

# MICHAEL MORITZ

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## Senior Meteorologist

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Senior Meteorologist with the National Weather Service (NWS). Trained facilitator with team oriented approach to providing forecast products and services. Effective communicator and successful record of building relationships with internal and external partners through personal attention, trust and confidence. Extensive knowledge beyond “weather forecasting”, including local NWS budget, awards and safety programs, specializing in climate and data related programs and the overall local NWS outreach program.

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### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### **National Weather Service, Hastings, NE (since 1994)**

*Federal agency charged with issuing weather forecasts and warnings to protect of life and property across the United States.*

#### **Senior Meteorologist**

Oversee daily shift operations regarding the production of weather forecast and warning information for south central Nebraska and north central Kansas.

- Provide leadership and direction to co-workers across a wide array of meteorological topics, such as severe spring and winter weather, flooding, fire weather, climate data and climate change, aviation weather and NWS related administrative procedures.
- Responsible for staffing levels (from 3 to 12 people) and shift duty delegation, most notably during severe weather (i.e. tornadoes, flash flooding, winter storms etc.).
- Conducted literally hundreds of print and broadcast media interviews regarding weather and climate related events, including many live TV and radio interviews, guest expert on a statewide TV call-in show and interviews with CBS radio, Washington Post and the Associated Press.
- Program Leader or team member for numerous office programs, including Climate, Hydrology, GIS, Budget, Awards, Safety, storm surveys and public and media outreach related issues.
- In May 2008, was the primary warning forecaster and shift leader during the Kearney and Aurora, NE tornado events. No injuries or fatalities occurred. Lead time for tornado events was almost 20 minutes.

#### **Television Weathercaster (1991-1992) at KOLN/KGIN-TV in Lincoln, NE**

*KOLN/KGIN is a smaller market TV station covering most of Nebraska and northern Kansas.*

- Weekend weathercaster. Routinely filled in for the Mon.-Fri. 6 pm and 10 pm weathercasts. Conducted several live interviews at various locations in Lincoln. Primary on-air weathercaster during a lengthy 1992 tornado event impacting the Lincoln area.

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### Select Papers and Presentations

- “On Issues of Tornado Damage Assessment in Rural Areas”, Theodore Fujita Symposium, 2003 American Meteorology Society (AMS) Annual Conference, Expert Panel Member and Oral Presentation
- “A Wicked Wind: A Look Back at High Winds in York, Nebraska on April 11, 2001”, 5<sup>th</sup> High Plains AMS/NWA Conference (2001), Oral Presentation
- “A Review of the Summer 2000 Flooding in South Central Nebraska”, 16<sup>th</sup> Conference on Hydrology at the 2002 AMS Annual Conference, Oral Presentation
- “Weatherwise 101, An Inside Look at the Operations of the National Weather Service”, 11<sup>th</sup> Conference on Education at the 1998 AMS Annual Conference, poster presentation
  - Weatherwise 101 was a formal training program for local Emergency Managers and Educators. The program was awarded the Hammer Award for government innovation.

### Select Outreach Events and Training

- NWS Central Region Climate Services Team. (2005-2006)
  - Responsible for developing regional NWS policy regarding climate related outreach
- NWS Hastings Office Outreach Team Leader. (2005)
- Co-organizer of a presentation for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Grand Island, NE tornadoes. Invited speaker included Dr. Roger Wakimoto, the original storm surveyor of the event. Over 400 people attended the free, public event. (2005)
- Session moderator and group facilitator at the Annual NWS Hydrology Conference. (2005)
- Chair for the 2003 High Plains Chapter of the AMS and National Weather Association annual conference in Hastings, NE. About 30 presentations were given during the 2-day event.
- Attended the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) Mid-Level Managers Retreat (2003) which detailed leadership, program and budget activities at the highest levels of NOAA.
- Instructor, Meteorology Special Topics Course, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. (2002)
  - Developed entire 3 hour course for graduate and undergraduate students.
- Instructor, Fire Weather Forecasting, S-190, S-290 and S-390 courses
  - Developed course materials for Fire Weather training to various groups.
- NOAA Facilitator Training. (1998 and 2004)

### Professional Affiliations

- Alumni Advisory Board Member, Department of Geosciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2006 to present
- Member, American Meteorological Society
- Member, High Plains Chapter of the AMS and National Weather Association (NWA)
  - Awarded the NWA National Chapter of the Year in 2003
  - Past President (2002-2003) and Treasurer (1998-2002)

### Education

- B.S., Meteorology and Climatology, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE, 1992
- Graduate School, Atmospheric Science, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY, 1992-93