

Cooperative Institute for Marine Resources Studies

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research and National Marine Fisheries Service

The Cooperative Institute for Marine Resources Studies (CIMRS) was established in 1982 to foster collaborative research between Oregon State University and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in fisheries science, aquaculture, oceanography, marine-resource technology and related fields. The present-day CIMRS partnership brings university scientists together with scientists from NOAA's Northwest Fisheries Science Center, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, and Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory. Current research themes are: Marine Ecosystems and Habitat, Protection and Restoration of Marine Resources, Seafloor Processes, and Marine Bioacoustics. CIMRS' diverse and richly multidisciplinary range of applied and basic research investigations include marine chemistry and geophysics, ocean acidification and hypoxia, trophic dynamics and modeling, fisheries stock/habitat assessment and behavioral ecology, longer term prediction of physical (mesoscale/upwelling/plume/estuarine) and biological (predator/prey, lipid composition) inter-relationships and climate, zooplankton ecology, genomics, passive acoustic monitoring of marine mammals, socio-economic issues related to fisheries, and spatial planning.

The advancement of basic knowledge about ocean ecosystems from local to global scales, the conservation of endangered species, maintaining sustainable commercial and recreational stocks, and predicting and mitigating natural hazards associated with the solid earth (e.g., earthquakes and volcanoes) and climate change (e.g., changing weather, sea level rise, and ocean acidification) are among the societal drivers of NOAA's mission. Over the next decade CIMRS expects to assist NOAA in meeting existing and emerging environmental and ecological challenges through research, education and outreach. Our research efforts will promote technological and scientific advancements that lead to ecological health, marine geophysical dynamics, sustainable marine resources, and socioeconomic benefits.



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NOAA Ship Ron Brown passing under the Yaquina Bay Bridge, Newport Oregon, courtesy of Robert W. Embley (NOAA PMEL)

