

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE POLICY DIRECTIVE 10-10  
JANUARY 29, 2008***

***Operations and Services  
CLIMATE SERVICES***

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**OPR:** W/OS4 (Fiona M. Horsfall)  
**Type of Issuance:** Routine

**Certified by:** W/OS (James E. Hoke)

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***SUMMARY OF REVISIONS:*** This policy supersedes the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) policy 10-10, dated September 30, 2002. This update adds Weather Forecast Office (WFO) and River Forecast Center (RFC) responsibilities as local NOAA user interface for climate services and local steward for integrity and continuity of the climate record. This policy update adds the Office of Climate, Water, and Weather Services (OCWWS) role in training to support the Climate Services Program.

1. Provision of climate services, in particular the monitoring of variations in climate and climate forecasting, is essential to mitigate the loss of life and property and to enhance the national economy. The NWS is the federal agency charged with delivering these services to the U.S., its territories, and, as appropriate, its interests abroad.
2. The NWS Climate Services Program provides service in response to user requests; climate outlook, forecast, and monitoring products; climate data; and climate information to the public to mitigate losses and maximize economic gains. User feedback is solicited to evaluate products and services.
3. This directive establishes the following authorities and responsibilities:
  - 3.1 The Office of Climate, Water, and Weather Services (OCWWS) will:
    - a. Prepare procedural directives that implement this policy.
    - b. Develop and conduct training that supports the Climate Services Program.
    - c. Oversee and evaluate performance and effectiveness of the Climate Services Program.
    - d. Provide outreach to national users to promote climate services.
    - e. Procure resources for the Climate Services Program.

f. Develop and maintain partnerships to enhance the effectiveness of the Climate Services Program.

g. Represent NWS in NOAA-wide climate services activities.

3.2 The Office of Science and Technology (OST) will:

a. Plan, develop, demonstrate, and integrate scientific techniques and system capabilities for the Climate Services Program.

b. Formulate and maintain a research and development plan in response to the Climate Services Program.

c. Oversee associated applied research and development.

3.3 The Office of Operational Systems (OOS) will provide system engineering, software management, facilities engineering services, communications, and logistical services for operational systems supporting the Climate Services Program.

3.4 The National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will:

a. Develop and produce centralized numerical climate prediction guidance, monitoring and outlook products, and discussions to support the Climate Services Program.

b. Evaluate performance and effectiveness of products through verification.

c. Develop supplements to procedural directives.

3.5 The NWS Regional Headquarters offices will:

a. Ensure WFOs and RFCs are organized, trained, and equipped to fulfill the Climate Services Program obligations within their region.

b. Provide climate-related requirements to OCWWS.

c. Provide technical assistance to WFOs and RFCs.

d. Oversee regional climate service outreach efforts.

e. Evaluate performance and effectiveness of the Climate Services Program within their region.

f. Develop supplements to procedural directives.

**NWS PD 10-10 JANUARY 29, 2008**

g. Ensure WFOs and RFCs comply with the Climate Services Program directives and supplements.

3.6 A WFO or RFC will:

a. Serve as the local NOAA user interface, including outreach and education, for climate information and services.

b. Be the steward for the integrity and continuity of the historical climate record in their area of responsibility.

c. Participate in NWS climate analysis, monitoring and prediction activities.

d. Evaluate performance and effectiveness of the Climate Services Program within their office.

e. Develop partnerships to facilitate meeting the responsibilities above with the National Climatic Data Center, its Regional Climate Center(s), its State Climatologist(s), and, as appropriate, other entities providing climate-related services.

4. The NWS measures the effectiveness of its climate services policy with verification of temperature and precipitation outlooks and Hazards Assessments. These metrics will drive improved effectiveness through more focused training, techniques, and procedures. The overall goal of this policy is to improve the operational effectiveness of climate services to the nation.

(signed) January 15, 2008  
John L. Hayes Date  
Assistant Administrator for Weather Services

**Attachment 1**

**REFERENCES, GLOSSARY OF TERMS, AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

***References***

Instruction 10-1001 *Climate Outlooks*  
Instruction 10-1002 *Climate Monitoring*  
Instruction 10-1003 *Climate Data Services*  
Instruction 10-1004 *Climate Records*  
Instruction 10-1005 *Local Climate Outlooks*

***Supporting Information***

NWS Regional and Local Climate Service Delivery Operations Document, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition –  
<http://www.weather.gov/om/csd/Documents/Ops2.pdf>