NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

NOAA In Your State

<u>NOAA</u> is an agency that enriches life through science. Our reach goes from the surface of the sun to the depths of the ocean floor as we work to keep citizens informed of the changing environment around them. From daily weather forecasts, severe storm warnings, and climate monitoring to fisheries management, coastal restoration and supporting marine commerce, NOAA's products and services support economic vitality and affect more than one-third of America's gross domestic product. NOAA's dedicated scientists use cutting-edge research and high-tech instrumentation to provide citizens, planners, emergency managers and other decision makers with reliable information they need when they need it.

The following is a summary of NOAA facilities, staff, programs, or activities based in, or focused on, your state or territory: Starting with highlights, then by <u>congressional districts and cities or towns</u>, <u>coastal programs</u>, and then <u>statewide programs</u>.

Highlights of NOAA in New Hampshire

Exploration Command Center	Durham	NH-1
Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve	Durham	NH-1
New England Bay Watershed Education and Training Program	Statewide	NH

The state of New Hampshire also has one Cooperative Institute, one Regional Office, one Science on a Sphere® exhibition, and one National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Science On a Sphere®

Concord NH-2

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 in a way that is simultaneously intuitive and captivating what are sometimes complex environmental processes. It is located at St. Paul's School in Concord.

NH-1

Durham

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) - U.S. Climate Reference Network

The US Climate Reference Network (USCRN) is an operationally viable research network of more than 138 climate stations that are deployed nationwide. Data from the USCRN are used in various climate monitoring activities and for placing current climate anomalies into an historical perspective. The USCRN provides the United States with a reference network that contributes to an International network under the auspices of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). ARL/ATDD manage the USCRN in partnership with NOAA's NESDIS/NCEI.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Joint Hydrographic Center

The University of New Hampshire was awarded a new 5-year grant in 2021 to collaborate through the Joint Hydrographic Center (JHC) to expand research and education in the hydrographic and ocean mapping sciences. A national center of expertise, the JHC is challenging a new generation of upcoming hydrographers and ocean mapping scientists to meet emerging public and private needs for acquiring ever more precise data about ocean floors and the marine environment. The JHC is particularly valuable in research and development efforts to improve scientific understanding and technical capabilities for surveying and mapping, particularly with respect to unmanned systems. NOAA contributes personnel and significant appropriation through grants funding to the JHC; the University of New Hampshire contributes funding, faculty and staff, lab and office space, supplies and services. NOAA's Integrated Ocean and Coastal Mapping (IOCM) Processing Center is co-located at JHC. Employees at the IOCM center help create products derived from hydrography for non-navigation products such as marine debris evaluations and seafloor backscatter maps.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

The National Estuarine Research Reserve System is a network of protected areas focused on long-term research, monitoring, stewardship, education, and training. NOAA's Office for Coastal Management provides funding and national guidance, and each site is managed on a daily basis by a lead state agency or university with input from local partners. The 10,235-acre Great Bay Research Reserve, designated in 1989 and managed by the New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game, is a "drowned river valley" estuary composed of upland forest, salt marsh, mudflats, tidal creeks, rocky intertidal, eelgrass beds, and upland field habitats. The Bay's cultural heritage is equally diverse, from paleo-Indian villages dating to 6,000 years ago to colonial transportation and industrial use, to a proposed oil refinery in 1973.

National Ocean Service (NOS) – <u>Margaret A. Davidson Graduate Fellowship</u>

The Margaret A. Davidson Graduate Fellowship program funds graduate student research and professional development opportunities within the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. The program supports collaborative research addressing local management challenges that may influence future policy and management strategies. The Davidson

Fellow at Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve will focus their research on assessing the ability of saltmarsh prioritization tools to predict critical habitat for tidal marsh birds.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Coastal Response Research Center

Located at the University of New Hampshire, the Coastal Response Research Center was established as a partnership between NOAA, through the Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R), and the University of New Hampshire (UNH). The Center is administered by and located at the UNH campus in Durham, NH. This partnership stimulates innovation in spill preparedness, response, assessment, and implementation of optimum spill recovery strategies. The primary purpose of the Center is to bring together the resources of a research-oriented university and the field expertise of OR&R to conduct and oversee basic and applied research, conduct outreach, and encourage strategic partnerships in spill response, assessment and restoration. The Center involves individuals and institutions, public and private, at local, regional, national and international levels in identifying needs, evaluating and demonstrating promising technologies, and fostering their use as part of new approaches to response and restoration.

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) - Exploration Command Center

At this location, the NOAA Ocean Exploration mapping team works with the Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping/Joint Hydrographic Center and the Integrated Ocean and Coastal Mapping program to plan and coordinate expeditions in support of NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer missions, and the U.S. Extended Continental Shelf Project. The program also collaborates with scientists and students to innovate improvements in ocean acoustic and video imaging methods, visualizations and tools. This location also hosts an Exploration Command Center located on the University of New Hampshire's Durham campus.

Portsmouth

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Portsmouth PORTS®

A Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS®) is operated cooperatively with the local maritime community in Portsmouth Harbor with real-time data quality-controlled and disseminated to local users for safe and efficient navigation. Real-time water level and meteorological observations are available from one station and currents at one location.

New Castle

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Office of Law Enforcement

NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement is the only conservation enforcement program (Federal or State) that is exclusively dedicated to Federal fisheries and marine resource enforcement. Its mission is to protect global marine resources by enforcing domestic laws and international treaties and obligations dedicated to protecting wildlife and their natural habitat. Our special agents and enforcement officers ensure compliance with these laws and take enforcement action if there are violations. Additionally, the Cooperative Enforcement Program allows NOAA the ability to leverage the resources and assistance of 27 coastal states and U.S. territorial marine conservation law enforcement agencies in direct support of the Federal enforcement mission. Effective fisheries law enforcement is critical to creating a level playing field for U.S. fishermen and enabling sustainable fisheries to support vibrant coastal communities. The Office of Law Enforcement's Northeast Division is headquartered in Gloucester, MA, with a New Hampshire field office in New Castle.

Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO) - NOAA Ship Ferdinand R. Hassler

The NOAA Ship *Ferdinand R. Hassler* is managed by NOAA's Marine Operations Center-Atlantic in Norfolk, Virginia, and is homeported at the University of New Hampshire Judd Gregg Marine Pier. The ship is a Coastal Mapping Vessel utilizing the Small Waterplane Area Twin Hull (SWATH) design for improved stability and seakeeping. The newest addition to NOAA's hydrographic charting fleet, the ship is designed to operate from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. Its primary mission is hydrographic survey in support of NOAA's nautical charting mission. The ship is also capable of

performing Automated Underwater Vehicle (AUV) operations, Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) operations, buoy deployment and recovery, and general oceanographic research. The NOAA Ship *Ferdinand R. Hassler* supports NOAA's mission to protect, restore, and manage the use of coastal and ocean resources through an ecosystem approach to management.

The vessel is operated under the direction of officers from the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps in concert with NOAA Professional Mariners. The NOAA Corps today provides a cadre of professionals trained in engineering, earth sciences, oceanography, meteorology, fisheries science, and other related disciplines. Officers operate ships, fly aircrafts, conduct diving operations, and serve in other NOAA staff positions. NOAA Professional Mariners perform the deck, engineering, steward, and survey tech functions aboard NOAA vessels, providing critical support to NOAA missions.

Rye [Isle of Shoals]

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) - <u>Global Greenhouse Gas Reference Network; Halocarbon</u> <u>Measurements</u>

NOAA's Global Monitoring Laboratory (GML) operates a small aircraft-based North American network of sampling sites to measure vertical profiles of important greenhouse gas concentrations. Air is sampled bi-weekly above the surface up to approximately 25,000 feet above sea level using a relatively small, light, and economical automated system developed by GML researchers. These air samples are delivered to GML in Boulder, Colorado for measurements of CO2, CH4, other greenhouse gasses, and ozone depleting substances. These data improve our understanding of the distribution of greenhouse gasses and models of the global carbon cycle. The measurements of ozone depleting substances help determine the effectiveness of efforts to protect and restore the ozone layer, which protects the surface from the sun's ultraviolet radiation.

NH-2

Concord

NOAA Office of Education - Science On a Sphere® at St. Paul's School

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 complex environmental processes in a way that is simultaneously intuitive and captivating.

Nashua

National Weather Service (NWS) - Center Weather Service Unit

Housed in the Federal Aviation Administration's Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC), the NWS Center Weather Service Unit (CWSU) in Nashua provides forecasts and other weather information to ARTCC personnel for use in directing the safe, smooth flow of aviation traffic. The area covered includes Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, most of Connecticut, and all of New York except the western part, and eastern Long Island, New York.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Deep-Sea Coral Research and Technology Program

NOAA's Deep Sea Coral Research is administered by NOAA Fisheries' <u>Office of Habitat Conservation</u>. Mandated by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, it is the nation's only federal research program dedicated to increasing scientific understanding of deep-sea coral ecosystems. Deep-sea corals occur off of every coastal state in the country, and create important habitats for countless species, including many fish species. The Program collaborates closely with partners, including other NOAA offices, to study the distribution, abundance, and diversity of deep sea corals and sponges. This work then informs critical management decisions in the waters of the United States and its territories. These decisions enhance the sustainability of deep-sea fisheries and other ocean uses, while conserving deep-sea coral and sponge habitats.

The Program works with partners to complete multi-year regional fieldwork initiatives, as well as smaller projects around the country, centered on integrating new and existing information on these vulnerable and biologically diverse habitats. The first research initiative took place from 2009 to 2011 in the U.S. South Atlantic region and provided valuable information to help decision-makers refine protected area boundaries. To date, the Program has completed one or more initiatives in each region of the United States.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Sea Turtle Salvage and Stranding Network

The Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network (STSSN) was formally established in 1980 to collect information on and document strandings of marine turtles along the U.S. Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic coasts. The network, which includes federal, state and private partners, encompasses the coastal areas of the eighteen-state region from Maine to Texas, and includes portions of the U.S. Caribbean. Data gathered by the Network helps inform bycatch reduction efforts, monitor factors affecting turtle health, and provide other information needed for sea turtle management and population recovery.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - <u>National Marine Mammal Stranding Network</u> and <u>John H. Prescott</u> <u>Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program</u>

The National Marine Mammal Stranding Network and its trained professionals respond to dead or live marine mammals in distress that are stranded, entangled, out of habitat or otherwise in peril. Our long-standing partnership with the Network provides valuable environmental intelligence, helping NOAA establish links among the health of marine mammals, coastal ecosystems, and coastal communities as well as develop effective conservation programs for marine mammal populations in the wild. There is one stranding network member in the state. NOAA Fisheries funds eligible members of the Stranding Network through the competitive John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program. For fiscal year 2020, 43 competitive Prescott Grants were awarded for a total of \$3.7 million nationwide, including one for \$44,687in New Hampshire to Seacoast Science Center, Inc.

National Ocean Service (NOS) – <u>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law</u>

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is helping coastal communities build the future they want to see. The legislation provides a historic investment in coastal protection and restoration that will increase community resilience to climate change and extreme weather events, and improve how we manage our ocean resources. Projects funded under this law protect and restore ecologically significant habitats, including conserving lands that play a critical role in helping communities become more resilient to natural hazards. New Hampshire received funding for one project in FY22, as well as funds to build the state's capacity to protect its coastal communities and resources.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Navigation Manager

NOAA's navigation managers work directly with pilots, port authorities, and recreational boating organizations in New Hampshire. They help identify the navigational challenges facing marine transportation in the Northeast region and provide NOAA's resources and services that promote safe and efficient navigation. Navigation managers are on call to provide expertise and NOAA navigation response coordination in case of severe coastal weather events or other marine

emergencies. The Office of Coast Survey has a navigation manager in Narragansett, RI, to support mariners and stakeholders in the Northeast region.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Navigation Response Team

The Office of Coast Survey (OCS) maintains the nation's nautical charts and publications for U.S. coasts and the Great Lakes. OCS navigation managers are strategically located in U.S. coastal areas to provide regional support to federal and state agencies in order to assist with navigational challenges. The Office of Coast Survey's Navigation Response Branch (NRB) conducts routine and emergency hydrographic surveys; and working with the regional Navigation Managers, navigation response teams (NRT) work around-the-clock after storms to speed the reopening of ports and waterways. During emergency response, the NRTs provide time-sensitive information to the U.S. Coast Guard or port officials, and transmit data to NOAA cartographers for updating the Coast Survey's suite of navigational charts. NRT-New London is homeported in New London, CT and is able to respond in the region within 24 to 48 hours.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program

The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program brings conservation partners together to protect coastal and estuarine lands considered important for their ecological, conservation, recreational, historical, or aesthetic values. Subject to availability of funding, the program provides state and local governments with matching funds to purchase coastal and estuarine lands or obtain conservation easements for important lands threatened by development. Since 2002, the program has protected more than 110,000 acres of coastal land nationally, including over 16,000 acres protected as in-kind matching contributions. NOAA awarded nine grants in New Hampshire, and these lands are protected in perpetuity.

National Ocean Service (NOS) – <u>National Coastal Zone Management Program</u>

Through a unique federal-state partnership, NOAA's Office for Coastal Management works with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to implement the National Coastal Zone Management Program in New Hampshire. NOAA provides the state coastal management program with financial and technical assistance to further the goals of the Coastal Zone Management Act and ensure coastal waters and lands are used in a balanced way to support jobs, reduce use conflicts, and sustain natural resources.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Coastal Management Fellowship

This program matches postgraduate students with state and territory coastal zone programs to work on two-year projects proposed by the state or territory. The New Hampshire Coastal Program is hosting a fellow from 2022-2024 who is working to build the capacity of the New Hampshire Coastal Adaptation Workgroup to advance emerging priorities, empower local climate adaptation champions and practitioners, and enhance engagement opportunities.

National Ocean Service (NOS) – Digital Coast

The Digital Coast is a focused information resource developed to meet the unique needs of coastal communities. Developed and maintained by NOAA's Office for Coastal Management, content comes from hundreds of organizations, including federal, state, and local agencies, plus private sector and non-profit contributors. The Digital Coast website provides not only site-specific coastal data, but also related tools, training, and information needed to make these data useful for coastal decision makers. The Digital Coast Act authorizes the Digital Coast as a standing national program and supports NOAA's efforts to increase access to authoritative data, tools, and training that enable coastal communities to plan for long-term resilience, manage water resources, and respond to emergencies.

National Ocean Service (NOS) – National Coastal Resilience Fund

The National Coastal Resilience Fund is a partnership effort between NOAA and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) to restore, increase, and strengthen natural infrastructure to protect coastal communities, while also enhancing habitat for fish and wildlife. In New Hampshire, six projects have been funded, one each in FY18-20, two in FY21, and one in FY22.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - OR&R Preparedness, Response, and Restoration Coordinators

NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) is a center of expertise in preparing for, evaluating, and responding to threats to coastal environments, including oil and chemical spills, releases from hazardous waste sites, disasters, and marine debris. To fulfill its mission of protecting and restoring NOAA trust resources, OR&R provides scientific and technical support to prepare for and respond to environmental threats that coastal communities face; determines damage to natural resources from those releases; protects and restores marine and coastal ecosystems; and works with coastal communities to address critical local and regional coastal challenges.

- The **Regional Preparedness Coordinator** (RPC) is strategically placed within the region to ensure that NOS and our partners are able to effectively prepare for, respond to, and recover from all hazards, including coastal disasters. The RPC serves as a liaison between NOS and its federal, state, and local disaster preparedness and emergency response partners. A key role of the RPC is to better understand the needs and opportunities within the region and to ensure partners have the tools and resources necessary to inform decision-making. The RPC has expertise across the spectrum of emergency management and provides preparedness, response, and recovery services including planning, training, exercises, response coordination, continuous improvement, and long-term recovery. The RPC, based in Gloucester, Massachusetts, serves the Northeast region Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New York.
- Eleven regionally based **Scientific Support Coordinators (SSC)** harness the input of a multi-disciplinary team to address issues such as oil slick trajectory forecasting, environmental tradeoffs, best practices, resources at risk, and chemical hazard assessment to reduce risks to coastal habitats and resources. The SSC for New Hampshire is based in Gloucester, Massachusetts.
- OR&R identifies and quantifies environmental injury caused by releases of oil and hazardous materials. Our
 network of Regional Resource Coordinators work with multidisciplinary scientific, economic, and legal teams
 with the goal of securing the appropriate amount and type of restoration required to restore injured NOAA trust
 resources and compensate the public for their lost use. We collaborate with NMFS Restoration Center and
 NOAA General Council through the Damage Assessment, Remediation, and Restoration Program (DARRP) to
 ensure the process is efficient, legally defensible and restoration focused. The RRCs serving the
 Northeast/Great Lakes region are based in Boston, Massachusetts and New York, NY.

National Ocean Service (NOS) – OR&R Atlantic <u>Environmental Response Management Application</u> and <u>Response</u> <u>Tools for Oil and Chemical Spills</u>

Assessing important spatial information and designing successful restoration projects rely upon interpreting and mapping geographic information, including the location, duration, and impacts from oil spills, other hazardous materials, or debris released into the environment. Atlantic Environmental Response Management Application (ERMA®) is an online mapping tool that integrates both static and real-time data, such as ship locations, weather, and ocean currents, providing an easy-to-use common operating picture for environmental responders and decision makers. ERMA staff continued to work closely with Federal and State agencies for drills, hurricane response, and incidents. Maintained habitat data for sensitive species. Ensured data was kept up-to-date and data collection methods were kept consistent. In addition to ERMA, the Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) offers a suite of tools to support emergency responders dealing with oil and chemical spills. From Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) maps and data which provide concise summaries of coastal

resources including biological resources and sensitive shorelines to GNOME, a trajectory and fate model that predicts the route and weathering of pollutants spilled on water, and so much more, these tools provide easy-access to critical data that support a wide range of needs for emergency responders, ultimately supporting our coastal communities.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Mussel Watch Program

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Mussel Watch Program (MWP) monitors the status and trends of chemical contaminants and biological stressors in the nation's coastal waters. MWP began in 1986, and is based on the periodic collection and analysis of bivalves (oysters and mussels) and sediment from a network of more than 300 monitoring sites nationwide. Contaminants monitored at each site include the EPA's Priority Pollutant List of toxic substances and a suite of chemicals of emerging concern such as flame retardants, PFAS, pharmaceuticals, and current use pesticides.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Marine Debris Projects and Partnerships in New Hampshire

The NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) in the Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) leads national and international efforts to reduce the impacts of marine debris. The program supports marine debris removal, prevention, and research projects in partnership with state and local agencies, tribes, non-governmental organizations, academia, and industry. The MDP Northeast Regional Coordinator supports coordination efforts with regional stakeholders, provides support to grant-funded projects, tracks progress of projects, and conducts regional marine debris outreach to local audiences. The MDP also works with local communities and organizations to remove marine debris. The Gulf of Maine Association, in partnership with the Center for Coastal Studies, Urban Harbors Institute at UMass Boston, Surfrider Foundation, Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation, Huntsman Marine Science Centre, and several additional partners, is reducing marine debris by conducting more than 100 shoreline cleanups, including in Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, and implementing actions to prevent marine debris from entering the Gulf of Maine. The Gulf of Maine Debris Action Plan, covering Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and partners across the Canadian border, was published in 2019 and updated in 2022. This plan is facilitated by the MDP with the participation of nearly 30 different organizations. The plan establishes a comprehensive framework for strategic action to ensure the Gulf of Maine and its coasts, people, and wildlife are free from the impacts of marine debris.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - <u>U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System</u> (Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems)

The U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System, or IOOS®, is a federally and regionally coordinated observing system with 17 interagency and 11 regional partners. The System addresses regional and national needs for coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes data and information. This includes gathering and disseminating regional observations; data management; modeling and analysis; education and outreach; and research and development. The Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS) is one of the 11 Regional Associations and was established to network and expand the existing observing and prediction capacities of a multitude of institutions and agencies throughout New England and Maritime Canada. NERACOOS supports infrastructure that provides over-water meteorological and wave observations critical to safe navigation to the National Weather Service in Long Island Sound and the Gulf of Maine.. These platforms also support current and dissolved oxygen sensors that provide critical information for management of hypoxia and harmful algal bloom. Fisheries managers, water quality specialists, the Coast Guard, and many others benefit from accurate and timely ocean observing infrastructure and related decision support tools. The region includes the coastal waters of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.

National Weather Service (NWS) - 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.

Statewide

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - New England Bay Watershed Education and Training Program The NOAA Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) program is an environmental education program that promotes locally relevant, experiential learning in the K-12 environment. The New England B-WET program is administered by the Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office on behalf of the NOAA Office of Education. New England B-WET currently serves Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. The primary delivery of B-WET is through competitive funding that promotes Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences. The New England B-WET program recognizes that knowledge and commitment built from firsthand experience, especially in the context of one's community and culture, is essential for achieving environmental stewardship. New England B-WET responds to regional education and environmental priorities through local implementation of competitive grant funds.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - <u>Greater Atlantic Regional Office</u>, <u>Northeast Fisheries Science Center</u> NMFS is responsible for the management, conservation and protection of living marine resources within the United States' Exclusive Economic Zone (water three to 200 mile offshore). Using the tools provided by the *Magnuson-Stevens Act*, NMFS assesses and predicts the status of fish stocks, develops and ensures compliance with fisheries regulations, restores and protects habitat and works to reduce wasteful fishing practices, and promotes sustainable fisheries. Under the *Marine Mammal Protection Act* and the *Endangered Species Act*, NMFS recovers protected marine species (e.g. whales, turtles).

The Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (located in Gloucester, MA) includes divisions that promote sustainable fisheries, habitat conservation, and recovery of protected species, and conducts statistical analysis and programs supporting these divisions. Key fish species managed in the Greater Atlantic Region include the northeast "multispecies complex" (cod, haddock, yellowtail flounder etc.), Atlantic sea scallops, herring, lobster, and summer flounder. Key marine endangered species in this region are North Atlantic right whales, leatherback, loggerhead, and Kemp's ridley sea turtles, Atlantic salmon and Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon. NMFS is the lead agency coordinating the Large Whale and Sea Turtle Disentanglement Program activities and the Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program activities. The core functions of these programs include coordinating volunteer networks to: respond to entanglements and strandings, investigate mortality events, and conduct biomonitoring, tissue/serum banking, and analytical quality assurance. The Office also fosters sustainable <u>aquaculture</u> in the region, with two Regional Aquaculture Coordinators that act as a liaison between federal and state agencies to assist in permitting and coordination activities, supporting aquaculture outreach and education, and collaborating with industry, academia and other stakeholders on regional marine aquaculture issues.

The Northeast Fisheries Science Center (headquartered in Woods Hole, MA) focuses on collection, analysis, and presentation of scientific information about the Northeast Shelf ecosystem, its condition, and its marine life. In addition to its five laboratories, the Center uses four research vessels to support its work. They are: the NOAA ships *Henry B. Bigelow*, and the small research vessels *Gloria Michelle Victor Loosanoff*, and *Nauvoo*. The Greater Atlantic Regional

Fisheries Office and the Science Center are responsible for the District of Columbia and the following states: Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina; and the inland states of Vermont, Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and West Virginia.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Restoration Center

The <u>NOAA Restoration Center</u>, within the <u>Office of Habitat Conservation</u>, works with partners across the nation to restore habitat to sustain fisheries, recover protected species, and maintain resilient coastal ecosystems and communities. We have over 30 years conducting habitat restoration through competitive funding opportunities and technical assistance. We also work to reverse habitat damage from disasters like oil spills, ship groundings, and severe storms. Through Community-based Restoration Program projects, many acres of fisheries habitat have been restored, rehabilitated, and protected and hundreds of miles of streams have been opened to migratory fish since 2000. The local community supported these restoration efforts through the time and effort of over 1,000 volunteers. TheRestoration Center works with private and public partners in New Hampshire to construct fish ladders, remove dams, widen bridges and culverts to improve tidal flushing in coastal wetlands, restore shellfish and submerged aquatic vegetation beds, and control invasive species. All of these projects are focused on restoring and enhancing migratory passage to spawning habitat for anadromous blueback herring and alewife. See the interactive Restoration Atlas to find habitat restoration projects near you. Site visits to see habitat projects may be available in your state, please inquire if interested.

National Ocean Service (NOS) – Office for Coastal Management

The NOAA Office for Coastal Management practices a partner-based, boots-on-the ground regional approach to coastal management, with staff available in the eight regions. Assistance is provided to local, state, and regional coastal resource management efforts. Constituent feedback and assessments are an important part of the effort. New England staff are located in Durham, New Hampshire, Gloucester, Woods Hole, and Scituate, Massachusetts and Yarmouth, Maine. These employees represent NOAA on several regional ocean governance initiatives (e.g., Northeast Regional Ocean Council, Gulf of Maine Council, Northeast Regional Planning Body), coordinate NOAA involvement in ocean observing system activities, and support research reserves, coastal zone management, and other NOAA and state coordinated activities.

National Ocean Service (NOS) – Regional Geodetic Advisor

The Regional Geodetic Advisor is a National Ocean Service (NOS) employee that resides in a region and serves as a liaison between the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) and its public, academic and private sector constituents within their assigned region. NGS has a Regional Geodetic Advisor stationed in Barre, Vermont including New Hampshire. The Geodetic Advisor provides training, guidance and assistance to constituents managing geospatial activities that are tied to the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS), the framework and coordinate system for all positioning activities in the Nation. The Geodetic Advisor serves as a subject matter expert in geodesy and regional geodetic issues, collaborating internally across NOS and NOAA to ensure that all regional geospatial activities are properly referenced to the NSRS.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Northeast Regional Ocean Council

To maintain quality constituent service, the NOAA Office for Coastal Management staff in this region work with the Northeast Regional Ocean Council and the coastal states on this board by representing NOAA and serving in leadership roles in three priority areas: ocean planning, coastal hazards resilience and ocean and coastal ecosystem health. These staff also coordinate the deployment of NOAA products and services in this region. With funding provided through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, NOAA will invest approximately \$56 million over five years to enhance and support the priorities of established regional ocean partnerships, including coordinating interstate and intertribal management of ocean and coastal management issues, and enhancing sharing and integration of data.

National Weather Service (NWS) - Automated Surface Observing Systems 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, thunderstorm, and fog. There are seven ASOS stations in New Hampshire.

National Weather Service (NWS) - Cooperative Observer Program Sites

The National Weather Service (NWS) Cooperative Observer Program (COOP) is comprised of more than 10,000 volunteers who 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 created 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, state, and local entities, as well as private companies. 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 59 COOP sites in New Hampshire.

National Weather Service (NWS) - NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards 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 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 seven NWR transmitters in New Hampshire.

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) – New Hampshire Sea Grant College Program

The National Sea Grant College Program (Sea Grant) is a federal-university partnership administered by NOAAthat integrates research, extension outreach, and education. Sea Grant forms a national network of 34 programs in all U.S. coastal and Great Lakes states, Puerto Rico, and Guam. The New Hampshire Sea Grant College Program provides support, leadership and expertise for marine research, education and extension in northern New England. It is dedicated to promoting the understanding, development, wise use and conservation of our ocean and coastal resources. Research focuses on aspects of marine economic development, including a range of fisheries and aquaculture topics, and coastal ecosystem health issues. s. Current projects focus on healthy coastal ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, resilient communities and economies, and environmental literacy and workforce development. Administrative offices are in Durham. Extension agents are located in Lee and New Castle. Get involved with Sea Grant through state and national opportunities like the John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship program at <u>seagrant.noaa.gov</u>.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Students for Zero Waste Week

Students are inviting their local communities to "Go Green and Think Blue" by joining them in the annual *Students for Zero Waste Week campaign*. During this campaign led by the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, students focus on reducing land-based waste in order to protect the health of local marine environments. These young leaders are raising awareness of how single-use plastic and other types of litter affect the health of local watersheds, national marine sanctuaries, and the ocean. In addition, some schools are looking at ways to reduce their energy use on campus with hopes of raising awareness of how the burning of fossil fuels also impacts the health of the ocean.

NOAA In Your State is managed by <u>NOAA's Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs</u> and maintained with information provided by NOAA's Line and Staff Offices. Questions about specific programs or offices should be directed to the NOAA Line or Staff Office listed.

More information for those offices may be found at <u>NOAA.gov</u>.