

NOAA In Your State Louisiana

“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



Coastal

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 United States (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 Louisiana, field agents are stationed in New Orleans, Golden Meadow, Lafayette, and Houma.

<http://www.sefsc.noaa.gov/interview/>

National Ocean Service (NOS) Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services Lower Mississippi River PORTS®

A Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS®) is operated cooperatively with the local maritime community in the Lower Mississippi River at which real-time data are quality-controlled and disseminated to local users for safe and efficient navigation. Real-time data are available for water levels at three station, currents from two stations, air gap data from two stations, and meteorological data from two stations.

<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/ports/index.shtml?port=lm>

National Ocean Service (NOS) Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services National Water Level Observation Network

The National Ocean Service (NOS) operates ten long-term, continuously operating tide stations in the state of Louisiana that 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 LAWMA, Alameda Pass; Calcasieu Pass; East Bank 1, Bayou LaBranche; Freshwater Canal Locks, Grand Isle, Lake Charles; USCG New Canal Station; Shell Beach, Lake Borgne; Pilots Station, SW Pass; and Tesoro Marine Terminal.

<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov>

National Ocean Service (NOS)

**National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science
Mussel Watch Program**

Mussel Watch sites in Louisiana were sampled pre- and post-oiling in response to the Deepwater Horizon (DWH) incident. Sites were sampled for contaminant analysis (PAHs and trace elements) of oyster tissue and sediments, plus benthic infaunal analysis. Contaminant data are being used to determine the impact of the DWH event on seafood safety.
<http://ccma.nos.noaa.gov/about/coast/nsandt/musselwatch.aspx>

**National Ocean Service (NOS)
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
Louisiana Coastal Management Program**

Through a unique Federal-state partnership, NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) works with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to implement the National Coastal Management Program in Louisiana. OCRM provides the Louisiana DNR 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. Louisiana's coastal zone, which varies from 16 to 32 miles inland from the Gulf coast, is a 5.3 million-acre area that includes 40 percent of the nation's coastal wetlands.
<http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/mystate/la.html>

**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 75,000 acres of land nationally and eight grants have been awarded in Louisiana. CELCP was established in 2002 as a companion the *Coastal Zone Management Act*.
<http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/>

**National Ocean Service (NOS)
Coastal Services Center
Coastal Storms Program**

Through this program, more than \$2.7M has been directed toward storm and climate resiliency issues throughout the Gulf of Mexico. Resources have supported two grant competitions with the products and services generated now being applied to the Climate Community of Practice network being established in the Gulf Sea Grant offices.
<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/csp/>

**National Ocean Service (NOS)
Integrated Ocean Observing System Program
IOOS Regional Association**

The U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) program manages the development of a national network of Regional Associations (RAs) for coastal ocean observing. The Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System (GCOOS) is one of these Regional Associations. GCOOS seeks to establish a sustained observing system for the Gulf of Mexico that will provide observations and products needed by users in the region for the purposes of detecting and predicting climate variability and consequences, preserving and restoring healthy marine ecosystems, ensuring human health, managing resources, facilitating safe and efficient marine transportation, enhancing national security, and predicting and mitigating against coastal hazards.
<http://gcoos.tamu.edu/>

**Statewide
National Ocean Service (NOS)**

**Coastal Services Center
Gulf of Mexico Alliance**

To maintain high-quality constituent service, the NOAA Coastal Services Center provides regional staff members to work closely with the Gulf of Mexico Alliance 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/>

**National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
Office of Habitat Conservation**

Restoration Center

NMFS Restoration Center works with private and public partners in Louisiana to create salt marsh habitat, remove invasive species, implement hydrologic restoration, create oyster reefs, and remove marine debris. Through the Community-based Restoration Program, more than 40 projects have been funded in Louisiana since 1996 and almost 5,000 volunteers have contributed nearly 50,000 hours to assist in these coastal restoration efforts. In southwestern Louisiana, local communities in areas that have been devastated by recent storms are reestablishing oyster reefs. Some reefs are being rebuilt via shell recycling programs that in addition to restoring habitat, are also keeping a critical natural resource from going to landfills. Throughout coastal Louisiana, wetland nurseries are also being established in schools as a means of generating awareness and stewardship of coastal resources, while producing much needed stock of native wetland plants for distribution statewide. Through the Damage Assessment Remediation and Restoration Program, the Restoration Center also collaborates with other agencies, industry, and citizens to protect and restore coastal and marine resources in Louisiana threatened or injured by oil spills, releases of hazardous substances, and vessel groundings.

<http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/restoration/regional/southeast.html>

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

Office of Law Enforcement

Field Office

NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement is dedicated to maximizing compliance with and enforcing the laws that protect our nation's living marine resources and their natural habitat. Office of Law Enforcement special agents and enforcement officers are responsible for carrying out more than 35 federal statutes, as well as U.S. treaties and international law governing the high seas and international trade. The Slidell field office is part of OLE's Southeast Division.

http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ole/se_southeast.html

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

Southeast Region

Bay Watershed Education and Training Program Gulf of Mexico

NOAA's Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program is an environmental education program that promotes locally relevant, experiential learning for K-12 students. B-WET Gulf of Mexico is primarily delivered through competitive funding that promotes meaningful watershed educational experiences. B-WET currently serves seven areas of the country: California, Chesapeake Bay, Gulf of Mexico, Hawai'i, New England, the Pacific Northwest, and the Great Lakes. The B-WET Gulf of Mexico Program recognizes that knowledge and commitment built from firsthand experience, especially in the context of one's community and culture, are essential for achieving environmental stewardship. B-WET Gulf of Mexico responds to regional education and environmental priorities through local implementation of competitive grant funds.

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/outreach/B-WETmainpage.htm>

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

Southeast Region

Southeast Fisheries Regional Office and Southeast 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 Louisiana 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.

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/index.html> and <http://www.sefsc.noaa.gov>

National Weather Service (NWS)
Automated Surface Observing Systems
Louisiana 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). The ASOS systems serve 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, thunderstorm, and fog. There are 15 ASOS stations in Louisiana.

http://www.weather.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/asos_09/la_asos.pdf and
<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/asos/>

National Weather Service (NWS)
Cooperative Observer Program
Louisiana 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 Department of Homeland security, the insurance industry, and energy sector, and many others. These and other federal, state and local governments, and private company sectors use the data daily 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 everyone's energy bill monthly. There are 205 COOP sites in Louisiana.

http://www.weather.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/coop_09/la_coop.pdf and
<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/coop/>

National Weather Service (NWS)
National Data Buoy Center
Louisiana Buoy

The 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, of which one is along coastal Louisiana. NDBC, located at NASA's Stennis Space Center, 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 super computers 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/>

National Weather Service (NWS)
NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards
Louisiana 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 office. NWR broadcasts official Weather Service 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 1100 transmitters covering all 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Pacific Territories. There are 11 NWR transmitters in Louisiana.

http://www.weather.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/map_images/state-maps/nwr_09/la_nwr.pdf and

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/>

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)

National Sea Grant College Program

Louisiana 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 32 programs in all U.S. coastal and Great Lakes states, Puerto Rico and Guam. Louisiana Sea Grant promotes the wise use of marine and coastal resources through research, education, advisory services, and technology transfer. Based at Louisiana State University (LSU), Louisiana Sea Grant was instrumental in the establishment and development of LSU's M.S. and Ph.D. programs in the marine sciences and also played a key role in the creation and nurturing of LSU research groups now known as the School of the Coast and Environment. Current research projects address problems or issues in four major categories that have been identified as especially pertinent to state, regional, and national needs: healthy coastal ecosystems, sustainable coastal development, safe and sustainable seafood supply and hazard resilience in coastal communities. Examples include oyster and fish diseases, essential fish habitat, seafood safety and processing, coastal ecosystem management, coastal economic development, and freshwater diversion for coastal restoration. The program provides information and outreach services to a variety of users, including coastal communities, seafood processors, aquaculturists, fishermen, educators, legislators and coastal policy makers, coastal tourism and recreation interests, and a wide cross-section of Gulf of Mexico-region citizens whose livelihoods depend on coastal and marine resources. The program's technology transfer activities bring the results of Sea Grant research to the private sector for commercial application.

<http://www.laseagrant.org>

LA-1

New Orleans/Baton Rouge at Slidell

National Weather Service (NWS)

Weather Forecast Office

Slidell Weather Forecast Office

Co-located with the National Weather Service Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center in Slidell, this National Weather Service 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 Louisiana and several of Mississippi's most southern counties. Highly trained forecasters issue warnings and forecasts for events over land and sea including hurricanes and tropical storms, 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 broadcast on NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards. Forecasters provide on-site, detailed weather support for 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. The Warning Coordination Meteorologist actively conducts outreach and educational programs, which helps build strong working relationships with local partners in emergency management, government, the media and academic communities. These relationships are invaluable in helping to prepare people to respond appropriately when threatened by severe weather or other hazards. The WFO operates Automated Surface Observing Stations and the local Doppler Weather Radar. The radar provides critical information about current weather conditions for the forecasters to issue tornado warnings or flood and flash flood warnings.

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lix/>

National Weather Service (NWS)

River Forecast Center

Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center

Co-located with the National Weather Service Weather Forecast in Slidell the Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center (LMRFC) performs continuous river basin modeling and provides hydrologic forecast and guidance products for rivers and

streams in has responsibility for all drainage and tributaries of the Mississippi River basin below Chester, Illinois, including most of Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Mississippi. 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.srh.noaa.gov/lmrfc/>

LA-2

New Orleans

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 New Orleans 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>

LA-3

St. Charles Parish

National Ocean Service (NOS) Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services St. Charles Parish Water Level Monitoring System

The National Ocean Service (NOS), in cooperation with St. Charles Parish, operates a water level monitoring system to provide primarily storm surge data to the parish Emergency Management Office (EMO). Two long-term stations at Bayou Gauche and Bayou LaBranche, along with the NOS NWLON stations at Grand Isle and Southwest Pass, provide water level and meteorological data directly to the EMO and to NOS.

<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov>

LA-4

Shreveport

National Weather Service (NWS) Weather Forecast Office Shreveport WFO

Located at Shreveport Regional Airport, this National Weather Service 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 northwestern Louisiana, southwestern Arkansas, northeastern Texas, and extreme southeastern Oklahoma. Highly trained forecasters issue warnings and forecasts for events including hurricanes and tropical storms, 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 broadcast on NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards.

Forecasters provide on-site, detailed weather support for 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. The Warning Coordination Meteorologist actively conducts outreach and educational programs, which helps build strong working relationships with local partners in emergency management, government, the media and academic communities. These relationships are invaluable in helping to prepare people to respond appropriately when threatened by severe weather or other hazards. The WFO operates Automated Surface Observing Stations and the local Doppler Weather Radar. The radar provides critical information about current weather conditions for the forecasters to issue tornado warnings or flood and flash flood warnings.

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/shv>

LA-5

Monroe

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)

Climate Reference Network

Monroe 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/>

LA-6

Baton Rouge

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

Southeast Regional Office

Habitat Conservation Division - Baton Rouge Field Office

The Baton Rouge Field Office is located on the campus of Louisiana State University. This office is responsible for implementing NMFS' habitat protection programs in Louisiana and in the adjacent Gulf of Mexico. In addition to conducting mandated essential fish habitat consultations associated with extensive energy and coastal development activities, the Baton Rouge Field Office 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. Additionally, this office supports Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (Breau Act) implementation activities, which create thousands of acres of wetlands in Louisiana.

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/hcd/hcd.htm>

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

National Seafood Inspection Program

Federal Inspection Office

The National 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.

<http://seafood.nmfs.noaa.gov/>

National Ocean Service (NOS)

National Geodetic Survey

Louisiana Spatial Reference Center

Partnering with NOAA, the Louisiana Spatial Reference Center (LSRS) serves as a new way of providing a spatial referencing liaison between Federal and local authorities. The Center is a non-profit organization affiliated with Center for Geoinformatics at Louisiana State University. The mission of the Center is to provide the necessary geodetic services to ensure the availability of accurate, consistent, and timely spatial referencing data for Louisiana. LSRC is building a statewide network of high precision Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, termed GULFNET, which will tie to the National Spatial Reference System, pinpoint the location of subsidence, and measure exactly how fast the coast is sinking. Additional activities include: assisting NOAA in conducting aerial photography surveys and elevation surveys of Hurricane Evacuation routes; assisting NOAA in mapping the coastal regions of Louisiana and providing data for navigational charts; Height Modernization; assisting NOAA in developing specifications and guidelines for GPS surveys and, educating users about spatial referencing issues and applications.

<http://www.lsrc.lsu.edu/>

Lafayette

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 Louisiana. They help identify the navigational challenges facing marine transportation in Louisiana 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 Lafayette, LA and Mobile, AL to support mariners and stakeholders in Central Gulf Coast waters.

<http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/service/navmanagers>

**National Ocean Service (NOS)
Office of Response and Restoration
Regional Resource Coordinator**

The Office of Response and Restoration's Regional Resource Coordinator (RRC) based in Baton Rouge provides scientific and technical expertise and timely response to oil spills or hazardous materials releases to collect information, samples, and evidence that are time dependent and critical to support natural resource damage assessments throughout the coastal US. Specifically, RRCs work on multi-disciplinary scientific, economic, and legal teams and are responsible for determining and quantifying injuries to NOAA trust natural resources through determination of injuries and pathway, and demonstration of causal mechanisms. RRCs document the severity, geographic extent, and likely duration of the injury. The goal of the RRCs efforts is to determine the appropriate amount and type of restoration required to restore injured NOAA trust resources and compensate the public for their lost use.

<http://response.restoration.noaa.gov>

**Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)
Cooperative Institute**

Northern Gulf Institute (NGI), Louisiana State University

NGI was established at Stennis Space Center, Mississippi, in October 2006. NGI is a consortium of universities led by Mississippi State University, in partnership with the University of Southern Mississippi, Louisiana State University, Florida State University, and Dauphin Island Sea Lab. The fundamental philosophy of NGI is integration: integration of the land-coast-ocean-atmosphere continuum; integration of research to operations; and integration of individual academic institutional strengths into a holistic research and educational program specifically geared to the needs of Northern Gulf of Mexico users.

Among NGI's major NOAA research collaborators are the National Weather Service, the Coastal Services Center, the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory, the National Ocean Service (NOS), the National Coastal Data Development Center, the National Data Buoy Center, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the National Sea Grant Office. NGI conducts research under four scientific themes, focusing on the northern Gulf of Mexico: (1) ecosystem management; (2) geospatial data integration and visualization in environmental science; (3) climate change and climate variability effects on regional ecosystems; and (4) coastal hazards.

<http://www.ngi.msstate.edu/>

**LA-7
Lafayette**

**National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
Southeast Fisheries Science Center**

Lafayette Facility Estuarine Habitats and Coastal Fisheries Center

Located within the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Research Park, this state-of-the art facility provides scientific information on management of commercial and recreational shellfish and finfish, conservation of coastal habitats, protection of threatened and endangered marine species, and protection of coastal wetlands (under the *Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act*). Estuarine Habitats and Coastal Fisheries Center also houses the Marine Mammal Molecular Genetics Lab.

<http://galveston.ssp.nmfs.gov/research/fisheryecology/wetlandrestoration/index.html>

**National Ocean Service (NOS)
Office of Coast Survey
Navigation Manager**

The Navigation Managers of the Office of Coast Survey (OCS) directly support the NOAA strategic goal to "Promote Safe Navigation." These representatives assist the Coast Survey with managing the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's nautical chart data collection and information programs to meet constituent needs. Coast Survey programs provide coastal navigation services and new electronic technologies to help mariners and pilots significantly reduce the risk of accidents and spills. In general, Navigation Managers are focused on resolving charting and navigation questions, educating constituents on emerging charting technologies and their uses, and soliciting feedback on NOAA's navigation

products and services from the commercial maritime industry. OCS has a Navigation Manager located in Lafayette, LA to support mariners and stakeholders in Central Gulf Coast waters.

<http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/reps.htm>

Lafayette/St. Martinville

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)

Climate Reference Network

Lafayette Station

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<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/crn/>

Lake Charles

National Weather Service (NWS)

Weather Forecast Office

Lafayette WFO

Located at Lake Charles Regional Airport, this National Weather Service 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 southwestern Louisiana and a portion of southeastern. Highly trained forecasters issue warnings and forecasts for events over land and sea including hurricanes and tropical storms, 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 broadcast on NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards.

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<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lch>

NOAA's Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

<http://www.legislative.noaa.gov>
