ONR TCI conference call notes 3/31/15:

Participants:

Jim Doyle, Jon Moskaitis, Eric Hendricks, Rob Rodgers, Michael Bell, John Molanari, Natalie Laudier, Jason Dunion, Pat Harr, Dan Cecil, Joel Feldmeier, Pete Black, Greg Tripoli, Chris Velden, Steve and Greg from EOL, Sharan Majumdar (and some we likely missed).

Logistics and Miscellaneous

April 14-15 TCI meeting at NRL Monterey

- Be sure to arrive at 8am on first day for badging
- Need to get visit request in ASAP if not done already
- Meeting may continue into evening on Apr 14 if necessary. There is a lot to get done
- Will have teleconference capability through EOL (need to make estimate of # of callers)

Upcoming phone meetings

- Aircraft & instrument call on 4/7 (and then on 4/21)
- Overall project call on 4/28

LCDR Natalie Laudier is on active duty through September, will be helping with TCI and particularly putting together ops plan.

S. Majumdar has contacted ECMWF about getting forecasts; waiting for response.

Deployment issues

WestPac deployment is very unlikely

EastPac deployment: Major hurdle is thought to be overflying Mexico. Head pilot is looking into it. WB-57 can deploy to El Paso. Rob Rodgers says operationally-tasked missions can fly out of La Paz (can check with AOC), so NOAA could potential fly with us in EastPac. Most likely scenario for us in the EastPac would be a late-season storm if Atlantic TC activity has not been satisfactory.

P. Black suggests we should pre-stage some of the items necessary for deployment at one of the forward bases, such as MacDill. Then it would be easier to deploy when the time comes.

WB-57 928 is planned to be the aircraft we will use this year from the test flight forward into the field program.

How fast can plane be turned around? P. Black reports 18 h turnaround is likely the best that can be done, similar to experience in Gonzalo. Worked closely with Rocky last year, but there will be new people to work with this year.

Timeline

Test flight: Hard to pin a date now, depends on HDSS availability, completion of ops plan, etc. Hopefully mid-to-late May.

In mid-July, we should be prepared to start the field campaign flights. Initial objective is to have a full shake-down flight ... involving everything from planning, to flight execution, to instruments. Would go to TC in Gulf if available, otherwise whatever weather feature is there. A dry run involving flight planning can lead up to the shakedown flight. If there are no TCs, the dry run can utilize HUREX artificial storm scenario.

Operations center in Monterey from mid-July to late August, but program is primarily virtual. From late August (perhaps Aug 23 when SHOUT gets set up, SHOUT science flights can start Aug 25) to end of September, TCI ops center co-located in Wallops with SHOUT. If there are flight hours left after September, can keep going with ops center in Monterey and primarily virtual program for October.

Steve and Greg: Field catalog would be available in early July if all goes well.

SHOUT update

Half day workshop at end of HS3 meeting on morning of Thursday, May 7. TCI folks can attend.

Dry run Aug 10-19.

Very unlikely option: Give up on Atlantic, take one week to get set up at Armstrong in California and fly the EastPac.

Extended ops possibility: Could go to Oct 14 if there is an Atlantic storm ongoing at the end of September or something really promising in the models.

J. Dunion is putting together a mission scientist schedule for SHOUT. TCI scientists can help supplement the SHOUT scientists. 2 or 3 scientists are needed per shift for the Global Hawk, for three consecutive shifts.

TCI can share model forecast and sensitivity products with SHOUT, using MTS like for HS3.

IFEX update

Starts early as June 1, but August is when things tend to ramp up in terms of doing science flights. Looking at deploying out of San Diego or La Paz in case of EastPac action.

Flight modules and flight planning

P. Black and J. Dunion are working on some strawman modules for presentation at April meeting, and also are planning to go through Bertha in day-to-day detail at the meeting to simulate how we would operate our planning and flight activities during the field program. Jon M. working on selecting variety of TC scenarios for discussion at the meeting.

B. Creasey is making good progress with the flight planning tool.