



The President's Budget Takes Huge Cut at NWS Operations

(May 27, 2017) A short time ago, the NWS Director issued an all hands email claiming that the President's budget request "preserves the programs that enable us to meet our mission of protecting lives and property and enhancing the national economy" and "also supports our workforce." However, ***the President's budget proposal actually cuts \$84 million in NWS programs and eliminates the jobs of 107 NWS employees.***

Here are some of the cuts contained in the President's Budget justification which can be found at http://www.osec.doc.gov/bmi/budget/FY18CBI/FY18_NOAA_CJ.pdf.

"Reduce Surface and Marine Observations - NOAA will reduce the National Mesonet Program (within the Surface Observations Program) and the Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunamis (DART®), Tropical Atmosphere Ocean (TAO), and the Weather and Oceans Platforms (within the Marine Observations Program). **-\$25,989,000"**

Eliminate ITOs – "NOAA requests a decrease of \$10,100,000 and 74 FTE to reflect the significant efficiencies that can be achieved by transitioning to a new information technology (IT) service delivery model for the NWS forecast offices."

"Slow Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Services Expansion: NOAA will forgo the additional development needed to address limitations in the first version of HEFS – such as the ability to incorporate the effects of reservoir regulation and improve performance for large precipitation events. Training and implementation support also will be reduced for the HEFS. As a result, there will be fewer AHPS forecast locations with HEFS-based uncertainty information. - \$2,000,000"

"Reduce Tsunami Warning Program -\$11,000,000 and -25 FTE: NOAA requests a decrease of \$11,000,000 and 25 FTE for a total of \$8,481,000 and 15 FTE. This program change streamlines NOAA's Tsunami Research and Operational Warning program and merges the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) in Hawaii and the National Tsunami Warning Center (NTWC) in Alaska. ***Warnings will still be issued; however timeliness and accuracy will be reduced.***"

"Terminate Aviation Science Research to Operations - NOAA will terminate efforts to develop and implement key aviation tools and capabilities required by the Federal Aviation

Administration (FAA) to support the Next Generation Air Transportation System **Program Change: -\$1,806,000**

“Consolidate Climate Prediction Center/Weather Prediction Center Functions; Program Change: - \$1,200,000 and -8 FTE): NOAA requests a decrease of \$1,200,000 and 8 FTE to consolidate functions at the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Climate Prediction Center (CPC) and Weather Prediction Center (WPC). “

“Reduce Support for NextGen IT Web Services: NOAA requests a decrease of \$1,100,000 to reduce NOAA IT support to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) program. Enhancements such as providing Himawari satellite data, new ensemble model parameters, new observations, volcanic ash advisories, and graphical aviation products such as G-AIRMETs would not be provided to the user community. “

“Terminate Investment in Mid-Range Weather Outlooks: -\$5,000,000. NOAA will eliminate efforts to develop and implement improved coupled global weather prediction models (including component models of ocean, sea-ice, wave, and land-surface models) for extending weather predictions beyond 14 days.”

“NOAA requests a decrease of \$4,629,000 to terminate actions associated with the implementation of the Consumer Option for an Alternative System to Allocate Losses (COASTAL) Act of 2012. This includes efforts to develop the capability to produce detailed “post-storm assessments” in the aftermath of a damaging tropical cyclone that strikes the U.S. or its territories.”

“Reduce the Investment in Numerical Weather Prediction Modeling -\$5,000,000. NOAA proposes to slow down the development of the Next Generation Global Prediction System (NGGPS) (page NWS-22) including reducing support to the unified data assimilation development; eliminating support to the development of the Unified Global Coupled System; reducing support to the collaborative research activities for the Hurricane Forecast Improvement Project (HFIP); reducing support to NOAA’s testbeds including the Development Test Center, Global Modeling Test Bed, and Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation; and slowing the effort to transition new physics into the global forecast system and hurricane forecast system. “

“NOAA requests a reduction of \$3,101,000 and 0 FTE for a total of \$2,899,000 and 0 FTE to reduce investment in the **National Water Model** and delay future model upgrades. “

“Reduce Testing, Evaluation, and Implementation of Operations and Workforce Analysis Recommendations -\$2,000,000”

“Terminate Aviation Science Research to Operations - -\$1,000,000”

“NOAA requests a decrease of \$6,000,000 to reduce the NWS contribution to NOAA’s Research and Development High Performance Computing System. . . . potentially resulting in delays to

implementation of and upgrades to operational models and improvements to forecasts and warnings, as NWS priorities will compete with other NOAA priorities.”

-NWSEO-

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National Weather Service employees.**

**No one works harder for National Weather Service employees than
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We are NWSEO.**