



Data Governance Issues

**Sixth *Clarus* Initiative Coordinating Committee Meeting
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**Jim O'Sullivan
NOAA Surface Weather Program Manager
NWS Office of Climate, Water and Weather Services**

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NOAA's Surface Observations Requirements



- Maintaining and enhancing NOAA's observing systems as well as leveraging existing and emerging partner and citizen platforms are necessary to address all requirements NOAA has for observations
- NOAA service requirements for observations are composed primarily around three elements:
 - Required accuracy
 - Station density
 - Reporting interval
- Metadata – increased awareness and importance



Themes of Integration

- Capacity, including future needs
- Inclusive
- Metadata (crucial for effective use)
- Available (mission support, latency issues)
- Quality (levels of QC/QA, time vs. quality)
- Standards
- Accessible (to all, at minimal recovery cost)
- Archive (operational, forensic, and research support)
- Leverage what's available to define what's needed



Need for Observations

- **Observations are at the heart NOAA Surface Weather Program and many of NOAA and NWS missions**
 - An extension of climate, water, and weather services
 - Environmental stewardship
- **Data contribute to the overall government mission**
- **They provide significant business and research opportunities to transportation and weather communities**



NOAA Desire for Data Agreements



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- NOAA (NWS) prefers signed data use agreements (e.g., MOU) when the information contained in the exchange could be of a proprietary or sensitive nature
 - Agreements meant to protect data owners' rights to their data
 - Also describes the use and limits for use within NOAA



MOU Undertaking



- AGENCY will provide to NWS a feed of AGENCY proprietary data. AGENCY will provide this feed to NWS at no charge.
- AGENCY will incur all costs associated with collecting and delivering the data to the designated NWS recipients.
- NWS recognizes and acknowledges the proprietary nature of the AGENCY data, and agrees to honor the restrictions of use reflected herein



MOU Undertaking



- Permitted under this MOU will be necessary sharing of AGENCY data [*or derivative products incorporating AGENCY data*] with NOAA's other line organizations and other appropriate government agencies for furtherance of the NOAA mission.
- It is understood and agreed that NWS will take appropriate steps to ensure that such agencies are aware of, and agree to abide by, the restrictions on re-distribution reflected herein.



Restrictions - Current

- NOAA Research, in general, operates under following categories:
 - ESRL/GSD only - no distribution
 - Distribution to NOAA only
 - Distribution to government, research, and education organizations
 - Public - Full distribution
- Other examples from mesonet providers include “all or nothing” understanding/agreements with their data owners



Restrictions with NWS

- Restrictions not yet established, but general precedence is along the following:
 - NOAA only
 - Government (varying levels)
 - Public
- NOAA will not redistribute an agency's data, nor any product incorporating the agency's data from which the original data can be readily extracted.



Data Redistributions: Exceptions



- Threats to life or property, and health:
 - Good faith efforts to provide attribution
 - Even when such references allow the original data to be extracted.
- In cases of emergencies, in raw form or otherwise, to others as it deems appropriate under the circumstances.
 - In all cases of such distribution of data, NOAA will notify AWS of the circumstances of such distribution as soon as is practical.



Data Redistributions: Exceptions (cont'd)



- Redistribution without attribution, as long as such derivative products do not have sufficient information to readily retrieve the original content
- When required by law
- When given express written permission



NOAA Surface Weather Program / NWS Observing Services Division



For questions or comments, contact:

Jim O'Sullivan:

Jim.OSullivan@noaa.gov

(301) 713-1792 x121

Kevin Schrab, Observing Services Division Chief:

Kevin.Schrab@noaa.gov

(301) 713-1792 x130