

**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE EASTERN REGION SUPPLEMENT 04-2003**  
**APPLICABLE TO NWSI 20-103**  
**May 17, 2013**

**Training and Education**  
**Training and Education, NWSPD 20-01**  
**Forecaster Development Program Training, NWSI 20-103**

**GUIDELINES FOR PAPERS AUTHORED BY EASTERN REGION EMPLOYEES**

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**NOTICE:** This publication is available at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/>.

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**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS:** This supplement supersedes "Guidelines for Papers Authored by Eastern Region Employees," filed with Training and Education Policy, NWSPD 20-1 and Directives System – Forecaster Development Program Training, NWSI 20-103, dated November 18, 2004. Changes: 1). Update of Lightning Acknowledgement to Section 3.1.1, and 2) Addition of “conference preprints,” “newsletters,” and “professional journal comment and reply exchange” to Section 2.1.4.

<SIGNED>

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May 17, 2013

Date

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**1. Introduction.** The purpose of this supplement is to establish policies and procedures to be followed by the National Weather Service (NWS) Eastern Region (ER) employees concerning the submission, review, and subsequent publication of all forms of internal and external publications. The ultimate goal is to assist authors in producing a final paper that will be a quality product that reflects favorably upon themselves and the National Weather Service.

**2. Policies and Procedures.** This supplement establishes the following policy: any manuscript authored or co-authored by an NWS ER employee will be submitted to the ER Scientific Services Division (SSD) Publication Focal Point (PFP) and ER SSD Chief for review to ensure scientific integrity and adherence to NWS policies and procedures. Participation in conferences by ER personnel for the purpose of reporting on research conducted on official duty or that used government resources must also receive prior approval from ER SSD.

## **2.1 Overview.**

**2.1.1 General Comments on Various Publications.** NWS ER management encourages employees to carry out scientific studies and investigations and communicate the results to others. There are several outlets in which scientific results can be documented. The appropriate medium varies from study to study, and depends on the scope and depth of the investigation and its intended audience.

The easiest way to document a study is to informally write it up and include it in office reference files or by posting to a local webpage. Documentation might include elements such as: meteorological maps, analyses, interpretive discussions, and radar and satellite imagery. Form and content can vary; however, the results should satisfy the intended purpose of the study and be shared among the staff at the office. For studies intended to receive wider distribution beyond the office, more structured documentation and a review by SSD is required. Appropriate types of publication information are given at the Eastern Region Publication (ERP) web site:

<http://www.werh.noaa.gov/ssd/erps/erps.html>. In addition, new technologies are encouraged to be utilized to convey information, see the Electronic Supplemental Material web site at: <http://www.werh.noaa.gov/SSD/erps/electronic.htm>

**2.1.2 Quality of Work.** It is the responsibility of the author to convey the main points of the work in a concise and logical manner. In addition, data and information must be accurate, and figures must be clear and legible. ER SSD can provide assistance with these, but the author has final responsibility for manuscript and figure quality. Generally, ER SSD recommends manuscripts and references follow a format and style similar to the refereed journals of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) (<http://www.ametsoc.org/>). See the AMS author's guide ([http://www.ametsoc.org/pubs/authorsguide/pdf\\_vs/authguide.pdf](http://www.ametsoc.org/pubs/authorsguide/pdf_vs/authguide.pdf)) for details. For the purpose of review, figures and tables should be submitted on separate pages and not embedded in the main body of the manuscript. The manuscript, as well as satellite images, radar pictures, figures, photographs, and tables should also be sent electronically whenever possible. Additional information on each publication type can be found on the Eastern Region Publication web site at: <http://www.werh.noaa.gov/ssd/erps/erps.html>. Authors should consult with their local office management team, and/or SSD if they are in doubt of the proper medium or venue for their work.

**2.1.3 Role of Supervisors.** The Division Chief (DC), Meteorologist in Charge (MIC), or Hydrologist in Charge (HIC) should encourage the development of studies by members of their staff. The oversight of research and development and the papers that result from such efforts will be the responsibility of the DC, Science and Operations Officer (SOO), or the Development and Operations Hydrologist (DOH). The DC, SOO, or DOH will review all manuscripts before they are submitted to ER SSD. All locally reviewed manuscripts must be approved through the appropriate DC, MIC, or HIC before submission to ER SSD.

**2.1.4 Role of Scientific Services Division.** It is ER SSD's responsibility to provide clearance for all manuscripts including informal publications, and for manuscripts intended for formal publication. Manuscripts, including abstracts, conference preprints, and conference posters are reviewed by SSD for scientific accuracy, methodology, technical correctness, and adherence to NWS policy and procedures, and must be presented in a clear, concise, and credible form. Though not reviewed by SSD, professional journal comment and reply exchanges and newsletter articles submitted to professional organization publications must be submitted to ER SSD for awareness that the publication will be in press. In the review phase, ER SSD will critique and provide editorial suggestions, which may require additional iterations of review and refinement. In the publication phase, ER SSD will provide guidance on selecting the appropriate venue for publication. All manuscripts are tracked in the ER SSD Publication database to ensure timely review. Where applicable, SSD will provide authors final clearance and coordinate payment of professional journal page charges for all publications that require a page charge. Finally, authors should not submit such papers to professional journals without this clearance.

**3. Disclaimers and Acknowledgments.** There may be instances where the author's views do not express those of the NWS, thus warranting a disclaimer (NDS 100-1, <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/100/100.htm>). There may also be instances where data sources or services used in the reported work need to be acknowledged. Should ER SSD determine that a manuscript requires such a designation, the author will attach either the appropriate disclaimer or acknowledgment within the manuscript. Specific disclaimer and acknowledgment information is found in Appendix A.

## Appendix A.

### Disclaimers and Acknowledgments

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**1. Overview.** When instances arise where an ER employee authors a manuscript, and: 1. the author’s views do not express those of the NWS, 2. data sources or services used in the reported work need to be acknowledged, then the appropriate disclaimer or acknowledgment will be attached to the manuscript.

#### **2. Disclaimers.**

**2.1 NWS Position.** Should ER SSD determine that a manuscript could reasonably be misconstrued as presenting a position of the National Weather Service (NWS) when it does not, the following disclaimer is required: **“The views expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent those of the National Weather Service.”** per National Weather Service Directive 100-1.

**2.2 Commercial Products Disclaimer.** If using third party software in support of research for data analysis, visualization, or generating figures for publication, include the following statement in the publication: **“Reference to any specific commercial products, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not constitute or imply its recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government or NOAA/National Weather Service. Use of information from this publication shall not be used for advertising or product endorsement purposes.”**

#### **3. Acknowledgments.**

##### **3. 1 Specific Acknowledgments.**

**3.1.1 Lightning Acknowledgment.** Lightning data is provided to the NWS by Vaisala and Earth Networks (Earth Network’s lightning and StreamerRT application).

The agreement NWS has with Vaisala states the company provides lightning data under a limited use license with the NWS. The data is always the property of the company. The contract allows the NWS to receive and use the data in real time, archive the real time data for later application by authorized users, and purchase archived data. No redistribution outside of the authorized users listed in the agreement is allowed. When using the Vaisala data for a formal presentation or refereed paper, please provide the following acknowledgment: **“Use of lightning data by the NWS provided through a license agreement with Vaisala.”**

The agreement NWS has with Earth Networks states the company provides lightning data under a limited use license with the NWS. The contract allows the NWS to receive and use the data in real time and for NCDC to archive the real time data for later application. No redistribution of Earth Networks lightning data or StreamerRT application outside of the authorized users listed in the agreement is allowed.

When using the Earth Networks lightning data or StreamerRT application for a formal presentation or refereed paper, please provide the Earth Networks or StreamerRT logo found on the display image, if available, or with the following written acknowledgment: **“Use of Earth Networks lightning data and the StreamerRT web service *<include only if the StreamerRT application is used>* by the NWS is provided through a license agreement with Earth Networks.”**

**3.1.2 Grant or Project Acknowledgment.** Research that is supported by a grant (i.e., CSTAR or COMET) will provide an acknowledgment to include the grant number, grant or project title, and where to obtain additional information regarding the grant or project. When providing a grant or project acknowledgment, use the following as a guide: **“This work was supported by <Grant name and number>, awarded to <Institution> as part of the <grant or project name>. Additional information concerning <grant or project name> may be found at <internet address>.”**

**3.1.3 Use of Google Earth Imagery.** Google Earth Pro, Google Maps API and Google Earth Enterprise software is provided to the NWS from Google via a licensing agreement. Use of imagery generated through use of Google Earth Pro, Google Maps API, or Google Earth Enterprise for publications must maintain the original “Google” logo located in the bottom right hand corner of the image. No other written disclaimer or acknowledgement is necessary.

## Attachment 1

### Glossary of terms

#### *Terms*

**External publications** - The distribution of an ER publication outside NOAA/NWS to the wider scientific community, including international distribution; or referring to outside of NOAA/NWS.

**Formal publication** - A review of a publication that undergoes an external, rigorous peer review.

**Informal publication** - A review of a publication that undergoes review only by ER SSD, and not an external peer review panel.

**Internal publications** - The distribution of an ER publication with NOAA/NWS primarily intended for NWS personnel.

**Refereed journal** - a publication that contains only articles or papers that have undergone an external peer review.