## Scott A. Carter NOAA Office of Legislative Affairs National Weather Service Issues

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## **About the National Weather Service**

- Nation's first line of defense against severe weather
- Provides climate, water, weather forecasts and warnings to protect life and property and enhance the economy
- 1/3 of the U.S. economy (\$3 trillion) is weather sensitive

## What Our Nation Faces Every Year

- A Typical Year Brings:
  - 6 Hurricanes
  - 1,000 Tornadoes
  - 5,000 Floods
  - 10,000 Violent Thunderstorms
  - Drought Conditions
  - 500 Deaths; 5,000 Injuries;
    \$14 Billion in Losses

- In an average year, NWS produces:
  - 25 million forecasts
  - 41,000 warnings
  - 2,200 flood watches
  - 500 trillion digital forecasts
  - 9.4 million fire forecasts
  - 784,200 airport forecasts