|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| NOAA Header | |
| **NOAA In Your State**  **Massachusetts** | |
| *“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 statewide, region, 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 massachusetts | |
| 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). | |
| ***MA*** ***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 in summer 2012 to conduct a mapping blitz, focused on deep-water canyons off the Massachusetts seaboard. In total, five expeditions gathered baseline information to support a three-year field research effort off the Northeastern U.S. from 2013-2015. This field research provides 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 northeastern seaboard, but will also inform the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils in their 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)** **Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services** **National Water Level Observation Network** The National Ocean Service (NOS) operates three long-term, continuously operating tide stations in the state of Massachusetts, 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 Boston, Woods Hole, and Nantucket Island. [http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/)  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science**  **Phytoplankton Monitoring Network** The Phytoplankton Monitoring Network was established as an outreach program for monitoring marine phytoplankton and harmful algal blooms (HABs).  By linking the public to laboratory scientists, the  network  helps to   build increased public awareness while simultaneously provided useful data to scientists.  Further, identification of  harmful algal species by regularly monitoring coastal sites across the U.S. aids in NOAA’s developmental HAB forecasts in both early detection as well as “ground truthing” and refinement of satellite data used to predict future bloom movement towards vulnerable industries or communities,  [http://www.chbr.noaa.gov/pmn](http://www.chbr.noaa.gov/pmn/about.aspx)  **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. CELCP was established in 2002 as a companion the *Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)* and reauthorized in 2009. To date, the program has protected more than 90,000 acres of land nationally and five grants have been completed in Massachusetts, with one more ongoing in 2012.     <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management** **Massachusetts Coastal Management Program** Through a unique Federal-state partnership, NOAA’s Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) works with the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management  to implement the National Coastal Management Program in Massachusetts. 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/ma.html>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System Program** **IOOS Regional Association - Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems** U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (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 through a national network of Regional Associations (RAs) for coastal ocean observing. The Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS) is one of these Regional Associations. NERACOOS was established to network and expand the existing observing and prediction capacities of a multitude of institutions and agencies throughout New England and Maritime Canada.  NERACOOS supports infrastructure that provides over-water meteorological and wave observations in Long Island Sound and the Gulf of Maine to the National Weather Service that are critical to safe navigation. These platforms also support current and dissolved oxygen sensors that provide critical information for management of hypoxia and harmful algal bloom. Fisheries managers, water quality specialists, the Coast Guard, and many others benefit from accurate and timely ocean observing infrastructure and related decision support tools. The region includes the coastal waters of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. There is overlap with the Mid-Atlantic Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association (MACOORA), which also includes the coastal waters of Connecticut and Rhode Island. In addition, partners from the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia will be involved to ensure appropriate coverage in shared waters. <http://www.neracoos.org/>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Integrated Ocean Observing System Program** **IOOS Regional Association - Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing System** U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (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 through a national network of Regional Associations (RAs) for coastal ocean observing. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing System (MARACOOS) is one of these Regional Associations and it extends from Cape Hatteras to Cape Cod including the estuaries and the continental shelf waters. MARACOOS provides the necessary ocean observing, data management, and forecasting capacity to systematically address prioritized regional themes including *maritime safety, ecosystem based management, water quality, coastal inundation,* and *offshore energy development.* [http://http://www.maracoos.org/](http://http/www.maracoos.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 Massachusetts. They help identify the navigational challenges facing marine transportation in Massachusetts 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. [http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/service/navmanagers](http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/reps.htm)  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **National Data Buoy Center** **Massachusetts 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/>  ***MA*** ***Statewide*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Office of Habitat Conservation** **Restoration Center** NOAA's Restoration Center works with private and public partners in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to construct fish ladders at dams, remove dams entirely, widen bridges, modify culverts to improve tidal flushing in coastal wetlands, and restore submerged aquatic vegetation. More than 140 projects have been constructed in the state since 1997, restoring 3,860 acres of habitat and opening 77 stream miles. http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/restoration/regional/northeast.html  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Region** **Northeast Regional Office** **New England Bay-Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) 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). B-WET currently serves seven areas of the country: California, Chesapeake Bay, Great Lakes, Gulf of Mexico, Hawai'i, New England, and the Pacific Northwest. 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.  Please see regional funding opportunity for priorities and eligibility details. <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/BWET/>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Office of Law Enforcement** **Northeast Division** 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 Office of Law Enforcement’s Northeast Division is headquartered in Gloucester, Mass., with field offices in Boston, New Bedford and Woods Hole, as well as in Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Virginia and Maryland. <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ole/ne_northeast.html>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Region** **Northeast Regional Office and 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 habitat 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, fish). With the help of the six regional offices and eight fishery management councils, NMFS is able to work with communities on fishery management issues.  The Northeast Regional Office (located in Gloucester, MA) is comprised of four divisions: Sustainable Fisheries, Habitat Conservation, Protected Resources and Fisheries Statistics. Key species managed in the Northeast Region include the northeast “multispecies complex” (cod, haddock, yellowtail flounder etc.), Atlantic sea scallops, herring, lobster, and summer flounder. Key marine endangered species in this region are Atlantic salmon, northern right whales, and Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon. 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 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 six 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 Northeast Regional Office and 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. <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/> and<http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Automated Surface Observing Systems** **Massachusetts 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 19 ASOS stations in Massachusetts. <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/asos_09/MA_asos.pdf> and <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/asos/>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Cooperative Observer Program** **Massachusetts 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 60 COOP sites in Massachusetts. <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/coop_09/MA_coop.pdf> and <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/coop/>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards** **Massachusetts 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 six NWR transmitters in Massachusetts. <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/nwr_09/MA_nwr.pdf> and <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Coastal Services Center** **New England Region** The NOAA Coastal Services Center firmly believes in a regional approach to coastal management. The Center currently has staff members in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Gulf of Mexico, West Coast, Pacific Islands, and the Great Lakes regions to provide assistance to local, state, and regional coastal resource management efforts and facilitate the customer feedback and assessments. CSC has a staff member located in Massachusetts to coordinate the deployment of NOAA resources in New England. This employee also represents NOAA on several regional ocean governance initiatives (e.g., Northeast Regional Ocean Council, Gulf of Maine Council), coordinates NOAA involvement in IOOS activities, and other NOAA and state coordinated activities. <http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/programs/csc/>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Coastal Services Center** **Northeast Regional Ocean Council** To maintain high-quality constituent service, the NOAA Coastal Services Center provides regional staff members to work closely with the Northeast Regional Ocean Council and the coastal states represented on this board. These staff members also coordinate the deployment of NOAA products and services in this region.  <http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/programs/csc/>  ***MA- 2*** ***Petersham [Harvard Forest]*** **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Earth System Research Laboratory/Global Monitoring Division** **Monitoring the Atmosphere Aloft - Carbon Cycle Gases and Halocarbons** NOAA's Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL) operates a new and growing small aircraft-based North American network of sampling sites to measure vertical profiles of important greenhouse gas concentrations. Air is sampled above the surface up to approximately 25,000 feet above sea level using a relatively small, light, and economical automated system developed by ESRL researchers. These air samples are delivered to the ESRL laboratory in Boulder, Colorado for measurements of CO2, CH4, and other greenhouse gasses. This data will improve understanding and models of the global carbon cycle. Sampling is conducted bi-weekly. Some air samples from the small aircraft program are also analyzed for halocarbon gases that can destroy the stratospheric ozone layer. Halocarbon measurements help determine the effectiveness of efforts to protect and restore the ozone layer so it can protect us from the sun’s ultraviolet radiation. <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/about/climate.html>  **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Earth System Research Laboratory/Global Monitoring Division** **Monitoring the Surface Atmosphere – Halocarbon Measurements** NOAA’s Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL) operates a sampling network to measure the distribution and trends of the gases most responsible for human-caused depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer. Weekly samples are collected in high pressure flasks at fixed locations. The air sample flasks are delivered to the ESRL laboratory, located in Boulder, CO for analysis. Some locations conduct continuous surface measurements on site. Halocarbon measurements help determine the effectiveness of efforts to protect and restore the ozone layer - so it can protect us from the sun’s ultraviolet radiation. <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/hats/>  ***MA- 3*** ***Worcester*** **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Earth System Research Laboratory/Global Monitoring Division** **Monitoring the Surface Atmosphere – Ozone Measurements** ESRL conducts long-term monitoring of ozone at the surface, with aircraft, and with balloons, through cooperati0ve relationships with local partners. The ESRL tropospheric ozone aircraft measurement program is being done in conjunction with the Carbon Cycle and Greenhouse Gas (CCGG) group's existing aircraft sampling network. Aircraft based in-situ tropospheric ozone measurements provide data relevant to: pollution events, lower atmosphere mixing dynamics, boundary layer stability, ozone trend studies, and the validity of other samples collected in-flight. Near ground level ozone is currently monitored using ultraviolet absorption photometers at eight sites that are generally representative of background conditions. These sites, four of which have records exceeding 25 years in length, provide information on possible long-term changes in tropospheric ozone near the surface and support air quality research. <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ozwv/>  ***MA- 4*** ***Taunton*** **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Weather Forecast Office** **Boston WFO** Collocated with the NWS Northeast River Forecast Center about 30 miles south of Boston in Taunton, 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 Massachusetts and Rhode Island. 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.erh.noaa.gov/box>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **River Forecast Center** **Northeast River Forecast Center** Collocated with the NWS Weather Forecast Office about 30 miles south of Boston in Taunton, the NWS Northeast River Forecast Center (RFC) performs continuous river basin modeling and provides hydrologic forecast and guidance products for rivers and streams in New England and New York. 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, as well as state and federal agencies, including 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.nws.noaa.gov/er/nerfc/>  ***MA- 5*** ***Cambridge*** **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **National Sea Grant College Program** **Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sea Grant College 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 Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sea Grant College Program sponsors marine research guided by local and national research needs. For maximal potential impact, research is focused on specific theme areas, including marine biotechnology, coastal management and utilization, technology development, non-indigenous species, and coupled ocean observation and modeling. <http://web.mit.edu/seagrant>  ***MA- 6*** ***Gloucester*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **National Seafood Inspection Program** **Gloucester Inspection Office and Laboratory and National Training Section** NOAA’s Seafood Inspection Program conducts a voluntary inspection program for fishery products on a fee-for-service basis. The Program offers a wide range of services to the area's fishermen, fish processors and fish brokers including process and product inspection, product grading, lot inspection, laboratory analysis, and training. All edible foodstuffs, ranging from whole fish to formulated products, as well as fishmeal used for animal foods, are eligible for inspection and certification. <http://seafood.nmfs.noaa.gov/>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Seafood Inspection Program** **Northeast Inspection Branch and National Training Section** NOAA’s Seafood Inspection Program conducts a voluntary inspection program for fishery products on a fee-for-service basis. The Office offers a wide range of services to the area's fishermen and fish processors including process and product inspection, product grading, lot inspection, laboratory analysis, and training. All edible foodstuffs, ranging from whole fish to formulated products, as well as fish meal used for animal foods, are eligible for inspection and certification. <http://seafood.nmfs.noaa.gov/>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Region** **Fisheries Statistics Office** The Northeast Region Fishery Statistics Office port office is responsible for reviewing and auditing of fishery dependent data describing the commercial fisheries' landings in the local area. The fishery dependent data includes seafood dealer reports of purchases from fishing vessels, collection of biological samples from these landings and other information used by fishery managers and scientists to monitor and assess coast wide stocks of finfish and shellfish. Staff work with local fishing industry, state marine fisheries agencies, and other constituents. They assist with explaining fishery regulations including permitting, fisheries biology and other NOAA wide activities. <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/fso/>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Region** **Habitat Conservation Division Northeast Field Office** The Habitat Conservation Division, Northeast Region, is working to protect, conserve and restore habitats of our living marine resources. The division collaborates with regional fishery management councils to, among other things, identify and describe essential fish habitat for each managed species using the best available science, incorporate essential fish habitat into fishery management plans, determine fishing impacts on habitat and whether they are minimal or temporary and recommend steps to minimize impacts. <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/hcd/> and <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/hcd/HCDcontacts.html>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Region** **Northeast Regional Office**  NMFS Northeast Regional Office is responsible for planning, developing, implementing and administering programs for management of living marine resources in the Large Marine Ecosystems of the North Atlantic Shelf and the Great Lakes. It includes 18 states from North Carolina to Maine and the northeast interior. The Regional Office is comprised of four divisions: Sustainable Fisheries, Habitat Conservation, Protected Resources and Fisheries Statistics.  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 habitat 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, fish). With the help of the six regional offices and eight fishery management councils, NMFS is able to work with communities on fishery management issues.  The Northeast Regional Office (located in Gloucester, MA) is 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.  The Regional Administrator represents NOAA on Fishery Management Councils and other organizations that advise the Federal government on the management of living marine resources and provides expertise in international marine conservation concerns affecting eastern Canada and the North Atlantic Ocean.    The Northeast Regional Office is comprised of four divisions: Sustainable Fisheries, Habitat Conservation, Protected Resources and Fisheries Statistics. Key species managed include the northeast “multispecies complex” (cod, haddock, yellowtail flounder etc.), Atlantic sea scallops, herring, lobster, and summer flounder. Key marine endangered species in this region are Atlantic salmon, northern right whales, and Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon.  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 <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/>  ***MA-8*** ***Boston*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Fisheries Science Center** **Market News Boston Office** NOAA’s “Fishery Market News” began operations in New York City on February 14, 1938. This office provides accurate and unbiased reports depicting current conditions affecting the trade in fish and fishery products, including daily auction pricing in New England ports. <http://www.st.nmfs.gov/st1/market_news/>  ***MA- 9*** ***Boston*** **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of Response and Restoration** **Scientific Support Coordinator** NOAA's Emergency Response Division (ERD) strives to reduce risks to coastal habitats and resources from oil and hazardous chemical spills. ERD's multi-disciplinary Scientific Support Team has decades of experience in responding to oil spill emergencies. Led by its nine regionally based Scientific Support Coordinators (SSCs), ERD's response to spill emergencies has gained a reputation for rapid, well-thought-out, yet cost effective environmental protection decisions. The SSC based in Boston works directly with U.S. Coast Guard spill response teams by providing critical scientific support to the federal On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) during spills of oil or hazardous materials. SSCs use oil spill trajectory estimates, chemical hazards analyses, and assessments of the sensitivity of biological and human-use resources to help the OSC make timely operational decisions. SSCs provide guidance, experience, and resources to develop spill preparedness plans that help identify the spill response action with the greatest environmental benefit. [http://response.restoration.noaa.gov](http://response.restoration.noaa.gov/)  ***Chatham*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Region** **Fisheries Statistics Office** The Northeast Region Fishery Statistics Office field office is responsible for the collection, receipt and initial processing of fishery dependent data describing the commercial fisheries' harvests and landings in the local area. The fishery dependent data includes seafood dealer receipts of purchases from fishing vessels, biological samples of these landings and other information used by fishery managers and scientists to monitor and assess coast wide stocks of finfish and shellfish. Staff work with the local fishing industry, state marine fisheries agencies, and other constituents. <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/fso/> and <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/fso/portoff.pdf>  ***Fairhaven*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **National Seafood Inspection Program** **Fairhaven Inspection Office and Laboratory** NOAA’s National Seafood Inspection Program conducts a voluntary inspection program for fishery products on a fee-for-service basis. The Program offers a wide range of services to the area's fishermen, fish processors and fish brokers including process and product inspection, product grading, lot inspection, laboratory analysis, and training. All edible foodstuffs, ranging from whole fish to formulated products, as well as fish meal used for animal foods, are eligible for inspection and certification. <http://seafood.nmfs.noaa.gov/>  ***Martha’s Vineyard*** **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Earth System Research Laboratory/Global Monitoring Division** **Monitoring the Atmosphere – Tall Tower Carbon Measurements** NOAA's Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL) operates trace gas monitoring sites at tall television transmitter towers in five states, including Massachusetts. The sites were established to extend ESRL's monitoring network into the interior of North America in order to provide data to aid estimation of the net carbon balance of the continent. Variations of trace gases, especially carbon dioxide, are largest near the ground, so we utilize existing tall (> 400 meter) transmitter towers as platforms for in situ and flask sampling for atmospheric trace gases. <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ccgg/towers/>  **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Earth System Research Laboratory/Global Monitoring Division** **Monitoring the Surface Atmosphere - Cooperative Global Air Sampling Network** NOAA’s Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL) operates a Cooperative Global Air Sampling Network to measure the distribution and trends of carbon dioxide (CO2) and methane (CH4), the two gases most responsible for human-caused climate change, as well as other greenhouse gases and volatile organic compounds. Samples are collected weekly at fixed locations and on several commercial ships. The air samples are delivered to the ESRL laboratory, located in Boulder, CO. The observed geographical patterns and small but persistent spatial gradients are used to better understand the processes, both natural and human induced, that underlie the trends. These measurements help determine the magnitude of carbon sources and sinks in North America. <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/about/climate.html>  **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Earth System Research Laboratory/Global Monitoring Division** **Monitoring the Surface Atmosphere – Halocarbon Measurements** NOAA’s Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL) operates a sampling network to measure the distribution and trends of the gases most responsible for human-caused depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer. Weekly samples are collected in high pressure flasks at fixed locations. The air sample flasks are delivered to the ESRL laboratory, located in Boulder, CO for analysis. Some locations conduct continuous surface measurements on site. Halocarbon measurements help determine the effectiveness of efforts to protect and restore the ozone layer - so it can protect us from the sun’s ultraviolet radiation. <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/hats/>  ***New Bedford*** **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Earth System Research Laboratory/Global Systems Division** **Science On a Sphere® - Ocean Explorium** 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 what are sometimes complex environmental processes, in a way that is simultaneously intuitive and captivating.  http://www.sos.noaa.gov/ and <http://sos.noaa.gov/news/sos_sites.html>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Region** **Fisheries Statistics Office** The Northeast Region Fishery Statistics Office field office is responsible for the collection, receipt and initial processing of fishery dependent data describing the commercial fisheries' harvests and landings in the local area. The fishery dependent data includes seafood dealer receipts of purchases from fishing vessels, biological samples of these landings and other information used by fishery managers and scientists to monitor and assess coast wide stocks of finfish and shellfish. Staff serves as liaisons to the local fishing industry, state marine fisheries agencies, and other constituents. <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/fso/> and <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/fso/portoff.pdf>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Office of Habitat Conservation** **Restoration Center** NMFS Restoration Center assists the New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council to implement restoration projects that address the injury to natural resources caused by the release of hazardous substances into New Bedford Harbor and the Acushnet River. The Council administers a fund derived from settlements with manufacturers that discharged polychlorinated biphenyls into the harbor and river. To date the Council has completed over 21 restoration projects including restoration of salt marsh, fish passage, eelgrass and shellfish, land protection, and recreational park construction. Additionally, NOAA’s Damage Assessment, Remediation, and Restoration Program acts as a trustee for natural resources on behalf of the public. The Damage Assessment, Remediation, and Restoration Program collaborates with federal, state, and tribal entities and also works with cleanup agencies (such as the Environmental Protection Agency), local organizations, the public, and those responsible for the incident to protect coastal and marine natural resources; respond to discharges of oil and hazardous substances; assess risks and injuries to natural resources; and restore injured natural resources and related socioeconomic benefits. <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/restoration/regional/northeast.html> and <http://www.darrp.noaa.gov/northeast/index.html> <http://www.darrp.noaa.gov/factsheet/pdf/Massachusetts/DARRP_MassachusettsREV_08.pdf>  ***Scituate*** **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of National Marine Sanctuaries** **Gerry E. Studds Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary** Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary is an 842-square-mile open ocean site located at the mouth of Massachusetts Bay. Historically important as a fishing ground for over 400 years, the area has more recently gained fame as one of the world’s top whale watching destinations. Among the more than 575 species found in the sanctuary are endangered humpback, finback and North Atlantic right whales. In efforts to better understand these marine mammals, the sanctuary has become a leading force in whale research. Non-invasive digital acoustic tags and National Geographic’s Crittercam © video units have been revealing underwater feeding behaviors of these animals. Sanctuary efforts have led to the establishment of acoustic monitoring arrays around new offshore LNG terminals, the Boston shipping lanes and throughout the sanctuary to determine the effects of ambient noise on right whale vocalizations and behavior. Official sister sanctuary agreements with the Dominican Republic and French Antilles provide the first international agreements to protect an endangered marine mammal (humpback whale) at both ends of its migratory route. A letter of intent with Bermuda will extend those protections to the migratory corridor The on-going process of shipwreck documentation has resulted in the listing of five shipwrecks at four sites on the National Register of Historic Places. Through education partnerships, sanctuary exhibits now reside in the New England Aquarium, the Gloucester Maritime Heritage Center and several other sites in the sanctuary region.  <http://stellwagen.noaa.gov/>  ***Waquoit*** **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management** **Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve** The 2,780 acre Waquoit Bay Reserve was designated in 1988 and is managed by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. The Reserve was designated for the purpose of studying the south Cape Cod area in order to improve the understanding of coastal ecosystems and human influences on them, then translating that information to promote more informed decision making regarding coastal resources. Courses that translate the results of scientific research to management practices are available for decision makers on topics ranging from groundwater dynamics to green home practices, climate change and ecological gardening techniques. Reserve staff work with local schools by helping teachers to implement classroom curricula on coastal topics. <http://nerrs.noaa.gov/ReservesMap.aspx>  ***Woods Hole*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Northeast Fisheries Science Center** **Woods Hole Laboratory** The Northeast Science Center focuses on collection, analysis, and presentation of scientific information about the Northeast Shelf ecosystem, its condition, and its marine life. In addition to its six 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 Northeast Regional Office and 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. NOAA’s Northeast Fisheries Science Center’s Woods Hole Laboratory is the nation’s original federal marine fisheries laboratory. Research emphasis is on the natural and life history of the region's important seafood species, federally protected marine species, science supporting ecosystem-based resource management, and the sociological and economic condition of the fishing business. It also houses the Woods Hole Science Aquarium, the nation's oldest public display aquarium. <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/> and <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/salmon/WoodsHole.html>  **Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO)** **Homeport** **NOAA Ship *Henry B. Bigelow*** The NOAA Ship *Henry B. Bigelow* is managed by NOAA’s Marine Operations Center-Atlantic in Norfolk, Virginia. The ship supports the science and research missions of NOAA’s Northeast Fisheries Science Center and its supporting laboratories. The vessel is operated under the direction of officers from the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps. The NOAA Corps today provides a cadre of professionals trained in engineering, earth sciences, oceanography, meteorology, fisheries science, and other related disciplines. Officers operate ships, fly aircraft, manage research projects, conduct diving operations, and serve in staff positions throughout NOAA.  The NOAA Ship *Henry B. Bigelow*’s administrative homeport is at Woods Hole, but the vessel is temporarily berthed at the United States Naval station in Newport, Rhode Island. <http://www.moc.noaa.gov/hb/index.htm>  **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Cooperative Institute** **Cooperative Institute for the North Atlantic Region, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution** The Cooperative Institute for the North Atlantic Region (CINAR) was established at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) in 2009. CINAR is a consortium of universities, led by WHOI, in partnership with Rutgers University, the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, University of Maine, and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute. The mission of CINAR is to conduct and coordinate cutting-edge research engaging both NOAA and academic scientists to enable informed decisions by NOAA for sustainable and beneficial management of northwestern Atlantic shelf ecosystem.  <http://www.whoi.edu/page.do?pid=30715>  **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **National Sea Grant College Program** **Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution 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 Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Sea Grant Program serves Massachusetts. Research targets estuarine and coastal processes, fisheries and aquaculture, and environmental technology. Projects in those themes include phytoplankton blooms, groundwater inputs to estuaries, enhanced management of the squid fishery through molecular genetics, and species differences in contaminant susceptibility. <http://www.whoi.edu/seagrant>  **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Office of Ocean Exploration and Research** **Nereus Hybrid Remotely Operated Vehicle** NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research focuses on interdisciplinary exploration, systematic research, advanced technology development, and communication of results through education and outreach. OER is a co-sponsor of the Nereus hybrid remotely operated vehicle (HROV), along with the National Science Foundation and Office of Naval Research. This new technology combines autonomous and remote control modes and provides the United States with its first capability to reach the deepest parts of the ocean. On May 31, 2009, Nereus successfully reached 10,902 meters, the deepest part of the ocean, the Challenger Deep in the Mariana Trench. During the 10-hour visit, Nereus sent live video and collected biological and geological samples. Previously, only two other vehicles have ever visited Challenger Deep, the last visit being in 1998. <http://www.whoi.edu/page.do?pid=10076> | |
| **NOAA’s Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs**  [**http://www.legislative.noaa.gov**](http://www.legislative.noaa.gov) | |