

Question 3

How would each NCEP center support WFO's contributions to the digital forecast process?

Recommendation:

Focus at the WFO should be on the mesoscale. Therefore, it would be advantageous for NCEP/HPC to provide a best first guess guidance of MSLP and QPF. From this, the local WFOs could add the mesoscale detail. And in the case of QPF, the RFCs could add regional detail then down to the WFO. In addition to a deterministic QPF and central pressure, NCEP could provide a probabilistic QPF and other central pressures. These fields should be re-assessed every 12 hours, possibly 6, to generate new SWEs.

Reason:

This would get us to a starting point faster if we had some synoptic guidance to start from.

Concern:

Need additional staffing at HPC to accomplish better expertise in regions west of the front range.