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Clouds First Report
MCEN 4151 - Flow Visualization
5/6/18

Alto cumulus Standing Lenticularis

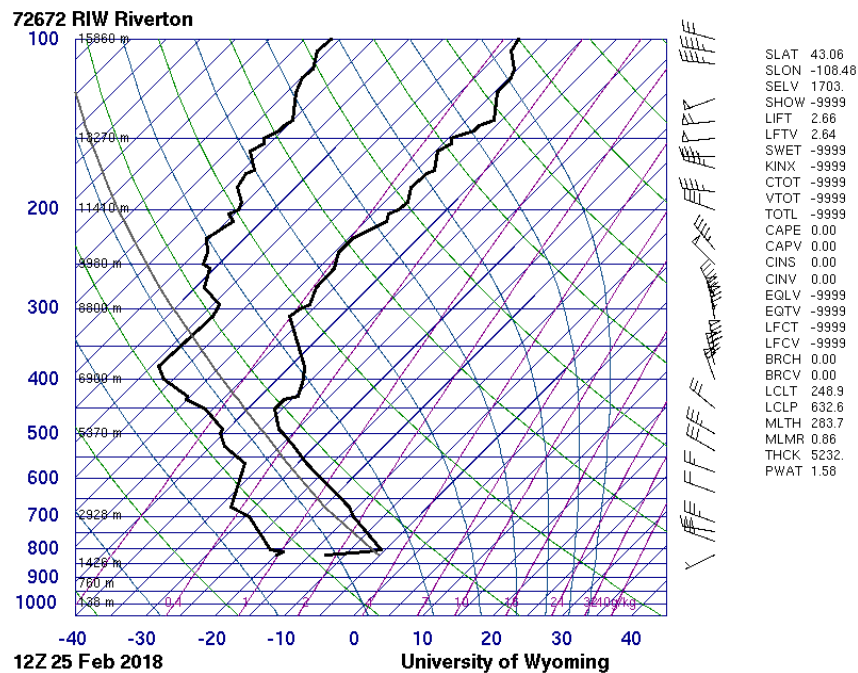


This image is an alto cumulus standing lenticularis over the flatirons in Boulder. I took this image because I liked the color of the cloud and the interesting way it formed. It was the only cloud in the sky but it was a large formation directly over the mountain range. I also liked my choice of color enhancements to improve the blue of the sky and white of the cloud.

This image was taken from my third floor balcony near Baseline Road in Boulder, Colorado. The time was approximately 12:45pm on February 25, 2018. The cloud is above Green Mountain and stretched for several miles in each direction. My camera is pointed West-Southwest and aimed directly at the cloud.

The cloud in this image is a lenticular/ mountain wave cloud. These clouds can only form when the atmosphere is stable. From the atmospheric information below (observed from Denver, CO on the same day) we can see that the cape was 0.00 which correlates to a steady atmosphere. This, along with the look and height of the cloud further confirms that it was in fact a lenticular cloud that was captured. There were no fronts coming in, however one had just left which is apparent from the snow on the ground at the bottom of the image. The snow had been there for around 2-3 days before the date of this image. It was also calm during the time this image was

taken, there was almost no wind at all. This is the Skew-T plot showing the atmospheric conditions around the time of the image.



This image was taken with a Pentax K100 and a standard 18-55mm lens. The field of view in this image is approximately 2 miles across. The cloud was approximately 1.5 miles away. The only editing done on this image was a slight increase of the saturation and vibrancy to bring out the blue of the sky and the range of whites and darks in the cloud and mountain.

What I like most about this image is its contrast. I like the choice of foreground that frames the cloud and mountain together. I think that it creates a nice balance within the image itself. I think this image could be improved if I could get to a higher location above the trees and buildings so I could choose to include them or not. I could also get a better lens to zoom a bit more and focus on the cloud.