(1) improve the capability to accurately forecast inland flooding (including inland flooding influenced by coastal and ocean storms) through research and modeling;

(2) develop, test, and deploy a new flood warning index that will give the public and emergency management officials fuller, clearer, and more accurate information about the risks and dangers posed by expected floods;

(3) train emergency management officials, National Weather Service personnel, meteorologists, and others as appropriate regarding improved forecasting techniques for inland flooding, risk management techniques, and use of the inland flood warning index developed under paragraph (2);

(4) conduct outreach and education activities for local meteorologists and the public regarding the dangers and risks associated with inland flooding and the use and understanding of the inland flood warning index developed under paragraph (2); and

(5) assess, through research and analysis of previous trends, among other activities—

(A) the long-term trends in frequency and severity of inland flooding; and

(B) how shifts in climate, development, and erosion patterns might make certain regions vulnerable to more continual or escalating flood damage in the future.

(Pub. L. 107–253, § 2, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1731.)

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Pub. L. 107–253, § 3, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1731, provided that: ''There are authorized to be appropriated to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for carrying out this Act [see Short Title of 2002 Amendment note set out under section 311 of this title] $1,250,000 for each of the fiscal years 2003 through 2005, of which $100,000 for each fiscal year shall be available for competitive merit-reviewed grants to institutions of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) to carry out the activities described in section 2(5) [15 U.S.C. 313c(5)], and $1,150,000 for each of the fiscal years 2006 and 2007. Of the amounts authorized under this section, $250,000 for each fiscal year shall be available for competitive merit-reviewed grants to institutions of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) to develop models that can improve the ability to forecast the coastal and estuary-inland flooding that is influenced by tropical cyclones. The models should incorporate the interaction of such factors as storm surges, soil saturation, and other relevant phenomena.''

REPORT

Pub. L. 107–253, § 4, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1732, required the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide Congress with annual reports through fiscal year 2007 on its activities under Pub. L. 107–253 (see Short Title note set out under section 311 of this title) and the success and acceptance of the inland flood warning index developed under par. (2) of this section and also to report by Jan. 1, 2006, on the likely long-term trends in inland flooding for use in outreach activities conducted under par. (4) of this section.

§ 313d. NIDIS program

(a) In general

The Under Secretary, through the National Weather Service and other appropriate weather and climate programs in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, shall establish a National Integrated Drought Information System to better inform and provide for more timely decisionmaking to reduce drought related impacts and costs.

(b) System functions

The National Integrated Drought Information System shall—

(1) provide an effective drought early warning system that—

(A) collects and integrates information on the key indicators of drought and drought impacts, including precipitation, soil moisture, and evaporative demand, in order to make usable, reliable, and timely forecasts of drought and assessments of the severity of drought conditions and impacts; and

(B) provides such information, forecasts, and assessments on both national and regional levels;

(2) communicate drought forecasts, drought conditions, and drought impacts on an ongoing basis to public and private entities engaged in drought planning and preparedness, including—

(A) decisionmakers at the Federal, regional, State, tribal, and local levels of government;

(B) the private sector; and

(C) the public;

(3) provide timely data, information, and products that reflect local, regional, watershed, and State differences in drought conditions;

(4) coordinate, and integrate, through interagency agreements as practicable, Federal research and monitoring in support of a drought early warning information system;

(5) utilize existing forecasting and assessment programs and partnerships, including forecast communication coordinators and cooperative institutes, and improvements in seasonal precipitation and temperature, subseasonal precipitation and temperature, and low flow water prediction; and

(6) continue ongoing research and monitoring activities related to drought, including research activities relating to the prediction, length, severity, and impacts of drought and the role of extreme weather events and climate variability in drought.

(c) Partnerships

The National Integrated Drought Information System may—

(1) engage with the private sector to improve drought monitoring, forecast, and communication if the Under Secretary determines the partnership is appropriate, cost-effective, and beneficial to the public and decisionmakers described in subsection (b)(2)(A);

(2) facilitate the development of 1 or more academic cooperative partnerships to assist with National Integrated Drought Information System functions; and

(3) utilize and support, as appropriate, monitoring by citizen scientists, including by developing best practices to facilitate maximum data integration.

(d) Consultation

The Under Secretary shall consult with relevant Federal, regional, State, tribal, and local government agencies, research institutions, and the private sector in the development and sustainment of the National Integrated Drought Information System.

(e) Cooperation from other Federal agencies

Each Federal agency shall cooperate as appropriate with the Under Secretary in carrying out this section.

(f) Soil moisture

Not later than 1 year after January 7, 2019, the Under Secretary, acting through the National Integrated Drought Information System, shall develop a strategy for a national coordinated soil moisture monitoring network.

(Pub. L. 109–430, §3, Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 2918; Pub. L. 113–86, §2, Mar. 6, 2014, 128 Stat. 1015; Pub. L. 115–423, §2(a), Jan. 7, 2019, 132 Stat. 5454.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This section, referred to in subsec. (e), was in the original ''this Act'', meaning Pub. L. 109–430, Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 2918, which enacted this section and provisions set out as notes under this section and section 311 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 2006 Amendment note set out under section 311 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2019—Subsec. (b)(1)(A). Pub. L. 115–423, §2(a)(1)(A), substituted '', including precipitation, soil moisture, and evaporative demand, in order to make usable, reliable, and timely forecasts of drought and'' for ''in order to make usable, reliable, and timely forecasts of drought, including''.

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 115–423, §2(a)(1)(B), inserted ''watershed,'' after ''regional,''.

Subsec. (b)(4). Pub. L. 115–423, §2(a)(1)(C), inserted '', through interagency agreements'' after ''integrate''and ''information'' after ''warning''.

Subsec. (b)(5). Pub. L. 115–423, §2(a)(1)(D), amended par. (5) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (5) read as follows: ''build upon existing forecasting and assessment programs and partnerships, including through the designation of one or more cooperative institutes to assist with National Integrated Drought Information System functions; and''.

Subsec. (b)(6). Pub. L. 115–423, §2(a)(1)(E), inserted ''the prediction,'' after ''relating to''.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 115–423, §2(a)(3), added subsec. (c). Former subsec. (c) redesignated (d).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 115–423, §2(a)(2), (4), redesignated subsec. (c) as (d) and inserted ''and sustainment'' after ''development''. Former subsec. (d) redesignated (e).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 115–423, §2(a)(2), redesignated subsec. (d) as (e). Former subsec. (e) redesignated (f).

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 115–423, §2(a)(5), added subsec. (f) and struck out former subsec. (f), which related to report by Under Secretary to congressional committees regarding National Integrated Drought Information System program not later than 18 months after Mar. 6, 2014.

Pub. L. 115–423, §2(a)(2), redesignated subsec. (e) as (f).

2014—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 113–86, §2(1), inserted ''to better inform and provide for more timely decision-making to reduce drought related impacts and costs'' before period at end.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 113–86, §2(2), added subsec. (b) and struck out former subsec. (b) which set out required functions of the National Integrated Drought Information System.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 113–86, §2(3), added subsec. (e).

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Pub. L. 109–430, §4, Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 2919, as amended by Pub. L. 113–86, §3, Mar. 6, 2014, 128 Stat. 1016; Pub. L. 115–423, §2(b), Jan. 7, 2019, 132 Stat. 5455, provided that: ''There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act—

''(1) $13,500,000 for fiscal year 2019;
''(2) $13,750,000 for fiscal year 2020;
''(3) $14,000,000 for fiscal year 2021;
''(4) $14,250,000 for fiscal year 2022; and
''(5) $14,500,000 for fiscal year 2023.''

DEFINITIONS

Pub. L. 109–430, §2, Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 2918, provided that: ''In this Act [see Short Title of 2006 Amendment note set out under section 311 of this title]:

''(1) DROUGHT.—The term 'drought' means a deficiency in precipitation—

''(A) that leads to a deficiency in surface or subsurface water supplies (including rivers, streams, wetlands, ground water, soil moisture, reservoir supplies, lake levels, and snow pack); and

''(B) that causes or may cause—

''(i) substantial economic or social impacts; or

''(ii) substantial physical damage or injury to individuals, property, or the environment.

''(2) UNDER SECRETARY.—The term 'Under Secretary' means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.''

§ 314. Omitted

CODIFICATION

Section, act Aug. 8, 1894, ch. 238, 28 Stat. 273, related to making promotions in service without prejudice to those transferred from Signal Service of War Department.

§ 315. Changes or assignment to duty

The Secretary of Commerce is authorized to make such changes or assignment to duty in the personnel or detailed force of the National Weather Service for limiting or reducing expenses as he may deem necessary.

(Mar. 2, 1895, ch. 169, 28 Stat. 737; 1940 Reorg. Plan No. IV, §8, eff. June 30, 1940, 5 F.R. 2421, 54 Stat. 1236; 1965 Reorg. Plan No. 2, eff. July 13, 1965, 30 F.R. 8819, 79 Stat. 1318; 1970 Reorg. Plan No. 4, eff. Oct. 3, 1970, 35 F.R. 15627, 84 Stat. 2090.)

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Weather Bureau consolidated with Coast and Geodetic Survey to form new agency in Department of Commerce known as Environmental Science Services Administration by Reorg. Plan No. 2 of 1965, eff. July 13, 1965, 30 F.R. 8819, 79 Stat. 1318, set out as a note under section 311 of this title. Functions of Bureau and Chief of Bureau transferred to Secretary of Commerce by Reorg. Plan. Subsequently, Environmental Science Services Administration abolished and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration established. By Department Organization Order 25–5A, Secretary delegated to NOAA his functions under this chapter of the Code. By order of Acting Associate Administrator of NOAA, organizational name of Weather Bureau changed to National Weather Service. For further details, see Codification note set out under section 311 of this title.

§ 316. Omitted

CODIFICATION

Section, act Mar. 4, 1913, ch. 145, §1 [part], 37 Stat. 830, related to travel expenses, and has been superseded by section 5701 et seq. of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.