



Biography: Karen Kosiba has been an atmospheric scientist and a Doppler on Wheels (DOW) project scientist at the Center for Severe Weather Research since 2008. She has a B.S. in Physics from Loyola University, an M.S. in Physics and an M.A.T in Teacher Education from Miami University, and a Ph.D. in Atmospheric Science from Purdue University.

Karen has always been fascinated by the world around her. As a child she collected caterpillars, built balsa bridges (the prize-winning bridge may still be on display at Homer Jr. High School), took really bad photographs, and stayed up late watching lightning. When she began college, she considered careers in architecture, patent law, and veterinary medicine, but ultimately decided that observational studies of severe weather (somehow) combined all of her interests.

Her research mainly focuses on the kinematics and dynamics of severe convective storms, characterizing the low-level wind structure in tornadoes, and understanding the boundary layer winds and small-scale structures in landfalling hurricanes. Key to her research is executing field projects to collect data that can be analyzed to better understand and predict these hazardous weather events. A strong believer in experiencing weather from the inside of a mobile weather radar, she has participated as a radar operator, project scientist, and project leader in over a dozen field projects. Additionally, she is passionate about science education, regularly participating in outreach activities at schools, museums, festivals, online programs, and through media interviews and consultations.

In her free time, she is an avid TV watcher, traveler, yogi, reader, hiker, coffee drinker, sleeper, and an obsessive researcher of random products she never ends up buying.