

# CR QPF Time Horizons Used in River Forecasts: Part II

## An Early Look

Juliann Meyer (MBRFC) and Holly Reckel (NCRFC)  
December 2009



# Overview

---

The goal of this follow on study is to identify the impacts of variable QPF periods on operational forecasts.

Conclusions will be based upon the discovery of statistically supportable evidence of optimal QPF at both MBRFC and NCRFC.

# Objectives

---

- 1) Conduct an error analysis similar to the *Optimization of QPF Time Horizons Used in River Forecasts* study, but on a forecast basin scale instead of a 4km grid scale. The error analysis will be conducted on both incremental and cumulative RFC HAS QPF.
- 2) Determine optimum number of QPF periods, based upon raw RFC HAS QPF forcings applied on a basin scale to RFC runoff zones. The analysis will consider both incremental and cumulative periods of QPF.
- 3) Determine the optimum number of QPF periods based upon river forecast verification metrics. The analysis will attempt to identify the optimum number of QPF periods that balances river forecast lead-time with river forecast accuracy.

# Issues

---

- Sample Size – not all data posting to database
- Missing data for some days
- sftp of Hermann flow times for the various scenarios fails partially or completely
- scripts that monitor the various processes sometimes fail or no monitoring script is in place

# Limitations

---

The order of station LIDs and SHEF Type/Source Codes in the various IVP plots

Would like to have capability to do rmse-ss against something other than persistence

At MBRFC the QPF studies runs are piggybacked on the 17 scenarios we make daily and that job fails if the 95%max and min QPF files are not available

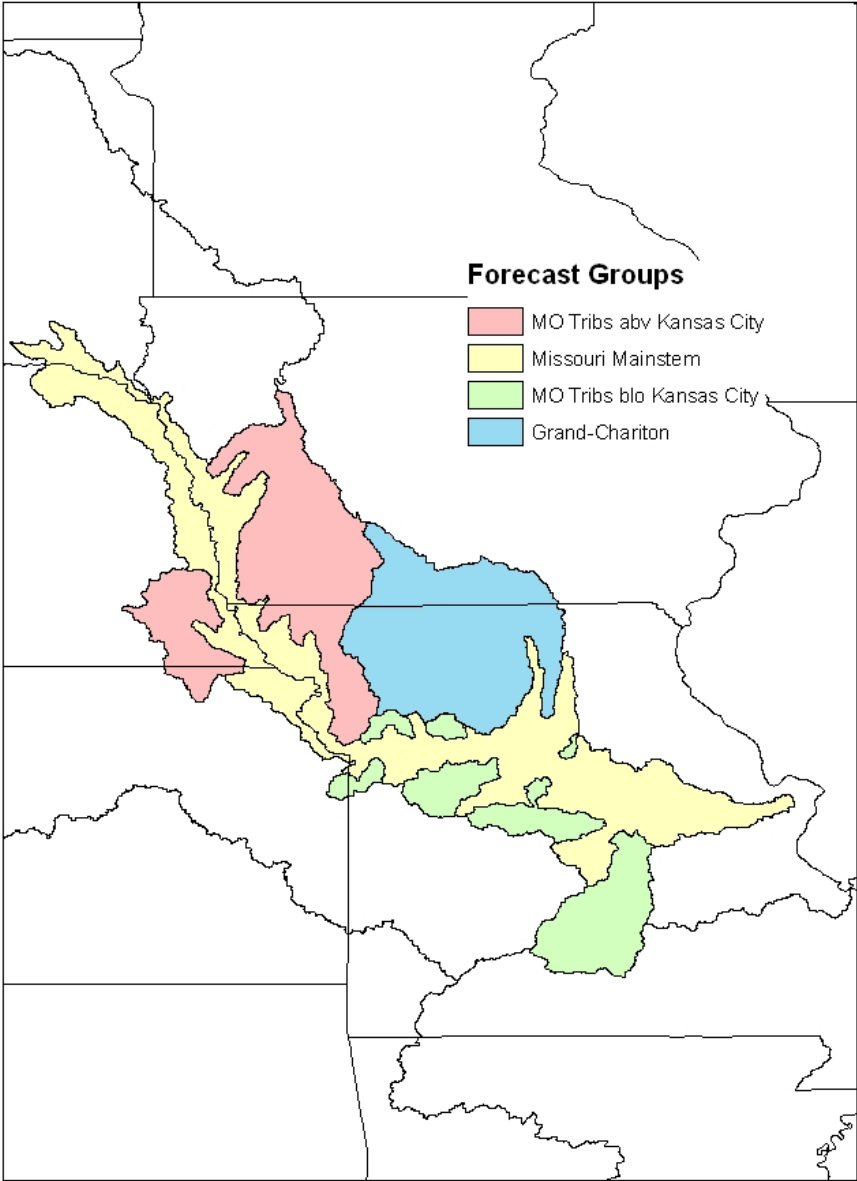
For NCRFC the numbers for the lower end of the Mississippi fcstgrp are dependent on getting the Hermann flows for MBRFC for all the scenarios successfully every day

# MBRFC

---

For this presentation looked at 4 forecast groups, Missouri Tribs abv KC, Missouri Tribs blo KC, Grand-Chariton and the Missouri Mainstem.

- 181 runoff zones
- 33 FAST response time forecast points
- 9 MEDIUM response time forecast points
- 19 SLOW response time forecast points

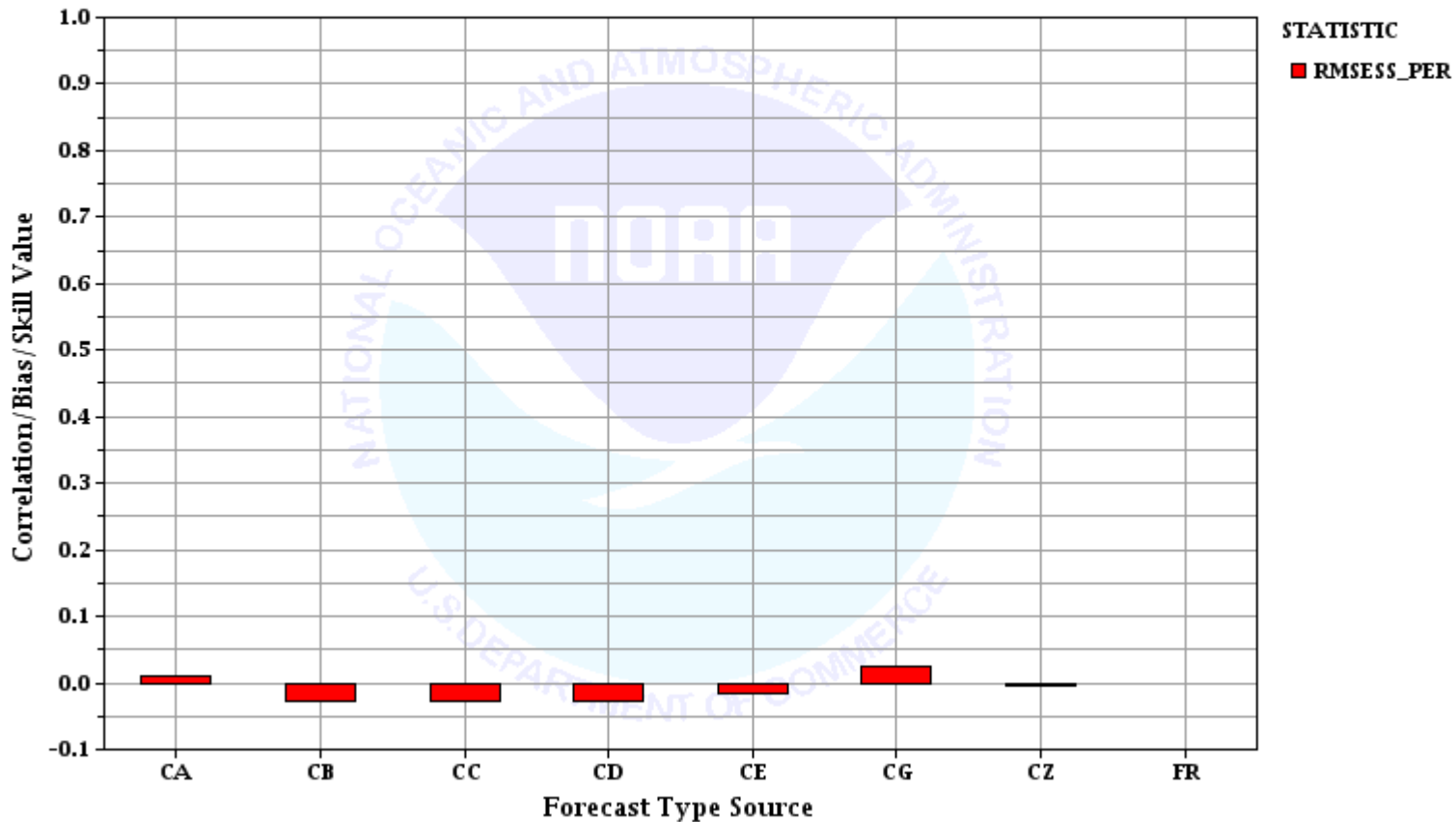


# Stage Analysis

Primary statistic used for this initial look was  
rmse-ss



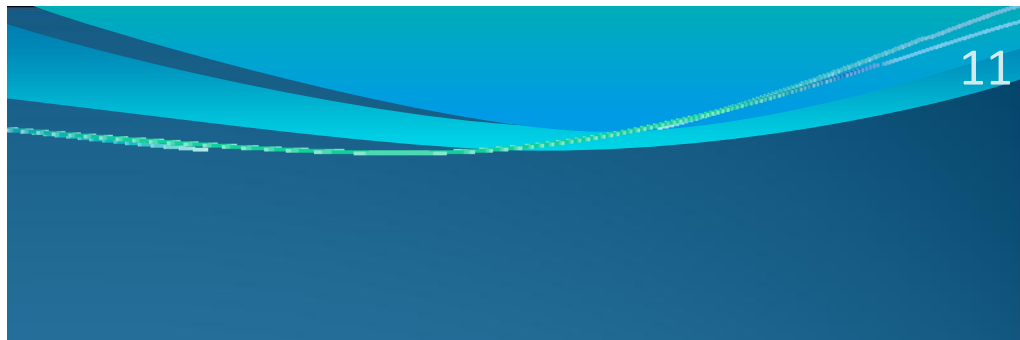
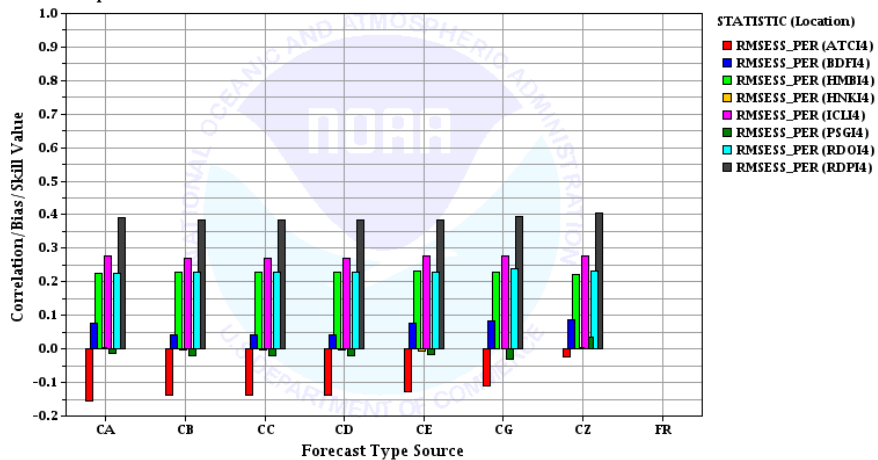
Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source for MBRFC  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 0 hours - 24 hours  
 Locations: ATCI4, BDFI4, HMBI4, HNKI4, ICLI4, PSGI4, RDOI4,  
 RDPI4, ABRN1, FLLN1, SNCK1, UION1, FFXM7, MYVM7, SMHM7,....



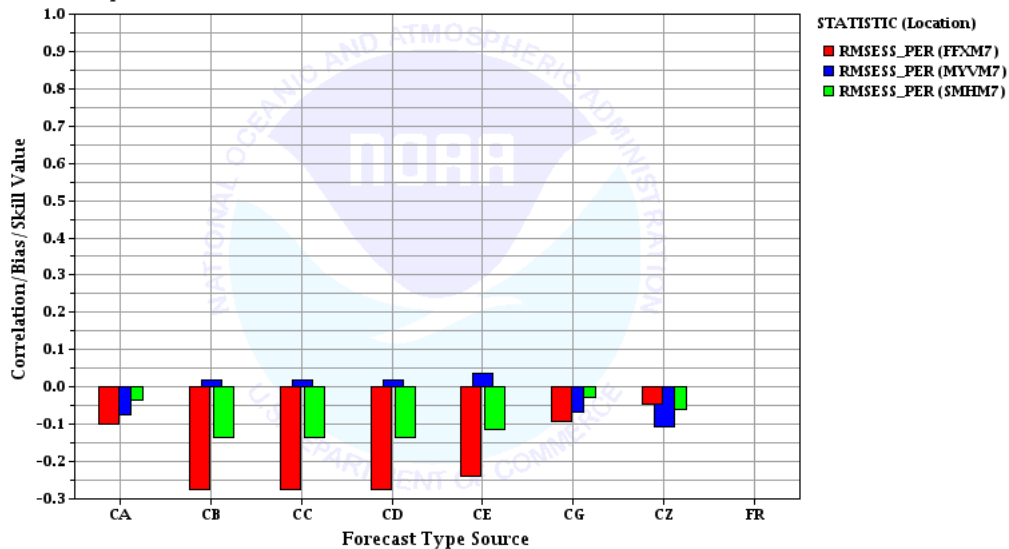
CA - 12  
 CB - 24  
 CC - 48  
 CD - 72  
 CE - 18  
 CG - 6  
 CZ - zero



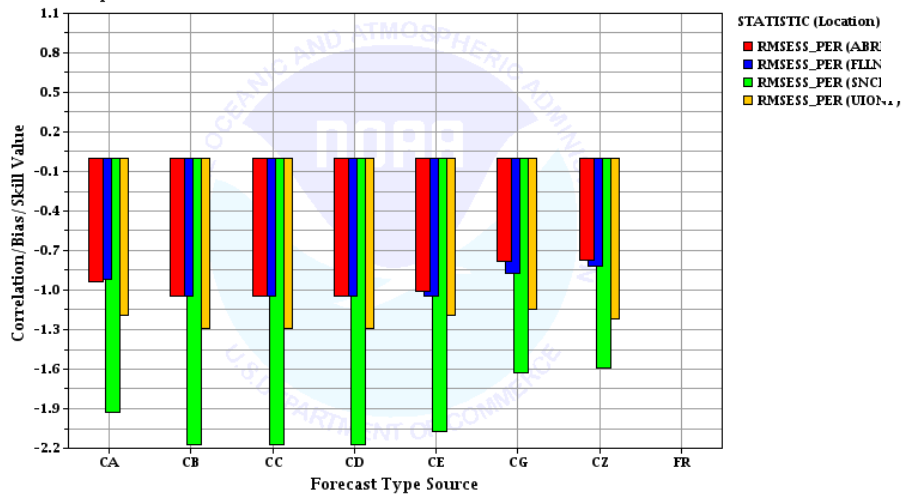
Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source for MBRFC  
 Compared Over Location  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 0 hours - 24 hours  
 Locations: ATCI4, BDFI4, HMBI4, HNKI4, ICLI4, PSGI4, RDOI4, RDPI4  
 Response Times: FAST



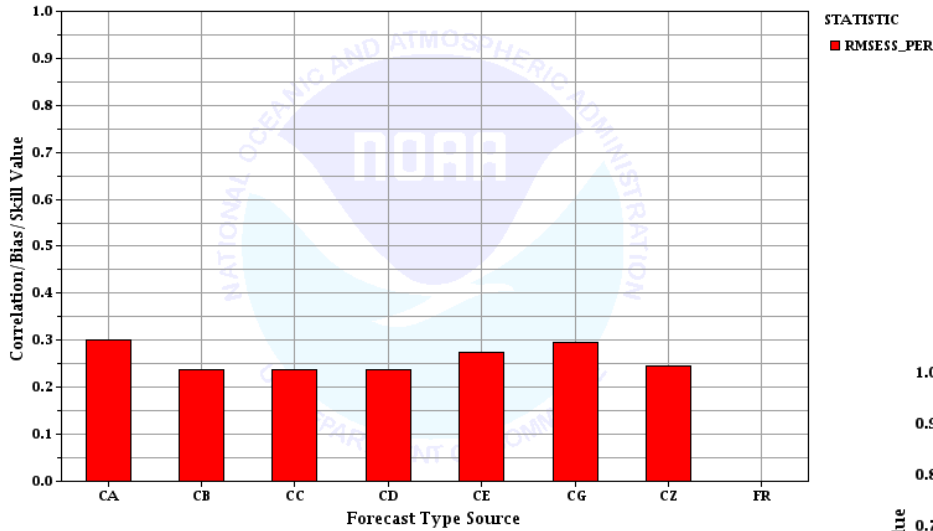
Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source for MBRFC  
 Compared Over Location  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 0 hours - 24 hours  
 Locations: FFXM7, MYVM7, SMHM7  
 Response Times: FAST



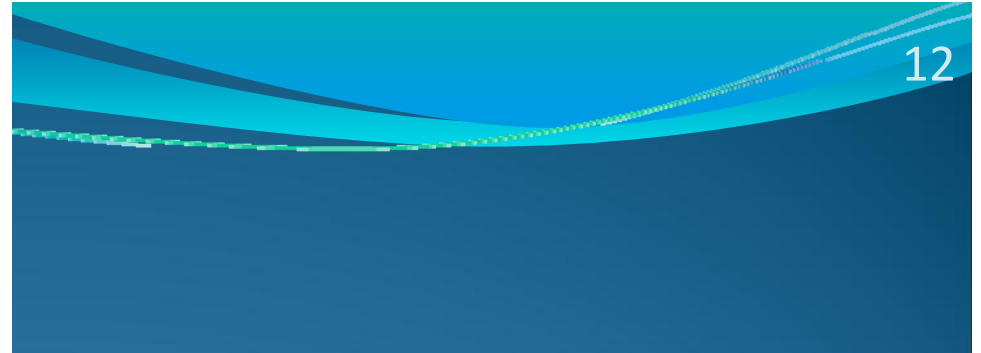
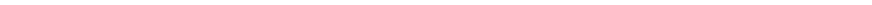
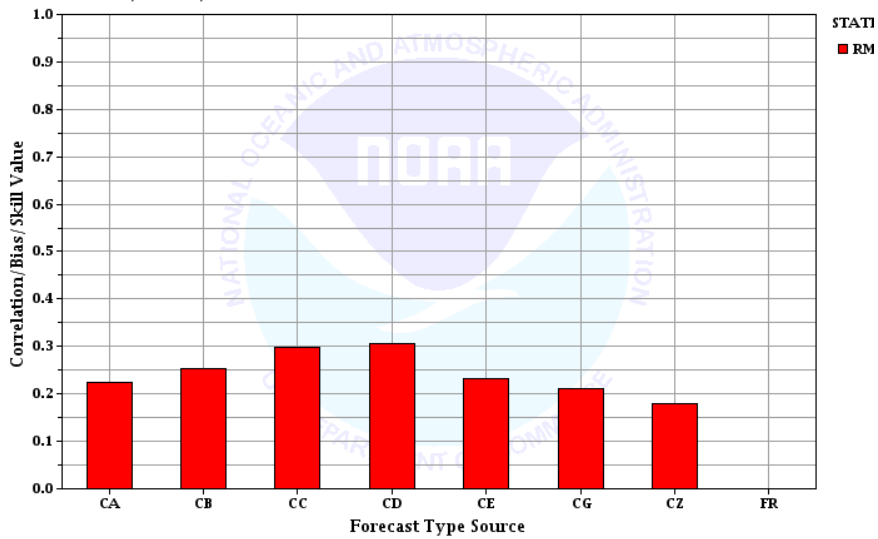
Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source for MBRFC  
 Compared Over Location  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 0 hours - 24 hours  
 Locations: ABRN1, FLLN1, SNCK1, UION1  
 Response Times: FAST



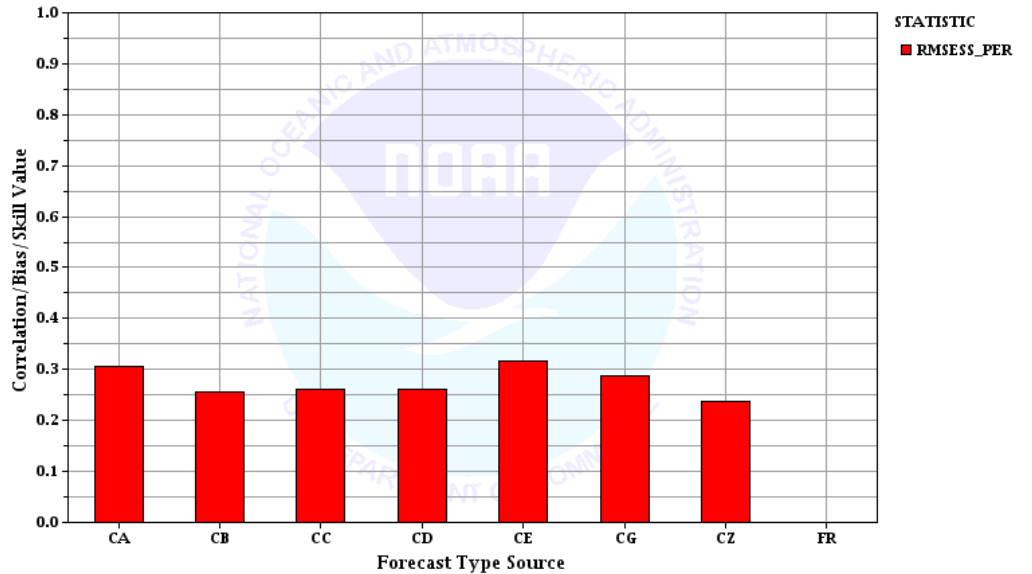
Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source for MBRFC  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 0 hours - 24 hours  
 Locations: DVSI4, TTZM7, GAZM7, CHZM7, SNZM7, PRMI4, CHTI4, MOLI4, NVZM7, PRIM7



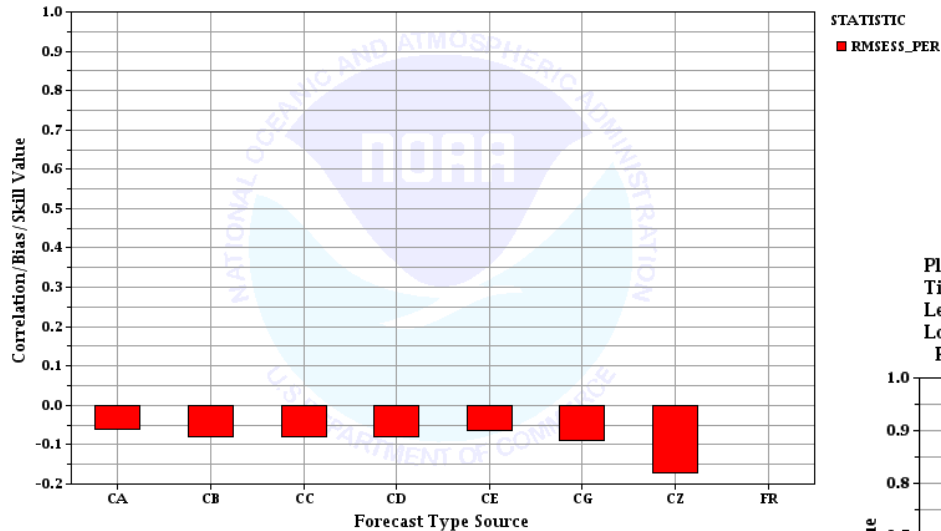
Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source for MBRFC  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 48 hours - 72 hours  
 Locations: DVSI4, TTZM7, GAZM7, CHZM7, SNZM7, PRMI4, CHTI4, MOLI4, NVZM7, PRIM7



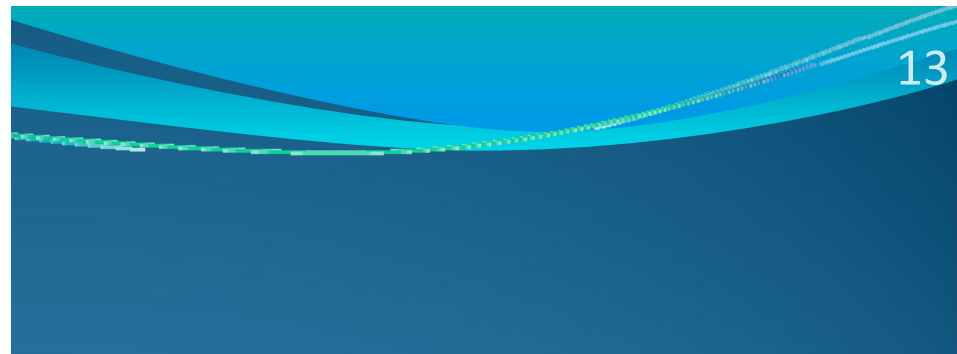
Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source for MBRFC  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 24 hours - 48 hours  
 Locations: DVSI4, TTZM7, GAZM7, CHZM7, SNZM7, PRMI4, CHTI4, MOLI4, NVZM7, PRIM7



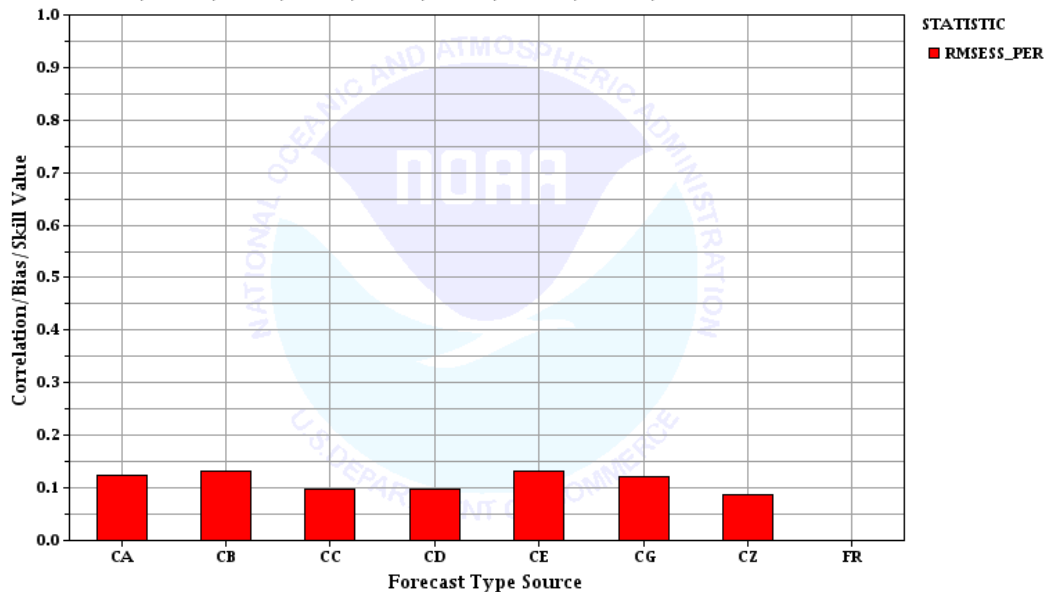
Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source for MBRFC  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 0 hours - 24 hours  
 Locations: KBRM7, KCCM7, LKCM7, RICM7, CAXM7, VLYM7, BLVM7, OTTM7, FYTM7, BONM7, JCMM7, WPHM7, HZLM7, JRMM7, RIFM7,...



STATISTIC  
 ■ RMSESS\_PER

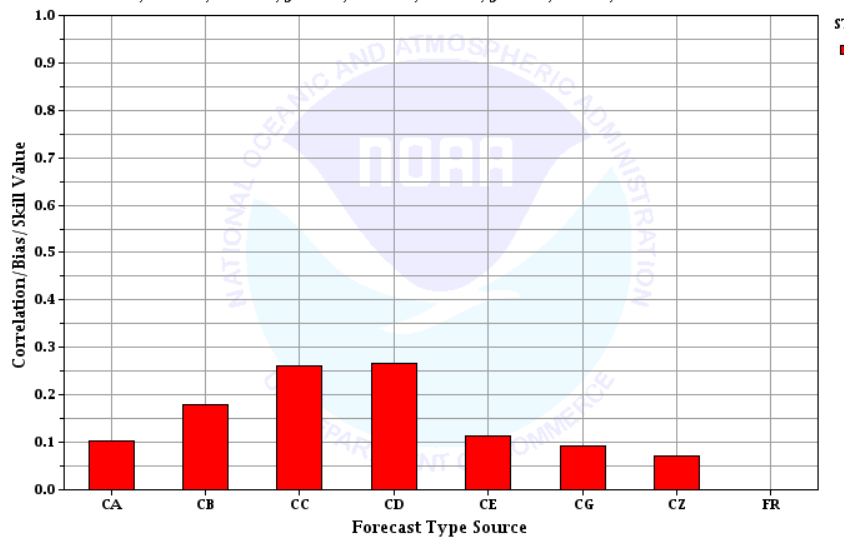


Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source for MBRFC  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 24 hours - 48 hours  
 Locations: ATCI4, BDFI4, HMBI4, HNKI4, ICLI4, PSGI4, RDOI4, RDPI4, ABRN1, FLLN1, SNCK1, UION1, FFXM7, MYVM7, SMHM7,...



STATISTIC  
 ■ RMSESS\_PER

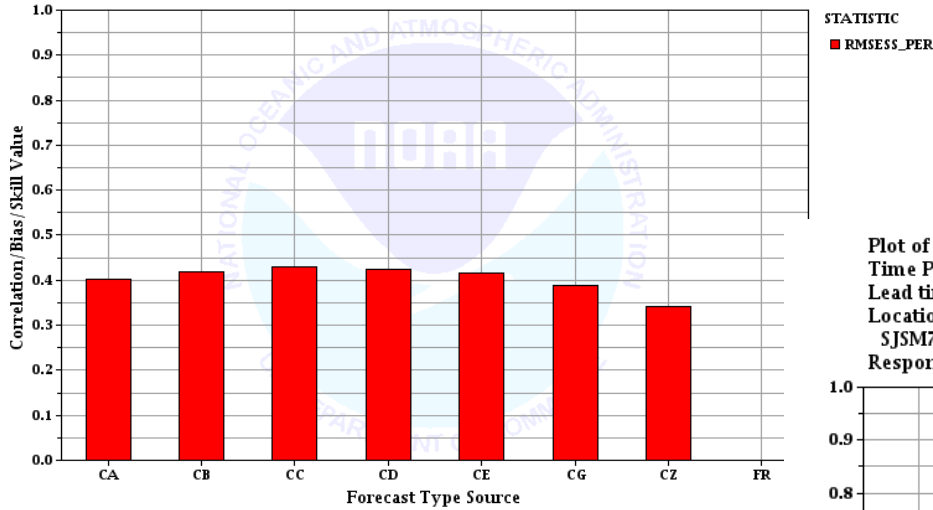
Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source for ME  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 48 hours - 72 hours  
 Locations: KBRM7, KCCM7, LKCM7, RICM7, CAXM7, VLYM7, BLVM7, OTTM7, FYTM7, BONM7, JCMM7, WPHM7, HZLM7, JRMM7, RIFM7,...



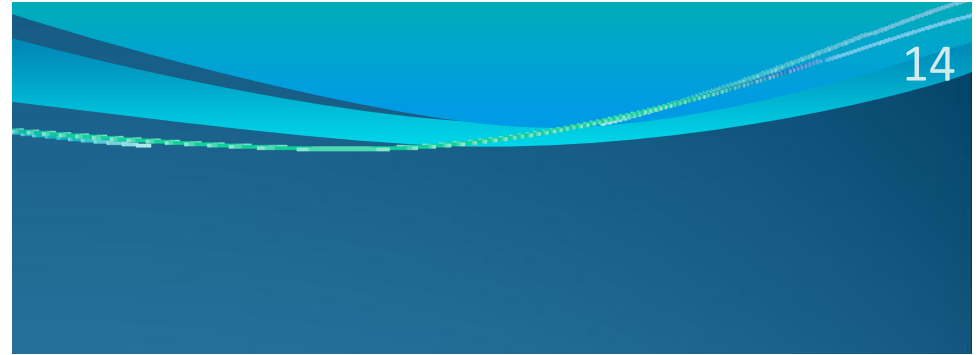
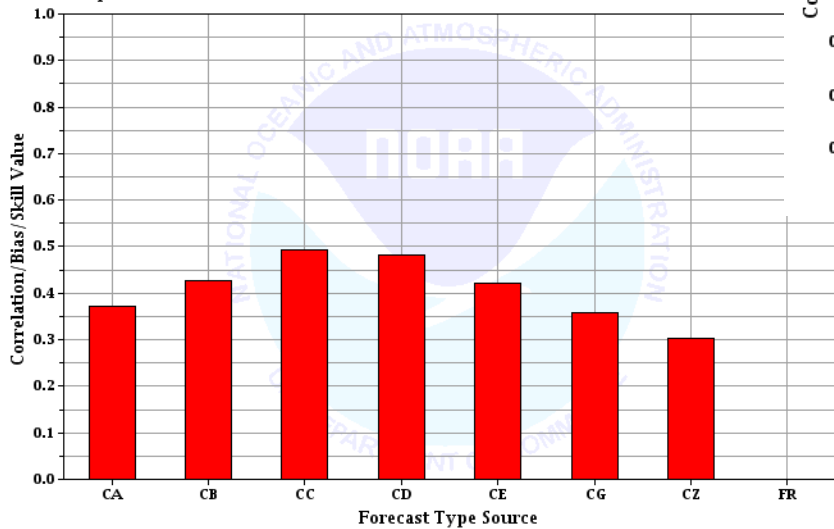
STATISTIC  
 ■ RMSESS\_PER



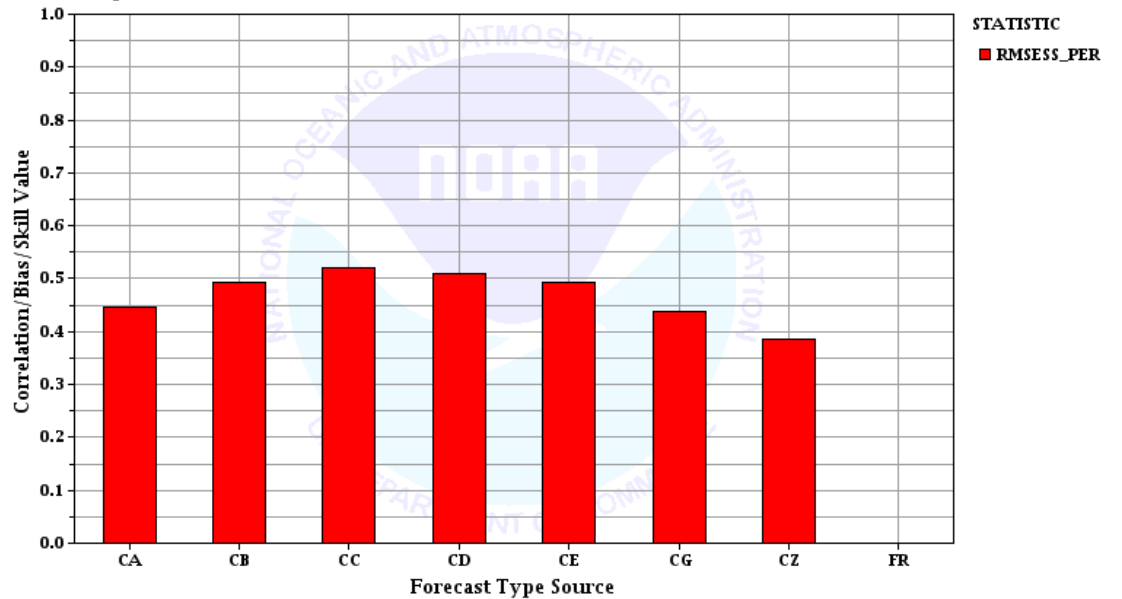
Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source for MBRFC  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 0 hours - 24 hours  
 Locations: SSCN1, DCTN1, BLAN1, OMHN1, NEBN1, BRON1, RULN1, SJSM7, KCDM7, NAPM7, WVYM7, GLZM7, BOZM7, JFFM7, HRNM7,...



Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 48 hours - 72 hours  
 Locations: SSCN1, DCTN1, BLAN1, OMHN1, NEBN1, BRON1, RULN1, SJSM7, KCDM7, NAPM7, WVYM7, GLZM7, BOZM7, JFFM7, HRNM7,...



Plot of Instantaneous Height Correlation, Bias, and/or Skill against Forecast Type Source for MBRFC  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 24 hours - 48 hours  
 Locations: SSCN1, DCTN1, BLAN1, OMHN1, NEBN1, BRON1, RULN1, SJSM7, KCDM7, NAPM7, WVYM7, GLZM7, BOZM7, JFFM7, HRNM7,...



# Precipitation Analysis

Primary statistic used for this initial look were

sample size

by categories

mean error

mean absolute error

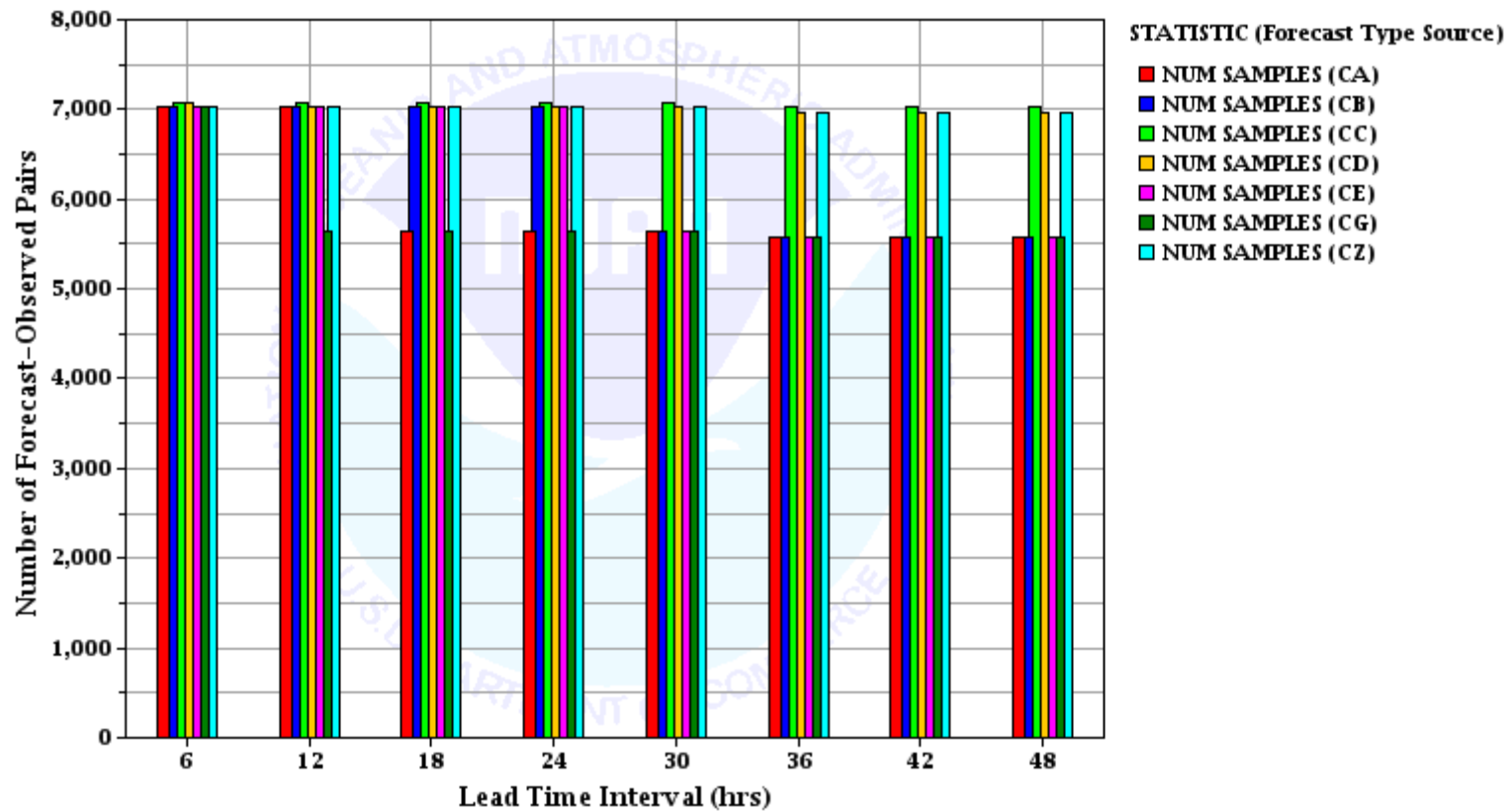
**Plot of 6-Hourly Precipitation Amount Sample Size against Leadtime Interval for MBRFC**

**Compared Over Forecast Type Source**

**Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT**

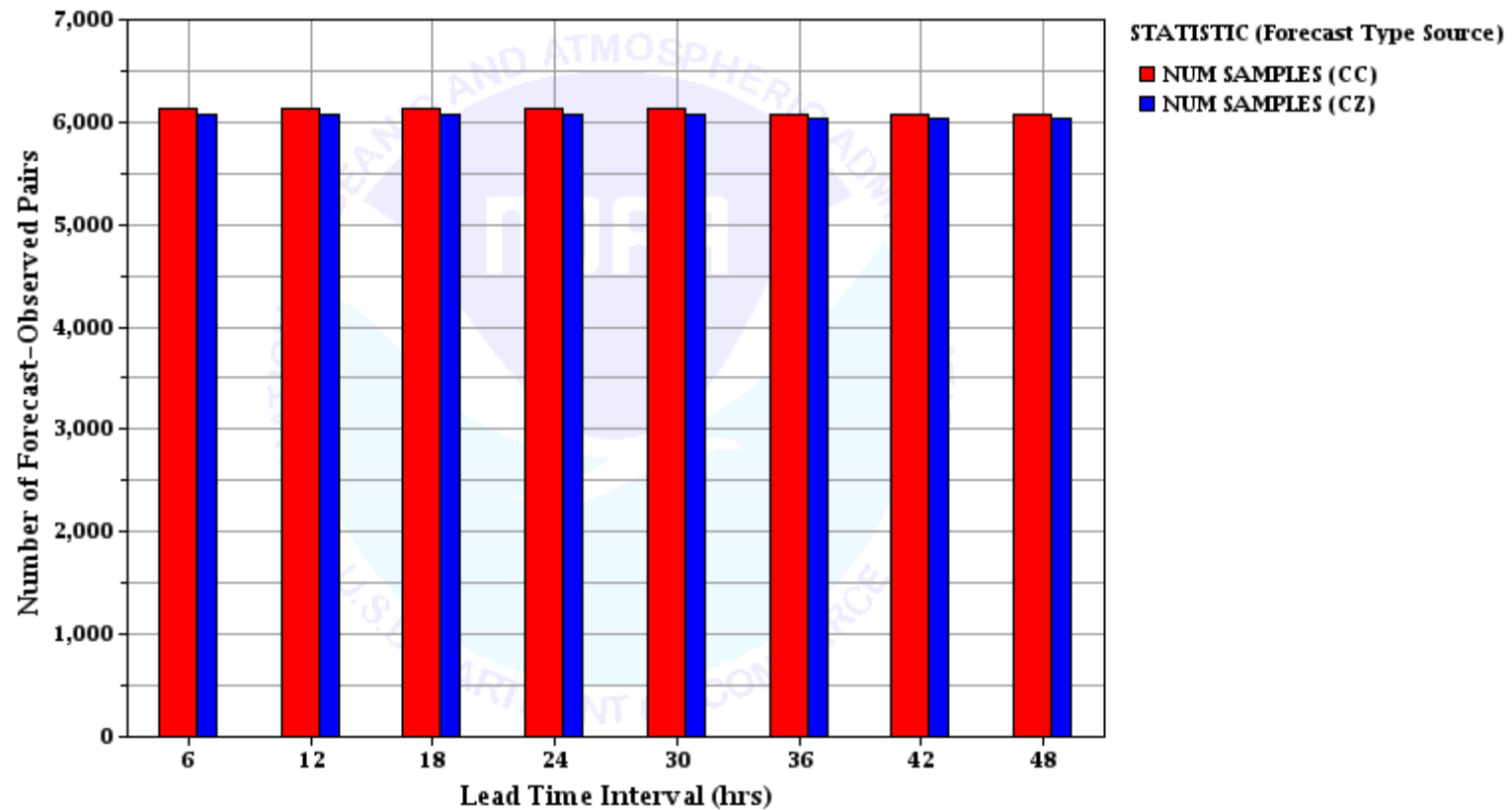
**Lead times: 0 hours - 48 hours**

**Locations: 901, 947, 933, 934, 948, 935, 938, 902, 903, 915,  
944, 916, 945, 919, 936, 937, 904, 905, 907, 906, 908, 909,...**







**Plot of 6-Hourly Precipitation Amount Sample Size against Leadtime Interval for MBRFC****Compared Over Forecast Type Source****Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT****Lead times: 0 hours - 48 hours****Locations: 1851, 1801, 1802, 1803, 1804, 1850, 1805, 1852,  
1806, 1807, 1808, 1809, 1810, 1811, 1812, 1813, 1854, 1814,...**

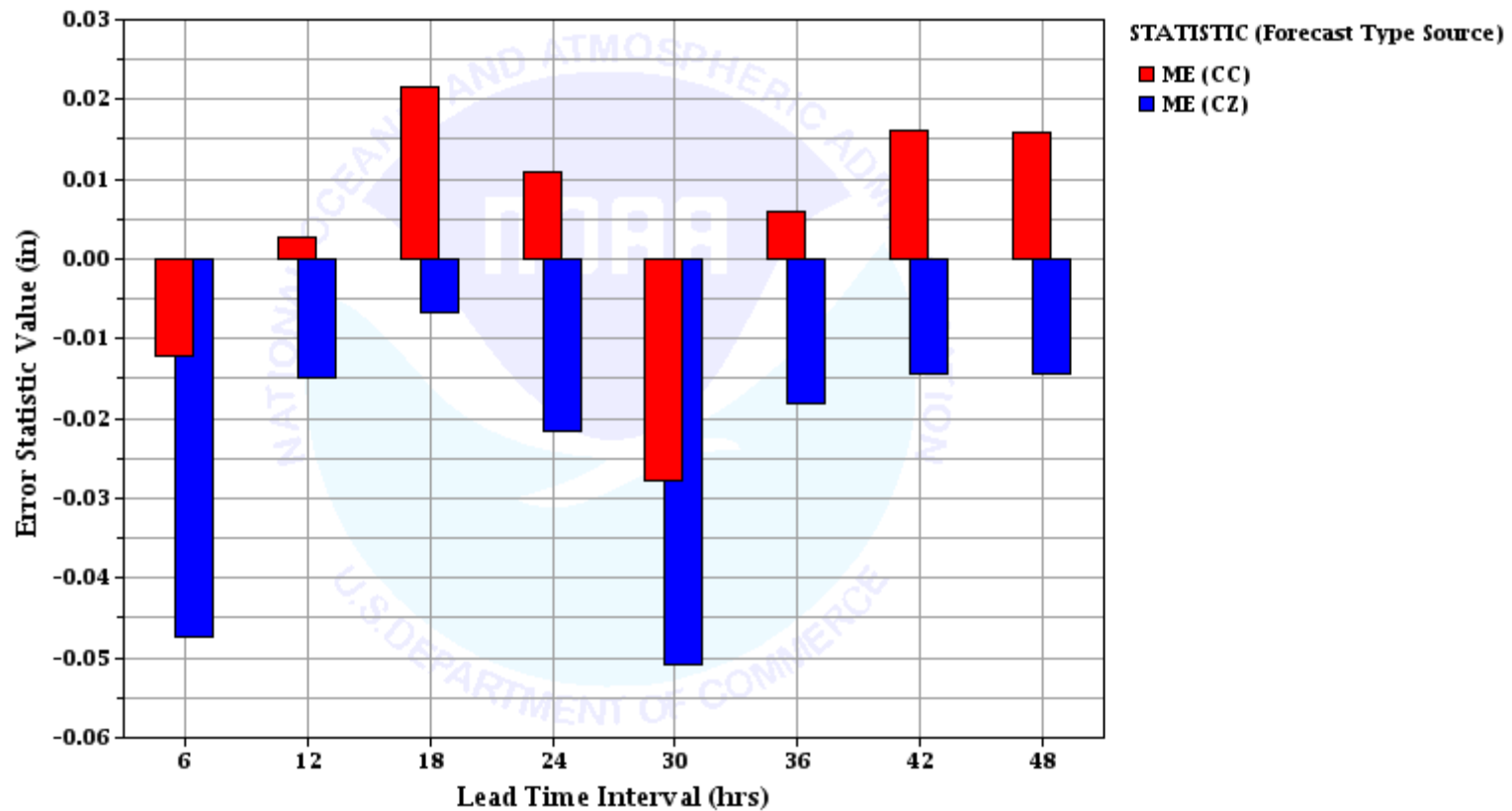
### Plot of 6-Hourly Precipitation Amount Error Statistics against Leadtime Interval for MBRFC

Compared Over Forecast Type Source

Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT

Lead times: 0 hours - 48 hours

Locations: 1851, 1801, 1802, 1803, 1804, 1850, 1805, 1852,  
1806, 1807, 1808, 1809, 1810, 1811, 1812, 1813, 1854, 1814,...



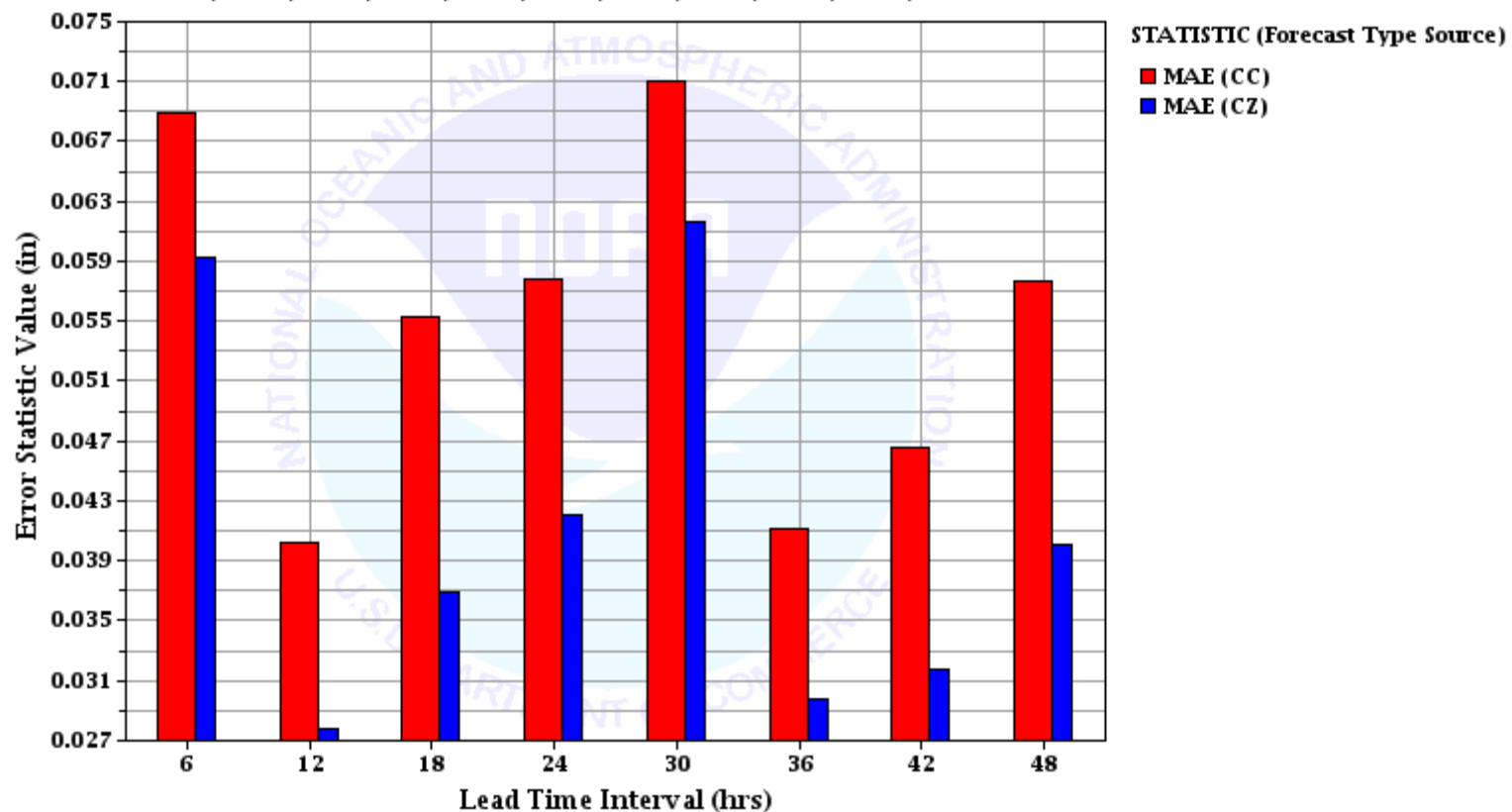
### Plot of 6-Hourly Precipitation Amount Error Statistics against Leadtime Interval for MBRFC

Compared Over Forecast Type Source

Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT

Lead times: 0 hours - 48 hours

Locations: 1851, 1801, 1802, 1803, 1804, 1850, 1805, 1852,  
1806, 1807, 1808, 1809, 1810, 1811, 1812, 1813, 1854, 1814,...



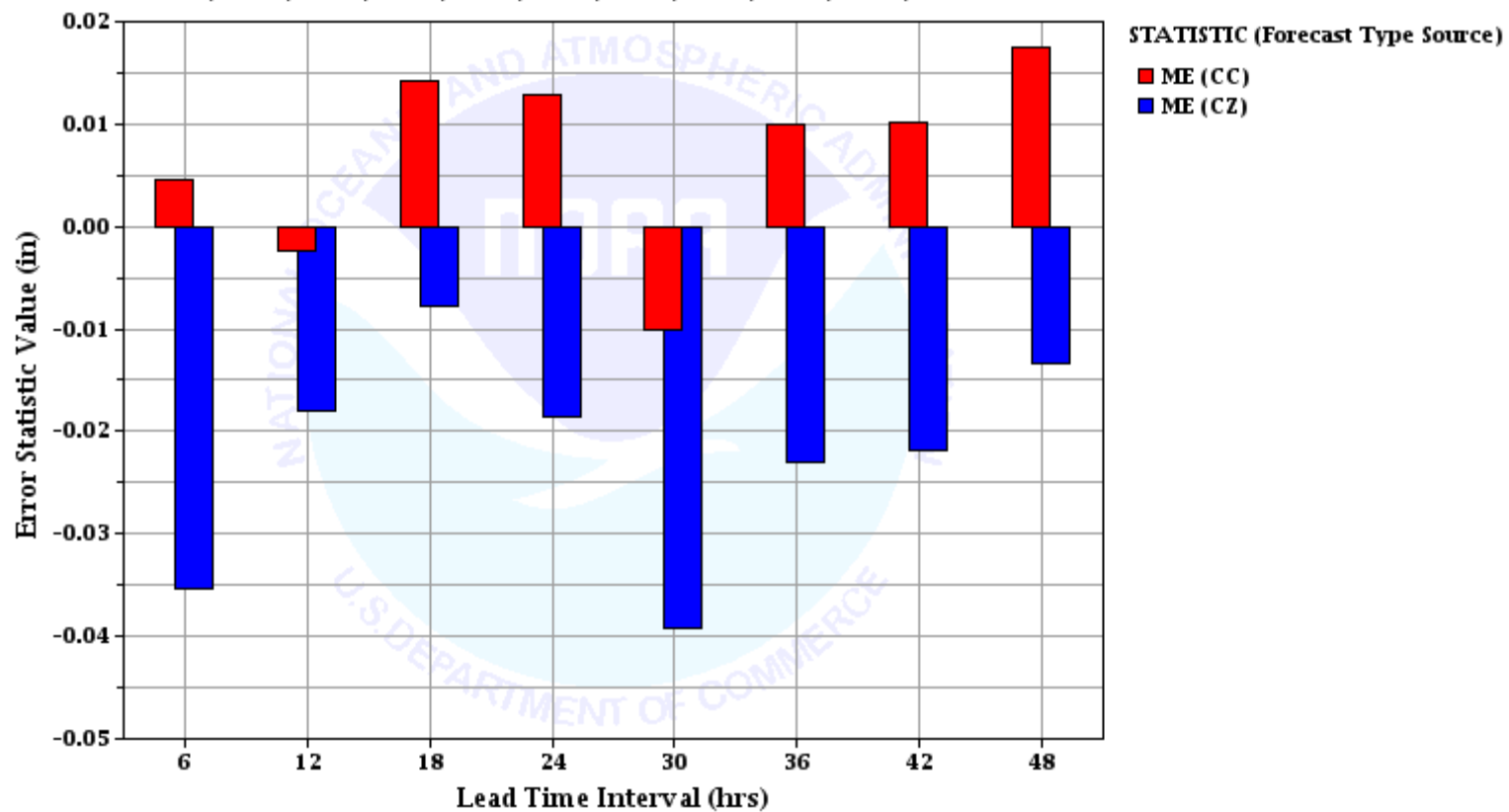
### Plot of 6-Hourly Precipitation Amount Error Statistics against Leadtime Interval for MBRFC

Compared Over Forecast Type Source

Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT

Lead times: 0 hours - 48 hours

Locations: 1722, 1724, 1723, 1701, 1702, 1703, 1704, 1721,  
1705, 1706, 1707, 1708, 1720, 1709, 1710, 1711, 1712, 1713,...



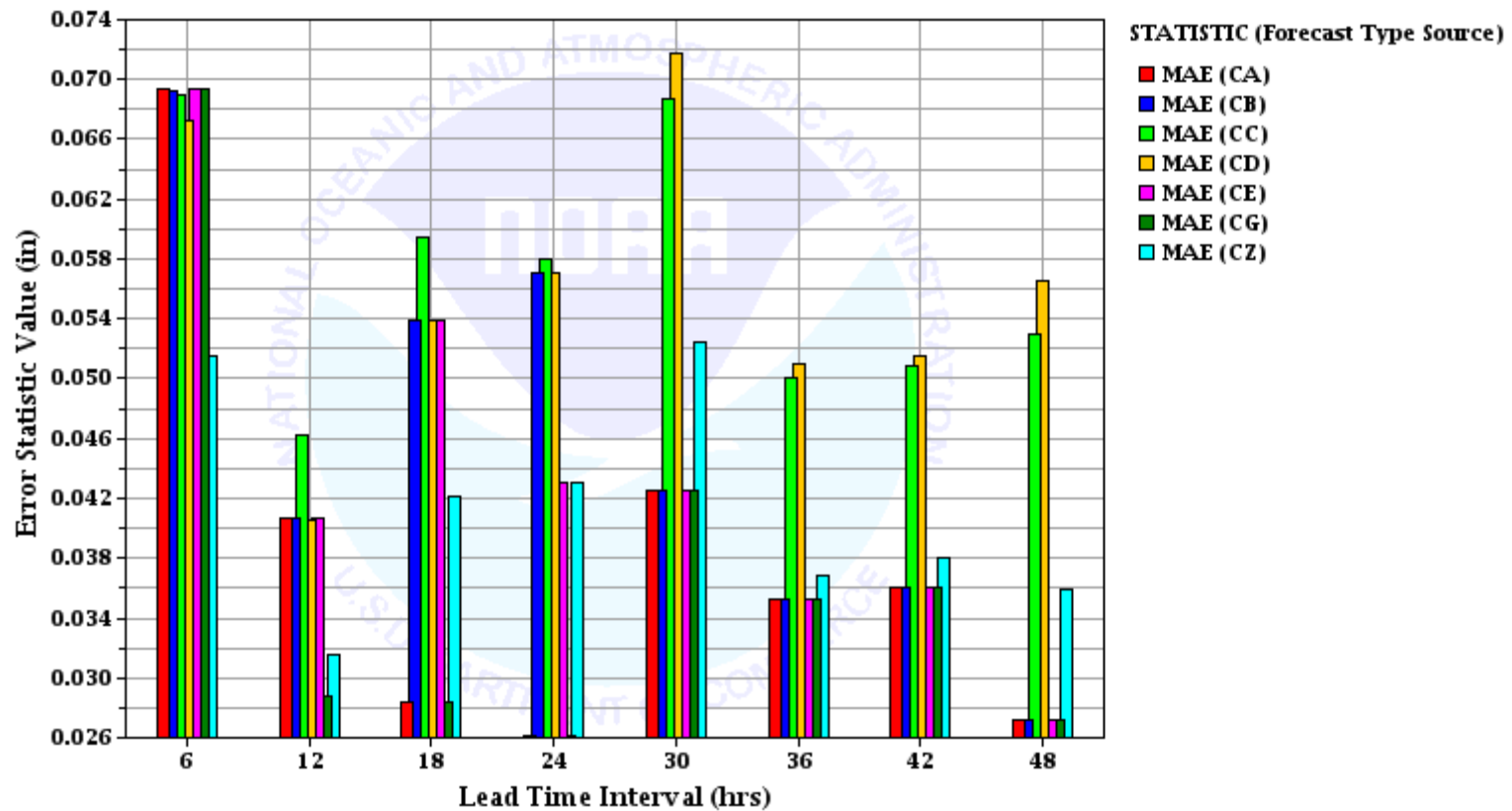
### Plot of 6-Hourly Precipitation Amount Error Statistics against Leadtime Interval for MBRFC

Compared Over Forecast Type Source

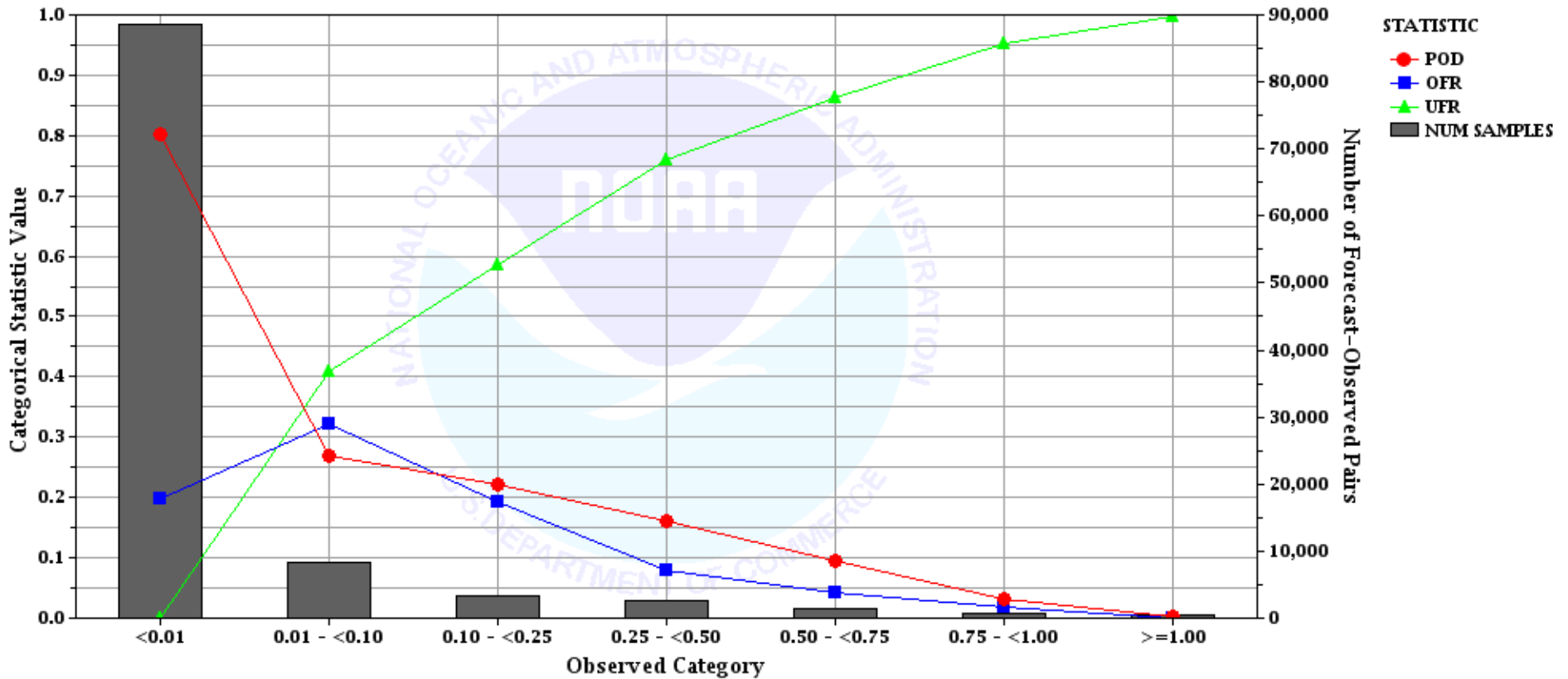
Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT

Lead times: 0 hours - 48 hours

Locations: 1722, 1724, 1723, 1701, 1702, 1703, 1704, 1721,  
1705, 1706, 1707, 1708, 1720, 1709, 1710, 1711, 1712, 1713,...



Plot of 6-Hourly Precipitation Amount Categorical Statistics against Observed Category for MBRFC  
Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-09-30 23:59:59 GMT  
Lead times: 0 hours - 48 hours  
Locations: 901, 947, 933, 934, 948, 935, 938, 902, 903, 915,  
944, 916, 945, 919, 936, 937, 904, 905, 907, 906, 908, 909,...



# Summary

---

This early look has:

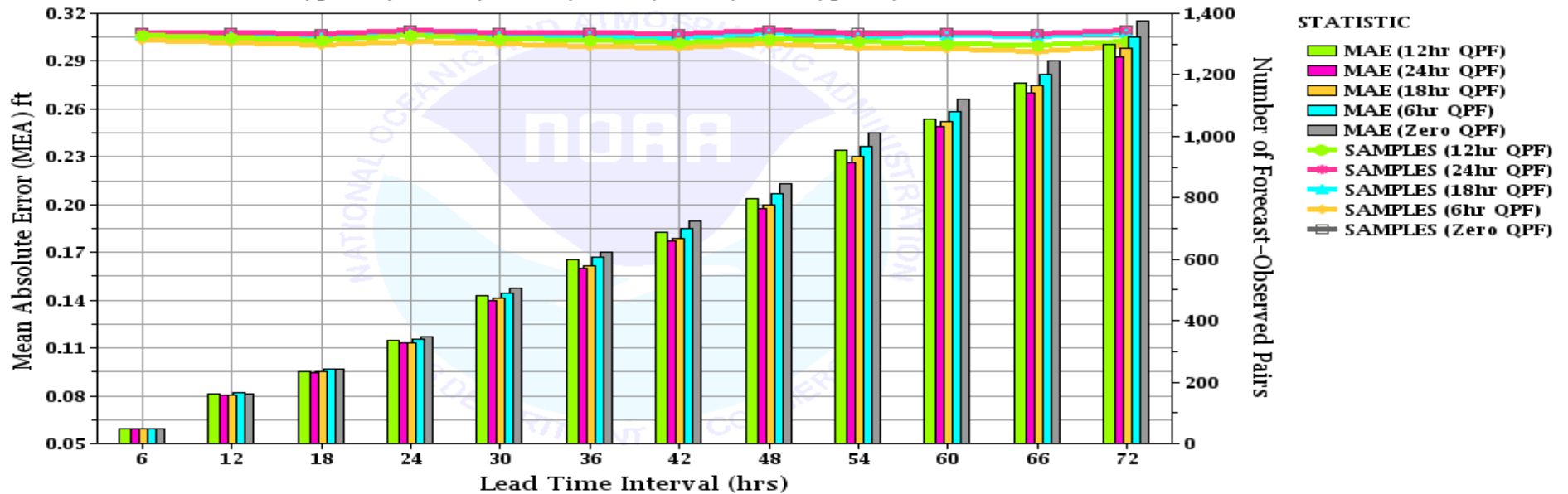
- 1) at MBRFC dataset for this study has shown that work needs to be done to fix the sample size issues when possible.
- 2) It has raised quite a few questions on how to look at the data; what statistics that are available in IVP are most useful



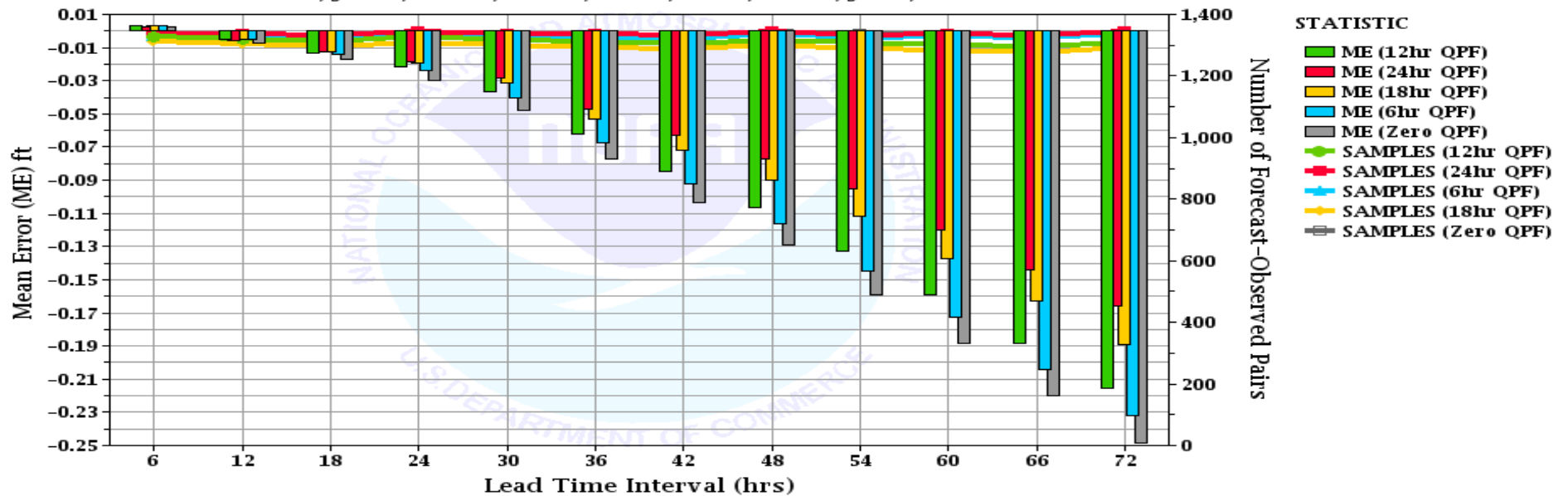
# NCRFC

---

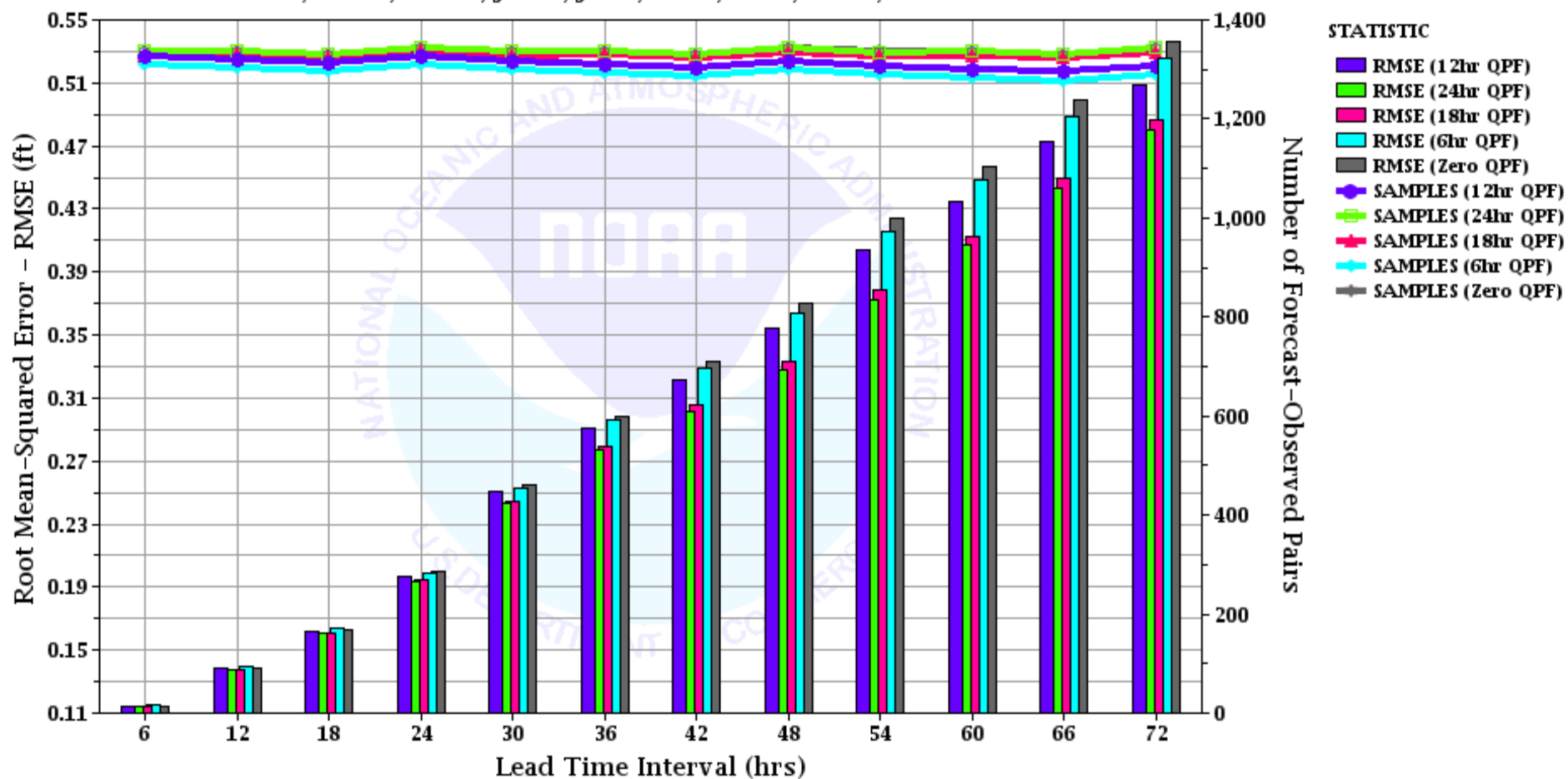
Plot of Mean Absolute Error (MAE) against Leadtime Interval Compared Over Forecast Type Source  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-10-31 23:59:59 GMT  
 River Response: SLOW  
 Locations: WATW3, JFFW3, FATW3, AFTW3, ROKI2, LATI2, CMOI2, JOSI2, MLIH2



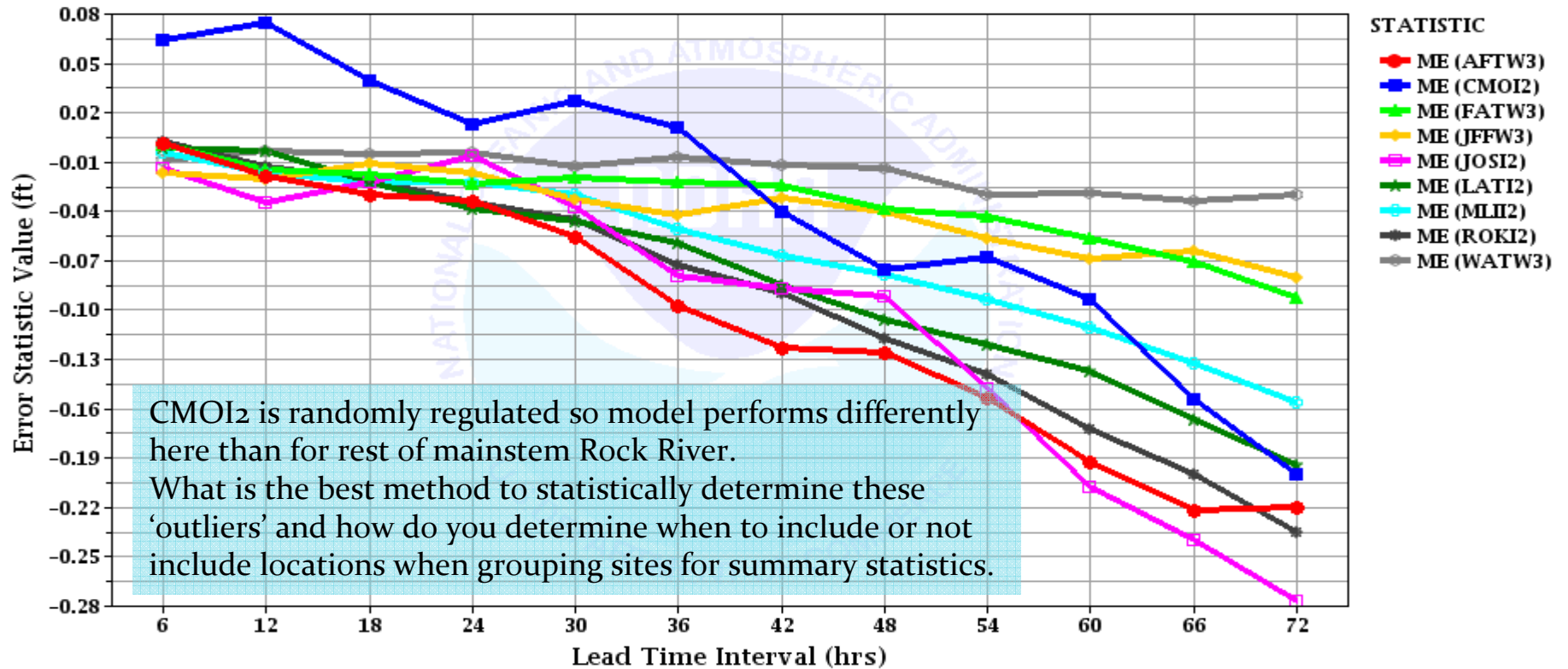
Plot of Mean Error (ME) against Leadtime Interval Compared Over Forecast Type Source  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-10-31 23:59:59 GMT  
 River Response: SLOW  
 Locations: WATW3, JFFW3, FATW3, AFTW3, ROKI2, LATI2, CMOI2, JOSI2, MLIH2



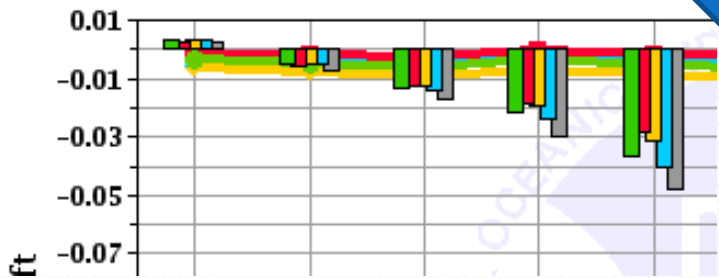
Plot of Root Mean-Squared Error (RMSE) against Leadtime Interval Compared Over Forecast Type Source  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-10-31 23:59:59 GMT  
 Response Times: SLOW  
 Locations: AFTW3, CMOI2, FATW3, JFFW3, JOSI2, LATI2, MLI2, ROKI2, WATW3



Plot of Error Statistics against Leadtime Interval Compared Over Location  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-10-31 23:59:59 GMT  
 Lead times: 0 hours - 72 hours Forecast Time Series: CB  
 Locations: AFTW3, CMOI2, FATW3, JFFW3, JOSI2, LATI2, MLI2, ROKI2, WATW3



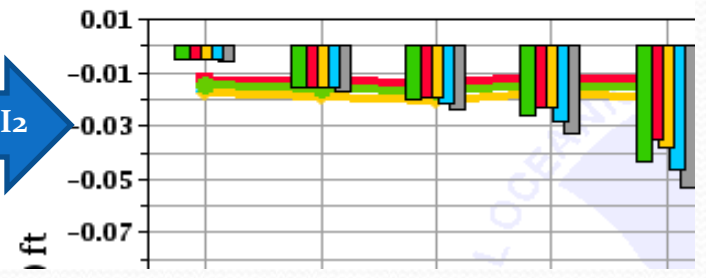
Plot of Mean Error (ME) against Leadtime Interval  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT  
 River Response: SLOW  
 Locations: WATW3, JFFW3, FATW3, AFTW3



ME with CMOI2

ME without CMOI2

Plot of Mean Error (ME) against Leadtime Interval  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT  
 River Response: SLOW  
 Locations: AFTW3, FATW3, JFFW3, JOSI2, MLI2, ROKI2, WATW3



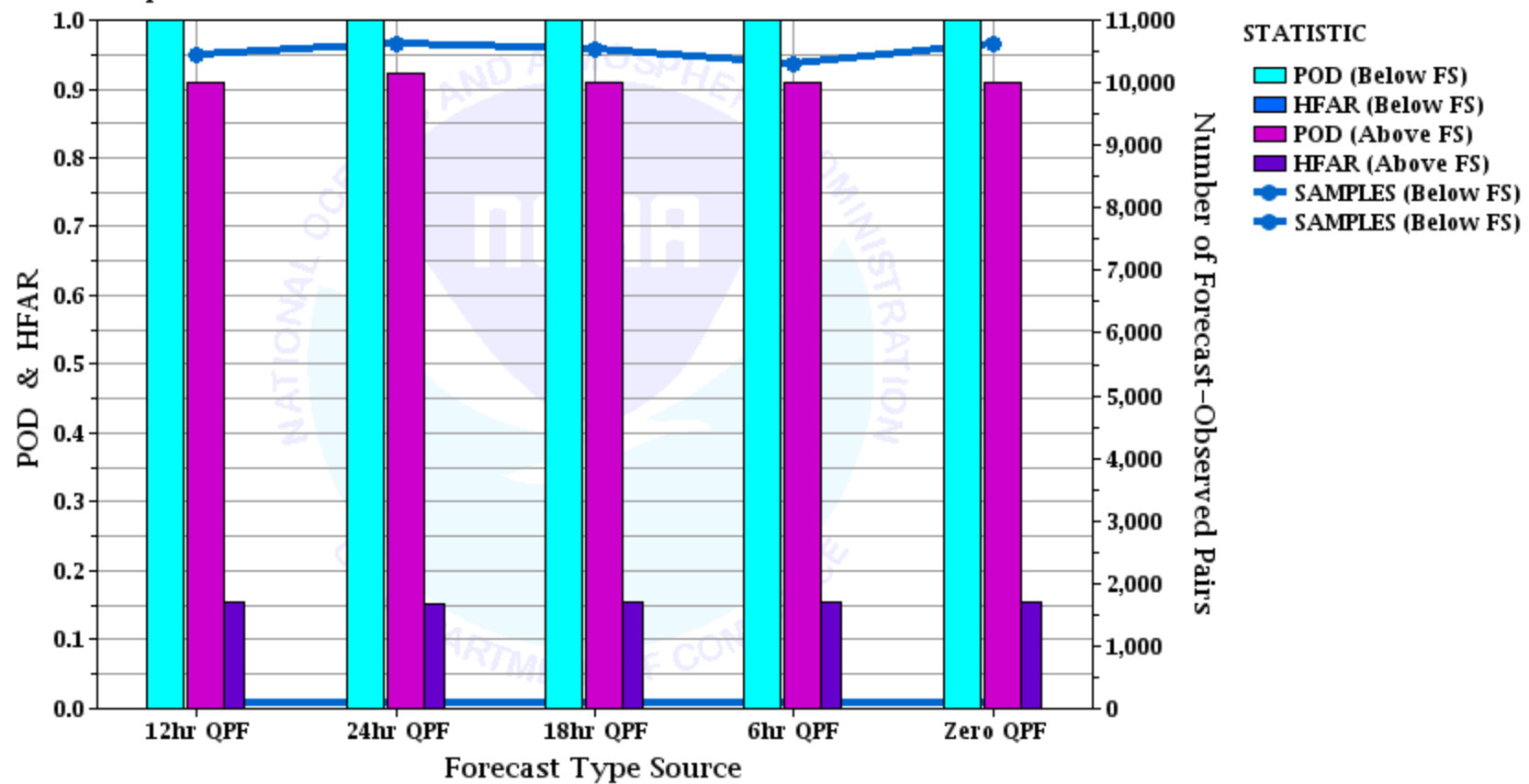
### Probability of Detection (POD) and Hydrologic False Alarm Ratio (HFAR) against Forecast Type Source

Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-10-31 23:59:59 GMT

Lead times: 0 hours - 48 hours

Locations: AFTW3, CMOI2, FATW3, JFFW3, JOSI2, LATI2, MLI2, ROKI2, WATW3

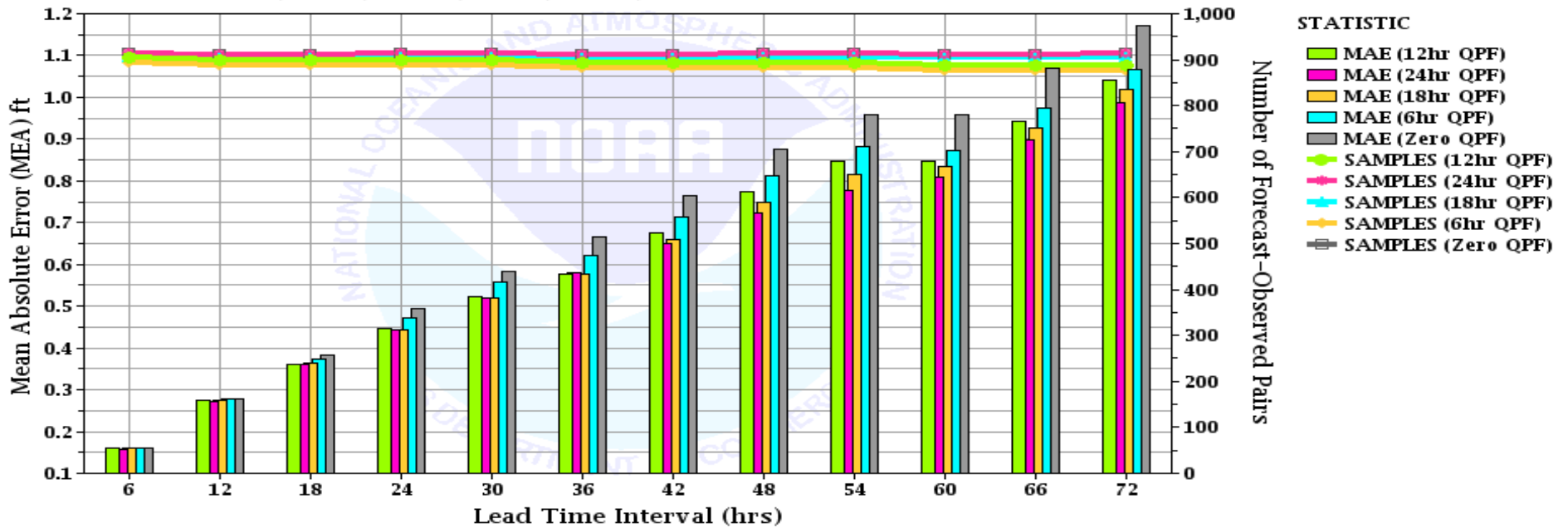
Response Times: SLOW



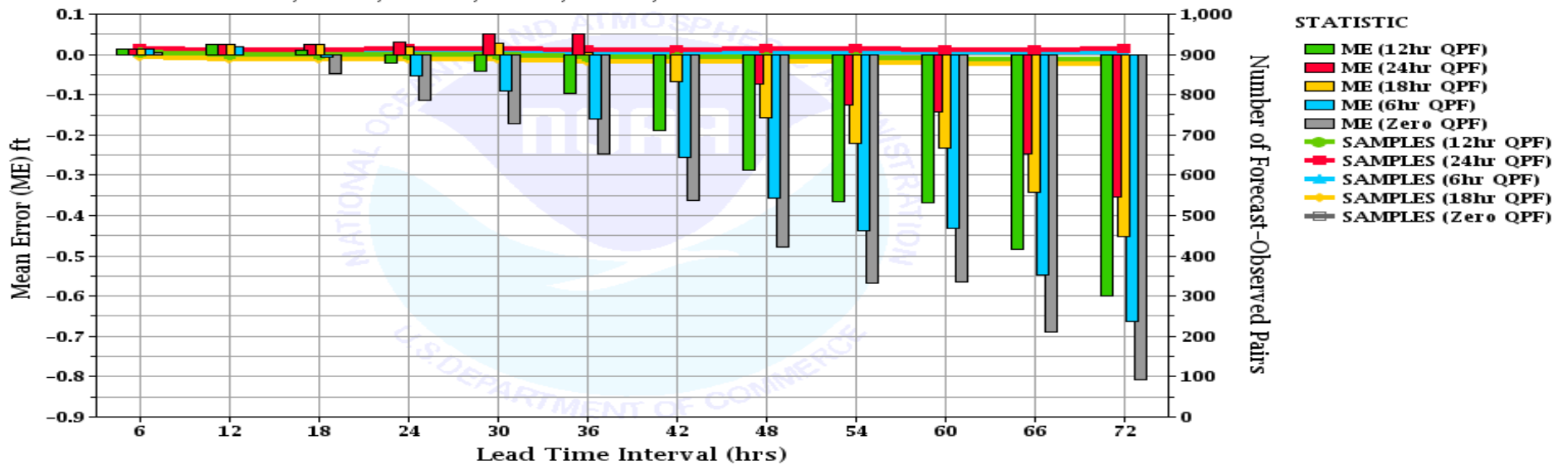
**Probability of Detection:** The probability that, given an observed value is within the category, the forecast value is also within the category.

**Hydrologic False Alarm Ratio:** The probability that, given a forecast value is within the category, the observed value is below the category.

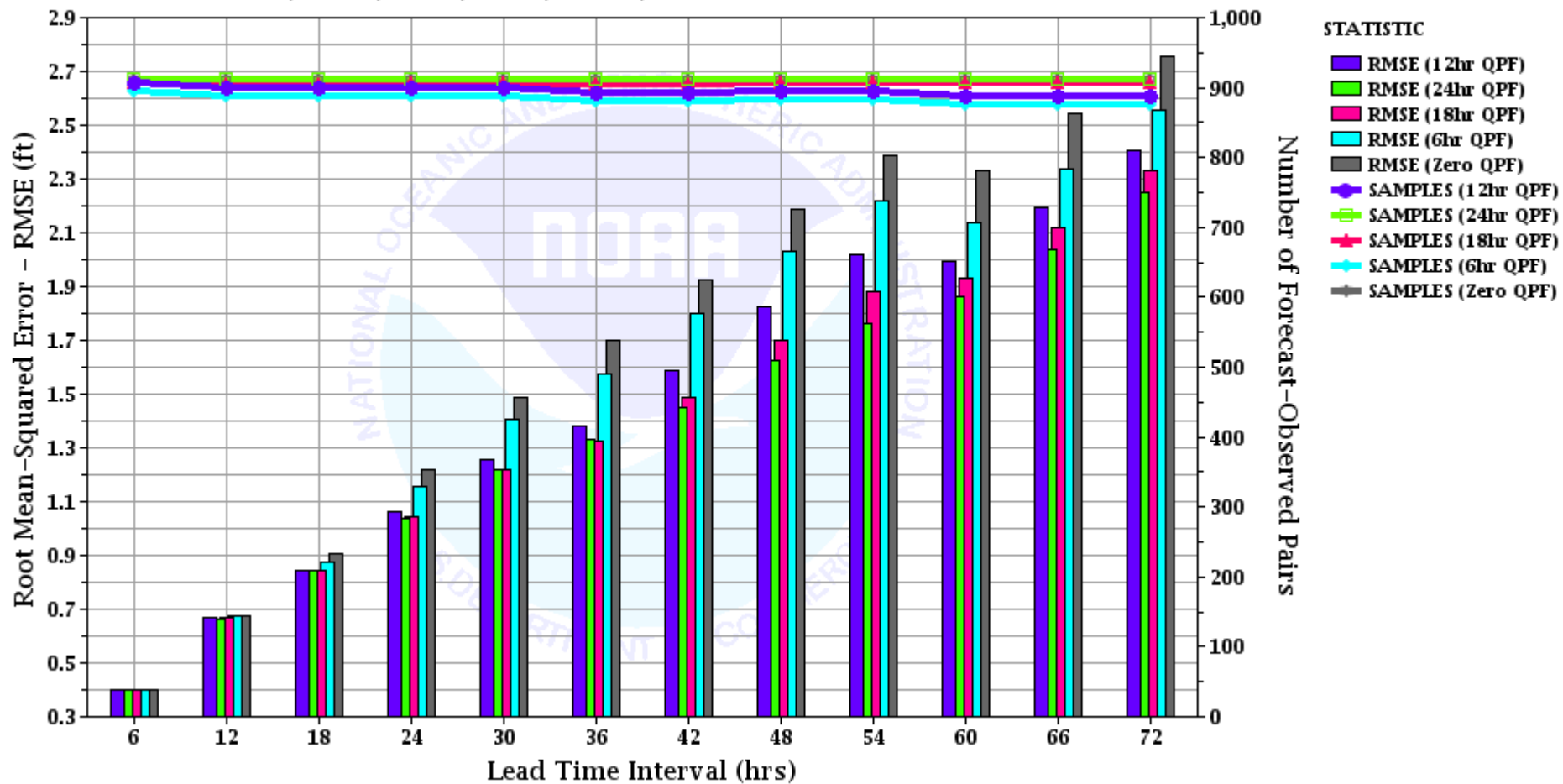
Plot of Mean Absolute Error (MAE) against Leadtime Interval Compared Over Forecast Type Source  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-10-31 23:59:59 GMT  
 River Response: MEDIUM  
 Locations: SEEM7, SLLM7, UNNM7, PCFM7, ERKM7, VLLM7



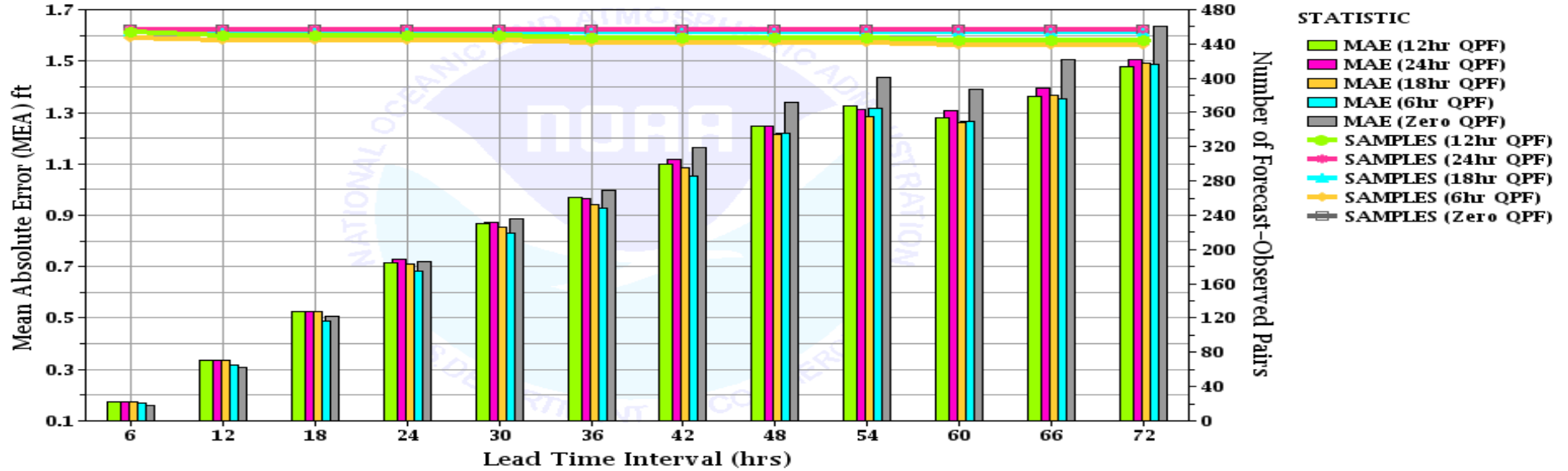
Plot of Mean Error (ME) against Leadtime Interval Compared Over Forecast Type Source  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-10-31 23:59:59 GMT  
 River Response: MEDIUM  
 Locations: SEEM7, SLLM7, UNNM7, PCFM7, ERKM7, VLLM7



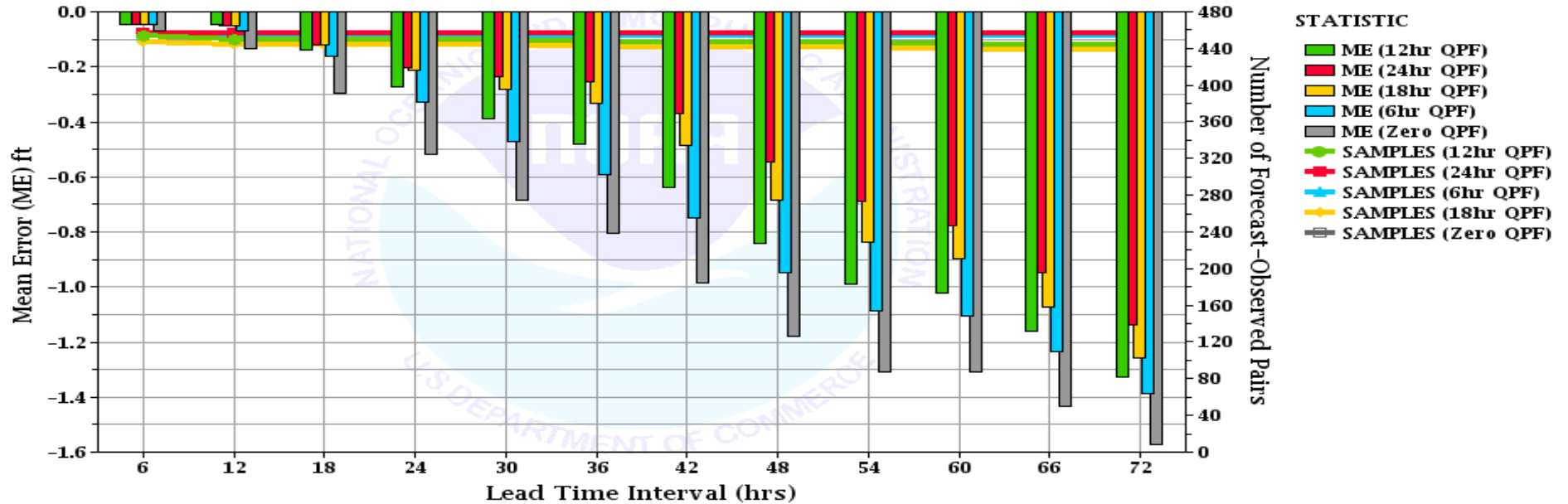
Plot of Root Mean-Squared Error (RMSE) against Leadtime Interval Compared Over Forecast Type Source  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-10-31 23:59:59 GMT  
 Response Times: MEDIUM  
 Locations: ERKM7, PCFM7, SEEM7, SLLM7, UNNM7, VLLM7



Plot of Mean Absolute Error (MAE) against Leadtime Interval Compared Over Forecast Type Source  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-10-31 23:59:59 GMT  
 River Response: FAST  
 Locations: CNGI2, LNMI2, CLMI2



Plot of Mean Error (ME) against Leadtime Interval Compared Over Forecast Type Source  
 Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-10-31 23:59:59 GMT  
 River Response: FAST  
 Locations: CNGI2, LNMI2, CLMI2





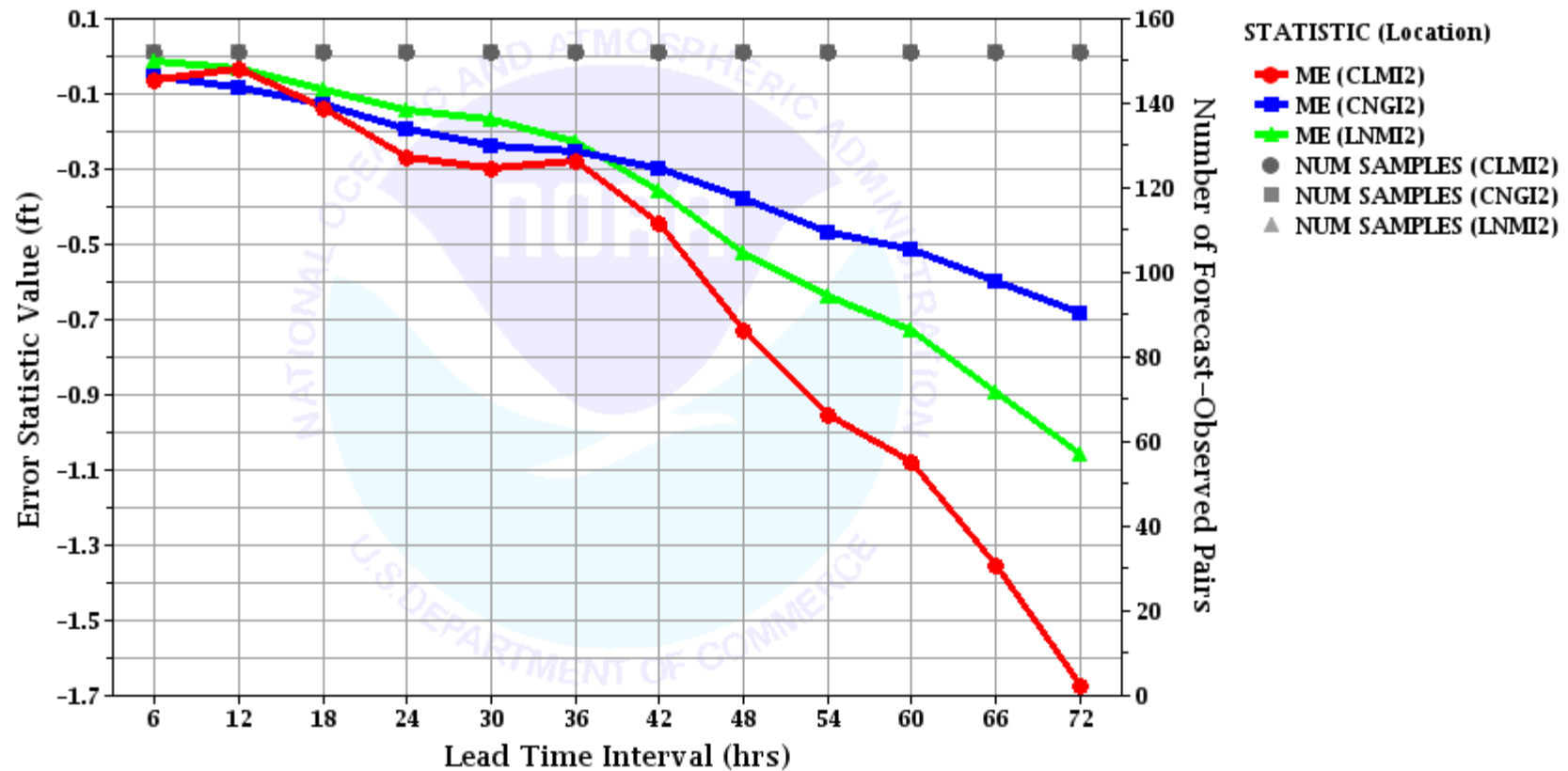
### Plot of Instantaneous Height Error Statistics against Leadtime Interval for NCRFC

Compared Over Location

Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-10-31 23:59:59 GMT

Lead times: 0 hours - 72 hours

Locations: CLMI2, CNGI2, LNMI2



**Probability of Detection (POD) and Hydrologic False Alarm Ratio (HFAR) against Forecast Type Source**

Time Period: 2009-06-01 00:00:00 GMT - 2009-10-31 23:59:59 GMT

Lead times: 0 hours - 24 hours

Locations: CLMI2, CNGI2, LNMI2

Response Times: FAST

