

Craig McLean - NOAA Federal

From: Craig McLean - NOAA Federal
Sent: Monday, September 9, 2019 11:15 AM
To: Darcy Thorpe
Subject: Re: I depend on a non-political NOAA to keep my family safe

Thank you for your message and concern. I direct you to a fresh news item reported this morning.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/weather/2019/09/09/noaas-chief-scientist-will-investigate-why-agency-backed-trump-over-its-experts-dorian-email-shows/>

Best wishes,
CM

On Mon, Sep 9, 2019 at 10:55 AM Darcy Thorpe <[REDACTED] (b)(6)> wrote:

Mr. McLean,

Last week's bizzare weather misinformation by the president was a real eye opener. It was both a dangerous and ridiculous episode right as Dorian was headed up the coast, putting American lives at risk.

I was proud of the Birmingham NWS office for their quick tweet clearing up Alabama's forecast. They did the right thing. People needed to know if they faced danger. The public needed true science-based information and NWS Birmigham provided that.

When NOAA put out a statement chastising that office I was really angry. I live near Houston on the Gulf Coast and during hurricane season part of my daily routine is to check in with the NHC website. I depend on NWS flooding, tornado, and hurricane alerts to keep my family safe. I absolutely trusted the NWS and NOAA. More then once I've ended up huddled with my children in the bathroom after a NWS tornado warning. I need to be able to trust severe weather forecasting. The statement NOAA released giving the president political cover has shaken that trust. I immediately thought that NOAA must have been ordered by the WH to release a statement supportive to the president..and they complied. They should not have.The weather must not be political! (I can't believe I had to write that sentence). We need to support our NOAA scientists and make sure they are always free to deliver accurate information without censure. Doubt cannot be part of the equation when I'm making decisions about my family's safety.

Darcy Thorpe
Texas Mom

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