Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS)

Bringing Ocean, Coastal, and Great Lakes Data to Life

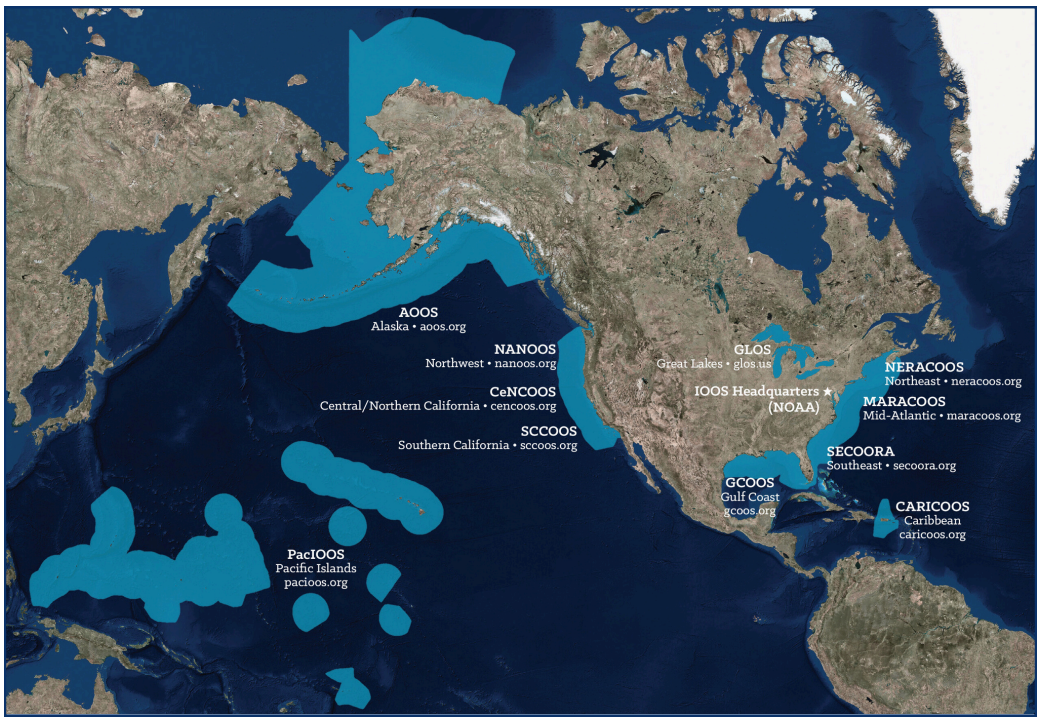
IOOS is the nation's leading source for user-driven coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes information. Through its extensive network of buoys, gliders, weather stations, and other observing platforms, IOOS delivers critical, publicly accessible data and decision-ready products that protect lives, strengthen coastal economies, and support essential maritime operations.

This efficient, reliable, and cost-effective system:

Underpins a thriving ocean economy
with data that power marine jobs and provide commercial fishers, offshore energy operators, and maritime industries with the real-time oceanographic information they need for safe, efficient operations

Improves weather forecast accuracy
by feeding data directly into National Weather Service and Defense Department models that improve forecasts for hurricanes, atmospheric rivers, and inland flooding thus reducing disruptions to communities, shipping, aviation, agriculture, and energy infrastructure

Keeps Americans safe
with real-time monitoring of harmful algal blooms (HABs), water quality, waves, and rip currents and information products tailored to local, regional, Tribal, and private sector needs



The 11 IOOS Regional Associations engage partners across industry, academia, and all levels of government to deliver high-quality, collaboratively developed data and tools that make America safer, stronger, and more self-reliant by improving the forecasts that protect people and power the economy.

IOOS supports many operational needs and the missions of 17 federal agencies, including NOAA – where the IOOS Program Office is headquartered – the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Navy, the Department of the Interior, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

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IOOS FY27 Request

Regional IOOS Fiscal Year 2027 Request: $56 million

The IOOS Association FY27 request for the IOOS Regional Observations budget line reflects our authorized level and includes two components:

Core Regional Association Support: $50 million

This amount is essential for operational support to sustain mission-critical services, enhance predictive and decision-making capacity, and co-develop applications to support the information needs of coastal and Great Lakes communities. This funding will:

- Ensure the continuity of emerging capacities including the national underwater glider program to improve hurricane intensity forecasts
- Help IOOS Regional Associations keep pace with inflation and rising operational costs to ensure a strong system
- Allow Regional Associations to provide data and products that are flexible to meet the highest needs of regional users of ocean information and data

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

This amount will drive forward high-priority IOOS initiatives and innovation across the U.S. These include:

- Expanding HAB detection and prediction and innovative marine life monitoring, such as using eDNA, passive acoustic technologies, and AI-driven analytical tools, to improve ecosystem forecasting capabilities for fisheries and the ocean economy
- Preparedness for local flooding through new inundation sensors, cameras, and the development and hosting of data tools for coastal communities
- Competitive grant programs for innovation in areas including sensor development, autonomous sampling, AI, and coastal model innovations

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, public safety, search and rescue, detection of harmful algal blooms, and safe maritime operations.

Figures in millions	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
Authorization Level (P.L. 116-271)	$52	$54	$56	*$56*	*$56*
President's Budget	$40.5	$42.5	$10	$0	TBD
House/Senate Bills	$44 / $46	$41 / $42.5	$56 / $43.5	$56 / $43.5	TBD
Enacted	$42.5	$42.5	$42.5	$47.5	TBD

Request for IOOS National Program Office: Robust Funding*

The IOOS National Office in the NOS Navigation, Observation and Position budget line requires robust funding to: (1) maintain and improve the national-regional IOOS network to meet legislated mandates and national priorities; (2) maximize the impact, partnerships, and integration of IOOS regional efforts within NOAA, including with NOAA's uncrewed systems initiative; (3) modernize and maintain the Data Management and Cyberinfrastructure system to meet user needs and to identify gaps and emerging requirements in partnership with the IOOS regions; (4) advance a biological and marine life observing program; and (5) advance forecasting and predictive capabilities through modeling research-to-operations.

** The 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*