

Regularly monitor 100+ webcams over southern Indiana and central Kentucky via the Hunter/Gatherer program □ **Program cycles through webcams as part of our Situational Awareness Display (pictured above)** 







- A map display with webcams
- □ **To see weather transition zones** □ Able to locate regions where warning decisions are required

## Greatest Needs

- More webcams, especially in rural locations
  - □ **Becoming more affordable** □ Already fill in gaps well
  - Provide reports 24/7!
- More NWS offices using the Hunter/ Gatherer program
  - www.wdtd.noaa.gov/tools



## **Using Webcam Imagery in Operations for** the Surprise Snowstorm of 3 March 2016 **Ryan J. Sharp**



A wet system was forecast to move through southern Indiana and central Kentucky on 3 March 2016 □ Shortwave pushed across the Midwest as a jet streak (wind speed, filled contours on right image) rounded the base of this trough, with plenty of divergence aloft (pink lines) ahead of it □ NWS had forecast a mix of rain/snow with very little accumulation Most models had surface temperatures warming into the 40s > The WRF-NMM high-resolution model had more snow than other models □ Dynamic cooling dropped model surface temperatures into the 30s □ This model still held off on rain changing to snow until late afternoon The Bluegrass region in our forecast area (between Lexington and **Cincinnati) ended up with a quick 1-4" of snow** 



NKYT

t. Joseph's

Webcam images over time for various sites. Arrows point to the location of the given site on the radar images above, which is MRMS -10C reflectivity data. \*\* Represents time offices decided a Winter Weather Advisory was required

**National Weather Service (NWS), Louisville, KY** 



**Background radar image above is Multi-Radar Multi-**Sensor (MRMS) -10°C reflectivity, used instead of a radar mosaic for its ability to filter out the bright band and focus on areas of better ice crystal growth > Temperatures/dewpoints indicate some surface cooling possible > Banded precipitation forming along the I-64 corridor south and east of Lexington Webcams indicate a mix of rain and snow > Heavier snow falling on the south side of Lexington