

Bi-Weekly IOOS® Z-GRAM – 29 June 2012

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The Z-Gram is an informal way of keeping you up-to-date on US 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® - A Partnership supporting Lives and Livelihoods

Highlight: US IOOS Summit – FINAL WHITE PAPERS by 20 July: From the IOOS Summit Co-

Chairs: The IOOS Summit Co-Chairs wish to thank you for your White Paper submissions.

Please remember that any addition or revision to your submission must be received by July 20, 2012. Also note that after July 20, 2012 the current version of your submission will be publicly available. We look forward to learning from your insights over the coming weeks and may be in touch if we have questions.

Governance and Management Subsystem: No Update

Observation Subsystem:

- **High Frequency Radar/Radio:** For more information contact the US IOOS HFR Project Manager, Jack Harlan, Jack.Harlan@noaa.gov: No Update

Data Management and Communications (DMAC) Subsystem: To get on the IOOS System Status list which announces service changes, please contact Derrick (Derrick.Snowden@noaa.gov) or Rob (Rob.Ragsdale@noaa.gov).

- **National DMAC:**
 - **QARTOD:** The NDBC team has begun the de-scoping process for focusing the next phase of QA/QC procedures on dissolved oxygen only. Anticipated completion date is July 5th. Invitations for a mid/late July workshop at NDBC will follow. A second cut will be made to determine a review panel for proposed

draft procedures. All save one RA have responded to request for core variable sensors. Resultant core variable table will be distributed by July 5th.

o **Implementing DMAC for biological observations in U.S. IOOS regions - IOOS Biological Observations Project (GCOOS/SECOORA): Workshop in St. Petersburg, FL (6/25-26/2012):**

- Goal – review project requirements and develop a consensus execution plan
- Hosted by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission/Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWC/FWRI)
- Attendees in person and by phone included the US IOOS Program, SECOORA, GCOOS, NOAA Fisheries (Galveston Lab, SEFSC), USGS/OBIS USA, FWC/FWRI, Atlantic States Fisheries Management Commission, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council.
- Overall, the group made good progress on the review of the data originators and customers' requirements and on moving forward with the project implementation planning. The workshop generated a list of tasks for the next 60 days and the project's high-level goals were reviewed.
- **Associated meetings 6/27:** Hassan also met with Mike Murphy and Eddie Matheson (FWC/FWRI) in St. Petersburg, FL to discuss FWC/FWRI fishery independent survey data from the Gulf of Mexico as an additional data set in the IOOS BDP and evaluation of project outcomes.

Modeling and Analysis Subsystem: For information on the US IOOS Coastal Ocean Modeling Testbed, please contact the US IOOS Modeling Testbed Project Manager, Becky Baltes, Becky.Baltes@noaa.gov

- **Meeting with NCEP/NOS CO-OPS and CSDL:** The US IOOS Program Office, along with MARACOOS, SECOORA and NERACOOS met with NOAA's National Center for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) and with the National Ocean Service's Center for Operation Oceanographic Products and Services and the Coastal Data Development Lab. The purpose of the meeting was to exchange information and look for more opportunities to improve collaboration between MARACOOS and the other regional modelers and NCEP, including both sharing of observational data as well as model output. A series of next steps for continued NCEP engagement – as encouraged by a follow-up e-mail from NCEP Director Louis Uccellini – are being developed.
- **Modeling Testbed: Update from Shelf Hypoxia Group:** One goal was to run Fennel's model within NGOFS (which is based on FVCOM) for 2009. After addressing numerous issues, we've completed 3 months of the initial run of hindcasts with FVCOM. There is still some issue with reproducing the model results with the identical model configuration and forcing, which we're addressing with the assistance of the FVCOM model developers. In addition, there are some limitations of the FVCOM modeling system that we are addressing with the help of the FVCOM development team. Our target is to finish the hindcast by mid-July. To be consistent with the needs of the user

community in the northern Gulf, the annual NCCOS supported hypoxia monitoring program, and federal responsibility under the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act (HABHRCA), the primary metric will be the hypoxic area and, although not required by HABHRCA, hypoxia volume.

Interagency Collaboration:

- **IOOS Summit 2012 - A new Decade of Integrated and Sustained Ocean Observing, 13-16 November, Herndon, VA:** See above
- **DMAC Steering Team: No Update.**
- **USACE in Action:** USACE representatives continue to participate in activities regarding the Modeling Testbed, QARTOD Committee, Animal Telemetry Network, DMAC, Waves Plan Update, IOOC, IOOS Summit Planning, USACE-IOOS Water-Level Pilot, and coordinating Districts with the Regional Associations.
- **IOOS and Links to the National Water Quality Monitoring Network:** Zdenka and Rob discussed furthering IOOS's partnership with EPA and the National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC) with Bernice Smith, EPA's Coastal Management Branch Chief in the Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds. Bernice contacted IOOS to discuss EPA's National Coastal Condition Report (NCCR) and a potential partnership, but the discussion was a much broader one that extended to the NWQMC and IOOS Summit. In regards to the NWQMC, a working group has formed to identify the parameters that should be part of the network. The group has just formed and Rob will be participating on this working group from the IOOS Office and Jan Newton (NANOOS) has agreed to participate, also (Jan Newton participated on a panel at the NWQMC meeting coordinated by Bernice Smith – hence the Jan Newton connect). There was a brief discussion around the IOOS Summit and information from Bernice that the working group will submit a white paper. We concluded with agreeing to have more discussion, in particular, on furthering the IOOS and NWQMC partnership and on how IOOS can contribute to the NCCR.
- **IOOS and The National Science Foundation (NSF) - Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI): No update**

Other:

- **GLOS in Action: GLOS Partners with NOAA GLERL to Support Critical Water Quality Decision Making:** The Cleveland Division of Water (CDW) operates four drinking water treatment plants that serve approximately 1.5 million people in Northeast Ohio. During the summer of 2006, three of the four water treatment plants were exposed to hypoxic waters from Lake Erie, which compromised water quality in the system. As a result of these conditions, plant operations were disrupted, treatment costs increased, and customers complained about discolored water. In partnership with NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, GLOS is supporting monitoring activities that provide oxygen levels, water temperature, and wave heights to the Cleveland Division of Water. This information acts as a warning system to allow the utility to avoid drawing in

hypoxic waters or enabling it to treat affected water appropriately. "...Hypoxic water is not a good source of raw water due to the high organic content, taste, odor and the tendency for manganese to dissolve in low or no oxygen conditions...costs for treatment are greatly increased. Since 2009, GLOS, through its federal partner at NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL), has provided a near shore buoy dissolved oxygen and temperature profiles proximate to our water intakes. The oxygen information tells us when we are in danger of taking in hypoxic water and the temperature information warns us that there is the potential for internal waves, allowing us to shut down our intakes in order to avoid taking in low quality raw water or adjust treatment appropriately. " -Rolfe Porter, Acting Commissioner of Water, City of Cleveland

- **MARACOOS in Partnership with the National Marine Fisheries Service: Meeting on integrating dynamic habitat in butterfish stock assessment:** As an outgrowth of the ongoing MARACOOS-based cooperative research work being conducted with the Mid-Atlantic commercial squid fishermen (led by John Manderson (NMFS), Josh Kohut (Rutgers COOL), and Greg DiDomenico (Garden State Seafood Assn), NOAA Office of Science and Technology has funded a 2 year project involving an inter-disciplinary working group focused on developing an environmentally explicit assessment method for butterfish in the Mid-Atlantic. Funding for the 2nd year is contingent on progress during the first year. This grant represents a significant vote of confidence in the team by NOAA to advance "Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management" in the Northeast US, using the currently "data poor" butterfish assessment as a test case. Read more: <http://maracoos.org/content/meeting-integrating-dynamic-habitat-butterfish-stock-assessment>
- **Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) Steering Team:** Zdenka, in her role as the chairman of the GOOS Regional Alliances, joined US representatives Eric Lindstrom (NASA), Margarita Gregg (NOAA) and Candyce Clark (NOAA) to participate in the GOOS steering team meeting. The steering team has 15 members, plus a number of sponsors, ex officio and invited experts. The GOOS RA chair is an ex officio position. The main focus of the steering team was evaluating the GOOS efforts within the Ocean Observing Framework, how to expand the current system to new variables and to serve new requirements. One of the main tasks Zdenka is undertaking now is an assessment of the GOOS RAs.

Congressional:

- **Program office Visits to Capitol Hill:** The program office and NOAA Legislative Affairs (Suzanne, Jenifer, and Mike Jarvis) participated in five congressional visits June 25-29 with staff from Representatives Pingree and Farr's offices, the majority and minority staff from the House Subcommittee on Natural Resources, and the minority staff from the House Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Earlier in June, they had 4 separate meetings with staff from Senate Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries and Coast Guard and staff from the offices of Senators Inouye (D-HI), Whitehouse (D-RI), and Begich (R-AK). The purpose of the

meetings is to share information about progress in implementing US IOOS and to answer any questions the staff may have. The staff appreciated the updates and are generally happy to hear of the continued progress on certification, on the Independent Cost Estimate, and on establishing the System Advisory Committee. Given the expiration of the IOOS authorizing legislation in 2013 and the recent visits by NFRA, there was also dialog on the ICOOS Act and its reauthorization.

- **MARACOOS Hosts Congressional Staff Information Event on Capitol Hill:** On Monday, June 25, MARACOOS invited staff from the House and Senate offices covering the Mid-Atlantic states and congressional districts to attend an informal luncheon in the Rayburn House Office Building on Capitol Hill. The session drew 28 participants, including 17 congressional staffers from 12 personal and committee offices. Federal agency partners from the U.S. IOOS Program Office, NOAA's National Ocean Service, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers also participated in the event. For more Info: <http://maracoos.org/content/maracoos-hosts-congressional-staff-information-event-capitol-hill>

Communications/Outreach:

- Sea Technology, June 2012 – "Developing Dissolved Oxygen Sensors on Crab Pots for Ocean Observations" - Partners of NANOOS from Oregon State and The Sexton Co. team up with fisherman to use their vessels and gear as sensor platforms. The sensors were deployed in 2011 and are tentatively schedule to take additional samples in the summer of 2012. The intent is to automatically download the data to NANOOS.
- NOAA Press Release features CenCOOS: **Partnership installs new ocean observation sensor to benefit abalone industry** - June 29, 2012. Picked up by:
 - FISH UPDATE: http://www.fishupdate.com/news/fullstory.php/aid/17860/Partnership_installs_new_ocean_observation_sensor_to_benefit_abalone_industry.html
 - Fis.com: <http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?monthyear=&day=3&id=53466&l=e&special=&ndb=1%20target>
 - Maritime Executive: <http://www.maritime-executive.com/pressrelease/partnership-installs-new-ocean-observation-sensor-to-benefit-abalone-industry>

IOOS Conference Involvement: This section will highlight those conferences where US IOOS is a sponsor/or has a major footprint.

SEEKING ABSTRACTS by 1 AUG for AMS 2013 <http://ams.confex.com/ams/> : There are 4 sessions we are seeking IOOS participation with:

1. "Climate Trends and Projections in the Coastal Environment." Joint session between the 11th Symposium on the Coastal Environment (CE) and the Conference on Climate Variability and Change (CVC). Organizers: Hyodae Seo (CE) and Aiguo Dai (CVC)
2. "Ocean, Atmosphere, Hydrosphere, and Land Surface Interaction in the Coastal Environment." Joint Session between the 11th Symposium on the Coastal Environment: Frank Aikman, NOAA/NOS, frank.aikman@noaa.gov; 17th Conference on Integrating Observing and Assimilation Systems for the Atmosphere, Ocean and Land Surface, Ken Carey (Noblis), kenneth.carey@noblis.org; and Satellite Meteorology, Oceanography and Climatology, Philip Ardanuy (Raytheon) Philip_E_Ardanuy@raytheon.com.
3. "Ocean operational, pre-operational and transition model-based and observationally-constrained forecast systems in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone." The 11th Symposium on the Coastal Environment: Frank Aikman, NOAA/NOS, frank.aikman@noaa.gov; Frank Bub, USN/NAVO, frank.bub@navy.mil; and Chris Mooers, CECS/PSU, cmooers@cecs.pdx.edu.
4. "Pre-Operational, R&D Regional Coastal Ocean (EEZ) Circulation (&Related) Models Run in Real-Time in Academia and Industry." The 11th Symposium on the Coastal Environment: Chris Mooers, Portland State University, cmooers@cecs.pdx.edu; Becky Baltes, IOOS Program Office, Becky.Baltes@noaa.gov

Upcoming Meetings : To see the IOOS calendar, visit: <http://www.usnfra.org/calendar.html> or <http://www.ioos.gov/about/calendar.html>

Cheers,
Zdenka

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