Department of Commerce ▪ National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration ▪ National Weather Service

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE POLICY DIRECTIVE 60-7
AUGUST 28, 2023

Information Technology

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY POLICY

NOTICE: This publication is available at: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/

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SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: Supersedes NWS Policy Directive 60-7, Information Technology Security Policy, dated April 21, 2016. This is a routine review and update to keep this document current, increase applicability, and reduce ambiguity. Updates include editorial changes to ensure clear and concise policy guidance, and improve readability.

1 This directive establishes the policy framework for the implementation, maintenance, and oversight of the National Weather Service (NWS) Information Technology (IT) Security Program.

2 NWS IT security policy derives from, and will henceforth be managed in accordance with, Department of Commerce (DOC) and National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) IT security policies, standards, and practices. The DOC and NOAA IT security requirements are based upon Federal statute, including the Clinger- Cohen Act of 1996 and Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA) of 2014; Federal regulatory requirements, including Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations and Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS); and Special Publications of the National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST). These documents can be accessed at https://sites.google.com/noaa.gov/noaa-csd-rmf/home.

3 The Director, NOAA's National Weather Service and Assistant Administrator for Weather Services at NOAA (AA/NWS), is responsible for ensuring the implementation of information security protection measures commensurate with the risk and magnitude of the harm resulting from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction of NWS systems and information.

3.1 The Assistant Chief Information Officer (ACIO) for Weather, NWS Portfolio Directors, and Funds Management Centers (FMC) Directors have been delegated as the Authorizing Officials (AOs) for moderate and low NWS IT systems under their direct control. For all high NWS IT systems, the NOAA CIO will serve as the Co-Authorizing Official (Co- AO). This authority cannot be further delegated.

3.2 The ACIO for Weather has designated in writing a Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) and Information Technology Security Officers (ITSOs) who will provide assistance to Authorizing Officials and staff in ensuring the development, implementation, maintenance, and reporting requirements established by Federal law, DOC and NOAA IT Security policies, standards, and practices.

3.3 Authorizing Officials will appoint in writing qualified individuals to serve as System Owner (SO) and Information System Security Officer (ISSO) for all the information systems assigned to them.

3.4 The Information System Security Officer (ISSO) shall report directly to the System Owner (SO) in all system security related matters. ISSOs that do not report directly to a System Owner shall have a management chain independent of operational personnel to reduce any conflicts of interest in reporting security matters.

3.5 The System Owner (SO) will ensure the NWS system is documented and protected in accordance with Federal laws, and DOC, NOAA, and NWS policy.

3.6 System administrators will provide technical and implementation assistance in the secure configuration of assigned systems and in response to security incidents as directed by authorized incident responders.

3.7 Authorizing Officials, System Owners, Information System Security Officers, and System Administrators shall meet the annual NWS Security and Privacy Awareness Training, and role-based training requirement as stated in NWSI 60-701 IT Security Roles and Responsibilities, and as defined in Department of Commerce Information Technology Security Baseline Policy (DOC ITSBP), version 1.0, June 2019, Annex C-1 Information System Security Training for Significant Roles.

4.0 Each user of NWS IT resources is responsible for understanding and complying with Federal IT security statutes and DOC and, NOAA, and NWS IT Security policies, standards, and practices. Any questions regarding compliance with these requirements documents should be raised with the user's immediate supervisor and then the system ISSO. If required, the ISSO will escalate the issue to the NWS ITSO and CISO.

5.0 This policy directive is supported by the references listed in Appendix 1.

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Appendix 1

REFERENCES

The NWS Information Technology Security Policy is based upon Federal statutes, OMB regulations, and Federal Information Processing Standards as incorporated in the Department of Commerce and NOAA IT security polices, standards, and practices as set forth below. This list is not all inclusive.

- The Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 USC § 3501, et. seq.
- Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002
- Clinger Cohen Act of 1996
- The Privacy Act of 1974 as amended
- Office of Management and Budget Circular A-130, Appendix III, Management of Federal Information Resources
- U.S. Department of Commerce Enterprise Cybersecurity Policy
- U.S. Department of Commerce Information Technology Security Baseline Policy (DOC ITSBP)
- U.S. Department of Commerce Physical Security Manual
- U.S. Department of Commerce Information Technology Security Manual
- U.S. Department of Commerce Information Technology Management Handbook
- Department Administrative Order 207-1, Security Programs
- NOAA Administrative Order 212-13, Information Technology Security Policy
- NOAA Information Technology Security Manual
- NWS Information Technology Directives
- NWS Instruction 60-701, Information Technology Security Roles and Responsibilities
- Special Publications of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) as set out at http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/PubsSPs.html