
Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research (OFCM)

**Road Weather Management Stakeholder Meeting
Madison, WI
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Overview

- **Mission**
- **Focus areas linked to road weather capabilities**
 - **NOWCON Federal Response Update**
 - **4D Weather Cube (NextGen) Update**
 - **Space Weather Update**



OFCM coordination and collaboration activities provide opportunities for partnerships and leveraging of resources to improve Road Weather capabilities

OFCM Mission

To ensure the **effective use** of federal meteorological resources by leading the **systematic coordination** of operational weather requirements, services, and supporting research, **among the 15 stakeholding federal agencies and offices.**

High-Level Focus:

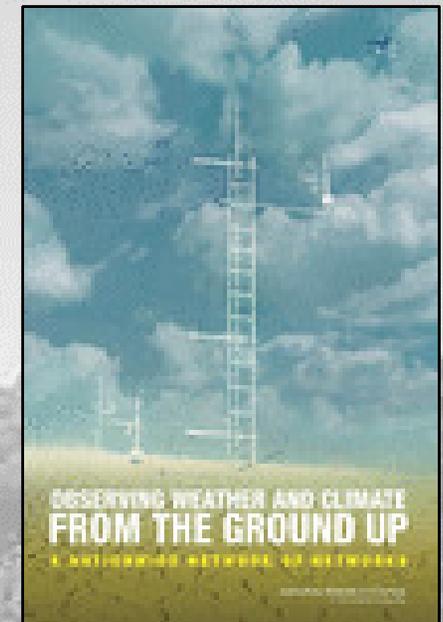
- Address needs, issues, and problems
- Resolve differences, find common ground
- Leverage partnerships and collaboration
- Prepare studies, reports, plans, and handbooks
- Perform crosscut reviews, assessments, and analyses

Strengthen science and research ↔ Improve products and services

Community Effort – NOWCON

Federal Weather Community Response to the NRC Report

- **Network of Weather and Climate Observing Networks (NOWCON): Facilitating Interagency Efforts to**
 - Bring order to the chaotic, patchwork approach to surface observing without impacting the energy and innovation
 - Address boundary layer observation shortfalls
 - Make more data available for **road weather** applications
 - Use **road weather** data to improve forecasts for all
 - Set standards, establish architecture, define metadata
- **Next Steps**
 - Finalize metadata standard recommendation
 - Develop strategy for implementation of metadata
 - Address architecture and data management issues
 - Track National Mesonet initiative
 - Develop approach to:
 - Validating mesoscale observation needs
 - Completing a gap analysis
 - Planning for new capabilities to fill gaps



Community Effort – 4D Weather Data Cube

- **NextGen weather vision**
 - Multiple-user common weather picture
 - Distributed data base containing observations & forecasts
 - Net-enabled discovery and access
- **Benefits beyond aviation**
 - Observation and forecast data useful for **road weather** and other applications
- **4D Weather Cube Operational Capability Steps**
 - Initial Capability
 - Intermediate Capability
 - Full Capability

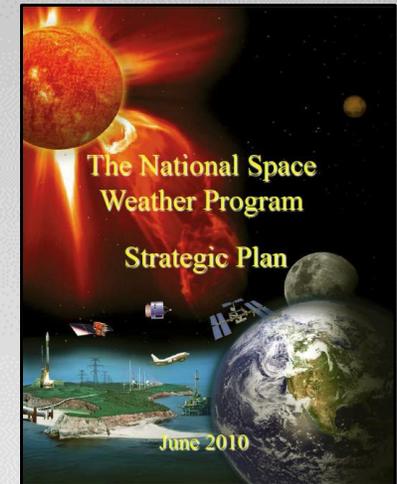


4-D Weather Data Cube could be a data delivery tool for Road Weather Management products & services!

Community Effort - Space Weather

- **National Space Weather Program**

- New vision and strategic plan published in 2010
 - Improving physical understanding, capability to warn/predict, preparation, and mitigation planning
- 2010 NASA Authorization Act observing systems assessment for OSTP, delivered Sep 2011
 - Sets the course for space weather monitoring capability
- Unified National Space Weather Capability established in August 2012
 - Strengthens interagency coordination of the space weather enterprise



- **Why it matters?**

- Modern transportation systems depend on precision navigation, positioning, and timing information provided by satellites that are vulnerable to space weather effects on a routine basis.
- Space Weather can degrade satellite and ground-based High Frequency radio communications used by many transportation sectors.
- Distribution of electric power can be disrupted by space weather causing widespread impact to transportation infrastructure

New National Space Weather Portal

www.spaceweather.gov/portal

Summary

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 - 4D Weather Cube (NextGen) Update
 - Space Weather Update



- **Visit our web site at: <http://www.ofcm.noaa.gov/>**

- **Questions? – See me at the break**

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Leveraging interagency federal meteorological resources to enhance science, services, and capabilities

Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology