



## NOAA SATELLITES AND INFORMATION SERVICE

### CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SATELLITE CONTROL & DATA ACQUISITION STATIONS

---

**The National Requirement:** The Nation requires sound and secure facilities and infrastructure to house the equipment and workforce needed to ensure uninterrupted acquisition of data from its environmental satellites.

**NOAA's Response:** NOAA Satellites and Information Service has partnered with the US Army Corps of Engineers to develop facilities master plans for NOAA's Command and Data Acquisition Stations at Wallops Island, Virginia, and Fairbanks, Alaska.

The facilities and infrastructure at both stations are over 40 years old. Major systems at both facilities are operating well past their design lives and require maintenance, repair, and in many cases, replacement. The Fairbanks facility is located in a seismic zone and operates in severe Sub-Arctic conditions, with temperatures routinely reaching minus 60 degrees Fahrenheit during the winter months. The Wallops facility, on the Atlantic coast, is subject to a corrosive salt air environment and lies in the path of hurricanes that hit the US East Coast. Both stations have been determined to be critical national infrastructure elements by Presidential Decision Directive.

The facilities master plans have been developed to support a phased, multi-year program to comprehensively renovate and modernize the facilities, infrastructure, and equipment to minimize or eliminate safety, hazardous materials, waste water treatment, and other deficiencies at the facilities that could lead to outages and service disruptions caused by failure of supporting infrastructure at the stations.

**Partners and Customers:** NOAA has partnered with the US Army Corps of Engineers to develop and implement the master plans. Key customers who would be affected by satellite data interruptions include: NOAA Offices (Weather, Fisheries, Research, Oceans and Coasts), NASA, US Coast Guard, Department of Defense, US Forest Service, US Geological Survey, Federal Aviation Administration, and private weather services.

**Financing:** The FY 2005 Budget requests **\$2.250 million** to begin implementation of the Wallops and Fairbanks facilities master plans.

**For additional information:** [www.nesdis.noaa.gov](http://www.nesdis.noaa.gov)  
[www.fcdas.noaa.gov/index.html](http://www.fcdas.noaa.gov/index.html) - Fairbanks  
[www.wcda.noaa.gov/](http://www.wcda.noaa.gov/) - Wallops

