

NOAA Quarterly Transition Updates

Fiscal Year 2020 Quarter 3 Summary

Background

In April 2020, the NOAA Research Council requested that the NOAA Line Office Transition Managers Committee (LOTMC) provide quarterly updates on projects that have transitioned. Subsequently, the LOTMC developed an approach for collecting and reporting these data in a consistent manner while allowing for feedback and improvements to the process. The data were first collected as a pilot for Fiscal Year 2020, Quarter 3 transitions.

Methodology

The data collection spreadsheet for FY20 Q3 included the following fields: project name, what was transitioned, category for what was transitioned, purpose of transition, type of transition, from where, to where, date completed, is it in NOAA Research and Development Database (NRDD), NRDD project ID, and comments.

The NOAA Research and Development Database's RL Progress data table was queried for projects with a RL9_CompleteDate of 2020, and the data were further refined manually to select projects with dates between April 1 and June 30, 2020. Relevant project information was used to prepopulate the data collection spreadsheet, with a note in the "comments" column that the information came from the NRDD and updates and supplemental information may be needed.

The NOAA Line Office Transition Managers sent the data collection spreadsheet and tasker request to their Line Offices with a two week deadline. Following the data collection period, the information from all Line Offices was compiled and analyzed.

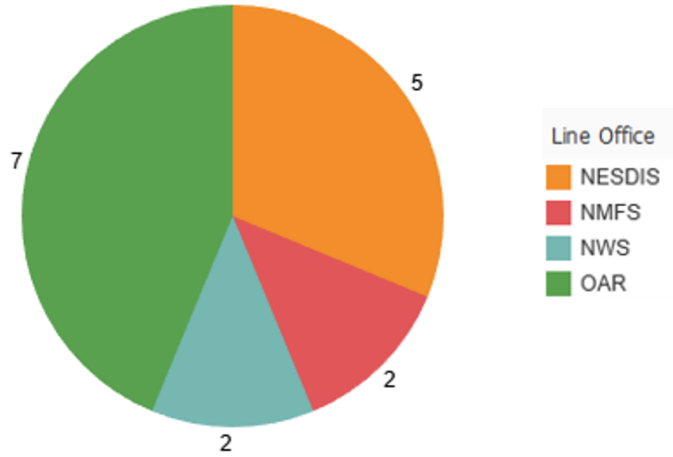
FY20 Q3 Results (April 1 – June 30, 2020)

Sixteen transitioned projects were identified in the [spreadsheet](#) for FY20 Q3. Summary charts of these projects by Line Office, source and destination organizations, transition type, and transition project category are displayed below.

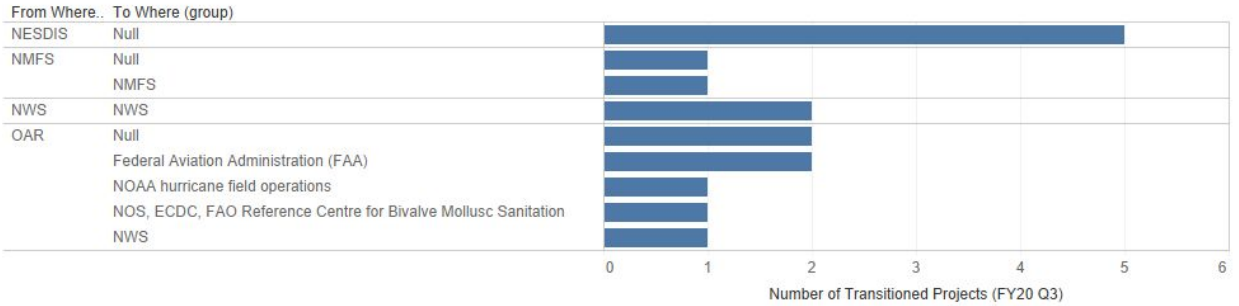
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Number of Transitioned Projects by Line Office for FY20 Q3



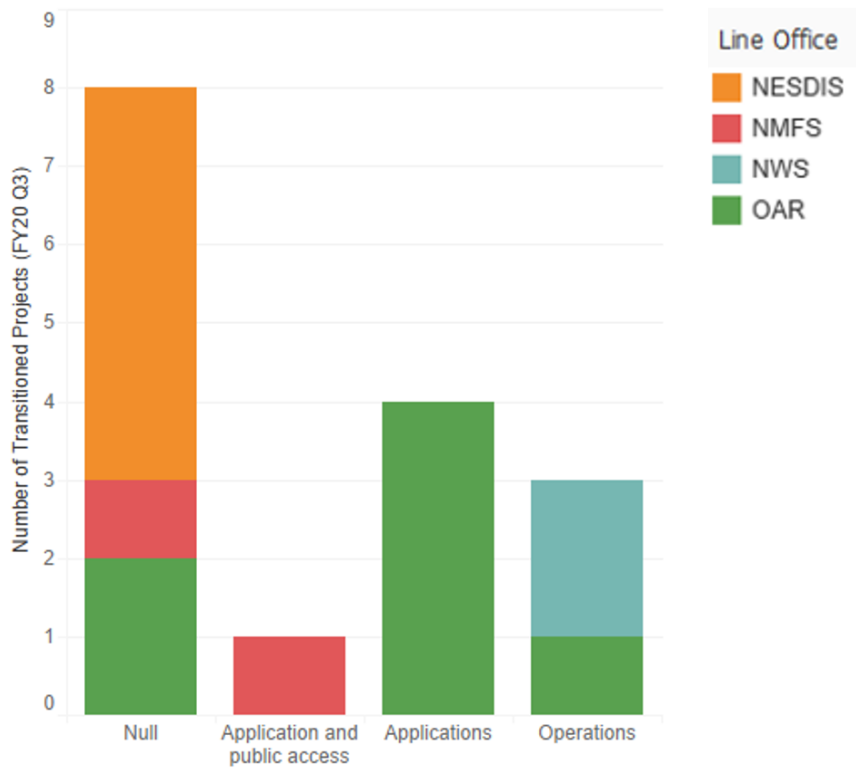
Source and Destination Organizations for FY20 Q3 Transitioned Projects



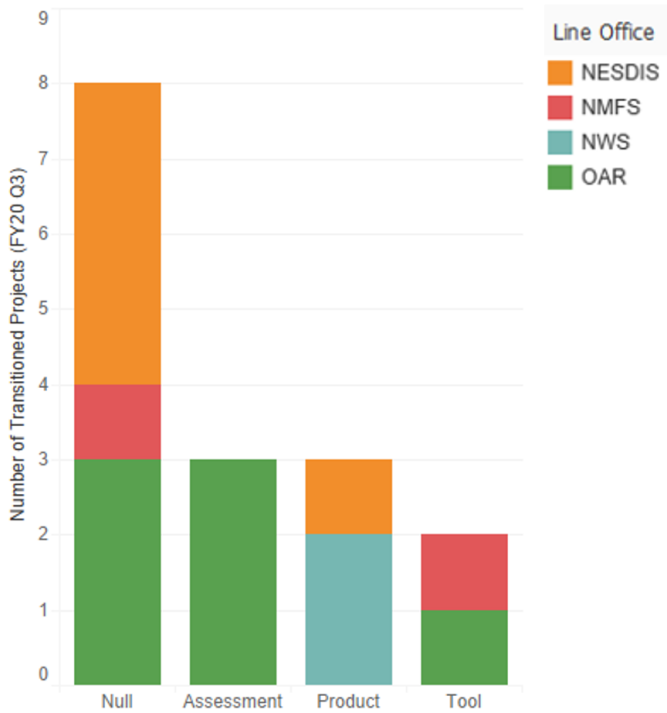
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Type of Transition



Transitioned Project Category



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Considerations for Future Quarterly Transition Updates

As shown in the graphs above, not all NOAA Line Offices were represented in the pilot tasker and some projects had missing data. The projects with missing data were most commonly the prepopulated NRDD projects that were not further edited. This poses a potential problem that those projects may not have been reviewed and therefore may not contain accurate data (e.g., that the project did not transition when planned). For the FY20 Q3 tasker this risk was constrained to some extent by checking the “project last updated” date in the NRDD.

Expanding the timeline for data collection may increase participation. As indicated in the draft timeline for 2020 transition updates, the LOTMC plans to give Line Offices four weeks to input data for future quarterly transition taskers.

It may be valuable to add a data field to the tasker spreadsheet to indicate whether the project fits within the NOAA Science and Technology Focus Areas. These projects may be of special interest to the NOAA Research Council.

Next Steps

A subset of the transitioned projects from FY20 Q3 will be highlighted to the NOAA Research Council on September 15, 2020. The NOAA Research Council will be asked to provide feedback on the collection process and presentation of the information. The LOTMC will make appropriate modifications to the process and plans to begin collection of FY20 Q4 data on September 30, 2020.