



# FY2006 Budget Highlights



## NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) requests \$839.3 million in FY 2006, reflecting a net increase of +\$35.5M over the FY 2006 base level. This budget request supports NWS's future direction to improve the utility of weather, water and climate information for our customers, and to improve the timeliness and accuracy of warnings for all weather-related hazards. This budget request contains increases totaling \$41.9M listed below, and \$6.4M in planned program decreases reflecting completion of one-time investments in NEXRAD Product Improvement, the Telecommunications Gateway Legacy Replacement and Radiosonde Network Replacement.

### FY 2006 Program Changes

**U.S. Tsunami Warning Program +\$9.5M:** Funds will be used to continue the Administration's commitment (\$14.5M in FY 2005) to expand the U.S. tsunami detection, warning, and mitigation capabilities. Activities in FY 2006 include deploying DART buoys in the Pacific, Atlantic and Caribbean, investments in seismic and sea level monitoring stations, making tsunami warning centers 24x7, and improving local inundation mapping and preparedness efforts.

**NOAA Center for Weather and Climate Prediction (NCWCP) +\$6.2M:** Funds will be used to finalize the design and implementation of the NCWCP construction, to support technical oversight of the design and construction process, and the planning necessary for the relocation of critical 24x7 operational systems without interruption of service.

**National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) +\$2.0M:** Funds will be used for the cyclic replacement of information technology (IT) infrastructure at the NCEP. This will enable the effective use of increasing volumes of model guidance, imagery and observational data and to comply with IT security requirements and related challenges.

**NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) +\$5.7M:** Funds will be used to complete NWR broadcast coverage of all areas in the United States identified as at high risk for severe weather events by establishing 17 new broadcasting stations. Funds will also be used to begin the refurbishment of 400 1970's era transmitters to improve network reliability.

**U.S. Weather Research Program (USWRP)/Air Quality Forecasts +\$2.1M:** Funds will be used to continue the nationwide deployment of air quality ozone forecasts (complete CONUS in FY 2008), and accelerate the required research in air quality particulate matter forecasting. Poor air quality leads to health problems at a cost to the US economy (\$147B/year) and significant loss of life (40,000 fatalities/year). These losses can be mitigated with accurate and timely air quality forecasts.

**Cooperative Observer (COOP) Network Modernization +\$3.4M:** Funds will be used to continue the COOP modernization effort which will provide real time temperature and precipitation observations for improved temperature, flood, drought and climate forecasting. FY 2006 will mark the completion of 220 network modernization stations.



Nationwide modernization will begin in FY 2006, which includes the integration of partner sites.

**Data Assimilation +\$1.0M:** Funds will be used to support activities that effectively use satellite and high resolution radar data in daily weather forecast models.

**Aviation Weather +\$1.1M:** Funds will be used to continue a 10-year plan to improve U.S. aviation safety and economic efficiencies through state-of-the-art weather observation and forecast products responsive to aviation user needs. Allows NWS to procure, install and operate 50 aircraft-based water vapor data systems, which are critical to depicting weather hazards and reducing forecast errors.

**Water Resources +\$4.0M:** Funds will be used to establish the capability to provide water resource managers with economically valuable water and soil condition forecasts via a national digital database, and a community hydrologic prediction system (CHPS) to advance water prediction science. This will allow users to make informed decisions to mitigate impacts of extreme water events (e.g. drought.)

**Coastal Global Ocean Observing System (C-GOOS) +\$1.5M:** Funds will be used to continue the efforts started in FY 2005 to add oceanographic sensors to the existing NWS marine observations backbone. New ocean measurements will improve forecasting of ocean conditions, and provide information on ecosystem health and the effects of climate change on coastal U.S. communities.

**Other Changes/Restorations +\$5.4M:** Funds will be used to maintain current operations and continue planned investments: Local Forecasts and Warnings, \$1.8M, systems O&M (\$2.9M for NEXRAD), and WFO Construction (\$630K restoration).

NOAA FY 2006 Budget (\$ in Millions)		
	Current Program	Program Change
ORF	\$723.9	\$21.0
PAC	\$79.9	\$14.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$803.8</b>	<b>\$35.5</b>

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