



**Acronym:** NOAA  
**Full Name:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
**Website:** [www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov)  
**Established:** 1970  
**Location:** Washington D.C., United States

**Areas of expertise:** NOAA provides weather, water and climate forecasts, monitors the environment, manages fisheries and builds healthy coastlines, assures a safe navigation and analyse changes in the oceans.

**Main Partners and collaborations:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), University of Miami, NASA, European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT), Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES), University of Maryland, North Carolina State University, Howard University, Princeton University, Duke University, the University of California at Irvine, Columbia University, the University of Miami, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Oregon State University, Colorado State University, Remote Sensing Systems, in Santa Rosa, Calif., and the City University of New York.

**Short Description:**

NOAA was created in 1970 as a science-based agency under the U.S. Department of Commerce. Its roots trace back to the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey (1807), the Weather Bureau (1870), and the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries (1871). Its mission is "to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment and to conserve, protect, and manage coastal, marine, and Great Lakes' resources to meet our nation's economic, social, and environmental needs".\*

**Main activities:**

The main activities of NOAA are focused on the following services:

- NOAA National Weather service, which provides weather, water, and climate forecasts and warnings for the United States, its territories, adjacent waters, and ocean areas\*.
- NOAA National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service (NESDIS) develops and operates environmental satellites to provide access to global environmental data\*.
- NOAA Fisheries Service manages and protects living marine resources within the United States' Exclusive Economic Zone\*.
- NOAA National Ocean Service (NOS) develops tools and services to monitor U.S. America's coasts, Great Lakes, and ocean waters\*.
- NOAA Research focuses its efforts on the research and development of products and services to understand and predict environmental changes\*.
- NOAA Office of Marine & Aviation Operations operates the NOAA fleet of research and survey ships and aircraft\*.

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\*Lubchenco Jane, "What is NOAA?", January 2010.