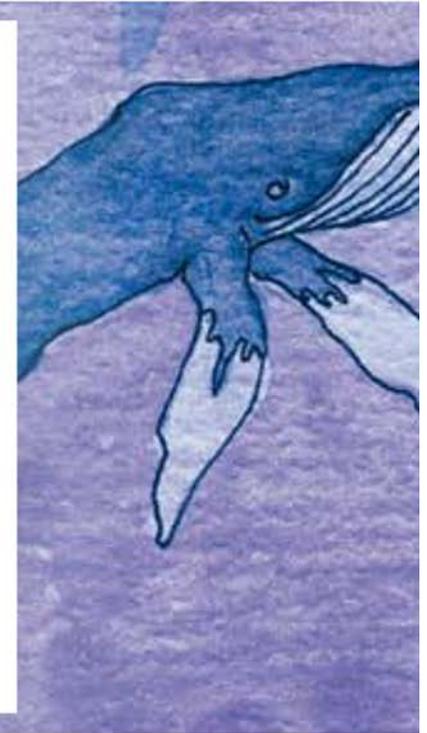
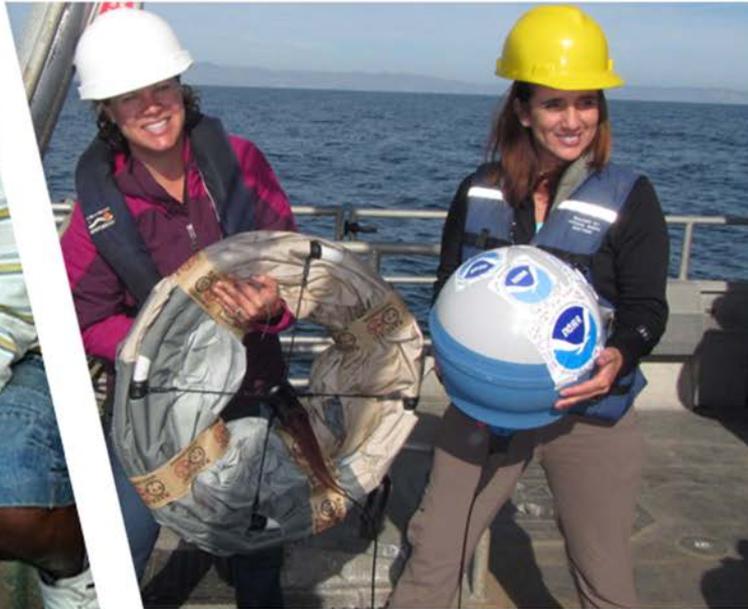




# NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

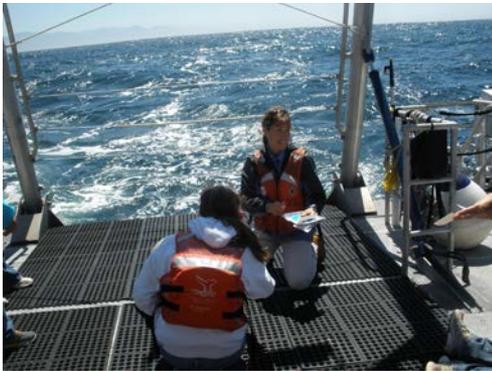


Emily A. Smith

Ocean Observing and Monitoring Division  
Climate Program Office, NOAA

# NOAA's Adopt a Drifter Program

## A Program to Enhance Informal Education



**Mission:** To establish scientific partnerships between schools around the world to engage students in activities and communication about ocean climate science

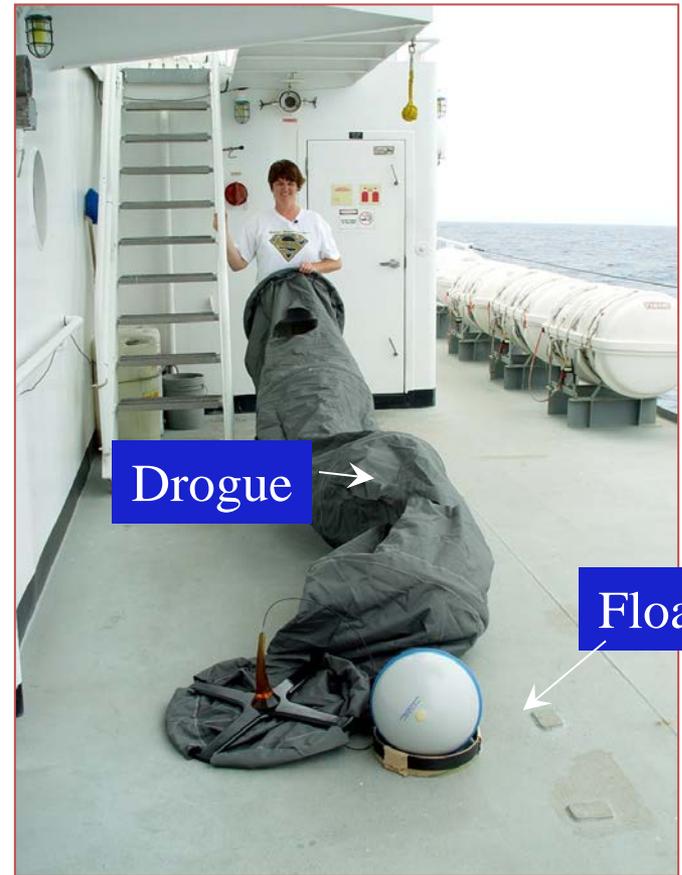


# NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

# NOAA's Adopt a Drifter Program: All Alumni 2004 – present (80 schools)



NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program



*The modern drifter is a high-tech version of the "message in a bottle". Drifting buoys measure sea surface temperature and are used to track ocean currents. The drifter's data are transmitted to a satellite and received in near real-time at the Adopt a Drifter Program website ([www.adp.noaa.gov](http://www.adp.noaa.gov)).*



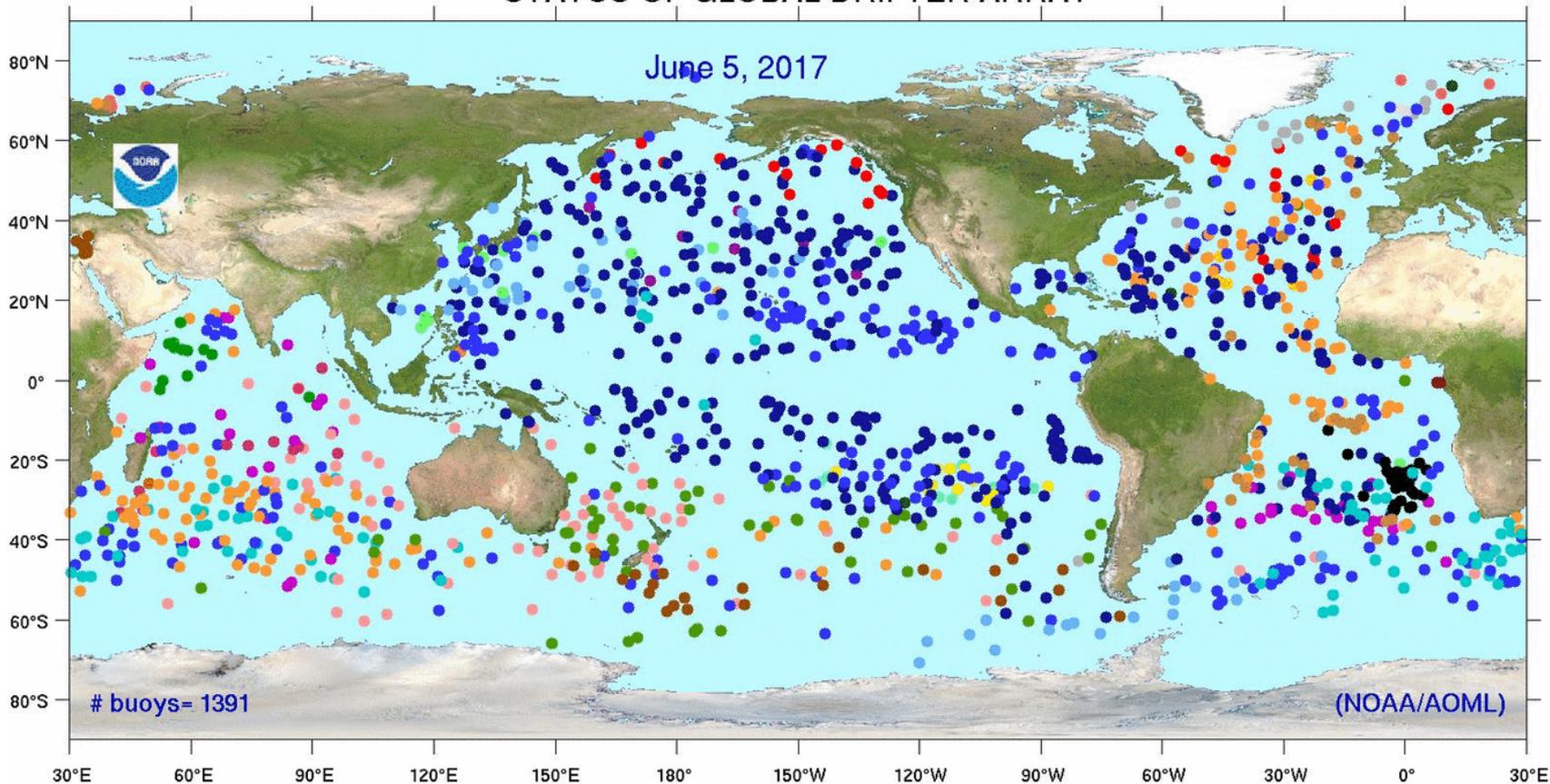
**NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program**

# Deploying a drifter



NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

# STATUS OF GLOBAL DRIFTER ARRAY



## Deploying Country

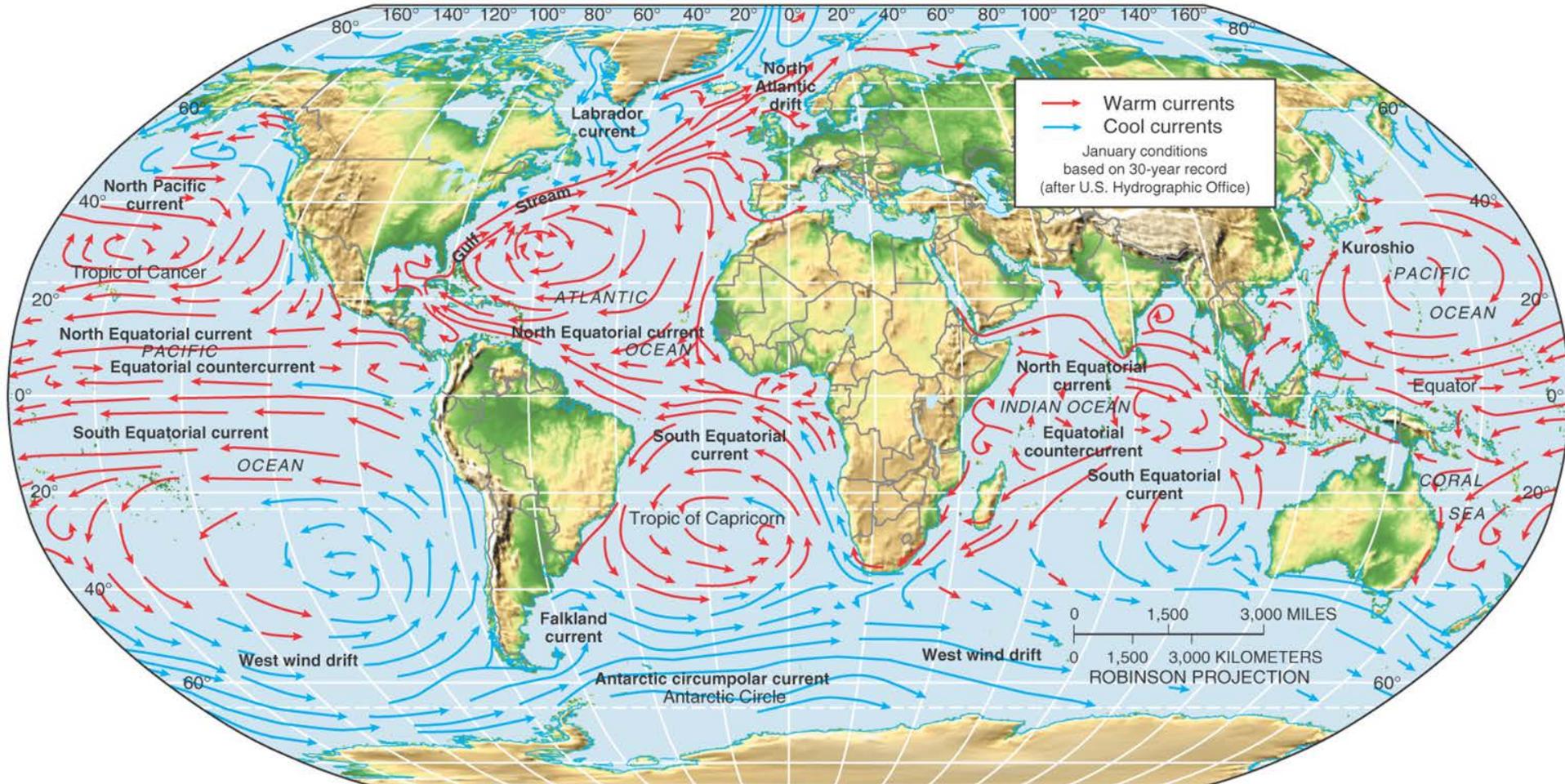
● Australia (78)	● Europe (4)	● Indonesia (9)	● Mauritius (1)	● Peru (11)	● UK (32)
● Brazil (29)	● France (151)	● Italy (29)	● New Zealand (57)	● Senegal (5)	● USA-NOAA (405)
● Canada (27)	● Gabon (4)	● Japan (7)	● Netherlands (3)	● Seychelles (2)	● USA-other (285)
● Chile (10)	● Germany (36)	● Kenya (12)	● Norway (6)	● South Africa (87)	● Unknown (17)
● China (12)	● India (16)	● Korea, Rep. of (50)	● Palau (1)	● Spain (5)	



# NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

# Major Ocean Currents

Ocean current – any persistent, dominantly horizontal flow of water



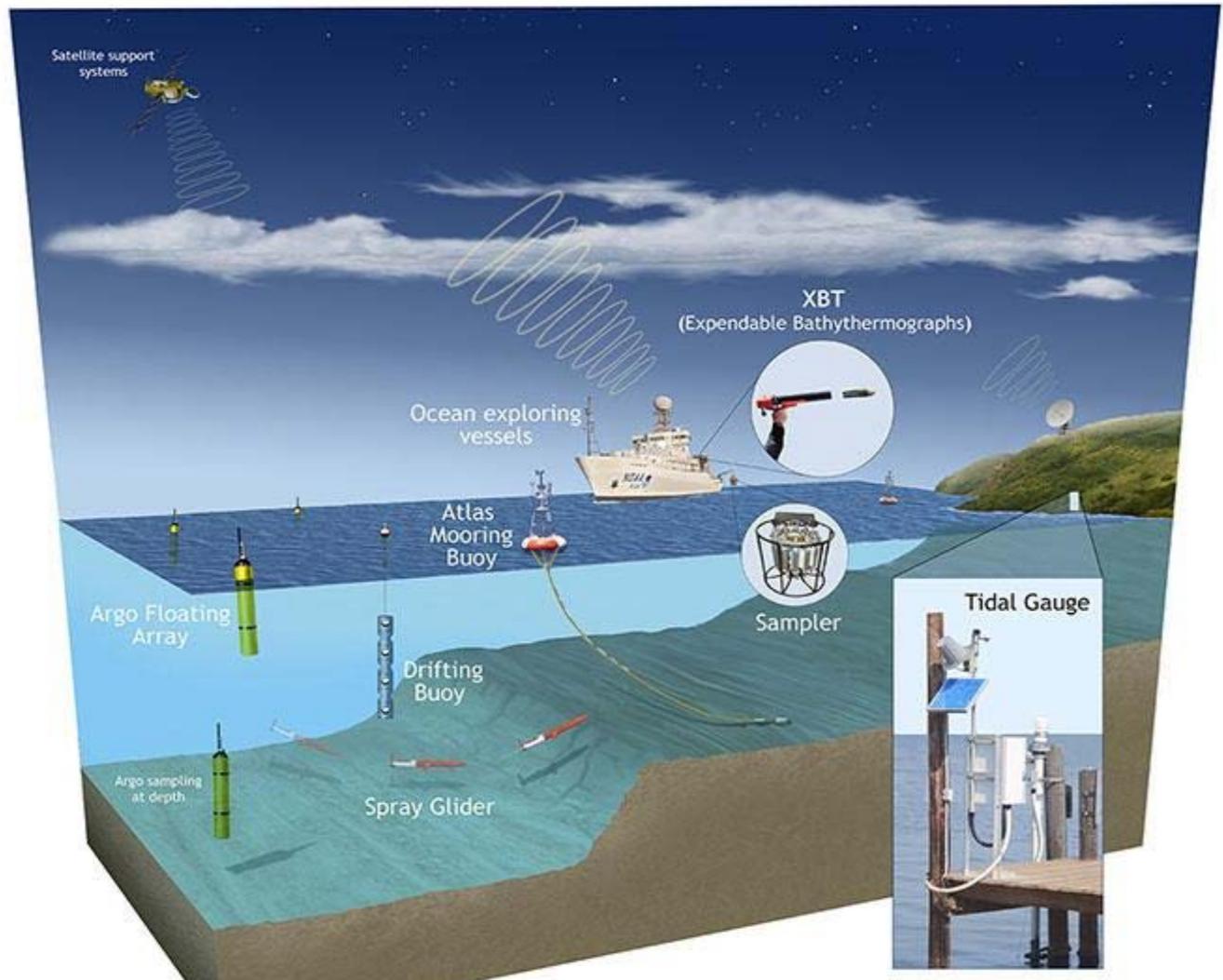
Copyright © 2006 Pearson Prentice Hall, Inc.



## NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

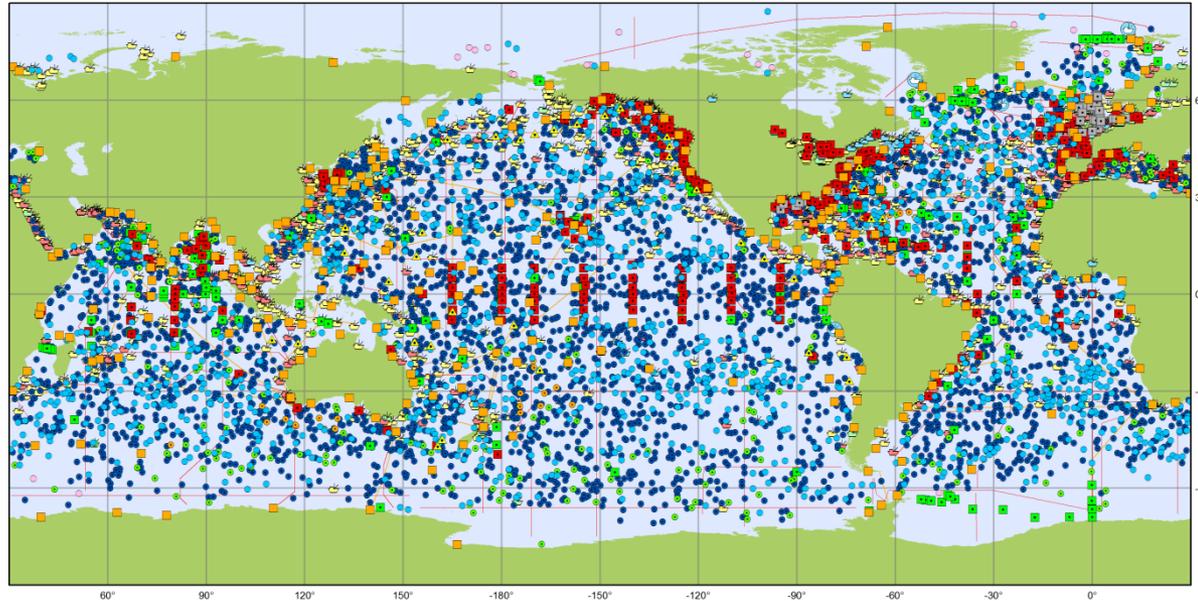
# Tools for an ocean climate field program:

- Floats
- Gliders
- **Drifters**
- Moorings
- Ships
- Satellites
- Tide gauges



NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

# Sea Surface Temperature, Sea Surface Height, Surface Vector Wind, Sea Ice, and Ocean Color from Space



Main in-situ Elements of the Global Ocean Observing System

May 2017

- |                  |                           |                     |                            |
|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Argo</b>      | <b>DBCP</b>               | <b>OceanSITES</b>   | <b>SOT</b>                 |
| • Argo (3885)    | • Surface Drifters (1440) | ■ Platforms (332)   | ⚓ VOS-Clim-Automated (103) |
| • Deep-Argo (28) | ■ Fixed Platforms (103)   | <b>GO-SHIP</b>      | ⚓ VOS-Clim-Manned (372)    |
| • BGC-Argo (282) | • Ice Buoys (22)          | — GO-SHIP (61)      | ⚓ VOS-Automated (149)      |
|                  | ■ Moored Buoys (405)      | <b>GLOSS</b>        | ⚓ VOS-Manned (1239)        |
|                  | ▲ Tsunamieter (37)        | ■ Tide Gauges (252) | ⚓ SOOP XBTs (37)           |
|                  |                           |                     | ⚓ ASAP Radiosondes (18)    |



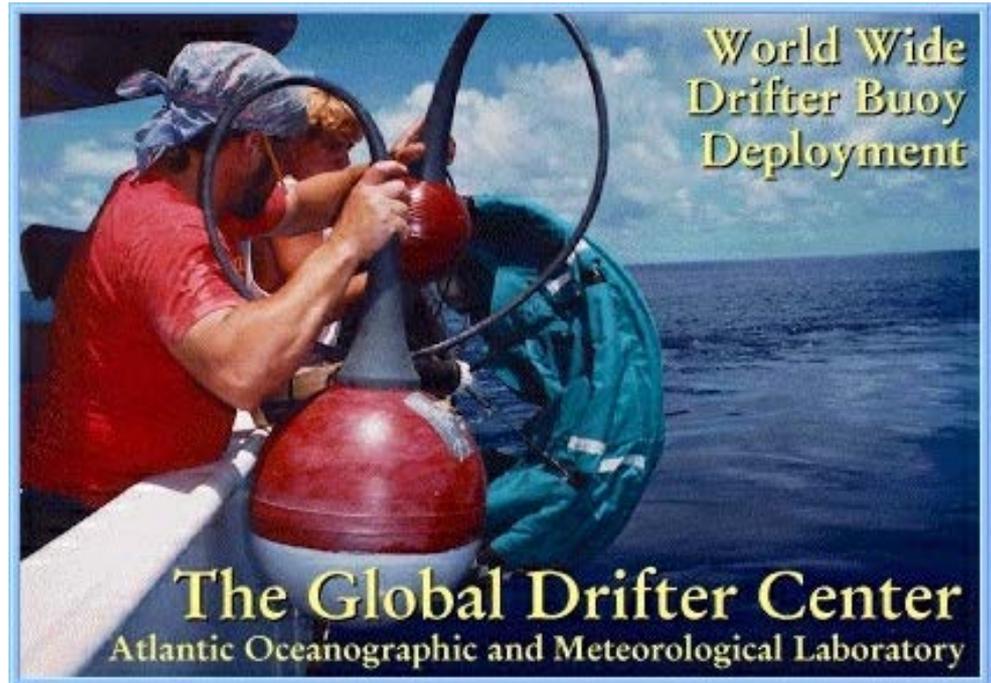
Generated by [www.jcommops.org](http://www.jcommops.org), 06/06/2017



# NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

# Drifter Data Are Important

- Help to Predict Path of Hurricanes
- Reveal Ocean Temperature Patterns
- Monitor Ocean Currents, Winds
- Ground truth Satellite Data
- Follow migrating marine species
- Predict the Path of Ocean Pollutants

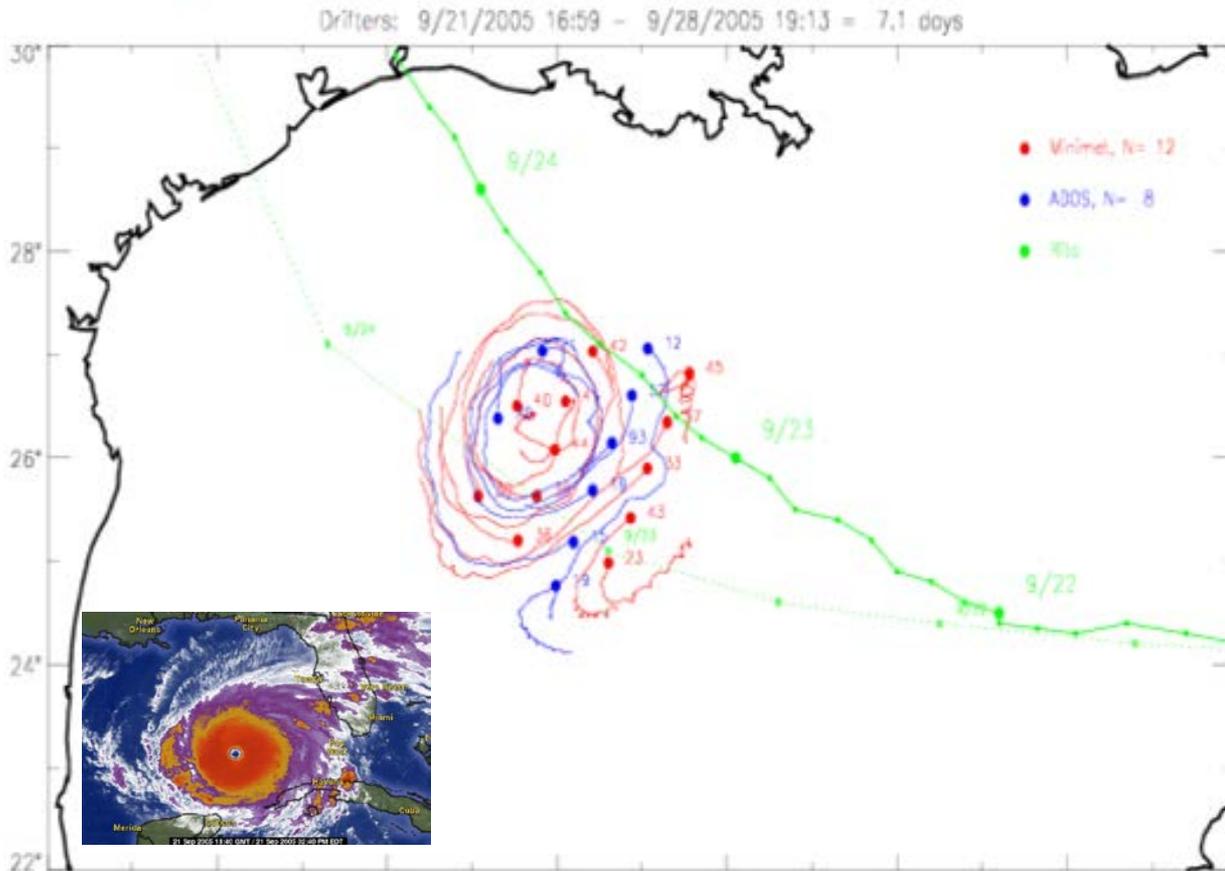


<http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/phod/dac/gdc.html>



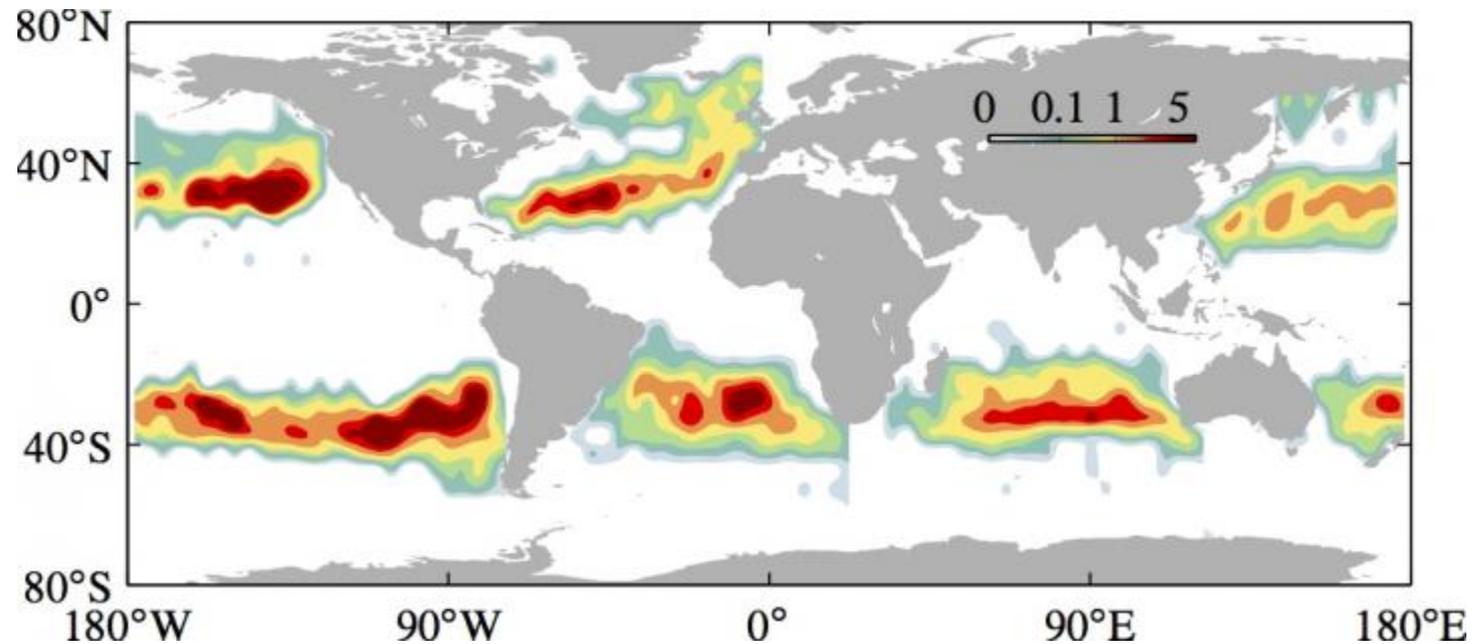
NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

# Drifter Tracks during Hurricane Rita September 21-28, 2005



NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

# New study helps explain how garbage patches form in the world's oceans



This image shows the density of finite-size objects after 1.5 years of evolution starting from a uniform distribution under the combined action of simulated ocean currents and reanalyzed winds.

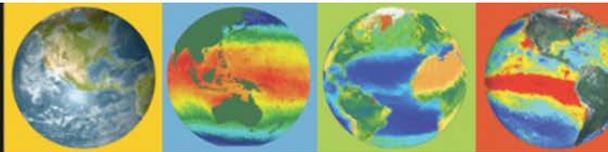


NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

# How does a teacher/educator get involved?

- [www.adp.noaa.gov](http://www.adp.noaa.gov)
- Fill out an application online
- Partner with an international school
- Submit a lesson plan following the deployment





### CLEAN

#### Climate and Energy Educational Resources

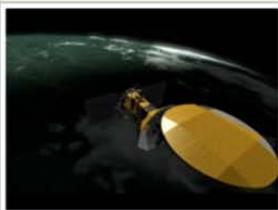
- NGSS Browse
- NGSS Middle School Climate Systems
- NGSS Middle School Climate Solutions
- NGSS High School Climate Systems
- NGSS High School Climate Solutions
- NGSS at a Glance
- Teaching Climate and Energy Science
- CLEAN Network
- About CLEAN

## Sea Surface Salinity Influence on Earth's Climate

[Jump to this Video »](#)

<http://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/vis/a010000/a010700/a010735/>

Brooke Harris, NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center



This short NASA video focuses on the Aquarius satellite, which was launched in 2011 to observe how variations in ocean salinity relate to climatic changes. By measuring salinity globally, Aquarius shows the ocean's role in climate change and climate's effects on ocean circulation.

Video length: 2:13 min.

[Learn more about Teaching Climate Literacy and Energy Awareness»](#)



[See how this Video supports the Next Generation Science Standards»](#)

Middle School: 5 Disciplinary Core Ideas

High School: 3 Disciplinary Core Ideas

**Notes From Our Reviewers** The CLEAN collection is hand-picked and rigorously reviewed for scientific accuracy and classroom effectiveness. Read what our review team had to say about this resource below or learn more about how [CLEAN reviews teaching materials](#)

[Teaching Tips](#) | [Science](#) | [Pedagogy](#) | [Technical Details](#)

### Teaching Tips

- Background information about the Aquarius satellite mission at [http://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/aquarius/news/aquarius20110610.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/aquarius/news/aquarius20110610.html).
- When used in the classroom, the video needs adequate scaffolding to focus students on satellites, remote sensing, climate, nature of science, or the topic of choice.

### About the Science

- Water's salinity and temperature, which together determine seawater density, regulate ocean

### Topics

**Ocean and Climate**  
See more on this topic.

**Climate Data**  
See more on this topic.

**Global Climate Modeling**  
See more on this topic.

**Grade Level**  
High School (9-12)  
See more at this grade level.

College Lower (13-14)  
See more at this grade level.

**Regional Focus**



# The Adopt a Drifter web site allows you to select a Buoy to Track Ocean Currents and Sea Surface Temperature in Real Time

Canterbury School of Florida, Admiral Farragut Academy, Lakewood High School, The International School of Monaco

## TRACK YOUR DRIFTER

### Schools and Teachers:

**Canterbury School of Florida**  
*Gina Donovan and Jemma LoDico*  
St. Petersburg, FL

**Admiral Farragut Academy**  
*Sari Deitche*  
St. Petersburg, FL

**Lakewood High School**  
*James Kostka*  
St. Petersburg, FL

**The International School of Monaco**  
France

**Deployment Date:** Dec 1, 2016  
**Ocean:** Gulf of Mexico

Ocean	WMO ID	Buoy Serial#	Deployment Date	
Atlantic	4200539 <input checked="" type="radio"/> 4201504 <input type="radio"/>	118532 63706970	Dec 1, 2016	
<b>Select from the Map or Measurements</b>				
<i>Select an option from "Maps or Measurements00" below to view a map of the drifter's track or data from the drifter.</i>				
<b>Maps or Measurements:</b>				
<input type="radio"/> Map showing measurements	<input type="radio"/> Map showing drifter track dates	<input type="radio"/> Table of measurements	<input checked="" type="radio"/> View track on Google Earth	<input type="radio"/> CSV Table of measurements
<b>Drifter Variable:</b>				
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Sea Surface Temperature				
<input type="button" value="Track your Drifter!"/>				

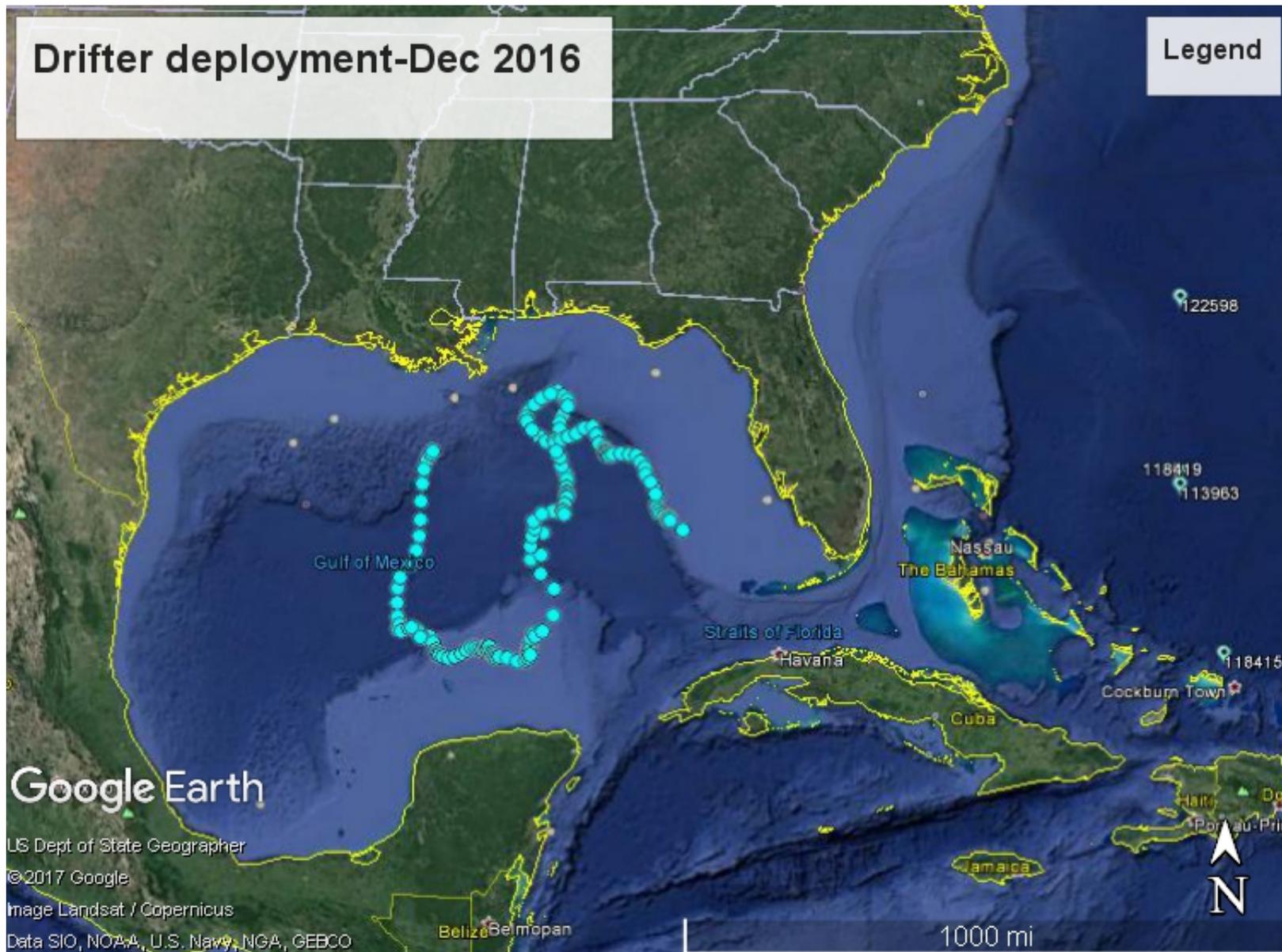
Adopt a Drifter Tracking Page - <http://www.adp.noaa.gov/TrackaDrifter.aspx>



# NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

# Drifter deployment-Dec 2016

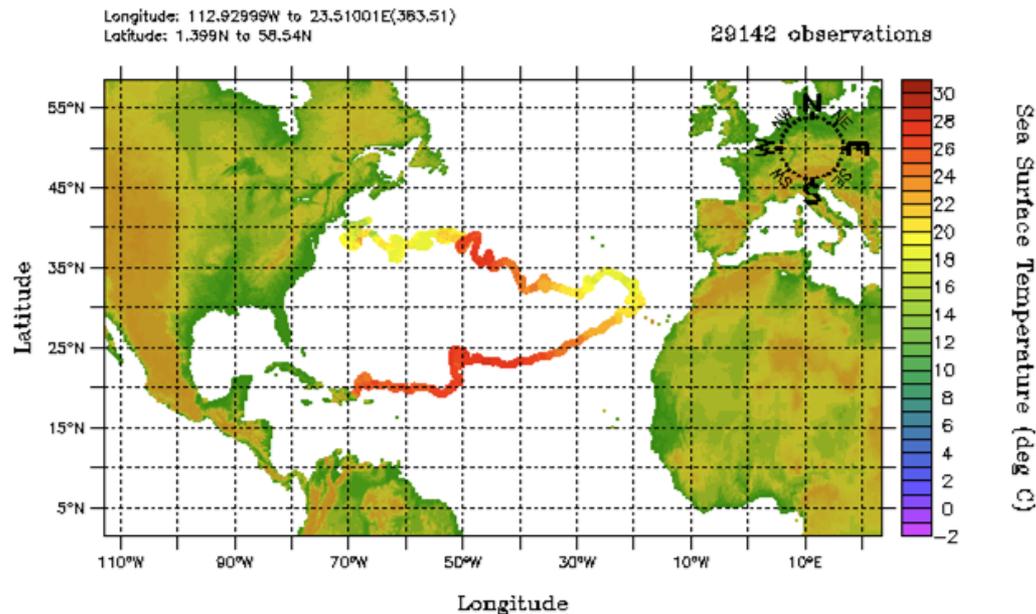
Legend



# NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

# The Adopt a Drifter web site allows you to Select a Buoy to Track Ocean Currents and Sea Surface Temperature in Real Time

Adopt A Drifter Tracking page



Adopt a Drifter Tracking Page - [http://www.adp.noaa.gov/track\\_drifting\\_buoys.html](http://www.adp.noaa.gov/track_drifting_buoys.html)



NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program

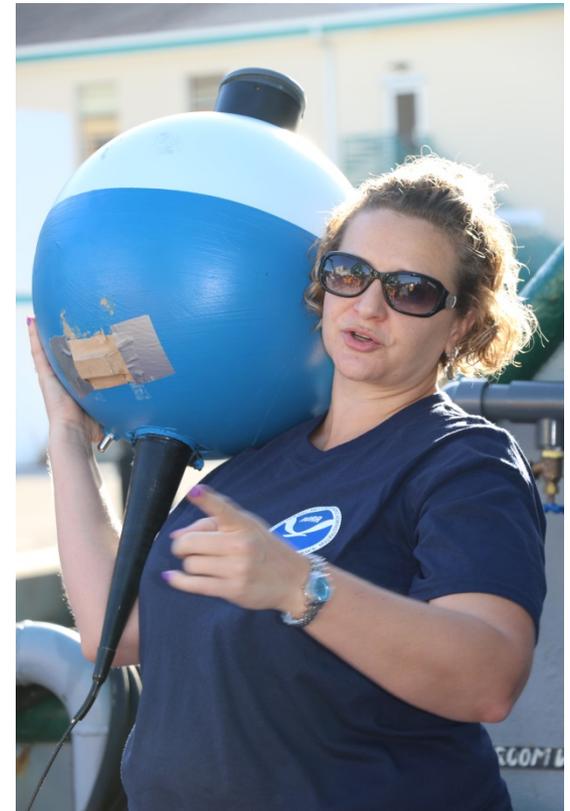
# Please contact me for any questions!

Website:

[www.adp.noaa.gov](http://www.adp.noaa.gov)

Email:

[Emily.a.smith@noaa.gov](mailto:Emily.a.smith@noaa.gov)



## NOAA'S Adopt A Drifter Program