

**Biography: F. Martin Ralph**

Dr. F. Martin Ralph is a weather and water scientist focused on understanding the physical processes that create extremes in precipitation ranging from flood to drought, and on advancing associated observations, predictions, water management and flood control applications and decision support tools. After 21 years of experience as a scientist, manager and program manager in NOAA, he moved in 2013 to the University of California San Diego/Scripps Institution of Oceanography where he created the “Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes.” Dr. Ralph has published over 120 peer-reviewed scientific articles, and has developed programs on new science and technology and their application to solving practical problems. He is a leading expert on atmospheric rivers, and provides input to policy makers related to western weather and water extremes. He has led the development of Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations with several water managers, including working closely with the US Army Corps of Engineers and related experts. Among other awards, he was elected Fellow of the American Meteorological Society, received awards from the Department of Commerce including for “For comprehensive flood mitigation efforts in response to a severely weakened Howard Hansen Dam project with the potential of catastrophic flooding,” and has several awards from NOAA. He has a B. S. in Meteorology from University of Arizona, and a Ph.D. in Atmospheric Sciences from UCLA.