



weather.com

U.S. WEATHER/CLIMATE PREDICTION ENTERPRISE

“A” Private Sector Viewpoint

RAYMOND J. BAN
THE WEATHER CHANNEL, INC.

ASSUMPTIONS

1. Weather/Climate Prediction Services in the United States are provided by an Interdependent Enterprise consisting of unique contributions by a public sector, an academic sector and a private sector.
2. Rapid advances in science and technology are driving constant evolution of the Enterprise. Change has been and will continue to be constant.
3. The Enterprise works well but there is significant room for improvement.

GOAL

Optimize and grow the Enterprise by more effectively and efficiently leveraging its combined skills, competencies and assets resulting in

INCREASED VALUE TO THE NATION

FAIR WEATHER

Effective Partnerships in Weather and Climate Services

- Published by the National Research Council in 2003
- Eleven (11) Recommendations
- Blueprint for Moving Forward

FAIR WEATHER – Recommendation 1

“The National Weather Service, (NWS) should replace its 1991 public-private partnership policy with a policy that defines processes for making decisions on products, technologies, and services, rather than rigidly defining the roles of the NWS and the private sector.

2004 NOAA POLICY ON PARTNERSHIPS IN THE PROVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

4. NOAA recognizes the public interest is served by the ability of private sector entities and the academic and research community to provide diverse services to meet the varied needs of specific individuals, organizations, and economic entities. The nation benefits from government information disseminated both by Federal agencies and by diverse nonfederal parties, including commercial and not-for-profit entities.

2004 NOAA POLICY ON PARTNERSHIPS IN THE PROVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

4. (cont.)

NOAA will give due consideration to these abilities, and consider the effects of its decisions on the activities of these entities, in accordance with its responsibilities as an agency of the U.S. Government, to serve the public interest and advance the nation's environmental information enterprise as a whole.

2004 NOAA POLICY ON PARTNERSHIPS IN THE PROVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

5. NOAA will use appropriate mechanisms to encourage the maximum practicable and timely input from and collaboration with interested persons and entities on decisions affecting the environmental information enterprise...

SOME KEY WORDS

Fair Weather Report – Recommendation 1

“Defines processes for making decisions”

2004 NOAA Policy

“NOAA will give due consideration ... and consider the effects of decisions...”

“NOAA will...encourage...input and collaboration.”

FAIR WEATHER – Recommendation 2

The NWS should establish an independent advisory committee to provide ongoing advice to it on weather and climate matters. The committee should be composed of users of weather and climate data and representatives of the public, private, and academic sectors, and it should consider issues relevant to each sector as well as to the set of players as a group, such as (but not limited to)

FAIR WEATHER – Recommendation 2

- Improving communication among the sectors,
- Creating or discontinuing products,
- Enhancing scientific and technical capabilities that support the NWS mission,
- Improving data quality and timeliness, and
- Disseminating data and information

FAIR WEATHER – Recommendation 3

The NWS and relevant academic, state, and private organizations should seek a neutral host, such as the American Meteorological Society, to provide a periodic dedicated venue for the weather enterprise as a whole to discuss issues related to the public-private partnership.

PROGRESS TO DATE

(First Three Recommendations)

- Recommendation 1 – Done
(But significant issues remain)
- Recommendation 2 – Not Done
- Recommendation 3 – Done
 - AMS formed the Weather and Climate Enterprise Commission

IDEAS TO CONSIDER

- Do Fair Weather - Recommendation 2.
Establish the Advisory Committee
- Use the Advisory Committee to resolve any policy issues and then get on with Fair Weather – Recommendation 2
- Use the new AMS Commission on Weather and Climate Enterprise and other appropriate forums as per Fair Weather - Recommendation 3

POSSIBLE OPERATING THEME

All reasonable and lawful coordination and planning efforts will take place to grow the Weather and Climate Enterprise by optimizing the skills, competencies and assets that reside across the entire Enterprise in order to provide the highest quality service and greatest value to the nation.

FULL ENGAGEMENT BY ALL ENTERPRISE SEGMENTS