

PRECIPITATION SCIENCE IN THE OLYMPEX (mail to: patrick.gatlin@nasa.gov/256-961-7910): ZP11's Walt Petersen, Deputy Project Scientist for GPM GV, and Patrick Gatlin helped kick off NASA's Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM) mission Ground Validation (GV) Olympic Mountains Experiment (OLYMPEX) that takes place on the Olympic Peninsula in Washington state through January. This campaign will be measuring rain and snow from vantage points on the ground, in the sky and in space to investigate how precipitation systems evolve as they make landfall and move inland over mountainous terrain. The results have implications for validation of the GPM satellite and will address questions about Earth's Water & Energy cycle. Walt is currently leading the campaign's operations from the Univ. of Washington's OLYMPEX Operations Center in Seattle. Patrick helped deploy an array of GPM GV precipitation sensors to rainforests on the Olympic Peninsula—a place which gets over *12 feet of rain* each year. While there, both Walt and Patrick were interviewed by the [Seattle Times](#) and for a [NASA promotional story on OLYMPEX](#).