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**NWSEO asks members to participate in the 2015 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey  
Email distribution of FEVS begins next week.**

(April 30, 2015) NWSEO is encouraging members to take part in the 2015 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS) administered by the Office of Personnel Management. The survey is open to Department of Commerce employees during the month of May. Next week, eligible NOAA employees will receive an email message from OPM with access to the survey.

The attached email from Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, explains how the data from the survey is used to provide guidance, identify problems, and help improve NOAA as it strives for organizational excellence. NWSEO supports every effort to make NOAA/NWS a strong, vibrant agency that provides excellent working conditions for the dedicated employees who carry out its life-saving mission. We encourage you to participate in this important survey.



Message From the Under Secretary

**April 27, 2015**

Data collection and data analysis are integral to the scientific process. The right data help you make better decisions, whether you're building a satellite, managing fish stocks, or directing the course of a large organization. Such is the case with the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS). It helps gauge how well an organization is running based on the anonymous feedback from a section of the workforce.

The Office of Personnel Management will email the 2015 FEVS survey to a percentage of federal workers nationwide during the week of May 4. For NOAA, this means that 3,922 of you will get the invitation to tell us how satisfied you are with many aspects of your job.

If you get the FEVS survey invitation, please participate - this is your opportunity to be heard. Last year, 2,212 NOAA employees told us how they felt about their jobs, their leaders, and their ability to perform their work. As a result of their feedback, we have a clearer sense of what is working well and areas that we could improve.

We take this feedback and your job satisfaction seriously. Last October I shared [NOAA's 2014 results](#). Since then, NOAA leaders have met with employees in town hall meetings and conducted focus groups to gather specific, actionable information to address problems identified by the survey. Employee Engagement is also a top priority for Commerce leadership, as well as one of the four pillars in the President's second term Management Agenda. Look for further work in this area.

Organizational Excellence is one of NOAA's top priorities. We will strive to recruit, retain, reward, and develop the best talent possible and ensure that our customers, both internal and external, receive the best service possible. You are the backbone of our agency, and I look to put *Mission First, People Always*. If you are invited to take the survey, please take time to tell us where we are meeting the mark and where more work is needed. I look forward to reading your feedback.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathy". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Kathryn D. Sullivan, Ph.D.  
Under Secretary of Commerce  
for Oceans and Atmosphere

-NWSEO-

**No one cares more for National Weather Service employees than  
National Weather Service employees.**

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