

**Rear Admiral Jonathan W. Bailey, NOAA**  
**Director, NOAA Corps**  
**Director, NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations**

RADM Jonathan W. Bailey is the director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps and NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations. He was appointed by Secretary of Commerce Carlos M. Gutierrez on October 1, 2007, after nomination for the position by President George W. Bush, confirmation by the U.S. Senate, and subsequent promotion by the Secretary to the rank of rear admiral.



NOAA is a science agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce that conducts research and gathers data about the global oceans, atmosphere, space, and sun, and applies this knowledge to science and service that touch the lives of all Americans. NOAA provides these services through five major organizations: the National Weather Service; the National Ocean Service; the National Marine Fisheries Service; the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service; and the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research. NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations and the NOAA Corps provide ship and aircraft support and operational expertise to these organizations.

The NOAA Corps is one of the nation's seven uniformed services. Its officers hold college degrees—many of them advanced—in science, engineering, or mathematics. These officers command NOAA ships and aircraft and bring their operational and technical expertise to land assignments, where they can help program managers plan their research strategies aboard NOAA platforms.

NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations is composed of NOAA Corps officers, civilians, and contractors who operate, manage, and maintain the agency's fleet of research and survey ships and aircraft.

A commissioned officer for nearly 28 years, RADM Bailey has had a balanced operational career, with seven years of sea duty aboard five NOAA ships and almost nine years of flight duty piloting three NOAA aircraft.

From 2006 to 2007, RADM Bailey served as Executive Director to the Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere. In 2003, he became Director of the Commissioned Personnel Center, where he directed the management of a complex system of policies, including compensation and benefits. His efforts had positive impact across the Service. RADM Bailey played a critical role in developing innovative strategies to improve the NOAA Corps workforce. These strategies included the establishment of NOAA Corps core values, new officer evaluation and billet systems, deployment of technological improvements, and new training to educate officers and supervisors about NOAA Corps policies.

In 1999, he became the Chief of NOAA's National Ocean Service Remote Sensing Division. There he led technology advancement in the simultaneous collection and processing of digital aerial photography, airborne laser mapping data, and airborne imaging spectroscopy for NOAA's shoreline mapping program and the Federal Aviation Administration's Airport Survey Program. He also introduced innovative processes for rapid shoreline change detection to correct gross nautical chart anomalies in a very short period of time. At the time of the September 11 terrorist attacks, he oversaw NOAA's aerial- and ground-based mapping operations that aided search and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center and Pentagon. He received the Commerce Gold Medal group award for technical skill and coordination in 2002 for his role following the attacks.

RADM Bailey has a master's degree in aeronautical science and a bachelor's degree in natural resources. He is a graduate of Harvard's Senior Executive Fellows and The Art and Practice of Leadership Development programs.

RADM Bailey lives in Maryland with his wife Cindy and their three sons.