FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACTS:
For access to the event, please contact Ted Buehner, NOAA National Weather Service, at least one day in advance — 206-526-6095 x 223, ted.buehner@noaa.gov
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NOAA Science Camp to Engage Middle and High School Students in Hands-On Science Learning, Promote STEM Careers

WHAT: Now in its 11th year, NOAA Science Camp sparks young people’s interest in marine science and in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers through innovative programming developed and taught by NOAA scientists. During the five-day camp, 7th and 8th grade students learn about real-life environmental topics through hands-on activities at several NOAA offices, then apply what they learn to unravel an environmental mystery. High school students participating in the camp’s two-week Junior Leadership Program gain skills in mentoring younger students while practicing more advanced scientific investigations and networking with marine science professionals.

WHEN: July 8–12, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Science activity sessions take place at several NOAA offices Monday through Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Students present the results of their investigation on Friday. Junior Leaders continue their program through July 19.

WHERE: NOAA Sand Point Facility, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle. In order to gain entry to the facility, you must contact NOAA at least one day in advance — Ted Buehner, 206-526-6095 x 223, ted.buehner@noaa.gov.

WHO: Scientists from ten NOAA offices and the University of Washington; Washington Sea Grant staff.

WHY: Washington has one of the highest concentrations of STEM jobs in the U.S., and attracting young people to STEM careers is essential to sustaining a skilled workforce and a strong economy. NOAA Science Camp helps meet the growing demand for hands-on science education opportunities for middle-school students and shows them how science touches our everyday lives. However, this year’s federal budget sequestration required cutting one camp session (down from two) and reducing the number of campers by 25 percent.

Photo/Video Opportunity: Students trying on dive gear and simulating a dive in a hyperbaric chamber, learning to use marine navigation charts and other hands-on activities.

Based at the University of Washington, Washington Sea Grant provides statewide marine research, outreach, and education services. The National Sea Grant College Program is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. www.wsg.washington.edu