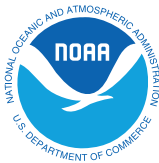




NOAA

# NOAA in Seattle





# WEBSITES

## NOAA

[www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov)

## Weather

[www.weather.gov/seattle](http://www.weather.gov/seattle)

## Ocean, Waterways and Coasts

Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory: [pmel.noaa.gov](http://pmel.noaa.gov)

NOAA Tsunami Website: [tsunami.noaa.gov](http://tsunami.noaa.gov)

Tides and Currents: [tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov)

Office of Response and Restoration: [response.restoration.noaa.gov](http://response.restoration.noaa.gov)

Marine Debris Program: [marinedebris.noaa.gov](http://marinedebris.noaa.gov)

Office of Coast Management: [coast.noaa.gov](http://coast.noaa.gov)

Office of Coast Survey: [nauticalcharts.noaa.gov](http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov)

## Life in the Sea

Alaska Fisheries Science Center: [afsc.noaa.gov](http://afsc.noaa.gov)

Northwest Fisheries Science Center: [nwfsc.noaa.gov](http://nwfsc.noaa.gov)

West Coast Regional Office: [westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov](http://westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov)

NOAA Restoration Center: [restoration.noaa.gov](http://restoration.noaa.gov)

Office of Law Enforcement: [www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ole](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ole)

Seafood Inspection Program: [www.seafood.nmfs.noaa.gov](http://www.seafood.nmfs.noaa.gov)

## Support Services

Vessels and Aircraft: [www.moc.noaa.gov/moc-p/](http://www.moc.noaa.gov/moc-p/)

NOAA Corps: [www.noaaacops.noaa.gov](http://www.noaaacops.noaa.gov)

NOAA Diving Center: [www.ndc.noaa.gov](http://www.ndc.noaa.gov)

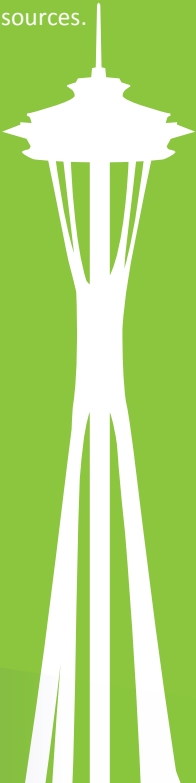
NOAA Library: [www.lib.noaa.gov](http://www.lib.noaa.gov)

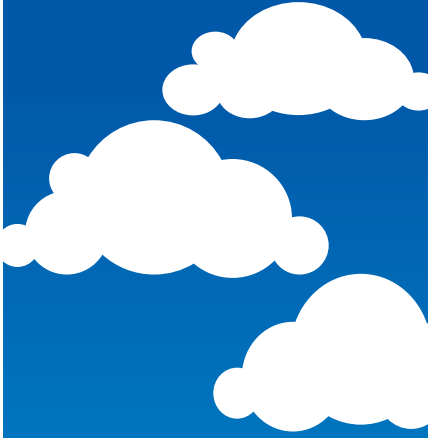


## NOAA IN SEATTLE

Seattle is home to the largest presence of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) outside of the agency's headquarters in Silver Spring, MD. NOAA's science, service and stewardship missions are done by more than 1,500 staff based in Seattle. These scientists, engineers, resource managers and other professional and support personnel serve the Nation by working to better understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources.

Over half of the NOAA personnel in Seattle work at the NOAA Western Regional Center which occupies 100 acres along the western shoreline of Lake Washington on the site of the former Sand Point Naval Air Station. The facilities include offices and laboratories, warehouses and equipment assembly areas, a net loft, a ship pier, a cafeteria and health services building, and conference rooms. The other major NOAA facility in Seattle is the Northwest Fisheries Science Center, whose laboratories and offices are located in the historic Bureau of Fisheries building on Montlake Boulevard – the first federal fisheries research laboratory on the West Coast.

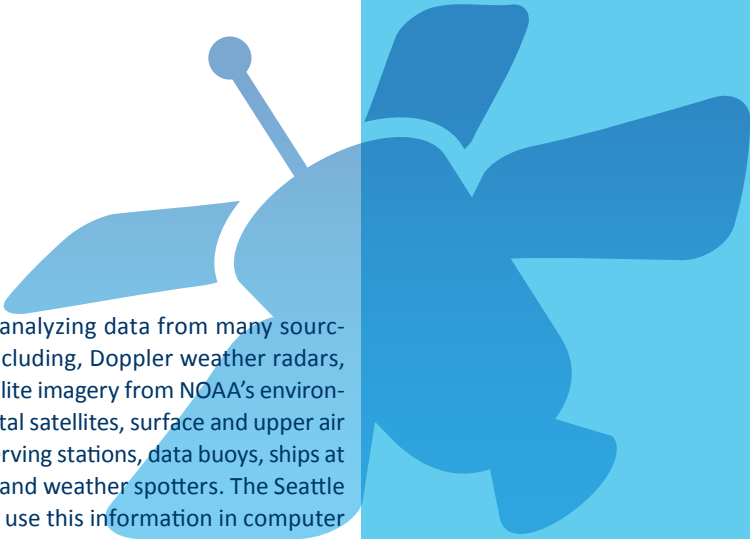




## WEATHER

Meteorologists from NOAA's National Weather Service produce daily weather forecasts, current conditions as well as warnings of hazardous weather and flood conditions to help protect lives and property while enhancing our area's economy. For much of western Washington, this information comes from the Seattle Weather Service Forecast Office. Providing this important service for you and for local media outlets like TV weather anchors means collecting, compiling,





and analyzing data from many sources including, Doppler weather radars, satellite imagery from NOAA's environmental satellites, surface and upper air observing stations, data buoys, ships at sea, and weather spotters. The Seattle staff use this information in computer models to forecast atmospheric conditions a week or more into the future, as well as any official warnings, when necessary, on land, in the air and on the water. In addition to providing weather forecasts, the Seattle staff work with local media, the emergency management community, energy utilities, local, state and federal departments of transportation, and many others to help protect lives and property during many kinds of emergencies. You can find these forecasts on the Internet, or you can obtain a weather radio receiver to link into the all-hazards NOAA Weather Radio network that is tied into the Emergency Alert System.





# OCEANS, WATERWAYS AND COASTS

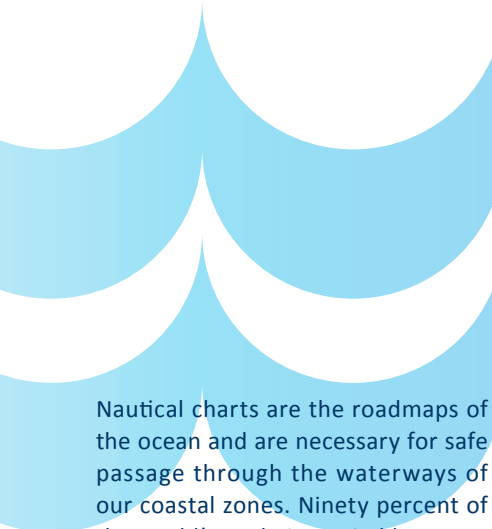
## OCEANS

Scientists and engineers at NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (PMEL) observe our planet from the dark depths of our ocean to the top heights of our atmosphere to increase our understanding of Earth's natural processes and to help protect life and property. PMEL conducts research to better understand ocean dynamics and ocean atmosphere interactions using state-of-the-art approaches and innovative new technologies. Data such as heat content, chemistry, and carbon dioxide levels in the oceans and the amount of aerosols in the atmosphere provide scientists with a better understanding of the impacts of events such as an El Niño, ocean acidification, and Arctic climate change. NOAA's tsunami research includes the development and deployment of a network of oceanic buoys that measure tsunami waves as they occur. This work has led to advances in forecasting models that predict impacts of tsunami waves on coastal communities.

## WATERWAYS

In our coastal waterways, NOAA provides observation data on water level, weather, and currents. NOAA's Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS) and its predecessors have gathered oceanographic data along our Nation's coasts for over 200 years to protect life, property, and the environment. Technicians, scientists, and engineers collect, analyze, and communicate oceanographic information that is used to develop products to enhance navigation for safe and efficient maritime commerce, support coastal zone management, assist in coastal hazard mitigation such as tsunami warning and detection, and monitor indicators of climate change such as trends in sea level.





Nautical charts are the roadmaps of the ocean and are necessary for safe passage through the waterways of our coastal zones. Ninety percent of the world's trade is carried by ocean transport. The safe movement of these goods, including food, clothing, oil, and electronics, across oceans and into our ports is highly dependent upon accurate navigation charts. NOAA's Office of Coast Survey is the Nation's nautical chart maker. Coast Survey's personnel based at the Pacific Hydrographic Branch in Seattle utilize hydrographic surveys from NOAA vessels, contractors, and other sources to update West Coast and Alaska charts. Staff also engage with stakeholders to ensure NOAA navigation products meet their needs. Accuracy and precision in every aspect of nautical chart production is essential to protecting life and property.

## COASTS

When coastal environments are threatened by oil and chemical spills, releases from hazardous waste sites, and marine debris, NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) provides scientific expertise in responding to and assessing the environmental impacts of these incidents. OR&R responds to a variety of environmental crises, from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil rig incident to the cleanup of marine debris on beaches and offshore, including tons of abandoned fishing nets in coastal waters. OR&R draws on an array of NOAA resources to provide oil spill trajectories, by incorporating weather, currents, and other data into the models used to forecast the movement of oil spilled in aquatic environments. NOAA's Office for Coastal Management (OCM) helps make coastal communities more resilient by working with organizations including coastal states, to provide NOAA data and tools such as the Digital Coast and to help define common goals to protect property, ecosystems and coastlines



## LIFE IN THE SEA

Responsibly managing our Nation's fisheries, protecting marine mammals and endangered species, and conserving important aquatic habitat are just a few activities of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries). The importance of marine resources to the Pacific Northwest and Alaska is shown in the work of the NOAA Fisheries offices located in Seattle: the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, the Northwest Fisheries Science Center, the West Coast Regional Office, the Restoration Center, the Seafood Inspection Program and the Office of Law Enforcement.

### FISHERIES

NOAA Fisheries scientists and managers in Seattle work to maintain or rebuild healthy fish and crab populations in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska that provide nutritious seafood for the country and thousands of jobs in our coastal communities. NOAA Fisheries implements and enforces regulations and policies to ensure healthy populations of marine organisms today and for tomorrow. Using ecological observations and modeling, scientists and managers work together with industry and communities to rebuild overfished stocks and to help recover endangered and threatened species, such as the many listed populations of Pacific salmon found in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. NOAA science and management ensure sustainable seafood for the nation, including Alaska pollock - one of the largest, most valuable fisheries in the world. NOAA's Seafood Inspection Program ensures safe seafood for the public through science-based inspections of the seafood industry.





## MARINE MAMMALS

The waters off the West Coast, and Alaska support the greatest diversity of marine mammals in the Nation. NOAA scientists monitor and study marine mammals from Alaska, Washington, Oregon and California to learn about their diet, behavior, population distribution and the effects of environmental contaminants. Resource managers use the information to manage and protect marine mammal populations, such as Puget Sound's Southern Resident killer whales and Steller sea lions in Alaska, as mandated by the Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act.



## HABITAT

Healthy habitat is necessary for conserving the ocean life in our waters. NOAA preserves and restores habitat that supports commercially important species such as West Coast groundfish and salmon and to identify and protect habitat for endangered species. The NOAA Restoration Center provides funding and technical assistance to communities for restoration of coastal ecosystems. Restoration Center staff also work with natural resource agencies, tribal governments, and responsible parties to protect and restore habitats affected by releases of hazardous materials and oil.

## ENFORCEMENT

NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement enforces the laws that conserve and protect marine resources, protecting fish stocks and marine mammal populations from depletion.





## SUPPORTING SERVICES

### VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT

NOAA ships and aircraft are used by NOAA programs based in Seattle to support scientific research including oceanographic research, seafloor and coastal mapping and marine life surveys. NOAA's Pacific fleet is managed from Newport, OR, but you will often see NOAA ships pass through Puget Sound waters as they conduct surveys or come in for service. Other homeports in the Pacific are Kodiak AK, Ketchikan AK, and Pearl Harbor HI.



### NOAA COMMISSIONED CORPS

One of the Nation's seven uniformed services, NOAA's Commissioned Corps is integral to meeting NOAA's missions. NOAA Corps officers operate ships, fly aircraft, facilitate research projects, conduct diving operations, and serve in staff positions throughout NOAA. Duties and areas of operations can range from launching a weather balloon at the South Pole to conducting hydrographic or fishery surveys in Alaska, maintaining buoys in the tropical Pacific, or flying into hurricanes.

### NOAA DIVING CENTER

NOAA is a leader in diving and safety training and Seattle is the headquarters and primary diver training facility for NOAA. The NOAA Diving Center focuses on preparing NOAA scientists and technicians to meet the mental and physical challenges they may face in the underwater environment. NOAA's reputation has led to frequent requests from other governmental agencies to participate in NOAA training courses.



## NOAA LIBRARIES

Library and information services are provided to NOAA employees, partners and the public for the Western Region by three libraries in Seattle. The Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Science Centers' Library is located at NOAA's Montlake facility. The National Marine Mammal Laboratory Library and NOAA Seattle Regional Library are located at NOAA's Western Regional Center.



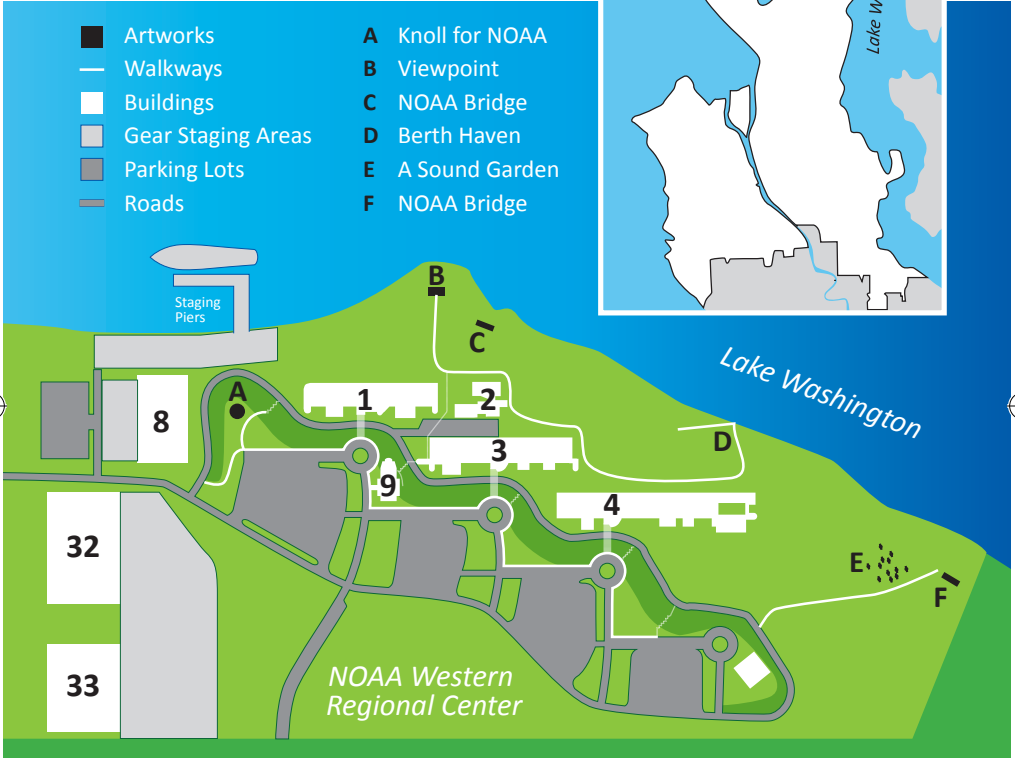
## ADMINISTRATIVE, LEGAL and SECURITY SUPPORT

The science, service and stewardship activities underway at NOAA's Western Regional Center receive legal support from NOAA's General Counsel Northwest; administrative support, including acquisition, finance, human resources, logistics, engineering, real estate, and facilities services from NOAA Corporate Services offices, and security from the Department of Commerce Office of Security located on the campus.





- 1 Offices
- 2 Cafeteria
- 3 Labs, Offices
- 4 Labs, Offices
- 8 Mechanical Shops, Dive Center
- 9 Auditorium
- 32 Warehouse, Net Loft
- 33 Warehouse



U.S. Department of Commerce  
 National Oceanic and  
 Atmospheric Administration  
 Seattle, Washington

