

NERACOOS, the Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems, is collecting and delivering quality and timely ocean and weather information to users throughout the Northeast United States and Canadian Maritimes. To achieve this, NERACOOS supports integrated coastal and ocean observing and modeling activities that feed user defined information products. NERACOOS works collaboratively with regional and local partners including the Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC), a state and federal partnership created by the six New England governors. The multiuse observing and information system provides solutions for:



Marine Operations—Serving reliable, real-time observations and forecasts 24/7 since 2001 that support safe and efficient marine trade and are used by mariners of all kinds, the US Coast Guard in Search and Rescue, and are critical to the operations of the National Weather Service’s Forecast Offices.



Ocean and Coastal Ecosystem Health—Supplying real-time observations and forecasts that are essential for harmful algal bloom (HAB) prediction and management, the monitoring and modeling of water quality and ocean acidification, and ecosystem-based management.



Coastal Hazards Resiliency— Providing street - level inundation forecasting for local managers, coastal flooding and erosion forecasts for the National Weather Service, and supporting NOAA’s and US Coast Guard’s emergency spill response.



Ocean Energy Planning and Management—Accessing, integrating, and delivering information for coastal and marine spatial planning (CMSP), measuring and modeling resource potential in waves, currents and winds and monitoring effects of offshore renewable energy developments.

Education and Outreach—Working to promote understanding and stewardship of the Northeast’s watersheds and coastal waters.

NERACOOS is one of 11 Regional Associations of the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS®).

Program History

Regional components of IOOS provide tailored products at the relevant scale to meet the specific needs of each of the nation’s oceans, coasts and Great Lakes regions while addressing national objectives. In FY07, NOAA included IOOS as part of its budget, including \$14.5m for a competitive regional program. Each year, Congress has increased the competitive regional funds to \$20m. These funds support regional data portals that provide access to both federal and nonfederal data, basic observations on coastal waters and the delivery of information products to those who depend on the coasts for their lives and livelihoods.

Line Item	FY08	FY 09	FY10	FY 11 Pres	FY11 Final
<u>Regional IOOS</u> National Network of Regional coastal observing systems	\$ 20m	\$20m	\$20m	\$14.5m	TBD
NERACOOS	\$1.2m	\$1.35m	\$1.45m	TBD	TBD
Modeling Test Bed and Sensor Verification			\$7m*		
<u>National IOOS</u> National Program and data integration	\$6.5m	\$6.5m	\$6.5m	\$6.5 m	TBD
Total IOOS	\$26.5m	\$26.5m	\$33.5m	\$21 m	TBD

*The FY10 Congressional Appropriations Bill included \$4m for a modeling interoperability test bed and \$3m for sensor validation.



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