

Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory (AOML)

AOML is a federal oceanic and atmospheric research lab built in 1973 on Virginia Key, and is a part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). AOML carries out world-class research in the study of hurricanes and oceanic processes related to climate and healthy coastal oceans. AOML

oceanographers study changes in Florida Bay as a result of redirecting canals to restore the Florida Everglades. They also monitor ocean currents, studying changes that

may affect rainfall or climate. AOML scientists are monitoring the interactions between the ocean surface and the atmosphere, such as how much carbon dioxide (a green house gas) is absorbed or released by the oceans. AOML is also well known for its hurricane research division, which works with other parts of NOAA to fly into hurricanes every summer. Data is collected all around the storm, including in the eyewall, and used both immediately by the National Hurricane Center and in studies of hurricane intensity and forecast improvement.

