CGMS XXXIII NOAA-WP-10
Prepared by NOAA
Agenda Item: I.3.1

International Data Collection Service (IDCS) Channel Capacity: Near and Long-Term

NOAA-WP-10 discusses near and long term capacity of the International Data Collection System (IDCS) channels. NOAA's near-term use of the IDCS includes plans for provided support to devastated areas where regional DCS support is not feasible. Considering the operational state and transitional flux of the domestic DCS service, the IDCS with approval from the CGMS members and the Secretariat can be utilized to provide the needed data for hazard relief. This level-of-effort is has to be determined based on the severity of the event(s).

The long-term use of the IDCS depends on how well NOAA attracts new users. There is a valuable resource in using the IDCS to support international as well as global programs. It is the duty of NOAA, as environmental agent, to exploit these resources to fullest of it capabilities.

International Data Collection Service (IDCS) Channel Capacity: Near and Long-Term

Use of the International Data Collection Service channels over the past few years has declined. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration recognize the critical importance of the IDCS in supporting global in-situ observations for environmental monitoring. In addition, the IDCS has the capability to provide authorities with meaningful information on natural as well as man-made events.

NOAA's near-term use of the IDCS includes plans for providing support to devastated areas where regional DCS support is not feasible. Considering the operational state and transitional flux of the domestic DCS service, the IDCS with approval from the CGMS members and the Secretariat can be utilized to provide the needed data for hazard relief. This level-of-effort has to be determined based on the severity of the event(s).

Using the existing NOAA DCS infrastructure and the support of the IDCS channels, NOAA can provide continuous support to state, local federal and international organizations in times of a crisis.

The long-term use of the IDCS depends on how well NOAA acquires new users. There is a valuable resource in using the IDCS to support international as well as global programs. It is the duty of NOAA, as environmental agent to exploit these resources to the fullest of it capabilities. Several ideas have been proposed that will require new and additional in-situ observations relayed via geostationary spacecraft.

Presently, NOAA has not had the opportunity to explore these options with other environmental users and would request additional time to meet with some organizations to discuss the use of the IDCS in supporting their missions.

NOAA would like to inform the CGMS of their desire to continue the present structure of the IDCS until we are able to reevaluate our customer requirements. In addition, NOAA plans to make it known, at future conferences and meetings, the potential value of the IDCS.