

MICHAEL P. FOSTER

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Mike Foster is the Meteorologist-in-Charge of the National Weather Service Norman Forecast Office. He oversees a staff of 29 people and manages the weather warning, forecast and data collection activities for 56 counties in central and western Oklahoma and western north Texas. His scientific interests include general forecasting and detection and warning for severe thunderstorms and tornadoes.

He served four years in the United States Air Force from 1966 through 1970. In 1985, Mike began his meteorology career at the U.S. Army Atmospheric Sciences Laboratory at White Sands, N.M., and then joined the National Weather Center Service as part of the Scientific Services Division staff at the headquarters for the southern region in Ft. Worth. He then moved to the Norman office in 1988 as the Techniques Development Technology Transfer specialist, working as part of the test team for the new NEXRAD radar and weather computer system. From 1992 to Sept. 2000, Mike was the Science Operations Officer for the NWS Forecast Office in Fort Worth.

In 2003, Mike was awarded the Department of Commerce Gold Medal for development of the Weather Event Simulator. He also received the Department of Commerce Silver Medal and the American Meteorological Society Award for Exceptional Specific Prediction in recognition of his decisive, life-saving actions during the March 28, 2000, tornado in Fort Worth, Texas. His other recognitions include the NOAA Administrator's Award for warning enhancement software development. Mike is a member of the American Meteorological Society and the National Weather Association.