



December 16, 2021

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Richard W. Spinrad, Ph.D.  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and  
NOAA Administrator  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**FROM:** Frederick J. Meny, Jr.  
Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation

**SUBJECT:** Audit of Space Weather Follow-On Program Performance  
Challenges (#2022-416)

We are initiating an audit of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Space Weather Follow-On (SWFO) program. Our objective is to identify challenges that may affect the SWFO program's cost, schedule, or overall mission performance and assess the extent to which NOAA is addressing these challenges.

We plan to begin this work immediately. We will contact your audit liaisons to schedule an entrance conference for January 2022, at which time we will discuss in further detail the specific nature of our audit—including our objective and scope, time frames, and information needs. If you have any questions regarding this audit, please contact me at (202) 482-1931 or Kevin Ryan, Director for Audit and Evaluation, at (202) 698-0791.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

cc: Benjamin Friedman, Deputy Under Secretary for Operations, NOAA  
Janet Coit, Assistant Administrator for NOAA Fisheries and Acting Assistant Secretary of  
Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Deputy NOAA Administrator, NOAA  
Karen Hyun, Ph.D., Chief of Staff, NOAA  
Stephen Volz, Assistant Administrator for Satellite and Information Services; Performing the  
duties of Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental Observation and  
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Mary Kae Lockwood, SWFO Program Manager, NOAA  
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