

**CTIP STUDY PROBLEM STATEMENT**  
**Request for Funding**  
**FY 2001**

**FHWA Strategic Goal Area:** Mobility

**Project Title:** Weather Condition Monitoring

**Background:** Several highway agencies are implementing weather condition monitoring systems for their road networks. All motorists seek and use weather data in making trip decisions resulting in user needs for current and accurate weather condition information as well as weather predictions. Motorists on National Park Service and Forest Service Roads are at least as likely to want and need weather information as other motorists, and perhaps more likely because of the remote locations and recreational nature of their trips. The Federal Lands Highway Program should participate with other highway agencies providing assistance with the planning, constructing, implementing and operating weather condition monitoring systems.

**Objectives:** Discuss with several forest and park customers the availability, the motorists= need, and the potential for partnerships to implement a weather condition monitoring system. Implement, at an appropriate location, an advanced remote weather information system, in conjunction with an available network. Motorists can be better informed about weather conditions that may influence their travel, such as storms causing delays, alternative routes, or changes in schedules. The primary benefit is safety for motorists using the information. Secondary benefits can be derived for maintenance operations, enforcement and emergency response.

**Status:** Our customers need information, encouragement and incentives to plan, construct and implement weather monitoring systems on their road networks. Our customers can coordinate with existing or planned systems belonging to other agencies

**Expected Products and Milestones by Fiscal Year:** (Include description of New Initiatives and Ongoing Research.) These weather information systems are an important element in advanced motorists information systems. During FY 2001 this effort will improve the coordination and development of weather information systems for recreational areas. During FY 2002 field installation of one unit can be implemented in cooperation with a host agency

**Duration:** Coordination efforts will be through the planning process during FY 2001 leading to implementation in a select location during FY 2002.

**Estimated Cost by Fiscal Year:** FY 2001 - \$5,000 for plan coordination/development  
FY 2002 - \$50,000 for installation of equipment and links to the operator. Operation and maintenance would be negotiated between the host agency and the operator, and not part of this effort

**Suggested Organization Method:** Coordinate with a State implementing weather conditions monitoring and enlist a National Park or Forest to collaborate and supplement the implementation

plans to include forest or park highways. Select a candidate Park or Forest to implement data collection by the operator agency, include installation of equipment and links for retrieval, analysis, and dissemination of the information. Participate in a currently planned or operational remote weather information system.

**Submitted:**

**Agency/Division:** Western Federal Lands Division  
**Name:** Cal Frobig  
**Phone:** 360-696-7648  
**Date:** 11 January 2001

**Champion:**

**Name:** Pete Field  
**Phone:** 360-696-7619

**Funding Source:** (Check one.)

9      Agency Fund  
9      General Fund