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| NOAA Header | |
| **NOAA In Your State**  **North Carolina** | |
| *“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 north carolina | |
| 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). | |
| ***NC***  ***Coastal*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Office of Habitat Conservation** **Cape Fear River Partnership** NOAA has formed a unique partnership of key federal, state, local, academic, and other organizations in North Carolina to develop a multi-year action plan that will use a broad range of tools and capabilities to provide long-term habitat-based solutions for the most pressing challenges for migratory fish in the Cape Fear River Watershed. Building on the momentum created by constructing a fishway on the first barrier on the river—the Army Corps’ Lock and Dam #1—we will address other issues affecting fish and recreational use of the Cape Fear River. The action plan will:   * Identify threats to healthy migratory fish populations. * Outline actions to improve water quality, habitat conditions, and fish passage. * [Determine community and economic benefits of improved migratory fish populations.](http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/protection/corals/deepseacorals.html)   <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/protection/capefear/index.html>  **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 to conduct research cruises off the Southeastern U.S. Using sonar technology and remotely operated and manned submersibles, new deep-sea coral reefs were discovered off the Southeastern seaboard. This field research also provided 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 Southeastern U.S., but will also inform the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council’s 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 Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Southeast Fisheries Science Center** **Fishery Statistics Office** Field agents serve as the principle data collection agent for marine fisheries throughout the Southeast US (NC-TX). They implement and coordinate surveys involving the collection of fishery related data from the public. Responsibilities and functions are to develop, implement, operate, and manage an integrated fishery statistical data acquisition program for research and fishery management. In North Carolina, field agents are stationed in Wilmington and Manteo. <http://www.sefsc.noaa.gov/interview/>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services** **National Water Level Observation Network** NOS operates six long-term, continuously operating tide stations in the state of North Carolina 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 Duck, Oregon Inlet, USCG Cape Hatteras, Beaufort (Duke Marine Lab), Wilmington, and Wrightsville Beach. [http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/](http://www.co-ops.nos.noaa.gov/)  **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. To date, the program has protected more than 90,000 acres of land nationally and one grant project has been completed in North Carolina. CELCP was established in 2002 as a companion the *Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)* and reauthorized in 2009. <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management** **North Carolina Coastal Management Program** Through a unique Federal-state partnership, NOAA’s Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) works with the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Coastal Management, to implement the National Coastal Management Program in North Carolina. OCRM provides the NC DENR 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. North Carolina’s coastal zone encompasses 20 coastal counties that in whole, or in part, are adjacent to, adjoining, intersected or bounded by the Atlantic Ocean or any coastal sound. <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/mystate/nc.html>     **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 Coast Survey** **Navigation Manager** NOAA’s navigation managers work directly with pilots, port authorities, and recreational boating organizations in North Carolina. They help identify the navigational challenges facing marine transportation in North Carolina 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 Norfolk, Va., to support mariners and stakeholders in the Mid-Atlantic region.  <http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/service/navmanagers>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System Program** **U.S. IOOS Regional Association** U.S. IOOS® is an operational system and a network of regional partners responsible for regional observations, data management, modeling and analysis, education and outreach, and research and development. The overarching purpose of U.S. IOOS is to address regional and national needs for ocean data and information.   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://www.maracoos.org/>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System Program** **U.S. IOOS** **Regional Association** U.S. IOOS® is an operational system and a network of regional partners responsible for regional observations, data management, modeling and analysis, education and outreach, and research and development. The overarching purpose of U.S. IOOS is to address regional and national needs for ocean data and information.   The Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association (SECOORA) is one of these Regional Associations. SECOORA’s vision is to protect people by providing comprehensive information and tools, conserve the marine environment by providing ocean current, wind, and ecosystem condition information, and enhance the coastal economy by providing information and models to facilitate effective decision-making. <http://www.secoora.org/>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **National Data Buoy Center** **North Carolina 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/>  ***Statewide*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Office of Habitat Conservation**  **Restoration Center** North Carolina contains the largest estuarine system of any Atlantic Coast state. This 2.3 million acre network of habitats provides productive and diverse habitats for finfish, shellfish, and other wildlife, and recreation for millions of people. NMFS Habitat Restoration Center works with numerous partners in North Carolina to restore salt marshes, shorelines, and oyster reefs; and to remove dams that block migratory fish habitat. We’ve restored 893 acres and opened up 159 stream miles through our efforts. Several oyster restoration projects are currently underway in the state which will provide habitat for fisheries and protect the state’s shorelines from erosion. <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/restoration/regional/southeast.html>   **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Southeast Region** **Southeast Regional Office and Fisheries Science Center** NMFS studies, protects and conserves living marine resources to promote healthy, functioning marine ecosystems, afford economic opportunities and enhance the quality of life for the American public. NMFS’ Southeast Regional Office (headquartered in Saint Petersburg, FL) and Southeast Fisheries Science Center (headquartered in Miami, FL) are responsible for living marine resources of the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and U.S. Caribbean. Using the authorities provided by the *Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act,* *Endangered Species Act*, *Marine Mammal Protection Act* and other federal statutes, the Southeast Regional Office and Southeast Fisheries Science Center partner to assess and predict the status of fish stocks, marine mammals and other protected resources, develop and ensure compliance with fishery regulations, restore and protect habitat, and recover threatened and endangered species in waters off North Carolina and throughout the Southeast Region.  The Southeast Regional Office conducts mandated essential fish habitat consultations associated with extensive energy and coastal development activities, participates in state and regional habitat planning and restoration efforts, provides assistance during hazardous material incidents and hurricane events, and participates in the planning processes for major federal water development projects.SEFSC has a laboratory located in Beaufort, NC. [http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/index.html and http://www.sefsc.noaa.gov](http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/index.html)  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Automated Surface Observing Systems** **North Carolina 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 24 ASOS stations in North Carolina. <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/asos_09/NC_asos.pdf> and <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/asos/>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Cooperative Observer Program** **North Carolina 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 199 COOP sites in North Carolina. <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/coop_09/NC_coop.pdf> and <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/coop/>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards** **North Caroline 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 21 NWR transmitters in North Carolina. <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/nwr_09/NC_nwr.pdf> and <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/>  **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **National Sea Grant College Program** **North Carolina 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. North Carolina Sea Grant is your link to research and resources for a healthier coast. Through research, outreach and education programs, we provide unbiased, science-based information to enhance the sustainable use and conservation of ocean and coastal resources to benefit communities, the economy and the environment. North Carolina Sea Grant works with partners on the national, regional, state and local levels. With headquarters at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina Sea Grant also has coastal offices in Manteo, Morehead City and Wilmington. [http://www.ncseagrant.org](http://www.ncseagrant.org/)  ***NC- 1*** ***Durham*** **National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Climate Reference Network** **Durham Station** The U.S. Climate Reference Network (USCRN) is an operational network of climate stations. Data from the USCRN will be used in operational climate monitoring activities and for placing current climate anomalies into an historical perspective. NOAA's National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) manages the USCRN. The USCRN will also provide the United States with a reference network that contributes to an International network under the auspices of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). NOAA’s National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service and NOAA’s Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research jointly manage USCRN. <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/crn/>  ***NC- 1,2,3*** ***Tar-Pamlico and Neuse River Basins*** **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **National Severe Storms Laboratory** **Flood Observations and Warnings** CI-FLOW (Coastal and Inland) is a multi-agency project to evaluate and test new technologies to produce accurate and timely identification of inland and coastal floods in the Tar-Pamlico and Neuse river basins of coastal North Carolina. The program was initiated in response to the devastating human and economic losses caused by storm-surge and coastal flooding from Hurricanes Floyd and Dennis in 1999. http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/projects/ciflow/  ***NC- 2*** ***Raleigh*** **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **National Geodetic Survey** **Geodetic Coordinator** Through a cooperative agreement and part of the National Ocean Service (NOS) State Advisor Program, the State Geodetic Coordinator is a State employee that serves as liaison between NOS and the host state. In this method, NOS helps guide and assist the State's charting, geodetic and surveying programs through technical transfer. This program also provides assistance in planning and implementing Geographic/Land Information System (GIS/LIS) projects. [http://http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/ADVISORS/AdvisorsIndex.shtml](http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/ADVISORS/AdvisorsIndex.shtml)  ***Raleigh-Durham*** **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Weather Forecast Office** **Raleigh WFO** Located at the Centennial Campus of North Carolina State University, 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 the northern Piedmont, northern and central Coastal Plain, and the Sandhills of North Carolina. 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/rah/>  ***NC- 3*** ***Beaufort*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Southeast Regional Office** **Beaufort Field Office** The Beaufort Field Office is co-located with the National Ocean Service’s Center for Coastal Fisheries Habitat Research and with the Beaufort Laboratory of NMFS’ Southeast Fisheries Science Center. This office is responsible for implementing NMFS’ habitat protection programs in North Carolina. In addition to conducting mandated essential fish habitat consultations associated with extensive coastal development activities, the Beaufort Field Office participates in state and regional habitat planning and restoration efforts, supports the planning activities of North Carolina’s National Environmental Policy Act/404 Merger process, and participates in the planning processes for major federal water development projects, and restores diadromous fish habitat by working with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on hydropower licenses and with stakeholders to remove dams that are longer needed. <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/hcd/hcd.htm>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Southeast Fisheries Science Center** **Beaufort Laboratory** The Southeast Fisheries Science Center's research at the Beaufort laboratory focuses on three main areas. First, we conduct research on sea turtle and marine mammal demographics, life history, health, and habitat use to improve our ability to assess and manage protected species stocks. This research includes the longest running federal “in-water” sea turtle research program and the National Sea Turtle Aging Laboratory. Research is also conducted on gear technology to minimize fishery interactions with protected resources and reduce incidental bycatch mortality. Second, we conduct research and fishery-independent monitoring to support fisheries stock assessments and ecosystem management. These efforts include the SouthEast Fishery-Independent Survey program, which surveys reef fish throughout the southeastern US Atlantic Ocean waters (working cooperatively with a NMFS funded program based in South Carolina) and performs multibeam mapping to improve knowledge of habitat distribution in southeastern US waters.  Finally, we conduct fish stock assessments for federally managed species under the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council’s jurisdiction; and for Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic menhaden. In support of these assessments, we collect samples and data from both recreational headboats and menhaden vessels throughout the region, obtain age estimates of sampled fish, and perform research to improve stock assessments. Sophisticated mathematical, ecological, chemical, biochemical, and satellite imagery and telemetry methodologies are used in the course of our research and monitoring endeavors.<http://www.sefsc.noaa.gov/labs/beaufort/>  **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Southeast Fisheries Science Center** **Headboat Program** The NMFS headboat program, established in 1972 to develop a database on reef fish populations, collects data from recreational headboats operating in coastal waters of the Southeast United States and has become a principal source of data for reef fishery management in both the Gulf of Mexico and the United States South Atlantic. These data are used in landings reports, stock assessment modeling, and management advice for many important fish stocks. The program is based at the NMFS/Southeast Fisheries Science Center Beaufort Laboratory, and headboat samplers are located throughout the region. <http://www.sefsc.noaa.gov/labs/beaufort/sustainable/headboat>  **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science** **Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research** The Center for Fisheries and Habitat Research (CCFHR) supports healthy ecosystems communities, and economies by providing managers and the public with tools to preserve, protect, and restore valuable trust resources, and by characterizing ecosystem services including forecasts of how those services are affected by environmental change.  CCFHR staff provide scientific information to coastal managers useful in their roles as coastal stewards and decision makers.  NOAA managed marine sanctuaries and estuarine reserves as well as estuaries and coastal waters are areas of special emphasis.  We conduct research on coastal habitats such as  salt marshes, seagrass meadows, and coral reefs to develop an understanding of the processes that determine their structure and function, which in turn affects their utilization by humans and other species.  A primary use of this knowledge is to plan and monitor restoration of damaged habitats, and to provide science for the development of effective coastal management strategies. [http://www.ccfhr.noaa.gov](http://www.ccfhr.noaa.gov/)   ***Newport/Morehead City*** **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** **Office of Law Enforcement** **Morehead City Field Office** 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 Morehead City field office is part of the Office of Law Enforcement’s Southeast Division. <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ole/se_southeast.html>  **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Weather Forecast Office** **Newport/Morehead WFO** Located in Newport, 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 northeastern North Carolina. This office also provides marine forecasts and warnings for most of the North Carolina coast including the Albemarle and Pamlico sounds. 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/mhx](http://gcoos.tamu.edu/)  ***Wilmington*** **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Cooperative Institute** **Cooperative Institute for Ocean Exploration, Research, and Technology, University of North Carolina** Established in 2009, the Cooperative Institute for Ocean Exploration, Research, and Technology (CIOERT), is a consortium led by the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at Florida Atlantic University that includes the University of North Carolina - Wilmington, University of Miami and SRI International. CIOERT explores and studies the nation's ocean frontiers using innovation and cutting edge technologies under three research themes: (1) develop advanced underwater technologies, (2) explore and research the frontier regions of the eastern U.S. Continental Shelf and Slope and beyond, and (3) vulnerable deep and shallow coral ecosystems. http://cioert.org/  ***NC- 3, 7*** ***Beaufort*** **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management** **North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve** The 10,000-acre North Carolina Reserve was designated in 1981 and 1985 and is managed by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The National Estuarine Research Reserve System is a Federal-state partnership consisting of a network of estuarine areas protected for long-term research and monitoring, stewardship and education. The North Carolina Reserve is comprised of four components: Currituck Banks, Rachel Carson, Mansonboro Island, and Zeke's Island. The Reserve has been the site of many research projects on a variety of important topics such as estuarine eutrophication, productivity of benthic microalgae, the use of dredged material to renourish salt marshes, and effects of feral horses on salt marsh productivity. The Reserve's education program enhances estuarine awareness and provides a critical link between scientific research results and coastal management policies. <http://nerrs.noaa.gov/ReservesMap.aspx>   ***Cape Hatteras*** **National Ocean Service (NOS)** **Office of National Marine Sanctuaries** **U.S.S. *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary** Since its designation in 1975 as the Nation’s first national marine sanctuary, the *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary has protected and preserved the wreck site of the Civil War vessel, the USS *Monitor*. For more than a century, the *Monitor* laid undiscovered and protected by nature in 76 meters of water just 25 kilometers off Cape Hatteras, N.C. In August of 1973, scientists aboard Duke University's research vessel *Eastward* located the *Monitor*. Continuing in the spirit of preserving America’s maritime heritage, the *Monitor* NMS has conducted archaeological expeditions off the North Carolina coast to document and survey other historically significant shipwrecks, such as those sunk during World War II’s Battle of the Atlantic.  Through partnerships with the State of North Carolina, East Carolina University, University of North Carolina Coastal Studies Institute, and the National Park Service, both Axis and Allied shipwrecks have been surveyed for nomination to the Federal Register of Historic Places. The *Monitor* NMS also works closely with its partners, such as the NC Aquariums, the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum, and school districts to support science, technology, engineering, and math education throughout the region. The sanctuary relies on input from a citizen advisory council representing sanctuary constituent groups, who provide advice on sanctuary activities and management actions. By addressing current management issues and anticipating future challenges, we strive to preserve and protect our Nation’s maritime heritage for this and future generations. <http://monitor.noaa.gov/>  ***Manteo*** **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Earth System Research Laboratory/Global Systems Division** **Science On a Sphere® - North Carolina Aquarium** 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/>  ***NC- 4*** ***Raleigh*** **National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS)** **Center for Satellite Applications and Research** **Satellite Climate Studies Branch** The Satellite Climate Studies Branch (SCSB) exploits the capabilities of Earth-observing satellites to study the climate variations of the atmosphere, the land and the oceans. The Branch also uses remote satellite observations as well as model simulations to detect, monitor and forecast the effects of climate change on the environment, including effects on its ecosystems. The branch is co-located with the University of Maryland's Cooperative Institute for Climate and Satellites (CICS) at the M-square Research Complex in College Park, MD. This partnership between NOAA and CICS provides for cutting edge research to be performed in a university setting where NOAA and academic researchers work jointly on topics of high interest and priority to NOAA. The Cooperative Institute for Climate and Satellites is formed through a consortium of academic, non-profit and community organizations with leadership from the University of Maryland, College Park and North Carolina State University. <http://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/star/SCSB_index.php>  ***Raleigh***  **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Earth System Research Laboratory/Global Monitoring Division** **Total Column Ozone Measurements** NOAA's Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL) makes measurements of the column amounts of ozone between the earth's surface and the top of the atmosphere at a number of locations around the United States, including Raleigh, NC. The observations are obtained with ground-based spectrometers that measure the attenuation by ozone of ultraviolet light. This integrated ozone amount is critical in determining the amount of ultraviolet radiation reaching the earth's surface. Excess ultraviolet radiation is responsible for human skin cancer and is also harmful to other biogenic organisms. Column ozone measurements monitor changes in the stratospheric ozone layer resulting from human-produced chlorine and bromine compounds that destroy ozone. With controls now in place on the manufacture and use of these ozone-destroying compounds, it will be important to monitor the ozone layer for the expected recovery and determine whether other factors such as long-term climate change are influencing this recovery. <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/about/ozone.html>  **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Earth System Research Laboratory/Global Monitoring Division** **Ultraviolet Radiation Monitoring Network** The Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL) operates an ultraviolet radiation (UV) monitoring network site in Raleigh These measurements are done as part of ESRL’s research on the Earth's surface radiation budget. Research efforts are devoted to the extent and cause of observed variations in long-term radiation and meteorological measurements, using satellite observations and climate model calculations. In addition, observations of spectral solar radiation are made for remote sensing of certain atmospheric constituents and spectral solar UV is measured for the investigation of the interaction of ozone and solar radiation. ESRL also provides essential instrument calibration services for national and worldwide partner UV monitoring networks. <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/grad/>  ***NC- 7*** ***Wilmington*** **National Weather Service (NWS)** **Weather Forecast Office** **Wilmington WFO** Located in Wilmington, 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 southeastern North Carolina and northeastern South Carolina. 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/er/ilm/>  ***NC- 10*** ***Asheville*** **National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** **Climate Reference Network** **Asheville Station** The U.S. Climate Reference Network (USCRN) is an operational network of climate stations. Data from the USCRN will be used in operational climate monitoring activities and for placing current climate anomalies into an historical perspective. NOAA's National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) manages the USCRN. The USCRN will also provide the United States with a reference network that contributes to an International network under the auspices of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). NOAA’s National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service and NOAA’s Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research jointly manage USCRN. <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/crn/>  ***NC-11*** ***Asheville*** **National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS)** **National Climatic Data Center** **Climate Data Archive** The National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) is the world's largest active archive of weather data that includes all weather records obtained by the NOAA National Weather Service (NWS), the Air Force, Navy, Federal Aviation Administration, Coast Guard, and volunteer cooperative observers. NCDC operates the World Data Center for Meteorology, which is co-located at NCDC in Asheville, North Carolina, and the World Data Center for Paleoclimatology, which is located in Boulder, Colorado. NCDC supports a three-tier national climate services support program - the partners include NCDC, Regional Climate Centers, and State Climatologists. <http://lwf.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/ncdc.html>  **National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS)** **National Climatic Data Center** **Cooperative Institute for Climate and Satellites** The Cooperative Institute for Climate and Satellites (CICS) is formed through a national consortium of academic, non-profit and community organizations with leadership from the University of Maryland, College Park and the University of North Carolina System through North Carolina State University. CICS activities are carried out at two centers, each a partnership between a host university and a major unit within a NOAA Line Office. The first joins the UMCP with the Center for Satellite Applications and Research in the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service and with the National Weather Service’s Climate Prediction Center. The second center joins NCSU in Raleigh, NC, with the National Climatic Data Center in Asheville, NC. Other partners include the University of California-Irvine, Colorado State University, Howard University, the University of Miami, Duke University, the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Princeton University, City University of New York, Columbia University, Oregon State University, and Remote Sensing Systems, in Santa Rosa, CA. <http://www.nrc.noaa.gov/ci/locations/cics_md.html>  ***NC-12*** ***Greensboro*** **NOAA Office of Education** **Educational Partnership Program** **NOAA Interdisciplinary Scientific Environmental Technology Cooperative Science Center**  North Carolina A&T State University is the lead institution in the seven-member consortium. The other seven universities are California State University-Fresno, City College of the City University of New York, Fisk University, North Carolina State University, University of Alaska Southeast and the University of Minnesota. The Interdisciplinary Scientific Environmental Technology Cooperative Science Center focuses its research on the development of technologies that support the prediction and understanding of climate and environmental change. ISETCSC works with NOAA’s Earth System Research Laboratory, whose strategic plan calls for observing and understanding the Earth system and for developing products that will advance NOAA’s environmental information and service on the global-to-local scale. <http://www.ncat.edu/~iset/> | |
| **NOAA’s Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs**  [**http://www.legislative.noaa.gov**](http://www.legislative.noaa.gov) | |