



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

OFFICE OF OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

National Severe Storms Laboratory  
120 David L. Boren Blvd.  
Norman, OK 73072

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Hello Broadcast Meteorologists!

We are seeking broadcast meteorologists to provide input for the development of a product that seeks to contextualize the Storm Prediction Center's Convective Outlook probabilities with climatological information based on time of year and geographic location. If you are interested, please consider applying to participate in the 2023 Normalized Risk Tabletop Exercise as part of NOAA's Hazardous Weather Testbed (HWT). The HWT is a joint project of the NOAA National Weather Service and the NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory to help foster collaboration between research and operations to test and evaluate emerging technologies and science. This year we are funded to investigate how end users understand and utilize, both for themselves and for their audience, different kinds of probabilistic forecasts for severe weather. A summary of our project is on the second page of this letter.

Our project will take place virtually **January 31- February 2**. We will select **8 broadcasters** to participate in **one-hour focus groups**. As a condition of participating, those who are selected will be asked to allow the researchers to use data collected in the experiment for research and development purposes. More details about the research participation will be provided to those who are selected.

If you would like to apply, please [apply online here!](#)

Please complete the application by **January 17**, as candidates will be selected shortly thereafter. We are seeking enthusiastic people willing to walk through how they would cover an example severe weather event using SPC forecast information, as well as take a brief survey about a set of forecast products. If selected, you will contribute to discussions/surveys concerning how you interpret both current and new severe weather products and how you would use them to do your job, thus helping us develop a new severe weather forecast and warning paradigm. Broadcast meteorologists play a critical role in the warning process, and your input is valuable.

Sincerely,

Kodi L. Berry, Ph.D.  
FACETs Program Lead, National Severe Storms Laboratory



## **The Normalized Risk Tabletop Exercise in NOAA's Hazardous Weather Testbed**

**[CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)**

The deadline for applications is January 17, 2023. Candidates will be selected shortly thereafter.

**WHO** - Broadcast meteorologists serve a critical and complex role in the communication of weather warnings. We are looking for a diverse set of broadcast meteorologists (8 in total). We hope that everyone who feels interested will apply.

**WHEN** – 10am or 8pm, January 31st, and 10am or 8pm, February 2nd.

**WHAT** - The main objective of this Absolute vs Normalized Risk focus group activity is to learn how broadcasters interpret and utilize previously unexplored types of probabilistic information for communicating rare severe weather events. Broadcast participants will view current and experimental severe weather products and discuss their thoughts and reactions. Researchers will study how the broadcast meteorologists interpret the probabilistic severe weather information, and investigate how they may use this information if it were made publicly accessible. This HWT project will help us as researchers learn whether new Normalized Risk communication formats will be of value to broadcasters covering severe weather events.

**WHY** - The introduction of new communication formats for probabilities in the convective outlook could create a number of complex issues for broadcast meteorologists, potentially without an increase in forecast value for users. The project investigators hope to gain insights into the following:

- Interpretation and communication of Normalized probabilistic information
- Potential strengths and weaknesses of Normalized probabilistic information
- Whether access to Normalized probabilistic information would aid broadcaster coverage of severe weather events across the US.

For more information, see our website and recent conference presentations:

SLS 2022 presentation: <https://ams.confex.com/ams/30SLS/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/407056>