

Bi-Weekly Z-GRAM - 19 February 2010

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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

Programmatics:

- **Congressional Report:** In review at OMB.
- **FY10:** The following RA cooperative agreements have been accepted by the recipients: GLOS; PacIOOS; and SECOORA -- CONGRATS. The following awards have been signed by the grants officer and currently await the release of funds so we can notify the grantee for acceptance (which we expect imminently): NANOOS; NERACOOS; AOOS; and CaRA. On the RCOOS awards, NOAA IOOS has made recommendations and is working with NOS and NOAA budget for concurrence, which we expect early in the week of 22 February. Once we get concurrence we will be working with you on the descopes. I ask in advance for your help. We must make the 31 March 2010 deadline. My thanks in advance to both my team and all of you for the hard work we have to do over the next month.

Initial Operating Capability - Data Management and Communications (DMAC) subsystem of IOOS®

- **What the DIF:** For all documents and information, please visit the www.ioos.gov website.
- **IOOS DMAC: We always welcome your participation. If you want to be a part of the action, please contact Charly Alexander - Charles.Alexander@noaa.gov**
 - **CUSTOMER PROJECTS:**
 - **Coastal Inundation:** NOAA IOOS FY10 Coastal Inundation Plan: The draft assessment plan for the FY10 Coastal Inundation Project will be discussed with Jesse Feyen, NOAA Storm Surge Portfolio Manager on 23 February. Jeff has reviewed and approved the DMAC assessment questions and strategy. Additional inputs from others on the NOAA Storm Surge team have been solicited. Once the assessment plan is approved, the DMAC

and science assessments can proceed. The outcome of the DMAC assessment will dictate what the specific statement of work will be for this customer project. Regional Coastal Inundation Project Monthly Conference Call: The monthly conference call of Principle Investigators from the four IOOS-funded coastal inundation projects and other storm surge/inundation stakeholders was held on February 5, 2010. NERACOOS Inundation Project Meeting: Marcia met with PI Bob Beardsley (WHOI) from the NERACOOS inundation project and discussed his work and other related storm surge/inundation activities.

- **MPA Climate Tool Project**: A conference call with key members of the MPA Climate Tool project and Operations Division representatives is scheduled for February 24, 2010 at 10:00 A.M. The goal of this conference call is to come to a mutual agreement about what can be done to best support this project in FY10.
- **IOOS Biological Data Project**: Requirements for the SOW have been drafted. The draft SOW, tasks and responsibilities, timeline, and project start date were discussed on the most recent conference call (19 Feb). The most recent discussion resulted in an action for Hassan to develop and propose roles and responsibilities to the group for this project based on feedback received on the project requirements document. A follow-up meeting to begin drafting these roles and responsibilities is planned for Monday, 22 February.
- TECHNICAL ENHANCEMENTS: No Update
- IOOS REGISTRY/CATALOG/VIEWER (RCV):
 - <!--[if !supportLists]--><!--[endif]-->IOOS Obs Registry: Oscar Garcia (NMSP) is working with Vembu Subramanian (USF) to initiate the transfer and deployment of the IOOS Obs Registry software in the USF Development server. USF Tampa Academic computing has agreed to provide a domain, software/hardware, and the space in their Web farm necessary to host the site. The transfer is expected to be done by the end of March.
 - <!--[if !supportLists]--><!--[endif]-->RCV Development: Jeff is working closely with technical partners at NGDC (Ted Haberman) and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (Eric Bridger) to develop some key components of a prototype viewer with new capabilities based on preliminary customer-based requirements.

- **IOOS REGIONAL DMAC COORDINATION:** The IOOS Regional Data Management Workshop is scheduled for March 23–24, 2010 in Silver Spring, MD. The Regional Data Management Team agreed to a final version of the agenda for the Regional Data Management Workshop this March. In addition, there was some discussion about the outcomes that the regions want to see from the RCV section of the agenda, and a discussion of meeting logistics. The Regional Data Management Workshop Steering Team will meet next week (Wednesday, 24 February) to continue to discuss approaches that need to be taken in the workshop on the key discussion topics that have been identified.

<!--[endif]--> **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):** The biggest issue continues to be the transition of frequency from experimental to operational. Thank you to USACE leadership who called the Army points of contact to explain the situation and garner their support. We really need each of the IWGOO members to help us with this effort.
 - Jack Harlan is working with Korean HF radar scientists to develop a cooperative project for FY11. This is under a NOAA/Korea bilateral agreement.
 - Jack held a conference call with the NWS NOAAnet team and regional HF radar operators to discuss technical issues of communications to extremely remote HF radar sites; action items will lead to a second conference call.
- **IOOS and Links to the National Water Quality Monitoring Network:** No Update.
- **IOOS and National Science Foundation (NSF) - Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI):**<!--[endif]--> No Update.
- **US IWGOO - DMAC Steering Team:** To refresh everyone's memory, the IWGOO has been conducting an assessment of the DMAC ST, which includes a survey and a workshop. NOAA has proposed to the Chair and Vice Chairs of the IWGOO that Sam Walker be the new Chair for the next iteration of the DMAC ST. The full IWGOO was to receive an update on the findings of the survey and workshop during the February meeting, which was not held due to the snow, and replaced by an IWGOO sub-working-group meeting. In the meantime, to keep the ball rolling, NOAA IOOS' Sam, Zdenka, and Charly met with Lucia Tsaoussi (NASA), Bill Birkemeier (USACE), and Alex Isern (NSF) to introduce Sam as our proposed new Chair for the next iteration of the

Steering Team and to listen to their suggestions or concerns with respect to next steps. Meetings are planned with additional members of the IWGOO. Sam and Charly continue to meet with COL staff (Josh Young and Nick Rome) and Anne Ball regarding specific recommendations for the next steps to bring to the IWGOO for discussion and approval, including re-charting the Steering Team and setting its initial priorities. The plan is for the team to give a formal presentation/brief to the IWGOO on 18 March.

Other:

- **US IOOS in ACTION: MTS/IEEE Oceans 2009 briefings now posted:** Check it out, 10 sessions, 1 town hall, and 48 papers are now available on our website. This set of presentations gives you a great overview of the tremendous forward motion of US IOOS.
<http://ioos.gov/oceans09.html>.
- **IOOS presents the status of the biological observations project to the Ecosystem Science Working Group (ESWG) of NOAA's Science Advisory Board (SAB) on 3 February:** The NOAA IOOS Program was invited to Hawaii to brief the ESWG on the status of an IOOS pilot project to begin defining data standards for biological observations. The project was initiated October 2009 with a focus on the U.S. Pacific Region. The planning phase, including customer focus, priority observations, and anticipated products is nearly complete and initial activities will be underway by March 2010. Project partners include NOAA Fisheries and NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program, the University of Hawaii, the Census of Marine Life and OBIS (Ocean Biogeographic Information System). The IOOS presentation, which provided background context for the biological pilot project and a full status report on planning to date, was very well received. Questions and suggestions from the panelists focused on possible opportunities to expand the work to other partners such as NSF's National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON) and to further developing existing partnerships with NOAA Fisheries, OBIS, and CoML. The ESWG advises the NOAA SAB on integrated ecosystem assessments and ecosystem science and monitoring to help ensure the effective and efficient delivery of NOAA's ecosystem science portfolio.
- **NFRA Annual Meeting:** David Kennedy, Linda Lillycrop and I presented at the annual NFRA meeting. It was a great opportunity to connect with each of the RAs and the NFRA board. Kennedy spoke about NOS' new directions and that US IOOS was very much a part of that direction. Linda received the applause of the day on her bringing USACE into IOOS at the regional level. Linda's next step is to organize

IOOS RA briefings for each of the USACE district offices -- look for that schedule soon. I was able to talk about FY10 focus, which included the ICOOS Act, the Ocean Policy Task Force, the Framework on Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning, and the efforts of the IWGOO's transition into the Interagency of Ocean Observing Committee (IOOC) as called out in the Act. From there NFRA members had a dizzying schedule consisting of Hill, OMB, and Administration briefings. Never enough time but a GREAT chance to interact.

- **NOAA's Heritage Week extended through 19 February:** Scarlet Knight, HFR - CODAR and US IOOS continued to be a popular part of the overall Heritage Week. Jennie Lyons had a chance to brief Dr. Lubchenco on 16 February on US IOOS, Scarlet Knight, and our use of CODAR.
- **USACE Briefing:** Thank you to Linda Lillycrop, Joan Pope, Jeff Lillycrop, Bill Birkemeier, and Clint Padgett for setting up and presenting an outstanding overview of USACE for US IOOS and NOAA. This is a part of the effort that Linda has kicked off as the USACE liaison to US IOOS, which extends to NOAA as well. Along with the US IOOS office we had the NFRA Executive Director, AOOS and SCCOOS Executive Directors, NOAA offices of Center for Coastal Oceanographic Products and Service; Office of Coast Survey; National Geodetic Service; National Marine Sanctuaries; NOS Headquarters Staff; Office of Coastal Resources Management; Office of Hydrology; Coastal Services Center and National Center for Coastal Ocean Sciences.
- **AGU 2010 Meeting of Americas:** US IOOS will be involved in the co-chairing of two sessions and request that you consider submitting abstracts for both sessions. I am co-chairing a session devoted to Regional Ocean Observing Systems in the Americas. My fellow co-chairs are Keith D. Alverson (Global Ocean Observing System Secretariat), Guillermo Garcia Montero (IOCARIBE-GOOS; Habana, Cuba), and Rodrigo Nunez (GRASP Secretariat, CPPS; Guayaquil, Ecuador). Jack Harlan, Don Barrick, and Brazilian colleagues will chair - OS02 - Application of HF Radar Networks to Ocean Forecasts. The conference will be held in Brazil, 8-13 August 2010. **Abstracts are due NLT 31 March.**
http://www.agu.org/meetings/ja10/program/abstract_submissions.php. **Description of the session: *Regional Ocean Observing Systems in the Americas:*** Regional Ocean Observing Systems are in operation throughout the Americas. Data are used directly and assimilated into numerical models to reduce risks from a broad range of threats associated with the oceans including waterborne toxins, storm surges, coastal flooding, unsafe marine transportation, and changes in marine ecosystems. These systems have been developed to serve regional needs, but there is much to be learned from sharing

success stories. Submissions are invited on physical, biogeochemical, and biological aspects of regional ocean observing systems, focusing on scientific results achieved and societal benefits being delivered.

- **HFR installed on Jekyll Island, GA:** A third HFR (WERA) was installed on Jekyll Island, GA with primary funding from the Georgia Research Alliance, the original equipment money allocated by SEACOOS, plus a significant contribution from SkIO. This third installation will increase overlapping shelf coverage for surface current measurements to include the entire Georgia shelf and shelf edge, to the Florida border, and will facilitate collaborative work across our southern border into Florida. It will add critical overlapping redundancy with existing installations, providing an essential two-installation operation during periods when one installation of the three may go down (lightening strikes, power outages, etc). The new site will approximately double the shelf area over which wave heights and directional wave spectra can be estimated, and will significantly increase the along-shelf extent of shelf-edge Gulf Stream surface current observations. This will facilitate a developing study of shelf-edge tide-correlated eddies, which are seen to spin up at the M2 tidal frequency at the shelf-edge, which may be an important process affecting momentum and nutrient budgets at the shelf-edge. For more information please contact Trent Moore (Trent.Moore@skio.usg.edu) or Dana Savidge (dana.savidge@skio.usg.edu) at the Skidaway Institute of Oceanography. Jack Harlan is working with them to ensure that the data is up on the National Server.
- **University of Delaware shows Appreciation for MACOORA in Action:** Dr. Nancy Targett (Dean, College of Earth, Ocean, and Environment, University of Delaware) sent me a wonderful letter of appreciation on MARCOOS products and support for US IOOS. I pass on my appreciation to MACOORA/MARCOOS in supporting the needs of the folks living in the Mid-Atlantic. Her letter provided two examples included below:
 - **UD-Gamesa:** The University of Delaware is working with Gamesa Technologica Corporacion on the development of shoreside and offshore wind turbines to harness the wind resource in the Mid-Atlantic region. The observing assets deployed throughout the coastal Mid-Atlantic region have provided critical data products related to bathymetry, HF-radar currents, sea surface temperature, and wind fields, thereby considerably enhancing our marine spatial planning and resource planning efforts. In addition, the capacity to visualize these data products in an integrated way on high definition screens in our observing lab has been a significant asset in discussions with industry and state leaders who are interested in building

infrastructure to advance the economic potential of the wind industry in this area. In summary, these data products are providing critical information to this university-industry partnership in Delaware as we move to develop this nascent economic sector.

- **UD-State of Delaware:** The Mid-Atlantic Ocean Observing System has been added to the information available in the Delaware Environmental Observing System (DEOS) to provide an umbrella of environmental monitoring for the state that extends from its westernmost borders to the continental shelf. The data has been used extensively by state emergency managers for planning related to weather-related events that affect coastal communities and offshore interests, particularly as they relate to commercial traffic on the Delaware Bay. Most recently, Dennis Rochford, President of the Maritime Exchange in Philadelphia, visited the visualization lab at UD and discussed data-sharing potential.

Congressional:

- **NEED YOUR HELP:** Under the US IOOS banner, the Alliance for Earth Observations, Marine Technology Society, NOAA, USACE, MMS, NSF, ONR, and NFRA are sponsoring an outreach event on Capitol Hill focused on IOOS and its industry partners and is on the schedule for Tuesday, 2 March (locations and times below). The central message of the event will be how IOOS is benefiting and impacting a wide range of private sector groups, from small businesses to larger international companies. Confirmed panelists include Nancy Colleton (Alliance of Earth Observations), Jay Titlow (WeatherFlow, Inc), Clayton Jones (Teledyne Webb Research), and Cort Cooper (Chevron). 10:00-11:00 A.M., Russell Senate Office Building Room 485; 3:00-4:00 P.M., Cannon House Office Building Room 122. **Please circulate the attached fliers far and wide.**

Communications: No Updates.

<!--[endif]--> **Upcoming Meetings: For more details on regional IOOS meetings, please visit: <http://www.usnfra.org/calendar.html>**

- February 22-26: AGU Ocean Sciences Meeting; Portland, OR. <http://www.agu.org/meetings/os10/>
- February 25: FSRS/OTN Ocean Tracking Network (OTN) as a Fisheries Research Tool Workshop (Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada); Hassan has been invited and will present at this workshop, which is being held to

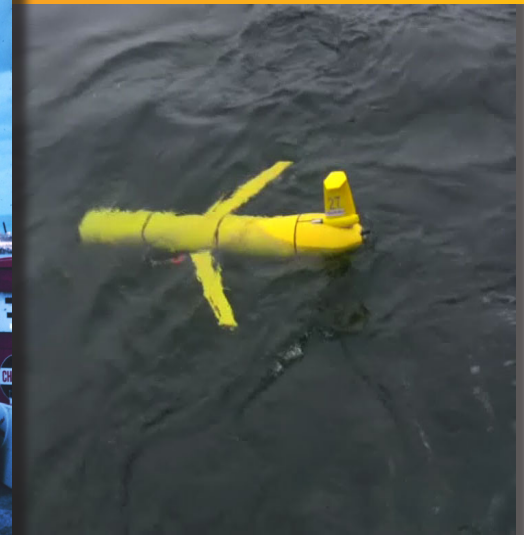
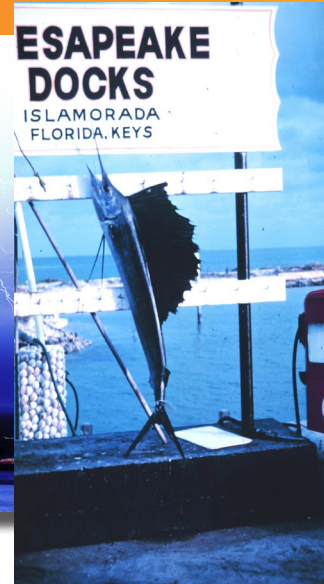
(a) explore the potential benefits of and uses for the Ocean Tracking Network (OTN) and other ocean tracking initiatives to the fishing industry from conservation, research, and economic/sustainability perspectives, and (b) to identify fisheries research priorities that could utilize ocean tracking technology.

- March 1-3: International Conference on Sea Level Rise in the Gulf of Mexico, Corpus Christi, TX - <http://www.sealevelrise2010.org>. NOAA and US IOOS RAs are supporting.
- March 2: US IOOS: Ocean Observing and Industry: US Congress.
- March 3: Visit to Stennis Space Center - Commander Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command, National Data Buoy Center, and the National Coastal Data Development Center; Zdenka.
- March 4-5: GCOOS Board of Directors and Annual Parties meeting - New Orleans, LA; Zdenka participating.
- March 15-16: Ocean Research and Resources Advisory Panel Meeting, Washington, DC.
- March 16-18: State of the Arctic Conference, Miami, FL: AOOS is a sponsor and will attend for US IOOS.
- March 22: Spill of National Significance Exercise, Portland, ME: NERACOOS significant partner and participant.
- March 23-24: IOOS Regional Data Management Workshop; Silver Spring, MD.
- March 29-31: International Conference on Marine Data and Information Systems and SeaDATANet meeting - Paris, France. Jeff De la Beaujardiere will attend to connect to both My Ocean and IMOS efforts in data management and represent US IOOS as an adviser to the EU SeaDATANet project.

Cheers,
Zdenka



Industry and Ocean Observations: Partners in the 21st Century Economy



Please join us on March 2nd to explore partnerships between private businesses and the Integrated Ocean Observing System and the positive impacts on industry. Speakers will focus on job creation, economic growth, and technology advancements.

This briefing is sponsored by the following organizations:



Panel Members:
Nancy Colleton, Alliance for Earth Observations
Cortis Cooper, Chevron Energy Technology Co.
Clayton Jones, Teledyne Webb Research
Jay Titlow, WeatherFlow Inc.



Tuesday, March 2nd, 2010
10:00 am - 11:00 am Russell Senate Office Building Room 485
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Cannon House Office Building Room 122

For more information please contact Mike Jarvis at Michael.Jarvis@noaa.gov or 202.482.3595.