

Recommendations/Action Plan for the June 2003 NESDIS Data Users Workshop

Standards

Constituent Recommendations		Government Action Plan				
Recommendations for the Category: Standards	Freq. of Recommendation	Action Status	Responsible Data Center	Data Center Point of Contact	Action Plan	Implementation Date
Standards: Develop better linkages between NOAA and Partners (Customers, Data Centers and private sector, academic sector, public, etc.)	8	Continuing	All	Watkins	Continuation of hosting users workshops	5/11/2005
Standards: Ensure that NESDIS has sufficient budget to perform its mission	6	Continuing	All	Joint	NESDIS is committed to providing funding to necessary for its offices to accomplish their mission. Using this the constituent comments from this workshop as justification, funding requests will be made to NOAA for those high priority tasks that have been recommended.	12/31/2006
Standards: Minimize cost of data if not free	4	Complete	All	Joint	NESDIS is required by law to charge for the cost to recover and provide access to data. There is no charge for ingesting, archiving, quality control or long term data stewardship. With the expansion of E-gov, web access to NESDIS data will remain at a minimum charge.	10/21/2003
Standards: Create cross agency standards (NOAA, USGS, EPA, NASA, etc.)	2	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Standards: Develop better linkages between NOAA and International Partners (e.g. WMO, others)	2	Continuing	All	Joint	NOAA works extensively with other partner such as WMO. Numerous NOAA staff participate in data/data system planning meetings to better coordinate collection and dissemination activities.	12/31/2006
Standards: Ensure that existing standards are used for metadata, downloading files and archiving	2	Complete	All	Joint	Existing standards are used by the data set. Metadata is maintained according the FGDC standards. FTP protocols are used for downloading files. Archiving is done according the standards established by the National Archives and Records Administration.	6/15/2004
Standards: Ensure that NESDIS maintains training levels to improve efficiencies and long term quality	2	Complete	All	Joint	NESDIS is committed to providing the training necessary to accomplish its mission. NESDIS recently implemented E-learning courses which are available to all employees. It also ensures training is conducted in state of the art technology areas. Although more can be done, the current training levels are considered adequate.	1/30/2004
Standards: Establish partnerships that work towards free and open exchange of data among countries	2	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Standards: Tie data collected to NOAA strategic themes	2	Complete	All	Joining	Under VADM Lautenbacher, all program elements of NOAA will be tied to several strategic themes (eg. Climate).	12/31/2004
Standards: Utilize a cross agency Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology (OFCM) to get a cross agency view of data center functions.	2	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

Standards: Adapt available military technology for NESDIS purposes	1	Complete	NCDC	Karl	NCDC has initiated a joint working group with the Air Force and Navy as part of the Federal Climate Complex. Several areas of collaboration have been identified including training, GIS working groups, climatology derivation using high resolution and model data, and consolidated data bases	6/15/2004
Standards: Develop integrated satellite data management plan; determine requirements for products timeliness (archive, real time or near real time) and data user requirements	1	Continuing	OSDPD	Joint	OSDPD does generate requirements for product timeliness based on user requests and feedback, and are continually updating those requirements to meet the needs of future products.	12/31/2006
Standards: Develop role clarification of demarcation line between the roles of the private sector and government.	1	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Standards: Develop role clarification of demarcation line between the roles of the private sector and government. Third party providers to deliver value added GIS products	1	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Standards: Develop standard algorithms	1	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Standards: Ensure data are not proprietary and are fully accessible to the public	1	Complete	All	Joint	NESDIS is committed to ensuring that all data is non proprietary and freely available to all.	1/30/2004
Standards: Ensure NESDIS maintains security of its data and systems and responds to incidents	1	Complete	All	Joint	NESDIS is committed to providing security for its data, IT systems, and customer ordering. Numerous data center teams are in place to address these security issues. Oversight is provided at the Commerce, NOAA, and NESDIS headquarters levels	10/21/2003
Standards: Ensure that additional attention is given to the resources invested in satellite, launch, and instrumentation	1	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Standards: Ensure that NESDIS maintains in-house expertise	1	Complete	All	Joint	A mix of contractors and government staffing is important to ensure that NESDIS maintains state-of-the art data stewardship systems and access systems.	1/15/2004
Standards: Ensure that weather observations are also taken where people are located (ie. Urban areas) as opposed to airports	1	Complete	NCDC	Joint	To the extent possible, NCDC will work with NWS to keep existing long term urban weather stations open. The establishment of COOP and ASOS stations is a primary role of NWS. NCDC will also consider the establishment of some urban CRN stations if funding permits.	4/15/2004
Standards: Ensure there is a consistent pricing policy	1	Complete	All	Joint	In October 2003, NESDIS conducted the biennial review on pricing. This review ensures that NESDIS prices are standard among the NESDIS centers.	10/21/2003
Standards: Re-assess the definition of a climate normal period	1	Complete	NCDC	Plantico	NCDC is in the process of developing a Dynamic Climate Normals web system which will allow users to choose the varying periods to create normals as opposed to using 30 years for the period.	12/31/2004
Standards: Use existing data bases across NESDIS offices	1	Complete	All	Joint	To the extent possible, existing data bases are being used. The three data centers use Oracle for managing its e-Government activities. Oracle is used in several other applications.	6/15/2004