



Science Advisory Board  
**Environmental Information Services Working Group  
(EISWG)**

# **7th Report to Congress**

## **EISWG**

**19 March 2024**

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# EISWG Report to Congress

## **Mandate from The Weather Act:**

- (1) EISWG to transmit to SAB an annual Report to Congress (RtC)
- (2) SAB to transmit RtC to NOAA Under Secretary (SAB policy 2-4 weeks)
- (3) NOAA to transmit RtC to Congress within 30 days of receipt

## **RtC Contents from The Weather Act:**

"...progress made by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in adopting the Working Group's recommendations."

# 2024 Report to Congress Outline

1. **Introduction:** Including Charge from Congress
2. **Overview:** Brief Outline of RtC Structure
3. **Urgency:** Environmental Urgency & Response
4. **New Reports:** New EISWG Reports approved by SAB in the last year  
[**NESDIS Backbone, Radar Gaps, ngGONG**]
5. **Progress:** Ongoing NOAA Progress in Adopting EISWG Recommendations  
[**S2S, Data Dissemination, HFIP, OSSEs**]
6. **New Topics:** EISWG Topics in Development for Future Reports  
[**Water & Drought, Heat & Health, Deep Learning in NWP**]
7. **Summary:** Summary & Prioritized Next Steps

# Significant Wins

- Data Dissemination
  - NWSChat, AWIPS in the cloud, NOAA Open Data Dissemination (NODD) portal
- HFIP
  - HAFS Operational, Ongoing RTOFS improvements, Uncrewed systems
- OSSEs
  - Importance highlighted in Modeling Strategic Plan
- Letter of Support for ngGONG (NWS → NSF)
- Examples of NOAA investments delivering significant benefits

# Prioritized Next Steps

- Operations are still stretched thin - Move beyond zero sum game for NWS
- Utilize the observing backbone framework to guide public/private data programs
- Move forward with gap-filling radars
- Aggressively complete the development of dependent technology and move toward deployment of the next generation of radars
- Prioritize and fund EISWG recommendations on S2S
- Support broader funding of the HFIP Strategic plan, and sustained operations of Earth system observation networks supporting hurricane forecasting
- Continue to participate in the ngGONG design phase, and continue to provide operational support for GONG and its successor
- Continue to prioritize PWR recommendations, especially SBE Sciences

# EISWG Commitment

- EISWG is committed to collaborating effectively with Congress and NOAA to help implement the EISWG recommendations
- EISWG communications with NOAA are regularly and effectively facilitated by our line-office liaisons, and SAB members, liaisons, and staff
- EISWG has benefited from discussion sessions with AAs (NWS, OAR, NOS & NESDIS) and visits to NOAA labs during in-person meetings.
- EISWG members stand ready to meet with Congress to provide additional details
- EISWG respectfully requests that Congress consider language in the Weather Act reauthorization explicitly recognizing the important role of EISWG



**Questions?**