



NOAA'S PRIORITIES ARE NOT THE WEATHER SERVICES'

The NWSEO recently became aware of a memo from NOAA HQ instructing the National Hurricane Center to remove the NWS logo from its hurricane graphics. We at the NWSEO are incredulous that our tax dollars are being used to help bolster NOAA's self esteem. Please read the email below, and if it makes you as mad, as it made us, please contact your Congressman using the NWSEO's Legislative Action Center on our website and send out the action alert: "While Working Hard On Katrina - NOAA wants NWS to stop to take off our logo."

From: Richard Okulski

Date: Wednesday, August 31, 2005

Subject: Re: Hurricane Tracking Map

Mary Ann

We have several WFOs and one River Forecast Center (RFC) which are recovering from communciations outages and are inspecting their facilities and equipment for damage. The National Data Buoy Center has sustained significant damage. Many employees' homes have either been damaged or destroyed in the New Orleans area and south of I-10 in Mississippi and Alabama. Our employees continue to support DHS, FEMA and state and local EOC operations despite personal loss as we shift to relief efforts.

Removing a logo from a web site falls to the bottom of the priority list given the large professional challenges and personal tragedies of NOAA employees in the area of impact. I hope NOAA HQ will keep things in perspective for future requests.

Rich

From Mary Ann Kutny, NOAA

Scott Rayder has indicated that we should not have the NWS logo on the Hurricane Center's tracking map and asked that it be removed. Could you please work with the appropriate people to make sure this happens quickly and let me know when it has so that I can let Scott know?

Thanks.

Mary Ann