



FY2011: Regional Integrated Ocean Observing System Development

U.S. IOOS® is an operational system and a network of regional partners responsible for regional observations, data management, modeling and analysis, education and outreach, and research and development. The overarching purpose of U.S. IOOS is to address regional and national needs for ocean data and information. NOAA continued a merit-based funding process in 2011 to further development of the IOOS regional network. IOOS regional partners provide coordination with regional stakeholders while contributing data and other outputs to the national system – supporting regional priorities while advancing national objectives.

PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION

The Pacific Islands (PacIOOS) region is defined as the State of Hawaii, the Commonwealth and Territories of the United States in the Pacific and the Freely Associated States in the Pacific. PacIOOS is a partnership of data providers and users working together to enhance ocean observations and develop, disseminate, evaluate and apply ocean data and information products designed to address the needs of stakeholders who call the Pacific Islands home.

NOAA Funding:

Prior to FY 2011, IOOS regional partners received two awards – one for development of the Regional Coastal Ocean Observing System (RCOOS), and one for planning and stakeholder engagement by a Regional Association (RA). In FY 2011, IOOS made a single award to each region for management of these activities. Funds awarded by NOAA since establishment of the U.S. IOOS Program Office are as follows:

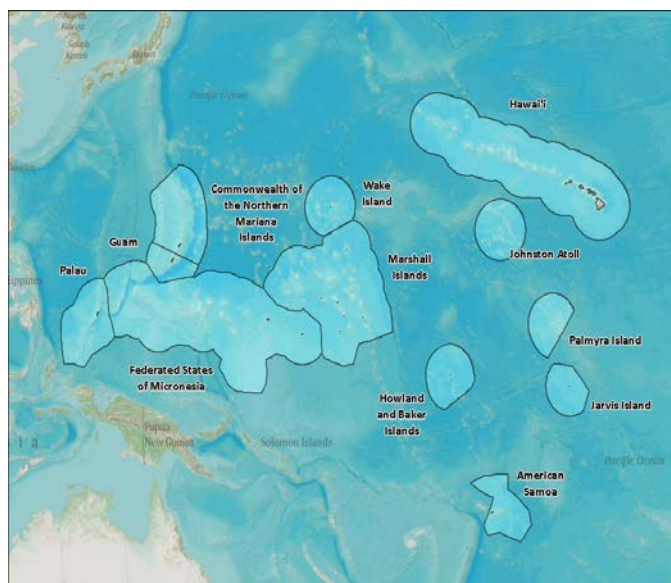
FY 2011 - \$2,065,000

FY 2010 - \$1,700,000 RCOOS, \$399,973 RA

FY 2009 - \$1,869,134 RCOOS, \$398,802 RA

FY 2008 - \$1,700,000 RCOOS, \$397,909 RA

FY 2007 - \$1,700,000 RCOOS



Regional Priorities and Objectives:

In 2011, PacIOOS is working to address:

- Coastal Hazards Resilience: Providing predictions of high water level and inundation events in coastal areas, developing maps of coastline change and identifying areas of vulnerability, and providing beach condition forecasts to users and lifeguards to promote public safety and community resilience.
- Maritime Safety and Security: Serving timely, reliable, real-time information on harbor conditions, coastal and open ocean currents, waves, and weather to improve search-and-rescue operations, spill response, optimize shipping routes, and develop better severe weather and event predictions.
- Coastal Water Quality: Supplying real-time observations of biological, chemical, and physical water parameters to improve the understanding of ocean acidification, more effectively protect healthy coastal



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marine ecosystems, and enhance the understanding of and response to marine events that impact human health.

- Ocean Planning and Management: Integrating information for effective coastal and marine spatial planning (CMSP), measuring and modeling parameters necessary for the development of climate change mitigation and adaptation plans, and collecting and serving necessary information for renewable energy development.
- Education and Outreach: Working to promote the understanding and stewardship of the Hawaiian and insular Pacific's coastal waters and build capacity for the continued expansion of ocean observations and informational products.

Present System

Initial PacIOOS observing efforts have focused on the development of an end-to-end observational system confined to the island of Oahu, Hawaii. This focused pilot-project is exploring the operability of various observational systems in an island setting to help determine the ideal design for a full PacIOOS observational network.

Data system development, modeling, education and outreach, and stakeholder engagement through a collaborative governance framework are focused not only on the Hawaiian Islands, but each of the PacIOOS jurisdictions through the Pacific. Targeted deployment of instrumentation to address local stakeholder needs has begun in the western and southern Pacific jurisdictions with deployments to expand under future funding cooperative agreements.

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