



NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



Contact: Marla Trollan
206-526-6144
Cell: 302-270-6288
Blackberry: 240-338-3422

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 24, 2009

NOAA Fisheries Service Partners with the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry to Host “Science on a Sphere”

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Fisheries Service is collaborating with the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) in Portland to bring a new permanent exhibit called *Science on a Sphere* to the museum's Earth Science Hall.

Science on a Sphere is a six-foot suspended sphere that uses computers and video projectors to display animated images of Earth's atmosphere, oceans, animal migration patterns, global warming trends, hurricane paths, as well as the surface of the sun, planets, moon and more. It will make its debut at OMSI in July.

The installation is part of a long-term partnership between OMSI and NOAA on the West Coast to provide education on the Earth's oceans and atmosphere, the health of its ecosystems, and the effects of humans on these systems. *Science on a Sphere* is a powerful tool for visualizing these complex systems and understanding how they are interconnected.

“*Science on a Sphere* not only presents the complexities of the Earth's ecosystem, but the breadth of NOAA's collective experience and knowledge as well,” said Barry Thom, acting regional administrator for the NOAA Fisheries Service's Northwest Region. “We're pleased to bring the exhibit here to Portland in the Pacific Northwest where NOAA's responsibilities for resource management are so important.”

“We're excited to be partnering with NOAA and are thankful for its generosity in providing OMSI with such a cutting-edge new exhibit,” said OMSI president Nancy Stueber. “*Science on a Sphere* will provide opportunities for the museum to engage and educate our visitors on important global issues in new and innovative ways for years to come.”

NOAA is the principal government agency studying, monitoring and managing many of these systems. OMSI and NOAA's goal is for *Science on a Sphere* to encourage stewardship and informed decision making based on knowledge of natural resources, environmental issues and human impacts. Funding for OMSI's *Science on a Sphere* exhibit was provided by NOAA Fisheries Service.

OMSI, founded in 1944, is one of the nation's leading science museums, a world-class tourist attraction, and an award-winning educational resource for the kid in each of us. OMSI is located at 1945 SE Water Avenue, Portland, Ore. For general information, call 503-797-4000 or visit www.omsi.edu.

###