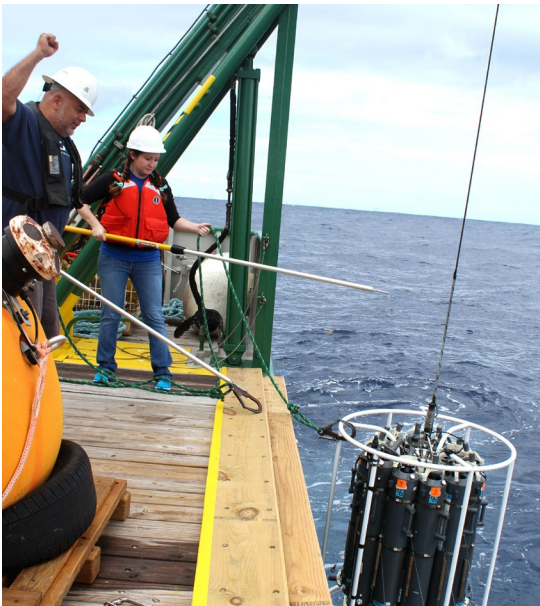


# Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS)

## STAKEHOLDER DRIVEN, SCIENCE-BASED

**IOOS** is the nation’s leading resource for coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes data and information. IOOS supports a vast network of buoys, weather stations, and other sensors that monitor U.S. waters and provide critical, publicly-accessible data, driven by local and regional needs.

IOOS supports the missions of 17 federal agencies, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), where the IOOS Program Office is headquartered. The system is operated by 11 Regional Associations (RAs), which collect and transform observations and forecast data into useful tools tailored to local and regional priorities, including those of Tribes and Indigenous communities.



### Who depends on IOOS data?

IOOS is an efficient, flexible, and cost-effective system that supports:

- Emergency managers
- Search and rescue
- Weather forecasters
- Fishermen and aquaculture
- Oil spill responders
- Port operators and maritime pilots
- Recreational boaters and anglers
- Public health officials (e.g., beach and water quality monitoring)
- Researchers and modelers
- Seafood safety officials
- Tribal, state, and local governments
- Federal agencies, including:
  - Army Corps of Engineers
  - Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
  - Coast Guard
  - Environmental Protection Agency
  - NOAA
  - Office of Naval Research
  - U.S. Arctic Research Commission
  - Resource managers
- You!

## Preparing for a Changing World

IOOS underpins a thriving blue economy by creating jobs, supporting coastal communities, and bridging the gap between cutting-edge scientific research and sound management for maritime safety, storm and hazard preparedness, public health and safety, coastal resilience, and environmental security.

Forty percent of the population live in coastal counties, which produce more than \$9.5 trillion in goods and services and \$3.8 trillion in wages.<sup>1</sup> Coastal communities, economies, and ecosystems are impacted by changing conditions, including:

- Nuisance flooding and erosion
- Harmful algal blooms (HABs), marine heat waves, and ocean acidification
- Hurricanes, extreme storms, and tsunamis

<sup>1</sup> <https://coast.noaa.gov/states/fast-facts/economics-and-demographics.html>



# REPAIR AND PREPARE

## Regional IOOS Fiscal Year 2024 Request to Repair and Prepare: \$80.5 million

### Report Language Request:

Congress provides an additional \$25.5 million above IOOS core funding levels to address critical infrastructure aging concerns in the IOOS regional system, to be spent according to the highest priority needs of each Regional Association.

The IOOS Association FY24 request for the IOOS Regional Observing budget line includes:

### 1. Core Regional Association Support: \$50 million

This will provide sustained operational support, expand engagement to diverse stakeholders and communities, and allow the 11 IOOS RAs to leverage resources to ensure efficiency, develop additional predictive capacity for users, and co-design useful applications for rapidly growing demands. This funding will:

- Ensure safe and efficient maritime transportation and commerce
- Monitor changes to fisheries and ecosystems, including HABs
- Improve understanding and notification of coastal hazards

### 2. Infrastructure repair and modernization: \$25.5 million

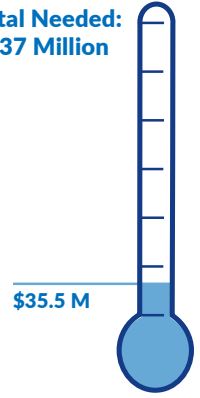
After 20 years in operation, IOOS' aging observing infrastructure—buoys, gliders, radars, and more—requires immediate investment in order to avoid gaps in critical coastal information. To prevent loss of data and services, IOOS is embarking on a five-year

“Repair and Prepare” campaign to fund the **\$137 million needed** to repair and modernize its regional systems.

The Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (IIJA) (P.L. 117-58) will fund part, but not all, of this need. We anticipate a total of \$35.75 million from the IIJA over the next five years. Our \$25.5 million request of Congress represents the unmet need (\$101.3 million) spread over the next four years.

Anticipated Infrastructure Funding From IIJA

**Total Needed: \$137 Million**



### 3. Innovation Competitive Grants: \$5 million

This investment will provide continued support for competitive grant programs for innovations and partnerships including sensor development, autonomous sampling, and coastal modeling.

## Request for IOOS National Program Office: \$13 million

For the IOOS National Office in the NOS Navigation, Observation and Position budget line to: (1) modernize the Data Management and Cyberinfrastructure (DMAC) system to meet user needs and identify system gaps in partnership with the IOOS RAs; (2) develop a biological and marine life observing program; (3) advance the development of coastal modeling products and predictive capabilities; and (4) facilitate integration of non-federal efforts with NOAA, including NOAA's uncrewed system initiative.

	FY 22		FY 23		FY 24	
	Enacted	President's Budget	Senate / House Bills	Enacted	President's Budget	IOOS Association Request
<b>IOOS Regional Observations (Total)</b>	<b>\$41</b>	<b>\$40.5</b>	<b>\$46 / \$44</b>	<b>\$42.5</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>\$80.5</b>
1. IOOS Core and Directed Funds	\$36					\$50
2. Infrastructure Modernization						\$25.5
3. Innovation Competitive Grants	\$4.5					\$5
<b>U.S. IOOS Program Office*</b>	<b>\$6.8</b>			<b>\$7.5</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>\$13</b>

Figures in millions | \* U.S. IOOS Program Office is funded in the NOS Navigation, Observation and Position budget line