

New Meteorologist in Charge at NWS Glasgow

NOAA's National Weather Service has named Steve Apfel to serve as meteorologist-in-charge of the weather forecast office in Glasgow, Mont. He will start at the office on Dec 13th.

"A meteorologist-in-charge is the front line officer carrying out the National Weather Service mission of serving the American public by helping protect lives and property," said Brig. Gen. David L. Johnson, U.S. Air Force (Ret.), director of NOAA's National Weather Service. "We are honored to have Steve Apfel serving in this important role."

Following a four year enlistment with the U.S. Air Force, where he specialized in satellite communications and avionics, Apfel earned a bachelor's degree in meteorology and climatology from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in 1989. He joined the National Weather Service that year in the Youngstown, Ohio forecast office as a meteorological intern. He was selected as a journey forecaster at the Hastings, Neb. forecast office in 1993, and then in 1995 transferred to the Elko, Nev. forecast office. Apfel was selected as the Science Operations Officer at the Elko office in 1996.

"After more than ten years as the science officer at Elko, Steven Apfel has gained a wealth of experience," said Vickie Nadolski, director of NOAA's National Weather Service western region. "I know Steven's experience and leadership will be tremendous assets to the staff and communities of eastern Montana."

Apfel is a group 2003 regional Cline Award recipient for his work in the upper air program of the National Weather Service. He also received a group Department of Commerce Award that year for his work on the interactive forecast preparation system, which allows forecasters to prepare graphical depictions of predicted weather. Apfel also received a group 2005 Fire Weather Outstanding Service Award.