

**Tanja Fransen, Warning Coordination Meteorologist  
National Weather Service Glasgow, MT  
Glasgow, MT 59230**

**Education:**

- University of Northern Colorado BA Earth Sciences, emphasis in Meteorology (1995)
- National Weather Service Training Center
  - Forecaster Development Course (1997)
  - Management and Supervision (2001)
  - Warning Coordination Meteorologist Course (2002)
  - Executive Leadership Course (2004)
- National Weather Service Warning Decision Training Branch
  - Warning Decision Making III (2001)
- Office of Personnel Management Western Management Development Center
  - Leadership Potential Seminar (2002)
- Numerous Weather Related COMET training courses

**Professional Experience:**

- NWS Cheyenne, Wyoming Coop Student (1994-95)
- NWS Williston, North Dakota Meteorologist Intern (1995-96)
- NWS Bismarck, North Dakota Meteorologist Intern (1996-98)
- NWS Rapid City, South Dakota General Forecaster (1998-01)
- NWS Glasgow, Montana Warning Coordination Meteorologist (2001-current)

**Volunteer and Travel Experience:**

- I lived in Germany for 9 years. I can speak the language conversationally still.
- I have traveled to 10 countries and 34 states.
- Volunteer Fire Fighter and Medical First Responder with Mountain Communities Volunteer Fire Department in Westcreek, Colorado (1989-1995)
- Volunteer for the Valley County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) (2004-current)

**Experience and Proficiency Skills:**

My main duties as the WCM at NWS Glasgow are to manage the routine operations and procedures of the forecast operations and staff as well as manage our hazardous weather program. We issue forecast products for 12 counties in northeast Montana. I am the main liaison with our partners in emergency management, elected officials, hydrology, media and fire weather. I also manage the outreach program in the office, which includes school tours, Skywarn severe weather spotter training (we have nearly 1200 weather spotters in an area of ~50,000 people), weather workshops for fire fighters, emergency managers and the media.

My expertise area is in meteorological operations and outreach. In January 2003, I received the NWS's highest award, the Isaac Cline Award for Leadership for the work I had done to improve our warning dissemination, and the partnerships that I built with our customers and communities.

I routinely put together presentations for different groups, with many different subject matters. Yearly, I re-develop the Skywarn Spotter Training powerpoint in order to keep it fresh and not show the same thing to many spotters who return each year. I have done

video editing and was the team leader for the Western Region Skywarn video team in which we produced an 11 minute video that discusses what the Skywarn program is about, and why it is important.

I am also responsible for making sure that the policies of our regional and national headquarters are implemented on our local level. I maintain the office Station Duty Manual that has 106 sections spelling out the local office policies and procedures.

I have been on several teams within the National Weather Service that have shown my leadership skills and brainstorming of ideas. I was a regional representative to the national severe weather program managers meeting in Norman, OK in 2003, and am a current representative of the polygon warning verification team. Our office has been very proactive in participating in tests of software and methodologies in order to be able to have a voice in how things are working and to help offer suggestions for improvements before full deployment NWS-wide. We have been a part of the Watch by County Test program, the new GHG warning software test, the VTEC (Valid Time Event Code on products) test, and the polygon warning test.