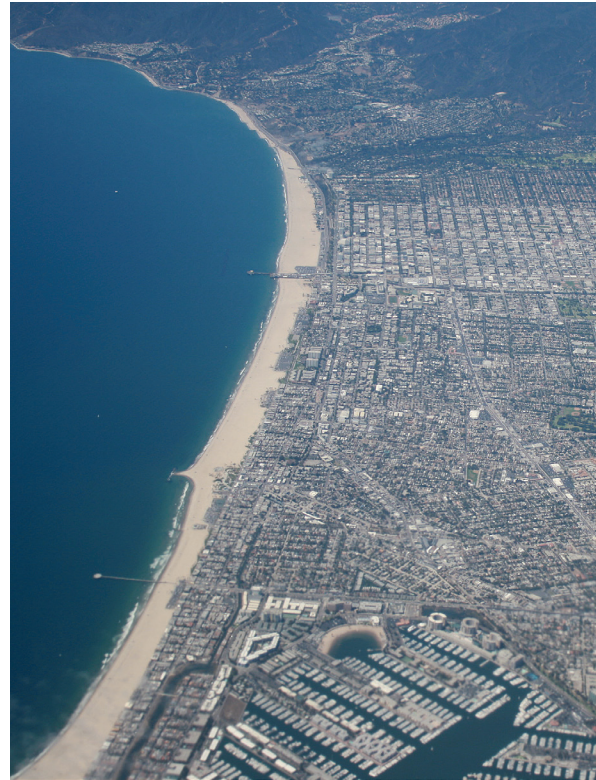


NOS Statutory Authorities

NOS administers and supports implementation of more than 20 statutory authorities. This diversity of authorities and programs provides NOS with a broad range of scientific, technical and management expertise, supporting holistic and interdisciplinary approaches to coastal issues and challenges. Following is a list of major statutory authorities for NOS:

Coastal Zone Management Act
Hydrographic Services Improvement Act
Coast and Geodetic Survey Act
National Marine Sanctuaries Act
Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act
Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act
Oil Pollution Act
Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act
Coral Reef Conservation Act
Marine Debris Act
National Coastal Monitoring Act



NOS Leadership

Russell Callender, Ph.D. Assistant Administrator
Christopher Cartwright Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator
Donna Rivelli Acting Chief Financial Officer

Navigation, Observations and Positioning

RDML Gerd Glang Director, Office of Coast Survey
Juliana Blackwell Director, National Geodetic Survey
Richard Edwing Director, Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services
Zdenka Willis Director, NOAA Integrated Ocean Observing System Program

Coastal Science and Assessment

Mary Erickson Director, National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science
David Westerholm Director, Office of Response and Restoration

Ocean and Coastal Management Services

Jeffrey Payne, Ph.D. Director, Office for Coastal Management
John Armor Acting Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

March 2016

An Introduction to

NOAA's NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE



Coastal Challenges and Opportunities

In the United States, almost 40 percent of the population lives in coastal shoreline counties. As populations and economic activities increase, so do accompanying impacts and risks: port congestion, navigation hazards, flooding and shoreline erosion, pollution, and other ill effects. These pressures are compounded by threats such as sea level rise, coastal storms and tsunamis.

NOAA's National Ocean Service is working across all levels of government and with our academic and private sector partners to position America's coastal communities to address these challenges now and in the future.



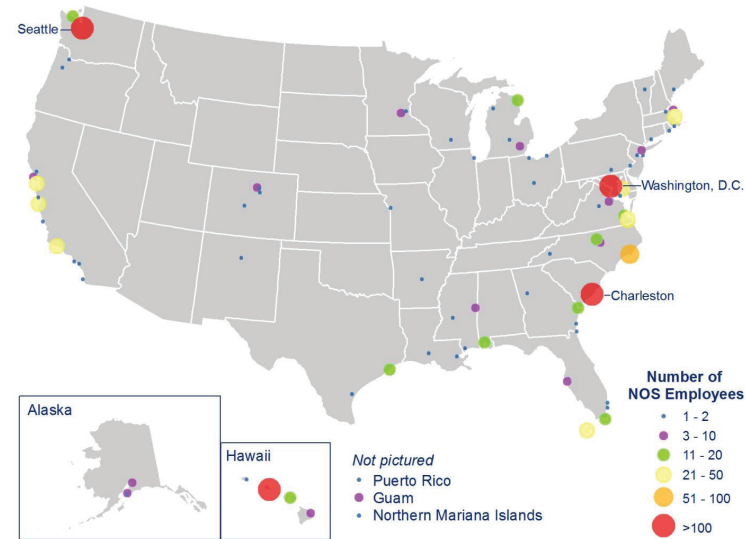
nos.info@noaa.gov
oceanservice.noaa.gov



Positioning America for the Future

Who We Are: A Focus on the Coast

The National Ocean Service (NOS) is the nation's most comprehensive ocean and coastal agency. Our mission is to provide science-based solutions through collaborative partnerships to address evolving economic, environmental and social pressures on our oceans and coasts. NOS is one of six offices within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which is housed within the Department of Commerce. Our offices are located throughout the country.



What We Do

NOS translates science, tools, and services into action to support coastal economies, communities, and ecosystems. The agency leads national partnerships to address and balance economic and environmental needs and conducts extensive outreach to ensure its services are meeting priorities. NOS is also a trustee for the long-term conservation of special marine places.

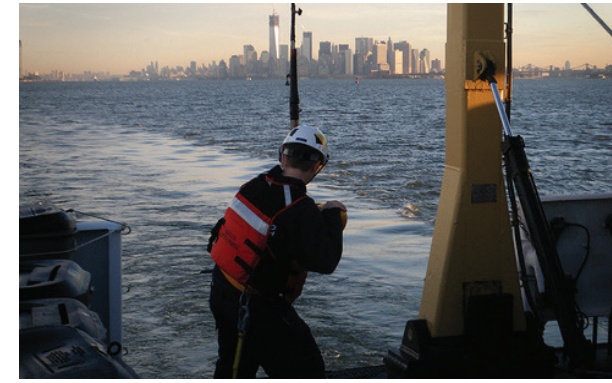
Although NOS has multiple programs, the main mission areas are reflected in the three primary sections of its budget:

- **Navigation, Observations and Positioning**
- **Coastal Science and Assessment**
- **Ocean and Coastal Management and Services**

Why We Do It

NOS programs, authorities and resources advance three forward-thinking, strategic priorities:

- **Coastal Resilience:** Supporting preparedness, response and recovery
- **Coastal Intelligence:** Applying today's technologies to provide science-based, actionable information for sound decision making
- **Place-based Conservation:** Ensuring the long-term viability of special marine places and the economies that depend upon them



Navigation, Observations and Positioning

NOS is the nation's provider and leading national authority on nautical charts; water levels, tides and currents; and geographic positioning. Programs such as the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS®), National Water Level Observation Network (NWLON), National Spatial Reference System, National Current Observation Program and the Physical Oceanographic Real-time System (PORTS®) contribute to this suite of services.

Coastal Science and Assessment

NOS provides expert scientific support and services in response to oil and chemical spills and marine debris along the coasts. Working with partners, the agency supported the development of the Environmental Response Management Application (ERMA®). ERMA is an online tool that integrates real-time data with mapping to aid and coordinate emergency response to coastal disasters. ERMA was the common operating platform used to coordinate the national response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. NOS is also a leader in ecological forecasting, providing long-term monitoring, impact assessments, and risk analysis from threats such as Harmful Algal Blooms and hypoxia.

Ocean and Coastal Management

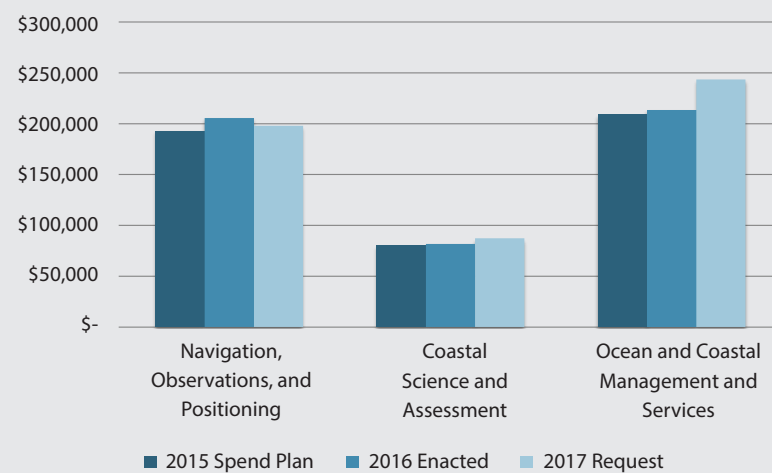
NOS provides effective management to our nation's coasts and special marine places such as coral reefs, marine protected areas, and national marine sanctuaries. We provide coastal planners with the skills, tools, and data needed to manage the nation's coastal resources and communities. This includes Digital Coast, an interactive, online tool to aid and improve coastal decision making in both public and private sectors. Built in coordination with users, Digital Coast's goal is to transform vast quantities of data into useful tools and services – what we call “actionable information” all in one easy-to-use package. NOS implements the Coastal Zone Management Act in partnership with the states to promote coastal research, outreach, and education and to address management needs through coastal programs and national estuarine research reserves.

Budget

The FY 2017 President's Budget request for NOS discretionary programs is \$569.9 million. This proposal sustains essential core programs while making critical investments to increase the resilience of the nation's coastal communities to extreme weather events, coastal inundation, climate hazards, and changing ocean conditions.

In recent years, NOS has carried out an ongoing refocusing of its limited resources toward science-based products and services that enhance connections across its diverse mission areas. This gradual reform effort—which has included merging two program offices for greater efficiency and streamlining NOS headquarters functions—has strengthened NOS's responsiveness to the needs of coastal decision makers. The NOS Roadmap provides a guide for advancing activities that support NOS priorities described in the “Why We Do It” section above.

NOS Budget Trends, FY 2015 – FY 2017



A Partnership Approach: Taking Action Where We Live

The key to the success of NOS lies truly within our partnerships nationwide. NOS works closely with other federal agencies, industry partners, regional, state and local governments, and the public. About 30 percent of the NOS budget is invested in states, academic institutions and non-governmental organizations to carry out our collective mission. This is a system that works: national investments partnered with regional and local implementation programs and capacities. Our programs and partners are on the ground in coastal communities providing the science, stewardship, and management where decisions are being made. We are taking action where we live. We also provide critical information to partners within NOAA, to ensure that coastal communities receive the best tools, products and services we can provide.

