As of October 2019, ten weather and climate disaster events across the United States (U.S.) have caused losses in excess of $1 billion each. That mix of tropical cyclones, severe storms, and flooding events resulted in the deaths of 39 people and had significant economic effects.

Moreover, this is the fifth consecutive year in which ten or more billion-dollar disaster events have impacted the U.S. Given this reality, research funded by WPO is necessary to inform the timely and accurate forecasts and warnings that make 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, WPO provides the outreach, linkages, and coordination that help NOAA develop and access critical weather and air quality research capabilities.
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 WPO offers.

**Recent Accomplishments**

- Increased the number of funding awards from 84 to 184.
- Increased the number of multi-institutional collaborative projects from 34 to 73, a 114% increase over the prior fiscal year.
- Shepherd a budget increase from $24.1 million to $37.1 million.
- Shepherd a budget increase from $37.1 million to $40.9 million, a 10% increase over the prior fiscal year.

For more information on WPO’s Annual Accomplishments visit us at: [https://wpo.noaa.gov/Annual-Scientific-Accomplishments-FY19](https://wpo.noaa.gov/Annual-Scientific-Accomplishments-FY19)