

Russell Callender, Ph.D.



Dr. Russell Callender is NOAA's Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management. He is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the National Ocean Service, the nation's ocean and coastal agency. The National Ocean Service has about 1,700 staff located at more than 50 places around the country and focuses on coastal preparedness, response, recovery, and resiliency; integrating science and services into actionable information; and place-based management.

Dr. Callender previously served as the Deputy Director and then Director of NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science and oversaw a diverse portfolio of research, monitoring, and assessments. From 2003-2009 Dr.

Callender was the Director of NOAA's Center for Coastal Monitoring and Assessment. There he focused on research and national monitoring activities in chemical contaminant monitoring, coral reef mapping and monitoring, marine protected area assessments, and coastal remote sensing. He has also served as the Director of the Office of Scientific Support in NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), where he provided scientific and policy support to the OAR Assistant Administrator. His primary responsibility there was to serve as liaison to OAR's laboratories, Joint Institutes, Sea Grant, the National Undersea Research Program, and the Office of Global Programs.

Dr. Callender has also served as the Assistant Director for the Virginia Sea Grant Program, managing a wide variety of marine and coastal research and outreach projects in the Chesapeake Bay and has worked for the Oceanographer of the Navy on issues ranging from logistics support in Antarctica to icebreaker requirements. He received a Ph.D. in geology from Texas A&M University in 1992 with research expertise in deep-sea benthic paleoecology, biological oceanography, marine geology, and organic geochemistry. He has authored twenty-two peer-reviewed publications.