From the Director’s Desk

Over the last couple of years we have made some fairly significant changes to the Officer Corps Management System. This year, we will be making another change that will organize, align, integrate, and transform the selection boards, billet review, assignment process and the submission schedule of the Officer Evaluation Report (OER). The next few paragraphs will address those changes.

Selection Boards

Historically, selection boards were held starting with the junior ranks and ending with the senior ranks. We will be reversing that schedule this year. This change will result in a better alignment of the promotion and assignment processes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPB Board Schedule</th>
<th>Convenes on or about</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Review</td>
<td>26-Feb-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPT’s Annual Review</td>
<td>1-Mar-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPT Selection</td>
<td>5-Mar-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDR Selection</td>
<td>7-Mar-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCDR Selection</td>
<td>12-Mar-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LT Selection</td>
<td>14-Mar-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTJG Selection</td>
<td>15-Mar-07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Billet Review

Prior to 2005, the NOAA Corps had approximately 420 published billets on the ladder system. The ladder system allowed for a billet to be filled by several officer grades. For example, billets were coded as O4-O5. In 2005, an extensive review of all billets was conducted in order to reduce the billet list to the approved strength of 299 as authorized by law. The billet list was further refined by redistributing billets based upon the appropriate grade distribution as authorized by law. The restructured system required officers to be placed in assignments according to their grade. This realignment of billets resulted in better
management of the limited number of officers and reflected the true needs of NOAA programs.

The NOAA Corps Directives requires an annual review of all billets to ensure they meet NOAA’s current mission requirements. The current NCD states that an annual billet review will take place in October of each year; the review will now be conducted from March to June, prior to the convening of the officer assignment boards.

Assignment Process

This realignment includes holding a separate assignment board for captains, commanders and lieutenant commanders. Holding a separate assignment board (three separate boards) for each senior grade focuses the OAB on one group at a time. As stated above, assignment boards will be scheduled after the annual billet review and promotion process as shown in the schedule below. These changes will create an integrated system that will prevent assigning officers to billets planned for reprogramming and will open assignments up not only to officers holding the appropriate billet grade but also to officers selected to the appropriate grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OAB Board Schedule</th>
<th>Convenes on or about</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAPT</td>
<td>6-Jul-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDR</td>
<td>6-Aug-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCDR</td>
<td>6-Sep-07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Assignment Officer will provide recommendations for officers O-3 and below directly to the Director, NOAA Corps for approval. The Assignment Officer will work closely with the appropriate line office liaisons to ensure the “right” officer is assigned to the “right” position.

Officer Evaluation Report

In order to accommodate the changes to the officer promotion and assignment processes, the OER reporting period will end as shown in the schedule below. This new schedule will allow sufficient time for OERs to be submitted for review by the various boards early in the calendar year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Captain</td>
<td>31 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commander</td>
<td>31 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant Commander</td>
<td>30 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
<td>30 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant (jg)</td>
<td>January 31/July 31 (officers &gt;3 years only July 31)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensign</td>
<td>January 31/July 31 (officers &gt;3 years only July 31)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please contact CDR Brad Kearse with any questions concerning these changes.

**Roger D. Mason**  
**Acting Director, Commissioned Personnel Center**

**Promotion Update**

Congratulations to those officers listed below that were selected by the 2006 Selection Boards:

To Be Captain:

Wade J. Blake  
Brian K. Taggart  
John E. Herring  
Christopher S. Moore  
Raymond C. Slagle

To Be Commander:

Philip A. Gruccio  
Richard R. Wingrove  
Randall J. TeBeest  
John J. Adler  
Michael S. Weaver  
Anne K. Lynch  
Karl F. Mangels  
Anita L. Lopez  
Jeffrey C. Hagan  
John K. Longenecker

To Be Lieutenant Commander:

Julie V. Helmers  
Mark A. Wetzler  
Kurt A. Zegowitz  
Timothy J. Gallagher  
Joe C. Bishop  
Nathan H. Hancock  
Peter V. Siegel  
Demian A. Bailey  
Michael F. Ellis  
Nancy L. Ash  
Elizabeth I. Jones
Arthur J. Stark Jr.
Thomas J. Peltzer

To Be Lieutenant:

Paul W. Kemp
Katherine R. Peet
Michael G. Levine
Bryan R. Wagonseller
Allison B. Melicharek
Earl M. Spencer
Jeffrey D. Shoup
Hector L. Casanova
Amanda M. Bittinger
Nicole M. Manning
Eric T. Johnson
Jasper D. Schaer
Jessica E. Daum
Amanda M. Middlemiss
Natasha R. Davis
Luke J. Spence
John J. Lomnicky
Lundy E. Pixton

To Be Lieutenant (junior grade):

Samuel F. Greenaway
Tracy L. Hamburger
Michael O. Gonsalves
Olivia A. Hauser
Daniel E. Orr
Rebecca J. Almeida
Tony Perry, III
Jonathan R. French
Amy B. Cox
Paul S. Hemmick
Matthew J. Jaskoski
Stephen C. Kuzirian
Lindsey M. Vandenberg
Madeleine M. Adler
Carol N. Arsenault
James L. Brinkley
Sean M. Finney
Laurel C. Jennings
Guinevere R. Lewis
The Commissioned Personnel Center has begun planning for the next promotion year; we will be forwarding to the Director, NOAA Corps the promotion estimates for next year for each grade. All officers are encouraged to review their records to ensure that the requisite requirements for promotion have been met (professional and medical).

**WELCOME BOTC 110**

The officers of NOAA’s 110th Basic Officer Training Class were temporarily appointed today and will arrive on Sunday, August 20th in Kings Point, New York to begin fifteen weeks of training at the United States Merchant Marine Academy. With the appointment of BOTC 110 the NOAA Corps has reached our authorized strength of 299 and set another milestone in the growth of the NOAA Corps. Due to the increase, we now have a total of 37 vacancies in the grades of commander, lieutenant commander, lieutenant and lieutenant (junior grade). CPC has forwarded those names to the Secretary for promotion.

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