

NOAA
WEATHER
PROGRAM OFFICE

Innovative Science Powering a Weather-Ready Nation

The Weather Program Office (WPO) funds research to improve weather forecasts, save lives, and reduce property damage. We work throughout the Weather Enterprise to foster research that can be transitioned into operations, knowledge, and other applications so the public can better be prepared for extreme weather.



Division Spotlight Management and Administration

The M&A Division serves as the keystone for the WPO, providing day-to-day support and innovative strategies for the office. The Division is responsible for facilitating and coordinating operational tasks across WPO to create efficiencies, ensure compliance, and reduce risk in conducting and funding weather research activities, as well as cultivating, spearheading, and evaluating WPO's performance and impact across OAR and NOAA.

Key areas of responsibility include office administration, financial management, human resources, acquisitions and grants management, policy and congressional affairs, strategic planning, partnerships and engagement, communications, and DEIJA activities.

The division successfully manages the resources to support science and research innovation, facilitates a diverse and inclusive work culture, and aligns and integrates WPO research priorities into legislation.

WPO Divisions

Management and Administration

Observations and Research Support

Earth System Research and Modeling

Science, Technology, and Society

The division also serves as the lead for **Goal 1** of WPO's Strategic Plan:

Foster a collaborative weather research and development network with academic, governmental, and industry partners.

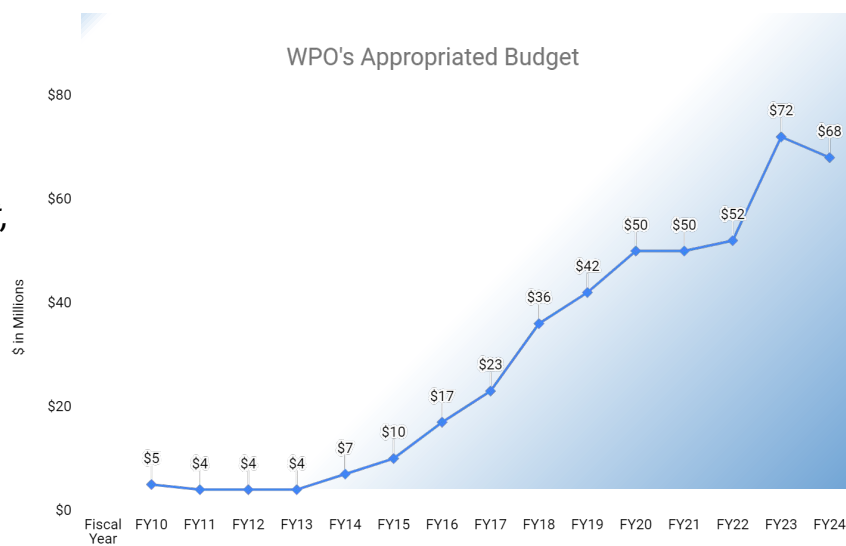
We Fund Research to Improve Your Weather Forecasts

Management and Administration

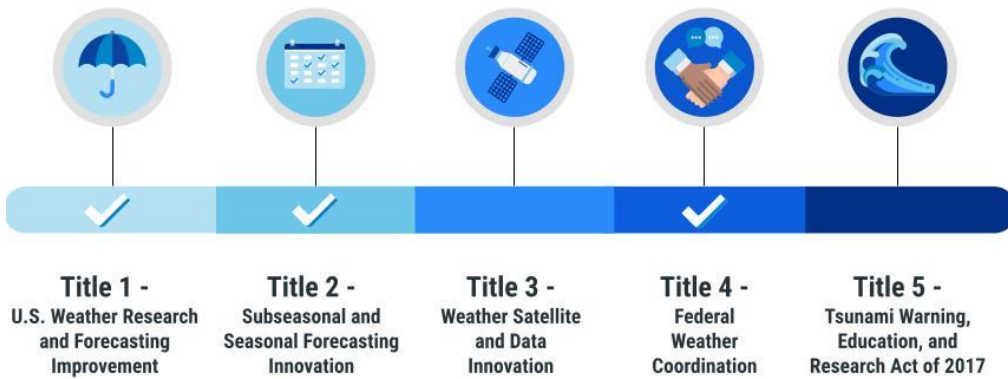


WPO's budget increased significantly and rapidly from \$5M in FY2010 to \$72M in FY2023. Many of these increases coincide with the addition of new programs and initiatives brought about through congressional action including the authorization of *The Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act, 2017 (P.L. 115-25)*.

WPO competitively awards over 50% of its budget through research grants and another 20% in R&D contracts. Grant competitions, called a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), occur annually. The specific scientific priorities of the competition vary year-to-year.



The Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act, 2017



Setting forth goals on improving and advancing fundamental research and forecasting of high-impact severe weather, community modeling, and agency-wide social science integration.

The Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act bolsters NOAA's commitment to advancing weather research and reinvigorating the weather portfolio. WPO leads in developing OAR's reports required by Congress for the Weather Act.

The Weather Act 3.0, anticipated over the next few years, will further advance our place as a cornerstone to weather research, expanding and solidifying NOAA's focus on boundary layer observations, SBES data gathering and integration, and increasing HPC resources.

WPO has undergone tremendous growth, expanding from 4 to 42 staff members as of June 2024. Much of this growth can be attributed to its rapidly developing portfolio of programs and initiatives. To meet this demand, WPO has welcomed individuals with diverse talents, skills, and backgrounds, in an effort to best achieve the office's mission, vision, and goals. The people of WPO, and the intellectual capability they provide, are its greatest asset. As complexity grows and the pace of change and advancement in environmental science increases, our world-class workforce will continue to be important to the management of weather, water, and climate issues.

