



Operational oceanography at the U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office

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Operational oceanography, throughout its long history at the Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVOCEANO), has continually evolved in order to remain relevant to the changing operational needs of the U.S. Navy. This transformation continues today as the NAVOCEANO operational oceanographer plays a key role in the rapidly shrinking tactical decision timelines of the naval warfighter. Understanding the warfighter's tactical questions and translating the information available from the ocean sciences into tactically useful answers is key to this transformation. Appreciating and applying advances in oceanography assures the highest technical quality of these answers. We address these transformation and translation processes as well as provide examples of U.S. Navy operational oceanography as conducted at NAVOCEANO today for both military and humanitarian missions.