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| NOAA Header | |
| **NOAA In Your State**  **Connecticut** | |
| *“NOAA's work touches the daily lives of every person in the United States and in much of the world. Our products and services are the result of the hard work of NOAA’s dedicated staff and partner organizations located in program and research offices throughout the country. The following is a summary of NOAA programs based in, and focused on, your state. The entries are listed by region, statewide, and then by congressional districts and cities or towns.”*   * Dr. Jane Lubchenco   Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere  and NOAA Administrator | |  | | --- | | where is connecticut | |
| Due to congressional redistricting after the 2010 Census, we have tried to ensure that all changes in districts and locations have been accurately reflected. Corrections to the district and location for any entry may be sent to [NIYSupdate@noaa.gov](mailto:NIYSupdate@noaa.gov). | |
| ***CT*** ***Coastal*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Office of Habitat Conservation** **Deep-Sea Coral Research and Technology Program** Deep-sea coral habitats are complex structures that provide habitat for many diverse fish and invertebrate communities including commercially important species such as grouper, snapper, sea bass, rockfish, and crab. The Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program is the nation’s resource for information on deep-sea coral and sponge ecosystems. The Program—called for in the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act—worked with other NOAA offices and external partners in summer 2012 to conduct a mapping blitz, focused on deep-water canyons off the Connecticut seaboard. In total, five expeditions gathered baseline information to support a three-year field research effort off the Northeastern U.S. from 2013-2015. This field research provides targeted analyses of:   * Existing information about deep-sea coral ecosystems. * The distribution and intensity of fishing activities that may damage deep-sea corals in federal waters. * Coral and sponge bycatch in fisheries.   Findings will not only improve knowledge about deep-sea life off the northeastern seaboard, but will also inform the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils in their efforts to manage commercial and recreational fisheries that depend on these and other important habitats.  <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/protection/corals/deepseacorals.html>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Integrated Ocean Observing System Program** **Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing System** **(MARACOOS)** U.S. IOOS® is envisioned to be an operational system and a network of regional partners responsible for regional observations, data management, modeling and analysis, education and outreach, and research and development. The overarching purpose of U.S. IOOS is to address regional and national needs for ocean data and information. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing System (MARACOOS) is one of these Regional Associations and it extends from Cape Hatteras to Cape Cod including the estuaries and the continental shelf waters. MARACOOS provides the necessary ocean observing, data management, and forecasting capacity to systematically address prioritized regional themes including *maritime safety, ecosystem based management, water quality, coastal inundation, and offshore energy development.* <http://www.maracoos.org/>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Integrated Ocean Observing System Program** **Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems** U.S. IOOS® is envisioned to be an operational system and a network of regional partners responsible for regional observations, data management, modeling and analysis, education and outreach, and research and development. The overarching purpose of U.S. IOOS is to address regional and national needs for ocean data and information. The Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS) is one of these Regional Associations. NERACOOS was established to network and expand the existing observing and prediction capacities of a multitude of institutions and agencies throughout New England and Maritime Canada. NERACOOS supports infrastructure that provides over-water meteorological and wave observations in Long Island Sound and the Gulf of Maine to the National Weather Service that are critical to safe navigation. These platforms also support current and dissolved oxygen sensors that provide critical information for management of hypoxia and harmful algal bloom. Fisheries managers, water quality specialists, the Coast Guard, and many others benefit from accurate and timely ocean observing infrastructure and related decision support tools. The region includes the coastal waters of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. There is overlap with the Mid-Atlantic Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association (MARACOOS), which also includes the coastal waters of Connecticut and Rhode Island. In addition, partners from the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are involved. <http://www.neracoos.org/>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of Habitat Conservation and Office of Response and Restoration** **Damage Assessment, Remediation and Restoration Program** NOAA’s Damage Assessment, Remediation, and Restoration Program acts as a trustee for natural resource. This Program collaborates on an ongoing basis with federal, state, and tribal entities, including in Connecticut. The Program also works with cleanup agencies (such as the Environmental Protection Agency), local organizations, the public, and those responsible for the incident to protect coastal and marine natural resources; respond to discharges of oil and hazardous substances; assess risks and injuries to natural resources; and restore injured natural resources and related socioeconomic benefits. <http://www.darrp.noaa.gov/> and <http://www.darrp.noaa.gov/factsheet/pdf/Connecticut/DARRP_State_Factsheets_Connecticut.pdf> <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/restoration/regional/northeast.html>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Coastal Services Center** **Northeast Regional Ocean Council** To maintain high-quality constituent service, the NOAA Coastal Services Center provides regional staff members to work closely with the Northeast Regional Ocean Council and the coastal states represented on this board. These staff members also coordinate the deployment of NOAA products and services in this region. <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/oceangovernance/>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management** **Connecticut Coastal Management Program** Through a unique Federal-state partnership, NOAA’s Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) works with the Connecticut Office of Long Island Sound Programs to implement the National Coastal Management Program in Connecticut. OCRM provides the coastal management program with financial and technical assistance to further the goals of the Coastal Zone Management Act to protect, restore, and responsibly develop our nation’s coastal communities and resources by balancing the often competing demands of coastal resource use, economic development and conservation.<http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/mystate/ct.html>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management** **Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program** The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) brings together conservation partners to protect coastal and estuarine lands considered important for their ecological, conservation, recreational, historical or aesthetic values. The program provides state and local governments with matching funds to purchase significant coastal and estuarine lands, or conservation easements on these important lands that are threatened by development. Lands or conservation easements acquired with CELCP funds are protected in perpetuity so that they may be enjoyed by future generations. To date, the program has protected more than 90,000 acres of land nationally and six projects have been completed in Connecticut. CELCP was established in 2002 as a companion the *Coastal Zone Management Act* (CZMA) and reauthorized in 2009. <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science** **Phytoplankton Monitoring Network** The Phytoplankton Monitoring Network was established as an outreach program for monitoring marine phytoplankton and harmful algal blooms (HABs). By linking the public to laboratory scientists, the network helps to build increased public awareness while simultaneously provided useful data to scientists. Further, identification of harmful algal species by regularly monitoring coastal sites across the U.S. aids in NOAA’s developmental HAB forecasts in both early detection as well as “ground truthing” and refinement of satellite data used to predict future bloom movement towards vulnerable industries or communities,  [http://www.chbr.noaa.gov/pmn](http://www.chbr.noaa.gov/pmn/about.aspx)   **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of Coast Survey** **Navigation Manager** NOAA’s navigation managers work directly with pilots, port authorities, and recreational boating organizations in Connecticut. They help identify the navigational challenges facing marine transportation in Connecticut and provide NOAA's resources and services that promote safe and efficient navigation. Navigation managers are on call to provide expertise and NOAA navigation response coordination in case of severe coastal weather events or other marine emergencies. The Office of Coast Survey has a navigation manager in Narragansett, RI to support mariners and stakeholders in the Northeast region. [http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/service/navmanagers](http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/reps.htm)  ***Statewide*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Office of Habitat Conservation Program** **Restoration Center** NMFS Restoration Center works with private and public partners in Connecticut to restore tidal wetlands, remove barriers to fish migration, modify culverts, construct fishways to restore fish runs, control invasive plants, and restore submerged aquatic vegetation and native shellfish populations. More than 40 projects have been completed in the state since 1999; opening nearly 100 stream miles and restoring 900 acres of habitat around Connecticut. <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/restoration/index.html>      **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Region** **Northeast Regional Office** **New England Bay-Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program** The NOAA Bay-Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program is an environmental education program that promotes locally relevant, experiential learning in the K-12 environment. The primary delivery of B-WET is through competitive funding that promotes Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs). B-WET currently serves seven areas of the country: California, Chesapeake Bay, Great Lakes, Gulf of Mexico, Hawai'i, New England, and the Pacific Northwest. The New England B-WET Program recognizes that knowledge and commitment built from firsthand experience, especially in the context of one's community and culture, is essential for achieving environmental stewardship. New England B-WET responds to regional education and environmental priorities through local implementation of competitive grant funds. Please see regional funding opportunity for priorities and eligibility details. <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/BWET/>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Region** **Northeast Regional Office and Fisheries Science Center** NMFS is responsible for the management, conservation and protection of living marine resources within the United States' Exclusive Economic Zone (water three to 200 mile offshore). Using the tools provided by the *Magnuson-Stevens Act*, NMFS assesses and predicts the status of fish stocks, develops and ensures compliance with fisheries regulations, restores and protects habitat and works to reduce wasteful fishing practices, and promotes sustainable fisheries. Under the *Marine Mammal Protection Act* and the *Endangered Species Act*, NMFS recovers protected marine species (e.g.. whales, turtles, fish). With the help of the six regional offices and eight fishery management councils, NMFS is able to work with communities on fishery management issues.  The Northeast Regional Office (located in Gloucester, MA) is comprised of four divisions: Sustainable Fisheries, Habitat Conservation, Protected Resources and Fisheries Statistics. Key species managed in the Northeast Region include the northeast “multispecies complex” (cod, haddock, yellowtail flounder etc.), Atlantic sea scallops, herring, lobster, and summer flounder. Key marine endangered species in this region are Atlantic salmon, northern right whales, and Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon. NMFS is the lead agency coordinating the Large Whale and Sea Turtle Disentanglement Program activities and the Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program activities. The core functions of these programs include coordinating volunteer networks to: respond to entanglements and strandings, investigate mortality events, and conduct biomonitoring, tissue/serum banking, and analytical quality assurance.  The Northeast Science Center (headquartered in Woods Hole, MA) focuses on collection, analysis, and presentation of scientific information about the Northeast Shelf ecosystem, its condition, and its marine life. In addition to its six laboratories, the Center uses four research vessels to support its work. They are the NOAA ship *Henry B. Bigelow*, and the small research vessels *Gloria Michelle*, *Victor Loosanoff,* and *Nauvoo*. The Northeast Regional Office and Science Center are responsible for the District of Columbia and the following states: Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina; and the inland states of Vermont, Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and West Virginia. <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/> and <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Automated Surface Observing Systems** **Connecticut Stations** The Automated Surface Observing Systems (ASOS) program is a joint effort of the National Weather Service (NWS), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Department of Defense (DOD). ASOS serves as the Nation's primary surface weather observing network. ASOS is designed to support weather forecast activities and aviation operations and, at the same time, support the needs of the meteorological, hydrological, and climatological research communities. ASOS works non-stop, updating observations every minute, 24 hours a day, every day of the year observing basic weather elements, such as cloud cover, precipitation, wind, sea level pressure, and conditions, such as rain, snow, freezing rain, thunderstorms, and fog. There are eight ASOS stations in Connecticut. <http://nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/asos_09/CT_asos.pdf> and <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/asos/>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Cooperative Observer Program** **Connecticut Sites** The National Weather Service (NWS) Cooperative Observer Program (COOP) is truly the Nation's weather and climate observing network of, by and for the people. More than 10,000 volunteers take observations on farms, in urban and suburban areas, National Parks, seashores, and mountaintops. The data are representative of where people live, work and play. The COOP was formally created in 1890 under the NWS Organic Act to provide observational meteorological data, usually consisting of daily maximum and minimum temperatures, snowfall, and 24-hour precipitation totals, required to define the climate of the United States and to help measure long-term climate changes, and to provide observational meteorological data in near real-time to support forecast, warning and other public service programs of the NWS.  The data are also used by other federal (including the Department of Homeland Security), state and local entities, as well as private companies (such as the energy and insurance industries). In some cases, the data are used to make billions of dollars worth of decisions. For example, the energy sector uses COOP data to calculate the Heating and Cooling Degree Days which are used to determine individuals’ energy bills monthly. There are 28~~44~~ COOP sites in Connecticut. <http://nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/coop_09/CT_coop.pdf> and <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/coop/>   **National Weather Service (NWS)** **NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards** **Connecticut Transmitters** NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service (NWS) forecast office. NWR broadcasts official NWS warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Working with the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Emergency Alert System, NWR is an "All Hazards" radio network, making it the single source for comprehensive weather and emergency information. In conjunction with federal, state, and local emergency managers and other public officials, NWR also broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards – including natural (such as earthquakes or avalanches), environmental (such as chemical releases or oil spills), and public safety (such as AMBER alerts or 911 Telephone outages). Known as the "Voice of NOAA's National Weather Service," NWR is provided as a public service by the NWS. NWR includes 1,100 transmitters covering all 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Pacific Territories. There are four NWR transmitters in Connecticut. <http://nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/nwr_09/CT_nwr.pdf> and <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/>  **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **National Sea Grant College Program** **Connecticut Sea Grant College Program** NOAA's National Sea Grant College Program is a federal-university partnership that integrates research, education and outreach (extension and communications). Sea Grant forms a network of 33 programs in all U.S. coastal and Great Lakes states, Puerto Rico and Guam. Connecticut Sea Grant supports the wise use and conservation of marine and coastal resources through research, technology transfer, and education in its statewide program. Current research targets estuaries and ecosystem health, with a particular emphasis on projects with relevance to the Long Island Sound and its watershed, including aquaculture, biotechnology, invasive species, water quality, and fisheries. Connecticut's Sea Grant Extension professionals collaborate with industry and conduct outreach activities in the target research areas. The program's Education Coordinator works with aquaria and other educational institutions throughout the state to develop K-12 marine science curricula. [http://www.seagrant.uconn.edu](http://www.seagrant.uconn.edu/)  ***CT-2, 4*** ***New London, Bridgeport*** **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services** **National Water Level Observation Network** The National Ocean Service (NOS) operates two long-term continuously operating tide stations in the state of Connecticut, which provide data and information on tidal datum and relative sea level trends, and are capable of producing real-time data for storm surge warning. These stations are located at New London and Bridgeport. [http://tidesnandcurrents.noaa.gov](http://www.co-ops.nos.noaa.gov/)  ***New London*** **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services** **New London PORTS®** A new Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS®) in New London, Connecticut, comprised of a water level station and current meter, is scheduled for completion by October 2012. NOAA has partnered with the Port Operations Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic to provide this important environmental information to the New England maritime community. <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/ports/index.shtml?port=nl>   ***CT-3*** ***Milford*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Fisheries Science Center** **Milford Laboratory** The Milford Laboratory was established in 1931. Present research emphasizes aquaculture, near shore fish and shellfish habitat, and diseases in fish and shellfish. The aquaculture program includes studies of the culture of fish and shellfish and development of methods suitable for commercial use or for stock enhancement and restoration. <http://mi.nefsc.noaa.gov/>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Region** **Habitat Conservation Division Milford Field Office** Housed at the Milford Laboratory, this office provides local support for NMFS habitat conservation efforts. It provides consultative services for Federal activities and Federally permitted activities that could affect living marine resources or the habitats upon which they depend. <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/>  ***New Haven*** **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services** **New Haven PORTS®** A Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS®) is operated cooperatively with the local maritime community in New Haven Harbor at which real-time data are quality-controlled and disseminated to local users for safe and efficient navigation. Real-time data are available for water level and meteorological data from one location. <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/ports/index.shtml?port=nh> | |
| **NOAA’s Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs**  [**http://www.legislative.noaa.gov**](http://www.legislative.noaa.gov) | |