



NWS Decision Support Services - Moving Forward Together

June 7th from 2:30pm-3:30pm ET

Presented by **Louis Uccellini & Mary Erickson**

Presentation Abstract: The National Weather Service (NWS) continues to advance towards more effectively carrying-out its Mission by adapting to and overcoming the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, even as we worked throughout 2020 to address the largest number of billion-dollar natural disasters in United States history. The NWS aims to reduce the impacts of weather, water, and climate events by transforming the way people receive, understand, and act on information. The agency continues to deliver Impact-based Decision Support Services (IDSS) through a collaborative forecast process, connecting directly to emergency management officials and public safety decision makers at the federal, state, local, tribal nation, and territory government levels. In this presentation, we will discuss the nature of these intra-governmental collaborations to provide observations, forecasts and warnings and related IDSS required to save lives and mitigate property loss in every community throughout the United States. In addition, we will review ongoing adaptations employed across the NWS to continue all operations in the face of COVID-19 and how these adaptations may evolve in the wake of the global pandemic. Finally, we will discuss how we can move forward together to continue our efforts to make every community ready, responsive, and resilient in the face of an increasing frequency of extreme weather, water and climate events.

Speaker Bio: Dr. Louis Uccellini is Director of the National Weather Service, where he leads the mission of the agency – to provide weather, water, and climate data, forecasts, and warnings to protect life and property and enhance the national economy. He champions close partnerships with emergency managers and understands how the public benefits from coordinated and consistent messages as it prepares for extreme weather and water events. He is passionate about creating a Weather-Ready Nation and encourages the workforce to build relationships with their local emergency managers and to provide timely and consistent decision support services. Dr. Uccellini leads a workforce of over 4,000 employees who serve the public throughout the United States.

Speaker Bio: Mary Erickson is the Deputy Director of the National Weather Service. Her primary responsibilities include leading the agency's major change initiatives, ensuring accurate and timely service delivery to key stakeholders, building important relationships with America's Weather & Water Enterprise, and directing efforts to improve diversity and inclusion. Ms. Erickson champions a federal to state/regional to local framework to support decision-makers at all levels with the real-time and predictive weather, water, and climate information they need to be ready, responsive, and resilient. For over three years, she has served on the White House's Office of Science, Technology, & Policy interagency forums on resilience. She currently serves as Co-Chair for the Subcommittee on Resilience, Science & Technology.