

Tutorials/Training

- readme is too long
- Need specific tutorials – sys admin, new user, how to use variational code, more detail on new features in this release
- NWS will make LAPS training available to user community.
- Review format of LAPS forum. Are more categories needed?
- Insure LAPS forum is archived. Email questions need to go into the forum and/or FAQ. Insure forum can be searched.
- Need technical writing help to produced good tutorials -- Katy Human / Annie Riesier/ J. Osborn/ W VonD.

Applications/New features

- User wants to be able to compare LAPS output with that from other NWP.
- Need to add a land surface package
- Need BC adjustment to be automatic. Or at least document the procedure.
- Need converters for all types of satellites in the sky to be in the repository. Can those already written by the user community be brought back to ESRL?
- Will AWIPSII be available to users outside of NWS?
- New observational data sources

Verification/automated testing

- Make verification package more sophisticated to that can be used to performs 'ongoing, regression' testing

Upgrade and life cycle

- Users do not have lots of time to upgrade. Upgrades need to be as easy as possible. Maybe an install/upgrade/test wizard would make sense.
- Regression testing – now ad-hoc. Some level of automated testing would be good. It can expose bugs that were accidentally injected and it may expose long-lived, hard to find bugs.
- Consider 3rd party to do regression testing – maybe through DTC
- How does one migrate to vlaps without clobbering what clobbering what they have? Need to know what to watch, what are the pitfalls.
- Major releases should carry a version number. Maybe LAPS.year.month (ex LAPS.2012.10)
- AWIPSII – Need to insure we are coordinated with NWS for release cycles

User Community and Comms

- Direct contact by new user to LAPS developers seems to be a good way to get started. But when this happens how does this information get captured for the next user. Maybe incorporate into tutorials.
- Need LAPS champions in NWS – need to identify current users who are willing to be one
- Need a LAPS ‘PR brochure
- Consider outreach to ‘charter schools’ – seek students with interest in Meteorology
- Consider collaboration with UNIDATA for LAPS distribution.