

# FY 2006 Appropriations for the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

(numbers are in millions)

(the total for NOAA overall reflects the 1.0% cross-the-board cut to discretionary programs)

*NOAA Conference Language*

NOAA	FY05 Omnibus	President's FY 2006 Req.	% change FY05 vs. FY06 Req.	House	Senate	FY06 Conf.	% change FY05 vs. FY06
<b>Line Offices:</b>							
<b>National Ocean Service</b>							
ORF:	541.2	394.2	-27.2%	382.2	610.6	500.0	-7.6%
PAC:	127.0	14.5	-88.6%		118.1	92.6	-27.1%
<b>National Marine Fisheries</b>							
ORF:	676.5	625.5	-7.5%	556.6	763.8	678.5	0.3%
PAC:	31.0	2.0	-93.5%		16.5	17.5	-43.5%
<b>Oceanic &amp; Atmospheric Research</b>							
ORF:	404.1	361.7	-10.6%	326.3	470.1	373.7	-7.5%
PAC:	9.7	10.5	8.3%		10.6	9.5	-2.1%
<b>National Weather Service</b>							
ORF:	703.9	744.8	5.8%	759.1	772.8	745.2	5.9%
PAC:	79.1	94.4	19.3%		90.5	92.0	16.3%
<b>NESDIS</b>							
ORF:	176.1	153.9	-12.5%	158.3	180.4	179.3	1.8%
PAC:	731.4	809.9	10.7%		819.7	785.3	7.4%
<b>Within OAR:</b>							
<b>Climate Research (ORF):</b>							
Labs & Joint Institutes	46.0	47.9	4.1%	47.9	51.0	49.7	8.0%
Climate & Global Change Program — Base	66.0	57.4	-13.0%	68.5	67.0	68.6	3.9%
Climate Observations & Services (and CCRI)	53.1	69.2	30.3%	60.0	69.2	29.7	-44.1%
Partnership Programs	5.7	0	-100%	0	7.3	10.3	-14.2%
<b>Total, Climate Research:</b>	177.3	177.6	flat	179.4	184.2	158.3	-10.7%

NOAA	FY05 Omnibus	President's FY 2006 Req.	% change FY05 vs. FY06 Req.	House	Senate	FY06 Conf.	% change FY05 vs. FY06
<b>Weather &amp; Air Quality Research (ORF):</b>							
Labs & Joint Institutes	34.3	37.2	8.4%	35.5	40.2	37.8	10.2%
Phased-Array Radar	1.9	1.0	-47.4%	1.9	6.0	4.0	110.5%
Partnership Programs	11.5	0	-100%	0	21.4	21.4	86.1%
<b>Total, Weather &amp; Air Quality Research:</b>	50.9	38.2	-24.9%	37.4	71.6	67.2	32.0%
<b>Within NWS:</b>							
Local Warnings & Forecasts — Base:	522.9	544.5	4.1%	597.4	524.8	524.8	0.4%
USWRP/THORPEX	4.4	7.4	68.1%		6.5	5.0	13.6%
Advanced Hydrological Prediction Services	5.7	6.1	7.0%	6.1	6.1	5.0	-12.3%
Aviation Weather	2.4	3.5	45.8%	3.5	3.0	3.5	45.8%
Central Forecast Guidance	46.1	49.9	8.2%	49.9	47.8	44.1	-1.9%
Cooperative Observer Network	.87	4.3	394%	4.3	1.9	1.0	14.9%
AWIPS (ORF)	36.7	37.5	2.1%	37.5	37.5		
AWIPS (PAC)	12.7	12.9	1.6%		13.1		
NEXRAD (PAC)	10.6	8.5	-19.8%		8.6		
Radiosonde Replacement	6.4	4.3	-32.8%	6.4	4.5	6.4	flat
<b>Within NESDIS:</b>							
Environmental Satellite Observing Systems	101.5	100.3	-1.2%	98.1	109.2	108.3	6.7%
Data Centers & Information Services	74.6	53.7	-28.0%	60.2	62.2	71.1	-4.7%
National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS)	304.9	320.9	5.2%	320.9	325.1	321.0	5.3%

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NOAA Education Program	18.3	0	-100%	36.15	28.9	34.0	86%
<b>Total, NOAA</b>	<b>3,919.2</b>	<b>3,585</b>	<b>-8.5%</b>	<b>3,380</b>	<b>4,476</b>	<b>3,920.1</b>	<b>0.02%</b>

### **Detail on Conference (11/9/05):**

Late last week conferees from the Senate's Commerce-Justice-Science (CJS) and the House's Science-State-Justice-Commerce (SSJC) Appropriations Subcommittees came to an agreement for the FY 2006 appropriations for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The conference agreement must be approved by both the House and Senate and then the bill will be sent to the President to be signed into law. The House has approved it. Senate approval should soon follow.

Within the NOS, the conferees provided \$31.3 million for an integrated ocean observing system.

Within the NWS, the conferees express concern about the expenditure of funds for "single purpose observing systems," and encourage NOAA to develop multi-purpose observing systems.

Within NESDIS, the conferees reiterate language in the House report calling for a study on the cost and risk implications of delays in the development of NPOESS.

The conferees restored the \$2 million requested cut to the radiosonde replacement, and supported the language in the House report calling for a study reassessing the current status of the radiosonde replacement effort, and the longer term resource needs to avoid the risk of network collapse and to maintain forecast accuracy.

### **Senate Appropriations Committee Approves FY06 NOAA Budget (6/23/05):**

The Senate provided NOAA with a 14.2 percent increase over FY05, and a 25 percent increase over the President's request. The National Ocean Service is up almost 55 percent from the request. NOAA Research is up almost 30 percent from the request. The Committee Report states that it "disapproves the budget request, which proposes to terminate or significantly reduce nearly \$66 million from programs ranging from climate change to marine mammal management to infrastructure support. The Committee notes the Department's continued pursuit of reductions to NOAA's enacted funding levels, and failure to protest when reductions are recommended for budget savings or political leverage...The Committee fails to understand why science dedicated to understanding this planet and its oceans and atmosphere is less important than science dedicated to the understanding of other planets, for example. The DOC's strengths lie in the fields of business and trade. The DOC is demonstrably ill equipped to comprehend the intricacies of NOAA's scientific mission. The Committee continues to question whether NOAA would be better able to serve the American people as an independent agency."

## **Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observations**

The Committee recognizes the nation's need to improve its ability to measure and forecast the oceans and especially the coastal oceans and environment, and recommended \$109.7 million for the development, management, deployment, and operation of a true national Integrated Coastal Ocean Observing System.

The Senate provided NOAA's **Education Program** \$36.15 million (the House provided \$28.9 million)

## **House Passes HR 2862 (6/16/05)**

The House of Representatives today passed the appropriations bill funding NOAA, NASA and NSF. An amendment offered by Representative David Dreier (R-CA) to transfer \$50 million from the NOAA Operations, Research and Facilities general account to the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program was included in the final bill, so NOAA's budget was reduced to \$3.38 billion, approximately \$540 million less than it received in the current fiscal year. It is still unclear how that \$50 million reduction would be applied to NOAA line offices and individual accounts. House Appropriations Committee Chairman Jerry Lewis (R-CA) supported the amendment but pledged to work to increase NOAA funding in conference with the Senate.

## **Detail on House Markup (6/7/05):**

The Committee provides \$3.4 billion for NOAA, \$496 million less than its current funding level and \$152 million less than the President's budget request.

With the exception of the National Weather Service, all line office Operations, Research and Facilities (ORF) accounts are cut from their FY05 funding levels, with the National Ocean Service slated for the biggest cut, from \$541 million down to \$382 million. Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) is also in line for a nearly 20 percent cut, from \$404 million in FY05 to \$326 million in FY06 (Weather and Air Quality Research is down almost 27 percent, Ocean Exploration is down 58 percent, Information Technology & R&D is down 55 percent). Within OAR, President's request eliminated all funding for "Partnership Programs" (earmarks), totaling almost \$40 million. The House did not put any of these special projects back in their bill.

The good news: funding for climate research within OAR, however, stays steady, with the Climate and Global Change program, which funds the numerous extramural programs, receives an increase of \$11 million above the President's request. The Climate Observations and Services program gets a \$9 million boost from its current level of \$53 million.

The House provided National Weather Service's ORF account at \$759 million, an increase of \$14 million from the President's request. The Committee report specifically commends NOAA's work on the United States tsunami warning network. Within Local Warnings and Forecasts, the Space Environment Center received full requested funding, and continues funding for the multi-year, multi-disciplinary hurricane mitigation cooperative research initiative, and includes funding for air quality forecasting programs.

The House recommendation for its education programs consolidates funding and “provides an increased pool of resources for a general education fund.” This account is funded at \$28.9 million, up from \$18.3 million in FY05.

The Committee directs NOAA to submit a report to it by Sept 15 based on the NRC’s report on *Earth Science and Applications from Space*, and its recommendations for transferring certain capabilities from some canceled or descope NASA missions to NPOESS (National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System), and the need to strengthen baseline climate observations and climate data records.

#### **Notes on House Markup (5/24/05):**

The House Appropriations Science, State, Justice and Commerce Subcommittee marked up its bill funding NOAA, NSF and NASA this morning. More detail will be posted when the Committee report is released. NOAA is down 12.5 percent (almost \$500 million) from FY05, however the National Weather Service is up \$73 million (+9 percent) from this year’s level.

#### **Notes on President’s FY 2006 Request**

The President’s FY 2006 budget for NOAA cuts many of the agency’s programs, including ocean research, fishery management, and climate research. However, NOAA’s labs and joint institutes received increases. The \$2.6 billion budget request for NOAA’s ORF accounts (operations, research and facilities) is nearly \$300 million less than the fiscal 2005 appropriation approved by Congress.

Climate funding is down 6.7 percent in total appropriations (PAC and ORF), and down 7 percent in the ORF account (from \$250.5 to \$233.4 million). Weather and Air Quality research funding is down almost 25 percent, because no funding was provided for any of the “Partnership Programs.”

The cuts within OAR’s ORF account are primarily in the following programs:

- Climate and Global Change Program (down \$10.5 million) [however Climate Observations and Services is up \$16 million]
- Partnership Programs (i.e. earmarks – down \$35 million)
- National Undersea Research Program (down \$7 million), and
- Ocean Exploration Program (down \$6 million).

The increases in the request for **Climate Observations and Services** will support the following programs:

- Climate Research and Observations (which supports staffing of the Mauna Loa, Barrow, Samoa and South Pole Observatories. Will also support Dobson Total Ozone Global Network and enable eight Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA) teams to develop decision support tools for the National Integrated Drought Information System Plan.
- Tropical Atmosphere Ocean (TAO) array.
- Development of new climate reanalysis data sets.
- Continue building and maintaining a global ocean observing system.

- Expanded research efforts in Aerosols, Clouds, and Climate Change.

The request includes funding for the following high-priority initiatives:

- **Global Earth Observations.** \$94.7 million in increases will support NOAA's contribution to an integrated earth observing system. This includes \$83 million for NOAA's GOES-R satellite systems, to be launched in 2012.
- **Expanded Tsunami Warning Network.** \$9.5 million (within Global Earth Obs) will expand the existing six-buoy Pacific Tsunami Warning Network, and 32 additional detection buoys. This request is in response to the President's plan to provide the United States with a nearly 100 percent detection capability for U.S. coastal tsunami, allowing a response within minutes. The new system would expand monitoring capabilities throughout the Pacific and Caribbean basins, providing tsunami warnings for regions bordering half of the world's oceans.

Of the \$7.4 million requested for USWRP in the NWS line, \$5.5 million is directed to the Air Quality Forecast Program. \$1.115 million is called out for THORPEX.

Within NWS, the NOAA Profiler Network is in the FY06 request for \$2.9 million (funded at \$3.1 million in FY05).