

## **David W. Titley, Ph.D.**

### **Former Chief Operating Officer, NOAA & Rear Admiral USN (ret.)**

#### **Speaker Bio:**

David Titley is the Founder of 'RV Weather', providing weather and routing services to the Recreational Vehicle community.

After graduating from Penn State, [Titley served as a naval officer](#) for 32 years and rose to the rank of Rear Admiral. Dr. Titley's career included duties navigator, meteorologist and oceanographer on five ships and afloat staffs, and ultimately as Oceanographer and Navigator of the Navy. In 2009, Dr. Titley initiated and led the U.S. Navy's Task Force on Climate Change.

After retiring from the Navy, Dr. Titley served as the Deputy Undersecretary of Commerce for Operations, the chief operating officer position at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. From 2013 to 2019, Dr. Titley served as a Professor of Practice in Meteorology and Atmospheric Science and a Professor of International Affairs at the Pennsylvania State University and was the founding director for Penn State's Center for Solutions to Weather and Climate Risk.

In 2017 Dr. Titley gave a TED talk on Climate Change and National Security and has testified before the U.S. Congress numerous times on climate and security matters. He currently chairs the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine Climate Communication Initiative advisory committee and is a member of the NAS Board on Atmospheric Sciences and Climate.

In 2020 Dr. Titley started a new career, volunteering for the National Park Service in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming.

Dr. Titley received his Ph.D. in Meteorology from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate school. He received an honorary Doctorate degree from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and the Penn State Alumni Fellow Award. He is a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society and a National Associate of the National Research Council.

## Presentation:

### Climate Change: It's People not Polar Bears

This talk will discuss why climate change is an emergency management issue. Climate change is about people, about water, and about change itself. I will cover some of the basic science and why mainstream climate scientists are very confident of their findings, how this challenge is being addressed, and what are the greatest challenges to emergency management that arise from climate change. I will conclude with an assessment of future challenges and opportunities regarding climate change, from science, policy, and political perspectives. In addition, this talk will address how to effectively talk about climate change through the use of analogies, plain, non-jargon English, and even a little humor.