

NOAA Science Serving Society: Business Critical Data and Forecasts for an Uncertain World

5th Annual NOAA Day on Capitol Hill – Briefing Series

Wednesday May 25, 2011 - 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. - SVC 200/201 - Capitol Visitors Center

NOAA will present a series of briefings during the 5th Annual NOAA Day on Capitol Hill. These briefings will highlight some of the many challenges facing the nation and the programs and activities that NOAA and some of our partners are using to address them. In addition, Dr. Lubchenco will give a keynote lecture, followed by a panel discussion with Dr. Sullivan and Dr. Robinson. NOAA Day has the following Honorary Sponsors:

- Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
- Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson (D TX-30), Ranking Member, and the Minority of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- House Oceans Caucus

Please note, the Members of Congress serving as Honorary Hosts are not scheduled to attend the briefing unless noted in the Remarks section.

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. – In Case of Emergency: NOAA's role in Preparing for, and Responding to, Our Worst Environmental Disasters

Honorary Hosts: Representative Frank Wolf (R-VA-10), Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI)

Throughout the past year we have been witness to many catastrophic man-made and natural disasters that have impacted the economy and altered the livelihoods of millions of individuals. NOAA plays a critical role in both disaster forecasting and disaster response; generating severe weather forecasts and storm surge predictions, conducting navigation surveys to assess impacts to open waterways, producing models and assessments of the impacts of oil spills and hazardous releases, and collecting real-time atmospheric and marine observational data critical to local and regional decision making.

This briefing will describe how NOAA uses cutting-edge science and up-to-date information to assist in making coastal communities more resilient to extreme events, and will focus on the following three areas:

- 1) Hazard Resilience: environmental, social, and geospatial information to help communities prepare for and respond to emergencies,
- 2) The United States' Tsunami Warning System, and
- 3) NOAA's Satellites: Important Tools for Hazard Detection and Monitoring.

Panel Moderator: David M. Kennedy, Assistant Administrator for NOAA's National Ocean Service

Speakers:

- Mike Aslaksen, Chief of Staff, NOAA's National Ocean Service (NOS)
- Darlene Finch, Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator, NOAA's Coastal Services Center
- Jane Hollingsworth, Tsunami Program Director, NOAA's National Weather Service
- Thomas Renkevans, Deputy Division Chief, Satellite Products and Services Division, NOAA National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS)

11:00 – 12:00 p.m. – Keynote by Dr. Lubchenco and Q & A with NOAA Leadership

Panel Moderator: John Gray, Director, NOAA's Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Opening Remarks: Representative Spencer Bachus (R-AL-6) and Representative Sam Farr (D-CA-17)

Leadership Panel:

- Dr. Jane Lubchenco, NOAA Administrator and Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere
- Dr. Larry Robinson, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Conservation and Management

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. – Environmental Intelligence and National Security

Honorary Host: Senator John Kerry (D-MA) and Representative Rush Holt (D-NJ-12)

NOAA has many activities and expanding partnerships in the area of environmental observations, research, predictions and projections, and national security. This series of panel presentations will focus on the following three areas:

- 1) Whole of government approach to future human sustainability issues
- 2) Climate modeling: the need for within the Intelligence Community and recent research
- 3) The Nature and Benefits of Public Forecasts of Long-Lived (Maybe Extreme) Climate Events

Panel Moderator: Jonathan T. Malay, Director, Civil Space and Environment at Lockheed Martin Corporation; and President, American Meteorological Society (AMS)

Speakers:

- Major General Rich Engel, Director, Climate Change and State Stability Program, National Intelligence Council
- Dr. Venkatachala 'Ram' Ramaswamy, Director, NOAA's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory
- Dr. Ed O'Lenic, Chief, Operations Branch, NOAA National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. – Water Resources: Innovative Science and Services

Honorary Host: Representative Collin Peterson (D-MN-7)

As science and technology evolve, NOAA is developing a new vision of weather and water service delivery for the future and building the scientific, technological, and organizational capacity required to achieve that vision. Across all water management sectors, decision makers need a new generation of water information, forecasts, and decision support tools to effectively manage water resources and guide critical decisions involving lives and livelihoods. NOAA's weather and water products and services have proven to save lives, protect property, and promote economic well being. NOAA is moving into this next generation of products and services in three key areas:

- 1) Integrated Water Resources Science and Services,
- 2) The Science of Atmospheric Rivers: Research Underpinning Forecasts, and
- 3) Forecasting Harmful Algal Blooms.

Panel Moderator: Craig McLean, Assistant Administrator for NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

Opening Remarks: Representative Jo Bonner (R-AL-1)

Speakers:

- Dr. Don Cline, Chief, Hydrology laboratory, NOAA's National Weather Service
- Dr. Martin Ralph, Branch Chief, Physical Science Division, Water Cycle Branch, NOAA Research
- Dr. Richard Stumpf, Oceanographer, NOAA National Ocean Service

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. – Strengthening and Protecting Coastal Communities

Honorary Hosts: Senator Mark Begich (D-AK), Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD), and Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)

The coast is home to over half the nation's population, providing food, jobs, commerce, recreation, and energy. This briefing will focus on the work being done to end overfishing in the United States and abroad, and to protect our coastal communities from threats such as coastal storms, sea level rise, marine debris, habitat loss, harmful algal blooms and hypoxia. While there are threats facing our coasts, there are also many opportunities to increase economic production and improve the lives of those who live there. For example, our nation's fisheries have been vital to the economies and identities of our coastal communities for hundreds of years, but nearly \$31 billion in sales and as many as 500,000 jobs are lost because our fisheries are not performing as well as they would if all stocks were rebuilt. NOAA is working to end overfishing, rebuild stocks, and ensure strong economic opportunities for fishermen and their communities. This briefing will focus on two key areas:

- 1) Rebuilding Fisheries and Magnuson at 35 Years, and
- 2) NOAA's Chesapeake Bay Office: Value of Fisheries to Local Communities and Regional Environmental Education.

Panel Moderator: Andy Winer, Director, NOAA External Affairs

Speakers:

- Laurel Bryant, External Affairs Director for NOAA Fisheries Communications
- Katie Enarson, Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility Specialist for Trident Seafood
- Peyton Robertson, Director of NOAA's Chesapeake Bay Office
- Tom O'Connell, Director of Maryland's Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Service