


Harmful Algal Bloom Event Response Program


The NCCOS Harmful Algal Bloom Event Response (HABER) Program provides immediate support to state, tribal, and local officials and/or researchers during a HAB event for response planning and management, and advancing the understanding of HABs as they occur.

Initiate a request for support
by contacting
nccos.hab.event.response@noaa.gov


Priorities



HAB events with management or resource impacts for which additional data will be of use in subsequent management decisions.



Sudden or unexplained mortalities of seabirds, fish, or marine mammals for which a HAB linkage is suspected.



Appearance of HAB species, toxicity or harmful impacts that are unusual or unique for a particular region.

Program Details

HABER is a national program authorized by HABHRCA that supports activities in:

- marine waters
- Great Lakes
- coastal environments influenced by freshwater HABs

Modest funding is available to help defray the costs of immediate mobilization of response efforts. Depending on need, HABER may support or provide access to toxin analysis, data collection, training, technical assistance, and ship-based sampling.

Type of Work Supported: Event Response

Award Format: Reimbursement

Frequency of Availability: Rolling

Award Size: \$2K - \$48K

Duration of Award: ≤ 1 year

Eligible Groups: State, Local, Tribal,

Private, Non-profit, Academic, Federal*

Is match required? No

**may be able to assist with supplies*

EXAMPLE HABER PROJECTS

Investigating Sudden or Unexpected Mortalities

Discolored water and over 200 reports of fish mortalities throughout San Francisco Bay prompted U.S. Geological Survey's California Water Science Center and San Francisco Estuary Institute to request support from NCCOS. Funds were used to analyze water quality and to collect samples for genetic and microscopic analyses to assess bloom development. Data were compared with long term monitoring data to identify changing conditions that may have led to this bloom event. Additionally, NCCOS provided satellite imagery to help the state track the bloom.

NCCOS provided \$15K to investigate dead fish in San Francisco Bay



Managing Resource Impacts



NCCOS awarded \$48K to tribes in Alaska to test shellfish for Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning

Unusually warm ocean temperatures were linked to unprecedented levels of Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning toxins in shellfish in the Aleutian Islands. NCCOS provided one-time funding to the Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska, Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove, Aleut Community of St. Paul Island, and Qagan Tayagungin Tribe of Sand Point to support and expand consistent shellfish testing and phytoplankton identification.

Examining Unusual or Unique HAB Events

The University of South Alabama and the Dauphin Island Sea Lab requested support after flood control measures led to freshwater cyanoHABs being released from the Bonnet Carré Spillway into the Gulf for the first time on record. NCCOS provided response coordination and funding to support monitoring of this event and its impacts.

NCCOS provided \$11K to evaluate cyanoHABs in the northern Gulf



Scan the QR code for more details, including past projects



Contact: nccos.hab.event.response@noaa.gov