

NOAA Workshop on Oceans and Human Health: Research, Programs and Related Activities

May 3-4, 2004
NOAA Silver Spring, SSMC2- Room 2358

This workshop will bring together scientists and program managers across NOAA who are directly or indirectly involved in understanding and predicting the role of the oceans on human health. Sponsored by a cross-NOAA ad hoc working group on Oceans and Human Health, created as part of NOAA's recently established Oceans and Human Health Initiative (OHH), the workshop goals are to: **1) understand current capacity in research, operations, and monitoring related to oceans and human health; and 2) identify gaps and future needs to sustain and build NOAA's efforts in the oceans and human health area.**

We expect this to be a 1.5 day workshop with a combination of NOAA presentations (10-15 mins each) and discussion focusing on research programs, infrastructure (i.e. observations, monitoring, and data management) and related activities. If you are interested in attending and making a presentation, please contact Dr. William L. Fornes, Research Associate, CORE, at 202-448-1222 or wfornes@coreocean.org no later than **April 23, 2004**. This notice and additional information will be posted on the OHH website at: www.ogp.noaa.gov. You may also contact Juli Trtanj, the OHH Program Manager, at 301-427-2089, ext. 134 if you have any other questions.

Background

Part of the OHH goal is to build on, enhance and stimulate synergy among NOAA activities related to OHH. From increased harmful algal blooms to beach closures, from infectious disease to marine toxins and pathogens, from seafood safety to marine mammals, and from drug discovery to pharmaceuticals, the OHH is designed, in part, to fill gaps in and enhance existing OHH-related work throughout NOAA.

The OHH will use the results of the workshop discussions to identify opportunities for synergy, and determine intramural and extramural funding needs. Input from this workshop will also be used to develop the Request for Proposals for OHH's new NOAA small awards program. This internal NOAA competition is designed to build on and enhance existing oceans and human health work throughout NOAA. Participants may also find this a useful exercise for the PBA, and PPBES exercises.