

# FOREWORD

This first edition of Federal Meteorological Handbook No. 12 (FMH-12), "*United States Meteorological Codes and Coding Practices*" describes meteorological codes and coding practices used within the United States. The handbook serves as a United States supplement to codes that may or may not be covered in the World Meteorological Organization's (WMO) *Manual of Codes No. 306*. FMH-12 will not include all codes used in the United States but only those codes that are not documented elsewhere in the Federal Meteorological Handbook series.

This handbook prescribes Federal standards and coding practices and provides a reference for users of these data.

The standards in FMH-12 are applicable to all United States Federal agencies and should be reflected in their manuals and directives.

The Working Group for Meteorological Codes is responsible for preparing FMH-12 and ensuring it remains current.

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