



FY 2009 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS



National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) *Protecting Lives and Livelihoods – Critical to Our Nation’s Security & Economy*

- U.S. Ocean Economy valued at \$115 billion per year
- 1/3 of the Economy (\$3 Trillion) is weather sensitive
- Coastal and Marine Waters provide over 28 million jobs
- Fisheries provide at least \$60 billion to U.S. GDP
- Climate events can cause over \$25 billion per event
- Weather related air traffic delays cost \$4 billion per year

In the Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 President’s Budget, the Department of Commerce’s National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration requests a total of **\$4,109,847**, an increase of **\$202,561,000** or **5.2%** over the FY 2008 enacted level, and **\$294,443,000** or **7.7%** above the FY 2008 President’s Budget.

FY 2009 Budget Request Priorities:

Sustaining Critical Operations

NOAA’s core values are people, integrity, excellence, and teamwork. Our ability to serve the Nation is determined by the quality of our people and the tools they employ. NOAA’s budget includes funds for maintaining and investing in our workforce, while recognizing the need to restrain discretionary Federal spending. This year, we focus on satellite continuity and additional operations and maintenance support for our aircraft and NOAA vessels. An increase of **\$242.2 million** is requested to continue support of the Geostationary Operational Satellites (GOES) – R program. A funding request of **\$6.1 million** is requested to conduct a Major Repair Period on our most productive hydrographic survey vessel, the RAINIER. Finally, an increase of **\$4.0 million** will support additional flight hours and operations and maintenance for our aircraft.

Supporting the President’s Ocean Initiative

NOAA aims to strengthen our knowledge and management of ocean resources in support of the President’s Ocean Initiative and includes \$49.1 million in increased funding. Included in this total is **\$4.0 million** to implement the newly enacted Marine Debris Act. Other specific activities include **\$7 million** for the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) to support data management and ocean observations, **\$2 million** in increased funding for the PORTS[®] program, **\$5.1 million** to enhance the independent peer-reviewed process for scientific data required to appropriately set the annual catch limits, **\$8.5 million** to initiate new and expand existing sampling programs and management procedures in order to end overfishing by the Magnuson-Stevens mandated 2011, and **\$1.5 million** in support of deep sea coral research. NOAA will also support implementation of the new and expanded requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act with \$31.8 million in increases.

Improving Weather Warnings and Forecasts

This request will strengthen NOAA’s ability to sustain and enhance critical services. The request includes **\$4.0 million** in funding to accelerate research into improving



hurricane intensity forecasts. Another **\$3 million** in funding will support the operations and maintenance of 15 hurricane data buoys in the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and the Atlantic Ocean. With requests of **\$6.6 million** to upgrade the Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) and **\$4.8 million** to upgrade and refresh NOAA’s Wind Profiler network, NOAA will work to maintain its critical weather infrastructure.

Climate Monitoring and Research

NOAA is committed to expanding climate services for all user communities and enhancing climate research. Specific activities focus on supporting the critical National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) with increases of **\$2 million** to develop and bring into operation the next-generation Climate Forecast System. **\$74 million** will be used to develop key satellite climate sensors to preserve decades long climate records.

Critical Facilities Investment

NOAA continues to invest in our critical facilities management and modernization efforts, to provide safe and efficient work environment for our employees. The request includes an increase of **\$40.3 million** will support the continued construction of the new Pacific Region Center on Ford Island in Honolulu, HI. An increase of **\$12.1 million** will complete the design and initial preparations for a replacement facility for the Southwest Fisheries Science Center. Finally, **\$11.7 million** is requested to support the installation of a semi-permanent replacement structure for the at-risk Operations Complex at the NESDIS Command and Data Acquisition Station in Fairbanks, AK.

NOAA FY 2009 Budget (\$ in Millions)				
	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Request	FY09 Request vs. FY08 Enacted
NOAA	\$3,895.1	\$3,907.3	\$4,109.8	\$202.6

For more information, contact the NOAA Budget Office:
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