

Gulf Stream and Weather Information on the WEB

Bohlen @ uconn.edu

Rev 3/13

**** [National Weather Service](http://www.nws.noaa.gov) <http://www.nws.noaa.gov> or

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/home.htm>

The National Weather Service site with an abundance of products including marine forecasts and satellite imagery. A valuable resource for the study of weather. Look particularly at the NWS Ocean Prediction Center sites. Check out the film loops at this site. **The place to start !**

[Northwest Atlantic Weather Briefing](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/nwatlanticbrief.shtml) <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/nwatlanticbrief.shtml>

Here's a handy listing of most of the weather fax charts of interest for the northwest Atlantic. When compressed, an efficient way to download a lot of information in a hurry.

[NOAA/National Weather Service Environmental Modeling Center](http://polar.ncep.noaa.gov) <http://polar.ncep.noaa.gov>

The National Weather Service's Environmental Modeling Center and home to the Real Time Ocean Forecast System model (RTOFS). Although this model's resolution is a bit coarse, covering for example most of the North Atlantic, its looping capabilities assist in the determination of how fast some ocean current features evolve. In addition this site allows comparison of model results to satellite data and other models such as those developed by the Navy (NCOM).. For particularly interesting comparisons see <http://www.opc.ncep.noaa.gov/GlobalOceanStart.shtml>.

**** [Rutgers University Coastal Ocean Observation Lab](http://rucool.marine.rutgers.edu) <http://rucool.marine.rutgers.edu>

A site maintained by Rutgers University which includes a variety of data specific to the Gulf Stream. Drift buoy data and satellite imagery are of particular interest. Comparisons between these data and the thermal images available from the Naval Oceanographic Office is often interesting and instructive. 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 <http://lisicos.uconn.edu> for the area off Montauk Point. Entry to the site may be confusing at first. From the main menu enter Data to find the Real time and Archived Satellite Imagery of the Gulf Stream. Note that there are both instantaneous and daily composite files.

[Navy Ocean Features Analysis – B&W & Colorized](http://ecowatch.ncddc.noaa.gov/JAG/Navy/data/satellite_analysis/gsnofa.gif?id=3110)

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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 http://ecowatch.ncddc.noaa.gov/JAG/Navy/data/satellite_analysis/gsncofa.gif?id=51425

[Johns Hopkins Ocean Remote Sensing](http://fermi.jhuapl.edu/sat_ocean.html) http://fermi.jhuapl.edu/sat_ocean.html

A site maintained by Johns Hopkins University providing links to a variety of satellite imagery and altimetry data. The combination is sometimes able to provide a unique indication of the presence of a Gulf Stream warm or cold core ring. An additional means to analyze Gulf Stream features if carefully applied.

*** [Near Real time Altimetry NOAA-AOML](http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/phod/dataphod/work/trinanes/INTERFACE/index.html)

<http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/phod/dataphod/work/trinanes/INTERFACE/index.html> This site provides modeled currents based on satellite altimeter data. Although application requires care (View HELP) these model results allow analysis of Gulf Stream conditions during periods during which cloud cover prevents direct observation of sea surface temperature characteristics. Several model results are presented requiring study to assess navigational utility. Comparison with surface thermal data (e.g. Rutgers above) and any direct observations of surface currents such as those provided by drifters is recommended.

[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 weatherfax charts of the northwest Atlantic. Also, see Yacht Charts under Marine Forecast as well as tidal data for Bermuda.

[Bermuda Harbor Radio](http://www.rccbermuda.bm) <http://www.rccbermuda.bm>

A useful compendium of information dealing with sailing to Bermuda, communications, and safety with links to a variety of auxiliary sites. Helpful in numerous ways.

[University of Michigan](http://cirrus.sprl.umich.edu/wxnet/servers.html) cirrus.sprl.umich.edu/wxnet/servers.html

One of the University of Michigan's weather sites (see UMICH.edu). Although this borders on sensory overload there is so much useful at this site that it qualifies as a must visit. See in particular the presentation of model outputs for each the numerical models routinely used by all forecasters. A study of the differences in model output is instructive.

[NOAA Satellite and Information Service](http://www.goes.noaa.gov) <http://www.goes.noaa.gov>

Easy access to weather satellite data for the east coast of the U.S. out to Bermuda. Represents a useful adjunct to the weather maps provided by the Ocean Prediction Center.

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