



NATIONAL CENTERS FOR COASTAL OCEAN SCIENCE
**Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research -
Coastal Ocean Program**



The Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research - Coastal Ocean Program (CSCOR\COP) is an important federal-academic partnership providing predictive capabilities for managing coastal ecosystems. CSCOR\COP seeks to deliver the highest quality science in time for important coastal policy decisions by supporting high-priority research and interagency initiatives related to NOAA's mission in three goal areas:

Coastal Fisheries Ecosystems

CSCOR\COP supports the conservation and management of living marine resources by improving ecological and oceanographic predictions for fisheries management. Studies focus on: 1) identifying critical processes that control replenishment of fishery resources; 2) determining mechanisms that allow fishery populations to withstand stress from fishing; and 3) quantifying species interactions so models can be used in management decisions. Current efforts support fisheries management councils dealing with Bering Sea pollock, menhaden in the South Atlantic Bight, cod and haddock on Georges Bank, and salmon in the Pacific Northwest.

Cumulative Coastal Impacts

CSCOR\COP improves the scientific basis for managing coastal ecosystems through a series of regional watershed projects on the causes and impacts of multiple stresses on coastal land and marine ecosystems. Studies focus on: 1) developing indicators of physical, chemical, and biological stress; 2) predicting impacts of multiple stresses on living marine resources; 3) valuing natural resources in ecological and economical terms; and 4) predicting the outcomes of management strategies. Current efforts support coastal and natural resource managers dealing with multiple stressors in the Chesapeake Bay, Florida Bay and the Florida Keys, the Great Lakes; and southeast Atlantic coastal ecosystems.

Harmful Algal Blooms/Eutrophication

CSCOR\COP is assessing the impacts of harmful algal blooms (HABs) and eutrophication on coastal ecosystems and habitats by leading a national interagency research program on the ecology and oceanography of HABs, coordinating a national HAB research and moni-

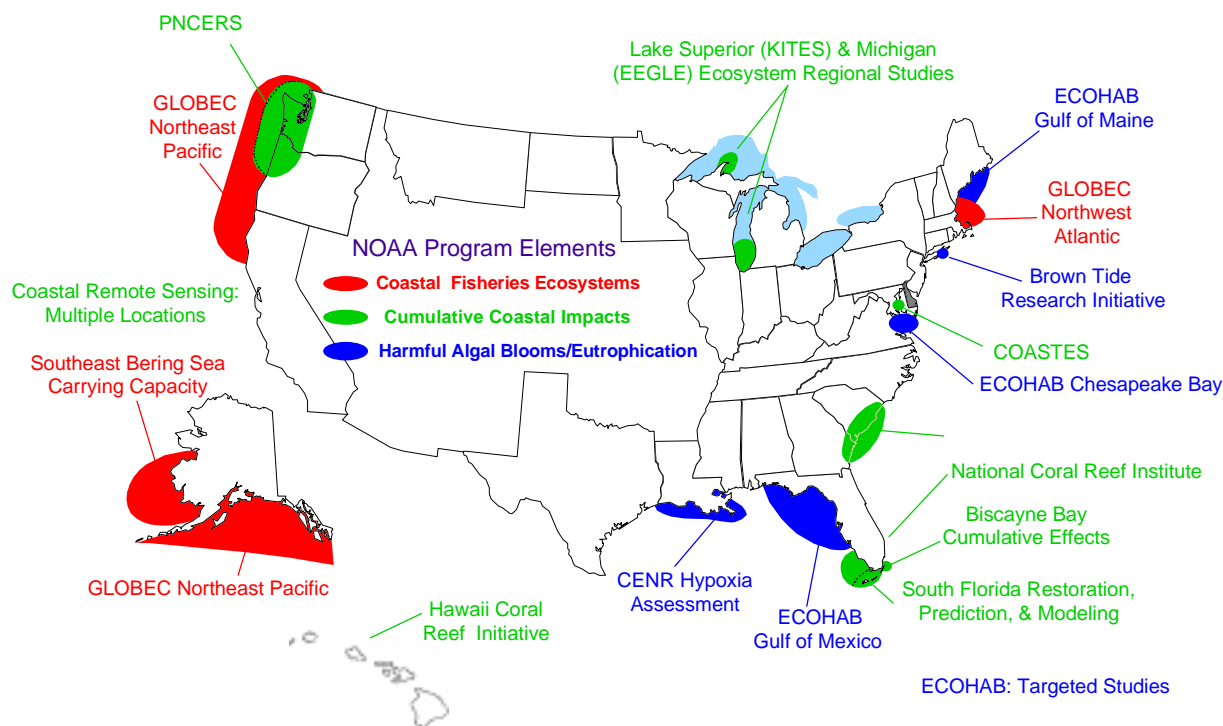
toring strategy, and developing new technologies for assessing and monitoring habitat degradation. Studies focus on: 1) developing the means to forecast HAB development, persistence, and toxicity; 2) developing HAB prevention, control, and mitigation strategies; and 3) conducting a scientific assessment of the causes and consequences of Gulf of Mexico hypoxia.

Benefits of CSCOR\COP

Continued population pressures on the Nation's coastal areas and ongoing changes in the environment will continue to stress our coastal waters, bays and estuaries, and the Great Lakes. While the need for data and information to address today's problems is pressing, CSCOR\COP has also set its sights on developing information for longer-range management and policy decisions at larger and more complex scales than are traditional. CSCOR\COP has done this in the belief that research helps solve today's problems, and, hopefully helps prevent those of tomorrow. CSCOR\COP research will help the U.S. respond to the major challenges of the next century and balance the needs of economic growth with those of conserving the environment by:

- ! developing ecosystem-level scientific projects that are multi-disciplinary, long in duration, and evaluate the impact of multiple stressors on ecological functions
- ! providing predictive information to resource managers that will help conserve and restore important marine resources
- ! fostering HAB event response to safeguard public health, local economies, and coastal habitats
- ! transitioning successful research to NOAA operations

CURRENT CSCOR\COP PROJECTS



CENR	White House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
COASTES	Complexity And Stressors in Estuarine Systems
EEGLE	Episodic Events-Great Lakes Experiment
ECO HAB	Ecology and Oceanography of Harmful Algal Blooms
GLOBEC	Global Ocean Ecosystem Dynamics
KITES	Keweenaw Interdisciplinary Transport Experiment in Superior
LUCES	South Atlantic Bight Land Use-Coastal Ecosystem Study
PNCERS	Pacific Northwest Coastal Ecosystems Regional Study
USES	Urbanization and Southeastern Estuarine Systems Project

For more information, contact:
Dr. David Johnson, Director
CSCOR\Coastal Ocean Program
1315 East-West Highway, Room 9700
Silver Spring, MD. 20910
phone: 301-713-3338
e-mail: coastaloccean@cop.noaa.gov
website: <http://www.cop.noaa.gov/>