David Zelinsky

Lead Meteorologist
Technology and Science Branch
National Hurricane Center

David Zelinsky is a lead meteorologist in the Technology and Science Branch at NOAA's National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida.

He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Atmospheric Science from Purdue University (2009), and his Master of Science Degree from Florida State University in Meteorology (2011). While at Florida State, he participated in the NASA Genesis and Rapid Intensification Processes (GRIP) experiment in 2010 as a student forecaster.

After finishing his degree at Florida State, he began working at the National Hurricane Center in 2011 as a model diagnostician in the Hurricane Forecast Improvement Program.

In 2014, Zelinsky became a programmer with NHC's Technology and Science Branch. In this position, he was part of a team responsible for maintaining the software and dataflow used to make forecasts at the National Hurricane Center. He was also the administrator of the National Hurricane Center website.

He was selected for a detail as a hurricane specialist in the hurricane specialist unit in 2017. He moved permanently to that position for the 2018 and 2019 hurricane seasons.

In 2020, Zelinsky returned to the Technology and Science Branch as a team lead. In addition to supporting NHC's technical needs, he has continued to work shifts in the hurricane specialist unit.

Zelinsky continues to be involved with the Hurricane Forecast Improvement Program, and is a co-leader of the Post-Processing and Verification Strategic Team. He has attended and presented at several meteorological meetings, and has authored several National Hurricane Center Tropical Cyclone Reports. He has received several NWS Isaac Cline Awards and received an Outstanding Achievement Award in Meteorology at the National Hurricane Conference in 2019. He is a member of the American Meteorological Society.

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