Rachel Zelinsky, Ph.D.

Meteorologist
Technology and Science Branch
National Hurricane Center

Rachel Zelinsky is a Meteorologist with the Technology and Science Branch at NOAA's National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami, FL.

She received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Atmospheric Science with minors in Mathematics and Oceanography from Texas A&M University (2014). She earned her Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Meteorology and Physical Oceanography from the University of Miami (2020) where she focused on the prediction and understanding of the Madden-Julian Oscillation.

In 2020, Dr. Zelinsky began working at the NHC as a Postdoctoral Fellow through the Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere at Colorado State University. Her primary objective was the development of 3D visualization techniques for tropical cyclone observations and model data. As part of that effort, she created a website that displays 3D visualizations of tail-doppler Radar from the NOAA P3 aircraft that has been used in NHC hurricane forecast and media operations.

Dr. Zelinsky began her current job in the Technology and Science Branch in 2021. She is part of a team that maintains and updates software used to generate public products by forecasters at the NHC. She is also leading the modernization of graphical products produced by the Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch and assists with maintenance of the NHC website.

Dr. Zelinsky has presented at many conferences and has authored a publication in a meteorological journal. She received an outstanding student poster award at the 97th annual American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting. While at NHC, Dr. Zelinsky has received a local and regional Isaac Cline award. She is a member of the American Meteorological Society.

January 2022