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unding supports NOAA's efforts to upgrade the National Vater Model and expand Flood Inundation Mapping ervices

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eptember 27, 2023



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ad closed due to flooding in Colusa County, California, following an atmospheric river storm that livered heavy rain and snow across Northern California. Photo taken on January 12, 2023. (Image edit: California Department of Water Resources)

rlier this month, the Department of Commerce and NOAA's Office of Water ediction awarded the Next Generation Water Prediction Capability contract to sytheon, an RTX Business. The \$80 million, four-year contract will transform water ediction by enabling rapid deployment of advanced water models to provide upled, continental scale, operational coastal and inland flood forecasting and undation mapping services.

loods can have devastating impacts across the country, harming local economies, imaging infrastructure, and putting lives at risk," said U.S. Secretary Gina Raimondo. This investment, made possible by President Biden's Investing in America Agenda—key pillar of Bidenomics— will give first responders, emergency managers and the ablic better, fast information about where, when and how our communities will be fected by flooding."

ne contract is for the development of two capabilities:

- A new Water Resources Modeling framework supporting future versions of the National Water Model with state-of-the-science hydrologic and hydraulic model formulations, and
- Near real-time, high spatial resolution flood inundation maps and services for nearly 100% of the U.S. population leveraging both forecasts from National Weather Service River Forecast Centers and operational guidance from the National Water Model.



















wnload Image





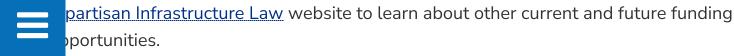


ne contract also requires Raytheon to deliver an integrated, high-resolution drographic, topographic and bathymetric geospatial dataset underpinning both the ational Water Model and Flood Inundation Mapping service capabilities, and a cloudsted Optimization and Evaluation Environment to configure the new National Water odel and Flood Inundation Mapping services.

lese new capabilities will create a pathway to operationalize the new models and chniques developed by the <u>Cooperative Institute for Research to Operations in</u> <u>vdrology</u> 🗹, and ultimately will enable broader community engagement as ivisioned in NOAA's Weather, Water and Climate Strategy. In addition to running odels that predict streamflow, floods and inundation, the new Water Resources odeling framework also will provide an avenue to deploy improved models of ought, soil moisture and water quality into operations.

IOAA's National Weather Service is taking flood forecasting to the next level," said r. Michael Morgan, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental oservation and Prediction. "This project is expected to enhance our ability to identify d communicate potential flooding and pass that life-saving information on to nergency managers, decision makers and the public."

ne agency also awarded \$7.4 million, of which \$1.7 million is Bipartisan frastructure Law funds, to GAMA-1 Technologies to develop the Hydrologic sualization and Information Services system in the cloud to serve as the platform for ssemination of high-resolution flood prediction services to th Help improve this site





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