

(1) Watch; warning**(A) In general**

Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the terms “watch” and “warning”, with respect to a hazardous flash flood event, mean products issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, intended for use by the general public—

- (i) to alert the general public to the potential for or presence of the event; and
- (ii) to inform action to prevent loss of life and property.

(B) Exclusion

The terms “watch” and “warning” do not include technical or specialized meteorological and hydrological forecasts, outlooks, or model guidance products.

(2) Weather enterprise

The term “weather enterprise” has the meaning given that term in section 8501 of this title.

(Pub. L. 117-316, § 6, Dec. 27, 2022, 136 Stat. 4410.)

§ 9706. Freshwater monitoring along the coast**(a) Data availability assessment**

The Administrator shall assess the availability of short- and long-term data on large-scale freshwater flooding into oceans, bays, and estuaries, including data on—

- (1) flow rate, including discharge;
- (2) conductivity;
- (3) oxygen concentration;
- (4) nutrient load;
- (5) water temperature; and
- (6) sediment load.

(b) Data needs assessment

The Administrator shall assess the need for additional data to assess and predict the effect of the flooding and freshwater discharge described in subsection (a).

(c) Inventory of data needs

Based on the assessments required by subsections (a) and (b), the Administrator shall create an inventory of data needs with respect to the flooding and freshwater discharge described in subsections (a) and (b).

(d) Planning

In planning for the collection of additional data necessary for ecosystem-based modeling of the effect of the flooding and freshwater discharge described in subsections (a) and (b), the Administrator shall use the inventory created under subsection (c).

(Pub. L. 117-316, § 7, Dec. 27, 2022, 136 Stat. 4412.)

§ 9707. Estimates of precipitation frequency in the United States**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

(1) Freely Associated States

The term “Freely Associated States” means the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia, which have each entered into a

Compact of Free Association with the United States.

(2) United States

The term “United States” means the 50 States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Freely Associated States.

(b) In general

The Administrator shall establish a program, to be known as the “NOAA Precipitation Frequency Atlas of the United States”, to compile, estimate, analyze, and communicate the frequency of precipitation in the United States.

(c) Functions

The NOAA Precipitation Frequency Atlas of the United States—

(1) shall better inform the public and provide information on—

- (A) temporal and spatial distribution of heavy precipitation;
- (B) analyses of seasonality in precipitation; and
- (C) trends in annual maximum series data; and

(2) may serve as the official source of the Federal Government on estimates of precipitation frequency and associated information with respect to the United States.

(d) Requirements**(1) Coverage**

The NOAA Precipitation Frequency Atlas of the United States shall include such estimates of the frequency of precipitation in the United States as the Administrator determines appropriate.

(2) Frequency

Such estimates—

- (A) shall be conducted not less frequently than once every 10 years; and
- (B) may be conducted more frequently if determined appropriate by the Administrator.

(3) Publication

Such estimates and methodologies used to conduct such estimates shall be—

- (A) subject to an appropriate, scientific process, as determined by the Administrator; and
- (B) published on a publicly accessible website of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(e) Partnerships

The Administrator may partner with other Federal agencies, members of the private sector, academic cooperative partnerships, or non-government associations to assist in carrying out the functions described in subsection (c).

(f) Consultation

In carrying out this section, the Administrator may consult with relevant Federal, State, local, Tribal, and Territorial government agencies, research institutions, and the private sector, as the Administrator determines necessary.