

NOAA In Your State

Connecticut

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 facilities, staff, programs, or activities based in, or focused on, your state or territory. The entries are listed by statewide, region, and then by congressional districts and cities or towns.

CT

Statewide

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [New England Bay-Watershed Education and Training 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). 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.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Northeast 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 habitats 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).

The Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (located in Gloucester, MA) includes divisions that promote sustainable fisheries, habitat conservation, and recovery of protected species, and conducts statistical analysis and programs supporting these divisions. Key fish species managed in the Greater Atlantic Region include the Northeast “multispecies complex” (cod, haddock, yellowtail flounder etc.), Atlantic sea scallops, sea herring, lobster, and summer flounder. Key marine endangered species in this region are northern right whales, Kemp’s ridley sea turtles, Atlantic salmon, and Atlantic and shortnose sturgeons. 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 Fisheries 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 five 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 Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office and the 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.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Restoration Center](#)

The NOAA Restoration Center, within the Office of Habitat Conservation, works with private and public partners locally and nationwide to increase fisheries productivity by restoring coastal habitat. Our projects support sustainable fisheries, help recover threatened and endangered species, and reverse damage from disasters like oil spills, ship groundings, and severe storms. Since 1992, we have provided more than \$750 million to implement more 3,300 coastal habitat restoration projects. By partnering with more than 2,500 organizations, we have restored nearly 130,000 acres of habitat for fish and opened 6,000 stream miles for fish passage. The Restoration Center works with municipal, state, and other federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other partners in Connecticut to restore tidal wetlands, remove dams and other barriers to migratory fishes, modify culverts, construct fishways to restore fish runs, implement project to increase coastal resiliency, control non-native invasive plants, and restore submerged aquatic vegetation and native shellfish populations. Staff from NMFS’ Narragansett, Rhode Island Laboratory are available to provide others with technical assistance for projects in Connecticut.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Damage Assessment, Remediation, and Restoration Program](#)

NOAA’s Damage Assessment, Remediation, and Restoration Program (DARRP) assesses and restores habitat, fisheries, protected species and recreational uses that have been harmed by oil spills, chemical releases, and ship groundings. Working with federal, state, and tribal entities, and responsible parties, we have recovered \$10.4 billion for restoration of critical habitats, fisheries, protected species and recreational uses nationwide. These projects promote recovery of the ecosystem and provide economic benefits from tourism, recreation, green jobs, coastal resiliency, property values and quality of life. In Connecticut, the Program is currently working to restore natural resources in cases including the Lordship Point and Raymark Industries hazardous waste sites.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Northeast Division](#)

NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement is the only conservation enforcement program (Federal or State) that is exclusively dedicated to Federal fisheries and marine resource enforcement. Its mission is to protect global marine resources by enforcing domestic laws and international treaties and obligations dedicated to protecting wildlife and their natural habitat. Our special agents and enforcement officers ensure compliance with these laws and take enforcement action if there are violations. Additionally, the Cooperative Enforcement Program allows NOAA the ability to leverage the resources and assistance of 27 coast states and U.S. territorial marine conservation law enforcement agencies in direct support of the Federal enforcement mission. 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 Office of Law Enforcement's Northeast Division is headquartered in Gloucester, Massachusetts, with field offices in Boston, New Bedford and Woods Hole, as well as in Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Virginia and Maryland.

National Ocean Service (NOS) – [Regional Geodetic Advisor](#)

The Regional Geodetic Advisor is a National Ocean Service (NOS) employee that resides in a region and serves as a liaison between the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) and its public, academic and private sector constituents within their assigned region. NGS has a Regional Geodetic Advisor stationed in Montpelier, Vermont serving the Northeast region – Vermont, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, and Rhode Island. The Geodetic Advisor provides training, guidance and assistance to constituents managing geospatial activities that are tied to the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS), the framework and coordinate system for all positioning activities in the Nation. The Geodetic Advisor serves as a subject matter expert in geodesy and regional geodetic issues, collaborating internally across NOS and NOAA to ensure that all regional geospatial activities are properly referenced to the NSRS.

National Weather Service (NWS) - [Automated Surface Observing Systems 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.

National Weather Service (NWS) - [Cooperative Observer Program 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 homeowners' monthly energy bills. There are 2844 COOP sites in Connecticut.

National Weather Service (NWS) - [NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards 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 911 Telephone outages). 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.

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) - [Connecticut Sea Grant College Program](#)

NOAA's National Sea Grant College Program is a federal-university partnership that integrates research, education and outreach. 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. Topics include aquaculture, coastal ecosystems and economies, climate adaptation, water quality, seafood and fisheries. Connecticut's Sea Grant Extension staff collaborates with industry and conduct outreach activities in the target research areas. The K-12 education program includes professional development for educators, curriculum consultation, and dissemination of resources, program/project evaluation, creating connections between scientists and educators, and facilitating scientists' outreach activities.

Coastal

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Species Recovery Program](#)

Under the authority of section 6 of the Endangered Species Act, the Cooperation with States Program brings states, NMFS, and other partners together to recover threatened and endangered species. Competitive grants are awarded to states through the Species Recovery Grants to States Program to support management, monitoring, research and outreach efforts for species that spend all or a portion of their life cycle in state waters. The funded work is designed to prevent extinctions or reverse the decline of species, and restore ecosystems and their related socioeconomic benefits. Twenty-five coastal states, including Connecticut and U.S. territories, currently participate in this program.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Sea Turtle Salvage and Stranding Network](#)

The Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network (STSSN) was formally established in 1980 to collect information on and document strandings of marine turtles along the U.S. Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic coasts. The network, which includes federal, state and private partners, encompasses the coastal areas of the eighteen-state region from Maine to Texas, and includes portions of the U.S. Caribbean. Data gathered by the Network helps inform bycatch reduction efforts, track factors affecting turtle health, and provide other information needed for sea turtle management and population recovery.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [National Marine Mammal Stranding Network](#) and [John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program](#)

The National Marine Mammal Stranding Network and its trained professionals respond to dead or live marine mammals in distress that are stranded, entangled, out of habitat or otherwise in peril. Our long-standing partnership with the Network provides valuable environmental intelligence, helping NOAA establish links among the health of marine mammals, coastal ecosystems, and coastal communities as well as develop effective conservation programs for marine mammal populations in the wild. There is one stranding network member in the state. NOAA Fisheries funds eligible members of the Stranding Network through the competitive John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program. Since 2001, \$53.8 million has been awarded through 617 grants, and recipients have raised over \$17.76 million in matching funds. In FY17, 33 competitive grants were awarded nationwide for a total of \$2.8 million, with one award going to one recipient in Connecticut: Sea Research Foundation, Inc.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Mid-Atlantic](#) and [Northeastern](#) Regional Associations Coastal Ocean Observing System

The U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System, or IOOS®, is a federally and regionally coordinated observing system with 17 interagency and 11 regional partners. The System addresses regional and national needs for coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes data and information. This includes gathering and disseminating regional observations; data management; modeling and analysis; education and outreach; and research and development. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing System (MARACOOS) and the Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS) are two of these Regional Associations. MARACOOS' coverage extends from Cape Hatteras to Cape Cod including the estuaries and the continental shelf waters in this region. MARACOOS provides the necessary ocean observing, data management, and forecasting capacity to systematically address prioritized themes maritime safety, ecosystem based management, water quality, coastal inundation, and offshore energy development.

NERACOOS, the Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems includes the coastal waters of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Canada. The mission of NERACOOS is to produce, integrate and communicate high quality information that helps ensure safety, economic and environmental resilience, and sustainable use of the coastal ocean. NERACOOS collaborates with partners in the northeast to operate a system of ocean observing assets and models that deliver near real-time observations and forecasts of ocean and weather conditions. Many stakeholders including the U.S. Coast Guard, National Weather Service, commercial mariners, water quality and emergency managers rely on NERACOOS information for their day-to-day operations.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [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.

National Ocean Service (NOS) – [Navigation Response Team](#)

NOAA's Navigation Response Team 5 operates out of New London, supporting navigation in the ports in the northeast. These three-person teams measure depths of a changing seafloor and search for underwater dangers to navigation that can slow down commercial shipping immediately after storm events and other emergencies. The teams provide time-sensitive information to the U.S. Coast Guard or port officials and transmit data to NOAA cartographers for updating navigational charting products.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program](#)

The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program brings conservation partners together to protect coastal and estuarine lands considered important for their ecological, conservation, recreational, historical, or aesthetic values. To date the program has protected more than 100,000 acres of land with program funds and over 16,000 acres with an in-kind match. The program provides state and local governments with matching funds to purchase coastal and estuarine lands or obtain conservation easements for important lands threatened by development. Five Connecticut sites benefited from this program, and these lands are protected in perpetuity.

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 Connecticut Coastal Management Program is hosting a fellow from 2017-2019, who is working with Connecticut's coastal program, a statutory advisory committee, partners, and stakeholders to integrate and finalize a marine spatial planning document for Long Island Sound.

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

Through a unique federal-state partnership, NOAA's Office for Coastal Management works with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Office of Long Island Sound Programs to implement the National Coastal Zone Management Program in Connecticut. 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) – [Northeast Regional Planning Body](#)

To enable more collaborative and informed ocean management decisions in New England waters, staff from the NOAA Office for Coastal Management serve as the federal co-lead for the Northeast Regional Planning Body. They bring together representatives of coastal states, federal agencies, tribes, and the Fishery Management Council to develop and implement the nation's first Northeast Ocean Plan and support the Northeast Ocean Data Portal.

National Ocean Service (NOS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)– [Coastal Resilience Grant Award](#)

These grants help coastal communities prepare for and recover from extreme weather events, climate hazards, and changing ocean conditions. The focus is on comprehensive regional approaches that use science-based solutions and rely on collaborative partnerships. This approach expands reach and impact, thereby ensuring maximum success. In Connecticut, the NOAA Office for Coastal Management awarded two grants that are ongoing in 2018, including \$891,243 to the Northeast Regional Association of Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS) to build resilience in coastal New England by documenting and projecting storm impacts and implementing sustainable, nature-based infrastructure management approaches; and \$999,999 to The Nature Conservancy to reduce risks from coastal flooding by implementing and monitoring a range of nature-based infrastructure projects, evaluating their effectiveness, and providing the resulting best practices for other communities to use.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Atlantic Environmental Response Management Application](#)

Assessing important spatial information and designing successful restoration projects rely upon interpreting and mapping geographic information, including the location, duration, and impacts from oil spills, other hazardous materials, or debris released into the environment. Atlantic Environmental Response Management Application (ERMA[®]) is an online mapping tool that integrates both static and real-time data, such as Environmental Sensitivity Index maps, ship locations, weather, and ocean currents, in a centralized, easy-to-use format for environmental responders and decision makers. In the fall of 2012, Atlantic ERMA was employed as the Common Operational Picture for the U.S. Coast Guard's pollution response to Hurricane Sandy in New York and New Jersey waters.

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. In a newly funded research project, the University of Connecticut is conducting laboratory studies to determine the effects of microplastic consumption on oysters, and developing a model to predict microplastics ingestion versus rejection by the oysters.

CT-2 Mystic

NOAA Office of Education - [Environmental Literacy Program](#)

NOAA's Environmental Literacy Program (ELP), administered by the Office of Education, provides grants and in-kind support to build the capacity of institutions and networks to advance NOAA's mission through formal (K-12) and informal education at national, regional, and local levels. In Connecticut, ELP supports the Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk through an Environmental Literacy Grant focused on resilience to extreme weather events and environmental hazards. The "Sound Resilience-Get On Board!" project engages schools from ten towns along or near Connecticut's coast, including eight in the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Draft 2016-2021 for Southwestern Connecticut. The project educates teachers, students and the public about the underlying science for the environmental hazards faced by their communities and involves them in planning for increased resilience to these hazards. ELP also supports the Discovery Museum and Planetarium, which has a permanent exhibit featuring NOAA's Science On a Sphere and is a member of NOAA's SOS Users Collaborative Network. The SOS Network has more than 100 institutions worldwide, reaching over 60 million people, and shares best practices in using the sphere to bring the latest global forecasts and models to the public. ELP supports the Mystic Aquarium, a member of the Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center (CELC) Network, a consortium of 25 aquariums and marine science education centers with a reach of over 20 million people. The CELC Network works with NOAA and each member institution to engage the public in protecting coastal and marine ecosystems. ELP also supports the Quahog Bowl in Connecticut, one of 25 regional competitions of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB). The NOSB is an academic competition that engages high school students in learning about ocean sciences and related STEM careers while helping them become knowledgeable citizens and environmental stewards.

New London

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [PORTS®](#)

A Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS®) in New London provides real-time oceanographic data and other navigation products to promote safe and efficient navigation within U.S. waters. This system is comprised of a water level (tide) gauge and a current meter.

Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO) - [NOAA Corps Officer Training Center](#)

The NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps graduates its officers alongside the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) officer candidates at the NOAA Corps Officer Training Center (NCOTC), which is co-located with the USCG's Officer Candidate School on the grounds of the USCG Academy. NCOTC provides training to new officers during the Basic Officer Training Class (BOTC) as well as training experienced officers returning to sea duty through refresher classes. BOTC is a very demanding and fast-paced program with three principal objectives that include introduction and orientation to the NOAA organization and its missions; introduction to the customs, duties and responsibilities as a commissioned officer in a uniformed service; and development of maritime and nautical skills, with emphasis on shipboard operations, organization and management, small boat handling, marine navigation, ship handling, seamanship, and related subjects.

Approximately 50 percent of the training curriculum is provided during formal classroom instruction and the remainder takes place during field activities, labs, and underway training. Comprehensive exams and practical demonstrations of leadership, management and seagoing skills are important aspects of the program. In order to reinforce an understanding of shipboard organization and operations, the Class is organized and operated similar to a shipboard environment. Officers are considered to be on call 24 hours per day, seven days a week; the normal workday will begin at 0500 (5:00 am) and will end at 2200 (10:00 pm). Weekends are filled with various training events, both maritime and leadership related. BOTC is in session for approximately five months and upon completion of the training, officers are assigned to a NOAA ship for approximately three years of sea duty.

The USCGA Academy is also the venue for a new NOAA exhibit. The exhibit highlights NOAA, its fleet of research ships, aircraft, and NOAA's Commissioned Officer Corps, which is celebrated a century of service in 2017. This exhibit specifically highlights the NOAA Corps and US Coast Guard partnership and collaboration. The 200 square foot exhibit opened in May 2017.

CT-2

New London, Bridgeport

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [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. Each station is associated with a set of tidal benchmarks installed in the ground that is used to reference the height of the water levels and helps connect the water level to land.

CT-3

Milford

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Milford Laboratory](#)

The Milford Laboratory was established in 1931 with support of the shellfish industry, and is one of two large aquaculture research facilities within NMFS. The Milford Laboratory conducts an integrated aquaculture research program studying culture methods, and developing methods for commercial aquaculture, stock enhancement and restoration. They also evaluate interactions between aquaculture practices and the environment, and what characteristics make a habitat suitable for a particular species of environmental or commercial importance. The lab is internationally known for its foundational work on shellfish culture methods and practices.

CT-4

Bridgeport

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) - [Science On a Sphere at Discovery Museum](#)

Science On a Sphere (SOS) is a room-sized global display system that uses computers and video projectors to display planetary data onto a six-foot diameter sphere, analogous to a giant animated globe. Researchers at NOAA developed Science On a Sphere® as an educational tool to help illustrate Earth System science to people of all ages. Animated images of atmospheric storms, climate change, and ocean temperature can be shown on the sphere, which is used to explain complex environmental processes, in a way that is simultaneously intuitive and captivating.

Norwalk

NOAA Office of Education - [Environmental Literacy Program](#)

NOAA's Environmental Literacy Program (ELP), administered by the Office of Education, provides grants and in-kind support to build the capacity of institutions and networks to advance NOAA's mission through formal (K-12) and informal education at national, regional, and local levels. In Connecticut, ELP supports the Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk through an Environmental Literacy Grant focused on resilience to extreme weather events and environmental hazards. The "Sound Resilience-Get On Board!" project engages schools from ten towns along or near Connecticut's coast, including eight in the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Draft 2016-2021 for Southwestern Connecticut. The project educates teachers, students and the public about the underlying science for the environmental hazards faced by their communities and involves them in planning for increased resilience to these hazards.

ELP also supports the Discovery Museum and Planetarium, which has a permanent exhibit featuring NOAA's Science On a Sphere and is a member of NOAA's SOS Users Collaborative Network. The SOS Network has more than 100 institutions worldwide, reaching over 60 million people, and shares best practices in using the sphere to bring the latest global forecasts and models to the public. ELP supports the Mystic Aquarium, a member of the Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center (CELC) Network, a consortium of 25 aquariums and marine science education centers with a reach of over 20 million people. The CELC Network works with NOAA and each member institution to engage the public in protecting coastal and marine ecosystems. ELP also supports the Quahog Bowl in Connecticut, one of 25 regional competitions of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB). The NOSB is an academic competition that engages high school students in learning about ocean sciences and related STEM careers while helping them become knowledgeable citizens and environmental stewards.

New Haven

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [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.

Norwalk

National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary](#) "Animals Without Passports**" exhibit**

This traveling exhibit, developed by Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary with funding from the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, focuses on the North Atlantic population of humpback whales and the international network of marine sanctuaries that protect them. The exhibit now resides at The Marine Aquarium in Norwalk under a long-term loan through 2018. The exhibit provides information about whale biology, behavior, migration and threats to survival, with particular emphasis on sanctuary research and conservation programs, including the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary initiated Sister Sanctuary program. The exhibit has been touring major public museums and aquariums throughout the Northeast Region.

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

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

NOAA In Your State



Connecticut



NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

