



# NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

## FY 2013 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

National Weather Service (NWS) requests \$972.2M in FY 2013, reflecting a net decrease of \$19.7M from the FY 2012 Estimate. This budget request supports NOAA's efforts to build a Weather-Ready Nation. The NWS will employ cutting-edge technology to provide weather, water, and climate data, and issue forecasts and warnings for the protection of life and property and for the enhancement of the national economy.

**Ground Readiness Project +\$12.4M:** will increase NWS information technology infrastructure capacity to ensure processing of the three-fold data volume increase expected from satellite and radar observations, and advanced weather prediction models coming online from FY 2013-2017, improving weather warnings and forecasts accuracy.

**NWS Telecommunications Gateway Legacy Replacement +7.0M:** will allow the NWS to perform a necessary re-architecture of the Telecommunications Gateway (NWSTG) and its backup to handle the significant increase in processing required when new observational data come online from next generation satellites (Suomi-NPP, JPSS and GOES-R) and other observation systems. The NWSTG is a hub for collection and transmission of hydrometeorological observations and products for NOAA's customers.

**Tropical Atmosphere Ocean (TAO) Array +\$2.4M:** will support operations and maintenance (O&M), and technology refresh costs associated with the TAO Array. TAO network data directly contributes to the accurate prediction of El Niño and La Niña climate events and enables mitigation of impacts.

**Regional Information Technology (IT) Collaboration Units -\$9.7M:** will create regional information technology collaboration teams enabling higher consistency of service delivery with minimal impacts to NWS' mission. NWS will downsize the current 122 IT Officers to 24, in regional collaboration units. NWS has the ability to fulfill much of the ITO responsibilities remotely.

**Strengthen U.S. Tsunami Warning Network -\$4.6M:** will terminate grant funding to the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program and

### NWS FY 2013 Budget Request (\$ Millions)

	FY11 Enacted	FY12 Estimate	FY13 Request	FY13 Request vs. FY12 Estimate
ORF	\$879.6	\$900.8	\$874.8	(\$26.0)
PAC	\$96.9	\$91.1	\$97.4	\$6.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$976.5</b>	<b>\$991.9</b>	<b>\$972.2</b>	<b>(\$19.7)</b>

increase the time between scheduled maintenance of Deep Ocean-assessment and Reporting Tsunami buoys. Timely issuance of tsunami warnings will continue, but warnings may extend to a larger area and for a longer time. NOAA will continue to educate the public about tsunamis through the TsunamiReady program.

**NOAA Profiler Network and Conversion (NPN) -\$4.1M:** will terminate its NPN array except for three profilers located in Alaska that provide information critical for specialized aviation and volcanic ash forecasts. The remaining 32 profilers will be shutdown to avoid interference with the European Galileo satellites. Given the cost of modernizing the profilers, NOAA proposes to discontinue operation of the remaining 32 profilers.

**Air Quality Forecasting -\$3.1M:** will discontinue the National Air Quality Forecasting Capability which is used by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state and local agencies to provide public air quality health alerts. NWS has provided this service to EPA through a cooperative agreement that expires in FY 2013. NWS will sustain the on-demand, operational dispersion forecasts of volcanic ash, transport of smoke, and release of hazardous materials.



NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION