

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND
SUPPORTING RESEARCH (ICMSSR)

INTERAGENCY WEATHER RESEARCH COORDINATION COMMITTEE (IWRCC)

WEATHER RESEARCH SCIENCE WORKING GROUP (WRSWG):

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. BACKGROUND

To increase societal resilience to and improve forecasts for high impact weather, the World Weather Research Project (WWRP) of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) established three major weather research projects related to THORPEX: the Polar Prediction project (PPP), the Subseasonal to Seasonal Prediction Project (S2S), and the High Impact Weather Prediction Project (HIW), hereafter referred to as the three projects. The WRSWG was established as a working group under the independent Interagency Weather Research Coordination Committee (IWRCC) to provide scientific leadership and coordination for U.S. participation in these WMO projects. The IWRCC and the WRSWG moved under the Federal Meteorological Coordination structure in 2016.

2. PURPOSE

The WRSWG promotes scientific leadership for the coordination of U.S. involvement in the PPP, S2S and HIW efforts. Additionally, the WRSWG informs the IWRCC on matters concerning the scientific integrity and progress of such projects.

3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop a conceptual framework for the coordination of US high impact weather related research in the context of the three projects, as well as coordinate the development of implementation plans for related national and international projects.
- Consult with appropriate Program Managers to Identify research in support of the three projects that potentially serves U.S. national interests, is aligned with agency plans with a potential for long-term benefits to society, the economy, and the environment, and has a high likelihood of transition to applications at US operational weather agencies.
- Engage the U.S. community in the three projects and present options for collaboration and coordination such as leveraging scientific community meetings, holding periodic open meetings or workshops, disseminating information on projects, opportunities, and changing priorities, and assimilating advice and suggestions from research communities at large.
- Interface with related and associated international activities through:
 - Representation of U.S. agency science interests and individuals of scientific expertise;
 - Relaying to the international projects U.S. national research priorities and expertise, socio-economic needs, and concepts for proposed field campaign and demonstration projects; and
 - Interaction with relevant WWRP and WCRP (World Climate Research Program) Working Groups
- Inform the IWRCC through periodic updates about ongoing international and US high impact weather research in the context of the three projects and other associated projects, possible future scientific directions, and related resource requirements.
- The Office of the Federal Coordinator will provide Executive Secretary services, to assist in creating meeting Records of Action, tracking action items, and coordinating meeting logistics.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- The WRSWG shall consist of no more than 18 members, including up to three Co-Chairs
- IWRCC will appoint the Co-Chair(s), and based on the Co-Chair(s)' recommendation, the members of the WRSWG for initial terms of up to three years, with the possibility of an extension for one additional term of three years.
- Expertise of the membership, to the extent possible, will span the scientific breadth of the impactful weather research including its societal component.
- Membership should include scientific experts from government, academia, private sector, and other North American weather research agencies.
- A member from each of the three project teams will be members of the WRSWG.
- In carrying out IRWCC roles and responsibilities as set forth in 3, above, members shall provide their individual opinions, advice and recommendations which shall be recorded as part of IRWCC deliberations on such matters. At no time will the WRSWG provide consensus opinions, advice and recommendations.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHAIR(S)

- Report to the IWRCC on high impact weather research plans, activities and recommendations of individual IWRCC members related to the three projects.
- Organize meetings, workshops and sessions among U.S. scientists for planning and reviewing related research, with appropriate agency administrative and financial support.
- Oversee the maintenance of a web site and other means of community engagement with assistance from OFCM.

6. REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

On a 5-year basis, WRSWG will review its activities and accomplishments to determine if changes in its Terms of Reference are necessary. This will allow WRSWG to adjust to changes in the national needs and the international weather research environment.

7. TERMINATION

The Working Group shall remain in existence until terminated by the IWRCC and the Federal Coordinator.

-- SIGNED --

April 2, 2018

Michael F. Bonadonna
Secretariat, Federal Meteorological Coordination

Date: