Mary Erickson - NOAA Federal

From:	Mary Erickson - NOAA Federal
Sent:	Monday, September 9, 2019 10:18 AM
To:	Louis Uccellini - NOAA Federal
Cc:	Susan Buchanan - NOAA Federal; Andrea Bleistein; George Jungbluth - NOAA Federal; Jeremy Andrucyk - NOAA Federal; John Murphy
Subject:	Re: Please Clear for CWG

I'm good with this. Boarding airplane. Please text if you need anything. Will have a window from 12-1 during transfer.

Best,
Mary

Sent from my iPhone
Mary Erickson
NOAA DAA for Wx Services
[redacted] (Cell)

On Sep 9, 2019, at 10:10 AM, Louis Uccellini - NOAA Federal <louis.uccellini@noaa.gov> wrote:

> Susan: I am good with this but want to make sure others have the chance to comment. Louis
>
> --
> Dr. Louis W. Uccellini, Director
> NOAA/National Weather Service
> 1325 East West Highway
> Silver Spring, MD 20910
> 301.713.9095
>
> On Sep 9, 2019, at 9:03 AM, Susan Buchanan - NOAA Federal <susan.buchanan@noaa.gov> wrote:
>
> > [redacted] Scott and Chris approved for transmittal.
> > Please let me know if it's okay to go.
> >
> > ---
> >
> > "The NWS leadership team stands with the entire National Weather Service workforce and will continue to uphold the scientific integrity of the forecast process as it was skillfully applied by all NWS offices last week to ensure public safety first and foremost."
> >
> > Andrew - I'd also like to directly address with you a couple of inaccuracies that the CWG continues to perpetuate:
> >
> > 1. The guidance that NWS leadership sent to the workforce about not engaging in social

media debates during Hurricane Dorian had nothing to do with "not angering the president" as you keep reporting. Before your last published article on this topic, you asked me for a response and I told you, "NWS leadership sent this guidance to field staff so they (and the entire agency) could maintain operational focus on Dorian and other severe weather hazards without distraction." The guidance was in no way political, yet CWG continues to talk about it within context of not angering the president. I am asking you to stop this inaccurate reporting.

2. The Birmingham office issued their tweet in response to a large amount of partner and public inquiries they were receiving about potential impacts to Alabama. At the time the Birmingham tweet was issued, the staff there was unaware of the POTUS tweet about Alabama, and so they were not responding directly to him. Please discontinue stating that BMX corrected the president, because it is untrue.

The WaPo piece published online here: https://www.washingtonpost.com/weather/2019/09/09/noaas-chief-scientist-will-investigate-why-agency-backed-trump-over-its-experts-dorian-email-shows/

Thank you,
-Susan

- -
Susan Buchanan
Director of Public Affairs
National Weather Service
301-427-9000

On Mon, Sep 9, 2019 at 8:46 AM Mary Erickson - NOAA Federal <mary.erickson@noaa.gov> wrote:

> [redacted] (b)(5)
>
> [redacted] (b)(5)
>
> "We saw first hand that our integrated forecast process works, and we continue to embrace and uphold the essential integrity of the entire forecast process as it was applied by ALL NWS offices to ensure public safety first and foremost." Or
>
> "we stand behind our entire workforce and the integrity of the forecast process, including the incredible scientific, technical and engineering skill you demonstrated for this event. "
>
> Other thoughts? John and Louis may not be available.
>
> Best,
> Mary
>
> On Mon, Sep 9, 2019 at 8:39 AM Susan Buchanan - NOAA Federal <susan.buchanan@noaa.gov> wrote:
>
> > FYI. Working with J/S/C...
> >
> > "There followed, last Friday, an unsigned press release from "NOAA" that inappropriately and incorrectly contradicted the

NWS forecaster. My understanding is that this intervention to contradict the forecaster was not based on science but on external factors including reputation and appearance, or simply put, political."

- -
Susan Buchanan
Director of Public Affairs
National Weather Service
301-427-9000

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Freedman, Andrew** <Andrew.Freedman@washpost.com>
Date: Mon, Sep 9, 2019 at 8:31 AM
Subject: URGENT request for comment
To: Susan Buchanan - NOAA Federal <susan.buchanan@noaa.gov>, Lauren Gaches - NOAA Federal <lauren.gaches@noaa.gov>

Hi Susan and Lauren,

Do you have any stmt in response to Craig McClean's email that went out overnight, pasted below?

Story to run ASAP.

Thx,
Andrew

From: Craig McLean - NOAA Federal <craig.mclean@noaa.gov>
Subject: Hurricane Dorian and Exceptional Service
Date: September 8, 2019 at 9:55:45 PM PDT

Dear Colleagues,

The fierce storm we know as Hurricane Dorian has concluded its ferocious path through the Bahamas and along the US East Coast. Many of you have contributed to the excellent science that has underpinned the forecasts and current understanding of storms such as this one, which accelerated quite rapidly in intensity. The storm also presented challenges in track which improved with enhanced observations. We know that our collective work, from the scientists in the aircraft penetrating the storm, to the scientists deploying the glider picket line, to the modelers and folks working the physics of the storms, across OAR and in our CI's, and

across all NOAA Lines, we are working the problem in order to give the NWS forecasters the best tools we possibly can to keep America and our neighbors safe. Thank you.

During the course of the storm, as I am sure you are aware, there were routine and exceptional expert forecasts, the best possible, issued by the NWS Forecasters. These are remarkable colleagues of ours, who receive our products, use them well, and provide the benefit of their own experience in announcing accurate forecasts accompanied by the distinction of all credible scientists -- they sign their work. As I'm sure you also know, there was a complex issue involving the President commenting on the path of the hurricane. The NWS Forecaster(s) corrected any public misunderstanding in an expert and timely way, as they should. There followed, last Friday, an unsigned press release from "NOAA" that inappropriately and incorrectly contradicted the NWS forecaster. My understanding is that this intervention to contradict the forecaster was not based on science but on external factors including reputation and appearance, or simply put, political. Our NOAA Scientific Integrity Policy and Code of Scientific Conduct make clear that all NOAA employees shall approach all scientific activities with honesty, objectively, and completely, without allegiance to individuals, organizations, or ideology. The content of this press release is very concerning as it compromises the ability of NOAA to convey life-saving information necessary to avoid substantial and specific danger to public health and safety. If the public cannot trust our information, or we debase our forecaster's warnings and products, that specific danger arises.

You know that the value of our science is in the complexity of our understanding, our ability to convey that understanding to a wide audience of users of this information, and to establish and sustain the public trust in the truth and legitimacy of that information. Unfortunately, the press release of last Friday violated this trust and violated NOAA's policies of scientific integrity. In my role as Assistant Administrator for Research, and as I continue to administratively serve as Acting Chief Scientist, I am pursuing the potential violations of our NOAA Administrative Order on Scientific Integrity. Thankfully, we have such policies that are independently cited as among the best in the federal community, if not the best. Your NOAA and OAR management and leadership team believes in

these policies and principles. I have a responsibility to pursue these truths. I will.

Thank you for your continued excellent work, and your trust. Carry on.

Craig

--
Craig N. McLean
Assistant Administrator
Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1315 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Office: 301-713-2458

Sent from my iPhone

--
Mary Erickson
Deputy Assistant Administrator
NOAA's National Weather Service
O: 301-713-0711
C: (b)(6)
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