

# Gulf Stream and Weather Information on the WEB

## Bohlen @ uconn.edu

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\*\*\*\*National Weather Service <http://www.nws.noaa.gov> or  
[https://ocean.weather.gov/Atl\\_tab.php](https://ocean.weather.gov/Atl_tab.php)

The National Weather Service site and the Ocean Prediction Center site both with an abundance of products including marine forecasts and satellite imagery. Valuable resources for the study of weather. Look particularly at the NWS Ocean Prediction Center and their Probabilistic Guidance to be found at [https://ocean.weather.gov/prob\\_guidance.php?model=gwes](https://ocean.weather.gov/prob_guidance.php?model=gwes) **These sites must be studied !**

National Weather Service Environmental Modeling Center <https://polar.ncep.noaa.gov/global/fronts/>

The National Weather Service's Environmental Modeling Center and home to the Global Real Time Ocean Forecast System model (RTOFS). Since some routing software uses this model it's useful to compare model results to direct satellite observations to develop confidence in model simulations. This model provides 1/12 degree resolution and is the result of collaboration between NOAA and the U.S. Navy Research Laboratory and others.

U.S.Navy Research Laboratory <https://www7320.nrlssc.navy.mil/GLBhycomcice1-12/>

Another site to obtain the results of the collaborative between the Navy and NOAA. Both use the HYCOM model. Interesting to compare results. See time series loops.

\*\*\*\*Rutgers University Coastal Ocean Observation Lab <http://rucool.marine.rutgers.edu>

A site maintained by Rutgers University which includes a variety of satellite data specific to the Gulf Stream. Also see the coastal current data provided by CODAR . These latter data will be of value to those transiting the Jersey shoreline. Similar data are available at [LISICOS.uconn.edu](http://LISICOS.uconn.edu) for the area off Montauk Point. Entry to the Rutgers site may be confusing at first. From the menu at top of page enter Data to find the Satellites and then the Satellite Data Imagery which provide a list including the Gulf Stream. Note that there are both instantaneous and daily composite files.

Navy [https://www7320.nrlssc.navy.mil/GLBhycomcice1-12/Ocean\\_Features\\_Analysis\\_-\\_B&W\\_&Colorized](https://www7320.nrlssc.navy.mil/GLBhycomcice1-12/Ocean_Features_Analysis_-_B&W_&Colorized)  
[https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/jag/navy/data/satellite\\_analysis/gsnofa.gif?id=768](https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/jag/navy/data/satellite_analysis/gsnofa.gif?id=768)

This is the current site for the U.S. Navy ocean features analysis. Although the accuracy of this analysis must be carefully evaluated by comparison with satellite imagery and altimetry its regular updating during periods of dense cloud cover makes it of value in planning. The colorized version can be found at [https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/jag/navy/data/satellite\\_analysis/gsncofa.gif?id=75957](https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/jag/navy/data/satellite_analysis/gsncofa.gif?id=75957) Also, for areas outside of the Northwest Atlantic see [https://ocean.weather.gov/gulf\\_stream.php](https://ocean.weather.gov/gulf_stream.php)

\*\*\*\* Four Day Composites of Goes 16 Images of the Gulf Stream

[https://ocean.weather.gov/Loops/ocean\\_guidance.php?model=GOES&area=MidAtl&plot=sstrec&day=0&loop=1](https://ocean.weather.gov/Loops/ocean_guidance.php?model=GOES&area=MidAtl&plot=sstrec&day=0&loop=1) This product from the Ocean Prediction Center showing average sea surface temperatures over 4 days is a good way to monitor Gulf Stream evolution

\*\*\*\*[Near Real Time Altimeter - NOAA/AOML](https://cwcaribbean.aoml.noaa.gov/CURRENTS/index.html) <https://cwcaribbean.aoml.noaa.gov/CURRENTS/index.html> .

This site provides modeled currents based on satellite altimeter data. Although application requires care (View HELP) these model results are of particular value allowing analysis of Gulf Stream conditions during times when cloud cover prevents direct observation of sea surface temperatures and providing detail of the area south of the Stream to Bermuda. Comparison with surface thermal data (e.g. Rutgers above) and any direct observations of surface currents as well as the RTOFS model results is recommended. (Requires JAVA on your computer with proper Security setting. Seems to prefer Internet Explorer).

[Bermuda Weather](http://www.weather.bm) <http://www.weather.bm>

Bermuda Weather's site. Provides continuing weather analyses and forecasts for the immediate vicinity of the island. It's often interesting to compare these observations to conditions indicated by the larger area weather maps such as the NWS- OPC charts of the northwest Atlantic. Also, see Yacht Charts under Marine Forecast as well as tidal data for Bermuda.

[Environment Canada](https://weather.gc.ca/marine/index_e.htm) [https://weather.gc.ca/marine/index\\_e.htm](https://weather.gc.ca/marine/index_e.htm) |

The source for Canadian weather and sea state analyses and forecasts. . See [https://weather.gc.ca/model\\_forecast/wave\\_e.html](https://weather.gc.ca/model_forecast/wave_e.html) for wave analyses.

[ASCAT- Advanced Scatterometer Observations of Ocean Surface Winds](http://manati.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/datasets/ASCATData.php/)

<http://manati.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/datasets/ASCATData.php/> These data allow direct confirmation of wind speeds and directions provided by the Surface Analyses from the National Weather Service and the variety of GRIB model data. The scatterometer data are often particularly useful in the vicinity of the Gulf Stream. This system represents the alternative to our QuikScat which is no longer operational.

[NOAA Tides and Currents](https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/) - <https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/>

A listing of tidal elevations and tidal currents at a number of stations throughout the U.S. Particularly useful for coastal and nearshore passages

[NWS Archived Marine Weather Charts](https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/data/ncep-charts/access/)

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For those wishing to look at the conditions during previous races this provides an archive of the NWS data back to the 1990s. See <https://www.weather.gov/marine/marsh> for help in learning individual chart file labels i.e. PPAA for 500mb files, PYAA for surface analyses, etc.

\*\*\*\* *Designates sites of most value to the small boat navigator*