



The Four Winds

National Weather Service Employees Organization

Exciting Challenges and Changes Ahead for the NWS Water and Water Resources Program

(January 24, 2020) NWSEO President John Werner; NWSEO Secretary/Treasurer and Eastern Region Chairperson David Solano; NWSEO Headquarters Chairperson and acting steward for the National Water Center (NWC) Mike Dion; and NWSEO Southeast River Forecast Center Steward Jeff Dobur were recently invited to visit the National Water Center (NWC), a branch of the NWSEO Headquarters region, on January 7-8, 2020, for meetings with NWC bargaining unit staff and Office of Water Prediction (OWP) leadership.

NWSEO met with OWP Senior Leadership for an informational briefing and discussion focused on current and future water resources modeling and service-related activities within OWP. These activities include the continued development and implementation of the National Water Model and the Hydrologic Ensemble Forecast Service (HEFS), Flood Inundation Mapping, achieving an initial operating capability within the Water Prediction Operations Division (WPOD) at the NWC, and other related efforts within the NWS, NOAA Line Offices and other Federal agencies.

NWSEO met with the bargaining unit (BU) employees with the 5 Divisions of the NWC. The NWS Water/Water Resources Program has been going through an accelerated period of advancement. All the improvements such as the NWC, the National Water Model, the Community Hydrologic Prediction System (CHPS), advances in meteorological models enabling ensembles and blends to help with rainfall forecasting, HEFS, inundation modeling, coastal modeling, hydraulic modeling, dam break support, hourly models, CHPS at WFOs and so much more, have made for better information to our users.

After the face to face meetings, the NWSEO President sent a note to OWP leadership: *"It's clear you and your folks have set a vector which will lead to a much-needed expansion of our hydrological support capabilities; support which will be more effective and far more beneficial to our partners in the future. As well, I was heartened by the sensible approach your Center was taking moving forward as your plan recognizes the key roles WFOs and River Forecast Centers must play now and in the future in concert with your emerging capabilities to fully meet the needs of our partners. I'm looking forward to working with you in the future. Thanks again to all for providing us with an enjoyable and informative visit. Your dedicated efforts in helping NWS make a quantum leap in water support capabilities fully resonated with the entire NWSEO team."*



(from left to right) Darone Jones Director Water Prediction Operations Division National Water Center, David Solano Senior Hydro-Meteorologist MARFC - Secretary-Treasurer and Eastern Region Chairman NWSEO, Edward Clark Director National Water Center, Dr. Thomas Graziano Director Office of Water Prediction, John Werner Senior Meteorologist WFO Mobile Alabama, President NWSEO, Michael Dion Meteorologist Digital and Graphical Information Support Branch and Headquarters Chairman NWSEO, Jeffrey Dobur Senior Hydrologist and Steward SERFC NWSEO & Dr. Trey Flowers Director Analysis and Prediction Division National Water Center.

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**No one cares more for National Weather Service employees than
National Weather Service employees.**

**No one works harder for National Weather Service employees than
National Weather Service employees.**

We are NWSEO.