
FOURIER ANALYSIS FOR HOVMOLLER PROGRAM AT PWC
David Grimes, Supervising Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-006 June 8, 1982
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Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-007 July 5, 1982
THE SOUTHWESTERN COASTAL SNOWFALL VERIFICATION 1981/82
Vello Puss, Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-008 July 6, 1982
ROGERS PASS SNOWFALL VERIFICATION
Vello Puss, Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-009 August 11, 1982
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Ian Okabe
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- 82-010 August 12, 1982
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Kamloops Weather Office
- 82-011 August 13, 1982
AN INITIAL EVALUATION FOR A LATENT INSTABILITY INDEX
Peter Jackson
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-012 August 18, 1982
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OVERVIEW
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Scientific Services, Pacific Regional Office, Vancouver
Mert Horita, Senior Development Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
Tom Gigliotti, Project Meteorologist
Pacific Regional Office, Vancouver
- 82-013 August 20, 1982
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PROBABILITY OF PRECIPITATION FORECASTS
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Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-014 September 1, 1982
SATELLITE IMAGERY AND LIGHTNING LOCATION - A CASE STUDY
Peter Jackson
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-015 September 16, 1982
A PWC EVALUATION OF THE AEROLOGICAL SHIPBOARD AUTOMATED PROGRAM
Mert Horita, Senior Development Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-016 September 20, 1982
SUPPLEMENTARY DATA FROM LIGHTSTATIONS FOR THE WEST COAST
AVIATION OBSERVING NETWORK
Norm Dressler, A/Regional Chief, Data Acquisition
Jack Buchanan, Inspector
Pacific Regional Office, Vancouver
- 82-017 September 21, 1982
CATALOGUE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITES
Mert Horita, Senior Development Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-018 September 29, 1982
THUNDERSTORM STATISTICS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA
Bob Beal, Meteorologist, Scientific Services
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- 82-019 October 12, 1982
OPERATIONAL USE OF SYNTHETIC SOUNDINGS DERIVED FROM TOVS DATA
Larry Funk, Satellite Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-020 October 12, 1982
OKANAGAN LAKE WIND PROJECT
Alan Nourse, Kelowna
Kelowna Weather Office, Kelowna
- 82-021 October 18, 1982
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David Grimes, Supervising Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-022 November 18, 1982
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Harvey Raynor, Forestry Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-023 November 18, 1982
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Michel Roch, Meteorologist
Pascal Blanchet, Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-024 November 18, 1982
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Jacques Albert, Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-025 December 3, 1982
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Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver
- 82-026 December 31, 1982
ANNUAL REVIEW (1982) OF THE PACIFIC REGION TECHNICAL NOTES
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APPENDIX B

PACIFIC REGION TECHNICAL NOTES

DISTRIBUTION

Pacific Region Weather Offices

Vancouver WO4, Victoria WO3, Castlegar WO4, Kamloops WO4, Kelowna WO4, Penticton WO4, Port Hardy WO4, Prince George WO4, Terrace WO4, Fort St. John, Fort Nelson.

AES outside B.C.

WAED, CAED, OAED, QAED, MAED, AFSD, AFFC, ACTD, AFPD, ARMD, ARMA, ACEQ, Gander WO, RPN, CMC, Whitehorse WO.

Department of National Defense

CFB Comox, Maritime Forces Pacific, NORAD, CFB Edmonton, CFB Trenton, CFB Greenwood, Maritime Command Atlantic, National Defence H.Q. Ottawa.

Others

NWS Western Region - Salt Lake City, NWS - Seattle, B.C. Ministry of the Environment Resource Analysis Branch, B.C. Climatology Unit Air Studies Branch, Pacific Forest Research Centre, Regional Information Directorate, Department of Geography - University of Washington.

APPENDIX C

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO QUESTIONNAIRE

(for comparison, 1978, 1979, 1980, & 1981 responses are also shown)

DISTRIBUTION OF REPLIES

	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
1. Which of the following should be done?					
- Discontinue notes	0	0	0	0	0
- Make changes to make it worthwhile	0	0	0	0	0
- Leave as is	5	9	6	6	8
- Make changes to make it better	6	0	1	2	2
- No answer	1	0	0	0	0
2. How many of the notes are read?					
- All	8	7	5	5	6
- Most of them	3	2	2	3	4
- Some	1	0	0	0	0
- None	0	0	0	0	0
3. Are you saving the notes?					
- All	12	9	6	8	8
- Most of them	0	0	0	0	2
- Some	0	0	1	0	0
- None	0	0	0	0	0
4. Will members of your office be contributing articles in the coming 12 months?					
- Yes	4	3	2	1	2
- No	0	1	0	0	0
- Maybe	8	5	5	7	8
5. In general is the quality of xeroxed satellite pictures sufficient to understand the articles?					
- Yes	1	3	1	1	1
- Most of the time	9	4	5	5	8
- Seldom	2	2	1	2	1
- No	0	0	0	0	0

Questions 6 and 7 were more subjective in nature. Replies are repeated below or condensed. (Comments from 1982.)

6. What change would you like to see in the notes?

- no changes to suggest at present.
- more input by presentation staff.
- no comment.
- they seem fine at present.
- no comment.
- no comment.
- keys simple as possible, reduce theoretical formulae.
- request WO's and WS's to send articles of interest.
- importance of proofreading before distribution, nothing more infuriating than reading a paper that doesn't make sense.

7. Your general comments about the Technical Notes:

- we read all, find them interesting and occasionally pick out some information that is useful in our operation.
- very good.
- several were too technical, some seem to be research papers, and no practical use can be found for them, that is, if they are understood at all.
- Technical Notes are valuable from a scientific point of view but seem lacking from a Weather Services standpoint, like to see further input from field offices regarding special local conditions and weather service activities.
- some Technical Notes are hard to understand as they lean more to the theoretical rather than operational part of the study.
- no comment.
- they are good, keep them current, while events discussed are fresh in our minds.
- most interesting, informative, and good reference material.
- well worthwhile.