



October 1, 2010

The Honorable Jane Lubchenco, Administrator  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
14<sup>th</sup> Street & Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Dr. Lubchenco:

On behalf of the NOAA Science Advisory Board (SAB), I am pleased to provide comments on the draft National Weather Service (NWS) Strategic Plan. The SAB reached out to its expert working groups for input in addition to comments from its own members. Two of the working groups, the Environmental Information Services and Fire Weather Research, provided comments to the SAB. The SAB members discussed these comments in a teleconference meeting on September 20, 2010. Overall, the members and working groups had positive reactions to the draft Plan.

Please find attached specific comments on the NWS Strategic Plan. In transmitting these comments, the SAB would like to highlight the need for the National Weather Services and the new NOAA Climate Service to interact and coordinate their activities closely. The intersection between the observing, data assimilation, and modeling capabilities of both Services is critical for both and for the users who rely on this information. NOAA must ensure continuity of services delivered to the public during this time of transition.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on the National Weather Service Strategic Plan. This Plan follows the excellent efforts in the NOAA Next Generation Strategic Plan and is a significant step forward in mapping the future for weather services in this country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RJB", followed by a vertical line.

**Raymond J. Ban**  
**Chair, NOAA Science Advisory Board**  
**Consultant, Weather Industry & Government Partnerships**

Enclosure

cc: Mary Glackin  
Paul Sandifer  
Paul Doremus  
SAB members  
Jack Hayes  
Laura Furgione  
Walt Dabberdt  
Nancy Colleton  
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