

WORKSHOP 10: WEATHER AND SOCIETY INTEGRATED STUDIES WORKSHOP (WAS*IS NZ)

Date: 31 July 2008

Time: 1.30pm – 4.30pm

Venue: Te Papa, Wellington

Workshop coordinator: Julia Becker

Weather and Society * Integrated Studies (WAS*IS) is a grassroots movement developed in the USA to effect change within the weather enterprise by fully integrating social science into meteorological research and practice in a comprehensive and sustained way. The WAS*IS mission is to empower practitioners, researchers, and stakeholders to forge new relationships and to use new tools and concepts for more effective socio-economic applications and evaluations of weather information and products. WAS*IS is doing this by:



- Building an interdisciplinary community of practitioners, researchers, and stakeholders who are dedicated to the integration of meteorology and social science;
- Teaching basic tools and social science concepts fundamental for integrated research;
- Using real-world examples to learn about effective integrated research and applications;
- Acknowledging and addressing typical roadblocks and challenges of interdisciplinary work, especially those relevant to integrating social science into weather research and applications;
- Identifying and pursuing research, application, and educational opportunities for integrated weather and social science work; and
- Improving and further facilitating the ongoing relationships among practitioners, researchers, and stakeholders in meteorology and the social sciences.

The WAS*IS NZ workshop will explore these ideas in a New Zealand context and look at ways to connect to the international effort. For more information on the work shop contact Julia Becker (j.becker@gns.cri.nz). To learn more about WAS*IS internationally visit <http://www.sip.ucar.edu/wasis/>

Workshop Overview (20 minutes)

Eve Gruntfest, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, USA

- Vision, mission, goals, activities to date, activities for the future, examples of integrated weather studies

Integrated Studies – Examples (20 minutes each)

Erick Brenstrum, Metservice, New Zealand

The Cyclone of 1936: New Zealand's Most Destructive Storm?

Michael Uddstrom, Principal Scientist, Meteorology and Remote Sensing, NIWA, New Zealand

Improving Societal Outcomes through Improved Forecasting Methods: The EcoConnect System.

Julia Becker, GNS Science, New Zealand

Improving preparedness for and response to flooding: Examples from New Zealand and Australia

Warren Gray, MfE

Motivating Action

Discussion – Led by Julia Becker (1 hour)

What WAS*IS activities could we start?

How could we make such activities happen?

Should we have a full WAS*IS workshop in New Zealand?

What topics/issues would people like to discuss in a WAS*IS workshop?

What is weather and society integration like in NZ currently?

How can we improve or add to that?

How can we connect with international activities?