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NOAA and its partners are leading efforts to understand, predict, and ultimately reduce hypoxic events and their effects on ecosystems and coastal communities. The Center for Coasts, Oceans, and Geophysics supports these efforts and works with NOAA’s Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research’s Gulf of Mexico Ecosystems & Hypoxia Assessment Program, the Gulf of Mexico Monitoring Stakeholder Committee, and the Gulf of Mexico Alliance Nutrients & Nutrient Impacts Priority Issue Team.

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Gathering the Data

The Center for Coasts, Oceans, and Geophysics is also a partner in the Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Watch. This cooperative project develops near real-time data and map products during the annual Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) summer shipboard survey of fish in the Gulf of Mexico. During the six week SEAMAP cruise, scientists process the measurements from electronic dissolved oxygen sensors, verify the measurements, and send the data electronically to the Center for Coasts, Oceans, and Geophysics. The Center’s staff then transforms the measurements into maps that identify areas of hypoxia. As the Center generates new maps during the cruise, they are immediately published on the Internet for the public to view. The environmental data gathered during the annual cruises will help scientists understand the effects of the physical environment on fish and other marine organisms.

HYPOXIA WATCH INTERACTIVE MAP

The Hypoxia Watch Interactive Map Service provides near real-time data on hypoxic conditions in the Gulf of Mexico during June and July.

www.ncddc.noaa.gov/hypoxia/products