

NOAA continues to support coastal and ocean observing in the Pacific Islands

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PacIOOS provides easily accessible ocean observation and forecasting data.
Credit: University of Hawaii at Manoa

The Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System (PacIOOS) has been awarded more than \$2.75 million in competitive grant funding through

NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). The funding is for the first year of a five-year cooperative agreement to enhance and sustain coastal and ocean observing efforts throughout the U.S. Pacific Islands region.

PacIOOS is based within the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST) at UH Mānoa.

"The ocean is fundamental to our lives in the islands. PacIOOS strives to provide accurate and easily accessible coastal and ocean information to help improve Pacific Islanders' quality of life through empowered decision-making," said PacIOOS Director Melissa Iwamoto. "We are pleased to continue helping island communities and authorities address both the short- and long-term challenges we face in the islands."

Guided by stakeholder input, PacIOOS will continue to support its implementation as an ocean information system. Through the collection of observational ocean data, prediction of future events, and as a resource for a wide variety of ocean data, PacIOOS helps to increase ocean safety, protect public and environmental health, and support the economy.

Wave inundation forecasts, real-time wave information, water quality measurements, and other [ocean](#) and coastal information products are freely available online. User-friendly data visualization tools and the PacIOOS' interactive mapping platform "Voyager" also offer easy and open access to the data.

PacIOOS is one of eleven regional associations to receive funding from IOOS. Over \$31million was awarded this year across the U.S. IOOS system.

"Ocean observing is a collaborative effort, and in order to build a strong,

comprehensive national network, it's essential that we work with dynamic regional associations who are integrated into the communities they serve. It's because of regional associations like PacIOOS that the national Integrated Ocean Observing System is able to reflect the needs of so many diverse communities and industries who need observing data every day," said U.S. IOOS Director Zdenka Willis.

More information: For more information, visit: pacioos.org

Provided by University of Hawaii at Manoa

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