

March 18, 2025



Lloyd Doggett  
@RepLloydDoggett



Hurricane season is approaching, and Republicans think it's smart to axe 20% of the workforce responsible for forecasting and tracking extreme weather.

It may not seem like a big deal to some, but having access to free, accurate, and timely forecasts can save lives and money from weather-related damage.

[nytimes.com/2025/03/08/cli...](https://www.nytimes.com/2025/03/08/climate/hurricane-season-republicans.html)

10:36 AM · Mar 18, 2025 · **506** Views

April 21, 2025



Lloyd Doggett   @RepLloydDoggett · Apr 21



During a record-setting year of severe **weather**, this is hardly the time for Trump to weaken the National **Weather** Service.

Just another of his multiple acts of wrongdoing that endanger many, including our families in central Texas.



Weather Service Prepares for 'Degraded Operations' Amid Trump Cuts

From nytimes.com

May 5, 2025



Lloyd Doggett @RepLloydDoggett · May 5



Timely, accurate **weather** forecast can keep us safe—when to take shelter from extreme **weather**, when and where to avoid flying, and much more. Our local meteorologists rely on the National **Weather** Service.

Because of devastating Trump cuts, our families are now being endangered, according to the attached alarm coming from all living former @NWS Directors.

May 5, 2025

**An Open Letter to the American People
From All Former National Weather Service Directors**

This week approximately 300 National Weather Service (NWS) employees left the public service to which they had devoted their lives and careers. This comes on top of the approximately 250 NWS employees who were fired as a result of their probationary status in new often higher level positions—or took the initial buyout offered by the Trump Administration in early February. That leaves the nation's official weather forecasting entity at a significant deficit—down more than 10% of its staffing—just as we head into the busiest time for severe storm predictions like tornadoes and hurricanes.

The NWS heretofore has been known for its accuracy and the accuracy of weather forecasts as well as the prompt dissemination of that information to the people who need it. As former directors of the National Weather Service, we know firsthand what it takes to make accurate forecasts happen and we stand united against the loss of staff and resources at NWS and are deeply concerned about NOAA as a whole.

NWS staff will have an impossible task to continue its current level of services. Some forecast offices will be so short staffed that they may be forced to go to part time services. Not only are there fewer forecasters, there are also fewer electronic technicians, who are responsible for maintaining the critical NEXRAD radars. Our worst nightmare is that weather forecast offices will be so understaffed that there will be needless loss of life. We know that's a nightmare shared by those on the forecasting front lines—and by the people who depend on their efforts.

For example, airplanes can't fly without weather observations and forecasts, ships crossing the oceans rely on storm forecasts to avoid the high seas, farmers rely on seasonal forecasts to plant and harvest their crops which feed us. Additionally, dam and reservoir operators rely on rainfall and snowfall forecasts to manage the water supply, fishermen in the \$320 billion commercial fisheries sector rely on forecasts to stay safe as do tourism and recreational boating communities. Perhaps most importantly, NWS issues all of the tornado warnings, hurricane warnings, flood warnings, extreme wildfire conditions, and other information during extreme weather events. The dedicated staff at weather forecast offices around the country work 24/7/365 to make sure you get that information.

A word about these public servants. They aren't nameless, faceless bureaucrats. They are your neighbors, your friends, the people who provide lifesaving information when you need it. They live and work in every community in the country. Their dedication to public service - and public safety - is unparalleled. They will often sleep in weather forecast offices to make sure your weather conditions don't stop them from being on time for their shifts to do their critical work. They stay at their stations during hurricanes, tornadoes and other severe storms, even

like the raders we all see on television or on our apps, stay up and operating. They are the everyday heroes that often go unsung.

Our weather forecasters in communities around the country don't do this work in a vacuum. They're supported by fellow federal staff at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), including the Satellite, Research, and Ocean Service divisions. NOAA's strength lies in its interdependent parts, and our concern extends to all of our colleagues across the agency.

NOAA's satellites provide vital information about the formation and pathways of storms. NOAA research on severe storms has paved the way for tools we now use every day, such as Doppler radar and storm modeling advancements. NOAA Corps pilots fly into hurricanes to bring us real time information on these increasingly severe storms. And data from ocean buoys add breadth and depth to our understanding of the interaction between the atmosphere and the sea.

The proposed budget for the coming fiscal year has yet to be released officially, but early indications show an overall cut of up to 30% for NOAA. Even if the National Weather Service remains level funded, the rest of NOAA will be severely impacted. Given the interconnectedness of all of the parts of NOAA, there will be impacts to weather forecasting as well. We cannot let this happen.

Louis Uccellini, Ph.D., NWS Director 2013-2022

Jack Hayes, Ph.D., NWS Director 2007-2012

Brigadier General D.L. Johnston, USAF (Ret), NWS Director 2004-2007

Brigadier General John J. Kelly Jr., USAF (Ret), NWS Director 1998-2004

E.W. (Joe) Friday, Ph.D., Colonel USAF (Ret), NWS Director 1988-1997

May 29, 2025: *Full story can be read [here](#).*



MySA 🟡 @mySA · May 29



Rep. Lloyd Doggett criticized growing National Weather Service vacancy rates under the Trump administration, cautioning impacts on Austin and San Antonio.



From mysanantonio.com

July 6, 2025



Lloyd Doggett  
@RepLloydDoggett



As search, rescue and recovery efforts are underway in Texas, my heart remains with the families affected and with immense gratitude for the first responders and supportive volunteers doing such challenging work.

While awaiting more details, we need a thorough investigation into the impact on forecasts and alerts from recent significant cuts at the National Weather Service. To ensure every Americans' safety in future weather-related disasters, we need answers on that as well as greater awareness of the impact of a warming climate on weather intensification.

