



AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

“WE HAVE THE WATCH”

NORAD’s area of operations (AO) extends into the AORs of multiple combatant commands and the AO is not geographically limited. The NORAD area of interest consists of all air and sea approaches to North America and may be global.

The USNORTHCOM AO for operations includes North America, the Gulf of Mexico, the Straits of Florida, the Caribbean and significant portions of the Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic approaches to the continent. The USNORTHCOM AO is a complex environment and is a theater of operations with unique and special requirements.

The United States shares contiguous borders with two democratic-partner nations with many similar national characteristics. We are free societies with common geographic, historical, cultural and political ties. The Canadian, Mexican and U.S. economies are inextricably linked. More goods, services and people move across our borders than anywhere else on earth, creating vast economic interrelationships that are vital to the prosperity and way of life for all three countries.

