



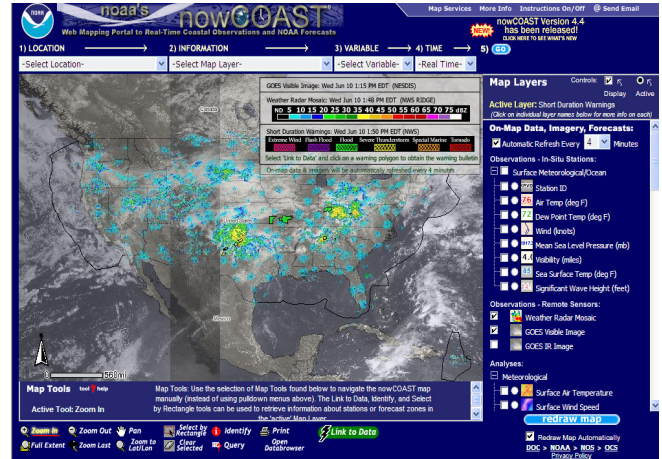
# GEO-ENABLING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS PRACTICES

## NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION'S (NOAA'S) E-GOV

### NOWCOAST

**Background:** Access to a comprehensive suite of on-line, real-time coastal environmental observations and NOAA forecasts is critical in supporting the information needs of government, environmental managers, scientists, businesses and the public.

**Value Statement:** NOAA's nowCOAST is a GIS-based Web mapping portal providing integrated, one-stop access to on-line, real-time coastal environmental observations and NOAA forecasts for any region in the coastal United States. nowCOAST provides coastal situational awareness of present and future (+3 days) environmental conditions in order to plan and respond to threatening coastal hazards. It saves users time and resources by allowing them to view, understand, and query information from a single access point, while also providing options for accessing information not available through other venues. A growing numbers of users access nowCOAST, consistently submitting positive feedback and requests for additional products.



<http://nowcoast.noaa.gov>

### What Functions Does nowCOAST Provide?

- Displays near real-time data for surface weather and ocean observations, satellite cloud imagery, weather radar reflectivity mosaic, sea surface temperature analysis, gridded weather, and short-duration weather warnings
- Supplies geo-referenced hyperlinks to over fifteen thousand web sites providing current observations from meteorological, oceanographic, river, water and air quality observing networks and NOAA forecast products from watersheds to high seas
- Helped to remove some of the physical barriers to geospatial data within NOAA and created composite geospatial data products that span NOAA line offices
- Integrated observational and forecast products for the coastal U.S. from different NOAA line offices, other federal agencies (i.e. USGS, FAA, EPA), regional ocean observing systems, and land-based observing network (mesonets) via on-map displays and geo-referenced hyperlinks

### How is nowCOAST Supported?

- The nowCOAST is a product of the National Ocean Service's Coast Survey Development Laboratory developed in partnership with organizations within NOAA and other federal agencies.

### How Can You Leverage nowCOAST's Model?

- Learn from NOAA's approach in building and partnering on nowCOAST in implementing your own geospatial portal
- Connect to nowCOAST's map services via the web or using your desktop GIS tools (e.g. ArcMAP) to overlay layers on top of your local data sets
- Reduce duplication of effort, lower costs, and enhance data quality using common services

### For Additional Information, Please Contact:

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Geospatial Line of Business (LoB)

### nowCOAST IN EDUCATION

- The nowCoast team & NOAA/NOS' Communication and Education Office developed a lesson plan on using nowCOAST in grades 9-12
- Meets many of the product and features requirements identified by K-12 teachers in the SWMP/IOOS RTD in K-12 Classrooms: A Front-End Evaluation report
- Selected for inclusion in the Digital Library for Earth System Education (DLESE)