NUCAPS in Forecast Operations in Alaska

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MIS 33
VT: 12 / 0500 UTC
TEMPS -65C OR LESS
ABV FL350
MOV E 15KT. NC.

UHPP SIGMET 10 & 11
SEV TURB FCST SFC-FL200
SEV ICE FCST SFC-160
Temperature rise of 15F in bottom 174ft of the atmosphere
Ceiling 300ft. Visibility 2 miles... but variable between 1 1/4 mile and 4 miles.
NUCAPS and Wildfires in Alaska: Challenges

• Tame wildfire seasons in 2016 and 2017
• Wildfire behavior dependent on more than just weather
  • Firstly, something has to be on fire
  • Topography
  • Fuels
  • Firefighting Efforts
• Swing for the fences: A variant of the “Haines Index” that works well for Alaska