

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	NOAA Administrative Order 216-124	
NOAA ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SERIES	DATE OF ISSUANCE 12/01/2019	EFFECTIVE DATE 12/01/2019
SUBJECT for NOAA	Policy on Development and Coordination of Economic Analyses and Statistics	

SECTION 1. PURPOSE.

This Order establishes the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) policies and procedures for review of NOAA activities related to the development of economic analyses and statistics by the NOAA's Chief Economist, Performance, Risk and Social Science Office, Office of Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) of certain activities related to the development of economic analyses and statistics for NOAA.

SECTION 2. SCOPE.

This NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) applies to all NOAA offices and programs.

SECTION 3. POLICY.

The purpose of this NAO is to facilitate the development of effective and robust economic analyses, as well as coordinate and align reporting to the Department of Commerce, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the White House.

SECTION 4. RESPONSIBILITIES.

- .01 The NOAA Chief Economist responsibilities are to:
- a. Represent NOAA in high-level departmental and interagency policy discussions regarding economic topics related to the NOAA's mission and programmatic activity.
 - b. Provide intellectual and strategic leadership analysis to promote, coordinate, integrate, and implement the use of rigorous economic analysis at both the agency and LO levels in support of the NOAA's missions.
 - c. Provide support in the development of cutting-edge research and analysis methodologies to advance activities of strategic importance to NOAA.
 - d. Maintain a repository of current and reliable economic statistics.
 - e. Provide expert technical guidance and leadership to NOAA's compliance with the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018; including the development and implementation of performance measures for planning and management, and evidence-based projects.

- f. Foster a coordinated approach to studying socio-economic issues with economic units within the Department of Commerce as well as key Federal agencies and external stakeholders.
- g. Review proposals received by NOAA leadership for information and/or action(s) concerning sensitive and controversial economic policy.
- h. Advise the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, as well as other NOAA Senior Leaders, on economic and social science policy, and programmatic issues.

.02 To ensure agency-wide methodological standard and alignment in the following:

- a. All Line/Staff Offices (LO/SO) should consult with the Chief Economist, during the design phase and schedule follow up(s) as needed for the following analyses:
 - i. Regulatory Impact Analyses of significant rulemakings [as defined by Executive Order's 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review) and 13563 (Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review)];
 - ii. Economic analyses developed for budget justification, such as economic impact analyses, cost-benefit analysis, and return on investment;
 - iii. Economic analyses requested by the Department of Commerce, Congress, or the Executive Office of the President;
 - iv. Economic analyses developed to support performance measures and the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018; and
 - v. Any other significant studies, on a case-by-case basis, as determined by NOAA leadership.
- b. All programs developing socio-economic studies with Information Collection Requests (ICRs) packages employing statistical methods with Supporting Statement B must be submitted to the NOAA Chief Economist for review and approval before submission to the NOAA Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) Officer. The NOAA PRA Officer will work in collaboration with the NOAA Chief Economist to ensure coordination of PRA requests to support socio-economic studies.
- c. Line Offices without economic capabilities are encouraged to work in collaboration with the NOAA Chief Economist when developing studies on the value of NOAA's products and services.
- d. The Chief Economist should be included in the review of proposed legislation referring to economic growth and development, such as the ocean economy and the economic impact of weather hazards.

SECTION 5. REFERENCES.

- .01 Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018.
- .02 Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review.

- .03 Executive Order 13563, Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review.
- .04 The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980.
- .05 Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) Guide, Version 2.0 (2011), United States Office of Personnel Management.
- .06 OMB Circular A-4, Regulatory Impact Analysis: A Primer.

SECTION 6. EFFECT ON OTHER ISSUANCES.

.01 The Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental Observation and Prediction Performing the duties of Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere signs because there is no delegation of authority for this NAO.

.02 An electronic copy of this order will be posted on the NOAA Office of the Chief Administrative Officer website under the NOAA Administrative Issuances Section.
<http://www.corporateservices.noaa.gov/~ocao/index.html>



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Offices of Primary Interest:
Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO)
All NOAA Line and Staff Offices