

Kevin Barjenbruch

National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office
2242 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Phone: 801-524-5113

E-mail: kevin.barjenbruch@noaa.gov

Interest Statement

Why Interested/Why I Should Be Chosen:

The prospect of being a part of the WAS*IS cadre is appealing because this workshop is aimed at addressing one of my core challenges as a Warning Coordination Meteorologist, ensuring the public receives National Weather Service forecast and warning information, understands it, and responds appropriately.

If selected, I feel my personal strengths (work ethic, commitment to success, position extremely relevant to this project) will be blended with my local/regional environment and resources to enhance this program's success. The regional environmental characteristics and resources include:

- Diversity in local/regional community - persons of Hispanic or Latino origin at 9% within the State of Utah and 19% within Salt Lake City, plus several American Indian tribes in Utah.
- Variety of weather hazards (winter storms, flash flooding, fire weather, severe weather, high winds).
- Strong working relationship with Utah Department of Public Safety Emergency Services & Homeland Security officials.
- Presence of National Weather Service Western Region Headquarters to tap as a resource.

Career Goals/Workshop Contribution to Meeting Goals:

In the near term, my focus is on solidifying the NOAA's National Weather Service Salt Lake City (WFO SLC) Warning Coordination Program. Clearly, participation in this program will assist in that effort. In the two to three year timeframe, my goal is to become a Meteorologist-In-Charge. The opportunity of working on an extended program such as this provides leadership and recognition opportunities, though definitively, these are secondary to the program's objectives.

Aspect of Weather/Society Interface and Potential for Interim Research Project:

As alluded to above, I think the demographics of the region are ideal for a research project in association with the workshop. At this time, WFO SLC is exploring ideas for graphical warning displays, coupled with radar and demographic information. An exploration of communication requirements so that warnings can be heard/visualized and fully understood could provide insight useful for this project.

Personal Insight:

My strengths have always been my work ethic, commitment to success, and personal communication skills. From office to office, I have always been fortunate to have had strong working relationships with office team members. I have an even, modest personality, that lends itself to me being a team player. What is important is that the team produces work of a high standard and is attentive to results, not whether I am getting visibility as the team leader.

I thank you for your consideration of me for the WAS&IS workshop and I look forward to hearing from you by the end of April.