U.S. National Sea Level Report Contributions to the Global Sea Level Observing System





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Introduction

The 2013 United States (U.S.) National Report to the Global Sea Level Observing System (GLOSS) Group of Experts (GE) XIII is a summary of various ongoing U.S. programs and activities that support GLOSS goals and objectives as outlined in the 2012 GLOSS Implementation Plan. While programs and activities addressing sea level in the U.S. extend from federal to academic, this report focuses on three primary U.S. contributions to GLOSS:

- The NOAA National Ocean Service National Water Level Observation Network, managed by the Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services,
- The University of Hawaii Sea Level Center, and
- U.S. support for satellite altimeter operations and research

The first section of the report provides updates on operating status of the various components of the system. The second section provides updates on product development and delivery of data, including database support and web products, followed by the third section providing information on advancements in technology. A fourth section of the report provides an overview of sea level observations for extreme events in the U.S. Finally, the fifth section discusses regional activities in support of GLOSS.

The U.S. continues to be a leader and primary contributor to the international climate and sea level community. Vital to this continued support are international partnerships, innovative technological solutions, and sustained infrastructure for observing systems. The U.S. looks forward to continuing and enhancing collaborative sea level efforts with the international community.

Global Climate Observing System

The Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) is intended to be a long-term, user-driven operational system capable of providing the comprehensive observations required for:

- Monitoring the climate system,
- Detecting and attributing climate change,
- Assessing impacts of, and supporting adaptation to, climate variability and change,
- Application to national economic development,
- Research to improve understanding, modeling and prediction of the climate system.

GCOS addresses the total climate system including physical, chemical and biological properties, and atmospheric, oceanic, terrestrial, hydrologic, and cryospheric components. GLOSS is a primary component of GCOS.

NOAA Climate Program Office

The NOAA Climate Program Office (CPO) supports the ocean component of GCOS that will respond to the long term observational requirements of the operational forecast centers, international research programs, and major scientific assessments (http://www.climate.noaa.gov/).

In order for NOAA to fulfill its climate mission, the global ocean must be observed. A global observing system by definition crosses international boundaries, with potential for both benefits and responsibilities to be shared by many nations. All of NOAA's contributions to global ocean observation are managed in cooperation with the Joint World Meteorological Organization (WMO) - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM). NOAA has historically funded nearly half of the *in situ* elements of the international ocean climate observing system. Much of this work is accomplished through the CPO Climate Observations and Monitoring (COM) Program.

The goal of the COM Program is to provide comprehensive observations, data and analysis systems, climate data records, computational models, and research capabilities, which can address the current state of the climate at the accuracies and resolution required by the users; to provide capability to assimilate large and complex data sets into earth systems models in order to understand the climate of the past, provide attribution to the present and future states of the climate, and optimize observing systems; and to better quantify the information on atmospheric composition and feedbacks that contribute to changes in Earth's Climate. The COM Program designs, deploys, and maintains an integrated global network of oceanic and atmospheric observing instruments to produce continuous records and analyses of a range of ocean and atmosphere parameters. COM coordinates observing efforts across NOAA and other federal agencies, as well as internationally.

Sustained Ocean Observing System

The networks that make up the Sustained Ocean Observing System for Climate are: tide gauge stations, dedicated ships, ships of opportunity, ocean reference stations, Arctic observing systems, tropical moored buoys, surface drifting buoys, Argo profiling floats, data and assimilation subsystems, product delivery, and continuous satellite missions for sea surface temperature, sea surface height, surface vector winds, ocean color, and sea ice. NOAA CPO contributes to global implementation of nearly all networks.

The international Global Climate Observing System *Implementation Plan for the Global Observing System for Climate in support of the UNFCCC* (GCOS-138, updated 2010) (<u>http://www.wmo.ch/pages/prog/gcos</u>) helps guide the Climate Program Office system design and prioritization. The 2010 version of the implementation plan updates the original 2004 version, and includes a revised list of the GCOS Essential Climate Variables. It has been

endorsed by the UNFCCC and by the Group on Earth Observation (GEO). http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/gcos/Publications/gcos-138.pdf

NOAA's *Program Plan for Building a Sustained Ocean Observing System for Climate* is in complete accord with GCOS-138 and provides the framework for NOAA contributions to the international effort. All of the work supported by CPO is directed toward implementation of this international plan and the projects are being implemented in accordance with the GCOS Climate Monitoring Principles.

Tide gauge stations are necessary to the climate program for accurately measuring long-term trends in sea level change and for calibration and validation of the measurements from satellite altimeters, which are assimilated into global climate models for predicting climate variability and change. Many tide stations need to be upgraded with modern technology, particularly in less developed countries. Permanent GPS receivers are being installed, leading to a geocentrically located subset of 170 GCOS Climate Reference Stations, as identified in the original GCOS Implementation Plan, GCOS-92. The 170 Climate Reference Stations are also being upgraded for real-time reporting, not only for climate monitoring, but also to support marine hazard warning (e.g., tsunami warning). This Climate Reference Station subset of the GLOSS core network has historically been the focus of CPO support.

The University of Hawaii Sea Level Center is a NOAA partner who assists in the coordination of tide gauge operations within the international community. NOAA provides long-term support for the climate work at the UHSLC. Sea level stations within the U.S. are primarily operated by NOAA's Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS).

I. Global Sea Level Observing Network Components and Operating Status

A. Tide Station Networks

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA has operated and maintained a network of coastal sea level (tide gauge) stations for over 150 years, and is the legal authority for sea level in the U.S. The NOAA National Ocean Service (NOS) Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS) operates 210 long-term sea level stations, called the National Water Level Observation Network (NWLON). CO-OPS sea level stations are multi-purpose, supporting diverse applications with both real-time and long-term data, from safe and efficient navigation and coastal hazard mitigation to coastal zone management and climate observation. CO-OPS provides an "end-to-end" system of data collection, quality control, data management, and product delivery. CO-OPS distributes data directly from its own web site, through the Global Telecommunication System (GTS), through OPeNDAP and SOS servers, and through some specialized methods, such as ftp server.

CO-OPS maintains a rigorous set of standards and methodologies and is recognized for the high level of accuracy and reliability in data delivery. Information on CO-OPS standards and protocols can be found at: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/pub.html

In addition to maintenance of this long-term network, CO-OPS has been tasked with three primary activities in support of NOAA's CPO goals, together comprising its primary contribution to GLOSS:

1) Upgrade the operation of selected National Water Level Observation Network Stations to ensure continuous operation and connection to geodetic reference frames

2) Operate and maintain water level measurement systems on Platform Harvest in support of calibration of the TOPEX/Poseidon and Jason 1 satellite altimeter missions

3) Develop and implement a routine annual sea level and extreme event analysis reporting capability that meets the requirements of the CPO

Several NWLON stations have been identified as critical components of GLOSS (See Appendix 1 for a full listing). 29 of the 210 NOAA NWLON stations are considered GLOSS stations, and contribute to the Joint Archive for Sea Level (JASL). Appendix 2 is a listing of additional NOAA sea level stations currently contributing to the JASL database. There are 54 total NOAA operational NWLON stations that actively contribute to the JASL archive. The 18 NWLON stations identified at the 1997 International Sea Level Workshop as critical to the global system for monitoring long term sea level trends are also identified in the tables as Climate Reference Network (CRN) stations. While reference to CRN is being phased out following the revision of the GCOS Implementation Plan, stations are still identified as such for the purposes of this report during transition.

Upgrade of NOAA Ocean Island Station Operations

Several coastal and island NWLON stations are critical to GCOS. Annual maintenance is often extremely important at these often remote locations, due to the fact that corrective maintenance is logistically very difficult and expensive. Redundancy in data collection and transmission is also critical, as the continuity and integrity of these important data sets must be maintained for accurate sea level measurements.

Although operation of all of the long-term NWLON and GLOSS stations is important, a subset of NOAA NWLON Ocean Island stations were targeted for priority upgrade to ensure their continuous operation, and work has been conducted over the past several years. These upgrades have included high accuracy acoustic or paroscientifc pressure sensors and redundant Data Collection Platforms (DCPs) with equal capability to the existing primary systems. Now that hardware upgrades of the highest priority stations are complete, stations will continue to be enhanced where needed with connections to geodetic reference systems (through leveling and/or GPS), followed by installation of NGS Continuously Operating Reference Systems (CORS)

at selected sites. Table 1 provides a list of the ocean island NWLON stations (not including Hawaii) that were considered in this category as priority for upgrade. Stations with outstanding work in CORS installations are marked "No" in the respective category and will be addressed over the next two years.

Station	Upgraded	Geodetic Connection	CORS (GPS)
Guam	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kwajalein	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pago Pago	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wake Island	Yes	Yes	No
Midway	Yes	Yes	No
Adak	Yes	Yes	No
Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Yes
San Juan, PR	Yes	Yes	Yes
Magueyes Island, PR	Yes	Yes	Yes
Charlotte Amalie, VI	Yes	Yes	Yes
St. Croix, VI	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table 1. Ocean island NOAA NWLON stations (not including Hawaii) which have been upgraded.

University of Hawaii Sea Level Center

The University of Hawaii Sea Level Center (UHSLC) collects, processes, and distributes tide gauge measurements from around the world in support of various climate research activities. Primary support for the UHSLC is provided by the NOAA CPO. UHSLC datasets are used for a variety of research and operational activities, including assessments of sea level rise and variability, the calibration of altimeter data, and storm surge and tsunami monitoring. In support of satellite altimeter calibration and for absolute sea level rise monitoring, the UHSLC and the Pacific GPS Facility maintain co-located GPS systems at select tide gauge stations (GPS@TG). The UHSLC currently is a designated IOC GLOSS data archive center. The UHSLC distributes data directly from its own web site and through a dedicated OPeNDAP server. The data are redistributed by the National Oceanographic Data Center (NODC), the Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level, the British Oceanographic Data Centre (BODC), and the Asia-Pacific Data-Research Center (APDRC).

The UHSLC collaborates in the operation of 53 tide gauge stations in the global sea level network. All of these sites meet GLOSS standards for tsunami monitoring and are currently providing data to appropriate warning centers. The UHSLC in collaboration with the Pacific GPS Facility operates co- located continuous GPS (GPS@TG) receivers at 10 tide gauges, which constitute to the NASA/CNES Science Working Team for altimeter calibration, and provide local estimates of absolute sea level rise.

The UHSLC distributes two sea level data sets: Joint Archive for Sea Level (JASL), and Fast Delivery Database.

GLOSS	STATION	COUNTRY	LAT	LONG	GPS?
182	Acajutla	El Salvador	13° 35'N	089° 50'W	
068	Ambon	Indonesia	03º 41'S	128º 11'E	
169	Baltra	Ecuador	00º 26'S	090º 17'W	
049	Benoa	Indonesia	08º 46′S	115º 13'E	GPS@TG
069	Bitung	Indonesia	00º 27'N	125º 12'E	
173	Callao	Peru	12° 03'S	077° 09'W	
128	Chatham	New Zealand	43° 57'S	176° 34'W	
036	Chittagong	Bangladesh	22º 20′N	091º 38'E	
146	Christmas	Rep. of Kiribati	01º 59'N	157º 28'₩	
291	Cilacap	Indonesia	07º 45′S	109º 00'E	GPS@TG
033	Colombo	Sri Lanka	06º 57′N	079º 51'E	
253	Dakar	Sénégal	14º 41'N	017º 25'W	
071	Davao	Philippines	07º 50′N	125º 38′E	
026	Diego Garcia	United Kingdom	07º 17′S	072º 24'E	
245	Fortaleza	Brazil	03º 43′S	38º 28'W	
107	French Frigate S	USA	23º 52′N	166º 17'W	
027	Gan	Rep. of Maldives	00º 41'S	073º 09'E	GPS@TG
109	Johnston	USA Trust	16º 44'N	169º 32'W	
145	Kanton	Rep. of Kiribati	02º 49′S	171º 43'W	
117	Kapingamarangi	Fd St Micronesia	01º 06'N	154º 47′E	
042	Ko Taphao Noi	Thailand	07º 49′N	098º 25'E	
172	La Libertad	Ecuador	02° 12'S	080° 55'W	
072	Legaspi	Philippines	13° 09'N	123° 45'E	
120	Malakal	Rep. of Belau	07º 20′N	134º 28'E	GPS@TG
028	Male (Hulhule)	Rep. of Maldives	04º 11'N	073º 32′E	GPS@TG
069	Manado	Indonesia	01° 26'N	125° 12'E	GPS@TG
073	Manila	Philippines	14º 38'N	121º 05'E	
163	Manzanillo	Mexico	19º 03'N	104º 20'W	GPS@TG
192	Mar Del Plata	Argentina	38º 02'S	057º 32'W	
008	Mombasa	Kenya	04º 04'S	039º 39'E	
141	Moulmein	Myanmar	16º 29'N	097º 37'E	
142	Nuku Hiva	French Polynesia	08º 55'S	140º 06'W	
045	Padang	Indonesia	00º 57'S	100º 22'E	
329	Palmeira	Cape Verde	16º 45'N	022º 59'W	GPS@TG
140	Papeete	French Polynesia	17º 32'S	149º 34'W	
143	Penrhyn	Cook Islands	08º 59′S	158º 03'W	
245	Ponta Delgada	Portugal	37º 44'N	025º 40'₩	
018	Port Louis	Mauritius	20º 09'S	057º 30'E	
273	Pt. LaRue	Seychelles	04º 40'S	055º 32'E	
190	Puerto Deseado	Argentina	47° 45'S	065° 55'W	
191	Puerto Madryn	Argentina	42° 46'S	065° 02'W	
167	Quepos	Costa Rica	09° 24'N	084° 10'W	
075	Qui Nhon	Vietnam	13º 47'N	109º 15'E	
138	Rikitea	French Polynesia	23º 08'S	134º 57'W	
019	Rodrigues	Mauritius	19º 40'S	063º 25'E	
347	Sabang	Indonesia	05º 50'N	095º 20'E	

Table 2. GLOSS Stations operated by or in collaboration with UHSLC.

118	Saipan	USA	15º 14′N	145º 45'E	
004	Salalah	Oman	16º 56'N	054º 00'E	
334	Salvador	Brazil	12º 58'S	038º 31'W	
211	Settlement Pnt.	Bahamas	26º 41'N	078º 59′W	GPS@TG
037	Sittwe	Myanmar	20º 09'N	092º 54'E	
181	Ushuaia	Argentina	54° 48'S	068° 18'W	
119	Үар	Fd St Micronesia	09º 31'N	138º 08'E	
297	Zanzibar	Tanzania	06º 09'S	039º 11'E	

Note: GPS@TG indicates which stations have UHSLC GPS co-located at the tide stations.

The UHSLC receives support from the NOAA Tsunami Program for maintaining sea level stations in the Pacific Ocean (Quepos, Costa Rica; Acajutla, El Salvador; Callao, Matarani, and Talara, Peru; La Libertad, Ecuador; Hiva Oa, and Nuku Hiva, Fr. Polynesia; Legaspi, Philippines; and French Frigate Shoals, U.S.) and the Caribbean (Limon, Costa Rica; Punta Cana and Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic; Bullen Bay, Curacao; Roseau, Dominca; Prickly Bay, Grenada; El Porvenir, Panama; and Santa Marta and San Andres, Colombia). Maintenance in the Caribbean is provided in collaboration with the Puerto Rico Seismic Network. The data from these stations are made available to the Tsunami Warning Centers and can also be accessed through the website of the UHSLC (<u>http://uhslc.soest.hawaii.edu/</u>) and the IOC Sea Level Monitoring Facility (<u>http://www.ioc-sealevelmonitoring.org/</u>).

B. Satellite Altimeter Activities

Satellite Altimeter Operations

The launch of the Jason-2/Ocean Surface Topography Mission (Figure 1), on June 20, 2008, marked an important turning point in the evolution of satellite radar altimetry from research to operations Jason-2/OSTM is a joint effort led by NASA and France's Centre National d'Etudes Spatial (CNES), with two operational agencies, NOAA and the European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT), participating for the first time. Its primary goal is to maintain continuity of the more than two-decade record of ocean surface topography measurements established by the TOPEX/Poseidon and Jason-1 altimeter missions. These observations have proven be invaluable in the study of global mean sea level change, showing sea level rising at approximately 2.9 mm/yr between 1993 and 2013, nearly 50% faster than over the past century, as well as revealing important new insights into regional sea-level change. Jason sea surface height observations are also used to study eddy variability and large-scale circulation changes in the ocean.



Figure 1. Launch of Jason-2.

During the first six months of operation, known as the Tandem Mission, Jason-2/OSTM was flown along the same repeat orbit as Jason-1, but separated by 1 minute. In mid-February, 2009, Jason-1 was moved to an orbit that interleaves and lags Jason-2/OSTM by 5 days, effectively doubling the resolution of observations (157 km vs 315 km track spacing at equator, 5 day vs. 10 day repeat period), thereby greatly improving the ability to monitor meso-scale sea level variability. The two satellites continued this mode of operation, known as the Interleave Mission, until May 2012, when Jason-1 was put in a new orbit with a repeat cycle of 406 days to improve the resolution of the marine geoid. Jason-1 ceased transmitting in June 2012, after 11+ years of successful operation, and was officially deactivated in July 2012.

NOAA, working with CNES, is providing ground system support for Jason-2/OSTM. This includes command and control of the satellite, downloading telemetry, producing near-real time data products (OGDRs) and archiving and distributing all data products. EUMETSAT is sharing with NOAA the responsibility for downloading telemetry and producing OGDRs. CNES is producing all interim and final science data products (IGDRs and GDRs), as well as archiving and distributing them.

A series of Jason follow-on missions is being developed to maintain continuity of the sea level climate data record beyond Jason-2/OSTM. Jason-3, a NOAA and EUMETSAT mission with support by CNES and NASA, is on schedule to be launched in 2015. Jason-3 ground operations and data processing will be the same as for Jason-2/OSTM. The follow-on to Jason-3 will be Jason-CS, a joint 5-partner mission, involving the European Space Agency (ESA), as well as NOAA, EUMETSAT, NASA, and CNES, to be launched in 2019. For Jason-CS, NOAA and EUMETSAT will exchange roles; EUMETSAT will be responsible for satellite command and control, as well as producing all science data products.

Satellite Data Analysis and Altimeter Drift Estimation

From the beginning of the TOPEX/Poseidon (T/P) mission, methods to estimate altimeter drift from comparisons with the global tide gauge network have continuously evolved, first in a research mode with NASA funding, and later becoming more general and operationally-oriented with some additional support from NOAA.

By the year 2000 the fundamental statistical footing for the method was firmly established, and it had been found that land motion at the tide gauges was the largest remaining source of error when estimating linear drift rates for the altimeters. To this point, however, the method, despite being quite general had only been applied on a regular basis to the TOPEX/Poseidon dataset. Also, a variety of versions of the basic programs existed for estimations based on data from different groups around the country.

With NOAA support, the University of South Florida (USF) was able to take assume the task of unifying the procedures for use on any altimeter dataset and put together a system that would enable taking in datasets from any source with relatively little difficulty.

USF now has in place an operational facility for ongoing comparisons between the available altimeter datasets and the global set of tide gauges using consistent, and proven, methods. These comparisons allow the estimation of any temporal drifts in the altimeter datasets, and allow the comparison of the different altimeter datasets with a single consistent sea surface height database. This means that these comparisons will be semi-absolute, in the sense that vertical offsets between different altimeters, even those which do not overlap in time, are determined as part of the procedure.

On a quasi-monthly basis USF downloads, processes and quality controls all of the tide gauge datasets that are used in USF products. These datasets are updated on a monthly basis at the UHSLC, and this timing sets a natural updating frequency for our products. In addition to updating the tide gauge datasets, code to translate any new altimeter products into the format required by our general routine must be written. This has been done for several altimeter products, including those produced at the NOAA Laboratory for Satellite Altimetry.

Satellite Altimeter Calibration

NOAA support for the TOPEX/Poseidon satellite altimeter mission through operation of a tide gauge station at Platform Harvest since 1993 provides water level measurements relative to the satellite altimeter closure analysis reference frame for calibration monitoring (B. Haines et al, 2003; Figure 2). Platform Harvest is an operational oil platform located 19.5 km west of Point Conception, CA. Maintenance of this station requires vertical surveys on the Platform to relate the water level sensor reference zeros (near the bottom catwalk) to the Global Positioning System (GPS) reference zero (located up top at the helipad on the Platform). Continuous data are required to monitor effects of waves on the water level measurements and to ensure

provision of data during the times of altimeter over-flights every ten days. Platform Harvest tide gauge operations currently includes two digital bubbler pressure systems collecting continuous water level data streams surveyed into the Platform and Satellite Orbit Reference frames. Platform Harvest is one of several calibration sites located around the globe.



Figure 2. Platform Harvest Calibration Site.

C. Geodesy and Positioning

The National Geodetic Survey (NGS), an office of NOAA's National Ocean Service (NOS), is responsible for defining, maintaining and providing access to the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS). The NSRS is used by all civilian federal agencies and most of the public to establish coordinates for legal purposes. In the last 10 years the geometric component of the NSRS, latitude, longitude and ellipsoidal heights (NAD 83) has been defined via space geodetic techniques, especially GPS.

In 1986 NGS established a Continuously Operating GPS reference station network called the Cooperative International GPS Network (CIGNET) with three stations. By 1991 CIGNET had grown to 21 stations and in 1994 it was transferred to the International GPS Service now the International GNSS Service (IGS). Also in 1994 NGS established a new GPS network focused in the United States called the Continuously Operating Reference Station (CORS) network. It provides Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) data consisting of carrier phase and code range measurements in support of three dimensional positioning, meteorology, space weather, and geophysical applications throughout the United States, its territories, and a few foreign countries. Surveyors, GIS users, engineers, scientists, and the public at large that collect GPS data can use CORS data to improve the precision of their positions.

CORS-enhanced post-processed coordinates approach a few centimeters relative to the NSRS, both horizontally and vertically. The CORS network is a multi-purpose cooperative endeavor involving government, academic, and private organizations that independently own and operate each CORS. Each agency shares their data with NGS, and NGS in turn analyzes and distributes the data free of charge. As of September 2013, the CORS network contains almost

2000 stations, contributed by over 200 different organizations, and the network is growing at a rate of approximately 50 stations a year.

From the basic foundation established by the CORS network, NGS participates in a number of ways to support positioning of water level/tide gauge stations.

- NGS has completed a complete re-analysis of all CORS data and on September 7, 2011 published coordinates and velocities for all CORS in NAD 83(2011, MA11, PA11) epoch 2010.00 and IGS08 epoch 2005.00.
- NGS defines the standards and guidelines for geodetic leveling that CO-OPS and its contractors use to level between tide gauge/water level stations and reference bench marks.
- NGS is a founding member of the IGS, is one of the 10 Analysis Centers and contributes rapid and final GPS orbits to IGS. It is also an IGS Regional Data Center.

Currently NGS is also the IGS Analysis Center Coordinator (ACC) for the period 2008-2012. Of the ten current IGS Analysis Centers, one center volunteers to perform the main product combination and quality control operations.

- NGS is the primary source of data for two GPS stations contained in the ~90+ fiducial reference frame stations used to define IGS08 reference defined and maintained by IGS.
- NGS provides a collection of Web services called Online Positioning User Service (OPUS). These services allow a user to upload GPS data that they have collected to NGS and receive back a coordinate based on automated processing by NGS on its servers using its own software. OPUS also now allows solutions to be published this allows a user to upload a data set with associated metadata and store it in an NGS database and publish the coordinates for use by others. CO-OPS and NGS have begun to use this functionality to process and archive the GPS data collected by CO-OPS on benchmarks at NWLON stations.

II. Product Development and Delivery

A. Current Sea Level Research and Derived Products

The latest summaries of climate research in the U.S. are found in the annual assessments compiled as annual publications of American Meteorological Society. Annual assessments of

global sea level variations based on the latest research findings are also included. For instance see Merrifeld *et al* (2011).

University of South Florida Altimeter Products

The University of South Florida has expanded and improved its suite of products available to users over the past few years. A set of time series describing the differences of the various altimeter datasets relative to the global tide gauge network is now available.

There has also been a concerted effort to reduce the land motion uncertainties. This work has been done in collaboration with the TIGA (GPS on tide gauge) work of Guy Wöppelmann and Tilo Schöne. These errors are presently the largest source of uncertainty in the altimeter drift estimation, but this error component is steadily decreasing thanks to the expansion of the set of continuously operating GPS receivers at tide gauges, and the lengthening of the GPS time series. The products that are now available use the present best information on land motion derived from a set of about nearly 100 GPS receivers. In addition, USF has made substantial progress in putting proper error bars on these land motion estimates and matching these to individual tide gauges.

The system USF has in place assumes that there are a finite number of altimeter databases that will be updated on a roughly monthly basis, assuming changes to that database had occurred, of course. This led to a well-defined set of codes. What has become apparent, however, is that users of this system increasingly want to use these tide gauge analyses as a way of checking and improving their development of the altimeter sets rather than simply as hindsight check on how they are doing. This is particularly true for users developing Jason-1/2 datasets.

For example, if someone is developing alternate sea state bias corrections, they would like to send a dataset, have an analysis done, examine the results, modify their corrections, and repeat. This sort of iterative cycle can be repeated many times. USF is also doing these sorts of calculations for multiple altimeter groups. The net result is the need for a much more responsive system and the ability to handle multiple versions of the same altimeter databases.

USF is also in the process of streamlining the annual updating and selection of the tide gauges used in the analyses. USF expects to be able (on the same time frame) to utilize a set of nearly 100 gauges (c.f., the present set of 64) that have an improved global coverage, particularly in the Southern Hemisphere, and make use of improved land motion corrections. This update should be completed by the beginning of calendar 2012.

Finally, after the system was set up, feedback from users has led to work on several changes and improvements. First, the decision to reference to a "standard" TOPEX dataset was very unpopular and we have re-coded to replace this with a reference to whichever TOPEX dataset the user specifies. Second, as the time series have lengthened, questions about the handling of long period tides, particularly the Msf and Mf components, have been raised and we are adapting our methods appropriately. Third, in order to be able to treat new missions as soon as possible (i.e., after only two cycles were in hand), the optimization procedure was changed for determining the altimeter, tide gauge height differences. This led to somewhat larger random errors even after the time series had grown substantially, which is not necessary. USF has done simulations that will allow us to decide quantitatively when a given altimeter series is long enough to switch back to the original method. This improvement has been completed.

University of Hawaii Sea Level Center Research

UHSLC research efforts have been focused on multidecadal sea level variability and extreme sea level events and climate variations. Multidecadal sea level variability in the Pacific has been related to significant changes in the Pacific trade winds (Merrifield and Maltrud, 2011; Merrifield et al., 2012). The multidecadal variations in trade wind forcing are reflected in the dominant climate indices in the region. The associated sea level changes strongly influence regional sea level trend estimates, however, the actual changes in water level and the impacts on island regions is minimal with variations on the order of centimeters over decades. The sea level records do provide an independent record of trade wind variability in the Pacific that we are comparing to storm track patterns in the western Pacific. We also are examining the basin-wide sea level response to the tropical wind adjustment, in particular in relationship to the low sea level rise rates along the eastern boundary of the basin.

The possibility of a low frequency variation in global sea level was considered based on tide gauge observations (Chambers et al., 2012). At issue is whether the globally averaged rate undergoes significant variation at multidecadal time scales during the tide gauge record, and in turn whether the recent high rates during the altimetry era represent a cyclical high trend period as part of that larger fluctuation. The possibility was not discounted, but the difficulty in estimating global averages from regionally biased tide gauge networks remains an ongoing issue for all sea level reconstructions, and ultimately it remains the limiting factor in determining the significance of globally averaged cycles at multidecadal time scales.

Changes in storm variability in the central Pacific on climate timescales have been inferred from tide gauge records at Midway Atoll (Aucan et al., 2012). Winter swell associated with North Pacific storms cause a setup of the atoll lagoon where the tide gauge is located, which can result in 1m sea level anomalies that are captured in the tide gauge record back to the mid-twentieth century. The tide gauge proxy for storm wave activity provides a rare indirect measure of wave variability in a region where other in situ measures of wave energy do not exist. The decadal variability in Midway sea level extremes provides insight into changing winds and storminess patterns in the region, and contributes to our understanding of wave climate changes due to shifting storm patterns.

NOAA NCDC Research

NOAA and the UHSLC are jointly conducting a program of applied research leading to the development of innovative methodologies and best practices for the formulation of

probabilistic estimates of extreme still water level events under a changing climate for sea level stations in the Pacific Islands. Under this effort, extreme value analysis is being used investigate the tail of the sea level distribution and identify inherent cycles and covariability relationships. This will be used to account for 1) sea level and storminess variability as well as trends; and 2) differences that exist from location to location in terms of the relative importance of various contributors to extremes. Once this has been accomplished, the covariability of extremes to potential changes in the future will be explored. Supported in part through DOD/SERDP, the results of this effort include products that that can be used directly to support decision-making in areas ranging from area-wide vulnerability assessment related to climate adaptation planning and disaster risk reduction to site-specific analysis related to design and maintenance of facilities (see below).

NOAA Laboratory for Satellite Altimetry Research

Monthly the NOAA Laboratory for Satellite Altimetry produces global and regional time series and maps of mean sea level (<u>http://ibis.grdl.noaa.gov/SAT/SeaLevelRise/</u>). The altimetry data is from the Radar Altimeter Database System, which includes data from the reference series of TOPEX/POSEIDON, Jason-1, and Jason-2 and other missions suitable for sea level change studies (ERS-1, ERS-2, Envisat, CryoSat-2, SARAL/AltiKa, and GFO). These data are used for a variety of applications, including as one of the EPA's climate indicators. At LSA the data are used with GRACE and Argo observations to monitor the sea level rise budget.

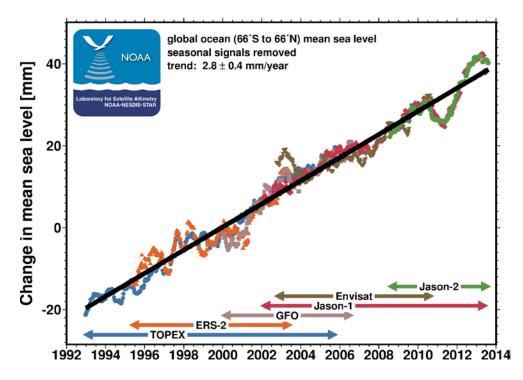


Figure 3. Variations in global mean sea level from altimetry (seasonal signals have been removed and no correction for glacial Isostatic adjustment has been applied.)

B. Data Delivery

Database Support and Maintenance

Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level (PSMSL)

Since 1933, the Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level (PSMSL) has been responsible for the collection, publication, analysis and interpretation of sea level data from the global network of tide gauges. Both NOAA and the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center contribute sea level data to PSMSL for long-term archival. <u>http://www.pol.ac.uk/psmsl/</u>.

NOAA Database and Delivery

The NESDIS National Data Centers (NCDC, NODC, and NGDC) archive and disseminate the basic datasets used to determine both global (absolute) SLR and local (relative) SLR. These include all NOAA satellite and in-situ station data used in constructing SLR analyses (altimetry, geodetic control, atmospheric observations, SSTs and ocean thermal properties, etc.).

The NWLON is also multipurpose and supports other NOAA missions that are national in scope:

- It is a fundamental component of NOAA's capability for storm surge monitoring and warning. The NWLON data are routine data sets to the NOAA Advanced Weather Information Processing System (AWIPS) system. The NWLON stations also can be automatically put into high-rate satellite dissemination on a user-driven or event-driven trigger. These data become part of the National Weather Service (NWS) pipeline for marine forecasts. Both the real-time data and the tidal datums computed at NWLON stations provide critical input for the NOAA SLOSH model (Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes), a computerized model run by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) to estimate storm surge heights and winds resulting from historical, hypothetical, or predicted hurricanes. An extensive upgrade to meteorological sensors on NWLON stations is now complete; it resulted in 181 NWLON stations (91%) including at least one meteorological sensor.
- It is a fundamental component of NOAA's capability for tsunami warning. The NOAA Tsunami Warning Centers have access to high-rate data through the GOES when events are manually or automatically triggered.

In addition to meteorological sensors, the NWLON stations are capable of adding other sensors for long-term measurements for water conductivity and temperature and for water quality parameters.

A comprehensive CO-OPS web-site is maintained and allows users full access to all data and products on a 24 X 7 basis (<u>http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov</u>). All raw observed data (6-minute data with quality control flags attached) are automatically available over the web-site after the data collection systems receive each hourly transmission and after they undergo the quality control checks. Derived data products are made available through the web-site after verification.

Access to 1-minute water level data is now available through CO-OPS' tsunami website: <u>http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/tsunami/</u>. This site was developed in collaboration with the NOAA Tsunami Warning Centers and the Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (PMEL) to support tsunami warning and modeling efforts.

Harmonic analyses are routinely performed and accepted sets of harmonic constants used for tidal prediction are maintained in the database and made available over the web-site. Tide prediction products based upon the accepted sets of harmonic constituents are also made available "on-the-fly" over the web-site.

System-wide tidal datum updates to new National Tidal Datum Epochs are made using the archived data and derived products in the data base. Accepted tidal datums are maintained and can be accessed over the web-site as well. Tidal datums are computed using documented standard operating procedures. Published bench mark sheets showing bench mark locations and elevations are prepared and updated and accessible over the web-site. Water level datums (International Great Lakes Datum, IGLD) in the Great Lakes are also updated every 25-30 years to account for movement of the earth's crust due to isostatic rebound. The Great Lakes are one of the world's greatest freshwater resources, and is shared and jointly managed by the U.S. and Canada. Updates in the IGLD are critical to updating of nautical charts and navigation safety, particularly during periods of low lake levels.

During storm events and other human-induced events, real-time (6-minute) data are made immediately available to users (<u>http://tidesonline.nos.noaa.gov/</u> and <u>http://glakesonline.nos.noaa.gov/</u>.

Real-time water level data in context with other real-time data are accessible for some NWLON stations if they are part of a local Physical Oceanographic Real Time System (PORTS[®]) (<u>http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/d ports.html</u>).

A number of 6 and 1-minute data products are available through the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) Web Portal, available through an OPeNDAP Server in a variety of formats. <u>http://opendap.co-ops.nos.noaa.gov/content/</u>

Sea level data associated sea level products are all available over the web-site for use by PSMSL, UHSLC, and the WOCE communities.

University of Hawaii Sea Level Center

The UHSLC distributes three sea level data sets. For a detailed station listing, please refer to the Appendices.

Joint Archive for Sea Level (JASL)

The Joint Archive for Sea Level JASL data set is designed to be user friendly, scientifically valid, well-documented, and standardized for archiving at international data banks. JASL data are provided internally by the UH Sea Level Network and by over 60 agencies representing over 70 countries. In the past year, the UHSLC increased its JASL holdings to 14,515 station-years of hourly quality assured data. The JASL set now includes 8166 station years of data in 328 series at 248 GLOSS sites.

Fast Delivery Database

The Fast Delivery Database supports various international programs, in particular CLIVAR and GCOS. The database has been designated by the IOC as a component of the GLOSS program. The fast delivery data are used extensively by the altimeter community for ongoing assessment and calibration of satellite altimeter datasets. The fast delivery sea level dataset now includes 277 stations, 214 of which are located at GLOSS sites.

High Frequency Data

Near Real-Time Data (collection + up to a three hour delay, H-3 delay) and daily filtered values (J-2 delay) are provided, primarily for stations that UHSLC directly operates and maintains. UHSLC has committed to hosting the GLOSS High Frequency database in collaboration with the Institute of Flanders (VLIZ).

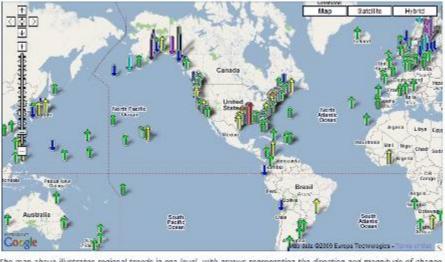
The UHSLC provides monthly maps of the Pacific sea level fields through the JCOMM. UHSLC also produces quarterly updates of an index of the tropical Pacific upper layer volume and annual updates of indices of the ridge-trough system and equatorial currents for the Pacific Ocean. The analysis includes tide gauge and altimeter sea surface elevation comparisons.

C. Web Products

NOAA Sea Levels Online

NOAA's primary delivery method of local sea level trends to the public is through its *Sea Levels Online* website (<u>http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/sltrends</u>). This site provides access both to NOAA long-term NWLON stations and to international stations. In 2008, the Sea Levels Online website was redesigned and a new Google Map interface was introduced to provide easier access for users to water level stations in their region of interest (Figures 4 and 5).

Analyses of sea level trends and variability are currently available for 128 long-term NWLON stations at *Sea Levels Online*. Figures 6-8 illustrate the types of analyses available for all long-term stations. In 2011, linear sea level trends were recalculated for all stations with trends published in the previous NOAA Technical Sea Level Trends Report (Zervas, 2011), using all available data up to the end of 2010. These updated trends will be added to the website with an expanded explanation of trend confidence intervals.



The map above illustrates regional trends in sea level, with arrows representing the direction and magnitude of change. Click on an arrow to access additional information about that station.

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Figure 4. Google map interface for Relative Sea Level Trends.

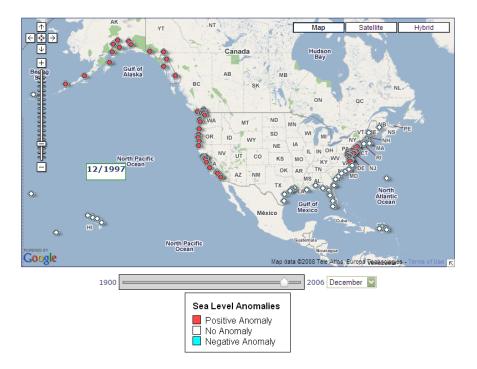
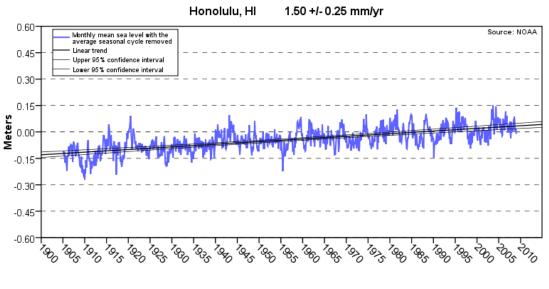


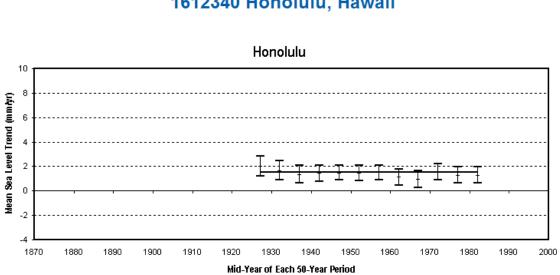
Figure 5. Google map interface for Sea Level Anomalies (shown for December 1997 to highlight anomalies associated with ENSO).

Mean Sea Level Trend 1612340 Honolulu, Hawaii

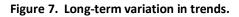


The mean sea level trend is 1.50 millimeters/year with a 95% confidence interval of +/- 0.25 mm/yr based on monthly mean sea level data from 1905 to 2006 which is equivalent to a change of 0.49 feet in 100 years.

Figure 6. Sea level trend analyses.



Variation of 50-Year Mean Sea Level Trends 1612340 Honolulu, Hawaii



Interannual variation 1612340 Honolulu, Hawaii

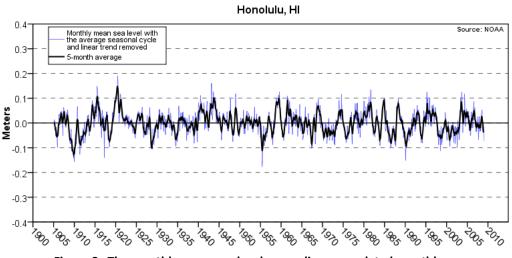


Figure 8. The monthly mean sea level anomalies are updated monthly.

Global Sea Level Trends

NOAA/CO-OPS operates and maintains 45 stations identified as long term sea level stations in the GLOSS Implementation Plans of 1997/2012 and routinely analyses the long-term trends and oceanographic variability. In addition, the sea level trend analysis has been extended to 39 new

non-CO-OPS global stations for a total of 239 stations, including over 130 stations in the GLOSS Core Network (GCN) (See Figure 9 & Table 3). The data for these stations were obtained from the PSMSL. Long term sea level trends have recently been calculated for 12 new countries, expanding the geographic coverage presented at the 2011 GLOSS Group of Experts meeting to include 66 countries worldwide. The expanded number of stations will help capture the variability in relative sea level change internationally and contribute to global sea level rise estimates.

Furthermore, 135 historical stations were updated with all available data up to 2011 and trends were re-calculated. In some cases, the original source data may also have been updated, therefore the calculated trends may have changed. In the future, these updates will assist the review of sea level acceleration from climate change. In addition to rise and fall trend estimates, there are two updated products for a complete oceanographic assessment. The 'Average Seasonal Cycle' illustrates the regular fluctuations caused by coastal temperatures, salinities, winds, atmospheric pressures, and ocean currents, compared to the 'Interannual Variation' which delineates irregular conditions such as the El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) (See Figure 8). Station specific analysis and metadata have been expanded, including links to the historical and real-time data, where available. The products can be found here: http://www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/sltrends/index.shtml.

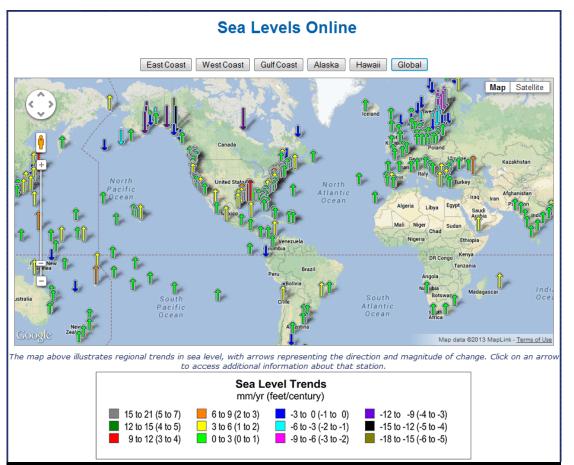


Figure 9. Global Sea Level Stations on Sea Levels Online.

ID	Station Name	January	February	March	April
010-001	Reykjavik, Iceland	0.044 +/- 0.022	-0.006 +/- 0.022	-0.041 +/- 0.022	-0.097 +/- 0.022
015-011	Torshavn, Denmark	0.026 +/- 0.019	-0.017 +/- 0.018	-0.051 +/- 0.019	-0.101 +/- 0.01
025-001	Barentsburg, Norway	0.045 +/- 0.02	-0.019 +/- 0.02	-0.067 +/- 0.019	-0.108 +/- 0.01
030-003	Russkaya Gavan II, Russia	0.046 +/- 0.041	-0.007 +/- 0.041	-0.067 +/- 0.041	-0.151 +/- 0.04
030-018	Murmansk, Russia	0.062 +/- 0.033	-0.019 +/- 0.033	-0.065 +/- 0.032	-0.122 +/- 0.03
030-345	Dikson, Russia	-0.013 +/- 0.054	-0.066 +/- 0.054	-0.073 +/- 0.055	-0.114 +/- 0.05
030-447	Tiksi, Russia	-0.078 +/- 0.034	-0.101 +/- 0.034	-0.125 +/- 0.034	-0.13 +/- 0.034
030-725	Proviđenia, Russia	0.043 +/- 0.052	0.032 +/- 0.052	-0.024 +/- 0.052	-0.054 +/- 0.05
040-001	Vardo, Norway	0.102 +/- 0.027	0.018 +/- 0.027	-0.034 +/- 0.027	-0.112 +/- 0.02
040-015	Honningsvag, Norway	0.116 +/- 0.027	0.038 +/- 0.027	-0.04 +/- 0.027	-0.12 +/- 0.027
040-041	Andenes, Norway	0.113 +/- 0.029	0.036 +/- 0.029	-0.032 +/- 0.029	-0.1 +/- 0.029
040-081	Narvik, Norway	0.1 +/- 0.027	0.016 +/- 0.027	-0.043 +/- 0.027	-0.129 +/- 0.02
040-136	Rorvik, Norway	0.107 +/- 0.028	0.016 +/- 0.028	-0.039 +/- 0.028	-0.123 +/- 0.02
040-151	Heimsjo, Norway	0.087 +/- 0.021	0.011 +/- 0.021	-0.049 +/- 0.021	-0.112 +/- 0.02

Figure 10. The new Average Seasonal Cycle table on the website.

Table 3. Linear Relative Mean Sea Level (MSL) trends and 95% Confidence Intervals (CI) in mm/year. Source of data: PSMSL; Analysis: NOAA.

ID	Station Name	First	Last	Year	% Complete	MSL Trond	+/- 95% Cl
010-001	Reykjavik, Iceland	Year 1956	Year 2011	Range 56	97	Trend 2.33	0.50
015-011	Torshavn, Denmark	1957	2006	50	84	1.81	0.41
025-001	Barentsburg, Norway	1948	2010	63	93	-2.25	0.42
030-003	Russkaya Gavan II, Russia	1953	1993	41	96	-0.54	1.07
030-018	Murmansk, Russia	1952	2010	59	98	3.17	0.94
030-345	Dikson, Russia	1950	1997	48	97	2.05	1.38
030-447	Tiksi, Russia	1949	2009	61	100	1.56	0.72
030-725	Providenia, Russia	1951	1983	33	97	3.30	1.29
040-001	Vardo, Norway	1947	2011	65	65	-0.32	0.51
040-015	Honningsvag, Norway	1970	2011	42	94	1.45	0.97
040-041	Andenes, Norway	1938	2011	74	61	-0.93	0.50
040-081	Narvik, Norway	1928	2011	84	88	-2.06	0.48
040-136	Rorvik, Norway	1969	2011	43	97	-0.90	0.91
040-151	Heimsjo, Norway	1928	2011	84	96	-1.46	0.31
040-211	Maloy, Norway	1943	2011	69	96	0.59	0.40
040-221	Bergen, Norway	1883	2011	129	76	-0.52	0.20
040-261	Stavanger, Norway	1919	2011	93	91	0.42	0.22
040-301	Tregde, Norway	1927	2011	85	96	0.26	0.20
040-321	Oslo, Norway	1885	2011	127	77	-3.17	0.30
050-011	Smogen, Sweden	1911	2011	101	100	-1.85	0.26
050-032	Goteborg - Ringon, Klippan & Torshamnen, Sweden	1887	2011	125	99	-1.19	0.36
050-051	Klagshamn, Sweden	1929	2011	83	99	0.64	0.40
050-081	Kungholmsfort, Sweden	1887	2011	125	100	0.02	0.25
050-123	Landsort Norra & Landsort, Sweden	1887	2011	125	100	-2.84	0.30
050-141	Stockholm, Sweden	1889	2011	123	100	-3.81	0.32
050-191	Ratan, Sweden	1892	2011	120	100	-7.75	0.39
050-201	Furuogrund, Sweden	1916	2011	96	100	-8.10	0.57
060-001	Kemi, Finland	1920	2010	91	96	-6.99	0.63
060-011	Oulu/Uleaborg, Finland	1889	2010	122	95	-6.38	0.41
060-021	Raahe/Brahestad, Finland	1922	2010	89	92	-6.85	0.66
060-041	Pietarsaari/Jakobstad, Finland	1914	2010	97	98	-7.29	0.57
060-051	Vaasa/Vasa, Finland	1883	2010	128	92	-7.33	0.34
060-071	Kaskinen/Kasko, Finland	1926	2010	85	97	-6.50	0.68
060-101	Mantyluoto, Finland	1910	2010	101	98	-5.91	0.50
060-241	Turku/Abo, Finland	1922	2010	89	98	-3.67	0.61
060-281	Foglo/Degerby, Finland	1923	2010	88	94	-3.75	0.59
060-331	Hanko/Hango, Finland	1887	2010	124	88	-2.67	0.37
060-351	Helsinki, Finland	1879	2010	132	100	-2.33	0.34
060-361	Hamina, Finland	1928	2010	83	98	-1.03	0.79
080-081	Daugavgriva, Latvia	1872	1938	67	93	0.16	0.99
080-151	Liepaja, Latvia	1865	1936	72	88	0.88	0.72
080-181	Kaliningrad, Russia	1926	1986	61	86	1.84	0.89
084-161	Klaipeda, Lithuania	1898	2011	114	92	1.48	0.40
110-022	Gdansk/Nowy Port, Poland	1951	1999	49	100	2.91	1.24
110-047	Wladyslawowo, Poland	1951	1999	49	100	2.46	1.27
110-057	Ustka, Poland	1951	1999	49	100	1.71	1.17
110-072	Kolobrzeg, Poland	1951	1999	49	100	1.27	1.08
110-092	Swinoujscie, Poland	1811	1999	189	96	0.80	0.12

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120-012	Warnemunde 2, Germany	1855	2010	156	100	1.25	0.12
120-022	Wismar 2, Germany	1848	2010	163	100	1.41	0.10
130-001	Gedser, Denmark	1898	2011	114	99	1.05	0.18
130-021	Kobenhavn, Denmark	1889	2011	123	98	0.67	0.21
130-031	Hornbaek, Denmark	1898	2011	114	98	0.37	0.22
130-041	Korsor, Denmark	1897	2011	115	98	0.81	0.18
130-051	Slipshavn, Denmark	1896	2011	116	96	1.01	0.16
130-071	Fredericia, Denmark	1889	2011	123	99	1.09	0.11
130-081	Aarhus, Denmark	1888	2011	124	96	0.63	0.11
130-091	Frederikshavn, Denmark	1894	2011	118	96	0.14	0.15
130-101	Hirtshals, Denmark	1892	2011	120	96	-0.17	0.21
130-121	Esbjerg, Denmark	1889	2011	123	98	1.23	0.26
140-012	Cuxhaven 2, Germany	1843	2008	166	100	2.53	0.16
160-011	Zeebrugge, Belgium	1942	2010	69	72	2.35	0.39
160-021	Oostende, Belgium	1937	2010	74	93	1.78	0.25
160-031	Nieuwpoort, Belgium	1943	2010	68	67	2.53	0.44
170-001	Lerwick, UK	1957	2011	55	91	-0.02	0.41
170-011	Aberdeen I & II, UK	1862	2011	150	95	0.72	0.09
170-053	North Shields, UK	1895	2011	117	93	1.91	0.14
170-101	Sheerness, UK	1832	2009	178	54	1.66	0.10
170-161	Newlyn, UK	1915	2011	97	99	1.76	0.17
170-251	Stornoway, UK	1977	2011	35	89	1.92	0.94
175-071	Dublin, Ireland	1938	2001	64	99	0.07	0.42
190-001	Dunkerque, France	1942	2011	70	60	1.71	0.40
190-051	Le Havre, France	1941	2011	71	58	2.45	0.52
190-091	Brest, France	1807	2011	205	89	1.05	0.08
190-141	St. John de Luz/Socoa, France	1942	2011	70	57	1.40	0.58
200-030	La Coruna I, Spain	1943	2010	68	98	1.53	0.43
210-021	Cascais, Portugal	1882	1993	112	93	1.27	0.15
210-031	Lagos, Portugal	1908	1999	92	78	1.50	0.24
220-003	Cadiz III, Spain	1961	2010	50	97	4.02	0.74
220-011	Algeciras, Spain	1943	2002	60	81	0.43	0.30
220-031	Malaga, Spain	1944	2010	67	82	0.65	0.50
230-051	Marseille, France	1885	2011	127	97	1.25	0.14
250-011	Genova, Italy	1884	1997	114	78	1.20	0.14
270-061	Trieste, Italy	1905	2011	107	94	1.27	0.20
280-006	Rovinj, Croatia	1955	2009	55	99	0.58	0.46
280-011	Bakar, Croatia	1930	2009	80	86	0.97	0.36
280-021	Split Rt Marjana, Croatia	1952	2009	58	99	0.28	0.48
280-031	Split Harbour-Gradska Luka, Croatia	1954	2009	56	100	0.62	0.48
280-081	Dubrovnik, Croatia	1956	2009	54	99	1.02	0.45
290-017	Katakolon, Greece	1969	2011	43	89	1.81	0.66
290-021	Kalamai, Greece	1969	2011	43	78	4.37	0.58
290-034	Khalkis North, Greece	1969	2011	43	88	0.35	1.02
290-051	Thessaloniki, Greece	1969	2011	43	90	3.73	0.80
290-065	Alexandroupolis, Greece	1969	2011	43	88	1.78	0.81
290-071	Khios, Greece	1969	2011	43	88	3.58	0.87
290-091	Leros, Greece	1969	2011	43	79	1.06	0.71
290-110	Rodhos, Greece	1969	2011	43	69	0.91	1.19
295-021	Bourgas, Bulgaria	1929	1996	68	86	1.91	0.90

295-051	Varna, Bulgaria	1929	1996	68	95	1.22	0.85
295-051			1996		95 95	1.22	0.85
	Constantza, Romania	1933		65	95 97		
298-041	Sevastopol, Ukraine	1910	1994	85	-	1.26	0.78
300-001	Tuapse, Russia	1917	2010	94	99	2.44	0.58
305-021	Poti, Georgia	1874	2009	136	94	6.59	0.29
340-001	Ceuta, Spain	1944	2009	66	96	0.52	0.29
360-001	Ponta Delgada, Portugal	1978	2007	30	69	2.58	1.01
370-032	Santa Cruz de Tenerife I & Tenerife, Spain	1927	2009	83	88	1.62	0.31
427-001	Walvis Bay, Namibia	1958	2011	54	50	0.60	1.02
430-061	Simons Bay, South Africa	1957	2011	55	79	1.94	0.27
430-088	Port Elizabeth, South Africa	1978	2011	34	79	2.39	1.11
430-091	Durban, South Africa	1971	2011	41	72	1.23	0.70
450-012	Port Louis I & II, Mauritius	1942	2011	70	96	3.51	1.15
485-001	Aden, Yemen	1879	2011	133	50	3.02	0.22
490-021	Karachi, Pakistan	1916	2011	96	55	1.12	0.54
500-011	Kandla, India	1950	2008	59	82	2.06	0.60
500-041	Mumbai/Bombay, India	1878	2008	131	91	0.79	0.11
500-065	Marmagao, India	1969	2008	40	64	0.91	0.51
500-081	Cochin, India	1939	2007	69	93	1.71	0.36
500-091	Chennai/Madras, India	1916	2008	93	59	0.32	0.37
500-101	Vishakhapatnam, India	1937	2007	71	86	0.79	0.45
500-106	Paradip, India	1966	2008	43	74	0.77	1.13
500-109	Gangra, India	1974	2006	33	96	1.45	1.31
500-110	Haldia, India	1970	2008	39	93	2.59	1.00
500-131	Diamond Harbour, India	1948	2007	60	96	4.67	0.68
545-001	Ko Taphao Noi, Thailand	1940	2010	71	95	0.90	0.96
555-011	Raffles Light House, Singapore	1973	2011	39	86	1.53	1.01
555-021	Sultan Shoal, Singapore	1969	2011	43	89	3.16	0.79
555-051	Sembawang, Singapore	1954	2011	58	79	-0.82	0.69
600-021	Ko Lak, Thailand	1940	2010	71	97	0.08	0.27
600-041	Fort Phrachula Chomklao/Pom Phrachun, Thailand	1940	2010	71	95	20.60	0.77
605-041	Quinhon, Vietnam	1977	2006	30	99	-1.25	1.60
605-081	Hondau, Vietnam	1957	2001	45	99	2.18	0.71
609-001	Macau, China	1925	1985	61	97	0.25	0.50
610-002	Zhapo, China	1959	2011	53	99	2.11	0.45
610-005	Xiamen, China	1954	2004	51	99	1.12	0.56
610-016	Kanmen, China	1959	2011	53	99	1.83	0.38
610-032	Lusi, China	1961	2011	51	81	4.97	0.61
610-039	Qinhuangdao, China	1950	1994	45	99	-0.04	0.63
610-044	Dalian, China	1954	2011	58	78	2.06	0.52
611-010	Quarry Bay & North Point, China	1929	2011	83	76	1.36	0.54
611-014	Tai Po Kau, Hong Kong	1963	2011	49	94	2.92	0.74
611-017	Tsim Bei Tsui, Hong Kong	1974	2011	38	80	0.41	1.58
612-002	Keelung II, Taiwan	1956	1995	40	99	0.46	0.78
620-027	Mokpo, South Korea	1960	2009	50	99	3.35	0.55
620-033	Jeju, South Korea	1964	2009	46	99	5.35	0.49
620-046	Busan/Pusan, South Korea	1960	2009	50	99	1.97	0.38
620-051	Ulsan, South Korea	1962	2009	48	97	1.29	0.65
620-061	Mugho, South Korea	1965	2009	45	97	0.80	0.49
625-011	Wonsan, North Korea	1962	1992	31	100	1.28	0.83

630-001	Yuzhno Kurilsk, Russia	1948	1994	47	95	2.74	0.62
630-021	Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Russia	1957	2010	54	99	2.35	0.54
641-003	Abashiri, Japan	1965	2011	47	96	1.35	0.50
641-021	Kushiro, Japan	1947	2011	65	97	9.39	0.30
641-031	Hakodate I, Japan	1961	2011	51	99	-0.39	0.38
641-061	Wakkanai, Japan	1975	2011	37	99	3.67	0.55
642-021	Ofunato I & II, Japan	1965	2011	47	93	4.78	0.55
642-061	Mera, Japan	1931	2011	81	96	3.78	0.20
642-091	Aburatsubo, Japan	1930	2011	82	97	3.63	0.21
642-141	Kushimoto, Japan	1957	2011	55	98	3.45	0.56
645-011	Hosojima, Japan	1930	2011	82	98	-0.43	0.29
645-021	Aburatsu, Japan	1960	2011	52	100	1.89	0.47
645-064	Nagasaki, Japan	1965	2011	47	99	2.20	0.42
646-024	Naha, Japan	1966	2011	46	99	2.18	0.72
647-023	Hamada II & Tonoura, Japan	1894	2011	118	70	0.48	0.24
647-068	Toyama, Japan	1975	2011	37	98	3.73	0.60
647-071	Wajima, Japan	1930	2011	82	98	-0.20	0.23
648-001	Chichijima, Japan	1975	2011	37	99	4.50	1.18
660-011	Manila, Philippines	1901	2010	110	83	13.39	1.18
660-021	Legaspi, Albay, Philippines	1947	2009	63	97	5.38	0.72
660-121	Davao, Davao Gulf, Philippines	1948	1994	47	79	5.32	1.30
660-141	Jolo, Philippines	1947	1996	50	85	0.19	1.12
670-021	Rabaul, Papua New Guinea	1966	1997	32	83	-2.59	4.92
680-021	Weipa, Australia	1966	2010	45	75	3.48	1.54
680-051	Townsville I, Australia	1959	2010	52	100	1.48	0.42
680-073	Bundaberg, Burnett Heads, Australia	1966	2010	45	98	0.58	0.51
680-078	Brisbane, Australia	1966	2010	45	87	0.09	0.68
680-135	Newcastle III & V, Australia	1925	2010	86	98	1.04	0.69
680-140	Sydney, Fort Denison 1 & 2, Australia	1886	2010	125	100	0.65	0.10
680-471	Fremantle, Australia	1897	2010	114	92	1.54	0.24
680-479	Carnarvon, Australia	1965	2010	46	81	2.89	1.61
680-494	Port Hedland, Australia	1966	2010	45	92	2.18	1.71
690-002	Auckland II, New Zealand	1903	2000	98	96	1.29	0.20
690-011	Wellington Harbour, New Zealand	1944	2011	68	94	2.45	0.29
690-022	Lyttelton II, New Zealand	1924	2000	77	89	2.36	0.29
690-041	Bluff/Southland Harbour, New Zealand	1917	2011	95	26	1.57	0.24
710-026	Kapingamarangi, Federated States Of	1978	2008	31	91	2.53	2.63
710-032	Micronesia Pohnpei B & C, Federated States of Micronesia	1974	2011	38	96	3.87	2.72
711-021	Malakal B, Palau	1974	2011 2009	41	96	1.73	3.05
720-017	Majuro B & C, Marshall Islands	1968	2003	41	94	3.60	1.22
732-012	Funafuti & Funafuti B, Tuvalu	1908	2011	35	96	3.00	2.95
734-004	Honiara-B & Honiara II , Solomon Islands	1974	2011	33	98	2.80	4.39
740-021	Noumea-Numbo & Noumea-Chaleix, New	1974	2011	42	60	-1.85	2.69
	Caledonia						
742-012	Suva A, Fiji	1972	2011	40	91	6.30	1.51
750-012	Kanton Island & Kanton Island B, Kiribati	1949	2007	59	84	0.58	0.87
775-001	Penrhyn, Cook Islands	1977	2010	34	93	2.40	1.84
780-011	Papeete-B, Fare Ute Point, Soc.Is., French Polynesia	1975	2009	35	95	2.51	0.94
785-006	Rarotonga & Rarotonga B, Cook Islands	1977	2011	35	81	1.51	1.31
808-001	Rikitea, France	1969	2003	35	87	1.72	0.97

810-003	Easter Island E, Chile	1970	2010	41	81	0.33	1.26
822-001	Prince Rupert, Canada	1909	2011	103	81	1.12	0.24
822-071	Vancouver, Canada	1910	2011	102	82	0.37	0.23
822-101	Victoria, Canada	1909	2011	103	99	0.63	0.21
822-116	Tofino, Canada	1909	2010	102	76	-1.70	0.30
830-001	Ensenada, Mexico	1956	1990	35	96	2.34	1.38
830-020	Cabo San Lucas, Mexico	1974	2003	30	77	1.68	3.62
830-031	Guaymas, Mexico	1952	1988	37	85	4.09	1.35
830-071	Manzanillo, Mexico	1954	2003	50	89	3.18	2.17
830-091	Salina Cruz, Mexico	1952	1989	38	81	1.17	1.44
833-011	Acajutla, El Salvador	1962	1991	30	98	2.50	1.77
836-011	Quepos, Costa Rica	1957	1994	38	97	0.63	1.87
840-011	Balboa, Panama	1908	2003	96	99	1.49	0.25
842-011	Buenaventura, Colombia	1941	1969	29	91	0.96	1.22
845-012	La Libertad II, Ecuador	1948	2003	56	94	-1.22	0.97
845-031	Santa Cruz, Ecuador	1978	2007	30	91	0.89	3.83
850-012	Antofagasta 2, Chile	1945	2010	66	91	-0.80	0.43
850-021	Caldera, Chile	1950	1991	42	97	3.01	0.74
860-002	Ushuaia I & II, Argentina	1957	2006	50	85	0.72	0.85
860-011	Puerto Deseado, Argentina	1970	2002	33	42	-0.06	1.93
860-031	Puerto Madryn, Argentina	1944	2000	57	74	1.50	0.79
860-081	Quequen, Argentina	1918	1982	65	98	0.85	0.31
860-101	Mar Del Plata(Naval Base), Argentina	1957	2010	54	95	0.53	0.41
860-151	Buenos Aires, Argentina	1905	1987	83	100	1.57	0.30
863-002	Stanley I & II, UK	1964	2008	45	60	0.55	0.48
870-011	Montevideo, Uruguay	1938	2009	72	78	1.37	0.55
874-051	Cananeia, Brazil	1954	2006	53	97	4.20	0.63
874-092	Ilha Fiscal, Brazil	1963	2011	49	94	2.18	1.30
902-021	Cartagena, Colombia	1949	1992	44	84	5.31	0.37
904-011	Cristobal, Panama	1909	1980	72	100	1.41	0.22
920-001	Progreso, Mexico	1952	1990	39	83	4.67	0.94
930-031	Gibara, Cuba	1974	2011	38	98	1.41	0.96
930-071	Cabo San Antonio, Cuba	1971	2011	41	82	3.32	1.37
970-001	Saint John, N.B., Canada	1914	1999	86	73	2.75	0.33
970-011	Halifax, Canada	1985	2011	27	79	3.12	0.13
970-061	Pointe-Au-Pere, Neuville St Johns, Canada	1900	1983	84	79	-0.36	0.40
970-071	Quebec/Lauzon, Canada	1910	2011	102	75	-0.17	0.45
970-089	Neuville, Canada	1914	2011	98	70	0.19	0.73
970-121	St. Johns, NFLD, Canada	1935	2010	76	71	2.06	0.45
970-134	Nain, Canada	1963	2010	48	36	-2.02	0.74
970-141	Churchill, Canada	1940	2011	72	90	-9.48	0.57
999-001	Bahia Esperanza, Antarctica	1961	1993	33	35	-4.82	2.58
999-003	Argentine Islands, Antarctica	1958	2009	52	98	1.43	0.45

University of Hawaii Sea Level Center

The University of Hawaii Sea Level Center website hosts a variety of products, in addition to providing access to raw sea level data. Products include: global sea level deviations, tide gauge-

altimeter analysis (deviations and anomalies), upper ocean volume, current indices, and topography. <u>http://uhslc.soest.hawaii.edu/</u>

NOAA Laboratory for Satellite Altimetry

NOAA's Laboratory for Satellite Altimetry website includes resources and links to a variety of satellite altimeter products. Projects included on the site include: satellite altimeter sea level rise data, near real-time processed analysis, historical sea level, ERS altimetry data, information on Geosat, geophysics research, and sea floor topography. It also provides updates on new research, and provides access to partner agency websites. http://ibis.grdl.noaa.gov/SAT/SAT.html

Pacific Storms Climatology Project

The Pacific Storms Climatology Products website project (Figure 11) http://www.pacificstormsclimatology.org/ provides access to an integrated suite of products that delineate patterns and trends of storm frequency and intensity - "storminess"- within the Pacific region. These products are derived from analyses of historical records collected from insitu stations located throughout the Pacific. The primary audience for these products is scientists, engineers, and others with a technical background. This site also provides access to information that will help non-technical users to learn about the climate-related processes that govern extreme storm events.

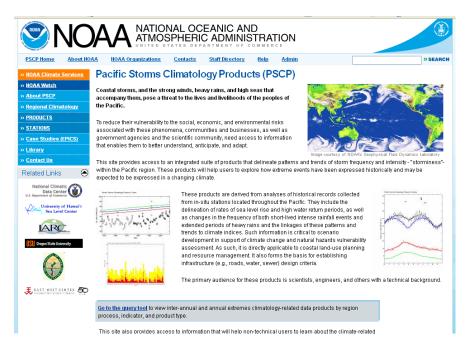


Figure 11. Pacific Storms Climatology Products Website.

D. Using Sea Level Data and Research to Inform Policy

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the primary agency responsible for coastal engineering project in the US has recognized the potential for changing sea levels to impact the planning and design of coastal projects. The first guidance was issued in 1986 followed by the publication of the 1987 National Research Council study "Responding to Changes in Sea Level: Engineering Implications." (NRC, 1987) The most recent update to the sea-level change (SLC) guidance was in 2009 in the form of an Engineer Circular (EC) 1165-2-211, "Incorporating Sea-Level Change Considerations in Civil Works Programs." (USACE, 2009a, updated to EC 1165-2-212 in 2011) The 2009 guidance was developed with sea-level science experts at NOAA's National Ocean Service and the U.S. Geological Survey. The USACE goal is to develop practical, nationally consistent, legally justifiable, and cost effective measures, both structural and nonstructural, to reduce vulnerabilities and improve the resilience of our water resources infrastructure to changes associated with rising global sea level.

The USACE is currently developing implementation guidance in the form of a Civil Works Technical Letter (CWTL) that outlines the recommended planning and engineering approach at the regional and project level for addressing impacts of projected sea level change at Corps of Engineers projects. All of the primary mission areas of the Corps are being addressed, with emphasis on navigation, flood risk management, coastal storm damage reduction, and ecosystems. The guidance development is utilizing an interdisciplinary team that includes representatives from all the different regions of the USACE as well as from other key federal agencies dealing with infrastructure and systems. Representatives include numerous agencies, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Naval Academy, Federal Highway Administration, Bureau of Reclamation, National Park Service (NPS), and the U.S. Navy. Personnel from the University of Southampton (UK), HR Wallingford (UK), and Moffatt & Nichol are also participating.

The 2009 EC directs the formulation and evaluation of project alternatives using low, intermediate, and high rates of future SLC for both the "with" and "without" project conditions. The existing trends computed by NOAA at long-term tide stations are used as the baseline "low" rate for projects in the vicinity of the station. Various climate models are used for the out-year projections.

III. New Measurement Technology

A. GPS on Tide Gauges

Continuous GPS

Precise determination of vertical land motion at tide stations continues to be a priority area of investigation for NOAA. Previously, NOAA has investigated use of GPS data from CORS located nearby tide stations to estimate absolute sea level change (Snay *et al.* 2007). This past year, NOAA published a NOAA technical report on estimating vertical land motion from long-term tide gauge records (Zervas, *et al.*, 2013). This indirect estimation provides information at locations at which continuously operating GPS stations have not yet been established. Using funding provide by NOAA Office of Climate Observations, new CORS will continue to be established at NWLON stations that are part of the Global Sea Level Observing System (GLOSS) network as budgets allow.

Table 4 (below) provides the current listing of co-located CORS and NWLON stations that are within 1.0 km of each other and for which leveling connections can be made in the future.

Tide Station	Lat.,	Lon.,	Relative Sea	Time Span	CGPS	NGS-adopted	Multi-	Time span of
	deg., N	deg., E	Level Rate	for Tide Gauge	Station	IGS08 Vertical	solution	CGPS
		•	(2σ error),	Data (years)	(distance to	Velocity at	ITRF2008	Data used in
			mm/yr		tide gauge),	CGPS	Vertical	multi-solution
					km	Station.	Velocity at	(years)
						mm/yr	CGPS	() · /
							Station (2 σ),	
							mm/yr	
Eastport, ME	44.903	293.015	2.13 (0.20)	1929 – 2012	EPRT (0.85)	-0.2	-0.23 (0.40)	1998.7 - 2011.3
				(84)				(12.6)
Newport, RI	41.505	288.673	2.73 (0.18)	1930 – 2012	NPRI (0.54)	-1.3	-0.33 (0.40)	1999.6 - 2007.7
				(83)				(8.1)
Sandy Hook, NJ	40.467	285.990	4.06 (0.23)	1932 - 2012	SHK1 (0.52)		-2.75 (0.94)	1998.0 - 2006.3
				(81)	SHK2 (0.53)		-0.50 (6.10)	(8.3)
					SHK5 (0.52)		-2.23 (2.64)	1995.8 - 2006.3
					SHK6 (0.53)	-0.6	-0.50 (6.10)	(10.5)
								2006.3 - 2011.3
								(7.0)
								2006.3 - 2011.2
								(6.9)
Reedy Point, DE	39.558	284.427	3.67 (0.55)	1956 - 2012	RED1 (0.46)		-3.05 (3.12)	1999.1 - 2007.3
				(57)	RED2 (0.49)		+1.88 (6.92)	(8.2)
					RED5 (0.46)	-3.1	N/A	2000.1 - 2007.3
								(7.2)
Gloucester Point,	37.247	283.500	3.81 (0.47)	1950 - 2003	GLPT (0.18)	-2.5	-2.24 (0.40)	1997.5 - 2006.6
VA				(54)	VAGP (0.19)	-2.7	N/A	(9.1)
Duck, NC	36.183	284.253	4.59 (0.94)	1978 – 2011	DUCK (0.39)	-1.7	-2.09 (0.40)	1997.6 - 2003.3
				(34)				(5.7)
Beaufort, NC	34.720	283.330	2.70 (0.39)	1953 - 2012	NCBE (0.21)	Predicted	N/A	
				(0.39)				
Charleston, SC	32.782	280.075	3.10 (0.23)	1921 - 2012				
				(92)	SCHA (0.28)	Predicted	N/A	
Key West, FL	24.553	278.192	2.29 (0.15)	1913 - 2012				
				(100)	CHIN (0.68)	Predicted	N/A	
Grand Isle, LA	29.263	270.043	9.07 (0.49)	1947 - 2012	GRIS (0.28)	-7.3	-7.15 (6.94)	2007.2 - 2011.3
			- (/	(66)	- ()	-	- (/	(4.1)
Galveston PP, TX	29.285	265.212	6.61 (0.70)	1957 - 2012	1	1		, _,
				(56)	TXGV (0.13)	0.0	+0.12 (7.40)	2007.1 - 2011.3
				()	(0.10)			(4.2)
La Jolla, CA	32.867	242.742	2.02 (0.26)	1924 – 2012				

Table 4. Table of NOAA NWLON and CORS stations located within 1.0 km of each other.

				(89)	SIO3 (0.75)	-0.6	+0.17 (0.40)	1994.0 – 2012.2 (18.2)
Crescent City, CA	41.745	235.817	-0.81 (0.34)	1933 – 2012				
				(80)	CACC (0.13)	Predicted	N/A	
South Beach), OR	44.625	235.957	2.34 (0.82)	1967 – 2012				
				(46)	ORSB (0.46)	Predicted	N/A	
Cordova, AK	60.558	214.247	1.28 (1.02)	1979 2012 (34)	EYAC (1.05)	Predicted	N/A	
Kodiak, AK	57.732	207.488	-10.78 (0.98)	1975 – 2012 (38)	KODK (0.72)	+12.5	+12.32 (0.42)	2003.0 – 2006.6 (3.6)
Unalaska, AK	53.880	193.463	-5.48 (0.56)	1957 – 2012 (56)	AV09 (0.58)	+1.7	+2.52 (0.80)	2004.3 - 2013.5 (9.2)
Honolulu, HI	21.307	202.133	1.42 (0.45)	1905-2012 (107)	HNLC (0.0)	-0.1		1997 – 2011(14)
Bermuda	32.373	295.297	2.09 (0.82)	1932-2012 (80)	BRMU (0.7)	-1.1		1994 – 2011(17)

For a full list of the closest distances between locations of CORS and tide stations, see <u>http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/CORS/Tiga/tiga_link.html</u>.

General GPS Technology Implementation at NOAA

GPS technology and procedures will be implemented in operational plans:

- (1) to support the development of a seamless, geocentric reference system for the acquisition, management, and archiving of NOAA water level data. This will provide a national and global digital database, which will comply with the minimum geo-spatial metadata standards of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) and connect the NOAA water level database to the NGS National Spatial Reference System (NSRS);
- (2) to establish transformation functions between NOAA chart datum (MLLW) and the geocentric reference system to support NOAA 3-dimensional hydrographic surveys, the implementation of Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS), and the NOAA Vertical Datum transformation (V-Datum tool) and tidal datum models. Integration of GPS procedures into NOAAPORTS® operations will support the development of tidally-controlled Digital Elevation Maps and Models for use in programs such as marsh restoration.
- (3) to support water level datum transfers by using GPS derived orthometric heights.
- (4) to monitor crustal motions (horizontal and vertical) to support global climate change investigations.

GPS-derived orthometric heights can be accurately determined and used for water level datum transfers according to (a) the established guidelines for 3-D precise relative positioning to measure ellipsoid heights, (b) properly connecting to several NAVD88 bench marks, and ©) using the latest high-resolution modeled geoid heights for the area of interest. In many remote locations, the use of GPS-derived orthometric heights for datum transfer will be more efficient

(timely) and more cost-effective than the use of conventional differential surveying techniques and may, under certain circumstances, preclude the installation of additional water level stations to establish a datum.

B. Continued Testing of Microwave Radar Water Level Sensors and Transition to Operations

Based on the many advantages offered by microwave radar wave level sensors (MWWL), successful MWWL installations reported throughout the international community, and previously reported results from NOAA's first phase of laboratory and long term field testing, the effort to introduce MWWL measurement technology across NOAA's NWLON continues. Also, a second phase of field testing has recently commenced, with the primary objective of better understanding MWWL sensor performance in intermediate to high energy wave regimes.

As previously reported, CO-OPS recommended limited operational use of radar water level sensors across the NWLON in low wave energy sites based of results reported in the following 2011 reference: (http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/publications/Technical_Report_NOS_CO-OPS_061.pdf). A conservative approach has been pursued for the initial transition to operations effort, with MWWL installations being limited to low wave energy NWLON station sites. This is not to suggest that MWWL sensors cannot meet operational performance requirements in higher energy wave environments but rather an indication of NOAA's very limited amount of supporting field test data along with lack of thorough understanding of a MWWL sensor's performance over a broad range of ocean wave conditions to date.

Transition to Operations in Low Wave Environments

Since many NWLON stations are located in low wave environments, similar to test locations that yielded excellent test long-term results, NOAA has been able to make significant progress with the initial transition efforts, even with a conservative approach to site selection to date. Since CO-OPS first installation of operational MWWL sensors in Mobile Bay, Alabama in July 2011, several additional operational installations have followed. A transition committee has been formed to oversee all decisions on related efforts, which fall under three different categories of applications:

- 1. Introducing MWWL sensors to a subset of existing NWLON stations located in environments that can be easily classified as favorable.
- 2. Use of MWWL sensors at new or rebuilt NWLON long-term stations.
- 3. Use of MWWL sensors in new, temporary water level stations that are established to support hydrographic surveys.

To assist in evaluating suitability of proposed MWWL installation locations, an environmental assessment of each prospective site is compiled and reviewed by the overseeing committee. This is based on all available oceanographic and meteorological archive data as well as bathymetry and coastal boundary conditions.

Regarding category one, a criteria has been developed for introducing a MWWL sensor at an existing NWLON station, with the ultimate goal of transitioning the MWWL sensor to become the primary source of operational data. After the MWWL is installed at an NWLON station, the existing primary water level sensor will remain operational and overlapping data will be collected for at least one year. Analysis criteria to be applied to the overlapping sensor records have also been defined. For each new MWWL installation at an NWLON site, results will be documented in order to establish a case for continuity in long term records prior to officially switching to the MWWL sensor for primary measurements. Analysis will include calculation and comparison of multiple tidal datums. Since 2011, 4 new MWWL systems have been installed at NWLON operational stations (in addition to the previously reported 4, for a total of 8).

Regarding category 2, MWWL sensors have been installed at over 10 operational hydrographic stations since 2011. All installations have successfully yielded the required data and operational deployment experiences have resulted in very beneficial input to the continued evolution of system design and installation procedures.

Progress on category 3 has included incorporation of MWWL sensors at 2 new long-term water level sites and there are plans for MWWL sensor use at several additional new and/or rebuilt station sites during the coming two years.

As the number of MWWL station sensor continued to increase, NOAA has continued to develop new laboratory facilities to support routine calibration and verification testing. All of the test results that NOAA has obtained over the past several yeast, including problems encountered and lessons learned, have been used to develop and document a standard, five-step MWWL sensor pre-deployment laboratory test procedure. This test procedure is specifically designed to decrease the likelihood of problems during field deployment. CO-OPS has implemented the requirements to conduct the following tests to verify sensors' basic functionality and accuracy prior to field deployment:

- 1) Fixed Target Test for Resolution Verification
- 2) Time Response Verification
- 3) Sensor Offset Derivation
- 4) Dynamic Liquid Target Test
- 5) Range Accuracy Verification

Continued Field Testing – Intermediate to High Wave Environments

Test results reported to date support CO-OPS operational use of MWWL sensors in low wave energy environments only; understanding measurement capabilities in high wave energy environments remains in work in progress. Up until very recently, CO-OPS had only collected MWWL test data at one very high wave energy field site - the Duck, NC NWLON station. This is located on the 'Outer Banks' of North Carolina, which is known to be one of the most energetic wave environments on the U. S. East coast, mainly due to the relatively short distance from coastline to the continental shelf break. No test data have been collected where surface dynamics express intermediate energy. Since NOAA's transition of MWWL technology to operational applications has been pursued, several operational planning discussions have revealed significant interest in using MWWL sensors at multiple NWLON sites in intermediate wave environments, where sensor's performance is not clearly understood.

Based on these motivating factors, additional MWWL test locations have been established at NWLON stations located at Lake Worth, FL, La Jolla, CA, and Monterey, CA during 2013. Installations were completed in the August-September 2013 time frame in an attempt to capture data through the Summer-Fall-Winter seasonal wave transition. Every site includes a source of nearby wave observations. Preliminary results are planned to be analysis results will be ready for reporting and presentation by early 2014.

C. Development and Testing of Water Level Measurement Systems for Remote Arctic Regions

NOAA continues to operate and maintain a number of NWLON tide stations along the Arctic Alaska coast. Those that fall within the Arctic Circle include tide stations at Prudhoe Bay Alaska which has now been in continuous operation on the North Slope since late 1993, at Red Dog Mine in Kotzebue Sound since 2003 and at Nome, Norton Sound since 1992.

NOAA has also been working to develop and test a water level measurement system that is designed for long-term deployments in remote Artic regions. In August 2008, two bottom mounted offshore platforms were deployed beyond the bottom ice scouring about 3 km offshore in about 30 meters of water at Point Barrow, AK. Each platform housed an internally recording pressure measuring system outfitted with acoustic modems for periodically uploading the data from the water's surface. The surface receiver would be either on a boat when there was open water, or a snow machine after boring a hole through the ice after solid freeze over (See Figure 12). The platforms are periodically referenced to land based benchmarks via staff shots and differential GPS. The platforms were each equipped with acoustic releases for recovery. Continuous barometric pressure measurements were available from a nearby airport, for use in final derivation of water level values.

The systems were recovered after one year of deployment, data were downloaded, the platforms were refurbished and batteries replaced and the platforms were re-deployed within three-days, and final platform recovery occurred in August 2010. These offshore data represent a continuous two-year time series of water level data at Point Barrow resulting in updated tidal datums and tidal prediction products. These bottom-mounted configurations proved successful in sustained data collection unattended throughout the harsh winter environment. This was the first time in the history NOAA was able to collect year-round water level data in Beaufort Sea. These two years of water level data collection efforts validated the proof of concept that year-round water level data could be collected in Arctic.

NOS is planning to further develop and evolve this type of bottom mounted water level measurement system, by incorporating by enhancing bottom mount design and implementing a real time data communication system. System design will be split into two levels. Level 1 will involve the development and test of a system capable of measuring and transmitting data during summer months (ice free) and level 2 will involve a design for and real time data transmissions all year round. CO-OPS has recently completed the integration of a prototype system consisting of a bottom mounted pressure sensor gauge and a real time transmissions capability using Iridium Short-Burst Data modems. Two versions of the system are planned to be deployed for initial field testing at the Money Point, VA NWLON station in CY 2013. These tests will include various options such as buoy with acoustic modem and real time telemetry, buoy with cable and real time telemetry, and cabled observatory and real time telemetry. Once these tests are successful, then CO-OPS will transition this technology to operations in the near future.

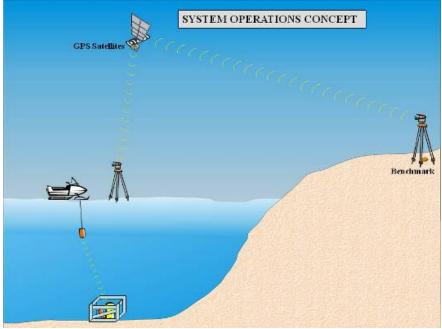


Figure 12. Schematic of Point Barrow Testing Configuration.

IV. Measurement of Extreme Water Levels

A. Station Configurations and Upgrades

Data and datum continuity are extremely important to any long-term monitoring observing system. Observing systems required for long-term sustained monitoring purposes must aspire to un-interrupted measurement of water level, even during the harshest environments that cause the extreme highest and lowest water levels. Collection of long-time histories of the frequency and duration of extreme events enables exceedance probability analyses for high and low waters, for instance (see Section V.C. Exceedance Probability).

By virtue of their location at the ocean's edge, water level observing stations are exposed to severe damage from wind, storm surge and waves during the very storms which make their operation so important. Stations not designed to withstand severe conditions are often severely damaged or destroyed resulting in significant data gaps until the systems can be replaced and brought back on-line. It is important for all applications of the data from sea level stations to collect the extreme low water values as well and stations are established to measure the full anticipated excursion of water levels, from extreme lowest to extreme highest. Strengthening key water level station infrastructure and sensor configurations ensures that observations of water level, wind speed and direction, barometric pressure, and air and water temperature will be available when the information is needed most and without interruption over the long-term. NOAA National Water Level Observing Network (NWLON) water level stations have several attributes to ensure data and datum continuity listed below. Other agencies and organizations employ these or other similar attributes.

- Primary and backup sensors and data collection platforms (DCPs). A less expensive and less accurate pressure system is used to fill gaps using comparative gains and offsets if the primary sensor (acoustic sensor) malfunctions or exceeds measurement capability (either maximum of minimum measurement limited exceeded due to storm surge or storm withdrawal).
- Complete redundancy. At some locations, two separate independent systems are installed within a short distance. If one primary/backup system goes down or is destroyed, a completely separate system (both primary and backup DCP's and sensors) provides continuous data. This is more expensive but is an option that has proven itself at remote locations where it is often extremely hard and expensive to perform corrective maintenance and repair.
- Multiple modes of data collection. NOAA uses 6-minute interval satellite radio communication as a primary mode backed up by telephone. If a storm destroys both of these connections, data are continued to be collected for up to a month with internal memory for subsequent download by field personnel.

- Hardened water level station structures. NOAA uses existing piers and wharf structures wherever possible, however if these do not provide the appropriate level of hardening to withstand flooding form storm surge and waves, raised instrumentation platforms are installed atop existing infrastructure. I some instances, separate high four-pile structures are designed and built next to existing infrastructure to ensure data continuity during extreme surges. Integrating new technology. NOAA is investing in new Microwave Water Level systems (MWWL) to eventually replace existing primary system acoustic and pressure sensors where feasible. These systems should provide even better performance in terms of lost data because they have no components in the water subject to damage and costly repair and maintenance.
- Independent hardened structures. Even with all of the steps taken in the previous bullets in place, water level stations can still often be destroyed and damaged if the storm makes landfall near the station and it is subjected to extreme waves, flooding, extreme winds, and debris fields and damage of the nearby supporting piers and docks. NOAA has recently implemented a NOAA Sentinel system (described below) to ensure data continuity even during some of the most severe events and direct "hits".

NOAA Sentinels are deployed in open coastal areas most vulnerable to severe storms such as land-fall hurricanes in the US Gulf of Mexico. Sentinels have been established at four locations which were selected based on two objectives; re-establish NWLON stations either destroyed or heavily damaged by recent hurricanes; and establish new stations in areas identified as gaps in the NWLON. Additional Sentinels are being established with partnership federal and state agencies as funding becomes available. Two Sentinels off the coast of Texas have just been completed, and four more have been funded and are underway through Texas A&M University.

NOAA Sentinels are large single-pile structures (see Figure 13). A single-pile structure presents a minimal profile to a storm coming from any direction. Engineering specifications based on Category 4 generated wind and wave action analysis determined that the platforms stand at least 25 feet above the sea surface on a 4-foot diameter single pile. The piles are driven 60-80 feet into the seafloor to ensure stability. The Sentinels are expected to enhance GLOSS objectives by ensuring continuous records during storm events and reducing the number of long data gaps due to storm damage. These stations will also improve the ability to record maximum water levels.



Figure 13. One of the US NOAA Sentinel Tide Stations in the Gulf of Mexico.

B. The Role of Coastal Tide Stations in U.S. Storm Surge Warning

For tropical cyclones impacting the U.S. coast, tide gauges play a crucial role in monitoring realtime conditions and recording events of record. Many stations in hurricane-vulnerable areas such as the Gulf of Mexico have been hardened to withstand hurricane conditions, continuing to transmit critical storm tide measurements during the worst of storm conditions. Forecasters, emergency managers, first responders, and other decision makers depend upon real-time water level records during severe storm surge events in order to monitor and respond to evolving severe conditions.

The NOAA storm surge monitoring network in Mobile Bay has employed the use of a new water level sensor system based upon microwave radar. These sensors are located high enough to observe severe surge events, and are located on robust platforms that are likely to withstand extreme floods and winds. CO-OPS is presently testing this microwave water level technology for use in other environments. Over 100 stations that are part of the National Water Level Observation Network (NWLON) and over 25 stations that are part of the Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS) have been approved for transition to microwave radar, with station upgrades tentatively planned to begin in 2015.

Additionally, it is critical that the peak water level event of record is recorded for coastal regions because this information is needed to define engineering design conditions, set insurance rates, develop evacuation plans, and validate storm surge models. First, long term water level records are analyzed in order to understand the frequency and level of significant storm surges. Engineers use this data to set design conditions for coastal regions (e.g., for 100 year or 500 year events). CO-OPS also analyzes the records at long-term stations to provide this

analysis decisions makers (see Section V.C. for discussion; to http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/est/). However, if water level observations are lost during the highest water level events, the accuracy of these analyses are compromised. Second, storm surge models are used to augment sparse observation records (due to the rare occurrence of events, the relatively low density of observation stations, and the historical loss of those stations due to storm surges). This is often done by simulating conditions from thousands of hypothetical storms. However, the accuracy of these models cannot be validated with a small historical observation record that does not contain the maximum water level events (due to station failure or loss during storms), and the analyses and products based on them (engineering design conditions, building codes, insurance rates, evacuation plans) have lower confidence and accuracy.

CO-OPS produces several products supporting users of storm surge records, both during and following tropical cyclones that impact the coast of the U.S. and its territories. When the National Weather Service issues a tropical storm or hurricane warning for the U.S. coast, CO-OPS issues the Storm QuickLook product (http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/quicklook.shtml). This product provides a synopsis of near real-time water level and meteorological observations at locations affected by the tropical cyclone. It is updated four times per day (typically one hour after the National Hurricane Center issues a forecast showing the path of the hurricane). The Storm QuickLook product contains three main sections: 1) a map highlighting NOS tide gauge locations and tropical cyclone data (including track, intensity and satellite imagery), 2) an analysis section with a summary of present water level conditions along with the time and height of the next two high tides at selected locations, and the latest NWS public advisory information about the storm, and 3) time series plots of water level, wind and barometric pressure observations from CO-OPS, which are updated in real-time. The QuickLook product highlights the subset of the stations that most significantly affected by a storm, and provides links to real-time data at additional locations. Real-time water level observations within the QuickLook product can be adjusted referenced to multiple vertical datums including Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW), Mean Sea Level (MSL), the North American Vertical Datum (NAVD88) and beginning in 2013, Mean Higher High Water (MHHW). MHHW provides an estimate of when flooding inundation may occur at coastal locations and allows for an easier comparison between observed storm tide and storm surge guidance, which is referenced to ground level.

Following a significant storm surge event, it is important to validate the maximum water elevation due to the storm. One such method that is robust and highly accurate is to review water level data measured at NOS tide gauges during the storm. CO-OPS provides a report to the National Weather Service highlighting preliminary maximum storm tide and storm surge measurements, as well as maximum wind and minimum barometric pressure measured during the period where the storm's impacts were felt along the coast. These reports are typically disseminated within 5 days following a storm to provide local Weather Forecast Offices and their customers with a rapid assessment of water level measurements. For significant storms, CO-OPS will issue a Water Level and Meteorological Data Report, which includes a brief synopsis of the storm, along with data tables highlighting extreme storm tide, storm surge and meteorological observations at all locations affected by a storm and time series plots highlighting water level data before, during and after the storm. In 2012, reports were completed for <u>Hurricane Isaac</u> and <u>Hurricane Sandy</u>. These and other reports can be found on <u>http://www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov</u> under Publications.

C. Web Products

Exceedance Probability

NOAA provides exceedance probability statistics for select water level stations with at least 30 years of data through its Extreme Water Levels website (http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/est/). In September 2011, the main website for the product was released and statistics provided for water level stations in California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington and the Pacific Islands on the home page of the Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS) under the product menu (Figure 13). The product will provide exceedance probability statistics on the remaining water level stations in Alaska and on the East and Gulf Coasts that meet the 30 years of data criteria by April 30, 2012.

Access to statistics for individual stations is via a Google Map Interface where users can select a station in a region of interest (Figure 14). From the pop-up menu which provides the 1% exceedance probability levels for the selected stations, users may select the Extreme Water Levels page, the Exceedance Probability Curves, or the Exceedance Probability Levels (Figure 15). This site provides access to the monthly highest and lowest water levels overlaid by the exceedance probability levels (Figure 16), exceedance probability curves relative to return periods (Figure 17), and exceedance probability levels relative to tidal datums (Figure 18).

Extremely high or low water levels at coastal locations are a public concern and an important factor in coastal hazard assessment, navigational safety, and ecosystem management. Exceedance probability is the likelihood that water levels will exceed a given elevation based on historic values. The Product provides exceedance probability statistics for select CO-OPS water level stations with at least 30 years of data. When used in conjunction with real time station data exceedance probability statistics can be used to evaluate current conditions and determine when a rare event has occurred. This information may also be instrumental in planning for the possibility of dangerously high or low water events on a local level. Because these statistics are station specific, use for evaluating surrounding areas may be limited.

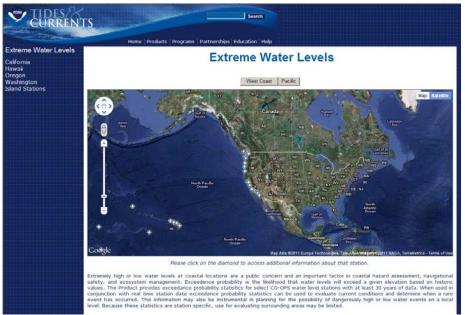


Figure 14: Google Map Interface for Exceedance Probability Statistics on Extreme Water Levels.

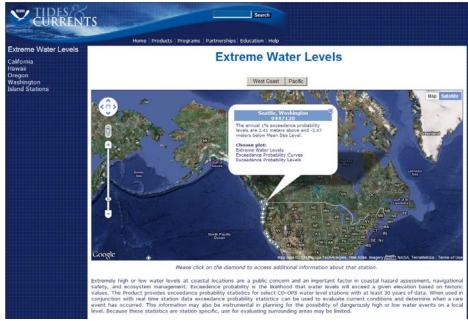


Figure 15: Pop-up menu for example station Seattle 9447130 from which users can select Extreme Water Levels, Exceedance Probability Curves, or Exceedance Probability Levels.

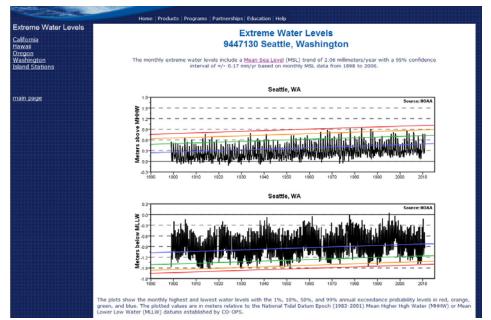


Figure 16: The monthly highest and lowest water levels overlaid by the exceedance probability levels.

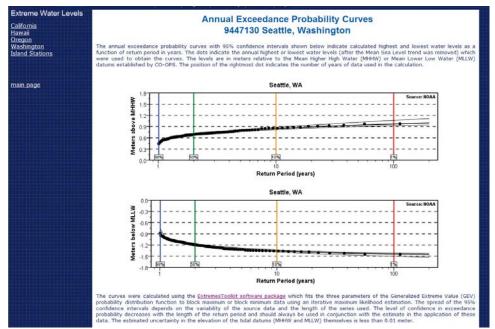


Figure 17: Exceedance Probability Curves relative to Return Periods with 1 year, 2 years, 10 years, and 100 years identified.

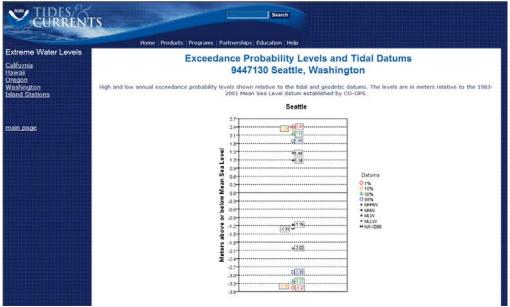


Figure 18: Exceedance probability levels relative to tidal and geodetic datums.

Probabilistic estimates of extreme water level under a changing climate

Probabilistic estimates of extreme still water level events under a changing climate http://www.noaaclimatepacis.org/slr/phase1.php. This site has arisen as a result of activities carried out following the "Towards a Consensus Methodology for Projecting Sea Level Rise and Coastal Inundation in the Pacific Islands Technical Workshop" held January 10-11, 2012 in Honolulu. This workshop brought together government, academic, and other experts to share knowledge and explore our current understanding of information and methods that can be used to project long-term changes in sea level and coastal inundation in the Pacific Islands http://www.noaaideacenter.org/slr/. The guidance and products that can be accessed here represent the results of the first phase of work leading to the development of innovative methodologies and best practices for the formulation of probabilistic estimates of extreme still water level events under a changing climate for specific locations in the Pacific Islands. This work involved non-stationary extreme value analysis that includes changes to mean sea level (MSL) in the form of observed trends as well as projections of future changes based upon model-derived scenarios developed for the USGCRP National Climatic Assessment (NCA). Two models - the Generalized Extreme Value (GEV) Distribution and the Generalized Pareto Distribution (GPD) - were used to compute the extreme value statistical distributions of static water levels from historical observations from tide gauges.

The Pacific Storms Climatology Products project website <u>http://www.pacificstormsclimatology.org/</u> also provides access to a range of exceedance probability products including the exceedance probabilities calculated from standard Generalized Extreme Value (GEV) analysis and from a modified "Peak Over Threshold (POT)" form of extreme value analysis.

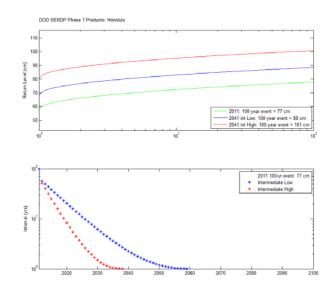


Figure 19. (Top) Exceedance probability curves (return level elevations), for recent year (green) and 30 years from most recent year under US National Climate Assessment (NCA) SLR Intermediate Low (blue) and High (red) scenarios. The Intermediate Low and High scenarios correspond to 0.5m:1.64 feet and 1.2m:3.94 feet by 2100 respectively. (Bottom) Recurrence interval decay curves, showing change in return level interval associated with the most recent year's 100-yr return level elevation under NCA SLR Intermediate Low (blue) and High (red) scenarios.

Water Level Outlooks

As part of a joint effort by NOAA NESDIS/NCDC & NOS/CO-OPS and UHSLC, 'Seasonal Water Level and Storminess Outlook' products are being developed for the Atlantic Coast and Pacific Islands. These products are specifically tailored for coastal flooding/erosion risk warning. The 'outlooks' aim to project the potential for elevated water levels at the shoreline due to: 1) regional changes in mean sea level associated with ENSO and other modes of natural variability; 2) tropical and extra-tropical storms; and 3) unusually high tides. The outlooks respond to a need from community planners, resource managers, and other decision-makers for information about the potential for coastal flooding and erosion to threaten coastal structures and property, groundwater reservoirs, harbor operations, waste water systems, sandy beaches, coral reef ecosystems, and other social and economic concerns. Currently, information of this type is limited in scope and not well integrated.

Seasonal Water Level an 4 th Quarter 2013	Sea Level Station, PI
	hyperlinks
32 07 FA 54 57 56 57 56 57 56 57 56 57 56 57 56 57 56 57 56 57 56 57 56 57<	1/201 Homeway JMD Homeway JMD 01 64 65 66 67 64 67<
Projected Mean Level of the Sea (I Regional Forecast: The forecast values of sea level if stations in the region are likely to be about 2-4 incht the western North Pacific is expected to be belowen Tropical Cyclones	or the 3rd quarter indicate that most of the s higher than normal. Tropical cyclone activity in
Extra-Tropical Cyclones ABOVE NORMAL	
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Figure 20. Example of a Seasonal Outlook for a Pacific Island showing times of higher than normal tides, outlooks of expected *storminess* shown relative to climatological patterns

V. Regional Activities

A. Pacific Islands Integrated Water Level Service

Regional partners including the US NOAA, NZ NIWA and Met Service, and Australian CSIRO and BOM among others are coordinating on the creation and distribution of climate-related sea level products. This group has identified the development and distribution of actionable information related to high waves and water levels at a seasonal scale as an area of mutual interest (see above). Joint efforts in this area constitute path-finding activities directed towards aligning complementary interests and activities, sponsoring joint projects, and leveraging funding as a way to minimize duplication of effort and maximize the use of agency resources in the Pacific. It represents a center of action within a broader effort to support regional collaboration in the areas of data and observations, applied research and analysis, product development, and outreach and training and demonstrate the value of regionally integrated water level-related products and services.

B. Support of Regional Tsunami Warning Systems

U.S. Tsunami Program

Although the frequency of damaging tsunamis in the U.S. is low compared to many other natural hazards, the impacts can be extremely high. In 2005, the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) and the U.S. Sub-Committee for Disaster Reduction released a report outlining the U.S. President's strategy for reducing the tsunami risk (NSTC, 2005). The NSTC is the principal means for the President to coordinate science and technology policy across the U.S. Federal government. To support the national strategy for minimizing the impact of tsunami, NOAA relies on a network of global data, acquired and processed in real-time, in addition to high-quality global databases supporting advanced scientific modeling. NOAA has upgraded its sea level stations for near-shore monitoring, upgrading and expanding the network of seismic stations in partnership with the USGS, and expanding the Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunami (DART[®])stations in the Atlantic, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico and Pacific regions as part of the GEOSS. NOAA, in collaboration with the recently expanded National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP), is advancing modeling and mapping activities, hazard assessment and data stewardship, quantitative assessment of socio-economic impacts and increased preparedness.

New and Upgraded Tsunami Capable Tide Stations

Following the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami disaster, the U.S. evaluated and strengthened its national tsunami warning system. NOAA has upgraded its existing National Water Level Observation Network (NWLON) tide stations with new Data Collection Platforms (DCPs) and communication technology, and filled gaps in the existing water level network with new tsunami-capable NWLON tide stations. NOAA's Tsunami Warning Centers also receive sea level data (1-minute averages transmitted every 5 minutes) from GLOSS stations operated by the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center (UHSLC). These tide stations, in addition to international tide stations in multiple countries, comprise an integrated coastal water level observation network, critical for tsunami detection and warning.

From 2005-2007, NOAA installed 16 new NWLON stations and 33 NWLON station upgrades, in support of the U.S. Tsunami Program. In addition to these priority locations, NOAA has been systematically upgrading NWLON stations along all U.S. Coasts, including its possessions and territories. There are currently 169 NWLON stations operating with full tsunami capabilities.

NWLON stations configured to support tsunami collect 1-minute averaged water level values in addition to the standard 6-minute averaged values. Unlike the previous generation of DCPs which transmitted 6-minute average water level values hourly via Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites (GOES), the new DCPs transmit water level data every 6 minutes. 6-minute GOES transmissions include primary and backup 6-minute averaged water level data, as

well as 1-minute water level data. The messages also include data quality parameters (mean, standard deviation and outliers) and data from any meteorological sensors operating at the station, as well as the preceding water level values from the primary and redundant sensors which can be used to fill data gaps should a transmission be missed. Upgraded NWLON stations also collect 15-second data from the backup water level sensor, which are stored at the backup DCP on a flash memory card. 15-second data are not transmitted via GOES, or routinely archived, but are available for post-event analysis and modeling through the DCP's 56K modem or direct serial connection at the DCP. Enhancements are also under development, in order to increase two-way communication capabilities at tsunami stations for diagnostics, firmware upgrades, reconfiguration, trouble shooting, and data retrieval, thereby eliminating the need to travel to the site, and promoting quicker response to problems and outages.

IOC Tsunami Warning Systems

The IOC of UNESCO has successfully coordinated the Pacific Tsunami Warning System since 1965. After the 2004 Sumatra tsunami, IOC was mandated to assist Indian Ocean Member States in development of an Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System (IOTWS). The IOC also assisted at the same time with the development Early Warning Systems for tsunami and other coastal hazards in both the Caribbean (CARIBE EWS) andthe Mediterranean and Northeast Atlantic Ocean (NEAMTWS). These TWSs, all continue to be coordinated by the IOC, are supported by the Member States which collect, analyze, and disseminate seismic and sea level data in support of warning and preparedness. The U.S. has played an active role in the PTWS, IOTWS, and the CARIBE EWS, both through collection of observations and providing tsunami warnings, and through provision of technical expertise and also has participated in the sessions of the NEAMTWS.

Sustainable Sea Level Observations

In support of the CARIBE-EWS, the U.S. through NOAA's National Ocean Service installed in 2011 a new, sustainable sea level station in Barbuda. Site selection was focused on providing maximum benefit to the region through enhanced warning products, and was founded on scientifically-assessed vulnerability in the country of Antigua and Barbuda. This station contributes data to the Tsunami Warning Centers. It was temporarily removed in 2013 due to pier reconstruction and dredging, but is planned to be re-established in 2014. The sustainable nature of the construction of this station as a long-term station makes it an ideal site for a Caribbean GLOSS station.

Puerto Rico Seismic Network of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez

The Puerto Rico Seismic Network (PRSN) of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez (UPRM) operates 6 sea level stations in Puerto Rico. The 6 tide gauge stations are NOS compliant and were funded by FEMA and the UPRM and installed and with the support and guidance of NOS/NOAA between 2006 and 2008 (Table 6). All of these stations also meet GLOSS standards

for sea level observations and are currently providing data to appropriate warning centers and weather service offices. At the moment of this report one of the stations (Penuelas) is in the process of being relocated to another site off southern Puerto Rico. The data are transmitted every 6 minutes on GOES. In addition some of these stations have been updated to transmit data every minute over the internet. The data can be accessed on the home page of the PRSN, <u>http://redsismica.uprm.edu</u>, Tides and Currents site of NOAA, <u>http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov</u> and Tides on Line site of NOAA <u>http://tidesonline.nos.noaa.gov/monitor.html</u>.

	State		Transmission	Station		
Station		GOES ID	Interval over GOES	Number	Lat	Long
ARECIBO	PR	3366454E	6 min	975-7809	18.47 N	66.70 W
FAJARDO	PR	3366C35A	6 min	975-3216	18.33 N	65.63 W
MAYAGUEZ	PR	336633DE	6 min	975-9394	18.22 N	67.16 W
ISABEL II, VIEQUES	PR	3366D02C	6 min	975-2619	18.15 N	65.44 W
YABUCOA	PR	3366B5CA	6 min	975-422B	18.06 N	65.84 W
ISLA CAJA DE MUERTOS	PR					

Table 6. PRSN Sea Level Stations in Puerto Rico, USA.

Each station is equipped with an acoustic and pressure sensor, 2 DCPs, air and water temperature sensors. All stations also have a meteorology package consisting of a wind, air temperature/relative humidity, barometric and rain gauges. The wind sensors were upgraded to meet the specification of the WMO. The power of the station is autonomous and runs off solar panels. Timing is provided with a GPS. For leveling purposes, each sea level station has 6 benchmarks which have all been observed with GPS. Second-order, class I levels were used in connections at all the stations. One of the stations, Mayagüez, has a collocated GPS.

A GOES receiver and central recording system is operational at the Puerto Rico Seismic Network to receive the data from these and other sea level stations operated by NOAA and other sea level operators in the Caribbean and Adjacent regions. These stations are monitored 24/7 as part of the PRSN Earthquake and Tsunami Information and Warning System. XCONNECT software of Sutron is used for display and quality control of the data. The West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center software, Tide View, is used to mesh observed tsunami information with the forecast model and compare observed waves with predicted tide and estimated tsunami arrival times, as well as digitally filter the tsunami signal. PRSN is also developing a suite of codes in house to add quality control to sea level data, and to feed 1-minute live stream to remote clients, including the Tsunami Warning Centers.

The PRSN also supports efforts to improve sea level observations in the Caribbean for tsunami and other coastal hazards. In 2008 it hosted the IOC-GLOSS-PRSN Caribbean Training Course for Operators of Sea Level Stations, and had a workshop this year to discuss post-tsunami survey measurements. In 2008 it also installed a NOAA/NOS and GLOSS compliant station in the Dominican Republic for which it continues to provide support. In 2012-2013 it assisted with the upgrading of the Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands station and also installed a tsunami ready tide gauge in the Dominican Republic, in the south province of Barahona. The data from these stations are available thru the PRSN website, as well as the IOC Sea Level Monitoring Facility.

It has been collaborating with the University of Hawaii in the installation and upgrade of an additional 10 stations in the Caribbean in support of tsunami monitoring. As part of these efforts, as of 2011, El Limon in Costa Rica, Curacao, Grenada, Dominica and Puerto Plata and Punta Cana have been installed. By 2014, when this project ends, additional stations are to be installed in Turks and Caicos, Panama and Colombia (2 stations). By 2011 the PRSN in coordination with the Tsunami Unit of UNESCO has plans to install a new coastal sea level station in Port au Prince, Haiti. In 2011, also with UNESCO, the PRSN has begun evaluating additional sites for the installation of sea level stations in the Central America and several islands in the Caribbean. The website of the PRSN has links to data of many of the stations operational in the Caribbean and Adjacent regions.

Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program

The Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program (CTWP) was established in 2010 as the first step of a phased approach for the establishment of a Caribbean Tsunami Warning Center (CTWC). This office currently provides support and guidance for tsunami observations, including seismic and sea level systems, tsunami forecasting, communications and education and preparedness. It works closely with the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center and the West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center, the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's Intergovernmental Coordination Group for Tsunamis and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean Sea and Adjacent Regions as well as other local, national and regional stakeholders.

At the request of the CARIBE EWS it maintains a database on sea level stations in the Caribbean and hosts on its website (http://www.srh.noaa.gov/srh/ctwp/) an interactive Google Map of sea level stations (See Figure 19). Every month it provides a report of sea level data availability at different centers, including the IOC Sea Level Monitoring Facility, the PRSN and the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center. As of September 2013 the CARIBE EWS station inventory included 111 coastal stations and 7 DART stations in the Caribbean and Western Atlantic (non US mainland). Of these stations, all the DART stations have been installed and 55 coastal sea level stations are contributing data over GOES or FTP, most at least every 6 minutes (60% increase over 2011 when there were 34 just 34 coastal sea level station). Currently with funding provided thru UNESCO tsunami and GLOSS compliant stations are to be installed by the end of 2013 in Guatemala, Grand Cayman Islands, Haiti (2), St. Nevis and St. Vincent. Thru UNAVCO (US GPS Consortium), funding was secured for an additional two stations with

collocated high rate GPS in 2 additional sites. Several other countries also have plans for new installations and stations. For other locations, funds are required for new installations or upgrades to the current facilities.

The CTWP, thru initiatives with NOAA, US State Department and the Tsunami Unit is maintaining discussions with the Caribbean and international stakeholders regarding the upgrade of existing stations in the CARICOM nations and a Caribbean Sea Level Data Center. Another project focuses on the development and strengthening sea level observations and data analysis for the tsunami and hydro meteorological community which is being executed by the Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program.

In addition to maintaining an inventory of sea level stations in the Caribbean and Western Atlantic basin, the CTWP helped organize the 3rd regional GLOSS-CARIBE EWS sea level network operator's workshop "Strengthening Sea Level **Observation Network and** Coordination Activities in the Caribbean" in June 2012 in Merida, Mexico. The course was organized within the framework of the US WMO Voluntary Contributions Project "Strengthening sea-level observation network and coordination activities in the Caribbean", the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission IOC of UNESCO (GLOSS, IOCARIBE and Tsunami), the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Mareographic Service of the Universidad Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM). The purpose of the course was to provide the sea level station operators and data analysts in the region lectures and hands on training on the science and operations of sea level stations for tsunami and other coastal hazards warning purposes. The workshop included 4 days of lectures, presentations and exercises and two field trips to stations operated by the UNAM. 37 sea level station professionals from the Caribbean, Central America, northern South America, Mexico, US Mainland, Puerto Rico and Hawaii participated in the training activity. The Puerto Rico Seismic Network is trying to identify a source of funding to host a 4th course in 2014.

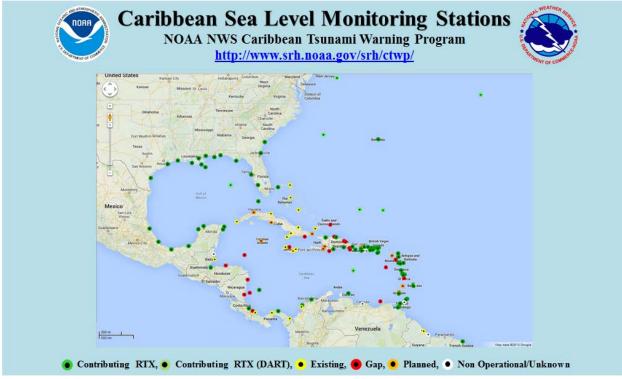


Figure 21. Current status of sea level stations in the Caribbean.

C. Contributions to an Arctic Observing System

In 2011, NOAA released an Arctic Vision and Strategy specifically to support the 2010 President's *Final Recommendations of the Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force* that called for "better ways to conserve, protect, and sustainably manage Arctic coastal and ocean resources... new collaborations and partnerships to better monitor and assess environmental conditions...improvement of the scientific understanding of the Arctic system and how it is changing in response to climate-induced and other changes."

According to the NOAA Arctic Vision and Strategy:

"The Arctic has profound significance for climate and functioning of ecosystems around the globe. The region is particularly vulnerable and prone to rapid change. Increasing air and ocean temperatures, thawing permafrost, loss of sea ice, and shifts in ecosystems are evidence of widespread and dramatic ongoing change. As a result, critical environmental, economic, and national security issues are emerging, many of which have significant impacts for human lives, livelihoods, and coastal communities. Though NOAA has numerous and diverse capabilities that support these emerging issues, a strategic approach that leverages NOAA's existing priorities and strengths, as well as those of our national and international partners, is needed." The document continues to explain that the "Arctic region needs accurate land and tidal elevations to build flood protections, harden infrastructure, ensure safe and efficient marine transportation, model storm surge, and monitor sea levels." Specifically in order to advance the objective for resilient and healthy Arctic communities and economies, NOAA's five-year action plan strategy is to:

- Overhaul the Arctic Geospatial Framework of geodetic control and water levels to correct errors of several meters in positioning and enable centimeter level measurements and elevations
- Deliver scientific support for Arctic pollution response to protect ecosystems (contingency plans, place-based drills, incident response training, community workshops, spill trajectory modeling, baseline environmental assessments)
- Incorporate local knowledge into preparedness, response, assessment, and restoration
- Survey and map Arctic waters and shoreline
- Support coastal communities with adaptive strategies and planning tools for understanding how climate change affects health and welfare

In order to accomplish these tasks, NOAA will specifically address several milestones:

- Acquire Arctic hydrographic and shoreline data for accurate nautical charts and storm surge models.
- Conduct airborne gravity surveys over Alaska to correct meters-level errors in Arctic positioning
- Explore potential partnerships to establish Continuously Operating Reference Stations and water level stations for accurate datums and positions.
- Advance appropriate tidal or hydrodynamic models, and datum transformation tools to support accurate and efficient Arctic hydrographic surveys.
- Assess and compile scientific research as well as traditional knowledge related to the impacts of resource development and pollution applicable to the Arctic.

In addition, with increased funding, NOAA would be able to:

- Upgrade National Water Level Observation Network stations for accurate water level measurements
- Model the geoid and densify CORS in northern and western Alaska for precise positioning
- Begin expansion of VDatum to Alaska for mapping and coastal community protection against storm surge and sea level change
- Increase the number of permanent NWLON stations co-located with CORS established in AK/Arctic gap areas

V. APPENDIX 1: Status of NOAA/CO-OPS GLOSS Stations in the United States

GLOSS ID	Location	
		Status
111	Kwajelein	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup – with redundant DCP PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (055A) data to 2013 CRN station
206	San Juan, PR	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup – with redundant DCP PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (245A) data to 2013
221	Bermuda	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup – with redundant DCP PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (259A) data to 2013 CRN station
302	Adak, AK	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (040A) data to 2013
149	Apra Harbor, Guam	 Ongoing, currently using a digital/pressure bubbler gauge with redundant DCP PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (053A) data to 2013 CRN station
219	Duck Pier, NC	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (260A) data to 2013
289	Fort Pulaski, GA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (752A) data through 2005
217	Galveston Pier 21, TX	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (775A) data to 2013
287	Hilo, HI	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (060A) data to 2013
108	Honolulu. HI	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (057B) data to 2013

GLOSS ID	Location	Status
		CRN station
109	Johnston Island	 No longer operated by NOAA as of 2003 – operated by UHSLC since 2004 PSMSL data through 2003 JASL (052A) data to 2013
216	Key West, FL	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (242A) data to 2013 CRN station
159	La Jolla, CA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (554A) data to 2013 CRN station
303	Attu Island, AK	 No longer operated by NOAA – station may be re-established using Tsunami funding PSMSL data 1943 through 1966 JASL (550A) data 1943 through 1966
332	Miami (Virginia Key), FL	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup – station is not connected to datum at Miami. PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (755A) Virginia Key data 1996 to 2013
106	Midway Island	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup – with redundant DCP PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (050A) data to 2013
290	Newport, RI	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (253A) data to 2013
74	Nome, AK	 Ongoing, currently using a dual orifice digital/bubbler system PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (0595A) data to 2013
144	Pago Pago, AS	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup – with redundant DCP PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (056A) data to 2013
288	Pensacola, FL	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (762A) data to 2013 CRN station
151	Prudhoe Bay, AK	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge during the ice – free season and a digital/bubbler system during the winter PSMSL data through 2012

GLOSS ID	Location	Status
		• JASL (579A) data to 2013
158	San Francisco, CA	 Ongoing, currently using a dual orifice digital/bubbler system PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (551A) data to 2013 CRN station
100	Sand Point, AK	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (574A) data to 2013
150	Seward, AK	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (560C) data to 2013
154	Sitka, AK	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (559A) data to 2013
157	South Beach, OR	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (592A) data to 2013
102	Unalaska (Dutch Harbor), AK	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (041B) data to 2013
220	Atlantic City, NJ	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (264A) data to 2013 CRN station
105	Wake Island	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup – with redundant DCP PSMSL data through 2012 JASL (051A) data to 2013

VI. APPENDIX 2: Status of additional operational non- GLOSS JASL NWLON Stations in the United States

JASL ID	Location	_
		Status
039A	Kodiak, AK	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data to 2013
058A	Nawiliwili, HI	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data to 2013
059A	Kahului, HI	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data to 2013
061A	Mokuoloe, HI	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2013
552A	Kawaihae, HI	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup JASL data through 2013
555A	Monterey, CA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
556A	Crescent City, CA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data to 2013 CRN station
557A	Port Orford, OR	 Ongoing, currently using a dual orifice digital/bubbler system PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
558A	Neah Bay, WA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data to 2013 CRN station
561A	Seldovia, AK	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
562A	Valdez. AK	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012

JASL ID	Location	Status
		JASL data through 2012
564A	Willapa Bay (Toke Point), WA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
565A	Port San Luis, CA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
567A	Los Angeles, CA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
570A	Yakutat, AK	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data to 2013
571A	Ketchikan, AK	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data to 2013 CRN station
572A	Astoria, OR	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
573A	Arena Cove, CA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup JASL data through 2012
575A	Charleston, OR	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
576A	Humboldt Bay (North Spit), CA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
578A	Santa Monica, CA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
583B	Cordova, AK	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
594A	Platform Harvest, CA	 Ongoing, currently two DCP's with paroscientific pressure digital bubbler sensors JASL data 1995 through 1999

JASL ID	Location	Status
246A	Magueyes Island, PR	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup – with redundant DCP PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
261A	Charleston, SC	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data to 2013 CRN station
240A	Fernandina Beach, FL	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012 CRN station
252A	Portland, ME	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012 CRN station
254A	Lime Tree bay, VI	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup – with redundant DCP PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
255A	Charlotte Amalie, VI	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup – with redundant DCP PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
279A	Montauk, NY	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
740A	Eastport, ME	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
741A	Boston, MA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012 CRN station
742A	Woods Hole. MA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
743A	Nantucket, MA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012

JASL ID	Location	Status
744A	New London, CT	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
745A	New York (The Battery), NY	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012 CRN station
746A	Cape May, NJ	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
747A	Lewes, DE	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
749A	Chesapeake BBT, VA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
750A	Wilmington, NC	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
753A	Mayport, FL	 Removed in 2000, used an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup. Replaced with Mayport, Bar Pilots Dock. PSMSL data through 2000 JASL data through 2000
757A	Naples,FL	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
759A	St. Petersburg, FL	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
760A	Apalachicola, FL	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
761A	Panama City Beach, FL	 Removed in 2012, used an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup JASL data through 2012
763A	Dauphin Island, AL	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012

JASL ID	Location	Status
765A	Grand Isle, LA	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
766A	Sabine Pass, TX	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL through 2012 JASL data through 2012
767A	Galveston Pleasure Pier, TX	 Removed in 2011, used an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup. Replaced with Galveston, North Jetty. PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
769A	Rockport, TX	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
770A	Corpus Christi, TX	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup JASL data 1992 through 2012
772A	Port Isabel, TX	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
773A	Clearwater Beach, FL	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup PSMSL data through 2012 JASL data through 2012
774A	Port Canaveral (Trident Pier), FL	 Ongoing, currently using an acoustic gauge with pressure gauge backup JASL data through 2012

VII. APPENDIX 3: UHSLC Fast Delivery, JASL and Real-time datasets.

The GLOSS/CLIVAR (formerly known as the WOCE) fast sea level data is distributed as hourly, daily, and monthly values. This project is supported by the NOAA Climate and Global Change program, and is one of the activities of the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center.

Joint Archive for Sea Level: Research Quality Data Set

The Joint Archive for Sea Level (JASL), a collaboration between the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center (UHSLC) and the World Data Center-A for Oceanography, the National

Oceanographic Data Center (NODC), and the National Coastal Data Development Center (NCDDC), continues to acquire, quality control, manage, and distribute sea level data as initiated by the Tropical Ocean Global Atmosphere (TOGA) Program, which ended in 1994. The TOGA ocean monitoring networks were primarily in the tropics. Since the end of TOGA, the JASL has slowly begun to absorb sea level sites in oceanographically strategic locations beyond the tropics. The JASL is now an official Global Sea Level Observing System (GLOSS) data center. The JASL Research Quality Data Set (RQDS) is the largest global collection of quality-controlled hourly sea level. Efforts are underway to acquire new sites and uncover historic records as available.

The JASL receives hourly data from regional and national sea level networks. The data are inspected and obvious errors such as data spikes and time shifts are corrected. Gaps less than 25 hours are interpolated. Reference level problems are referred back to the originator. If the originators cannot resolve the reference level shift, comparisons with neighboring sites or examination of the hourly residuals may warrant an adjustment. Descriptive station information and quality assessments are prepared. The objective is to assemble a scientifically valid, well-documented archive of hourly, daily, and monthly sea level values in standardized formats. These data are annually submitted to the World Data Center-A for Oceanography (WDCA) and the monthly values are provided to the Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level.

General Information for Desired Stations as of October 25, 2011:

Notes on columns:

Pxxx: Pacific Ocean, Axxx: Atlantic Ocean, Ixxx: Indian Ocean CI: Completeness index or percentage of data span without missing data. QC-YEARS: years which have received quality control.

JASL TOGA GLOSS STATION	COUNTRY	COORDINATES	QC-YEARS	CI AGENCY

001A Pxxx 115 Pohnpei-A Fd St Micronesia 06-59N 158-14E 1969-1971 100 Scripps Inst. Ocean.
001B Pxxx 115 Pohnpei-B Fd St Micronesia 06-59N 158-15E 1974-2004 98 UH Sea Level Center
001C Pxxx 115 Pohnpei-C Fd St Micronesia 06-59N 158-12E 2001-2009 100 Nat. Tidal Ctr., BOM
002A Pxxx 113 Tarawa-A,Betio Rep. of Kiribati 01-22N 172-56E 1974-1983 78 UH Sea Level Center
002B Pxxx 113 Tarawa-B,Bairiki Rep. of Kiribati 01-20N 173-01E 1983-1988 98 UH Sea Level Center
002C Pxxx 113 Tarawa-C,Betio Rep. of Kiribati 01-22N 172-56E 1988-1997 100 UH Sea Level Center
002D Pxxx 113 Tarawa-D, Betio Rep. of Kiribati 01-22N 172-56E 1992-2009 93 Nat. Tidal Ctr., BOM
003A Pxxx 169 Baltra-A Ecuador 00-26S 090-17W 1968-1977 93 National Ocean Service
003B Pxxx 169 Baltra-B Ecuador 00-26S 090-17W 1985-2010 86 UH Sea Level Center
004A Pxxx 114 Nauru-A Rep. of Nauru 00-32S 166-54E 1974-1995 95 UH Sea Level Center
004B Pxxx 114 Nauru-B Rep. of Nauru 00-32S 166-55E 1993-2009 91 Nat. Tidal Ctr., BOM
005A Pxxx 112 Majuro-A Rep. Marshall I. 07-06N 171-22E 1968-1999 92 UH Sea Level Center
005B Pxxx 112 Majuro-B Rep. Marshall I. 07-07N 171-22E 1993-2009 98 Nat. Tidal Ctr., BOM
006A Pxxx xxx Enewetok-A Rep. Marshall I. 11-26N 162-23E 1951-1971 98 Scripps Inst. Ocean.
006B Pxxx xxx Enewetok-B Rep. Marshall I. 11-26N 162-23E 1974-1979 94 UH Sea Level Center
007A Pxxx 120 Malakal-A Rep. of Belau 07-20N 134-29E 1926-1939 92 Japan Ocean. Data Cen.
007B Pxxx 120 Malakal-B Rep. of Belau 07-20N 134-28E 1969-2009 96 UH Sea Level Center
008A Pxxx 119 Yap-A Fd St Micronesia 09-31N 138-08E 1951-1952 100 Scripps Inst. Ocean.
008B Pxxx 119 Yap-B Fd St Micronesia 09-31N 138-08E 1969-2005 92 UH Sea Level Center
009A Pxxx 066 Honiara-A Solomon Islands 09-26S 159-57E 1974-1995 98 UH Sea Level Center
009B Pxxx 066 Honiara-B Solomon Islands 09-25S 159-57E 1994-2009 98 Nat. Tidal Ctr., BOM
010A Pxxx 065 Rabaul Papua New Guinea 04-12S 152-11E 1966-1997 85 UH Sea Level Center
011A Pxxx 146 Christmas-A Rep. of Kiribati 01-59N 157-29W 1955-1972 89 Scripps Inst. Ocean.
011B Pxxx 146 Christmas-B Rep. of Kiribati 01-59N 157-28W 1974-2003 96 UH Sea Level Center
012A Pxxx xxx Fanning-A Rep. of Kiribati 03-54N 159-23W 1957-1958 88 Scripps Inst. Ocean.
012B Pxxx xxx Fanning-B Rep. of Kiribati 03-54N 159-23W 1972-1987 95 UH Sea Level Center

012C Pxxx xxx Fanning-C Rep. of Kiribati 03-51N 159-22W 1988-1990 78 UH Sea Level Center 013A Pxxx 145 Kanton-A Rep. of Kiribati 02-49S 171-43W 1949-1967 100 Scripps Inst. Ocean. 013B Pxxx 145 Kanton-B Rep. of Kiribati 02-49S 171-43W 1972-2007 87 UH Sea Level Center 014A Pxxx 107 French Frigate S USA 23-52N 166-17W 1974-2004 97 UH Sea Level Center 015A Pxxx 140 Papeete-A French Polynesia 17-32S 149-34W 1969-1975 91 UH Sea Level Center 015B Pxxx 140 Papeete-B French Polynesia 17-32S 149-34W 1975-2009 97 National Ocean Service French Polynesia 23-08S 134-57W 1969-2003 92 UH Sea Level Center 016A Pxxx 138 Rikitea 017A Pxxx xxx Hiva Oa French Polynesia 09-49S 139-02W 1977-1980 75 UH Sea Level Center 018A Pxxx 122 Suva-A 18-08S 178-26E 1972-1997 91 National Ocean Service 018B Pxxx 122 Suva-B Fiji 18-08S 178-26E 1998-2009 99 Nat. Tidal Ctr., BOM 019A Pxxx 123 Noumea 22-18S 166-26E 1967-2003 99 UH Sea Level Center France 021A Pxxx 176 Juan Fernandez-A Chile 33-375 078-50W 1977-1984 67 UH Sea Level Center 021B Pxxx 176 Juan Fernandez-B Chile 33-385 078-50W 1985-2010 89 SHOA 022A Pxxx 137 Easter-A Chile 27-09S 109-27W 1957-1958 97 SHOA 022B Pxxx 137 Easter-B Chile 27-09S 109-27W 1962-1963 100 SHOA 022C Pxxx 137 Easter-C Chile 27-09S 109-28W 1970-2010 83 SHOA 023A Pxxx 139 Rarotonga-A Cook Islands 21-12S 159-47W 1977-1997 98 UH Sea Level Center 023B Pxxx 139 Rarotonga-B 21-12S 159-47W 1993-2009 99 Nat. Tidal Ctr., BOM Cook Islands 024A Pxxx 143 Penrhyn Cook Islands 08-59S 158-03W 1977-2010 95 UH Sea Level Center 025A Pxxx 121 Funafuti-A Tuvalu 08-32S 179-12E 1977-1999 97 UH Sea Level Center 025B Pxxx 121 Funafuti-B Tuvalu 08-30S 179-13E 1993-2009 97 Nat. Tidal Ctr., BOM 026A Pxxx xxx Honolulu,Kewalo USA 21-18N 157-52W 1978-1986 96 UH Sea Level Center 027A Pxxx xxx Honolulu.Pier 45 USA 21-19N 157-53W 1985-1988 100 UH Sea Level Center 028A Pxxx 118 Saipan-A N. Mariana Is. 15-13N 145-44E 1938-1940 97 Japan Ocean. Data Cen. 028B Pxxx 118 Saipan-B N. Mariana Is. 15-14N 145-45E 1978-2009 87 UH Sea Level Center 029A Pxxx 117 Kapingamarangi Fd St Micronesia 01-06N 154-47E 1978-2008 94 UH Sea Level Center 030A Pxxx xxx Santa Cruz Ecuador 00-45S 090-19W 1978-2007 95 UH Sea Level Center 031A Pxxx 142 Nuku Hiva French Polynesia 08-56S 140-05W 1982-1997 49 UH Sea Level Center 033A Pxxx 069 Bitung 01-26N 125-12E 1986-2009 37 BAKOSURTANAL Indonesia 034A Pxxx 161 Cabo San Lucas Mexico 22-53N 109-55W 1973-2003 81 CICESE 035A Pxxx 177 San Felix Chile 26-18S 080-07W 1987-2010 83 SHOA 036A Pxxx 160 Guadalupe 28-53N 118-18W 1977-1985 75 CICESE Mexico 037A Pxxx xxx Pago Bay, Guam USA Trust 13-26N 144-48E 2004-2011 90 National Ocean Service 038A Pxxx 125 Nuku'alofa Tonga 21-08S 175-11W 1990-2009 98 Nat. 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Japan

352A Pxxx 086 Mera

353A Pxxx 085 Kushimoto Japan 354A Pxxx 082 Aburatsu Japan 355A Pxxx 081 Naha Japan 356A Pxxx xxx Maisaka Japan 357A Pxxx xxx Miyakejima Japan 358A Pxxx xxx Hosoiima Japan 359A Pxxx xxx Naze Japan 360A Pxxx 324 Wakkanai Japan 362A Pxxx 083 Nagasaki Japan 363A Pxxx xxx Nishinoomote Japan 364A Pxxx 088 Hakodate Japan 365A Pxxx xxx Ishigaki Japan 370A Pxxx 073 Manila Philippines 371A Pxxx 072 Legaspi Philippines 372A Pxxx 071 Davao-A Philippines 372B Pxxx 071 Davao-B Philippines 373A Pxxx 070 Jolo Philippines 375A Pxxx xxx Hachinohe Japan 376A Pxxx 247 Xiamen China 379A Pxxx xxx Cebu Philippines 380A Pxxx xxx Puerto Princesa Philippines 381A Pxxx 075 Qui Nohn Vietnam 383A Pxxx xxx Vung Tau Vietnam 385A Pxxx xxx Tawau Malavsia 386A Pxxx xxx Kota Kinabalu Malaysia 387A Pxxx xxx Bintulu Malaysia 388A Pxxx xxx Miri Malavsia 389A Pxxx xxx Sandakan Malaysia 391A Pxxx 165 Clipperton-A France 391B Pxxx 165 Clipperton-B France 393A Pxxx xxx Puerto Vallarta Mexico 394A Pxxx xxx Salina Cruz Mexico 395A Pxxx 163 Manzanillo-A Mexico 395B Pxxx 163 Manzanillo-B Mexico 396A Pxxx xxx Puntarenas Costa Rica 397A Pxxx xxx Guavmas Mexico 398A Pxxx xxx Marsden Point New Zealand 399A Pxxx 148 Lord Howe-A Australia 399B Pxxx 148 Lord Howe-B Australia 400A Pxxx 331 Lombrum 401A Pxxx xxx Apia-A Western Samoa 401B Pxxx xxx Apia-B Western Samoa 402A Pxxx xxx Lautoka Fiii 403A Pxxx xxx Jackson New Zealand 410A Pxxx xxx Lungsurannaga Indonesia 411A Pxxx xxx Balikpapan Indonesia 414A Pxxx xxx Bajor Indonesia 540A Pxxx 155 Prince Rupert-A Canada 540B Pxxx 155 Prince Rupert-B Canada 542A Pxxx 156 Tofino Canada 543A Pxxx xxx Victoria,BC Canada 550A Pxxx xxx Massacre Bay,AK USA 551A Pxxx 158 San Francisco, CA USA 552A Pxxx xxx Kawaihae,HI USA 553A Pxxx xxx Port Allen,HI USA 554A Pxxx 159 La Jolla,CA USA 555A Pxxx xxx Monterev.CA USA 556A Pxxx xxx Crescent City,CA USA 557A Pxxx xxx Port Orford,OR USA 558A Pxxx xxx Neah Bay,WA USA USA 559A Pxxx 154 Sitka.AK 560A Pxxx 150 Seward-A.AK USA 560B Pxxx 150 Seward-B,AK USA 560C Pxxx 150 Seward-C,AK USA 561A Pxxx xxx Seldovia,AK USA 562A Pxxx xxx Valdez.AK USA 564A Pxxx xxx Willapa Bay,WA USA 565A Pxxx xxx Port San Luis,CA USA 567A Pxxx xxx Los Angeles.CA USA 569A Pxxx xxx San Diego.CA USA 570A Pxxx xxx Yakutat,AK USA 571A Pxxx xxx Ketchikan,AK USA 572A Pxxx xxx Astoria,OR USA 573A Pxxx xxx Arena Cove,CA USA

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109A lxxx 027 Gan Rep. of Maldives 00-41S 073-09E 1987-2009 91 UH Sea Level Center 110A Ixxx xxx Muscat Oman 23-38N 058-34E 1987-1993 77 UH Sea Level Center 111A Ixxx xxx Port Victoria-A Seychelles 04-37S 055-28E 1977-1982 84 Inst. Ocean. Sciences 111B Ixxx xxx Port Victoria-B Sevchelles 04-37S 055-28E 1986-1992 96 UH Sea Level Center 113A Ixxx xxx Masirah 20-41N 058-52E 1996-2008 79 UH Sea Level Center Oman 114A Ixxx 004 Salalah Oman 16-56N 054-00E 1989-2009 87 UH Sea Level Center 115A Ixxx 033 Colombo-A Sri Lanka 06-56N 079-51E 1953-1965 94 Nat. Aquatic Resources 115B Ixxx 033 Colombo-B Sri Lanka 06-57N 079-51E 1989-1992 96 UH Sea Level Center 115C Ixxx 033 Colombo-C Sri Lanka 06-57N 079-51E 2006-2010 100 UH Sea Level Center 117A Ixxx xxx Hanimaadhoo Rep. of Maldives 06-46N 073-10E 1991-2002 98 UH Sea Level Center 119A Ixxx 002 Djibouti Rep. of Djibouti 11-37N 043-08E 2007-2011 99 Port of Djibouti 121A Ixxx 339 Pt. 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190B Ixxx xxx Maputo-B Mozambique 25-59S 032-34E 1981-1986 49 INAHINA 191A Ixxx xxx Antonio Enes Mozambique 16-14S 039-54E 1967-1967 31 Inst. Hidro. Marinha 192A Ixxx 011 Pemba-A 12-58S 040-30E 1971-1973 25 Inst. Hidro. Marinha Mozambique Mozambique 192B Ixxx 011 Pemba-B 12-58S 040-29E 1982-1984 64 INAHINA Mozambique 192C Ixxx 011 Pemba-C 12-58S 040-29E 2007-2009 98 INAHINA 193A Ixxx xxx Nacala-A Mozambique 14-28S 040-41E 1975-1975 18 Inst. Hidro. Marinha 193B Ixxx xxx Nacala-B Mozambique 14-28S 040-41E 1982-1983 100 Inst. Hidro. Marinha 907A Ixxx 037 Akyab (Sittwe) Myanmar 20-08N 092-54E 2006-2009 99 UH Sea Level Center 915A Ixxx 337 Chabahar Iran 25-18N 060-36E 2007-2011 98 HDNCC 201A Axxx 199 St. Peter&Paul R. 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Venezuela 247A Axxx 328 La Guaira Venezuela 248A Axxx 203 Port-of-Spain Trinidad/Tobago 10-39N 061-31W 1984-1992 81 Trin/Tob. Hydro. Unit 13-06N 059-37W 1968-1970 98 National Ocean Service 249A Axxx xxx Bridgetown-A Barbados

249B Axxx xxx Bridgetown-B Barbados 13-06N 059-37W 1990-1991 92 Gov. of Barbados 249C Axxx xxx Bridgetown-C Barbados 13-06N 059-37W 1993-1996 45 Gov. of Barbados 249D Axxx xxx Bridgetown-D 13-06N 059-37W 2008-2010 80 Gov. of Barbados Barbados 19-12N 096-08W 1985-2008 54 UNAM 250A Axxx 212 Veracruz-A.Ver. Mexico 250B Axxx 212 Veracruz-B, Ver. 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*CI: completeness index in percent

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