Winter Weather AWOC – Microclimate Exercise

Since it is said that bodies of water can result in changes in a microclimate, I thought I'd allude to a couple of observations I have made with respect to both Barkley and Kentucky lakes.

On days when expansive diurnal CU fields are present, and the lake water temperatures are such that they create a "stabilizing effect", you can see a marked decrease in cu coverage over and near the Land Between the Lakes area. And, depending on the wind fields, you can see the regions of lesser cloud cover migrate, based on the magnitude of the wind, and coverage and thickness of the cu field. Although I have no study to back it up, it would be interesting to see what near lake surface temperature are, when the lake is either warmer, or colder than its surroundings, coupled with other effects that can determine temperature.

The other local effect I have noticed is somewhat opposite to my observation of stabilization. If the trajectory, and antecedent conditions are "just right", lake effect snow bands can form off of the Land Between the Lakes area. The one band I remember in particular, developed in a west / northwest to east / southeast fashion off the tip of the lakes area. The snow band carried as far as south central Kentucky, and some accumulation was reported. I don't remember too many of the details, as far as actual accumulations, overall weather conditions, etc. But I do remember specifically that this was a direct result of a "lake effect" across both Barkley and Kentucky lakes.

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