

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR METEOROLOGICAL
SERVICES AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH (ICMSSR)

2018-4 MEETING

November 27, 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>Michael Bonadonna (Vice Chair)</i>		OFCM
<i>Louis Uccellini</i>		DOC/NOAA/NWS
Kandis Boyd for <i>Craig McLean</i>		DOC/OAR
<i>Vanessa Griffin</i>		DOC/NOAA/NESDIS
Col Michael Gremillion for <i>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>Chris Cannizzaro (T)</i>		DOS / OES
<i>Jonathan Berkson (T)</i>		DHS/USCG
Bill Bauman (T) for <i>Paul Fontaine</i>		DOT/FAA
<i>Rohit Mathur (T)</i>		EPA
<i>Don Eick (T)</i>		NTSB
<i>Erik Noble (T)</i>		OSTP
<i>Mark Brusburg (T)</i>		USDA
Invited Participants		Agency
David Kennedy (T), Jen Pizza (T)		DOC/NOAA
John Murphy, David DeWitt		DOC/NOAA/NWS
Jesse Carman		DOC/NOAA/OAR
CDR Jason Mansur		DOC/NOAA/OAMO
Lt Col Robert Branham (T), Michael Farrar		DOD/USAF/A3W
Chris Finnigmeyer (T)		DOD USAF 557WW
CDR Jillene Bushnell		DOD/USN
Paul Pisano (T)		DOT/FHWA
Tsengdar Lee (T)		NASA HQ/ESD
Sim James, Ken Barnett		OFCM
Floyd Hauth (T), Tony Ramirez (T)		OFCM STC

Date of Issue: 2/1/19

1. OPENING REMARKS.

Dr. Jack Kaye, NASA HQ/ESD, ICMSSR Chair for 2018, provided opening remarks and moderated the meeting. Mr. Michael Bonadonna provided administrative information. Roll call was conducted for participants on site and those using teleconference media. Members approved the agenda and the Record of Action from the last ICMSSR meeting.

2. FEDERAL COORDINATOR'S UPDATE.

Mr. Michael Bonadonna, the Acting Federal Coordinator for Meteorology presented a summary of several key OFCM/Federal Weather Enterprise structure activities. His update included the following information:

- No significant changes in the FWE Coordinating Infrastructure.
- The FCMSSR meeting was held on October 22, 2018. Members approved the new R2O2R Objective for the FWE Strategic Plan which had been provided by the ICMSSR. Presentations included NOAA's Next Generation Global Prediction System (NGGPS) as a possible framework for broader enterprise implementation and the National ESPC's HPC Working Group briefing on high performance computing requirements for future Earth System Prediction Capability needs. The meeting resulted in four new action items for FCMSSR.
- Implementing the Weather Act of 2017§402. OSTP Director (President's Science Advisor) nominee awaiting confirmation. OSTP staff will hold approval of this plan until a Director is confirmed and can review. In addition, OSTP is in discussion with Congressional staff to ensure a clean implementation of establishing an ICAWS.
- The FAA nominated Dr. William Bauman to serve as 2019 ICMSSR Chair. Members agreed to his selection.
- Guidance for the Budget and Coordination Report FY20 is being drafted for agency working level review and will be issued to agencies in December. The suspense for agency inputs will be immediately after release of PBR (approximately late February 2019). The goal is to send the draft report to OMB for their review within 2 weeks following the PBR release. ICMSSR agreed to the procedure and timeline.
- The Atmospheric Transport and Dispersion 2018 Special Session was held at the 22nd Annual George Mason University (GMU) Atmospheric Transport and Dispersion (ATD) Conference. The most current OFCM plans relating to ATD are FCM-R17-2002 called Atmospheric Modeling of Releases from Weapons of Mass Destruction for Homeland Security, from 2002, and FCM-R23-2004 Federal Research and Development Needs and Priorities for Atmospheric Transport and Diffusion Modeling from 2004. Both of these publications are outdated and need revision. Members agreed that these documents should be reviewed and asked to participate in the effort. **{See Action Item 2018-4.1}**
- The 2018 Space Weather Enterprise Forum was held on July 25 2018 at the Library of Congress. The 2019 SWEF proposal is to hold the forum near the National Mall in the June timeframe. USGS has offered use of the Interior Main Building auditorium and will provide funding support. The focus will be on naturally occurring space weather events. ICMSSR concurred with OFCM initiating planning in January.
- The Federal Weather Enterprise Coordination Session at the AMS Conference is scheduled for 7 January 2019 at 1400 as part of the 35th Conference on Environmental Information Processing Technologies. Session 3A will cover Interagency Coordination

within the Federal Weather Enterprise. The Co-chairs are William J. Schulz Jr., USN-ONR, and C. Sim James, OFCM.

- The 2019 Tropical Cyclone Operations and Research Forum (TCORF) and 73d Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference (IHC) are scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday March 12 & 13, 2019 at the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, University of Miami, Miami, FL. The focus will be on Tropical Cyclone Research, Transition to Operations, and update of the annual National Hurricane Operations Plan. ICMSSR had no objections to the approach.
- OFCM coordinated data collection deployments of the Digital Hurricane Consortium (DHC) and several U.S. Government observing assets to FLORENCE and MICHAEL through the Working Groups for Disaster Impact Assessments (WG/DIAP) and COASTAL Act Support (WG/CAS). Lack of lead-time and funding restricted deployment of some of the University assets for MICHAEL.
- Status of actions to revise the OPM 1340 Meteorologist Qualification Standard requested by the USAF were reviewed. All parties agreed to the proposed changes following the meeting. The administrative package will be forwarded by NOAA, as FCMSSR Chair, through Department of Commerce to OPM.

3. NOAA's S2S REPORT TO CONGRESS.

Mr. David Dewitt (NOAA) provided a summary of the report to Congress: Subseasonal and Seasonal Forecasting Innovation: Plans for the Twenty-First Century.

The Undersecretary was directed to submit to Congress (relevant House and Senate Committees) a report including:

- An analysis of how NOAA's S2S forecasts are used for public planning and preparedness.
- NOAA plans for the continued improvement of an S2S forecasting capability, including products to meet the need described above.
- An identification of the needed research, monitoring, observing and forecasting requirements for improving the S2S forecasting capability.

The Undersecretary was also instructed to consult with relevant Federal, regional, State, tribal, local government agencies, research institutions, and the private sector in the development of this report.

The planning panel was organized to have three subgroups working in parallel, community engagement, and a writing team to draft the report.

Mr. Dewitt presented an outline and details of the report and noted that the full report and executive summary have been drafted and sent to Line Offices for review.

Members discussed the review process for this report and noted that although input from the individual military services had been provided, this did not constitute a coordinated DoD position. NOAA will modify the S2S report accordingly. They agreed the DoD's review and concurrence process should be clarified for similar reports to Congress in the future.

4. COMMITTEE FOR OPERATIONAL PROCESSING CENTERS (COPC) COORDINATION.

Mr. Chris_Finnigsmier (USAF ACC 557 WW) provided the annual update of COPC interests, activities, and issues. His briefing covered the COPC Terms of Reference, background, activities, areas being monitored, and a look to the future.

The COPC facilitates the cooperative support and exchange of observational data, modeling products, and backup of services between the member organizations (NWS, AF, and NAVY).

He noted that the COPC is finalizing an update to their ToR and will submit it for ICMSSR approval at the next meeting.

Mr. Finnigsmier covered the background of the COPC, its meeting schedule, and the responsibilities of its three supporting Working Groups.

Recent activities included completion of the FCM-P14-2018 Federal Plan for Cooperative Support and Outage Mitigation Among Operational Processing Centers and conducting the 2nd Observational Data Workshop. A documented summary report of findings/outcomes is provided at https://www.ofcm.gov/publications/odwr37/r37_odw.pdf.

Other COPC activities were to develop the U.S. concept/strategy for implementation of new WIGOS station IDs, migration of MSG off DOMSAT, and transition to GOES 16/17.

Areas being monitored include:

- Cyber security impacts on OPC data exchange.
- Understanding how the Commercial Weather Data Acquisition Programs will impact the OPCs.
- Commercial Weather Data Pilot programs in NOAA, DOD, and NASA.
- Strategies for migration to cloud.
- Staying informed of COES efforts with information about research satellite capabilities.
- Staying informed of the Earth System Prediction Capability's (ESPC) future of High-Performance Computer (HPC) efforts.
- Tracking the Indian Ocean Data Coverage (IODC) efforts between USAF and NOAA.

He summarized by noting that the COPC continues to provide an interagency forum to discuss/improve exchange of observational data and global observing capabilities and strengthen interoperability among interagency forecasting centers to make the federal forecasting process more resilient.

Members discussed the need for an update on the current pathways and data flows of satellite data among the Operational Processing Centers. **{See Action Item 2018-4.2}**.

5. ARCTIC METEOROLOGICAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.

Mr. David Kennedy, NOAA Arctic Program Director provided an update on Arctic Meteorological interests and a proposal to improve interagency coordination of arctic meteorological services.

An Arctic Maritime Symposium was held 14-16 August 2018. It was motivated in part by the rapidly changing environment in the Arctic and the increased presence of great power competitors at the seams of multiple combatant commands which challenge U.S. security and prosperity.

The goals of the symposium were to:

- Expand and strengthen relationships between Joint and interagency government organization, academic and policy institutions, and senior leaders with interest in maritime operations in the arctic.
- Improve mutual understanding and appreciation of Arctic maritime operational requirements and opportunities.

Mr. Kennedy described the strategic planning efforts of five agencies that are concerned about the growing international interest in the Arctic regions and the need to share and integrate data for the Arctic.

Members discussed the need to determine what is currently being done by various agencies regarding observing Arctic ocean, weather and ice data and how these data and related services are being provided to meet national needs now and in the future. They agreed that an exploratory meeting of agency representatives would be useful to identify what is being done in support of national Arctic interests and whether further action is needed within the FWE Enterprise structure. {See Action Item 2018-4.3.}

6. OPEN DISCUSSION:

No additional discussion.

7. ACTION ITEM REVIEW:

FCMSSR Action Items

AI #	Text	Responsible Office	Comment	Status	Due Date
2018-1.3	Review and brief FCMSSR on the impact of 1340-series qualification changes approximately one year after OPM implements the change.	USAF A3W, NWS		Open	10/31/19
2018-2.1	With respect to implementation of the new FWE Strategic Plan objective to improve coordination of R2O activities, ensure all elements of the FWE Coordinating Infrastructure consider any potential National Security concerns regarding operational vulnerabilities and core technical capabilities that should be restricted for internal government use only.	OFCM	Briefed to ICMSSR	Closed	12/15/18
2018-2.2	Ensure input to the WMO Basic Instructional Package for Meteorologists (BIPM) and Basic Instructional Package for Meteorological Technicians (BIPMT) is consistent with the proposed modification to the OPM 1340 Draft a new proposal for the 1340 Meteorologist Qualification Standard with support from NOAA and DOC HR. Secure FCMSSR concurrence. Request DOC HR sends the package to OPM. Meteorologist Qualification Standard.	FCMSSR Organizations	OFCM reviewed the WMO BIPM and BIPMT request and found no impact on revision of the 1340 standard.	Closed	10/26/18

AI #	Text	Responsible Office	Comment	Status	Due Date
2018-2.3	Draft a new proposal for the 1340 Meteorologist Qualification Standard with support from NOAA and DOC HR. Secure FCSSR concurrence. Request DOC HR sends the package to OPM.	OFCM , NOAA		Open	11/16/18
2018-2.4	In order to improve coordination with ongoing National Strategic Computing Initiative (NSCI) activities, contact the NSTC Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) Program to obtain a point of contact and invite them to provide an information briefing for the next ICSSR meeting.	OFCM	11/9: OFCM contacted NITRD ExecSec who will provide POCs. Schedule briefing for Spring ICSSR	Open	02/15/19

ICSSR Action Items

AI #	Text	Responsible Office	Comment	Status	Due Date
2016-4.2	Provide a copy of the Terms of Reference for the new Committee on Climate Services (CCS) for ICSSR review.	OFCM	7/9/18: Waiting for NWS to concur.	Open	02/10/17
2018-1.5	Upon FCSSR 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.	OFCM, OSTP	OSTP Director (President's Science Advisor) nominee awaiting confirmation. OSTP staff will hold approval of this plan until a Director is confirmed and can review. In addition, OSTP is in discussion with Congressional staff to ensure a clean implementation of establishing an ICAWS.	Open	05/30/18
2018-2.2	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.	OFCM, USAF	10/1/18: A3W is developing a position on this.	Open	08/01/18
2018-2.3	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.	OFCM	11/1/18: Member names received, scheduling first introductory meeting ahead of next ICSSR on 27 November	Open	07/15/18

8. NEXT STEPS/CLOSING COMMENTS/ADJOURN

The ICMSSR Chair thanked members for participating in the meeting and supporting him as Chair during 2018. The meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m. The target date for the next ICMSSR meeting is February 2019.

Interdepartmental Committee for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research

Meeting 2018-4

Action Items

ICMSSR Action Item 2018-4.1. Conduct a meeting to determine whether updates to the plans FCM-R17-2002 “Atmospheric Modeling of Releases from Weapons of Mass Destruction for Homeland Security” and FCM-R23-2004 “Federal Research and Development Needs and Priorities for Atmospheric Transport and Diffusion Modeling” are warranted and whether new objectives should be set.

Responsible Office: OFCM

Due Date: February 28, 2019.

ICMSSR Action Item 2018-4.2. Provide a briefing to ICMSSR describing the current pathways and data flows of satellite data among the Operational Processing Centers including plans for any near-term changes

Responsible Office: COPC

Due Date: February 28, 2019.

ICMSSR Action Item 2018-4.3. Arrange and conduct a one-day meeting to review current and future operational meteorological, oceanographic, and space environmental services and supporting research for national interests in the arctic region with the purpose with determining whether collective interagency coordination is needed.

Responsible Office: OFCM

Due Date: February 28, 2019.