



# NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service in the Caribbean

**NOAA  
FISHERIES**

**Southeast  
Region**

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# Background: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

- 6 line offices: National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Weather Service (NWS), Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), Office of Program Planning and Integration
- NOAA's Mission: Science, Service, and Stewardship to understand and predict changes in climate, weather, oceans, and coasts, share that knowledge and information with others, and conserve and manage coastal and marine ecosystems and resources

# NOAA Regional Collaboration Teams

Caribbean is part of the Southeast and Caribbean Regional Team (SECART)

Goal is to address mission priorities at appropriate geographic scales; address distinct regional challenges, improve stakeholder relations and support, and improve internal communications and efficiency

NOAA in the Caribbean Initiative is linked to SECART

NOAA is also finalizing a Caribbean Strategy to guide implementation of priorities across NOAA



<http://www.regions.noaa.gov/secar/>

# Background: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

- Established in 1970 under the Department of Commerce
- Commercial Fisheries Office was transferred to NOAA and the name was changed to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
- Programs include: Aquaculture, Habitat Conservation, International Affairs, Office of Law Enforcement, Protected Species, Seafood Inspection, Science and Technology, Sustainable Fisheries
- Divided into regions and Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands fall under the Southeast and Caribbean Region

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/>

# How NMFS Southeast Region Collaborates with Regional Efforts

- NOAA SECART members
- Involvement in the development of the NOAA Caribbean Strategy
- Steering Committee members for NOAA in the Caribbean Initiative
- Interim Steering Committee member of the Caribbean Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- Part of NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP)



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# NOAA Data and Information

- **NOS** – Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (e.g., tide information), National Centers for Coastal Science (e.g., biogeography program data on habitats and species), National Geodetic Survey, Coastal Services Center, Office of Coast Survey (e.g., nautical charts), Office on National Marine Sanctuaries, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, Office of Response and Restoration (e.g., damage assessments), see <http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/>
- **NESDIS** – National Climatic Data Center, National Geophysical Data Center, National Oceanographic Data Center, Office of Systems Development, Office of Satellite and Product Operations, Center for Satellite Applications and Research, Joint Polar Satellite System, GEOS-R Program Office, etc., see <http://www.nesdis.noaa.gov/>
- **NMFS** – fisheries and protected resources data and publications, information on research permits, guidelines for avoiding and minimizing impacts to fisheries and protected species as part of water resources development projects and vessel operations, highly migratory species programs, international programs, aquaculture, law enforcement information, seafood inspection, regulations and work with fishery management councils, in particular those in the Southeast and Caribbean, see <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>
- **OAR** – NOAA Research Laboratories, Sea Grant College Program Climate Program, Unmanned Aircraft Systems: includes climate data, undersea research program data, ocean acidification data, etc., see <http://www.research.noaa.gov/>
- **NWS** – weather data, including storms data, air quality, satellite information, see <http://www.weather.gov/>
- **CRCP** – data and publications from internally-funded projects (see CoRIS page and CRCP page), information on external grant projects, including final reports, through CRCP and NFWF, see <http://coralreef.noaa.gov/>

An underwater photograph of a coral reef. The scene is dominated by large, flat, brownish-yellow coral structures in the background, possibly Acropora. In the foreground, there are various other coral species, including dark, branching corals and a large, light-colored, fan-shaped coral. The water is clear and blue, with some light particles visible. The overall lighting is somewhat dim, suggesting an underwater environment.

Questions?