Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS)

STAKEHOLDER DRIVEN, SCIENCE-BASED

IOOS is the nation's leading resource for community-driven coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes information.

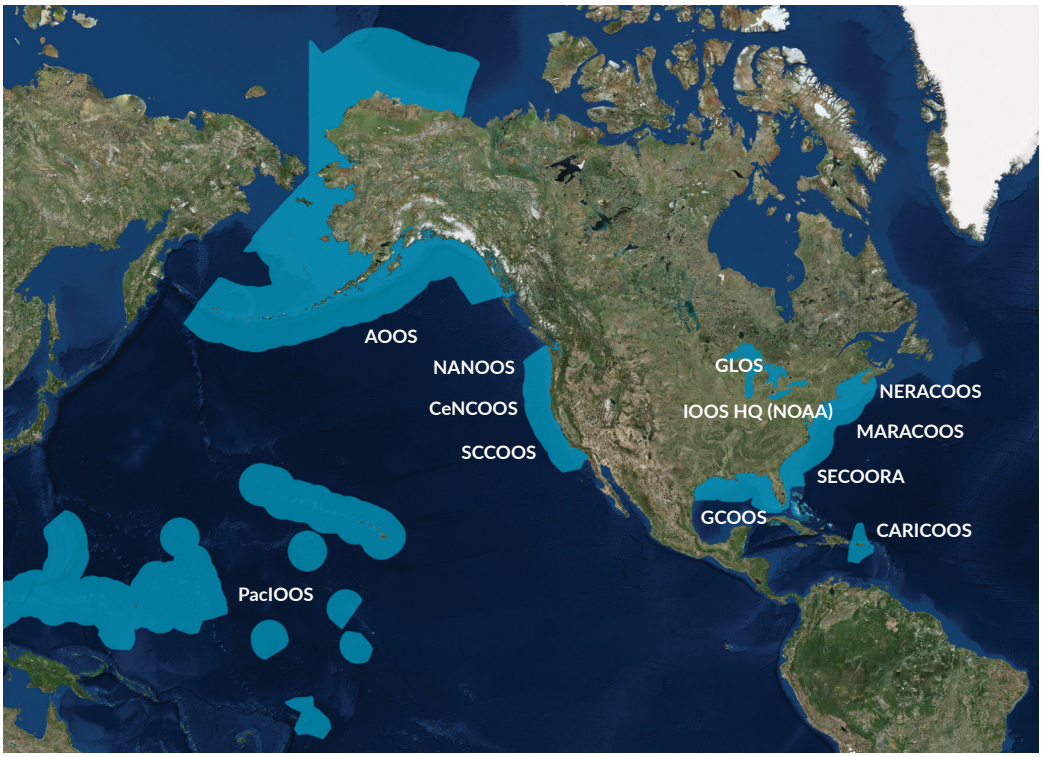
IOOS supports a vast network of buoys, gliders, weather stations, and other sensors that monitor U.S. waters. IOOS provides critical, publicly-accessible data and data products that protect coastal communities, economies, and ecosystems.

This efficient, reliable, and cost-effective system:

Supports emergency preparedness, maritime safety, port operation, search and rescue, public health, and enhances weather and hazard forecasting

Underpins a thriving blue economy with data for local decision-making, fisheries, aquaculture, tourism and offshore operations, and through high-tech jobs and private sector partnerships

Bridges the gap between cutting-edge scientific research, federally-certified data, and sound management by federal, state, Tribal, and local governments



The 11 IOOS Regional Associations (RAs) collect observational data and transform it into forecasts and other useful tools tailored to local and regional needs, including those of Tribes and Indigenous communities.

IOOS also supports the missions of 17 federal agencies, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), where the IOOS Program Office is headquartered.

IOOS FY25 Request

Regional IOOS Fiscal Year 2025 Request: $56 million

The IOOS Association FY25 request for the IOOS Regional Observing budget line meets our authorized level and includes two components:

1. Core Regional Association Support: $50 million

For sustained operational support and expanded engagement with diverse users and communities. Funds will allow IOOS to sustain services, provide new predictive capacity, and co-develop applications that support coastal and Great Lakes communities. This funding will:

- Be flexible to meet the highest needs of regions and stakeholders
- Help keep pace with inflation and depreciation to ensure a strong system
- Support a wide range of partnerships across sectors for collecting and utilizing coastal ocean and Great Lakes data to increase equity in service delivery

2. Innovation, Priority Initiatives, and Competitive Grants: $6 million

To drive forward high-priority initiatives and innovation across the U.S. These include:

- Improved ecosystem monitoring, including for marine life, HAB detection, and forecasting capacity, to meet the information needs of a growing and sustainable blue economy
- Planning and preparedness for local flooding through new inundation sensors and data tools
- Competitive grant programs for innovation in areas including sensor development, autonomous sampling, data analysis and access, and coastal modeling

Report Language Request:

Integrated Ocean Observing System [IOOS].—The Committee notes the importance of the IOOS network and provides $56,000,000 to strategically grow the system based upon the highest priority needs of each region to support disaster response, weather forecasting and hurricane prediction, forecasting of freshwater and marine water quality, detection of harmful algal blooms (HABs), and safe maritime operations.

	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Authorization Level (P.L.116-271)	$50	$52	$54	$56
President's Budget	$69.5	$40.5	$42.5	$10
House / Senate Bills	$50/$47	$44/$46	$41/$42.5	?
Enacted	$41	$42.5	$42.5	?

Figures in millions

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.

** U.S. IOOS Program Office is funded as part of the NOS Navigation, Observation and Position budget line and does not have its own budget in appropriations*

Repair and Prepare Update

After 20+ years in service, IOOS identified the urgent need for $137 million to recapitalize aging infrastructure and modernize its system to prepare coastal populations for rapidly changing ecosystems. Between an expected $35.75 million from the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58) and $100 million from the Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169) over five years, we anticipate that our most pressing needs can be met.