

New York-Sponsored Winter Weather Projects

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In most winters, New York (NY) is home to a wide variety of winter weather hazards ranging from extreme cold, big lake effect snows, nor'easters, freezing rainstorms, and everything in between. This presentation will provide a survey of several ongoing winter-themed projects, largely funded by NY. Erie County is the home to Buffalo, NY, which has been impacted recently by several significant lake effect snowstorms. Their county government has sponsored a project at UAlbany to create better winter storm analysis tools for their county. We've leveraged the Winter Storm Severity Index as a basis for this tool, which will be discussed in this presentation. NY is also home to the world-class NYS Mesonet, which is a sophisticated weather observing system. The recent impactful winter storm of mid-February 2025 will be used to highlight some of this observing potential. Finally, the state of NY has funded the creation of the NY State Weather Risk Communication Center, which is located at UAlbany and which is designed to be an aid to state and local emergency management, state weather researchers, and any weather-themed task conducted by the state. This presentation will give an overview of this new Center, in the context of winter weather.