



National Weather Service FY 2012 Budget Briefing and Discussion

Having accurate and timely information on weather is vital to life safety and protection of property. For emergency managers, one of our most important partners in this endeavor is the National Weather Service.

On behalf of the Nation's state and local emergency managers, the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) and the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) would like to encourage you to attend the March 21, 2:00 p.m. briefing and discussion with Dr Jack Hayes, the NOAA Assistant Administrator for Weather Services and National Weather Service Director in Room 233 of the Hall of States.

Why should I be interested in this briefing and discussion?

Weather affects every one....

- The United States is one of the most severe weather-prone countries on Earth. Some 90 percent of all Presidentially-declared disasters are weather-related.
- Vulnerability from severe weather is increasing as the Nation's population grows and shifts to coastal areas. What's more, the number of major land-falling hurricanes has nearly doubled in the last decade (2001-2008) from the previous one (1991-2000).
- Each year in the United States, weather-related hazards directly result in approximately 600 deaths, 5,000 injuries, and \$14 billion in damage.
- About one-third of the U.S. economy (about \$4 trillion) is weather-sensitive.
- Each year we experience an average of 27,000 thunderstorms, 6,000 winter storms, 5,000 floods, 1,300 tornadoes, 90,000 wildfires (consuming an average of nearly 7 million acres), and widespread droughts across the United States, as well as an average of 6 Atlantic hurricanes and 13 Pacific hurricanes and typhoons.
- The NWS tsunami warnings are vital to the safety of American communities in the Pacific, Atlantic and Gulf Coast. Today the National Weather Service's tsunami warning centers in HI, AK, and forecast offices in CA, OR, WA are once again providing critical tsunami warnings to States, Counties, and cities following a powerful 8.9 earthquake near Japan.

Briefing and Discussion:

Dr. Jack Hayes, Director of the National Weather Service, March 21 2:00-3:00
Room 233, Hall of States, 444 N.Capitol, St. SW, Washington, DC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "H.E. Hicks".

H.E. (Eddie) Hicks, CEM, President
United States Council
International Association of Emergency
Managers (IAEM)

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Mullen".

Jim Mullen, President
National Emergency Management
Association (NEMA)