

Appendix B.

NOAA Line Offices

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is a multi-varied, environmental, scientific agency composed of five major organizations:

- National Weather Service (NWS)
- Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)
- National Ocean Service (NOS)
- National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
- National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS)

NOAA's mission is to describe and predict changes in Earth's environment and to conserve and wisely manage the Nation's coastal and marine resources.

NOAA and its predecessor agencies have been collecting, analyzing, and distributing environmental information to the Nation since the early 1800s, when the Survey of the Coast was formed by President Thomas Jefferson through the Organic Act of 1807. The creation of NOAA in 1970 was the result of a series of decisions made by various Presidents and Congress (over more than 150 years) that recognized the importance of the oceans and atmosphere to our Nation's welfare and economy.

Appendix B provides a sampling of environmental data management activities within NOAA's Line Offices.

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