

DRAFT SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY POLICY



Dr. Larry Robinson, Assistant Secretary for Conservation & Management
NOAA Scientific Integrity Teleconference, July 28, 2011

Overview



1. Why a new policy?
2. What's new?
3. What does this mean for me?
4. Looking forward
5. Q&A



Timeline for Scientific Integrity



March 9, 2009 – President Obama issues memorandum on scientific integrity

March 20, 2009 – Dr. Lubchenco sworn in as NOAA Administrator

March–August 2009 – NOAA participates in OSTP Scientific Integrity Task Force

September 2010-March 2011 – Research Council tasks Ad Hoc committee with drafting scientific integrity policy, as part of response to April 2010 Strengthening Science Workshop recommendations and direction from HQ Leadership.

December 17, 2010 – OSTP issues Scientific Integrity policy guidance

February 8-18, 2011 – Employee and union comments solicited on early draft policy

April 18, 2011 – DOC provides progress report to OSTP, including NOAA and NIST intention to develop bureau specific Scientific Integrity Policies

June 16–August 20, 2011 – Public comment on draft NOAA scientific integrity policy and stakeholder outreach

Draft Scientific Integrity Policy



Establishes NOAA principles for scientific integrity, a scientific Code of Conduct, and Code of Ethics for Science Supervision and Management.

Extends whistleblower protections to those who report scientific and research misconduct.

Scope: employees and contractors, who conduct, supervise, assess, and/or interpret scientific information. Grantees are accountable to their home institution.

Contractors and Grantees



- Contractors will be expected to comply with NOAA's Scientific Integrity policy.
- Grantees will be expected to comply with the scientific integrity policy of their home institution.
- In both cases the external organization will be responsible for preventing, responding to, investigating, and resolving allegations of misconduct, and for reporting to NOAA promptly at all stages.

NOAA Principles of Scientific Integrity

1. Transparency, traceability, and integrity are core values.
2. NOAA scientists are encouraged to publish data and findings.
3. NOAA scientists may speak freely to the media and public about scientific matters.
4. NOAA scientists are free to present personal viewpoints and opinions, but must be clear when doing so.
5. NOAA scientists are encouraged to engage with their peers.
6. NOAA supports the election of its scientists to governance of professional organizations.
7. NOAA supports the ability of its scientists to accept awards.
8. NOAA commits to providing regular scientific integrity training to its employees and contractors.

Scientific Integrity Commons

<http://www.nrc.noaa.gov/scientificintegrity.html>

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Welcome to NOAA's Scientific Integrity Commons - a place for NOAA's scientific community to find training opportunities, engage with peers, and to have open discussions with managers and leadership on the many topics and issues related to scientific integrity.

"(a) Public service is a public trust. Each employee has a responsibility to the United States Government and its citizens to place loyalty to the Constitution, laws and ethical principles above private gain. To ensure that every citizen can have complete confidence in the integrity of the Federal Government, each employee shall respect and adhere to the principles of ethical conduct set forth in this section, as well as the implementing standards contained in this part and in supplemental agency regulations."

Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the

NOAA Links

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- [NOAA Program Planning & Integration](#)

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Department of Commerce, but updates and extends them substantially based on the guidance from President Obama and Dr. Holdren.

[Draft NOAA Administrative Order on Scientific Integrity](#)

Draft Procedural Handbook



Sets procedures for responding to allegations of Scientific and Research Misconduct by NOAA employees, contractors, and external organizations.

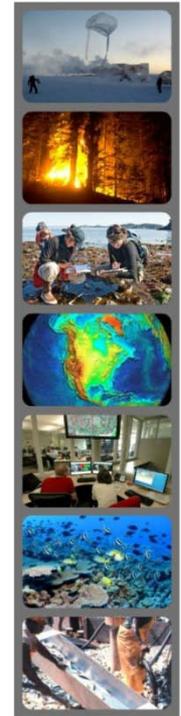
Deputy Under Secretary for Operations oversees proceedings and appoints officials to manage review.

Process consists of up to three stages: inquiry, investigation, and adjudication.

External organizations and contractors have primary responsibility for preventing, detecting, and investigating allegations of misconduct.

Next Steps

- July-August: Engage NOAA staff and research community
- August 20: end public comment period
- Summer/Fall: Revise policy and handbook based on comments received; internal review and clearance to finalize policy
- Fall: Release final scientific integrity policy



Strengthening Science



Science
Service
Stewardship

Check out the policy at:
www.noaa.gov/scientificintegrity

Submit comments to:
integrity.noaa@noaa.gov

QUESTIONS?

