



Weather Information Support to Surface Transportation

Capabilities of The National Weather Service

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Overview



- ! **Mission**
- ! **Resource Environment**
- ! **Accomplishments**
- ! **Strategic Goals**
- ! **Forces of Change**
- ! **Capabilities Objectives**
- ! **Future Information**
- ! **Dissemination**

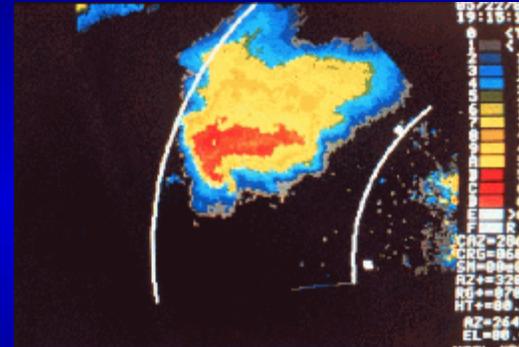


NWS Mission



! Provide weather, water and climate forecasts and warnings

- To America
- To protect life and property
- To enhance the national economy



! Provide a national information database for

- Government agencies
- Private sector
- Public
- Global community





NWS Fact Sheet



! FY 99 Annual Budget \$662.5M

- \$563.7M in base operations
- \$89.3M in capital procurement
- \$9.5M in construction

! 4800 FTEs

! Labor accounts for over 66% of the annual base budget

! 172 Offices in the US

! 32% of NOAA's total budget

! The agency the public most identifies as NOAA



FY 1999 Accomplishments



- ! **Completed Development & Deployment of Baseline AWIPS**
- ! **Issued New Climate Products**
 - Threats Assessment
 - Hurricane Outlook
- ! **Developed NWS Strategic Plan**
- ! **Improved warning performance**



Forces Shaping Our Future



- ! Information Technology
- ! Weather, water, and climate prediction linkages
- ! Need to work better with partners and the private sector
- ! Continued demand for a more responsive and efficient government





Vision 2005 Goals



- ! **Deliver better products and services**
- ! **Capitalize on scientific and technological advances**
- ! **Exercise global leadership**
- ! **Change the NWS organizational culture**
- ! **Manage NWS resources**



Capabilities Objectives



- ! Use optimal mix of observations
- ! Implement prediction system advancements
- ! Implement probabilistic forecasts to aide user risk mitigation decisions
- ! Develop forecaster and user confidence





Future Weather Information



- ! Increased resolution and accuracy in both time and space
- ! More information flowing than ever before
- ! NWS digital database IS a product and service
- ! Evolutionize use of weather information



Dissemination to the Public



Primary NWS Methods

- ! *NOAA Weather Radio*
- ! *NOAA Weather Wire Service*
- ! *EMWIN (Emergency Managers Weather Information Network)*
- ! *Internet (IWIN & Non-operational Pages)*
- ! *NOAAPORT*
- ! *Local Dissemination Port*

Primary Private Sector Methods

- ! *Television*
- ! *Radio*
- ! *Internet*
- ! *Print*
- ! *Pagers*



Conclusion



- ! **NWS has modernized**
- ! **Nation is already reaping benefits**
- ! **Much higher information flow**
- ! **Requires new product forms**
- ! **New media**
- ! **Surface transportation community will be an explicit beneficiary of evolving NWS capabilities**



Milestones & Accomplishments



FY 1999 Accomplishments

Exemplary Services

- May 3 Central Plains Tornado Outbreak
- Record - Breaking January Tornadoes
- Tornado Warning Improvements
- Hurricane Floyd



NWS Vision



- ! America's no surprise weather service**
- ! A world class team of professionals who:**
 - Produce and deliver quality forecasts you can trust when you need them most**
 - Use cutting edge techniques**
 - Provides services in a cost effective manner**
 - Strive to eliminate weather related fatalities and improve the economic value of weather information**



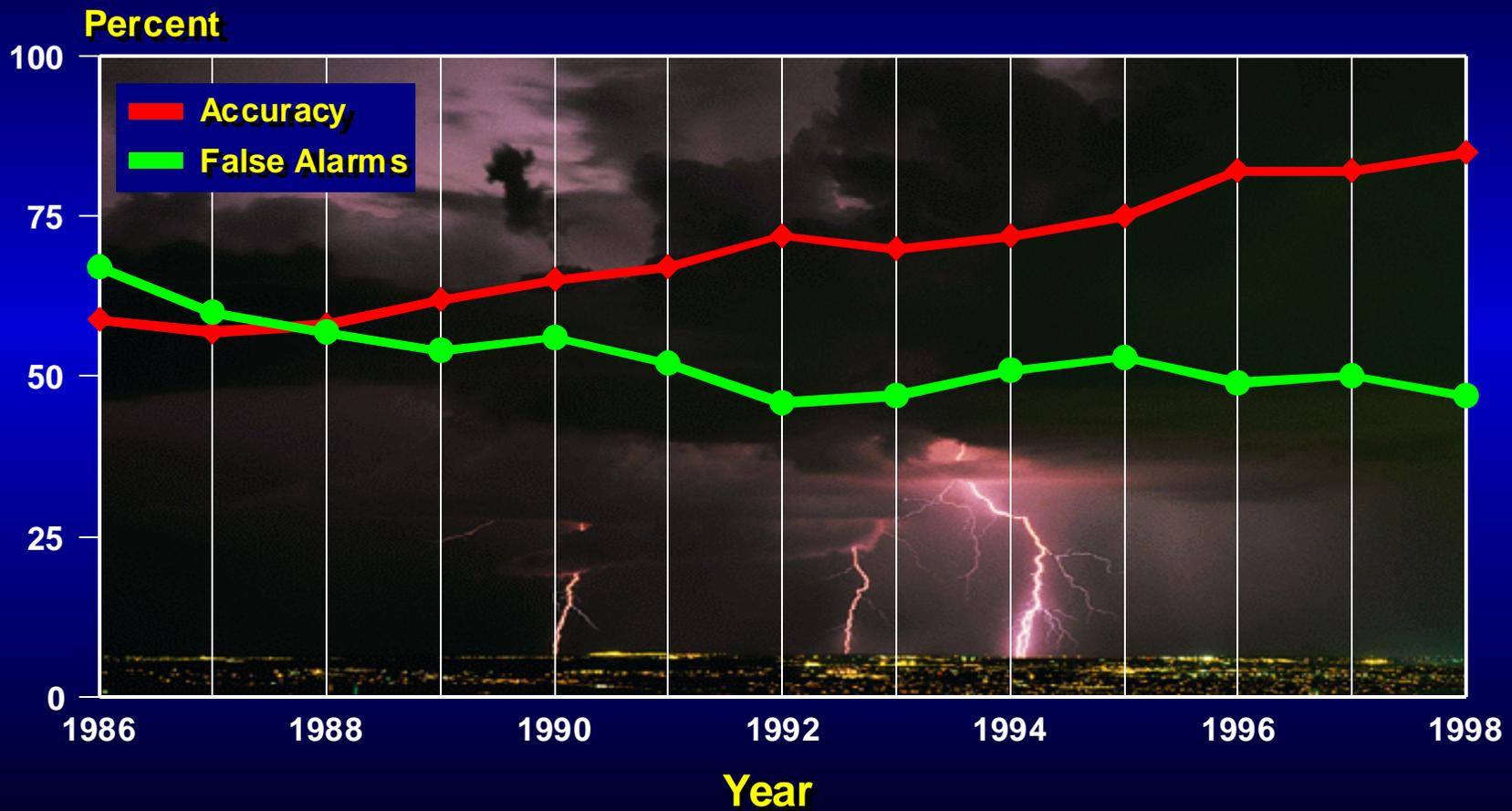


Flash Flood Warnings





Severe Thunderstorms And Tornadoes





Severe Thunderstorms And Tornadoes

