



NOAA

REGIONAL COLLABORATION

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



- HOME
- WHAT IS REGIONAL COLLABORATION?
- NOAA IN THE REGION
- NORTH ATLANTIC'S REGION TEAM
- CONTACT US



North Atlantic Region

FY15 Operating Plan Published

NOAA's North Atlantic Regional Team has identified a dozen separate projects in our FY15 workplan. Many are a continuation of existing work, including our support of the Northeast Coastal Acidification Network (NECAN) pilot stakeholder engagement meetings that will happen in Maine, Massachusetts and two Mid-Atlantic states this winter. Our wave run-up work is now in its third year, and is making an exciting transition from research to experimental operations, as well as expanding into the South Atlantic. We will execute our second joint internship in partnership with the Mid-Atlantic River Forecast Center and NOAA's Chesapeake Bay Office, and fund one for FY16. We will strengthen internal coordination to improve NOAA's ability to drive and benefit from DOI's Bureau of Ocean Energy & Management environmental studies and monitoring for offshore wind projects.

We are sponsoring NOAA travel to convene roundtables with state agencies on climate data and information needs in partnership with other federal agencies, and to support much-needed ocean planning coordination across NOAA representatives on the two regional planning bodies in the region via two regionally-based NOAA forums.

Other NART projects are focused on developing new partnerships, including a collection of projects linked to fisheries. The NART has initiated a National Weather Service/NOAA Fisheries cooperative research project to pilot collection of meteorological data on drifters and fishing vessels, and is sponsoring a workshop in quarter 3 to explore the interface between river/estuarine and shelf dynamics.

With Federal and state agencies throughout the North Atlantic seeking ways to identify and acquire sand from offshore sources to protect shorelines, the NART is supporting activities designed to ensure NOAA principals understand the sensitivities around sand management, agency priorities associated with different mandates (CZMA, EFH) and how to appropriately represent the agency in different settings. We will also work with the Northeast Regional Ocean Council to better coordinate federal mapping resources with state priority needs and operationalize use of SeaSketch in New England as means to communicate constituent priorities.

Finally, we will continue work on two foundational engagement projects designed to build NOAA's interdisciplinary capacity and organizational integration: our thematic engagements with Congressional district staff (aka Congressional roundtables) and our NOAA regional expertise directory (whoyounoaa.us).



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