



great lakes observing system

Essential Great Lakes Information: Why GLOS Matters

As the world's largest freshwater ecosystem, the Great Lakes are invaluable to regional and global water security and sustainability. **GLOS, the Regional Association for the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS), provides critical observing infrastructure and delivers real-time data on winds, waves, water conditions, and biological and chemical parameters.** This information supports the regional marine economy, improves forecasts, and supports decision-making and nearshore safety for a wide range of stakeholders. **GLOS is essential** - bringing together and distributing invaluable lake information for the protection, safety, and economic vitality of the entire region.

Water Quality Management

Over 40 million people depend on the Great Lakes for drinking water and recreation. When equipped with real-time insights on lake health, observers can protect source waters, enjoy the lakes safely, and improve the health of their communities. **GLOS data provide the insights** for water treatment plant managers to track lakes' waters health history and pinpoint watershed stressors - changing water levels and algal bloom caused hypoxia. Through GLOS, municipalities have **access to real-time alerts** that inform their treatment decisions for the best possible outcome.



Maritime Economy & Services

Maritime transportation and recreation are significant parts of the \$6T regional economy. GLOS observing assets support safer boating, more efficient shipping, and smarter, informed decision making. **GLOS data improve regional forecast accuracy** and provide thousands of boaters and freight captains with real-time information on waves, wind, and water temperature. Public access information from GLOS also helps power other weather and lake information platforms, such as Windy, NOAA NDBC, and more.

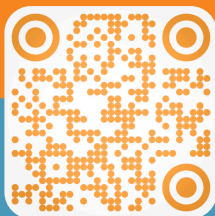


Public Safety

GLOS works with partners to install observing technology and deliver critical data to **measure and assess coastal hazards.** The information collected is critical for providing safety guidance to decision makers, from nearshore navigators to recreational beachgoers. For example, **High Frequency Radar** in the Straits of Mackinac measures surface water currents to support faster, safer emergency response to oil spills or industrial accidents.



seagull.app



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GLOS data on Seagull serve a wide range of people- private and commercial, small craft operators, tour operators, scuba divers, surfers, beach goers, water treatment managers, researchers, cruise ship companies and passengers, +

Learn more:
glos.org
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IOOS
Integrated Ocean
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GLOS is 1 of the 11 Regional Associations of IOOS serving the USA