

National Weather Service Employees Organization

April 19, 2012

Dear NWS Employee,

As NOAA focuses on funding satellites at the cost of NWS programs and positions, NWSEO is working to keep the NWS fully funded in the FY13 budget battle. In addition to cutting our ITO positions from our WFOs, NOAA is proposing cutting critical tools we need to do our job; things like: the Wind Profiler Network, Coastal Weather Data Buoys, the Tsunami Warning Program, the National Mesonet Network, the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service, and Tech infusion for AWIPS (Visit http://nwseo.org/Member News/Budget Cuts to NWS Revealed.php). NWSEO wants to make sure these services continue and expand in the years to come.

NWSEO has a voice on Capitol Hill and a <u>proven track record</u> of helping preserve the Agency's mission in tough financial times. It is through our NWSEO members that we have been so much more effective than any other federal sector labor union in fighting for funding for its parent agency. Frequently, NWSEO is the *only* source of information about what is *really* happening in the NWS. We have recently started a members only Facebook Community where we share information and insights. This community is usually the first to be informed of breaking news from NOAA and the NWS.

So, who is NWSEO? NWSEO is the NWS employee - like you. NWSEO is literally your co-workers, the person working the shift next to you. We work together as a union to consistently "bang the drum" through members of Congress and the media to make sure our message of a better, well-funded NWS is loud and clear. The unity of NWSEO membership gives our voice strength. It is with the support of your co-workers that we have accomplished many of the employee benefits you enjoy, like the \$300 health club reimbursement, saved jobs, (for example preventing the elimination of the CWSUs, HMTs and stopped CONOPS), and helped create programs to enhance the Agency's mission.

Now we need your help. NWSEO anticipates a tough budget fight for FY13 and FY14. Together your coworkers and I have been footing the bill to save this agency from unwise budget cuts, but we need you. Fighting this fight is very expensive. Please take an active role and join NWSEO today. If you are currently a member, thank you very much. We could not do what we do without you. If you are not a member, please join. We are the only organization whose entire existence is focused on making sure that you have employment and that your working conditions are the best they can be. Attached is a <u>Standard Form 1187</u> to join your fellow co-workers and become an NWSEO member. Dues are just one percent of your base pay capped at just \$21.37 per pay period. Simply fill out the attached SF1187 and

fax to 202-600-2145. For more information, please visit our website at http://nwseo.org/joinnwseo.php.

Only one professional organization can work to preserve and expand employment opportunity, and that is the National Weather Service Employees Organization. NWSEO is the only organization with the ability to lobby Congress and the Administration to preserve NWS jobs, promote better working conditions and career promotions for NWS, and participate in collective bargaining. NWSEO has a proven track record. Please help us keep the pressure on Congress and NOAA to ensure funding is adequate to do our mission - to serve the nation and save lives and property. Your strength, your membership, is needed now more than ever.

Sincerely,

Dan Sobien NWSEO President www.nwseo.org