



NOAA In Your Territory

Northern Mariana Islands

NOAA is an agency that enriches life through science. Our reach goes from the surface of the sun to the depths of the ocean floor as we work to keep citizens informed of the changing environment around them. From daily weather forecasts, severe storm warnings, and climate monitoring to fisheries management, coastal restoration and supporting marine commerce, NOAA's products and services support economic vitality and affect more than one-third of America's gross domestic product. NOAA's dedicated scientists use cutting-edge research and high-tech instrumentation to provide citizens, planners, emergency managers and other decision makers with reliable information they need when they need it.

The following is a summary of NOAA programs based in, and focused on, your state or territory. The entries are listed by statewide, region, and then by congressional districts and cities or towns.

NMI

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Navigation Manager](#)

NOAA's navigation managers work directly with pilots, port authorities, and recreational boating organizations in the Northern Mariana Islands. They help identify the navigational challenges facing marine transportation in the Northern Mariana Islands 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 Seattle, Washington to support mariners and stakeholders in the Pacific Islands region.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Coastal Management Fellowship](#)

This program matches postgraduate students with state and territory coastal zone programs to work on two-year projects proposed by the state or territory. The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands' Division of Coastal Resources Management is hosting a fellow who is helping this territory achieve resilient and sustainable growth goals by centralizing data and creating decision-support tools.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Marine Debris Projects and Partnerships](#)

The NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) leads national and international efforts to research, prevent, and reduce the impacts of marine debris. The program supports marine debris removal, education and outreach, and research projects in partnership with state and local agencies, tribes, non-governmental organizations, academia, and industry. The MDP is partnering with a local non-profit group (Mariana Islands Nature Alliance) to develop a multilingual marine debris education and outreach campaign, as well as install trash and recycling receptacles near popular beaches.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System](#)

U.S. IOOS® is 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. NOAA continued a merit-based funding process in 2013 to further development of the IOOS regional network, including PacIOOS. IOOS regional partners provide coordination with regional stakeholders while contributing data and other outputs to the national system – supporting regional priorities while advancing national objectives. PacIOOS is one of these Regional Associations, creating an effective partnership of data providers and users working together to develop, disseminate, evaluate and apply new ocean data and information products designed specifically to address the needs of the communities and businesses that call the Pacific home. The PacIOOS region is defined as the state of Hawaii, the Commonwealth and Territories of the United States in the Pacific and the Freely Associated States in the Pacific.

National Weather Service (NWS) - [NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Transmitter](#)

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, environmental, and public safety. 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 is one NWR transmitter in the territory.

National Weather Service (NWS) - [Micronesian Offices](#)

Located in the Mauka Tower of the Pacific Guardian Center in downtown Honolulu, Hawaii, this regional office has administrative and management responsibilities for all National Weather Service (NWS) field operations in Hawaii and the territories of American Samoa, Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. These areas include NWS offices in Honolulu, Hilo, Kahului, and Lihue, Hawaii; Guam; Pago Pago, American Samoa; Koror, Republic of Palau; Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands; and Pohnpei, Yap and Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia. The NWS Pacific Region operates its five Micronesian offices in cooperation with the Republic of the Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia in accordance with the provisions of the Compact of Free Association between the United States and each Micronesian government. The five Micronesian Weather Service Offices provide the United States with critical Upper-Air Data and Aviation Weather Observations. These offices also provide adaptive weather forecasts and warnings to their local constituents. The Pacific Region Headquarters also oversees the Central Pacific Hurricane Center and the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center, and it hosts the International Tsunami Information Center.

National Weather Service (NWS) - [Weather Forecast Office](#)

Located near the International Airport in Guam, this NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) has public, aviation and marine forecast and warning responsibility for Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the surrounding ocean areas. In addition, WFO Guam has international responsibilities for aviation advisories and forecasts for the tropical Pacific from 130E to 160E; public tropical cyclone watch, warnings and advisory products for the tropical islands of the northwest Pacific; and forecast support for weather service programs involving the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau under the Compact Agreement of Free Association treaties. 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 also provide Impact-based Decision-Support Services (IDSS), both remotely and on-site, during critical emergencies, such as wildfires, floods, chemical spills, and for major recovery efforts such as those following the Joplin and Moore tornadoes, Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, and the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington D.C. 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.

[Saipan](#)

National Ocean Service (NOS) – [National Coastal Zone Management Program](#)

Through a unique federal-state partnership, NOAA's Office for Coastal Management works with the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Coastal Resource Management Office to implement the National Coastal Zone Management Program in the Northern Mariana Islands. NOAA provides the state coastal management program with financial and technical assistance to further the goals of the Coastal Zone Management Act and ensure coastal waters and lands are used in a balanced way to support jobs, reduce use conflicts, and sustain natural resources.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Coral Reef Conservation Program](#)

NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program brings together multidisciplinary expertise from over 30 NOAA offices and partners. The goal is to protect, conserve and restore coral reef resources. In response to identified threats and management priorities developed by coral reef managers in CNMI, NOAA invests in initiatives to develop watershed management plans and reduce sediment and nutrient loads to CNMI's watersheds, improve coral reef ecosystem conditions within and outside existing marine protected areas, evaluate reef resilience, and monitor short- and long-term impacts of climate change. Examples of projects include: an assessment of reductions in sedimentation loads in the Talakhaya Watershed, restoring Laolao Bay, and collecting baseline data on fishing methods, catch and species in Rota.

Garapan

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Pacific Islands Regional Office and Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center

NMFS is responsible for the management, conservation, and protection of living marine resources within the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone. The Pacific Islands Region includes the waters surrounding American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands as well as the Pacific Remote Island Areas. It is the largest geographic area within NMFS jurisdiction, with a U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone of more than 1.7 million square nautical miles of ocean. Using the tools provided by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, NMFS monitors and assesses fish stocks, promotes sustainable fisheries, develops and ensures compliance with fisheries regulations, restores and protects habitats, and works to reduce wasteful fishing practices. Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act, NMFS regulates and conducts research supporting the recovery of protected marine species.

NMFS also co-manages four marine national monuments in the Pacific Islands Region: Rose Atoll Marine National Monument, Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, and Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. Regional Office staff provide support to maximize collaboration, funding and information exchange with state, territorial, commonwealth governments and their stakeholders. They work to maintain healthy fish stocks for commercial, recreational and subsistence fishing, protect and recover populations of protected species, preserve and restore marine habitat, and coordinate with international organizations to implement and monitor fishery agreements and treaties. Science Center staff conduct scientific research and monitoring programs that support the domestic and international conservation and management of living marine resources. Staff provide logistical and coordination support for all science center research in the area and scientific support to the CNMI Biological Sampling Program and the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument's science program. Both the Regional Office and Science Center have offices in Hawaii and field offices serving American Samoa and Guam.

NOAA *In Your State* is managed by [NOAA's Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs](#) and maintained with information provided by NOAA's Line and Staff Offices. Questions about specific programs or offices should be directed to the NOAA Line or Staff Office listed.

More information for those offices may be found at [NOAA.gov](#).

NOAA In Your Territory

Northern Mariana Islands

NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

