

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE INSTRUCTION 20-101

OCTOBER 27, 2016

Training and Education

Training and Education, NWSP 20-1

USE OF THE WEATHER EVENT SIMULATOR

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SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This directive supersedes NWSI 20-101, “*Use of Weather Event Simulator,*” dated February 13, 2008. Changes made to reflect the NWS Headquarters reorganization effective April 1, 2015.

Changes made: Pg 2 Section 4 references to the obsolete 2006 WES Implementation and Operations Plan removed.

Signed

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and Learning Officer

October 13, 2016

Date

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1. Purpose. The purpose of this Instruction is to provide information on the number of Weather Event Simulator (WES) simulations which must be completed each year, define Significant Weather Seasons, and establish responsibilities for WES support.

2. Professional Development. Each Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Meteorologist-in-Charge (MIC) will fully integrate the WES into office professional development activities with a goal of enhancing staff forecast and warning skills. The MIC will ensure all WFO staff with forecast and warning responsibilities complete at least four WES simulations per year. As part of the four, one appropriate WES simulation must be completed prior to the start of each significant weather season.

3. Defining Significant Weather Seasons. The MIC will define significant weather seasons for the WFO. These are the periods where the office focuses their internal preparedness activities, such as drills and heightened awareness, for major forecast and warning challenges. They may vary among offices and can include periods characterized by severe convection, winter weather, heavy rainfall, fire weather, aviation weather hazards, and so on. At a minimum, all offices will define at least two significant weather seasons.

4. Weather Event Simulator (WES) Support. The Warning Decision Training Division will develop, maintain and support the WES hardware and software.