Climate Test Bed (CTB) Update

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ABSTRACT

The mission of the NCEP Climate Test Bed (CTB) is to accelerate the transition of research advances into improved NOAA/NCEP operational climate forecasts, products and applications on intra-seasonal to inter-annual time scales. CTB is a shared responsibility between Climate Program Office (CPO) and NCEP. The CTB science priorities are driven by the NCEP operational requirements and the readiness of the science developed by the research communities. CTB testing projects are jointly managed by with NCEP (CTB, CPC and EMC) management and CPO/MAPP management. NCEP provides CTB priorities and reviews the relevance of proposed projects to NCEP operations. CPO/MAPP manages the grants proposal review and decision processes. CTB Director provides overall management for the CTB demonstration projects, post-project review and operational deployment in coordination with CPO management and NCEP management. The CTB most significant accomplishments in FY14 include successful completion of the NMME demonstration project, and implementation of a cloud-boundary scheme in operational GFS. The top CTB priorities in FY15 include 1) operationalizing NMME seasonal forecast system, 2) developing the NMME sub-seasonal forecast system and related weeks 3-4 forecast products, and 3) improving the next generation of NCEP Climate Forecast System (CFS).