

## American Meteorological Society

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**From:** American Meteorological Society  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 10, 2019 8:04 AM  
**To:** craig.mclean@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Open Forum Digest for Tuesday September 10, 2019



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Sep 9, 2019

### Discussions

started 10 hours ago, (b)(6) (0 replies)

#### [Politicization of weather forecasts](#)



1. (b)(6) Bruce Egan

started 16 hours ago, (b)(6) (0 replies)

#### [AMS Peer Review AMA](#)



2. (b)(6) Beth Farley

started 20 hours ago, (b)(6) (1 reply)

#### [NWS Performance](#)



3. (b)(6) Elbert Friday
4. (b)(6) Eileen Shea

started yesterday, (b)(6) (5 replies)

#### [Original track by NHC](#)



5. (b)(6) Richard DiMaio
6. (b)(6) Henry Cole
7. (b)(6) Daniel Ventola
8. (b)(6) Daniel Ventola

started 2 days ago, (b)(6) (19 replies)

## [Please don't attack NWS forecasters](#)



9. (b)(6) Greg Shoup
10. (b)(6) Roger Edson
11. (b)(6) Sarah Vavra
12. (b)(6) Sarah Vavra
13. (b)(6) Robert Ryan
14. (b)(6) John Shewchuk
15. (b)(6) James Marusak
16. (b)(6) Danny Satterfield

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### 1. [Politicization of weather forecasts](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 10:00 PM

(b)(6)

I was pleased to see Certified Broadcast Meteorologist Bill Karins stand up on national TV for the need for accurate information for hurricane trajectory forecasting after our President???'s unprecedented intervention with outdated and misleading sharpie pen alterations to a NWS Forecast map. Among our President???'s tweets in defending his untimely and erroneous information was ???I was with you all the way, Alabama??? -a comment clearly aimed at generating local political support after making several false warnings that Alabama was at risk of being hit. This politicization of factual scientific matters is, of course, consistent with his denial of anthropogenic climate change- something that should give meteorologists even greater pause. It is part of our President???'s even larger ongoing war on science and scientific integrity.

-- Bruce A. Egan;Sc.D.;CCM Egan Environmental Sciences Beverly, MA 01915

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## 2. [AMS Peer Review AMA](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 3:30 PM

(b)(6)

Peer review of research results is indispensable to the modern scientific enterprise. AMS supports this effort by publishing peer reviewed articles in its journals, Meteorological Monographs, and Bulletin.

Are you curious about how peer review works? Wonder why hundreds of busy researchers serve as volunteer editors for AMS publications, and why thousands more volunteer their time to review? What do reviewers look for in papers, and how do editors decide whether a paper should be published or not? Once peer reviewed papers are published, how are they used, in the scientific community and beyond?

Here is your chance to ask about all of this and more: join us in the **AMS Community on Tuesday 17 September for an Ask Me Anything (AMA)** session with AMS Publications Commissioner Dr. Anthony Broccoli. I invite you to submit any questions you might have ahead of the event using this (b)(6) (please note that any questions submitted will be posted to the Community on your behalf).

We look forward to hearing from you!

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Beth Farley  
Director, Member Services & Acting Community Coordinator  
American Meteorological Society (AMS)  
Boston MA  
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(b)(6)

### 3. [NWS Performance](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 11:59 AM

(b)(6)

I have recently read the Statement from the American Meteorological Society supporting the Weather Forecast Office in Birmingham, Alabama in their assuring the public that Alabama would experience no significant impact from Hurricane Dorian. I also read the message from Louie Uccellini et al to the NWS team commending them for their outstanding performance during the event. I believe this performance deserves to be recognized by at least a Department of Commerce Gold Medal. I expect that every governor, emergency manager, and broadcast meteorologist in those areas impacted or potentially impacted by the storm would agree with me.

E W (Joe) Friday, Jr, Colonel USAF (Retired)

Former Director, NWS

Past President of the American Meteorological Society

Professor Emeritus, University of Oklahoma

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Elbert Friday

Edmond OK

(b)(6)

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(b)(6)

### 4. [Re: NWS Performance](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 1:01 PM

(b)(6)

Great idea, Joe! Thanks.

(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

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Elbert Friday

Edmond OK

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5. [Re: Original track by NHC](#)

(b)(6)

Sep 9, 2019 10:39 AM



(b)(6)

Hi Dan.....You are forecasting for a major snow removal company that handles all counties roads in eastern PA and southern NY state (west of the Hudson)

.The next time there is a major Nor'Easter forecasting a band of heavy snow from IAD to ALB on a Sunday and the next two day runs of all the models show the band shifting to ACY to BOS, please tell me how you would respond to a person who is in charge of plowing these roads since they are now telling you that they were right about the way they interpreted the forecast on Sunday, even though new information was provided on Monday and Tuesday. Of course you would say that the forecast was changed and the newer tracks were part of the 2 a day daily briefings. Clearly Trump cannot admit that he was wrong. We are not politicizing this. Unfortunately, my fellow meteorologist, you are!

Rick DiMaio

(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----



Hello to all and good day to everyone. I don't know what the hub bub is about with President Trump's map which extended Hurricane Dorian's track or "affects" to Alabama. SEE MAP ABOVE...That sharpie drawing was based on forecasts such as what you see here. See map showing effects getting into southeastern Alabama. National Hurricane Center did their best with today's "tools" we have. We obviously have a ways to go as far as "preliminary" forecast track as we now know Dorian barely effected Florida. Dorian's track greatly improved (forecast accuracy

by NHC) to track up into the eastern Carolinas then east of New England. So, don't rag on President Trump, nor the NHC. Both were in actual agreement with the extended "sharpie" drawing". Of course that projected track changed with time. So, again, don't point fingers at NHC, they do their best until a later time when we have a better understanding of Hurricanes and their development and the environment "around" the storm. And, please... don't make this into a political football. We are better than that. Thank you and enjoy the day.

-----  
Daniel Ventola  
President/Meteorologist  
Hasbrouck Heights NJ

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## 6. [Re: Original track by NHC](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 2:36 PM

(b)(6)

Oh, come on now; Trump stuck to his guns even when the forecast changed. This President is the most anti-science President in the 20th and 21st centuries. He is a climate change denier. If the truth is political football, let the game begin.

All who are outraged please add your voices.

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Henry Cole  
Upper Marlboro MD

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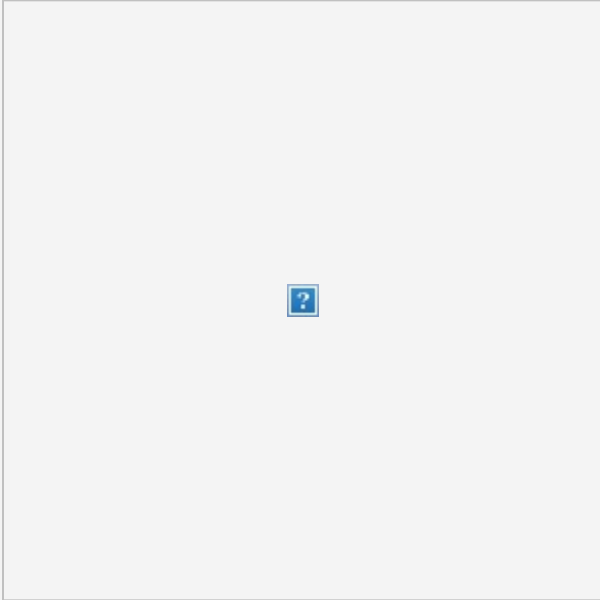
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Original Message:

Sent: 09-08-2019 11:29

From: Daniel Ventola

Subject: Original track by NHC



Hello to all and good day to everyone. I don't know

what the hub bub is about with President Trump's map which extended Hurricane Dorian's track or "affects" to Alabama. SEE MAP ABOVE...That sharpie drawing was based on forecasts such as what you see here. See map showing effects getting into southeastern Alabama. National Hurricane Center did their best with today's "tools" we have. We obviously have a ways to go as far as "preliminary" forecast track as we now know Dorian barely effected Florida. Dorian's track greatly improved (forecast accuracy by NHC) to track up into the eastern Carolinas then east of New England. So, don't rag on President Trump, nor the NHC. Both were in actual agreement with the extended "sharpie" drawing". Of course that projected track changed with time. So, again, don't point fingers at NHC, they do their best until a later time when we have a better understanding of Hurricanes and their development and the environment "around" the storm. And, please... don't make this into a political football. We are better than that. Thank you and enjoy the day.

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Daniel Ventola

President/Meteorologist

Hasbrouck Heights NJ

(b)(6)

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## 7. [Re: Original track by NHC](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 5:26 PM

(b)(6)

Mr. Cole,

Why are you so defiant against the president? You have a beef with him, just admit it. Keep this discussion about science.

Notice the comments made by NESDIS/NWS, an employee who thoroughly agrees with me. I am officially done with this topic as I usually stir things up and get nonsical responses from people like you. Although you are probably a nice guy.... but then again, who knows.

RESEARCH MY FRIEND, RESEARCH!

Thanks,

Dan

-----  
Daniel Ventola  
President/Meteorologist  
Hasbrouck Heights NJ

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

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-----  
Daniel Ventola  
President/Meteorologist  
Hasbrouck Heights NJ

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8. [Re: Original track by NHC](#)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 5:26 PM

(b)(6)

PS Mr. Cole, what are your credentials?  
Dan

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Daniel Ventola  
President/Meteorologist  
Hasbrouck Heights NJ

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

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Original Message:  
Sent: 09-09-2019 15:48  
From: Daniel Ventola  
Subject: Original track by NHC

Mr. Cole,  
Why are you so defiant against the president? You have a beef with him, just admit it.  
Keep this discussion about science.  
Notice the comments made by NESDIS/NWS, an employee who thoroughly agrees with  
me. I am officially done with this topic as I usually  
stir things up and get nonsical responses from people like you. Although you are  
probably a nice guy.... but then again, who knows.  
RESEARCH MY FRIEND, RESEARCH!  
Thanks,  
Dan

---

Daniel Ventola  
President/Meteorologist  
Hasbrouck Heights NJ

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## 9. [Re: Please don't attack NWS forecasters](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 8:32 AM

(b)(6)

I could not agree more and am beyond angry about what happened here. The weather was the last part of the government that should be involved with anything controversial. Marshal Shepard who is a former AMS president wrote a great piece featuring former NOAA administrators and their thoughts about this. [www.forbes.com/sites/marshallshepherd/2019/09/07/...](http://www.forbes.com/sites/marshallshepherd/2019/09/07/...)

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Greg Shoup  
Fort Wayne IN

(b)(6)

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(b)(6)

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Original Message:

Sent: 09-07-2019 10:07

From: Henry Cole

Subject: Please don't attack NWS forecasters

NWS forecasters are part of our national defense. They should not be attacked for sticking to their forecasts despite attempts by politician(s) and high management officials to alter the hurricane track forecasts with sharpies. As an organization AMS should stand up for our forecasters and the best science.

If you agree sign let us know.

Henry S. Cole, Ph.D.

---

Henry Cole  
Upper Marlboro MD

(b)(6)

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## 10. [Re: Please don't attack NWS forecasters](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 8:54 AM

(b)(6)

Actually, Jerome, it is technically a misdemeanor ('imprisoned or fined under 18 US Code, Para 2074, False weather reports, not more than ninety days)...

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Roger Edson  
Tamuning

(b)(6)

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(b)(6)

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Original Message:

Sent: 09-08-2019 17:51

From: Jerome Smith

Subject: Please don't attack NWS forecasters

It is an absolute outrage that some "unnamed official" at NOAA supported an illegal act (broadcasting an altered forecast is a felony, by the way). This was no doubt someone appointed by Trump. There WILL be a reckoning, but it won't come any time soon, unless we all speak up.

-----  
Jerome Smith  
Researcher  
Scripps Institution of Oceanography  
La Jolla CA 92093-0213

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## 11. [Re: Please don't attack NWS forecasters](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 10:21 AM

(b)(6)

Unfortunately, it's not hindsight or lessons learned. This president has the idea that he knows everything, and no one knows better than he does. He may have chosen to not be briefed, or he was briefed and didn't listen/hear anything outside of what he wanted to. He has proven this time and again, as far back as the 1970s. He doesn't get a pass just because he's the president.

-----  
SarahVavra  
Roseville, MN  
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(b)(6)

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Original Message:  
Sent: 09-08-2019 15:21  
From: Ronald Gird  
Subject: Please don't attack NWS forecasters

in hindsight and lessons learned. The president should have been briefed by the NHC Director, either by video conference or a personal site visit to NHC. Previous presidents

have done this. There were too many people in the loop between the President and the NHC Director. A case of "too many cooks can spoil the broth." lessons learned: when a person speaks outside of their area of expertise, we should take the information with a "grain of salt."

---

Ronald Gird  
Fairfax VA

(b)(6)

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## 12. [Re: Please don't attack NWS forecasters](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 10:34 AM

(b)(6)

Fully agree. Weather may be one of the many businesses of politics, but forecasting itself should not be used as a pawn in political games, and it certainly shouldn't be used to appease little men whose egos need stroking. Especially not when life and limb hang in the balance.

---

SarahVavra  
Roseville, MN

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(b)(6)

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Sent: 09-07-2019 10:07  
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If you agree sign let us know.

Henry S. Cole, Ph.D.

-----  
Henry Cole  
Upper Marlboro MD

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### 13. [Re: Please don't attack NWS forecasters](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 10:40 AM

(b)(6)

The science adviser to the President is well know to many of us. Dr Kelvin Droegemeier should have been in the room to brief the President and help make sure he got the science, and chart date correct. Missed him if he was there

Bob Ryan

-----  
Robert Ryan CCM  
McLean VA

(b)(6)

(b)(6)



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Original Message:

Sent: 09-08-2019 15:21

From: Ronald Gird

Subject: Please don't attack NWS forecasters

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-----  
Ronald Gird

Fairfax VA

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#### 14. [Re: Please don't attack NWS forecasters](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 4:36 PM

(b)(6)

I don't understand the problem about climate change. The climate is changing as it always has. Plus, we are still in an Interglacial Warm Period and according to the historic records, several past Interglacial Warm Periods were warmer than now, and since we really don't know why those Warm Periods warmed, I expect continued warming -- at least until the next Ice Age begins. Additionally, other records show that sea levels were 15 to 20 feet or more higher than today. So until the the next Ice Age begins, I'd advise against any new construction on lands lower than 20 feet AGL ... and if you live along hurricane prone coast lines, you need to add an extra 20 feet for possible storm surges. The historical record is very important and should not be ignored -- unless of course you have a really good flood insurance policy.

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John Shewchuk, CCM  
Eosonde Research Services, LLC.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Original Message:  
Sent: 09-08-2019 11:42  
From: Henry Cole  
Subject: Please don't attack NWS forecasters

Take a look at today's Washington Post article at [www.washingtonpost.com/politics/...](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/...)

The candidates for AMS President need to respond--The Trump Administration has taken steps to push scientists away from the truth about climate change. Now they take another stab--this time it tries to muzzle our NWS forecasters. Cannot be tolerated.

Henry Cole  
Upper Marlboro MD

(b)(6)

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15. [Re: Please don't attack NWS forecasters](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 8:58 PM

(b)(6)

Sarah, I agree totally. Yes I'm involved with the DFL around here in MN in Senate District 66. But when it comes to weather hazards, those hazards affect everyone, no matter what race, religion, creed, or political leaning. they really don't care who they effect, as those

storms are just storms. And as such, I make it a point to not ever withhold crucial safety information from anyone. Politics have their own arena. The weather and climate is not one of those places.

---

James Marusak

factory associate, safety advocate, and experienced forecaster on the outside of the wx enterprise wanting back in  
St Paul MN

home: (b)(6)

cell: (b)(6)

linkedin: (b)(6)

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(b)(6)

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Original Message:

Sent: 09-09-2019 10:33

From: Sarah Vavra

Subject: Please don't attack NWS forecasters

Fully agree. Weather may be one of the many businesses of politics, but forecasting itself should not be used as a pawn in political games, and it certainly shouldn't be used to appease little men whose egos need stroking. Especially not when life and limb hang in the balance.

---

SarahVavra  
Roseville, MN

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16. [Re: Please don't attack NWS forecasters](#)

(b)(6)



Sep 9, 2019 10:08 PM

(b)(6)

I would like to know if Kelvin was involved and who did the briefing. Was it someone with a background in atmo. sci?

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Danny Satterfield  
WBOC-TV  
Salisbury MD

(b)(6)

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(b)(6)

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Original Message:  
Sent: 09-09-2019 10:40  
From: Robert Ryan  
Subject: Please don't attack NWS forecasters

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Bob Ryan

-----  
Robert Ryan CCM  
McLean VA

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