

# Operational Requirements Committee

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Prepared by:

National ESPC Project Staff

## 1. SCOPE

The Operational Requirements Committee is established to collect the operational and decision-oriented requirements of the agencies and offices participating in National ESPC as well as federal stakeholders in need of decision support. The requirements committee will survey the participating agencies and potential stakeholders, and document prediction/projection needs to support decisions across the National ESPC time scale of days to 30 years. These requirements will include (and cite sources of) both legislated/externally documented requirements and internally perceived requirements to execute those documented needs. Once provided for the individual agencies, areas of commonality will be identified, as well as areas where meeting one agency's needs will potentially improve the prediction capability for another agency.

Examples of issues to be addressed are:

Documentation of potential federal customers across time scale, and their needs, and where needs overlap between agencies and uses. For instance improved Arctic forecasting including ice concentration, extent, and trafficability as well as statistics of associated weather conditions over the multi-week time scale will benefit commercial shipping (DOC), military shipping (DOD), emergency planning for potential oil spill response (USCG), and community infrastructure support.

Heat/drought/wind forecasting in the multi-week time scale will benefit agriculture, energy, prepositioning of supplies and relief for firefighting, and other needs.

## 2. PURPOSE

To determine the specifications of the prediction/projection capability needed, a common coordinated set of project requirements representing the intersection of the separate agency requirements must be created and endorsed by the ESG.

The requirements generated will be mapped against existing system capabilities, to identify where those capabilities are met and where unmet capabilities constitute a gap. An assessment of the requirements, existing or near-term capabilities, and gaps will inform the Integrated Modeling Strategy efforts.

## 3. PARTICIPANTS

## 4. AUTHORITIES

NOAA has authority to participate in the Operational Requirements project under 15 U.S.C. Section 1525. The authority for the U.S. Navy falls under the OPNAV Instruction 5430.48E (OPNAV SORM). Authority for the U.S. Air Force falls under DODI 4000.19 Interservice and Intergovernmental Support, 9 August 1995.

## 5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

a. Executive Steering Group (ESG)

The National ESPC ESG oversees and supports the activities of the OR, and when satisfied, will endorse the documented list.

c. OR Committee

The Committee will collect agency prediction/projection requirements and generate a report detailing the requirements, with a summary of mutual requirements and additional (tabulated?) information organized by agency, time scale, forecast quantity, geographic region, etc.

d. National ESPC

The National ESPC staff is responsible for scheduling and recording OR committee meetings; publicizing and championing prioritized research issues developed by the committee; and reporting committee findings to the ESG.

## 6. FUNDING

There is no dedicated funding associated with the inter-agency committee. Individual Agencies under the ESPC and NUOPC MOU's may make arrangements for participation in the committee work under separate arrangement.

## 7. PERIOD OF AGREEMENT AND MODIFICATION/TERMINATION

a. This Agreement shall become effective on the date of the last approval signature. The National ESPC Staff will review this annex every two years to determine whether it should be revised, renewed, or cancelled. Additional reviews may be conducted as directed by the National ESPC ESG. This agreement may be amended at any time by the mutual written consent of the ESG. The latest date of review or amendment constitutes the new effective date unless some later date is specified.

b. Any Party may terminate this agreement by providing at least six months written notice to the other Parties. In the event this agreement is terminated, each Party shall be solely responsible for the payment of any expenses it has incurred. Should any one Party decide to withdraw from this agreement, the remaining two Parties may, at their discretion, decide to maintain the agreement under appropriately revised terms and conditions and funding strategies.