

Bi-Weekly Z-GRAM - 17 September 2010

www.IOOS.gov

The Z-Gram is an informal way of keeping you up-to-date on IOOS® activities. Please advise of additional addressees, or if you are receiving and no longer want to receive. If you think others could benefit from the Z-Gram please pass it on. To see previous Z-Grams go the IOOS website and view under 'program updates.

IOOS® - Our Eyes On Our Oceans, Coasts, and Great Lakes

Programmatic:

- **FY11 Proposal Process:** Reminder -- If you have questions please submit them to the IOOS office. The FAQ's on www.ioos.gov get updated regularly with answers.
- **Want to get an idea of what each IOOS Regional and National Cross-cuts are doing?** Read the fact sheets here http://ioos.gov/library/regionalfactsheets_2010.pdf

Initial Operating Capability - Data Management and Communications (DMAC) Subsystem of IOOS® http://ioos.gov/library/dmac_implementation_2010.pdf

- **Customer Projects:** **Contact Charly Alexander** at Charles.Alexander@noaa.gov if you want to be part of the action.
 - **IOOS Biological Efforts:**
 - IOOS-USACE Efforts: Hassan had a very preliminary discussion with USACE's Linda Lillycrop, Bill Birkemeier, and Jesse McNinch about the USACE's potential involvement in the biological observation network effort, which could include hosting a network observing array.
 - Tagging Of Pelagic Predators (TOPP): Hassan had a conference call with TOPP lead Barbara Block to discuss the Biological Observation Network Project.
 - Biological Observing System Network: Hassan set up a conference call with potential numerous partners TOPP, POST (Pacific Ocean Shelf Tracking), NOAA Fisheries, USACE, Ocean Tracking Network (OTN), IOOS Regions, and academia to examine the potential for a National Biological Observing System Network.
 - **IOOS/NCCOS Water Quality Project:** Doug Pirhalla and Oren Perez reported on the status of the project activities. Oren assessed the FIU data against the IOOS standards. The IOOS data standard, with a few minor issues, is sufficient to handle the water quality parameters. Development of sample files using the time-series water quality data will be developed next. This will be part of developing a draft data content standard by the next meeting in mid-October.
 - **IOOS Data Catalog:** Jeff assessed the completion status of the IOOS Catalog functional requirements (see the "Requirements" tab located on the website: <https://spreadsheets.google.com/ccc?key=0AInbU8AHKW2PdDVQSFRmQzhBdS1kRVVYLVZfv0tHdXc&hl=en&authkey=CL36lf4G>). This is part of the planning for the catalog's evolution. All Priority 1 requirements are at least

partially complete, and most are 100% complete. Some of the Priority 2 and 3 requirements are 100% complete or partially complete.

Interagency Project Collaboration: The Z-Grams are certainly focused on providing information on IOOS® connections to these projects and it is not intended to provide programmatic updates of these specific projects because they all have project leads.

- **High Frequency Radar/Radio (HFR):** Jack Harlan is developing milestones and deliverables for the National SAROPS HFR Project in coordination with the project's partners.
- **IOOS and Links to the National Water Quality Monitoring Network:** The water quality working group's monthly call resulted in a decision to draft a white paper that can be circulated to enhance this project's visibility at the regional level and to form a stakeholder working group that can help plan the project, but that will also serve to "champion" the project. The call also included brief updates from Nate Booth (USGS) and Dan Ramage (SECOORA) about NEXRAD data and the transportability of the water quality assessment application developed by SECOORA for the other regions to possibly leverage.
- **IOOS and National Science Foundation (NSF) - Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI):** Charly and Jeff joined the OOI-CI team to discuss the status of the coastal modeler "use case" and a straw man process for planning the next series of use cases. The project lead for the coastal modeling example – Chris Mueller at ASA – is ready to engage the remaining "customers," Rob Hetland at Texas A&M University and Brian Powell at the University of Hawaii. Charly agreed to initiate a planning process for a second use case that may include the Navy. Jeff will engage the OOI-CI design team to evaluate their emerging user interface and possible intersections with the IOOS Data Catalog.
- **DMAC Steering Team:** On hold while Sam Walker supports DWH.

Other:

- **Response to Deepwater Horizon:** Sam Walker continues support for the development and execution of a subsurface monitoring plan. Much of his time is spent at the Command Center in Louisiana. On Wednesday 9/15 he had an opportunity to brief Dr. Lubchenco directly on the subsurface team's efforts. Doug continued to support the Deepwater Horizon oil spill response. He has been assisting/leading discussions about utilizing AUVs to support the evaluation of the presence of oiled sediments around the well head and on the shelf.
- **California and the World Ocean 2010 Conference:** First, I would like to thank Amanda Dillon, Chris Cohen, Daniel Rohrlick, and Lisa Hazard (SCCOOS); Heather Kerkering and Tom Wadsworth (CeNCOOS); Amy Sprenger and Sarah Mikulak; and Jennie Lyons (IOOS Program Office) and Linda Lillycrop (USACE- IOOS Program Office) for their efforts in putting together our outstanding exhibit! We had sixteen screens going with PowerPoint presentations, videos, movie clips, and podcasts. The U.S.

will reuse this material for the upcoming GEO Ministerial Meeting in Beijing, China. The overall conference was outstanding with over 800 participants. Presentations provided by Steve Ramp (CeNCOOS) and Jan Newton (NANOOS) were both well-received in their sessions on IOOS supporting west coast decision-making and ocean acidification, respectively. I was able to lead off with a U.S. IOOS presentation that tied together the California Coastal Ocean Monitoring program and how that program has supported the development of a national HFR network. Eric Terrill, Jeff Paduan, John Largier, and Burt Jones provided presentations on the various projects using HFR surface currents, which span from search and rescue, oil spills, harmful algal bloom, ecosystem based management, marine protected areas, to decisions on beach closure.

- **Visit to CODAR:** Steve Ramp (CeNCOOS) and I had the chance to spend the afternoon visiting with CODAR. I thank them for their hospitality. The company philosophy of always improving the SeaSonde came through loud and clear. The RiverSonde project in the Hudson Bay had just been completed and the equipment was back at the plant for cleanup before deployment to Oregon State University for the second half of this project. We had the chance to discuss the new antennas, which combine the transmit and receive antenna into one. CODAR provides the remote maintenance for NERACOOS and we had a chance to discuss that business model.
- **OSTP Delivers key Observing Report to Congress:** OSTP delivered the report, "Achieving and Sustaining Earth Observations: A Preliminary Plan Based on a Strategic Assessment by the U.S. Group on Earth Observations." See Shere Abbott's White House Blog: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2010/09/10/ostp-delivers-preliminary-plan-national-earth-observations>. Shere Abbott is the Associate Director for Energy and Environment in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).
- **PacIOOS began serving data from the 3rd HFR system:** This 3-radar network provides a nice coverage area south of Oahu. You can view the current velocity map for that area by visiting: http://cordc.ucsd.edu/projects/mapping/maps/?ll=20.94092,-157.807617&zm=8&mt=p&rng=0,50&cs=4&res=2km_a&ol=1&cp=1
- **GEOSS Workshop - Evolution of Ocean Observing Systems:** Over 60 folks convened in Seattle ahead of MTS/IEEE Oceans10 to update progress on the Ocean Observing and Ocean Observatory systems. I delivered the briefing on US IOOS and was joined by an update on IMOS; Neptune Canada, DONET - Japanese Observing System; OOI; Ocean-Ocean Observatories in Europe; efforts on Hypoxia in Europe, MARS - MBARI cabled observatory and their controlled sea floor CO2 experiment. Matt Arrott; Luis Bermudez and I then provided a panel discussion on interoperability (I stayed high level - while Matt and Luis did a GREAT job of framing the issues) and finally Bob Wheller gave a thought provoking briefing on Community of Practice. We started the day with an overview of GEOSS and Paul DiGiacomo, NOAA provided a discussion on the Coastal Zone Community of Practice which was a good foundation for our afternoon discussions. These set up three working groups. Highlights include - we are all facing the same issues and share the same passions. The interoperability of our systems is really the key in holistically tackling the issues before us and we all are challenged about getting our message out on the utility of our observing systems. We had a very good discussion on the Community of Practice and what niche such a group can fill. We came to agreement that Communities of Practice might be necessary. A strategic level that brings the providers and the users together to be able to better communicate our return on

investment proposition and secondly there is a tremendous knowledge base in the observation and observatory communities and we need to be able to share that knowledge in specifically focused areas. We will provide some proposals back to GEOSS and continue to discuss the stand up of a strategic level Community of Practice.

- **CAMEO Call for Proposals:** NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service and National Science Foundation Division of Ocean Sciences are pleased to announce a call for proposals for the Comparative Analysis of Marine Ecosystem Organization (CAMEO) Program, which is implemented as a partnership between the two agencies. The purpose of the CAMEO program is to strengthen the scientific basis for an ecosystem approach to the stewardship of our ocean and coastal living marine resources and ecosystems. The goal is to provide an understanding of and predictive capability for marine ecosystem organization and production, particularly as the dual drivers of climate variability and how fishing pressure affects them. Comparative analyses provide an ideal way to achieve this goal. They can be employed in lieu of direct experimentation where controlled manipulation at relevant temporal and spatial scales is not possible. Well-designed comparative studies use existing gradients in ecosystem features to reveal how those features are manifested in processes and structures. Comparative analysis may be applied across ecosystems, within ecosystems through time, or across modeling approaches. A key aspect of these proposals is the emphasis on collaborative partnerships between the academic and NOAA NMFS scientists with mission responsibilities to inform ecosystem management activities. The full Announcement of Opportunity and further information on the CAMEO program is available on the CAMEO website (<http://cameo.noaa.gov>). Proposals must be submitted through the NSF FastLane System no later than January 7, 2011. For more information, please contact: NSF: Cynthia Suchman (csuchman@nsf.gov) or Dave Garrison (dgarriso@nsf.gov); NOAA: Mike Ford (Michael.Ford@noaa.gov) or Lora Clarke (Lora.Clarke@noaa.gov). For more information, please visit the CAMEO website: <http://cameo.noaa.gov>.
- **NOAA Regional Ocean Partnership Grant Opportunity Announced:** NOAA has announced the availability of the FY11 competitive grant opportunity to support the Regional Ocean Partnership Funding Program (subject to Congressional appropriations). NOAA is soliciting proposals focused on advancing effective coastal and ocean management through regional ocean governance, including the national ocean policy goals set out in the July 2010 Final Recommendations of the Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force. The full grant announcement includes details on the funding priorities, eligibility, deadlines, review process, and how to apply. The announcement and application can be found online at: <http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppId=57212>.

Congressional: No Update.

Communications and Outreach:

- PacIOOS did a 40-minute spot on ocean observing in Hawaii and in the Pacific for Hawaii Public Radio: <http://www.bytemarkscafe.org/2010/09/>

- Sam Walker in the news:
<http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/09/15/gulf.oily.layer/index.html?hpt=C2>

IOOS Conference Involvement: This section will highlight those conferences where IOOS is a sponsor or has a session:

- **NEW: November 3-4:** Renewable Ocean Energy & the Marine Environment: Responsible Stewardship for a Sustainable Future
Don't miss this important opportunity to interact with researchers, developers, policymakers, and scientists to discuss and identify gaps in the current state of knowledge regarding the environmental impacts of renewable ocean energy. SECOORA is a major sponsor this conference and is helping to coordinate the "Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning" plenary session and also a "Managing Information to Support Decision Making" track. **Register today at:** <http://www.ces.fau.edu/coet/>. SECOORA will also be hosting a workshop entitled, "Data and Information for Offshore Energy Development in the Southeast: How Ocean Observing Can Help to Fill the Gaps," on November 2, 2010, just prior to the conference.
- **IOOS and ASLO Meeting - Call for Abstracts:** The next ASLO meeting will be the 2011 Aquatic Sciences Meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico, February 13-18, 2011. The call for papers is now available and the website (<http://www.aslo.org/meetings/sanjuan2011/>) is live. We look forward to your attendance. The deadline for both abstract submission and early registration is **October 11, 2010**. Please consider submitting a paper for Session S75: Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning: Current Needs and Future Challenges; Conveners: Dr. Nasseer Idrisi, University of the Virgin Islands, nidrisi@uvi.edu; Simon Pittman, NOAA Center for Coastal Monitoring and Assessment, simon.pittman@noaa.gov; and Zdenka Willis, NOAA IOOS Program, zdenka.s.willis@noaa.gov. This will be a great opportunity to showcase IOOS regional association activities in the Administration's priority of Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning.

Upcoming Meetings: We have merged our calendars and now there is single calendar that allows you to view the IOOS-related meetings. To see this calendar, please visit:

<http://www.usnfra.org/calendar.html> or <http://ioos.gov/calendar/>

- **IOOS Biological Data Workshop:** Hassan and Charly to attend, September 20-22, 2010, Honolulu, HI.
- **MTS/IEEE Oceans 2010:** Seattle, WA; September 21-23, 2010; Zdenka Willis, Carl Gouldman, April Black, and Jack Harlan to attend.
- **Taxonomic Database Working Group (TDWG) Annual Conference:** Hassan; September 26 – October 1, 2010; Woods Hole, MA.
- **SECOORA Fall Meeting:** September 29-30, 2010 at the Hilton Garden Inn Tampa Ybor Historic District.
- **MACOORA Annual Meeting:** October 28-29, 2010; Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ.
- **Alaska Marine Science Symposium:** January 17-21, 2011 - Begin Planning Now!

Cheers,
Zdenka

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