

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER  
919TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING**

**919TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING  
INSTRUCTION 10-201**



**17 DECEMBER 2012**

**Operations**

**ADVERSE WEATHER**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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This publication implements the provision of Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 10-2, *Readiness*, and Air Force Instruction (AFI) 10-229, *Responding to Severe Weather*. This instruction applies to all 919<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Wing (919 SOW) assigned units and personnel. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) using the Air Force Form (AF Form) 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route AF Forms 847 from the field through the appropriate functional's chain of command. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule (RDS) located at <https://afrims.amc.af.mil/>.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

This revision implements additional content to paragraph 3.5. The additional content is the following: by the command post; if the command post is not open; which include a 15 minute waiting period after the last strike within five nautical miles (NM) or in the judgment of the forecaster the threat is over. The forecaster may also wait longer after the 15 minute period to rescind the warning if in their judgment a lightning threat still exists. An \* indicates revision from the previous edition.

**1. Definition.** Adverse weather, to include lightning and extreme temperatures, poses a potential threat to personnel working at Eglin Field 3, (Duke Field). In our best attempt to protect our personnel, the following steps will be taken when adverse weather threatens the Duke Field complex. The goal of establishing these procedures is to focus information through a chain-of-command to one point of contact at Duke Field who will then correspond with the 46

Weather Squadron (WS). The term Supervisor of Flying (SOF) or Operations Duty Officer (ODO) may be interchanged for the purposes of this instruction

## **2. Notification Procedures:**

2.1. The 46 WS based on Eglin AFB operates a Base Weather Station (BWS) and is the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) for severe weather notifications to Duke Field. The BWS will notify the 919 SOW Command Post (919 SOW/CP) when lightning is expected within 30-minutes (*a Lightning Watch*) and when lightning is within five nautical miles (5 nm) (*a Lightning Warning*). Only the BWS has authority to issue *watches* and *warnings*.

2.2. Any person observing or detecting lightning within 5 nm of Duke Field may supplement the BWS by calling the Command Post, who will in turn notify BWS of the observation. When the Command Post is closed and flight operations are intended, contact the SOF/ODO. During periods of activity at Duke Field when flight operations are not intended, observations should be made to the 919<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Operations Flight (919 MOF)/Maintenance Operations Center (MOC). When these functional areas are not available, the senior person on scene will coordinate for weather advisories through the BWS.

2.3. The 46 WS, as a courtesy, uses its systems to notify base agencies of Heat Stress Indexes. The 46 WS obtains wet bulb temperature indexes from 96 Aerospace Medical Squadron (AMDS) /SGPB

## **3. Weather Decision Levels:**

3.1. At the 919 SOW: The Command Post (CP) is the central point of contact for all information regarding adverse weather at Duke Field. Upon notification of adverse weather by BWS, CP personnel will disseminate information in accordance with applicable checklists alerting base agencies of impending weather. Upon notification of adverse weather from the CP, agencies will further disseminate information to their personnel.

3.2. The 919th Operations Group (919 OG): The SOF/ODO will be the central point-of-contact for weather decisions during periods of flight activity when the CP is closed. The SOF/ODO will coordinate through BWS for activation/deactivation of weather watches and warnings and notify base agencies of status changes. All base functions will coordinate weather concerns through the SOF/ODO during these periods. The SOF/ODO will maintain a log to record notification of adverse weather actions.

3.3. The 919th Maintenance Group (919 MXG): Personnel working on the flight line who observe lightning within 5 nm will notify a flight line expediter. Expediters will, in-turn, notify Debrief/Dispatch. Debrief/Dispatch will follow the adverse weather checklist to alert the CP and listed 919 MXG work-centers of the lightning. When the CP is closed, the SOF/ODO will be notified. When all are unavailable, Debrief/Dispatch will advise the BWS of the lightning and notify base agencies of posted watches and warnings. Debrief/Dispatch will maintain a log to record notification of adverse weather actions.

3.4. When neither the 919 Operations Group (OG) nor the 919 MXG complexes are active, the senior person in charge of activities taking place at Duke Field will coordinate through BWS for adverse weather watches and warnings. The 46 WS will be contacted at 882-4800

and advised of lightning observations and coordinated with prior to issuance of back to work orders to ensure a lightning warning is no longer in effect.

3.5. "Back to work" orders will only be issued by the CP after contacting BWS to confirm the cancellation of a lightning warning. If the command post is not open, Authority to issue "back to work" orders will reside in the highest level of supervision in accordance with the chain established in paragraphs 3.1. through 3.4. above. It should be taken into account; lightning is an observed phenomenon and not a forecasted one. BWS will issue and rescind Lightning Warnings based on current observations which include a 15 minute waiting period after the last strike within 5 NM or in the judgment of the forecaster the threat is over. The forecaster may also wait longer after the 15 minute period to rescind the warning if in their judgment a lightning threat still exists. Lightning Watches are customarily issued for an extended period of time when the potential for lightning exists. Lightning Warnings are issued or rescinded based on current observations within the Lightning Watch period. For this reason, 30-minute forecasting does not apply to Lightning Warnings.

3.6. Building custodians will notify any contractors working outside of their building of the lightning advisory and recommend that they take shelter.

3.7. Heat Stress Indexes can be obtained a number of ways. From 1 May through 1 October, 96 AMDS/SGPB obtains readings Monday through Friday every two hours starting at 0900 and ending at 1500. This information is provided to 46 WS who then transmits the index to base agencies. 919 SOW/CP is a direct recipient. They then issue the advisory for Duke Field. When 96 AMDS/SGPB is not providing indexes, alternate means are available. When 96 AMDS/SGPB and 919 SOW/CP are unavailable, refer to paragraph 4.8. for methods of obtaining indexes and appropriate countermeasures to be applied.

**4. Precautions:** When notified that lightning is within 5 nm, the following procedures will be followed:

4.1. Fuel systems maintenance and servicing, Liquid Oxygen (LOX) servicing, and munitions operations will be discontinued.

4.2. Personnel who are on the flight line must seek shelter (as defined by Air Force Occupational Safety and Health (AFOSH) STD 91-100, *Aircraft Flight Line-Ground Operations and Activities*, para 1.2.15.1.1.1 as soon as possible. The flight line expeditor will attempt to notify all personnel working on the flight line (to include transient aircraft personnel) to evacuate the flight line.

4.3. Shut down electrical power and disconnect the power cord from aircraft.

4.4. All personnel must seek shelter. Do not remain outside or go back outdoors unless absolutely necessary.

4.5. Shut down computers and unplug them from the wall; unless they are protected by uninterrupted power supply (UPS).

4.6. Shut down test equipment in any building that does not have lightning protection.

4.7. Upon notification of an approaching storm or lightning watch, all hangar doors will be closed. Work may continue inside of shops and hangars (with the exception of the Fuel Systems hangar) since these areas are considered as adequate shelters with the doors closed.

4.8. Heat Stress Index Countermeasures: Heat Stress Index information is necessary to safeguard our personnel. Commanders and supervisors should seek out information needed to make appropriate decisions for work and rest cycles. Below are a number of sources available to assist in obtaining information. These are suggested sources; others not listed may also be available.

4.8.1. Local phone numbers:

4.8.1.1. Automated Biological and Environmental (BIO) 883-6463

4.8.1.2. Eglin Weather forecaster: 882-4800

4.8.1.3. Duke weather: 883-1232

4.8.1.4. Hurlburt Weather forecaster: 884-7423

4.8.1.5. Eglin Command Post: 883-4020

4.8.2. WEB Sources: Three major weather sites are provided below. There are many, however, most of these lead back to the Weather Channel.Com resources. Any computer with access to the internet and a search engine can obtain heat index information associated with a city name or a postal zip code. Heat Indexes can be obtained using a search engine and typing in "heat index," then using one of the many calculators that come up and applying temperature and humidity numbers into the formula.

WWW.WEATHER.COM

WWW.WX.COM

4.8.2.1. Once the heat index is obtained, apply corrective countermeasures as indicated in [Attachment 1](#).

**5. For additional guidance regarding adverse weather actions see AFI 10-229, *Responding to Severe Weather Events*, EAFB PLAN 15-1 *Weather Support Plan*, and AFOSH 91-66, *General Industrial Operations*.**

ANTHONY J. COMTOIS, COL, USAFR  
Commander

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

AFI 33-322, *Records Management Program*, 7 Oct 2003

AFPD 10-2, *Readiness*, 30 Oct 2006

AFI 10-229, *Responding to Severe Weather*, 15 Oct 2003

AFOSH STD 91-100, *Aircraft Flight Line-Ground Operations and Activities*, 1 May 1998

AFOSH 91-66, *General Industrial Operations*. 1 Oct 1997

EAFB Plan 15-1, *Weather Support Plan* August 2012

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**AAC**—Air Armament Center

**AFDPO**—Air Force Departmental Publishing Office

**AFI**—Air Force Instruction

**AFMAN**—Air Force Manual

**AFOSH**—Air Force Occupational Safety and Health

**AFPD**—Air Force Policy Directive

**AMDS**—Aerospace Medical Squadron

**BIO**—Biological and Environmental

**BWS**—Base Weather Station

**CC**—Commander

**CP**—Command Post

**CPO**—Operations Center

**DD**—Department Of Defense

**DO**—Director of Operations

**e-Publishing**—the e-Publishing website [www.e-publishing.af.mil](http://www.e-publishing.af.mil)

**IAW**—In Accordance With

**LOX**—Liquid Oxygen

**MOF**—Maintenance Operations Flight

**MOC**—Maintenance Operations Center

**MXG**—Maintenance Group

**NM**—Nautical Miles

**ODO**—Operations Duty Officer

**OG**—Operations Group

**OPR**—Office of Primary Responsibility

**RDS**—Air Force Records Disposition Schedule

**SOF**—Supervisor of Flying

**SOW**—Special Operations Wing

**UPS**—uninterrupted power supply

**WBGT**—Wet Bulb Globe Test

## Attachment 2

## WBGT INDEX - HEAT STRESS COUNTERMEASURES

## A2.1. WBGT Index - Heat Stress Countermeasures.

Table A2.1. WBGT Index - Heat Stress Countermeasures.

WBGT Index	Outdoor Activity/Physical Condition	Water Intake (Qts/hr)		Work/Rest Cycles for Essential Work	
		Light Work	Heavy Work	Work	Rest
78-81.9 (Stage 1) No Flag	Non-acclimated: Extremely intense physical exertion may precipitate heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Exercise caution in conducting physical activity.	0.5	0.5	50 min	10 min
	Acclimated: Normal activity.	0.5	0.5	50 min	10 min
82-84.9 (Stage 2) Green Flag	Non-acclimated: Use discretion in planning intense physical activity. Provide supervision.	0.5	1.0	45 min	15 min
	Acclimated: Normal activity.	0.5	1.0	50 min	10 min
85-87.9 (Stage 3) Yellow Flag	Non-acclimated: Curtail strenuous exercise and outside work details. Provide supervision.	1.0	1-1.5	35 min	25 min
	Acclimated: Use discretion in planning intense physical activity.	1.0	1-1.5	45 min	15 min
88-89.9 (Stage 4) Red Flag	Non-acclimated: Terminate all physical conditioning and intense activity and outside work details.	1-1.5	2.0	20 min	40 min
	Acclimated: Curtail strenuous exercise. Limited/light conditioning for periods not exceeding 6 hours. Curtail outside work details. Provide supervision.	1-1.5	2.0	30 min	30 min
90 & above (Stage 5) Black Flag	Non-acclimated or acclimated: No physical conditioning. Terminate all non-essential outdoor work details and activities.	2.0	2.0	20 min	40 min