



National Ocean Service

Positioning America for the Future.

Coastal watershed counties were home to 163.8 million people in 2010, approximately 52 percent of the United States population. This number is expected to increase by more than 15 million by 2020. Through the National Ocean Service (NOS), NOAA is positioning America for the future as the lead Federal agency responsible for promoting the sustainable, safe, and efficient use of our Nation's valuable coastal resources and special coastal places.

NOS observes, measures, assesses, and manages coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes areas and provides science-based services to inform decision making, thereby positioning America's coastal communities, economies and ecosystems for the future.

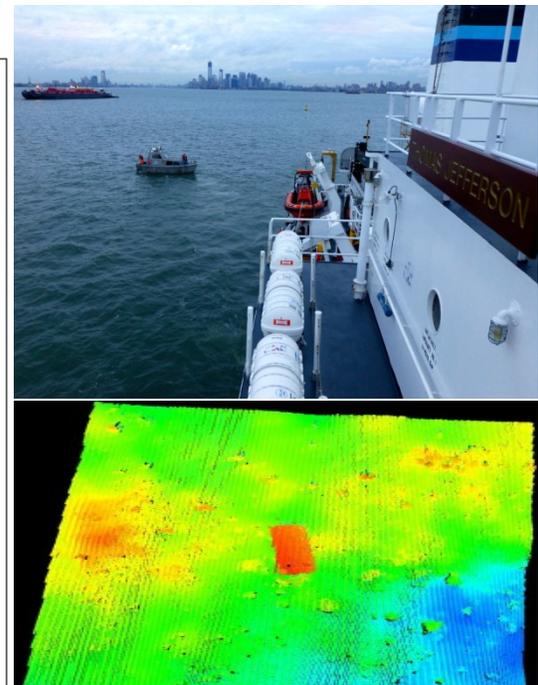
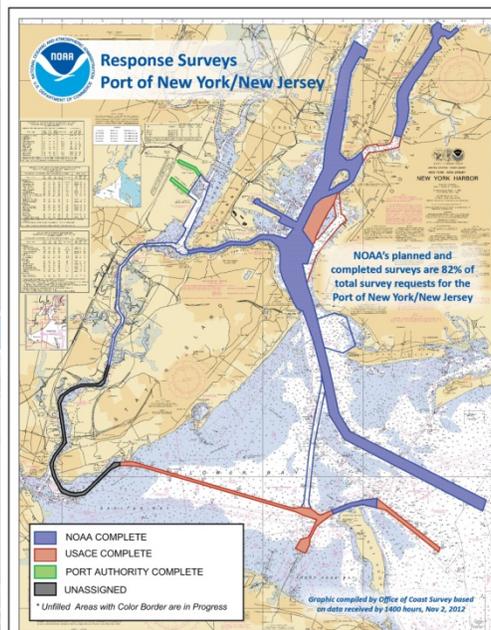
NOS On-The-Ground: Respond, Rebuild, and Recover from Sandy

Hurricane Sandy provided a tragic illustration of NOS's importance to addressing natural and manmade hazards which threaten America's coasts. Within hours after the storm, NOS was conducting emergency navigation surveys to restore maritime commerce, aerial surveys to assist on-the-ground responders from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and local authorities; and oil spill cleanup and damage assessments in the Arthur Kill and NY/NJ Harbor. During ongoing recovery efforts NOS continues to apply its unique expertise in protecting coastal and estuarine habitats, tracking and reducing marine debris, and collecting oceanographic data. In combination with our decision support, technical assistance, and training activities, NOS provides an unparalleled and powerful suite of resources and tools to help coastal communities and economies rebuild.

NOS brings a wealth of coastal science, management, and operational expertise to aid communities impacted by Sandy in their recovery. NOS is on the front lines to help America understand, predict, and respond to the challenges facing our oceans and coasts.

NOS leads coastal management efforts across the nation and is the primary conduit for data and services at NOAA to support informed coastal decision making.

NOS also has unique expertise in protecting coastal and estuarine habitat, tracking and reducing marine debris, and providing essential navigation, coastal mapping, observing, monitoring, and high-accuracy geospatial positioning services. In combination with our decision support, technical assistance, and training activities, NOS provides an unparalleled and powerful suite of resources and tools to aid recovery.



For more information, please visit: www.noaa.gov





FY 2014 Budget Request Highlights

The FY 2014 President's Budget Request for NOS is \$529.2M. This request represents a critical step toward re-establishing balance across investments in NOAA's missions. By emphasizing science, technology and earth observations, the NOS request recognizes the important and expanding uses of coastal, oceanographic and geospatial data for navigation safety, emergency preparedness and response, and stewardship of ecological resources.

In response to challenges ranging from increased Arctic development to the ravages of extreme weather, the request acknowledges the increasing importance of NOS expertise, products and services in supporting preparedness, response, recovery, and resource management activities across all levels of government and coastal constituencies. The increases noted below are program changes from the FY 2014 budget request. Highlights of proposed new investments include:

- **Coastal LiDAR Data Collection and Coordination (\$8.0M)** Working with U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and through the Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping, this coordinated effort will streamline Federal LIDAR data acquisition activities, improve data collection methods, and substantially increase the quantity and quality of data collected and processed to meet a broad range of applications.
- **Marine Sensor Innovation (\$10M)** This request supports the development and improvement of marine sensors that can deliver rapid and cost-effective data to inform decision making through improved physical, chemical and biological understanding of coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes systems.
- **Restoration of CELCP, Sanctuary, and Research Reserve Construction Accounts (\$6.7M)** This investment will defray the risk of an increasing backlog of projects to provide facilities at the Nation's network of national marine sanctuaries and estuarine research reserves.
- **GRAV-D initiative (+\$3M)** With the requested increase, NOAA will accelerate the Gravity for the Redefinition of the American Vertical Datum (GRAV-D) initiative to collect airborne gravity data and produce a new national vertical datum. This effort will increase the accuracy of heights from 40 cm to 2 cm. Access to more accurate height data is increasingly critical to scientific, engineering and management decisions to improve commerce and economic efficiencies and better protect against inundation from storms, flooding, and sea level change.
- **Marine Debris Research and Development (+\$1M)** This additional investment brings the total request for the Marine Debris Program to \$6 million.
- **Harmful Algal Bloom, Hypoxia and Coastal Ecosystem Research and Development (\$6.0M)** This competitive funding is managed by the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science and combines research and applied science to provide the information and tools, such as ecological forecasts, that coastal managers need to combat and mitigate the accelerating decline of the ecosystems and living resources under their purview.
- **Damage Assessment, Response and Restoration (\$2.6M)** This request will expedite resource damage assessments and restoration and improve NOAA's capacity to prepare for and respond to coastal environmental hazards, including two simultaneous large environmental hazard events in different regions.
- **Regional Ocean Partnership Grants (+\$1.5M)** The increase will support additional implementation plan actions of regional oceans partnerships, including improving coastal hazards resilience and conserving habitat.

In addition to these increases, the budget request largely maintains other NOS services and capabilities that employ partnerships, stakeholder-centric services, and place-based strategies to help coastal communities mitigate and adapt to environmental change. Within the requested funds, NOS's coastal management programs will continue to provide national leadership to state and territory coastal management programs and estuarine research reserves to keep America's coasts healthy, safe and resilient. In 2014 NOS will also continue to manage national marine sanctuaries, which is America's primary legal mandate for place-based conservation of special marine places in offshore areas.

NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

For more information, please visit: <http://www.noaa.gov/budget>