



NWS Left \$57 million on the Table in FY 17

(November 20, 2017) According to information provided to NWSEO in response to a Freedom of Information Act request, the National Weather Service failed to spend \$57,144,743 of the amount it was appropriated for fiscal year 2017, despite the fact that there were well over 600 vacant positions by the end of the fiscal year. \$25 million of this amount remains available for the NWS to spend in the current fiscal year (in addition to the sums appropriated under the current continuing resolution) and \$32 million remains available for the NWS to spend until September 30, 2018. The amount of remaining funds appropriated by Congress for various "programs, projects and activities" varies from "PPA" to "PPA." However, under Section 505 of the Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations Act, these amounts can be transferred by the agency from one program to another with 15 days notification to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees. At the end of FY 17, \$11 million remained in the account "Analyze, Forecast and Support," and \$7 million remained in the account "Observations," which are the two PPAs from which most employees' salaries are paid.

The NWS also has ended the previous four fiscal years with substantial unspent carry-over funds despite a growing vacancy rate: FY 2016 -\$66.6 million; FY 2015 - \$52.5 million; FY 2014 - \$125.3 million; FY 2013 - \$144.3 million.

-NWSEO-

**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.