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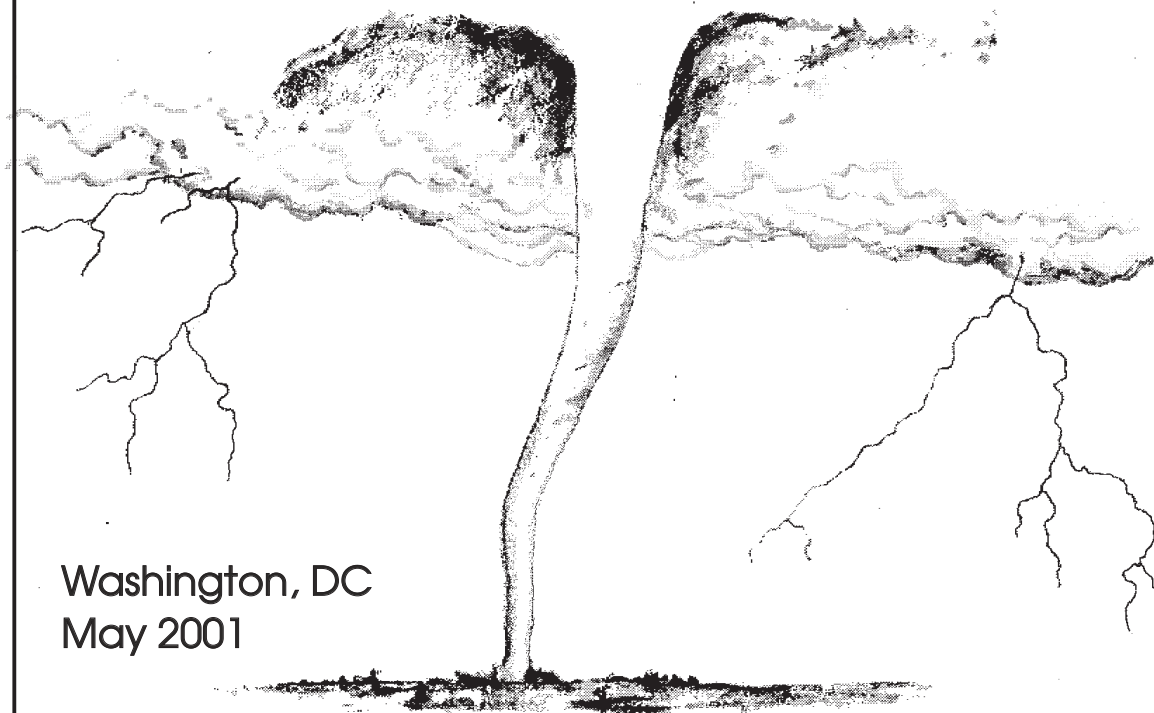
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OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL COORDINATOR FOR
METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH

National Severe Local Storms Operations Plan

FCM-P11-2001



Washington, DC
May 2001

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NATIONAL SEVERE LOCAL STORMS OPERATIONS PLAN

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June 2001

CHANGE AND REVIEW LOG

Use this page to record changes and notices and reviews.

Change Number	Page Numbers	Date Posted	Initials
1			
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Changes are indicated by a vertical line in the margin next to the change.

Review Date	Comments	Initials

FOREWORD

This is the twenty-fourth of a series of *National Severe Local Storms Operations Plans* that was developed after a 1967 request to the Federal Coordinator for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research. This plan is one of several operations plans produced under the auspices of the Federal Coordinator. It outlines the responsibilities of the various United States Federal agencies that provide meteorological services in observing, forecasting and warning of severe local storms. It also defines meteorological terms used by the agencies preparing severe local storms forecasts and warnings, identifies differing operational warning criteria and procedures, and discusses communications, observations, and some public release aspects of severe storms warnings.

This plan supersedes the 1997 version and incorporates significant revisions and changes recommended by the concerned agencies through their representatives on the Committee for Environmental Services, Operations and Research Needs (C/ESORN) Joint Action Group for Severe Local Storms Operations (JAG/SLSO). The mission of the JAG/SLSO is to optimize cooperation among Federal agencies sharing responsibilities for watches and warnings of, or appropriate response to, hazardous weather and flooding, in order to protect life and property.

Additional information describing the warning programs of the participating agencies can be found in the following agencies' documents: Air Force Instruction 15-128, *Aerospace Weather Operations Roles and Responsibilities*; Air Force Manual 15-129, *Aerospace Weather Operations: Processes and Procedures*; Air Force Instruction 10-229, *Responding to Severe Weather Events*; National Weather Service Operations Manual, Chapter C-40, *Severe Local Storm Watches, Warnings and Statements, Operations of the National Weather Service*; Marine Corps Warfighting Publication (MCWP) 3-35.7, *MAGTF (Marine Air-Ground Task Force) Meteorological and Oceanographic Support*; OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3140.24E, *Warnings and Conditions of Readiness Concerning Hazardous or Destructive Weather Phenomena*; NAVMETOCCOMINST 3140.1L, *United States Navy Meteorological & Oceanographic Support System Manual*; Department of Energy Order 420; and Department of Energy Standard 10.20.

The active 1999 severe storms season, which included the devastating series of tornadoes and severe thunderstorms in and around Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on May 3, 1999, reminded us how important cooperation between all levels of government and the public is. Once again, the system responded in a highly effective manner which minimized loss of life.

Samuel P. Williamson
Federal Coordinator for Meteorological
Services and Supporting Research

NATIONAL SEVERE LOCAL STORMS OPERATIONS PLAN

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