

The Federal Plan for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research

FISCAL YEAR 2000

FEDERAL COORDINATOR
FOR
METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH

8455 Colesville Road, Suite 1500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

FCM-P1-1999
JUNE 1999
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Editor: Blaine Tsugawa
Assistant Editor: Kenneth Barnett

PREFACE

Since 1965, the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research (OFCM) has developed a federal plan that articulates the provision of meteorological services and supporting research by agencies of the federal government. This year's plan provides Congress and the Executive Branch with a comprehensive document that documents proposed programs for FY 2000 and reviews agency programs in Fiscal Year (FY) 1999. Narratives, timelines, and schedules are current as of June 1999.

With this edition, we conclude our effort to enhance and upgrade the plan's format and presentation of information. Overall, the content of the publication remains unchanged with resource information being the major focus. Under the federal coordination process, the emphasis shifts from a description of committee and working group activities to a broader description of OFCM initiatives and programs. As with last year's edition, the Executive Summary contains information which enables it to serve as a stand-alone report. This year's feature article (Section 1) draws national attention to activities associated with Natural Disaster Reduction. Section 2 summarizes the resources requested in the President's FY 2000 Budget and includes a comparison with those resources that Congress appropriated for FY 1999. Section 5 contains departmental and agency narratives on meteorological services and supporting research programs including information on programs funded by the National Science Foundation. Appendices A through D describe the OFCM's coordination, program, and planning activities; defines acronyms and abbreviations; lists previous feature articles; and summarizes the World Weather Program.

As the 21st Century approaches, I would like to reaffirm OFCM's commitment to addressing meteorological issues of significant importance to this Nation. Our revised interagency coordinating infrastructure is in place and ready to address the priorities, issues, and concerns expressed by the federal agencies. The Federal and Interdepartmental Committees for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research (inside-front cover) will continue to provide policy and program guidance to OFCM. The program councils and standing committees will assume increased strategic planning responsibilities; the Working and Joint Action Groups will aggressively pursue resolution of specific, time-critical issues and work short-term projects. The restructured OFCM organization is shown on the inside-back cover.

Lastly, I extend my gratitude to those who provided photographs and contributed other supporting materials used throughout this edition. The pictures and graphics, especially, are significant enhancements to the publication.



Samuel P. Williamson
Federal Coordinator for Meteorological
Services and Supporting Research

THE FEDERAL PLAN FOR METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH, FISCAL YEAR 2000

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface .....	.iii
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....	.vii
Section 1. NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION--Reducing the Impacts of Natural Hazards .....	.1
Section 2. RESOURCE INFORMATION AND AGENCY PROGRAM UPDATES .....	.9
Agency Obligations for Meteorological Operations and Supporting Research .....	.9
Department of Agriculture .....	.9
Department of Commerce .....	.9
Department of Defense .....	.12
Department of the Interior .....	.14
Department of Transportation .....	.14
Environmental Protection Agency .....	.15
National Aeronautics and Space Administration .....	.16
Nuclear Regulatory Commission .....	.16
Agency Funding by Budget Category .....	.16
Agency Funding by Service Category .....	.16
Personnel Engaged in Meteorological Operations .....	.21
Interagency Fund Transfers .....	.22
Facilities/Locations for Taking Meteorological Observations .....	.22
Section 3. AGENCY METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH PROGRAMS .....	.25
Department of Commerce Weather Programs .....	.25
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration .....	.25
National Weather Service .....	.25
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service .....	.31
Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research .....	.46
National Ocean Service .....	.54
Office of NOAA Corps Operations .....	.56
Department of Defense Weather Programs .....	.57
United States Air Force .....	.57
United States Navy .....	.67
United States Army .....	.73
Department of Transportation Weather Programs .....	.83
Federal Aviation Administration .....	.83
Federal Highway Administration .....	.89
United States Coast Guard .....	.91

Department of Agriculture .....	.93
Department of Energy .....	.95
Department of the Interior .....	.105
Department of State .....	.109
Environmental Protection Agency .....	.111
Federal Emergency Management Agency .....	.115
National Aeronautics and Space Administration .....	.117
Nuclear Regulatory Commission .....	.125
National Science Foundation .....	.127

APPENDICES

A. FEDERAL COORDINATION AND PLANNING .....	.129
B. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS .....	.133
C. LISTING OF PREVIOUS FEATURE ARTICLES .....	.145
D. WORLD WEATHER PROGRAM .....	.147

LIST OF TABLES

ES-1	Federal Budget for Meteorological Operations and Supporting Research, FY 2000	iv
2.1	Meteorological Operations and Supporting Research Costs, by Agency .....	.10
2.2	Agency Operational Costs, by Budget Category .....	.17
2.3	Agency Supporting Research Costs, by Budget Category .....	.18
2.4	Agency Operational Costs, by Service .....	.19
2.5	Agency Supporting Research Costs, by Service .....	.20
2.6	Personnel Engaged in Meteorological Operations .....	.21
2.7	Interagency Fund Transfers for Meteorological Operations and Supporting Research .....	.23
2.8	Facilities/Locations for Taking Meteorological Observations .....	.24
3-1	Projected Satellite Launch Schedule .....	.35