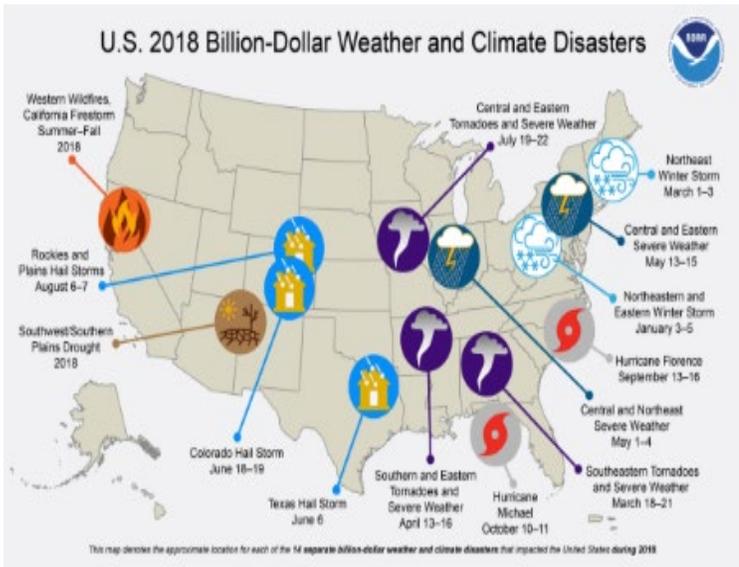




WEATHER PROGRAM OFFICE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

Supporting world-class research to advance timely and accurate weather information



In 2018, fourteen weather and climate disaster events across the United States (U.S.) caused losses in excess of \$1 billion each. That mix of drought, severe storms, tropical cyclones, wildfire, and winter storm events resulted in the deaths of 247 people and had significant economic effects.

NOAA’s National Weather Service (NWS) analysts report that weather alone can cause the gross domestic product in the U.S. to vary by as much as \$1.3 trillion annually. By fostering weather research related to high-impact events, and by focusing on research that enables effective communication of the risks, OWAQ is supporting the world-class weather and air quality research that makes it possible to save lives, reduce property damage, and enhance the national economy.

NOAA’s Weather Program Office Mission

Finding, funding, and fostering collaborative weather and air quality research to discover, develop, and transition products, tools, and services for timely and accurate weather and air quality forecasts.

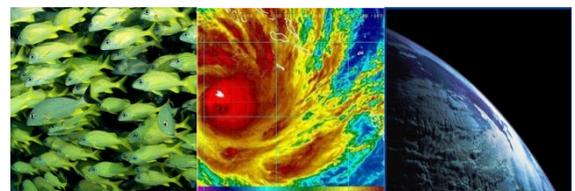


Coordinating Research across the Weather Enterprise

Within NOAA’s research laboratories and across the weather enterprise, OWAQ provides the outreach, linkages, and coordination that help NOAA develop and access critical weather and air quality research capabilities.

OAR Weather Portfolio Steward

For NOAA, WPO provides strategic guidance for weather, air quality, and environmental-modeling programs. For OAR, the Weather Portfolio Steward provides weather research coordination.





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WPO's vision and mission are directly tied to a diverse and inclusive work environment that is safe from discrimination, supports the professional development of employees, and implements practices and procedures to ensure members of underrepresented communities have equal access to the opportunities WPO offers.

Consistent with the strategies for each Line Office, NOAA, and the Department of Commerce (DOC), WPO will:

- **Goal 1.** Improve effective communication of weather information to strengthen decision-making and forecasting ability.
- **Goal 2.** Advance models and forecast tools to produce the best weather forecasts and warnings to build a Weather-Ready Nation.
- **Goal 3.** Effectively and efficiently manage the advancement and transition of weather research.
- **Goal 4.** Develop and support a diverse and inclusive work environment that promotes equal access to the opportunities OWAQ offers.



Recent Accomplishments

- Increased the number of funding awards from 62 to 84
- Increased Federal employees from 5 to 8
- Increased the contract staff from 5 to 11
- Shepherding a budget increase from \$24.1 million to \$37.1 million
- Served as NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research lead for executing congressional directives.

The Next Generation Global Prediction System (NGGPS) Program will be investing in the development of the United Forecast System. The Unified Forecast System (UFS) is a comprehensive, community-developed Earth modeling system, designed as both a research tool and as the basis for NOAA's operational forecasts.

The Earth Prediction Innovation Center (EPIC) will serve as a core research-to-operations-to-research hub, significantly amplifying NOAA's access to modeling expertise and enhancing operational forecast accuracy. Improvements in weather and climate models will feed advancements in operational forecast products, impacting many sectors of the United States economy, ranging from agriculture and fisheries management to energy markets and inland water management.

The Joint Technology Transfer Initiative (JTTI) funded 36 projects in Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18). JTTI ensures continuous development and transition of the latest scientific and technological advances into operations of the National Weather Service (NWS).

