

Z-GRAM 14 November 2007

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The Z-gram- IOOS is an informal way of keep you up on what's going on in our NOAA IOOS Office and NOAA IOOS activities. Please advise of additional addrees, 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.

Organize for outcomes:

- Program Office Stand up: We have a start date of 26 November for our financial management specialist Patricia Murry; our Communications Specialist - is still working through HSPD 12 paperwork and we hope by next week we have a start date soon. Dr. Jeff de La Beaujardiere, currently with NASA, has just accepted the offer from work force management for the computer engineer position and we are now negotiating his start date. We are setting up interviews for our ZA2 position. This has been slow going and I really appreciate the very hard work that Suzanne Skelley has been doing to make this work - this is when we really could have used the "Easy Button."
- FY08: **No Change** - we remain on CR.
- FY09: **No Change**. Briefing to OMB will be posted on the new web site within several weeks - tied to our communications specialist's arrival.
- FY10-14: **No Change**. Programming phase continues which requires attention and resources..
- NOAA IOOS Program Office Strategic Plan: NOAA IOOS Strategic Plan is attached here. We also sent out the complete comment matrix to each reviewer. Thank you for the over 400 comments we received. The Strategic Plan is a living document that we are using to outline our FY08 activities and milestones.
- NEP Briefing: I briefed the NEP and this went well. The NEP is composed of the Deputy Assistant Administrators of the NOAA Line Offices and the Deputies from the NOAA Staff Offices. We must continue to work on articulating specifically what IOOS will deliver to the nation and develop the appropriate metrics that allows us to clearly document our progress in this program.

Initial Operating Capability - Data Integration Framework (DIF)

- Bumper sticker: Data Integration Framework - First 12 months effort focused on integrating core variables has begun. The clock started 1 Feb 2007.
- Legal Issues on path forward regarding involvement of non-federal participants in activities like DMAC Steering Committee: No change.
- Standards Process: Our count of standards now stands at 8. Anne Ball, NOAA/CSC is the DMAC steering team lead and is working with CAPT Chris Moore on how we will move forward over the next several weeks. Due to logistics we will not be able to have a face to face meeting of the steering team on 28-29 Nov; however that does NOT mean that the process has stalled. Anne and Chris will be working with each of you on the DMAC steering team to work the process virtually with focus on the a face to face in May. Anne and Chris are also

working the Josie, NFRA, to ensure that we have right regional representation on the DMAC ST. I know this remains largely a volunteer effort but we really, really need your support and it allows us to understand how to move U.S. IOOS forward.

- What the DIF?: The DIF IPT meet this week and outlined activities over the next 3 months. We will get the DIF documentation up on our web site within the next several weeks. The delay is tied to the hiring issues illustrated above.

IWGGOO: Next meeting 19 December - **no update**

- The IWGGOO Strategic Plan is still under review by ICOSRMI.
- OOI-IOOS white paper - NOAA has approved the handling of the comments provide back from the ICOSRMI review. All agencies of the IWGGOO are similarly reporting their concurrence.

Collaboration:(projects will stay on the email through to completion)

- Bathymetric collection California and Interagency Partners: **No Change.** On 25 October, the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) approved a \$15M dollar expenditure for the California Seafloor Mapping Program (CSMP) for seafloor mapping activities within California state waters. Pursuant to this authorization, OPC will develop agreements with 1) NOAA for seafloor mapping data collection, data archiving and survey vessel support; 2) California State University Monterey Bay for data collection, data management, and product development; and 3) U.S. Geological Survey's Coastal and Marine Geology Program for data collection, ground-truthing, and sub-bottom profiling. The OPC has approved \$7.5M from its 2007/2008 fiscal year appropriation, and has indicated support for CSMP for an additional \$7.5M from the following year's appropriation to the Council. An ongoing dialog between the CSMP and NOAA's Office of Coast Survey, Coastal Services Center, National Marine Sanctuaries Program, and NOAA Fisheries Service will continue.
- Army Corps of Engineers collaboration on a National Waves Plan: Revise, request IWGGOO and NFRA comments - **No change.** Jan 08; Publish final second quarter FY08.

Other:

- 15 November: I and Tom Crowley, LMI, were hosted by RSMAS to discuss Operational Oceanography in the Southwest Florida. First I need to thank Chris Mooers, RSMAS and Peter Ortner, AOML/RSMAS for setting this up. Despite my late change in dates due to the NEP meeting they provided a comprehensive overview of activities in SE Florida. Each individual project was impressive and equally impressive is the working relationship between RSMAS, and NOAA programs - AMOL, SEFSC, Sanctuaries, NHC, WFO Miami, OE/NURP. Tom and I received over 25 presentations that ranged from observing systems (ICON, WERA, VOS, Explorer of the Seas), modeling - nested modeling in support of

many applications including the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration and the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan; strong coordination between Federal and State partners through the FACE program, the use of operational data and needs for modeling by both our NMFS Science Center, the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and NHC. We discussed collaborative efforts highlighting the needs of the remote sensing data and issues associated with acquiring RADARSAT 1 and RADARSAT 2 data; we heard from the Florida FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institution and the need for IOOS to support managing molluscan fisheries, and strong support for expanding the HF radar net. Nick reporting that his WERA systems are now reporting on the HF Radar SCCOOS site - this is great. I know that the local partnerships will grow because of this meeting and my sincere appreciation to Dr. Otis Brown, Dean RSMAS, for this opportunity. It continues to reinforce that IOOS is alive in our regional partners and NOAA field activities. The work you are doing is supporting a broad range of users that are making decisions based on the data/models and information produced by an IOOS supporting activities. Further the ongoing R&D activities are very important to continuing the advancement of operational oceanography. It is our NOAA IOOS's team's job to cast all of this effort into a U.S. IOOS program and we will continue to work with you to accomplish this. Again my sincere to each of you who spent the day talking about the critical need for Operational Oceanography.

Congressional: Nothing to Report

- S950 was reported out and there are various holds on the bill which we are still getting information on.

Press: Nothing to Report

Upcoming: HAVE A VERY HAPPY THANKSGIVING WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS