

Jake Gigliotti
Flow Visualization

Cloud Report #3

For this third cloud image I was trying to capture some of the clouds right around the boulder area and was hoping to photograph something that involved good composition and contrast. I took a fair number of different photos of different clouds but decided to use this image of mountain wave clouds.

The mountain wave clouds had an excellent set of layers and had a large wavy smooth form. This comes from the flow over the flatirons and can also come from the flow towards them (east to west). When looking at the skew t plot from that day I noticed that it was supposedly stable atmosphere though one would expect it to be more unstable with these types of clouds.

For the actual image I decided to shoot in portrait style and in black and white. I like the portrait style because it lends itself to see the layers better and also traditionally cloud photos are often landscape. The tree in the foreground adds depth as well as perspective to the size of the clouds.

The image was shot at a F 9.0 and a shutter speed of $1/160^{\text{th}}$. The ISO was set at 400 and the image was converted to black and white in digital post effects. I used the Canon 40D digital SLR to capture the image and the focal length was around 30mm.

Overall I thought it was a fairly good image with nice composition. I think there are defiantly more stunning photos of mountain wave clouds but this one serves the purpose well and works better for art then to show the physics well.