



# NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

## FY 2011 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The National Weather Service (NWS) requests \$1,003.2M in FY 2011, reflecting a net increase of \$3.3M over the FY 2010 Enacted. This budget request supports NOAA's and the Department of Commerce's goals to employ cutting-edge technology and to provide weather, hydrologic, and climate forecasts and warnings for the United States, its territories, adjacent waters and ocean areas, for the protection of life and property and the enhancement of the national economy.

**National Critical Space Weather System +\$2.0M:** With this support, software and hardware updates, as well as IT security improvements will be implemented that allow continued operation of the National Critical Space Weather System. NOAA's Space Weather Program depends on the National Critical Space Weather System to monitor the space environment and provide timely and accurate operational space weather forecasts, warnings, and alerts. Space weather has the potential to disrupt virtually every major public infrastructure, including transportation, power grids, telecommunications, and global positioning systems.

**Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) +\$15.1M:** This increase will fund the planned second year NextGen development activities in this multi-year, multi-agency effort to improve aviation weather services. A critical component of the NextGen plan is a weather forecast process that generates rapidly updated, high quality weather information. This data will be stored in a Weather Information Database (WIDB), which will provide the aviation community an authoritative and timely source of weather information for decision support. Federal Aviation Administration records indicate that on average, weather is a factor in 70% of delays, costing roughly \$29B and two-thirds of these delays could be avoided with enhanced weather information.

### NWS FY 2011 Budget Request (\$ Millions)

|              | FY09<br>Enacted | FY10<br>Enacted | FY11<br>Request  | FY11 Request vs.<br>FY10 Enacted |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| ORF          | \$847.9         | \$892.1         | \$902.5          | \$10.4                           |
| PAC          | \$110.9         | \$107.7         | \$100.7          | (\$7.0)                          |
| OTHER        | \$0             | \$0             | \$0              | \$0                              |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>\$958.9</b>  | <b>\$999.8</b>  | <b>\$1,003.2</b> | <b>\$3.4</b>                     |

**Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Construction +\$3.2M:** This request will support on-going construction projects in the Alaska and Pacific Regions and replacement of the heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems at six WFOs with modern, high efficiency (green) units.

**Weather Radio Improvement Project (WRIP) +\$1.6M:** Funds are requested to allow WRIP to replace an obsolete communication system which converts text warnings and forecasts to speech for broadcasting, to a modernized version. This increase is required to keep the project on schedule for completion in FY 2013. NOAA Weather Radio is an effective system that alerts a wide variety of users, including Emergency Managers, first responders, the media, as well as the public to severe weather emergencies and other environmental hazards.

**NEXRAD Product Improvement/Deploy Dual Polarization +\$3.2M:** These funds enable initial acquisition and deployment of Dual Polarization technology to 122 operational and 6 support site NWS NEXRAD systems. This additional scanning capability will significantly augment our ability to predict quantity and type of precipitation. Expected benefits include improved tornado and thunderstorm warnings, air safety, flash flood warnings, and water resources management.



NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION