



WEATHER PROGRAM OFFICE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

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



The Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) provides the research foundation for understanding the complex systems that support our planet. Through its network of labs and program offices, OAR’s mission is to conduct innovative and fundamental research to understand and predict the Earth system; develop technology to improve NOAA science, service and stewardship; and translate the results so they are useful to society.

The Weather Program Office (WPO) strongly supports OAR’s vision to deliver NOAA’s future by improving all forecasts, detecting changes in the Earth’s oceans and atmosphere, exploring the marine environment, and driving innovative science.

The Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (“Weather Act”)

In 2017, the 115th U.S. Congress passed the “Weather Act” - a legislative mandate to improve NOAA’s weather research through advances in observational, computing, and modeling capabilities, to support substantial improvement in weather forecasting and prediction of high impact weather events.

OAR supports the Weather Act

Approximately 828 projects have been identified as supporting the Weather Act throughout OAR, representing over 38% of OAR’s research portfolio.



207
S2S Projects



84
Tornado Projects



78
Hurricane Projects



6
Tsunami Projects

Implementation of the Weather Act is one of NOAA’s top priorities

The Hurricane Forecasting Improvement Program (HFIP) accelerates and develops the promising technologies and techniques of hurricane forecast performance from the research community into operations.

The Tornado Warning Improvement and Extension Program (TWIEP) plan describes efforts to achieve the goal of tornado prediction beyond 1-hour, through improved observations, high-resolution prediction models, and an optimized approach to communicate risk informed by social sciences.

The Joint Technology Transfer Initiative (JTTI) ensures continuous development and transition of the latest scientific and technological advances into operations of the National Weather Service (NWS).

Subseasonal and Seasonal Forecasting (S2S) Innovation addresses improvements in 2-week to 2-year forecasts, using coupled data assimilation, model processes for precipitation and high-impact events, and ensemble techniques, to better represent the complete Earth system.



For information on the Weather Act | Tamara Battle, Policy Coordinator, Weather Program Office
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