

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND
SUPPORTING RESEARCH (ICMSSR)

2018-2 MEETING AGENDA

May 31, 2018, 2:00 p.m. EDT

SSMC 2, Room 7224
1325 East West Highway; Silver Spring, MD 20910

Members	(T) via telecon	Agency
<i>Jack Kaye(Chair)</i>		NASA HQ/ESD
<i>William Schulz (Vice Chair)</i>		OFCM
<i>Louis Uccellini</i>		DOC/NOAA/NWS
Gary Matlock (T) <i>for Craig McLean</i>		DOC/OAR
Ajay Mehta, <i>for Steven Volz</i>		DOC/NOAA/NESDIS
Col Michael Gremillion <i>for Ralph Stoffler</i>		DOD/USAF/A3W
<i>Bill Spendley (T)</i>		DOD/USA
<i>Chris Ekstrom</i>		DOD/USN
<i>Rickey Petty(T)</i>		DOE
<i>Jonathan Berkson (T)</i>		DHS/USCG
<i>Michael Hurick (T)</i>		DHS/FEMA
<i>John Vimont (T)</i>		DOI/NPS
Pat Murphy <i>for Paul Fontaine</i>		DOT/FAA
<i>Peg Luce (T)</i>		NASA
Anjuli Bamzai (T) <i>for Paul Shepson</i>		NSF
Erik Noble <i>for Steve Clarke</i>		OSTP
<i>Mark Brusburg (T)</i>		USDA
<i>Michael Bonadonna (Secretariat)</i>		OFCM
Invited Participants		Agency
Taylor Jordan		DOC/NOAA
Charlie Bell		DOC/NOAA/NWS
John Cortinas		DOC/NOAA/OAR
John Egentowich		DOT/FAA
Lt Col Robert Branham		DOD/USAF
LtCol John Ruesse		DOD USMC
Dave McCarren, Mary Kate Rogner		DOD/USN
Paul Pisano (T)		DOT/FHWA
Tsengdar Lee (T)		NASA HQ/ESD
David Chorney, Sim James		OFCM
Floyd Hauth (T), Tony Ramirez, Ken Barnett		OFCM

Date of Issue:22 June 2018

1. OPENING REMARKS:

The 2018 ICMSSR Chair, Dr. Jack Kaye (NASA) and Dr. William Schulz, the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology and ICMSSR Vice-Chair provided opening remarks and moderated the meeting. A roll call was conducted for participants at the meeting and those attending via telephone. The Record of Action from the last ICMSSR meeting and the agenda were approved.

2. FEDERAL COORDINATOR'S UPDATE:

Dr. Schulz, the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology provided a summary of several key OFCM/Federal Weather Coordination activities/actions. He noted that there were no significant changes to the infrastructure of committees and working groups. He asked that members provide concurrence for the ICMSSR Charter within two weeks. Primary changes were to rotate the chair among agencies and the addition of some ICMSSR members. Recent events included:

- Publication of the Budget and Coordination Report and National Hurricane Operations Plan. Both are available on the OFCM web page.
- Initial discussions on Weather Information Security with OSTP.
- COPC bi-annual meeting was held at the 557th WW.
- 2nd Workshop on Observational Data was held at Silver Spring and College Park,

Upcoming Events:

- OFCM update to NEWP at their 1 August 2018 meeting at the FAA.
- Atmospheric Transport and Dispersion Workshop 19 June 2018 at GMU.
- SWEF on Capitol Hill 25 July 2018.
- FCMSSR 15 October 2018, 2:30-4:30, Silver Spring.
- OFCM will sponsor a session on "Interagency Coordination within the Federal Weather Enterprise" at the AMS Meeting, 6-10 January, 2019 in Phoenix. The meeting announcement is on the AMS web page.

3. SPACE WEATHER ENTERPRISE FORUM (SWEF):

Mr. Michael Bonadonna provided an update on plans to conduct the 2018 Space Weather Enterprise Forum on 25 July on Capitol Hill. He summarized details about the 2017 Forum, and presented the proposal to conduct the next SWEF event as a small Capitol Hill event and hold the next full-day SWEF in 2019.

The 2018 SWEF will be held at a Capitol Hill Congressional meeting space and aligned with the DOS event on 25 July. It will be sponsored by Representative Ed Perlmutter (D-CO) who is the sponsor for H.R. 3086 "Space Weather Research and Forecast Act". The theme is "Advancing National Space Weather Research and Forecast Capabilities". Panel Sessions would include:

- Understanding and managing risks and impacts associated with space weather.
- Implementation of activities across the space weather enterprise for the protection of critical infrastructure.

The SWEF Working Group is securing speakers. Funding support for the forum is through the Secure World Foundation.

4. REVIEW OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND COORDINATION REPORT:

Dr. Schulz presented a summary of key elements of the newly published Budget and Coordination Report FY2019. He noted that the report was reviewed by OMB prior to publication.

Section 1 lists actions that support the Strategic Plan for Federal Weather Enterprise Coordination, organized by committees and working groups. An example was shown for the Committee for Operational Processing Centers (COPC) and two of its Working Groups with entries that noted the objectives and goals achieved or underway. A matrix provided in the report showed which of the strategic plan objectives were being addressed by each of the agencies and objectives not currently covered.

The following areas provide an opportunity for the ICMSSR to provide guidance:

- Areas being addressed for FY20 BCR cycle (so far):
 - COPC WG/OD is creating interagency guidance for WIGOS observation coding procedures. (Objective 1.3)
 - IWRCC is considering a U.S. financial contribution to WMO S2S database maintenance. (Objective 4.1)
 - FCMSSR is forwarding USAF proposal to OPM endorsing plan to modify 1340-series qualifications. (Objective 5.1)
- Additional open areas/suggestions for ICMSSR consideration:
 - (Objective 4.3) Support efforts among the FWE participants to coordinate task definition and sponsorship of National Academies research initiatives.
 - (Objective 5.2) Coordinate opportunities to leverage outreach, including education efforts, recruiting, and diversity and inclusion initiatives.
 - (Objective 5.3) Crossfeed information on career path planning, training opportunities, diversity and inclusion, professional development, and retention programs.
 - (Objective 1.3) Coordination in commercial data purchase policies.

Section 2 describes status and major changes in agency funding using a brief agency-provided narrative and two summary charts. This section is intended to satisfy the requirements of PL 87-843.

In the future the Strategic Plan will continue to include the activity summaries in the annual Budget and Coordination Report. The intent is to leverage the existing Committee/Working Group structure to accomplish tasks from the 2017 Weather Act. Assuming OSTP approves the 'FCMSSR to ICAWS' recommendation it is recommended that the write-ups be expanded to satisfy 402(a) "to identify and prioritize top forecast needs and coordinate those needs against budget requests and program initiatives across participating offices and agencies."

A working group will be formed to meet this summer to begin FY20 BCR.

Beginning CY20, the Strategic Plan (via Joint Action Group) will be reviewed/revised and issued in CY21 for FY 22-26.

Members were complimentary of the improved format and content of the BCR. One area of concern was that the information included on R2O needed more emphasis and explicit detail. It was agreed that an objective characterizing agency R2O should be added to the strategic plan.

See Action Item 2018-2.1.

5. COMMITTEE FOR CLIMATE SERVICES AND COORDINATION (CCSC)

UPDATE:

Lt Col Robert Branham (USAF) summarized activities of the Committee for Climate Services and Coordination (CCSC) as part of its annual report to the ICMSSR.

He reported on CCSC background, purpose, core responsibilities, member agencies, Action Items, and plans for future activities.

Climate Services are defined as the timely production and delivery of useful climate data, information, and knowledge to decision makers. CCSC is the principal means for coordination on current and programmed activities within its assigned areas, recommending changes to more efficiently use resources in meeting valid user requirements, and addressing policy matters and issues as they relate to climate monitoring and services

One of the key functions of CCSC is identifying the high pay-off, cross-cutting issues which will serve as the basis for prioritizing future interagency coordination and collaboration efforts.

Members/participants are: CDC, DOC (NOAA), DOD (USAF, USN, USA), DOE, DOI, DOS, NASA, NSF, and USDA.

Action Items include developing a list of interagency climate services activities and finalizing an updated ToR.

Future activities include serving as a vehicle to help organize research efforts for seasonal-subseasonal modeling (S2S), support to ICAWS & IWRCC, and collaboration on predictive and projective climate services.

Members commented on the value of possible connections with other groups working on S2S and other related research.

6. US WEATHER RESEARCH PROGRAM:

Dr. John Cortinas (NOAA-OAR) and Mr. Sim James (OFCM) presented requirements from The Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 which calls for a listing of federal weather research goals and activities as part of an updated USWRP Implementation Plan.

Section 109 of the Weather Research and Forecasting innovation Act of 2017 amends Section 108 of the Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1992.

Section 108 of Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1992 establishes the USWRP and its associated reporting requirements. It also directs the requirement to list and describe research goals and activities as part of the implementation plan across the FWE (not just NOAA).

The proposal is to form a Joint Action Group in OFCM to coordinate input from agencies within the FWE on research goals and activities under direction of IWRCC and the Federal Coordinator. The research goals and activities list would be published as an appendix in the FY 20 Budget and Coordination Report to satisfy the law. The JAG would then be terminated.

Members commented on the amount of research work already done by various agencies and outside scientific groups but not entering R2O because of funding or competing priorities.

Members agreed that the scope of the Act's requirements needed to be determined as a first step.

See Action Item 2018-2.2.

7. WEATHER DATA ACCESSIBILITY AND SECURITY:

Dr. Schulz (OFCM) along with USAF and OSTP representatives discussed considerations for operational weather data security.

This issue originated at the NextGen Executive Weather Panel discussion earlier this year.

Operational information including near and real-time environmental observations and visibility/runway condition video feeds are widely available in the U.S., supporting numerous agreements, commitments and best services practices. Some of this information relates to defense, infrastructure, safety and commerce. There is no existing federal policy to delay, withhold or otherwise throttle potentially sensitive operational environmental information.

Member discussed the advantages and disadvantages of sharing environmental data and products that result from the use or processing of these data both nationally and internationally. The framework for open data sharing and potential factors to develop policies or restrictions to data sharing have many aspects to be considered. Members agreed to have their agencies participate in a meeting to examine this area in more detail. **See Action Item 2018-2.3.**

8. OBSERVATIONAL DATA WORKSHOP QUICKLOOK:

Mr. Anthony Ramirez reported on the proceedings from the Observational Data Workshop conducted by the Working Group for Observational Data from 22-24 May 2018.

The primary purposes of the workshop were to clarify environmental data management roles and responsibilities following recent organizational restructures within NWS and USAF and to review U.S. implementation of new WMO data management standards and procedures. His briefing highlighted the agency WMO representatives and agenda topics. Some key workshop takeaways:

- U.S./Interagency Guidance is being developed by WG/OD for the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS).
- New WIGOS station IDs will cause a significant coding workload for the OPCs. It is also important for OPCs to preserve legacy naming patterns where possible in the local identifier segment.
- There are observational data security impacts on OPCs and added latency and processing resource impacts.
- Space Weather observations/sensing capabilities are needed by OPCs.
- Using commercial/proprietary sources for data has some limitations on interagency sharing.

Next steps are to draft the workshop report, post presentations on the OFCM web page, and draft a U.S. Federal Meteorological Data Management Practices guide for WIGOS IDs.

9. OPEN DISCUSSION: No new items were raised by the ICMSSR members.

10. ACTION ITEM REVIEW:

Mr. Michael Bonadonna, ICMSSR, Secretariat, reviewed the status of current and previously taken Action Items.

FCMSSR Action Items

FCMSSR AI #	Responsible Office	Text	Comment	Status	Due Date
2018-1.1	OFCM	Send email to OSTP recommending Option A: Rename the FCMSSR as ICAWS and make other changes in order to comply with the 2017 Weather Act. Request a written response from OSTP.	5/2/18: Email has been sent. Awaiting Reply	Closed	05/04/18
2018-1.2	USAF A3W, OFCM, FCMSSR Chair	USAF A3W adjusts their 1340-series qualifications proposal letter as advised by FCMSSR and sends it to OFCM. OFCM drafts a cover letter for FCMSSR Chair endorsement and forwards the proposal to OPM	5/22/18: A3W Letter amended. Cover letter sent to NOAA for signature	Open	05/11/18
2018-1.3	USAF A3W, NWS	Review and brief FCMSSR on the impact of 1340-series qualification changes approximately one year after OPM implements the change.		Open	10/31/19
2018-1.4	NOAA	Brief FCMSSR on the NOAA Next Generation Global prediction Strategy as a possible framework for broader enterprise implementation.		Open	10/31/18

ICMSSR Action Items

ICMSSR AI #	Responsible Office	Text	Comment	Status	Due Date
2016-4.2	OFCM	Provide a copy of the Terms of Reference for the new Committee on Climate Services (CCS) for ICMSSR review.	11/22/17: Latest copy received.	Open	02/10/17
2017-4.2	NWS, ICMSSR	NOAA NWS will send a draft of their Section 201 response to ICMSSR members. ICMSSR members will provide recommendations or edits back to NOAA by 15 May 2018.	5/13/18: Report expected to be available for ICMSSR preview 1 June 2018.	Open	03/31/18
2018-1.1	OFCM	Revise the ICMSSR Charter to include Chair rotation and other administrative changes.	5/22/18: Included in ICMSSR meeting Read ahead material	Closed	05/15/18
2018-1.4	OFCM	Present FCMSSR with the proposal to update the FCMSSR Charter as an implementation plan for Section 402 of the Weather Act.	5/22/18: Proposal has been sent to OSTP for acceptance and action	Closed	02/28/18
2018-1.5	OFCM, OSTP	Upon FCMSSR approval of the Section 402 implementation plan, submit the recommend plan to Director, OSTP and work with OSTP to submit a legislation change request to identify the Federal Coordinator as the ICAWS Executive Secretary rather than a Co-chair.	Request sent to OSTP	Open	05/30/18
2018-1.6	OFCM, OSTP, DoD, NOAA-NWS	Coordinate to ascertain NSC position, if any, on security of and potential vulnerabilities arising from weather related data and products.	Mtg with NSC occurred. Coordinated position paper forwarded to ICMSSR	Closed	02/28/18

11. NEXT STEPS/CLOSING COMMENTS/ADJOURN:

The ICMSSR Chair thanked members for participating in the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m. Target date for the next ICMSSR meeting is August 2018.

Interdepartmental Committee for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research

Meeting 2018-2

Action Items

ICMSSR Action Item 2018-2.1. Draft a new objective for the FWE Strategic Plan addressing the need for coordinated Research-to-Operations; Operations-to-Research activities. Request FCMSSR approval to add the new objective as a change to the current Strategic Plan.

Responsible Office: OFCM

Due Date: October 31, 2018.

ICMSSR Action Item 2018-2.2. Convene an exploratory meeting to develop an approach for compiling the description of activities and requirements called for in Section 109 of the Weather Act of 2017.

Responsible Office: OFCM

Due Date: July 15, 2018.

ICMSSR Action Item 2018-2.3. Convene an exploratory meeting to determine a framework (participants, subjects for considerations, timeline, etc.) for an interagency group to deliberate the need for policy or direction on the availability of potentially sensitive operational weather information.

Responsible Office: USAF, OFCM

Due Date: August 1, 2018.