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**OFCM**

# **FEDERAL COORDINATOR'S UPDATE TO COPC**

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**Federal Coordinator**

**Nov 7, 2017**

# Federal Coordinator's Update

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1. FCMSSR and ICMSSR Meetings
2. Released the “Federal Weather Enterprise Budget and Coordination Report.”
3. Working Group for Disaster Impact Assessments and Plans (WG/DIAP) responses during HARVEY and IRMA
4. Tropical Cyclone Operations and Research Forum/Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference 2018
5. Update on the Weather Act section 402
6. Strategic Plan

# Federal Weather Enterprise Infrastructure

	Current	Active
FCMSSR	1	1
ICMSSR & Councils	3	3
Committees	4	4
WGs	16	14
JAGs	4	4
TOTAL	28	26

**Federal Committee for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research (FCMSSR)**

**Federal Coordinator for Meteorology**

**NEXRAD  
Program  
Council**

**Interdepartmental Committee for  
Meteorological Services and  
Supporting Research (ICMSSR)**

**Earth System Prediction  
Capability (ESPC)  
Executive Steering Group**

**Committee on Operational  
Processing Centers**

**Committee on Operational  
Environmental Satellites**

**Committee for Climate  
Services Coordination**

**Interagency Weather  
Research  
Coordinating Committee**

**Working Groups (enduring)**

**Joint Action Groups (short-term)**

# FCMSSR and ICMSSR

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## FCMSSR (Federal Committee for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research )

- **Met October 24, 2017:**
  - Reviewed Federal Coordination activities, next steps to the section 402 of the Weather Act 2017, and the new Strategic Plan for Coordination/Federal Plan.
  - Spectrum Efficient National Surveillance Radar (SENSR) Update.
- **Next meeting (April 24, 2018).**

## ICMSSR (Interdepartmental Committee for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research )

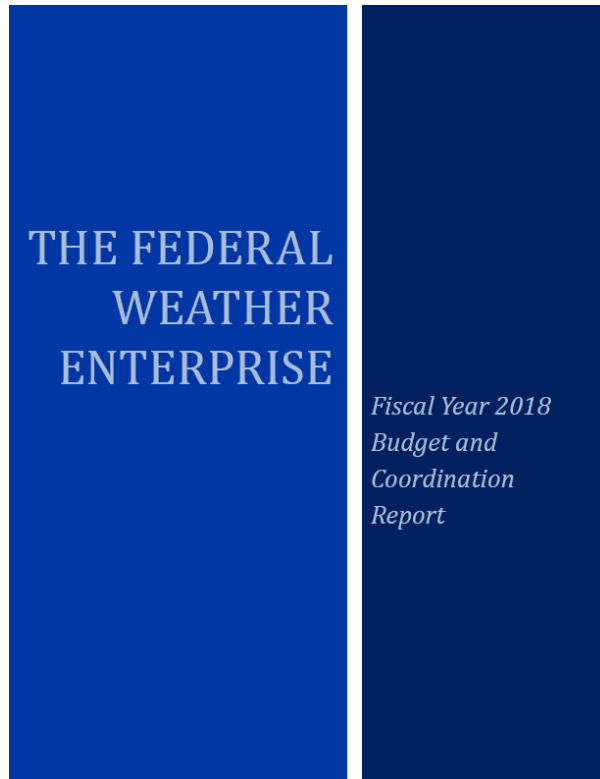
- **Met September 27, 2017:**
  - Reviewed Federal Coordination activities, next steps to the section 402 of the Weather Act 2017, and the new Strategic Plan for Coordination/Federal Plan.
  - Committee for Operational Environmental Satellites (COES) update.
- **Next meeting (Nov 28, 2017 1:00pm – 3:00pm in SSMC2 ).**
  - **Committee for Operational Processing Centers (COPC) update.**

# New “FedPlan”: Budget and Coordination Report

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**FY18 Federal Weather Enterprise Budget and Coordination Report (“BCR”) posted to OFCM publically available web site on 22 September 2017.**

- Replaces the annual “Fed Plan.”
- Reviewed by OMB, who provided edits and requested additional information.
- President’s Budget Request (PBR) for FY18 was submitted on 24 May 2017.
  - This BCR was the initial run to get the format understood by all
  - 90 days from PBR to OMB
  - Goal for FY19: To OMB by PBR plus two weeks.
- For FY19 edition, OFCM will consult with OMB to generate guidance on reporting and comparing FY18 CR numbers.
- **Compilation team will be formalized as a Working Group.**



# **Working Group for Disaster Impact Assessments and Plans: Weather and Water Data (WG/DIAP)**

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## **Hurricanes Harvey and Irma Responses**

**Notifications:** WG/DIAP alerted by group email: [diap.alerts@noaa.gov](mailto:diap.alerts@noaa.gov) with brief descriptions of HARVEY and IRMA; preliminary data collection plans and timelines; and a date/time for the first coordination conference call.

**Conference Calls and Email Communications:** Conference calls convened daily, supplemented by continuous email exchanges, to share response plans and facilitate group discussion on deployment activities.

- Targeted deployment zones and timelines
- Positioning/tracking/pre-staging of mobile sensors and identification of stationary systems
- Deployment issues (e.g. mobile sensor positioning, clearance/authorization, transportation, sensor recovery)
- Response actions changes due to track, intensity, and differing characteristics of each storm.

# **Working Group for Disaster Impact Assessments and Plans: Weather and Water Data (WG/DIAP)**

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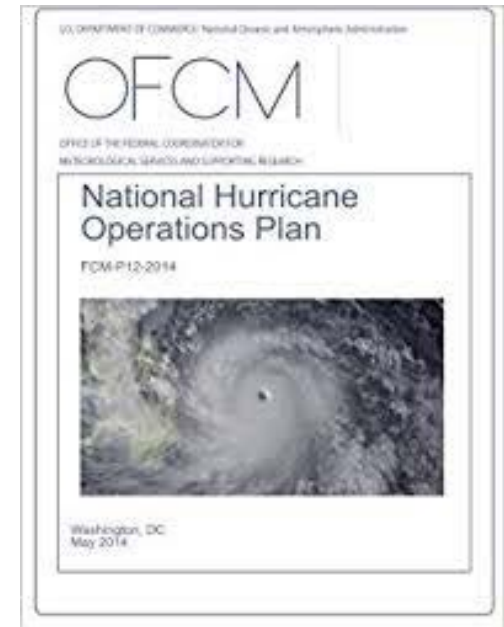
## **Benefits:**

- **User agencies/entities gain awareness of unique interagency data collection activities**
- **Opportunities arise for data sharing/complementary post-storm assessments and studies**
- **Unique and targeted sources of supplementary data at no additional federal cost (participants use their own funding sources).**
- **Practice for eventual COASTAL act collection protocols**

# Tropical Cyclone Operations and Research Forum

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- Tropical Cyclone Operations and Research Forum/Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference 2018
  - Florida International University, 13-15 March 2018 (first time at this venue)
  - Agenda in draft
    - Challenges encountered in 2017 season
    - GOES-16 data usage
    - Joint Hurricane Testbed updates
    - Modeling and Observing System issues
  - Supplemental funding requests forthcoming. (NSF, ONR, NWS/OAR)
  - Expecting/planning for involvement from all the COPC agencies (NWS, NESDIS, Navy, and Air Force.)
  - National Hurricane Operations Plan working group meets during TCORF





# Weather Act of 2017 § 402

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## 402. Interagency weather research and forecast innovation coordination

### (a) Establishment

The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall establish an Interagency Committee for Advancing Weather Services to improve coordination of relevant weather research and forecast innovation activities across the Federal Government. The Interagency Committee shall—

- (1) include participation by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Federal Aviation Administration, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and its constituent elements, the National Science Foundation, and such other agencies involved in weather forecasting research as the President determines are appropriate;
- (2) identify and prioritize top forecast needs and coordinate those needs against budget requests and program initiatives across participating offices and agencies; and
- (3) share information regarding operational needs and forecasting improvements across relevant agencies.

### (b) Co-Chair

The Federal Coordinator for Meteorology shall serve as a co-chair of this panel.

### (c) Further coordination

The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall take such other steps as are necessary to coordinate the activities of the Federal Government with those of the United States weather industry, State governments, emergency managers, and academic researchers.

# Implementing Weather Act of 2017 § 402

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**Challenge:** The 2017 Weather Act directs OSTP to establish “an Interagency Committee for Advancing Weather Services (ICAWS),” with duties including identifying, prioritizing, and coordinating top forecast needs, and sharing needs and improvements across agencies.

## **Recommendations:**

- Use a similar construct as that used in 1962 when OMB was tasked by law to produce an annual meteorological services budget report – have EOP (OMB) assign the task to an existing relevant agency (DoC).
- Since the FCMSSR and the supporting Federal weather enterprise coordination structure cover most ICAWS duties, assign the duties formally to FCMSSR, without creating another organizational entity.
- Have OSTP leadership issue this plan; adjust the FCMSSR charter to accommodate.

## **Proposed Action:**

- FCMSSR approve the draft outline (provided in read-aheads) for forwarding to OSTP as the recommendation of the Federal weather enterprise. Upon OSTP leadership approval, EOP/OSTP will finalize a document requesting the Department of Commerce designate FCMSSR as responsible for the duties assigned to ICAWS.
- Modify FCMSSR charter as required.

# Implementing Weather Act of 2017 § 402

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## Draft guidance from OSTP:

In lieu of establishing a new committee, the **Acting Director**, OSTP, seeks to designate the FCMSSR as the committee that will complete the responsibilities specified in PL 115-25 Section. The Acting Director seeks concurrence from the Department of Commerce on this designation and requests that the FCMSSR Charter be modified accordingly.

## FCMSSR guidance for the next steps:

FCMSSR members discussed the proposal and had questions/concerns about possible Chairs and Co-chairs (including OSTP) for the modified FCMSSR. They agreed with the JAG recommendations of having the FCMSSR assume the duties assigned to ICAWS (and thereby not creating another new committee). OFCM was tasked to reconvene the JAG in order to draft a modified charter for FCMSSR that implements the provisions of the Act, and to present options regarding the Chair/Co-Chair selections/arrangements. The ICMSSR should review the proposed changes and provide their recommendations to the FCMSSR.

# New Federal Coordination Documents

## Old:



- Single publication
- Produced annually
- 200+ pages
- Multiple detailed spreadsheets
- Released in October
- No formal review

## New :



### First publication (proposed):

- Strategic Plan
- Published every four years
- Composed by interagency group
- Approved by FCMSSR



### Second publication (published):

- Annual Report
- Smaller (~50 pages)
- Few tables (satisfies PL 87-843)
- **Progress towards Strategic Goals and Objectives (Agencies, Committees)**
- Released in March (normally, but not FY18 version)
- OMB Review

# Strategic Plan: Proposed Way Ahead

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- **FCMSSR approved the Strategic Plan for Federal Weather Enterprise Coordination FY 2018-2022.**
  - **This will be published and posted immediately.**
- **With FCMMSR approval, direct Federal Weather Enterprise Committees and Working Groups to ready a report of ongoing actions and existing plans within their subject matter areas that support the objectives of the Strategic Plan. Individual agencies will be given opportunity to add and/or comment.**
- **Include these summaries in FY19 Annual Report. (Recurs annually.)**
- **ICMSSR (OFCM) conduct gap analysis and issue directions to Committees/Working Groups as appropriate.**
- **Beginning CY20, revise/review Strategic Plan (via Joint Action Group), issue in CY21 for FY 22-26.**

# Strategic Plan for Federal Weather Enterprise Coordination

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**Through interagency collaboration and cooperation, including both formal and informal partnerships:**

1. Improve the resolution, frequency, information content, and sustainability of global observing capabilities.
2. Make Federal forecasting processes more resilient for all relevant time and spatial scales.
3. Improve interagency collaboration to support effective and consistent decision-support products, information, and services.
4. Conduct productive, synergistic interagency research efforts.
5. Develop, recruit, and sustain a diverse Federal weather workforce.
6. Coordinate messaging about FWE priorities and needs.

## Wrap Up

- **COPC update to ICMSSR (Nov 28, 2017 1:00pm – 3:00pm in SSMC2 Rm7224).**
- **Work with your OFCM Executive Secretary to address the areas of input against the Strat Plan goals and objectives.**