National Academy of Public Administration publishes its report, “Forecast for the Future: Assuring the Capacity of the National Weather Service”

(May 13, 2013) The National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) published its report for the National Weather Service and U.S. Congress on its website today. Follow this link to view the full report and Project Results.

Congress directed the National Weather Service to contract with an independent organization to evaluate efficiencies that can be made to NWS operations. The National Academy of Public Administration was selected. A five-member panel conducted the seven-month study of the NWS’s current operations and structure, as well as the challenges the agency will face moving forward.

From page 39 of the NAPA study:

While staffing levels have been relatively constant over the past decade, in the last three years, the NWS has realized personnel losses at a greater rate than it has been hiring. If this trend continues, the NWS is in danger of losing a significant segment of the workforce and will not be able to renew itself at a sustainable rate unless it revises staff functions and allocations across programs and offices.

From page 42 of the study:

The Panel finds that while change to the staffing model is warranted, the NWS has not completed sufficient analysis of the alignment and function of staff across the organization for effective and efficient delivery of weather, water, and climate products and services. Such an analysis should be detailed and take into consideration the realities of operating in the current constrained fiscal environment, as well as how to meet current and future needs. It is important to include the National Weather Service Employees Organization in this analysis process as discussed further in the report.

The link to the NAPA study and the project results are also available at www.nwseo.org.

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No one cares more for National Weather Service employees than National Weather Service employees.
No one works harder for National Weather Service employees than National Weather Service employees.
We are NWSEO.