

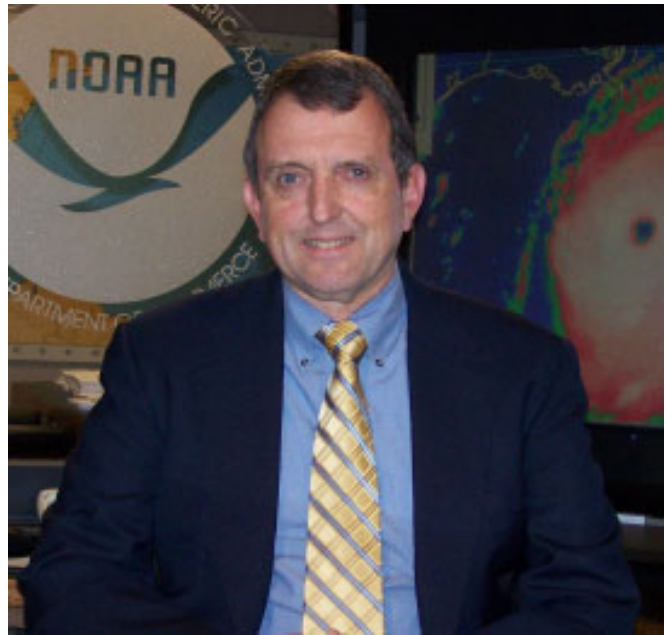
Bill Read

Director, National Hurricane Center

Bill Read is the director of the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Previous to this position, Bill was the meteorologist in charge at the Houston-Galveston Area National Weather Service forecast officer from 1992 to 2007. He has been the operational and administrative leader of many significant weather operations as well as major technological and organizational changes. In this capacity, he has led the office through technology modernization starting with the installation of the NEXRAD Doppler radar, WSR-88D, and the added responsibilities associated restructuring of the field operations of the NWS. In 2005, he led the office through a first in the nation relocation to a hurricane resistant facility collocated with Galveston County Emergency Management. Among the significant events weather events he has been privileged to work since coming to southeast Texas include the November 1992 tornado outbreak, the October 1994 floods, Tropical Storm Frances, the October 1998 floods, the September 2000 heat wave, unprecedented urban flood caused by Tropical Storm Allison, Hurricane Claudette, and Hurricane Rita. Bill has also been a member of the Hurricane Liaison Team, augmenting the staff at the National Hurricane Center to brief high level governmental agencies for landfalling hurricanes. In this role, Bill worked Hurricanes Isabel (2003), Charley (2004), and Katrina (2005).

He came to the Houston-Galveston office from National Weather Service headquarters where he was program leader for the severe thunderstorm and flash flood programs. Bill's background in the NWS includes six years as a forecaster in Fort Worth, where he worked inland impacts from Hurricanes Alicia (1983) and Gilbert (1988), and six years as a forecaster in San Antonio, where he worked the Hill Country floods caused by Tropical Storm Amelia, the record setting 24-hour



rain event from Tropical Storm Claudette (1979) and the approach and landfall of Hurricane Allen (1980). He started his NWS career in 1977 with the Test and Evaluation Division in Sterling, Va.

Bill spent more than four years on active duty as an officer in the U. S. Navy where he had a variety of unique assignments, including serving as on-board meteorologist with the Navy Hurricane Hunters in 1972-1973. Sandwiched around his tour in the Navy, Bill earned both a bachelor's (1971) and master's degree (1976) in meteorology from Texas A&M University.

He is actively involved with meteorological professional organizations, and was president of the National Weather Association in 2003, and president of the Houston chapter of the American Meteorological Society in 2006.

His most significant awards include the Special Award for Public Education from the National Hurricane Conference, 2004, and Member of the Year Award from the National Weather Association, 1996. ☺

