



Glossary of Key Terms

A-class (solar flare):

The weakest classification level for solar flares; A-class flares have peak soft X-ray intensities ranging from 10^{-8} to 10^{-7} W/m².

Advanced Composition Explorer (ACE):

The satellite observatory at the first Sun-Earth Lagrange point (L1). It is responsible for collecting observational space weather data from the Sun and assessing a solar wind incident's impact on Earth's magnetosphere.

Alert (as defined by NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC)):

Alerts indicate that the observed conditions, highlighted by the warnings, have crossed a preset threshold or that a space weather event has already started.

Astronomical unit (AU):

The average distance between the center of the Earth and the center of the Sun, equal to 149.6 million kilometers or 92.96 million miles. Earth is in a nearly circular orbit around the Sun.

B-class (solar flare):

A weak-intermediate classification level for solar flares; B-class flares have peak soft X-ray intensities ranging from 10^{-7} to 10^{-6} W/m².

Black start:

The ability of electricity generation plants to restart parts of the power system to recover from a blackout. This entails isolated power stations being started individually and gradually reconnected to one another to form an interconnected system again.

C-class (solar flare):

An intermediate classification level for solar flares; C-class flares have peak soft X-ray intensities ranging from 10^{-6} to 10^{-5} W/m².

Combatant Commands (COCOMs):

The Department of Defense has 11 combatant commands, each with a geographic or functional mission that provides command and control of military forces during peacetime and wartime.

Common operating picture (COP):

A continuously updated overview of an incident compiled throughout an incident's life cycle from data shared between integrated systems for communication, information management, and intelligence and information sharing.

Community Coordinated Modeling Center (CCMC):

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center space weather science and modeling center.

Community lifelines:

The seven community lifelines represent only the most basic services a community relies on—services that, when stable, enable all other activity within a community.

Contiguous United States (CONUS):

The 48 adjoining U.S. states and the District of Columbia; Alaska and Hawaii are not part of the contiguous United States.

Coronal mass ejection (CME):

A large, sudden, and coherent eruption of plasma and magnetic flux from the outer, hottest part of the Sun's atmosphere, the solar corona.

Cosmic rays:

A specific type of energetic particle radiation originating from the outer heliosphere, galaxy, and extragalactic sources.

Critical infrastructure:

There are 16 critical infrastructure sectors whose assets, systems, and networks, whether physical or virtual, are considered so vital to the United States that their incapacitation or destruction would have a debilitating effect on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination thereof.

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA):

CISA is the operational lead for federal cybersecurity and the national coordinator for critical infrastructure security and resilience. It is one component of the Department of Homeland Security.

Declarations:

There are two types of disaster declarations:

- A **major disaster declaration** provides more federal programs for response and recovery than an emergency declaration. This type of declaration may only be issued after an incident.
- An **emergency declaration** is more limited in scope than a major disaster declaration, involves fewer federal programs, and is not normally associated with recovery programs.

Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA):

Support provided by U.S. federal military forces, Department of Defense (DoD) civilians, DoD contract personnel, DoD component assets, and, in coordination with governors, federally funded National Guard forces in response to requests for assistance from civil authorities.

Department of the Interior (DOI):

The [agency](#) that protects and manages the nation's natural resources and cultural heritage.

Disturbance storm-time (Dst) index:

Geomagnetic index compiled from low-latitude, ground-based magnetometers used to qualify geomagnetic storm events and classify their intensity.

Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM):

Specifically the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

Electronvolt (eV):

A unit of energy. 1 megaelectronvolt (MeV) = 1,000,000 eV.

Emergency Alert System (EAS):

A national public warning system that requires radio and TV broadcasters, cable TV, wireless cable systems, and satellite and wireline operators to provide the president with the capability to address the American people within 10 minutes during a national emergency. State, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) emergency managers also have access in order to distribute local alerts where authorized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to become an Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS) alerting authority.

Emergency Communications Center (ECC):

Also referred to as 911 centers or public safety answer points (PSAPs), ECCs receive calls for service from the community and dispatch police, fire, and rescue resources in response.

Emergency declaration:

More limited in scope than a major disaster declaration, an emergency declaration involves fewer federal programs and is not normally associated with recovery programs. However, the president may issue an emergency declaration before an actual incident to lessen the threat of or avert a catastrophe.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC):

The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support domestic incident management activities normally takes place.

Emergency Support Function (ESF):

The 15 ESFs provide the structure for coordinating interagency support for a federal response to an incident.

F10.7:

A routine space weather index based on solar radio emissions.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA):

In addition to managing airspace and commercial spaceflight, the [FAA](#) supports research on identifying radiation hazards in the aviation environment and studies methods for protection from these hazards.

Federal Coordination Officer (FCO):

The FCO is responsible for coordinating the timely delivery of federal disaster assistance resources and programs to affected states, local and tribal governments, individual victims, and the private sector.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):

The Department of Homeland Security agency responsible for helping people before and after disasters.

Federal Interagency Operational Plans (FIOPs):

FIOPs describe how the federal government aligns resources and delivers core capabilities to implement the five National Planning Frameworks.

Federal Operating Concept for Impending Space Weather Events:

This federal operating concept (FOC) provides guidance to departments and agencies, to be used in the development of their operational plans to prepare for, protect against, and mitigate the effects of impending space weather events.

Geomagnetically induced current (GIC):

A large-scale, DC current system resulting from changes in Earth's geomagnetic field associated with space weather events, such as geomagnetic substorms and storms (see next two entries).

Geomagnetic storm:

A period of enhanced geomagnetic activity within Earth's magnetosphere creating global effects.

Geomagnetic substorm:

A phenomenon in Earth's magnetosphere associated with enhanced ionospheric disturbances, auroral activity, and bursts of intense radiation, currents, and energy flows in near-Earth space.

Geostationary (or Geosynchronous) Earth orbit (GEO):

An orbital regime where satellites have an orbit period of approximately one sidereal Earth day (23.934472 hours). In Earth's equatorial plane, GEO is located at approximately 6.6 Earth radii (42,100 km) geocentric distance.

Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites (GOES):

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) operational satellites located in GEO on either side of North American local time. Each satellite carries a suite of weather and space weather payloads.

Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS):

Satellite systems used for precision timing and position services. Several countries operate a number of GNSS constellations in near-Earth space.

Global Positioning System (GPS):

The U.S. Global Navigation Satellite System constellation, consisting of 26 satellites in near-Earth space providing precision timing and position services.

Ground-level event/ground-level enhancement (GLE):

A special subset of a solar energetic particle (SEP) event in which radiation levels are enhanced as measured by terrestrial, ground-based neutron monitors.

G-scale:

The official National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) space weather scale index used to categorize the intensity and severity of geomagnetic storms and quantified based on the (K-planetary) Kp index. G-scale classification levels are as follows: G1, minor; G2, moderate; G3, strong; G4, severe; G5, extreme.

High-frequency (HF) radio:

Range of the electromagnetic spectrum spanning radio frequencies from 3 to 30 MHz. HF radio is used for a variety of communication applications, including military and government communication systems, aviation air-to-ground communications, and amateur radio.

Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP):

A set of guiding principles for exercise and evaluation programs as well as a common approach to emergency response exercise program management, design and development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning.

Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS):

FEMA's national system for local alerting that provides authenticated emergency and life-saving information to the public through mobile phones using [Wireless Emergency Alerts](#) (WEAs), via radio and television using the [Emergency Alert System](#) (EAS), and via the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Weather Radio](#).

Ionizing radiation:

See "radiation" below. Ionizing radiation results in a total ionizing dose that adversely degrades materials in the human body and technological systems. Total ionizing dose is measured in "grays" (Gy) or "rads," while for human tissue impacts, effective dose is measured in units of "sieverts" (Sv) and "rems."

Ionosphere:

The region of Earth's upper atmosphere that is charged by solar and magnetospheric energy inputs, resulting in distinct layers of plasma that interact with Earth's magnetic field and neutral atmosphere.

Joint Field Office (JFO):

Joint Field Office is a temporary federal multi-agency coordination center established locally to facilitate field-level domestic incident management activities.

Joint Information Center (JIC):

A physical location where public affairs professionals from organizations involved in incident management activities work together to provide critical emergency information, crisis communications, and public affairs support. It is established as a component of the Joint Field Office (JFO).

K-planetary (Kp) index:

A geomagnetic index compiled from ground-based magnetometers and used to quantify the level of general geomagnetic activity in Earth's magnetosphere. The Kp index is on a logarithmic scale and reported every 3 hours.

L1, 1st Sun-Earth Lagrange Point:

L1 is located approximately 1 million miles sunward from Earth along the Sun-Earth line. Satellites are used at L1 for solar and solar wind monitoring.

L4, 4th Sun-Earth Lagrange Point:

L4 is located approximately 60 degrees off of the Sun-Earth line, ahead of Earth in its orbit around the Sun.

L5, 5th Sun-Earth Lagrange Point:

L5 is located approximately 60 degrees off of the Sun-Earth line, behind Earth in its orbit around the Sun.

Land Mobile Radio (LMR):

A land mobile radio system (LMRS) is a person-to-person voice communication system consisting of two-way radio transceivers (an audio transmitter and receiver in one unit) that can be stationary (base station units), mobile (installed in vehicles), or portable (handheld transceivers [e.g., “walkie-talkies”]).

Low Earth orbit (LEO):

An orbital region in near-Earth space ranging from ~200 km to ~2000 km altitude and used increasingly for satellite operations.

M2M (Moon to Mars):

A NASA programmatic architecture detailing human spaceflight and the plan to return astronauts to the Moon and extend human exploration onward to Mars in the future.

Magnetosphere:

The region of near-Earth space dominated by Earth’s magnetic field.

Major disaster declaration:

A type of declaration that provides more federal programs for response and recovery than an emergency declaration.

Master Scenario Events List (MSEL):

A master document scripting and detailing the events to be covered in the scenario that forms the basis of a tabletop exercise.

M-class (solar flare):

A strong-intermediate classification level for solar flares.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA):

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration is an independent agency of the U.S. federal government responsible for the civil space program, aeronautics research, and space research.

National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI):

The federal agency responsible for preserving, monitoring, assessing, and providing public access to the nation’s geophysical data and information.

National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF):

The framework that enables the provision of effective recovery support to disaster-impacted states and tribal, territorial, and local jurisdictions. It provides a flexible structure that enables disaster recovery managers to operate in a unified and collaborative manner.

National Incident Management System (NIMS):

Guides all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations and the private sector to work together to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from incidents. More information is provided on [FEMA's NIMS webpage](#). Tools are provided on FEMA's [NIMS Components - Guidance and Tools webpage](#).

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA):

NOAA space weather is at the Space Weather Prediction Center (SWOC; see below).

National Response Coordination Center (NRCC):

A multiagency coordination center located at FEMA headquarters. NRCC's staff coordinates the overall federal support for major disasters and emergencies, including catastrophic incidents, and emergency management program implementation.

National Response Framework (NRF):

A guide to how the nation responds to all types of disasters and emergencies.

National Science and Technology Council (NSTC):

A cabinet-level council of advisers to the president on science and technology.

National Science Foundation (NSF):

An independent federal agency that supports science and engineering in all 50 states and U.S. territories.

National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP):

A program that encompasses policies, plans, procedures, and readiness measures that enhance the ability of the U.S. government to mobilize for, respond to, and recover from a national security emergency.

National Watch Center (NWC):

Part of FEMA's Response Directorate. The NWC issues the Daily Operations Briefing.

National Weather Service (NWS):

The [National Weather Service](#) provides weather, hydrologic, and climate forecasts and warnings for the United States, its territories, and adjacent waters and ocean areas, for the protection of life and property and the enhancement of the national economy. Under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), NWS provides active alerts, forecast maps, and data and analysis products.

Nongovernmental Organization (NGO):

An organization (typically a nonprofit organization) formed independent of the government and active in several different sectors.

North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD):

The [North American Aerospace Defense Command](#) is a United States and Canada binational organization charged with the missions of aerospace warning, aerospace control, and maritime warning for North America.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM):

Alternatively called an emergency management office (EMO), or an emergency management agency (EMA) in some areas, this is an agency at the local, tribal, state, federal, or international level that holds responsibility for comprehensively planning for, responding to, and helping with recovery from all manner of disasters, whether human-caused or natural.

Polar cap absorption (PCA):

PCA causes enhanced ionization of the lower layer (D-region) of the *ionosphere* (see entry above) over Earth's polar caps (i.e., high geomagnetic/geographic latitudes).

Positioning, navigation, and timing (PNT):

A broad term used to refer to services and end-user data products provided by global navigation satellite systems (GNSS), such as *GPS* (see entry above). GNSS provides end users with precise position and timing solutions for geolocation, navigation, and time-synchronization and precision scheduling tasks.

Presidential Policy Directive (PPD):

[PPDs](#) are a specific form of executive order that state the executive branch's national security policy. They describe the requirements for the executive branch and carry the force and effect of law.

Principal Federal Official (PFO):

The PFO is designated by the secretary of Homeland Security to act as their representative locally to oversee, coordinate, and execute the secretary's incident management responsibilities under HSPD-5 for incidents requiring a coordinated federal response.

Public Information Officer (PIO):

PIO functions include advising leadership on public information matters; gathering, verifying, coordinating, and disseminating accurate, accessible, and timely information; handling inquiries from the media, the public, and elected officials; providing emergency public information and warnings; and conducting rumor monitoring and responding to rumors that arise.

Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP):

Sometimes called a public safety access point, a PSAP is a type of call center where the public's telephone calls to first responders (such as the police, fire department, or emergency medical services/ambulance) are received and handled.

Radiation:

Energy in the form of photons (electromagnetic energy, zero mass) and massive particles (e.g., electrons, protons, alphas, neutrons, etc.) with relatively high levels of kinetic energy, particularly those capable of ionizing materials through which they pass. The term radiation is used generally for both forms of electromagnetic and particle energy.

Radiation belts:

Earth's radiation belts usually exist in two distinct regions of enhanced radiation levels—the inner and outer radiation belts, which collectively extend from very near Earth (~1200-km altitude near the equator but a few 100 km of altitude near the poles) to beyond geostationary (or geosynchronous) Earth orbit. These belts are often referred to as the “Van Allen radiation belts.”

Radio blackout:

The complete disruption of and inability to use high-frequency radio communications because of ionospheric absorption. Radio blackouts can be localized (associated with solar energetic particles or geomagnetic activity, limited to the polar cap; see “PCA” above) or global (over up to the entire sunlit side of Earth during intense solar flares).

Recovery Support Function (RSF):

Six RSFs act as the coordinating structure for key areas of recovery assistance to support local governments by facilitating problem-solving, improving access to resources, and fostering coordination among state, tribal, territorial, and federal agencies, nongovernmental partners, and stakeholders.

Response:

Actions to save lives, protect property and the environment, stabilize the incident, meet basic human needs, restore community lifeline services and other basic community functionality, and establish a safe and secure environment to facilitate the integration of recovery activities *after* an incident.

R-scale:

An index used to categorize the intensity and severity of solar radio blackouts, such as those associated with *solar eruptive events* (see entry below).

Satellite communications (SatCom):

Communications systems involving satellites as points of contact or relays. SatCom can involve ground-to-space, space-to-ground, and/or space-to-space communications.

Solar cycle:

A solar cycle is usually described as an 11-year full cycle in which the Sun becomes more active. Activity peaks during a 1- to 2-year period referred to as “solar maximum” and wanes during a 1- to 2-year period referred to as “solar minimum”.

Solar energetic particles (SEPs):

High-energy, charged particles originating in the solar corona and solar wind. Formerly known as solar cosmic rays, SEPs are hazardous to humans and human technology.

Solar eruptive event/solar eruption:

A general term used to describe sudden, explosive solar phenomena such as *solar flares* (see entry below) and *coronal mass ejections* (CMEs; see above).

Solar flare:

A solar eruptive event generally (but not always) associated with coronal mass ejections (CMEs; see above). Solar flares can last from minutes to hours, and the increased radiative output affects the entire sunlit side of Earth.

Solar particle event (SPE):

A classification of a solar energetic particle event in which the intensity of >10-MeV protons exceeds 10 particles/cm²-s-sr, as measured by the NOAA GOES (Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites) observatories.

Solar radio burst (SRB):

An intense burst of radio noise from the Sun that can disrupt radio communications.

Solar wind:

The constant stream of solar particles (mostly protons and electrons) and magnetic field that floods interplanetary space and is the driver of most space weather.

Space weather (SWx):

The physical state of space environments and the solar and nonsolar phenomena that disturb them.

Space Weather Operations, Research, and Mitigation (SWORM):

The U.S. federal coordinating body under the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) charged with coordinating federal government department and agency activities to meet the goals and objectives specified in the National Space Weather Strategy and Action Plan. Additional details are provided on the [SWORM website](#).

Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC):

NOAA's national space weather center, responsible for the official reporting of space weather events for the federal government.

S-scale:

An index used to categorize the intensity and severity of solar radiation storms, such as those associated with solar energetic particles (SEPs; see above), including solar particle events (SPEs; see above). S-scale classification levels are as follows: S1, minor; S2, moderate; S3, strong; S4, severe; S5, extreme.

Stafford Act:

The act that authorizes the president to provide financial and other assistance to SLTT (state, local, tribal, and territorial) governments to support response, recovery, and mitigation. Additional information is available on [FEMA's Stafford Act webpage](#).

State, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT):

SLTT governments play a critical role in energy security planning and emergency response and are vital to protecting critical infrastructure and ensuring the resilience of the communities they serve.

Subject-matter expert (SME):

A person who has accumulated great knowledge in a particular field or topic.

Sun-synchronous orbit (SSO; SunSynch):

An orbit that goes from equator to poles and is designed so that it passes over Earth at a particular solar time.

Symmetric H-index (Sym-H):

Sym-H is a geomagnetic index compiled from low-latitude, ground-based magnetometers and used to qualify geomagnetic storm events and classify their intensity.

Thermosphere:

The thermosphere extends from 85 km up to approximately 1000-km altitude, fully encompassing low Earth orbit (LEO; see above) and coexisting with much of Earth's *ionosphere* (see entry above).

Universal Time (UT/UTC):

Greenwich Mean Time.

U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM):

[U.S. Northern Command](#) is responsible for Department of Defense homeland defense efforts and coordinating defense support of civil authorities. NORTHCOM is integrated and aligned with North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), with a common goal of defending North America.

U.S. Space Command (USSC):

Working with allies and partners, USSC plans, executes, and integrates military space power into multi-domain global operations in order to deter aggression, defend national interests, and, when necessary, defeat threats. More information is available at <https://www.spacecom.mil/>.

U.S. Space Force (USSF):

USSF is the sixth independent U.S. military service branch and is tasked with missions and operations in the rapidly evolving space domain. The Space Force falls under the U.S. Air Force in the same way that the Marines fall under the Navy.

Warning (as defined by NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC)):

A Warning is issued when a significant space weather event is occurring, imminent or likely. A Warning is a short-term, high confidence prediction of imminent activity. The purpose of a Warning is notification of impending space weather activity with a lead-time of minutes to a few hours. A Warning can be upgraded to a higher Warning if space weather conditions are expected to change sufficiently enough to warrant the upgrade.

Watch (as defined by NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC)):

Watch is issued when the risk of a potentially hazardous space weather event has increased significantly, but its occurrence or timing is still uncertain. It is intended to provide enough advanced notice so those who need to set their plans in motion can do so. The purpose of a Watch is to give preliminary notification of possible space weather activity with a lead-time of hours to days. A Watch can be upgraded to a higher-level Watch.

Western Area Power Administration (WAPA):

WAPA is one of four Department of Energy power marketing administrations and encompasses a 15-state region of the central and western United States.

White House Executive Office of the President (WHEOP):

Referred to as the Executive Office of the President, the WHEOP includes the management of official communications from the White House/president. More information is available [here](#) and [here](#).

Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA):

WEA, managed by FEMA IPAWS (the Federal Emergency Management Agency Integrated Public Alert & Warning System), is a public safety system that allows customers who own compatible mobile devices to receive geographically targeted, text-like messages alerting them of imminent threats to safety in their area. WEAs can be issued by IPAWS-approved

SLTT (state, local, tribal, and territorial) alerting authorities and NOAA. National alerts can be issued by the president of the United States or the administrator of FEMA.

X-class (solar flare):

The strongest classification level for solar flares; X-class flares have peak soft X-ray intensities at 10^{-4} W/m² and higher.

Acronym List

| | |
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| ACE | Advanced Composition Explorer |
| AU | Astronomical Unit (1 AU is the distance from the center of the Earth to the center of the Sun) |
| CCMC | Community Coordinated Modeling Center |
| CISA | Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency |
| CME | Coronal Mass Ejection |
| COCOMs | Combatant Commands |
| CONUS | Contiguous United States |
| COP | Common Operating Picture |
| DCO | Defense Coordinating Officer |
| DHSEM | Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management |
| DoD | Department of Defense |
| DOI | Department of the Interior |
| DSCA | Defense Support of Civil Authorities |
| Dst | Disturbance Storm-Time Index to Classify Geomagnetic Storms |
| EAS | Emergency Alert System |
| ECC | Emergency Communications Center |
| EMA | Emergency Management Agency |
| EMO | Emergency Management Office |
| EOC | Emergency Operations Center |
| ESF | Emergency Support Function |
| eV | Electronvolts |
| FAA | Federal Aviation Administration |
| FCO | Federal Coordination Officer |
| FEMA | Federal Emergency Management Agency |
| FIOPs | Federal Interagency Operational Plans |
| FOC | Federal Operating Concept |
| GEO | Geosynchronous (or Geostationary) Earth Orbit |
| GIC | Geomagnetically Induced Current |
| GLE | Ground-Level Event (solar radiation) |
| GNSS | Global Navigation Satellite System |

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|----------|---|
| GOES | Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites (NOAA weather satellites in GEO) |
| GPS | Global Positioning System |
| HF | High Frequency |
| HSEEP | Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program |
| IPAWS | Integrated Public Alert & Warning System |
| JFO | Joint Field Office |
| JIC | Joint Information Center |
| Kp | Planetary K-index, quantifying general magnetospheric activity level |
| L1 | 1st Sun-Earth Lagrange Point in the Sun-Earth System |
| L4 | 4th Sun-Earth Lagrange Point in the Sun-Earth System |
| L5 | 5th Sun-Earth Lagrange Point in the Sun-Earth System |
| LEO | Low Earth orbit |
| LMR | Land Mobile Radio |
| M2M | Moon to Mars |
| MERS | Mobile Emergency Response Support |
| MSEL | Master Scenario Events List |
| NASA | National Aeronautics and Space Administration |
| NCEI | National Centers for Environmental Information |
| NDRF | National Disaster Recovery Framework |
| NGO | Nongovernmental Organization |
| NIMS | National Incident Management System |
| NOAA | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration |
| NORAD | North American Aerospace Defense Command |
| NORTHCOM | U.S. Northern Command |
| NRCC | National Response Coordination Center |
| NRF | National Response Framework |
| NSEP | National Security/Emergency Preparedness |
| NSF | National Science Foundation |
| NSTC | National Science and Technology Council |
| NWC | National Watch Center |
| NWS | National Weather Service |

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|--------------|--|
| OEM | Office of Emergency Management |
| PCA | Polar Cap Absorption |
| PFO | Principal Federal Official |
| PIO | Public Information Officer |
| PNT | Positioning, Navigation, and Timing |
| PPD | Presidential Policy Directive |
| PSAP | Public Safety Answering Point |
| RSF | Recovery Support Function |
| SatCom | Satellite Communications |
| SatNav | Satellite-Based Navigation |
| SEP | Solar Energetic Particle |
| SLTT | State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial |
| SME | Subject-Matter Expert |
| SPE | Solar Particle Event |
| SRB | Solar Radio Burst |
| SSO/SunSynch | Sun-Synchronous Orbit |
| SWORM | Space Weather Operations, Research, and Mitigation |
| SWPC | Space Weather Prediction Center |
| SWx | Space Weather |
| SymH | Symmetric H-Index, similar to Dst |
| TTX | Tabletop Exercise |
| USSC | U.S. Space Command |
| USSF | U.S. Space Force |
| UT/UTC | Universal Time (i.e., Greenwich Mean Time) |
| WAPA | Western Area Power Administration |
| WEA | Wireless Emergency Alert |
| WHEOP | White House Executive Office of the President |