

The Federal Plan for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research

FISCAL YEAR 2009

FEDERAL COORDINATOR
FOR
METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH

8455 Colesville Road, Suite 1500
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-427-2002

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Editors:

Lt Col Charles Harris
Erin McNamara
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 the support for meteorological and related research by agencies of the Federal government. The 2008 Federal Plan provides Congress and the Executive Branch with a comprehensive compilation of proposed programs for fiscal year (FY) 2009 and a review of agency programs in FY 2008. The Federal Plan's narratives, timelines, and schedules are current as of November 2008.

The Federal Plan consists of an Executive Summary, three sections, and Appendices. The Executive Summary, which is written as a concise, stand-alone report, provides a high-level view of the Federal resources dedicated to meteorological programs and the achievements of those programs.

This year's feature article (Section 1) focuses on recent natural disasters that have impacted urban areas in the United States. These disasters are categorized into five areas: severe weather, homeland security, air quality, water quality, and climate. The purpose of this article is to raise the awareness of the increasing problem of urban natural disasters.

Section 2 of the Federal Plan summarizes the resources appropriated by Congress for FY 2008 and the resources requested in the President's FY 2009 Budget. Section 3 contains departmental and agency narratives on programs for providing meteorological services and supporting research and development. It also describes relevant research funded by the National Science Foundation.

Appendix A describes the OFCM's coordination, program, and planning activities. Appendix B addresses the World Meteorological Organization's World Weather Program. Appendix C lists the feature articles published in previous Federal Plans. The acronyms and abbreviations used throughout this year's Federal Plan are defined in Appendix D. The inside front cover lists the current members of the Federal and Interdepartmental Committees for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research, which provide guidance and support for OFCM activities. The inside back cover diagrams the infrastructure through which the OFCM performs its coordinating mission.

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

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