

# FY 2005 Budget Highlights

## National Weather Service

NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) requests \$836.8 million (M) in FY05, reflecting a net increase of \$12.0M over Omnibus Appropriations Bill. This budget supports the funding and program requirements necessary to address established NOAA/NWS strategic goals and sets the NWS on a path to achieve its vision: Produce and deliver forecasts that can be trusted, use cutting-edge technologies, provide services in a cost-effective manner, strive to eliminate weather-related fatalities, and improve the economic value of weather information. During FY 2003 the NWS made improvements in key performance areas, exceeding its goals for tornado warning lead time (13 min.), winter storm warning lead time (14 hrs.), and hurricane track forecast error (107 nautical miles). This budget contains increases totaling \$52.0M listed below; \$16.4M in planned program decreases (completion of NOAA Weather Radio All-Hazards and NOAA Center for Weather & Climate Prediction investments; transition of Air Quality research to operations) and \$23.6M in terminations.

### FY 2005 Program Increases:

**Adjustments to Base \$20.1M:** This increase includes \$12.3M in funding for mandatory federal pay increases and inflation for O&M contracts, utilities, and facility rent.

**NWS Telecommunications Gateway \$0.9M:** Will complete the 2-year project to replace the NWS Gateway processing system and facility to eliminate current system delays and speed dissemination of forecasts, warnings and model guidance to all users. These upgrades will also improve infrastructure support for continuity of services.

**Space Environment Center (SEC) \$2.2M:** The SEC provides real-time monitoring, assessment and prediction of the Earth's space environment, largely solar phenomenon that impact our planet. This increase will allow the NWS to maintain the SEC's critical space forecasts and products in support of the Nation's energy and telecommunications industries, NASA and the DOD.

**Cooperative Observer Network Modernization (COOP) \$1.4M:** Necessary to operate and maintain the 460 modernized COOP sites in the Northeastern U.S. deployed in FY03/04. The addition of real-time, high density surface observations will provide quantitative improvements in 24-hour Temperature Forecasts, Flash Flood Forecasts and Drought Forecasts/Outlooks. A TVA study found that a one-degree improvement in temperature forecasting could save the energy industry \$1B/year.

**Air Quality Pilot Forecasts \$5.5M:** Poor National air quality leads to health problems (\$147B/year) and significant loss of life (40,000 fatalities/year). These losses can be mitigated with accurate and timely air quality forecasts. Enables the NWS to implement a pilot NOAA Air Quality Forecast model that will provide a for 24 hour ozone forecasts for the Northeast US. and Nationwide (CONUS) ozone forecasting by FY2008.

**Facilities - Physical Security \$2.0M:** Allows the NWS to address the physical security needs of its forecast offices and National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) and ensure that they comply with Department of Justice Federal Physical Security requirements.

**Coastal Global Ocean Observing System (C-GOOS) \$2.0M:** Adds ocean sensors to 14 moored buoys and 6 C-MAN stations in support of the international Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) to improve coastal marine weather forecasts and warnings and address NOAA ecosystem monitoring needs.

**U.S. Weather Research Program (USWRP)/The Hemispheric Observing System Research & Predictability Experiment (THORPEX) \$1.0M:** Accelerates improvements of the Nation's 7-14 day extended outlook forecasts through partnered international (WMO) and interagency (NASA, NSF and the USN) global weather predictability research. The overarching goal is to make these extended forecasts as economically useful as existing 2-3 day forecasts.

**Transfers \$10.5M:** Transfers the U.S. Weather Research Program and Space Environment Center from OAR to NWS. Places near-term research to operations transition and space weather warning & forecast functions into an operational environment in NWS.

**Other Changes \$3.4M:** Net increase required to maintain current operations (Local Warnings & Forecasts, \$2.6M) and infuse new technology (NEXRAD Product Improvement, \$360K) and continuation of operations (USWRP \$239K; AK Data Buoys, \$200K; AHPS, \$40K).

### NOAA FY 2005 Budget

	FY 2004 Change (\$M)
<b>National Weather Service</b>	
Operations, Research & Facilities	27.2
Procurement, Acquisition & Construction	-15.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12.0</b>

For More Information: [www.nws.noaa.gov](http://www.nws.noaa.gov)

