NOAA Satellites and Information Service

National Coastal Data Development Center (NCDDC)

The National Requirement: The Nation requires the capability utilize data collected in coastal areas to improve understanding, management, and use of this fragile ecosystem.

NOAA's Response: NOAA Satellites and Information Service established the National Coastal Data Development Center (NCDDC) at Stennis Space Center, Mississippi to provide a national capability to access and integrate diverse coastal data distributed in multiple repositories and provide these data to users via the Internet using established and emerging technologies, such as Geographic Information System (GIS). NCDDC accomplishes this by maintaining a searchable metadata catalog of coastal data, developing gateways to data repositories using middleware technology to provide the data in user-specified formats. NCDDC's GIS tools allow coastal data to be quickly displayed and mapped in a web-access environment for users engaged in ocean and coastal management policies, plans, and decision-making. NCDDC has filled a unique gap in the coastal management community by reducing the time to search and locate critical coastal data. NCDDC continues to develop and provide data translation tools that allow distributed data servers to be connected to the web-based information search and display capabilities. By providing improved access and timely dissemination of coastal ocean and atmospheric data and information products, NCDDC is striving to improve utilization of marine, atmospheric, chemical, biological, and geological data sets by coastal users such as Federal and state coastal resource managers, the research community, coastal weather forecasters, fisheries managers, and the public.

Current operational coastal information programs include Coastal Risk Atlas, Harmful Algal Blooms Observation System, Ecosystem Management, Integrated Ocean Observation Network System and Ocean Exploration. NCDDC has active projects in Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, Washington, Hawaii, Maine, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

Partners and Customers: Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Navy, NASA, Environmental Protection Agency, US Geological Survey, NOAA Offices (Weather, Research, Fisheries, Oceans and Coasts), NOAA's Coastal Services Center and Pacific Coastal Services Center, academia, state and local governments, and a diverse network of community based organizations.

Financing: The FY 2005 Budget requests **$4.658 million** to continue and expand NCDDC's programs to its customers and users.

For additional information: www.ncddc.noaa.gov and www.nesdis.noaa.gov