|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| NOAA Header | |
| **NOAA In Your State**  **Georgia** | |
| *“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 georgia | |
| 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). | |
| ***GA***  ***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 to conduct research cruises off the Southeastern U.S. Using sonar technology and remotely operated and manned submersibles, new deep-sea coral reefs were discovered off the Southeastern seaboard. This field research also provided 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 Southeastern U.S., but will also inform the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council’s 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)** **U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) Program** **Regional Association** 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 Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association (SECOORA) is one of these Regional Associations.  SECOORA coordinates coastal and ocean observing activities, and facilitates continuous dialogue among stakeholders so that the benefits of a sustained coastal and ocean observing system can be realized. SECOORA’s vision is to protect people by providing comprehensive information and tools, conserve the marine environment by providing ocean current, wind, and ecosystem condition information, and enhance the coastal economy by providing information and models to facilitate more effective decision-making. <http://secoora.org/>   **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 Georgia. They help identify the navigational challenges facing marine transportation in Georgia 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 Charleston, South Carolina to support mariners and stakeholders in the Southeast region.   [http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/service/navmanagers](http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/reps.htm)  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management** **Georgia Coastal Management Program** Through a unique Federal-state partnership, NOAA’s Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) works with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Resources Division to implement the National Coastal Management Program in Georgia. 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/ga.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 two grants have been completed in Georgia. 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 is a research-based volunteer program educating the public on Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs). Volunteers serve as data collectors for marine and freshwater algae blooms at more than 250 coastal sites in the U.S. and Caribbean. Monitoring is conducted at least twice a month, year-round, measuring salinity, water temperature and collecting phytoplankton samples using a plankton net. Volunteers include middle and high schools, colleges and universities, aquariums, state and national parks, national estuarine research reserves, national marine sanctuaries, museums, non-profit organizations, master naturalists, and individuals. Data collected helps NOAA researchers predict when and where HABs occur. Accurate predictions and event monitoring can assist state and federal agencies to issue timely warnings about shellfish consumption and other public health worries. [http://www.chbr.noaa.gov/pmn](http://www.chbr.noaa.gov/pmn/about.aspx)   **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of Response and Restoration** **Marine Debris Program** NOAA is working with local fishing groups and diving clubs to assess, monitor, and reduce marine debris in the South Atlantic Bight, home to thriving benthic and fish communities. NOAA’s Gray’s Reef National Marine Sanctuary is the only natural area protected off the Georgia coast and the only federally protected ocean bottom habitat in the Bight. A long-term monitoring program will be established to quantify accumulation rates and impacts of marine debris at densely colonized ledge habitat and remove debris from each site. Marine sanctuary scientists will survey debris accumulation annually and expand outreach programs to educate users and the general public about the importance of reducing marine debris inputs. <http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/welcome.html>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **National Data Buoy Center** **Georgia Buoys** The National Weather Service (NWS), through its National Data Buoy Center (NDBC), develops, deploys, operates, and maintains the current national data buoy network of moored and drifting weather buoys and land stations that serve all of the Nation’s coastal states and territories. Within this network, 110 of the buoys and 51 of the land stations are maintained directly by NDBC. Located at NASA's Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, supports weather and marine warning and forecast services in real time by providing deep ocean and coastal meteorological and oceanographic observations. These data provide valuable information used by NWS supercomputers to produce computer-generated model forecasts of the atmosphere and climate. NDBC manages the Volunteer Observing Ship program to acquire additional meteorological and oceanographic observations supporting NWS mission requirements. NDBC also supports operational and research programs of NOAA and other national and international organizations. <http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/>  ***Statewide*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Office of Habitat Conservation** **Restoration Center** NMFS Restoration Center works with local partners in Georgia to restore oyster reefs and coastal shorelines. Since 2003, nine projects have been initiated and more than 300 volunteers have contributed their efforts to coastal habitat restoration through the Community-based Restoration Program. G.E.O.R.G.I.A—Generating Enhanced Oyster Reefs in Georgia’s Inshore Areas—is a multi-year project currently underway that has established the state’s first shell recycling sites and restored 18 oyster reefs. NMFS, in cooperation with federal, State of Georgia, State of South Carolina, regional, and local entities, is involved in several projects in Savannah Harbor associated with the Georgia Ports Authority’s Savannah Harbor Expansion Project. <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/restoration/regional/southeast.html>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Southeast Fisheries Science Center** **Protected Resources Division** The Southeast Fisheries Science Center, along with State partners, monitors the migration of the critically endangered Right Whales each year along the Georgia coast, an important calving/nursery area for this species. <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/mammals/cetaceans/rightwhale_northern.htm>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Southeast Region** **Southeast Fisheries Regional Office and Southeast Fisheries Science Center** NMFS studies, protects and conserves living marine resources in federal waters to promote healthy, functioning marine ecosystems, afford economic opportunities and enhance the quality of life for the American public. NMFS’ Southeast Regional Office (headquartered in Saint Petersburg, FL) and Southeast Fisheries Science Center (headquartered in Miami, FL) are responsible for living marine resources of the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and U.S. Caribbean.  Using the authorities provided by the *Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act*, *Endangered Species Act*, *Marine Mammal Protection Act* and other federal statutes, the Southeast Regional Office and Southeast Fisheries Science Center partner to assess and predict the status of fish stocks, marine mammals and other protected resources, develop and ensure compliance with fishery regulations, restore and protect habitat, and recover threatened and endangered species in waters off Georgia and throughout the Southeast Region.  The Southeast Regional Office conducts mandated essential fish habitat consultations associated with extensive energy and coastal  development activities, participates in state and regional habitat planning and restoration efforts, provides assistance during hazardous material incidents and hurricane events, and participates in the planning processes for major federal water development projects. <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/index.html> and [http://www.sefsc.noaa.gov](http://www.sefsc.noaa.gov/)  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Automated Surface Observing Systems** **Georgia 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 17 ASOS stations in Georgia. <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/asos_09/GA_asos.pdf>  and <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/asos/>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Cooperative Observer Program** **Georgia 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 153 COOP sites in Georgia. <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/coop_09/GA_coop.pdf> and <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/coop/>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards** **Georgia 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 29 NWR transmitters in Georgia. <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/nwr_09/GA_nwr.pdf> and <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/>  **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **National Sea Grant College Program** **Georgia Sea Grant 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.  The Georgia Sea Grant College Program is headquartered at the University of Georgia in Athens. An additional six universities and research institutes participate in the statewide program of research, education and extension services that works to promote the wise use of marine resources. Georgia Sea Grant sponsors research projects in the areas of coastal ecosystem health modeling, marine ecosystem dynamics, biotechnology, fisheries’ health and water quality. Georgia Sea Grant also provides technical training, particularly in the area of aquaculture, for underrepresented and minority students. The Program partners with the Marine Extension Service, located in Savannah, Brunswick and Atlanta, to support Georgia's seafood industry, marine business and aquaculture industries and to address conservation engineering, seafood safety and water quality issues. Additionally, Georgia Sea Grant provides educational opportunities for students, interns and the public to learn about the marine environment, its processes and resources. http://georgiaseagrant.uga.edu  ***GA-1*** ***Brunswick*** **National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Climate Reference Network** **Brunswick Station** The U.S. Climate Reference Network (USCRN) is an operational network of climate stations. Data from the USCRN will be used in operational climate monitoring activities and for placing current climate anomalies into an historical perspective. NOAA's National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) manages the USCRN. The USCRN will also provide the United States with a reference network that contributes to an International network under the auspices of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). NOAA’s National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service and NOAA’s Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research jointly manage USCRN. <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/crn/>  ***Fort Pulaski*** **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services** **National Water Level Observation Network** NOS operates one long-term continuously operating tide station in the state of Georgia which provides data and information on tidal datums and relative sea level trends, and is capable of producing real-time data for storm surge warning. This station is located at Fort Pulaski. [http://http://www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov](http://www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/)  ***Glynco*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Office of Law Enforcement** **National Training Office** The mission of NOAA Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement is to protect global marine resources by enforcing domestic laws and international treaties and obligations dedicated to protecting wildlife and their natural habitat. Effective fisheries law enforcement is critical to creating a level playing field for U.S. fishermen and enabling sustainable fisheries to support vibrant coastal communities. The National Training Office is located at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ole/about/training.html>  ***Sapelo Island*** **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management** **Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve** The 6,110 acre Sapelo Island Reserve was designated in 1976 and is managed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Sapelo Island is the fourth largest Georgia barrier island and one of the most pristine. The National Estuarine Research Reserve System is a Federal-state partnership consisting of a network of estuarine areas protected for long-term research and monitoring, stewardship and education. At the Reserve, education tours for school groups and special archaeological and natural history programs for the public are available. Marine and estuarine research is a tradition at Sapelo Island. Research projects include habitat restoration, oyster reef ecological studies, and invasive species monitoring. The Reserve also conducts long-term monitoring of environmental conditions. <http://nerrs.noaa.gov/ReservesMap.aspx>   ***Savannah*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Southeast Fisheries Science Center** **NOAA Cooperative Marine Education and Research Program** The Southeast Fisheries Science Center supports the Savannah State University/NOAA Cooperative Marine Education and Research Program.  The goal is to conduct research in line with the interests of NOAA Fisheries while preparing students for careers in research, management, and public policy that support the sustainable harvest and conservation of our nation's living marine resources. <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/cmer/>  ***Skidaway Island*** **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of National Marine Sanctuaries** **Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary** Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary, off the coast of Georgia, is one of the largest near-shore “live-bottom” reefs of the southeastern United States. It is just one of 14 marine protected areas that make up the National Marine Sanctuary Program and is governed by the *National Marine Sanctuaries Act*. The 22 square miles (about 14,000 acres) of Gray's Reef is just a small part of the U.S. territorial Atlantic Ocean, yet its value as a natural marine habitat is recognized nationally and internationally. Gray’s Reef is a popular area for sport fishermen, and more than 200 species of tropical and subtropical fish have been observed in the sanctuary.  Gray’s Reef is also a significant habitat for loggerhead turtles and North Atlantic right whales. [http://graysreef.noaa.gov](http://graysreef.noaa.gov/)  ***GA-2*** ***Newton*** **National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Climate Reference Network** **Newton Station** The U.S. Climate Reference Network (USCRN) is an operational network of climate stations. Data from the USCRN will be used in operational climate monitoring activities and for placing current climate anomalies into an historical perspective. NOAA's National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) manages the USCRN. The USCRN will also provide the United States with a reference network that contributes to an International network under the auspices of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). NOAA’s National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service and NOAA’s Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research jointly manage USCRN. <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/crn/>  ***GA-3***  ***Hampton*** **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Center Weather Service Unit** **Atlanta** Housed in the Federal Aviation Administration's Atlanta Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC), the Center Weather Service Unit (CWSU) Atlanta staff provides aviation forecasts and other weather information to ARTCC personnel for use in directing the safe, smooth flow of aviation traffic in central Georgia, western South Carolina, western North Carolina, central Alabama, and eastern Tennessee. <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ztl>  ***Peachtree City*** **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Weather Forecast Office** **Peachtree City WFO** Collocated with the NWS Southeast River Forecast Center in Peachtree City, this NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) is staffed around-the-clock every day, and provides the best possible weather, water, and climate forecasts and warnings to residents of Georgia. Highly trained forecasters issue warnings and forecasts for events, including severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, winter storms, floods, and heat waves. This essential information is provided to the general public, media, emergency management and law enforcement officials, the aviation and marine communities, agricultural interests, businesses, and others. Information is disseminated in many ways, including through dedicated government channels, satellite, the Internet, and NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards.  Forecasters provide on-site, detailed weather support during critical emergencies, such as wildfires, floods, chemical spills, and for major recovery efforts such as those following the Greensboro, Kansas, tornado; Hurricane Katrina; and the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack in New York City. The WFO collects and disseminates precipitation, river, and rainfall data, and prepares local climatological data. Each WFO has a Warning Coordination Meteorologist who actively conducts outreach and educational programs, which helps build strong working relationships with local partners in emergency management, government, the media and academic communities. The WFO operates Automated Surface Observing Stations (ASOS), as well as the local Doppler Weather Radar, which provides critical information about current weather conditions. The radar data enables forecasters to issue warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and flash floods. <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ffc/>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Weather Forecast Office** **Southeast River Forecast Center** Collocated with the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Peachtree City, the Southeast River Forecast Center (RFC) performs continuous river basin modeling and provides hydrologic forecast and guidance products for rivers and streams in for the southeastern U.S. covering most of Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and North Carolina. These products include forecasts of river stage and flow, probabilistic river forecasts, reservoir inflow forecasts, water supply forecasts, spring flood outlooks, and various types of flash flood guidance. RFCs work closely with local water management agencies, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and U.S. Geologic Survey, to provide water and flood information for critical decisions. <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/serfc/>  ***GA-10*** ***Watkinsville*** **National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Climate Reference Network** **Watkinsville Station** The U.S. Climate Reference Network (USCRN) is an operational network of climate stations. Data from the USCRN will be used in operational climate monitoring activities and for placing current climate anomalies into an historical perspective. NOAA's National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) manages the USCRN. The USCRN will also provide the United States with a reference network that contributes to an International network under the auspices of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). NOAA’s National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service and NOAA’s Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research jointly manage USCRN. <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/crn/> | |
| **NOAA’s Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs**  [**http://www.legislative.noaa.gov**](http://www.legislative.noaa.gov) | |