



NOAA & **The Preserve
America Initiative**

2016 NOAA *Preserve America Initiative* Internal Funding Program Recipients

**NOAA's Legacy of International Scientific Cooperation and Polar Motion Studies:
Preserving the Ukiah and Gaithersburg Latitude Observatories** **\$12,000**

*Project Lead: Dana J. Caccamise II, La Jolla, CA
NOAA National Ocean Service*

In 1891, the International Geodetic Association (IGA) called for an unprecedented international effort to observe and measure the wandering of the earth's pole and its resulting variation of latitude. By 1899, the IGA had established six International Latitude Observatories, with three of them in the United States. In 1982, NOAA deeded the two surviving U.S. observatories to their home cities of Gaithersburg, MD, and Ukiah, CA. NOAA's National Geodetic Survey has formally loaned the original zenith telescopes to the communities to restore the observatories to their original condition. For almost ten years, the City of Ukiah has informally partnered with the City of Gaithersburg in creating the cities' Observatory Parks. This project will fund the design, fabrication, and installation of outdoor interpretive plaques at restored Ukiah and Gaithersburg International Latitude Observatories describing NOAA's legacy in International Polar Motion study. STEM-based curriculum will be developed for school groups visiting the observatories in an effort to increase the understanding of geodesy and astronomy. Finally, dedicated exhibit space will be created for the display of telescopes and other observation instruments.

**Hostile Waters: Diving on the Shipwrecks of World War II's
Battle of the Atlantic Exhibit** **\$12,000**

*Project Lead: Tane Casserley, Newport News, VA
NOAA National Ocean Service*

This project will create an interactive exhibit on World War II's Battle of the Atlantic to be installed at the Old Coast Guard Station Museum in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The Battle of the Atlantic, though not well known to the public, was the longest single operation of World War II and one of the most complex in history. This exhibit will explore the battle's historical significance and immerse the public in the process of discovering and recording fragile archaeological and biological resources. It will feature information on the shipwrecks using the latest 3D technology, high definition video, photogrammetry, and multibeam sonar.

A virtual tour of the campus wide vision - “Create a Community Science Walk that Demonstrates a Cleaner and Greener NOAA-Sand Point” **\$12,000**

*Project Lead: Michael Grady, Seattle, WA
NOAA Fisheries*

This project will foster the preservation and recognition of historic properties on the NOAA Sand Point Campus. NOAA staff, volunteers and partners will work together to design and create an interactive display powered by clean, renewable solar power. The interpretive display will be installed at the beginning of the Science/Art Walk along the shoreline and will describe, via a virtual tour on a smart phone or tablet, NOAA’s history trust responsibilities on the campus. It will also illustrate the use of NOAA science to construct green infrastructure to treat stormwater pollutants and green-up the shoreline. This project supports economic development through heritage tourism by providing the community a dynamic science walk that demonstrates green technologies and infrastructure to protect and power the campus. The Science Walk will be an attraction for local, regional and national community leaders.

Hawaii Bottomfish: Tracing Traditions and Preserving Culture **\$8,000**

*Project Lead: Justin Hospital, Honolulu, HI
NOAA Fisheries*

This project will document traditional knowledge, changes in fishing conditions over time and fishing traditions for the Hawaii bottomfish fishery. Interviews with fishermen across all generations will be conducted by fishing community members themselves. This effort will ensure that fishing legacies live on so that future generations in Hawaii are aware of their traditional connections to the bottomfish fishery and other marine resources and can take pride in their cultural heritage. The project will showcase a state and federal co-managed fishery with a storied tradition and social significance unique to the diverse cultures of the Hawaiian Islands. Audio products developed will include recorded stories and conversations contributed to the *Voices from the Fisheries* online portal, and topic-specific podcasts will cover elements such as fishing legends, traditional practices and cultural significance.

Creating a Weather Museum at the 1901 U.S. Weather Bureau Building on Cape Hatteras National Seashore, NC – Phase 1 – Developing a Conceptual Design **\$5,000**

*Project Lead: Scott Kennedy, Newport, NC
NOAA National Weather Service*

In 1901, the U.S. Department of Agriculture designed and built one of the first official U.S. Weather Bureau Stations in Cape Hatteras. Commissioned on January 1, 1902, the station served as an official U.S. Weather Bureau Station until 1946 when the office was moved to a newer facility on Hatteras Island. From 2001 through 2005 the National Park Service (NPS) painstakingly restored this historic building to its original condition. The NOAA National Weather Service in Newport/Morehead City is partnering with the NPS Cape Hatteras National Seashore and the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau to study the feasibility of developing a weather museum at the restored facility. Funds will be used to develop a conceptual design of weather related exhibits and showcase the history of the facility, display original meteorological artifacts, highlight changes in weather forecasting from the early 20th century to the present, and develop situational awareness displays to inform visitors to the Outer Banks of current weather forecasts and impending hazards. The study will also explore additional opportunities to partner with other NOAA agencies such as NOAA Office of Coast Survey, NOAA Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services, and the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary.

Leveling Denali's Past with Help from Geoscientists of the Future **\$10,385**

*Project Lead: Nicole Kinsman, Alaska Coastal & Geodetic Advisor, Anchorage, AK
NOAA National Ocean Service*

The primary objective of this project is to enhance a network of aging passive control marks along the Denali National Park Road that were originally monumented in 1965 by the Coast & Geodetic Survey by recovering their positions with GPS technology. The project will be accomplished in partnership with Alaska Geographic and National Park Service (NPS) during its centennial year celebration. Funds will be used to assist the Denali Murie Science and Learning Center in the development of a transferrable hands-on curriculum that will use GPS-leveling of benchmarks in Denali National Park as way of engaging and introducing students to: GPS/GIS technology; the history of surveying in Alaska; NOAA/NPS and industry careers in the geospatial sciences; and, the development of navigational and outdoor skills. The setting of Denali, one of the region's most treasured and iconic natural resources, is the ideal location to expose the next generation to precise positioning on the eve of a new national geospatial framework in 2022.

Exploring the Maritime Cultural Landscape of the *Portland* Gale **\$8,740**

*Project Lead: Deborah Marx, Scituate, MA
NOAA National Ocean Service*

This project will utilize geospatial online technology to create a story map that reveals new dimensions of the *Portland* Gale of 1898, links coastal communities to NOAA trust resources and creates interpretive public recreational opportunities. The massive, extra-tropical storm with hurricane-force winds that struck New England on November 26-27 devastated the coast, sunk hundreds of ships and impacted Massachusetts' coastal geography. Shipwrecks attributed to that storm include at least two in NOAA's Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, including the steamship *Portland*, lost with all hands, after which the storm was named. The story map will use geographically linked information to illustrate the breath of the storm's maritime cultural landscape. NOAA's connections to the gale will be highlighted by chronicling early weather forecasting and charting related to the storm. The story map link will be included on NOAA and partner websites and a postcard will be produced for partner venues to increase awareness about the *Portland* Gale's connections to New England's coastal communities today.

Retrospective of Polar Orbiting Satellites **\$6,000**

*Project Lead: Stephanie Moore, Lanham, MD
NOAA Satellite and Information Service*

Though NOAA maintains an almost 40 year legacy of building and operating polar orbiting satellites, little historical information is shared throughout the organization on this critical asset. This project will preserve historical satellite imagery as well as expert scientific knowledge through a narrated educational visualization of NOAA polar satellites.

The retrospective video will couple archived polar satellite imagery with senior scientist narration to create a unique historical perspective that can be shared broadly. The project will update permanent installations at the Gateway to NOAA permanent exhibit in Silver Spring, Maryland, and will be shared publicly through the NOAA/NESDIS satellite social media sites ahead of the JPSS-1 satellite launch in 2017.

**Fishermen and Fish Dealers of the Greater Tampa Bay
Voices from the Fisheries**

\$2,578

*Project Lead: Christina Package-Ward, St. Petersburg, FL
NOAA Fisheries*

This project will continue to partner NOAA anthropologists and a local public school to conduct oral histories with members of the commercial and recreational fishing sectors in Florida's greater Tampa Bay area. This project builds off a project funded by NOAA Preserve America in 2014, "Recreational Fishermen of the Greater Tampa Bay Voices from the Fisheries Project" which included partnering with a local school and interviewing recreational fishermen. This project will expand the scope of the project to include commercial fishermen and other supporting business owners, in addition to recreational fishermen. Students will develop interview questions and be trained to conduct interviews with members of the fishing community. Recorded interviews will be uploaded to NOAA's Voices from the Fisheries oral history database where they can be accessed by researchers and the public. This project will aid in preserving the important history of the fishing industry in the Tampa Bay area and build and strengthen relationships between NOAA, fishermen and support businesses, the partnering school, the local community, and will provide lifelong skills to the students.

Remembering the Fairbanks Alaska Flood of 1967

\$12,000

*Project Lead: Edward Plumb and Crane Johnson, Fairbanks, AK
NOAA National Weather Service*

In August 1967, a flood of national significance occurred in Fairbanks, Alaska, that inundated approximately 95 percent of the Fairbanks area leading to widespread damages including the loss of six lives. Funds will be used to design, fabricate and install interpretive panels and high water mark signs remembering this historic flood. Partnering with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, a modern flood control project that now protects the Fairbanks area from flooding will be interpreted as well. A final interpretive panel will focus on the current NOAA National Weather Service hydrologic operations and the importance of stream gage data collected by the US Geologic Survey. These three-panel displays will be located near the riverbank in downtown Fairbanks and further downstream at the Alaska Pioneer Park. The signs would be installed prior to a recognition event planned for the 50th anniversary in 2017.

**Stories from the Helm and Flight Deck –
Past, Present & Future: Women of the NOAA Corps**

\$12,000

*Project Lead: Timi Vann and Crescent Moegling, Seattle, WA
NOAA Western Regional Team - National Weather Service, National Ocean Service*

Funds will be used for the development of a documentary short film that tells the stories of individual women of the NOAA Corps in order to understand the challenges, motivations and defining moments of these women in their service to this country. Through this film, the rich history of the NOAA Corps will be more fully revealed. Stories will highlight women that fly aircraft into furious storms, navigate ships to the remote reaches of the planet, and provide leadership of the NOAA Corps – offering perspectives of the past, the present and looking to the future. The film will include interviews, field operations and historical stock footage highlights with narration throughout.