CHAPTER 1

RESPONSIBILITIES OF COOPERATING AGENCIES

1.1 General.

1.1.1 National Weather Service (NWS). The National Weather Service is responsible for issuing winter storm forecasts, watches, warnings, and advisories to the public and various special user groups. Its responsibilities are documented in *National Weather Service Operations Manual*, Chapter A-02, "National Weather Service Mission," and in Chapter C-42, "Winter Weather Warnings."

1.1.2 U.S. Navy (USN). The U.S. Navy, through the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command (NAVMETOCCOM), is responsible for issuing gale, storm, high seas warnings, and winter weather forecasts for fleet operations and Navy shore installations and Marine Corps operations and installations, as elaborated in the NAVMETOCCOM Instruction 3140.1 series.

1.1.3 U.S. Air Force (USAF). The U.S. Air Force, through local and centralized weather units, is responsible for issuing military weather warning advisories and point warnings to all Air Force and Army (including Reserve and National Guard) installations, facilities, and operations related to winter storms for those hazardous phenomena specified in local agreements (such as Memorandum of Agreements or local regulations).

1.2 Responsibilities.

1.2.1 The Department of Commerce (DOC). The DOC, through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), will:

- Provide basic surface, upper air, and radar observations from its network of stations making such observations.
- Provide additional observations, when required, making available all reports to any requesting agency.
- Provide basic analyses and forecasts through the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP), Camp Springs, Maryland.
- Provide products under a multi-tier concept consisting of Weather Service Forecast Offices (WSFO) and local Weather Service Offices (WSO) along contiguous U.S. coastal areas, who will provide outlooks, statements, advisories, watches, and warnings, when appropriate.

- Provide advice on aircraft reconnaissance requirements forwarded through NCEP's Tropical Prediction Center/National Hurricane Center (TPC/NHC) to the Chief, Aerial Reconnaissance Coordination, All Hurricanes (CARCAH), from NCEP's Hydrometeorological Prediction Center (HPC) (the HPC is the central coordinating office for all winter storm reconnaissance requirements).

- Operate satellite systems capable of providing coverage of the coastal areas of the contiguous United States during the winter storm season.

- Coordinate with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to obtain pertinent meteorological data from NASA research and development experimental satellites.

- Coordinate with the Department of Defense (DOD) to obtain pertinent meteorological data from the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program.

- Provide satellite data for selected situations to authorized research facilities.

- Furnish aircraft from the NOAA Aircraft Operations Center (AOC) to support the following operational reconnaissance objectives:

  - The primary objective is to provide additional real-time meteorological data to operational forecasters in an attempt to improve the quality of forecasts associated with winter coastal storms.

  - The secondary objective is to provide the data and analyses to better understand the structure and dynamics of these winter storm systems.

- Provide oceanographic and meteorological surface data obtained from offshore buoy deployment, if possible, within existing facilities.

- Provide dissemination of weather observations to appropriate agencies.

1.2.2 The Department of Defense (DOD). The DOD will:

- Make available to NOAA agencies, through Detachment 7, Air Force Weather Agency (AFWA), basic surface, upper air, and radar observations from those DOD stations making such observations, pilot reports (PIREP), and aircraft reports (AIREP) that become available.

- Furnish to NWS, aircraft reconnaissance observations that are within its capabilities and in accordance with established reconnaissance priorities, and special observations detailed in Chapter 2 of this plan.

- Designate CARCAH as the point of contact for coordination with NCEP/HPC for aircraft reconnaissance required in support of this plan.

- Provide weather reconnaissance data monitor services to evaluate and disseminate reconnaissance reports.

- Provide satellite communications (SATCOM) access to relay reconnaissance reports from the aircraft to CARCAH.

- Provide USAF aeronautical station communications to relay reconnaissance reports from the aircraft to CARCAH.

- Provide warnings to all DOD facilities and military units of weather that threatens to impact their operations or damage their installations.

1.2.3 Department of Transportation (DOT).

1.2.3.1 The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The FAA will:

- Provide Air Traffic Control (ATC) services as appropriate to support this plan.

- Disseminate PIREPs and AIREPs.

- Provide hourly and special weather observations at selected terminal and flight service station locations.

1.2.3.2 The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG). The USCG will:

- Provide surface observations to NWS from its coastal facilities and vessels.

- Collect special weather observations from surface ships of opportunity and provide them to the NWS.

- Provide personnel, vessel, and communications support to the National Data Buoy Center for development, deployment, and operation of environmental data buoy systems.