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

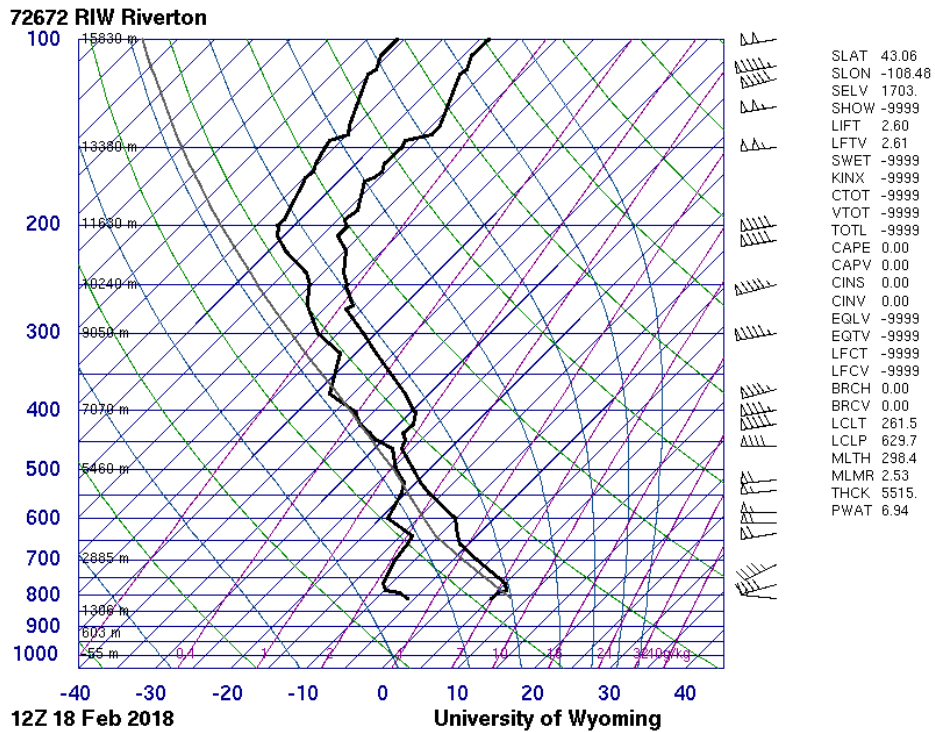
Cirrus Clouds over Curt Gowdy State Park



This image is cirrus cloud formation over Curt Gowdy State Park in Wyoming. I took this image because I liked the shape of the cloud and the interesting way it formed. It was not a very cloudy day but there were several interesting formations including this one. I like the framing and the way this cloud seems to reach out above me.

This image was taken from a small hill while on a hike in the park. The time was about 2:00pm on February 18, 2018. The cloud is approximately in the direction of I25 and stretched for several miles in each direction. My camera is pointed east and aimed directly at the cloud. I was on a small mountain after a hike when I took the photo, so I was facing east as I finished my hike.

The cloud in this image is a high altitude cirrus cloud. These clouds typically 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 cirrus cloud that was captured. There were no fronts coming in, however it was fairly cold during the day. It was relatively calm during the time this image was taken, and 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 5 miles across. The cloud was approximately 3 miles away and very high in altitude. 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 isolates 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 make better use of the foreground by either removing it or adding more focus on it, as it feels like it is just “there” right now with no true purpose. Overall I am happy with the image.