Future of the National Weather Service

A View from a Meteorologist In Charge

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1. Why Change?
   - New Service Requirements
   - Increased Societal Risk from Environmental Events
   - New Environmental Information Services Integrated Across NOAA
   - Changing Weather Enterprise
My take

1. Change needed to meet our customers rapidly changing needs
2. Societal Impact is a BIG topic right now

NOAA's NWS – Moving Forward

NWS goal in the "Evolution of Our Services" is to produce and provide critical information in the right format, at the right time, to the right people, who will make the right decisions.

1. No degradation of service
2. Equitable services
3. Demonstrate effectiveness and performance
A Shift in Focus

From

- Producers of Our Forecasts
- Static Resource Allocation
- Phenomenon-Based Forecasts
- Product-Based Services
- Coordination
- Weather-Centric
- Deterministic (best forecast)

To

- Customers of Our Expertise
- Dynamic Resource Allocation
- Impact-Based Forecasts
- Decision Support Services
- Collaborative Weather Enterprise
- Earth System Science
- Probabilistic (uncertainty range)

My Take

1. **NWS produces data not products**
2. **Change to less structured shifts**
3. **More help to the office that is dealing with the weather**
4. **Migrate away from local offices doing extended and let HPC**
5. **Focus on short term critical issues (not just severe weather)**
High-Impact Services

1. Natural Hazards, e.g.,
   - Tornadoes
   - Droughts
   - Hurricanes
   - Heat
   - Floods
   - Tsunamis
   - Volcanic eruptions

2. Accidents
   - Chemical releases
   - Oil spills
   - Nuclear power emergencies

3. Terrorism

4. Space Weather

5. Public Health

My Take

1. The focus continues to be protection of life and property
2. This is the most important change at the field level
3. Incident Meteorologists are “IN”
4. Put a knowledgeable person in earshot of decision makers
NOAA's NWS Future

1. National Weather Service 2015
2. The Future
   • High Impact – Decision Support – Mission Focus
3. NWS Services Evolution
   • Key Operational Shifts
4. Customer Focus & Involvement

NOAA's NWS

1. Significant changes to the NWS by 2015
   • Operations
   • Services
   • Staffing
   • Mission Focus
2. What doesn’t change?
   • Commitment to weather services (high impact)
   • Commitment by the staff
Steve’s Principles

1. If you do what you love, you will love your job
2. Be a team player (it’s not all about you but you benefit when the team is successful)
3. Be a good communicator
4. Be professional (use good moral judgement)
5. Service before self

Thank You for Your Time!

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