

Bi-Weekly IOOS® Z-GRAM - 15 July 2011

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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

Governance and Management Subsystem:

- **FY11 Awards:** We continue to work with NOAA's Acquisition and Grants Office to process the FY11 awards. All recommended awards were submitted prior to NOAA's 30 June deadline.
- **Certification:** RICE Consultation scheduled for July 27th at COL. Eoin Howlett, Rob Bassett, Ralph Rayner, Josie Quintrell, Regina Evans, Dave Easter, Gabrielle Canonico, and Suzanne Bass confirmed participation. Joint recommendations still anticipated for delivery to IOOC for approval in August for discussion at the meeting that month. Depending on review and comments, the FRN will be submitted for clearance and release in September/October 2011 with a 60 day comment window.
- **Systems Advisory Committee:** An inter-agency working group comprised of NSF, NASA, BOER, COL, IOOS Program Office and USACE met on 6 July and recommended for approval 13 individuals for the IOOS FAC, and 7 alternates out of 68 nominees. The US IOOS Program will now work within NOAA's system for approval by Dr. Lubchenco. Until we receive approval from Dr. Lubchenco we are not able to get back to nominees in either the positive or negative.

Observation Subsystem:

- **High Frequency Radar/Radio (HFR):**
 - National HF Radar Technical Steering Team Meeting will be held July 19-20 in Boulder, Colorado (The National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) Foothills Laboratory).
 - HFR and Tidal Forecasting/Modeling at CO-OPS : Jack and Charly (US IOOS Program Office) met with CO-OPS' Chris Paternostro and other technical staff to review/discuss emerging modeling usage of HFR data. Discussion focused on access to/use of HFR data from national network and related IOOS HFR system development activities.
- **IOOS Non-Federal Observing Asset Inventory Status:** Derrick, Rob, and Charly (US IOOS Program Office) are tracking the RAs progress toward completing the IOOS Non-Federal Observing Asset Inventory, they are looking to wrap up the first phase on August 30.
- **Unique New Oceanographic Buoy Launched!** A new buoy arrayed with instruments from the National Data Buoy Center (NDBC) and Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) is currently transmitting data on ocean and weather conditions from

offshore Monterey Bay in real-time. CeNCOOS led the effort to bring NDBC and MBARI together for this unique collaboration.

- **PacIOOS in Action: New Observing Platform Installed in Maunalua Bay, Oahu, Hawaii:** In response to community, agency, and partner priorities, PacIOOS has installed a real-time water quality sensor in Maunalua Bay, Oahu. This sensor measures temperatures, salinity, chlorophyll-a, and turbidity and reports the data to the web in real-time.

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).

- **IOOS Data Catalog:** No update
- **Regional Priority Activities:**
 - Thematic Realtime Environmental Distributed Data Services (THREDDS): THREDDS Data Server (TDS) was the focus of this month's RA DMAC Conference Call. The purpose of the discussion was to understand the relevant and technical issues. Some of the many technical issues and modifications the RAs would like to see were solicited. Tom Cook (SCCOOS) and John Kerfoot (MARACOOS) offered to discuss a list of useful modifications or issues with John Caron at Unidata, in conjunction with a TDS Training Workshop, the week of July 18, they are both attending. A goal for reaching out to Unidata is to encourage more support or resources by Unidata for THREDDS development. The next conference call will be a 90 minute discussion scheduled for mid-August.
 - SOS Reference Implementation Team: Derrick will be starting to engage in discussions with the SOS Reference Implementation Team while in Seattle the week of July 18. Team members include representatives from NANOOS (Emilio Mayorga and Rick Blair), AOOS (Rob Bochenek (dial-in)), MARACOOS (Kyle Wilcox (dial-in)) and SECOORA (Vembu Subramanian (dial-in)) and Derrick Snowden (IOOS Program).
- **CeNCOOS In Action -Data Portal Mobile iPhone App Released! :** CeNCOOS Data Portal (CDP) is now available as an app for your iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch! The CDP app gives you access to real-time ocean and coastal weather information from the CeNCOOS region while you are on the go. Search 'CeNCOOS' at your app store or [find out more at iTunes](#).

Modeling and Analysis Subsystem:

- **Chesapeake Bay Eco-Forecasting Workshop:** Charly and Doug Levin attended Day 1 of this two-day meeting chaired by NWS's David Green and attended by a wide range of NOAA and other local coastal ocean modeling scientists which focused on ecological forecasting efforts within the Chesapeake Bay.
- **New CeNCOOS Webpage: Changing Ocean** - Are the ocean and coastal climate of Central and Northern California changing? Check out CeNCOOS' new webpage which summarizes the types of ocean changes to look for, how they could happen and what

recent and historic scientific data tells us. We also discuss forecasts by scientists about ocean changes and which impacts on coastal climate, economies and wildlife may occur.

- **PacIOOS In Action: Numerical Model Overlays now in PacIOOS Map Viewer:** PacIOOS completed the initial integration of data from wave, ocean, and atmospheric circulation models into the PacIOOS Map Viewer. Models, and their associated variable overlays, can be selected along the left-hand side of PacIOOS Map Viewer for the last 30 days. Downloads of older than 30 days are supported through our the Live Access Server. Models from the U.S. Navy, NOAA, and PacIOOS are now available, with more models to be added soon. If you have a preferred model you would like to see included please do not hesitate to let the PacIOOS team know.
- **Congrats to AOOS:** AOOS Receives NOAA HPCC grant – AOOS was just notified it is receiving a \$98k grant from NOAA through the High Performance Computing Program. The data team will work with Bering Sea modelers (through the Bering Sea Integrated Ecosystem Research Program (BSIERP)) at NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (PMEL) to develop and make publicly accessible visualizations of the models.

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.

- **DMAC Steering Team:** No update
- **IOOS and Links to the National Water Quality Monitoring Network: Coordination with EPA:** In the last conference call with representatives Craig Swanson (NERACOOS), Debra Hernandez, Dwayne Porter, Dan Ramage, and Megan Trembl (SECOORA) and Rob and Charly (IOOS Program), a scope of work for enhancing regional beach water quality modeling was put forth by Dwayne, Megan and Heath Kelsey (NOAA Oxford Cooperative Laboratory). The plan was reviewed on the call and is now being revised per feedback received from the team. The plan contains two components that will potentially enhance ensemble modeling efforts through integration with EPA's Virtual Beach model and extend ensemble modeling efforts to new geographic regions. The next step is to the present the plan to the EPA team during our next conference call – tentatively, the week of July 24th
- **IOOS and The National Science Foundation (NSF) - Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI):** No report

Other:

- **Shell/NOAA MOU Update:** This effort had been on hold for a number of reasons. CAPT Scott Kuester (US IOOS), Dick Crout (NDBC) met with representatives of Shell on June 29th. It was a productive meeting and seemed to be a good start to a renewed level of commitment from both parties.
- **National Ocean Service/National Weather Service meeting:** The Deputy Assistant Administrators of NOS and NWS convened a meeting to discuss how the two lines offices could work together on Ecological forecasting/services. The meeting was hosted by the National Centers for Environmental Modeling (NCEP). Zdenka provided a

briefing on the US IOOS testbed. The testbed being proposed for consideration provides a way to advance the effectiveness of NOAA's coastal ocean work by creating a focus for R&D transition, and could include both the ecological and inundation forecasting issues discussed above. Several agencies (USGS, USACE, DHS/FEMA, Navy) and academics (IOOS RA's) have demonstrated a willingness to partner.

- **NOAA's Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory (AOML) and US IOOS SUCCESSFUL Hydrocarbon Fluorescence Workshop:** This workshop was held at the Center for Offshore Oil and Gas Environmental Research (COOGER) at Bedford Institute of Oceanography (Dept. Fisheries and Oceans, Canada) included approximately 25 people and was sponsored by IOOS- Alliance for Coastal Technology (ACT)), NOAA AOML, and in kind support from participants' home institutions, and support from COOGER and Canada's Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans. Additionally several participants' travel was supported by their own organizations (e.g. Pegau, Gilmore, Walsh). During the 12-day workshop, 15 separate wave tank experiments were conducted including eight core experiments. Preliminary results indicate that all instruments were responsive to changes in oil concentration and were likely responding to different components of the oil. Analysis of the EEMS and sensor data, in concert with the analytical chemistry and LISST data, will be needed to fully evaluate the implications for operations although it is already clear that the experiment will yield considerable insight of value for development of next generation sensors and interpretation of field data from the Deepwater Horizon spill.
- **CeNCOOS in Action: Radiation from Japan Tsunami, California Outlook:** Radioactive particles from the nuclear facility damaged by the recent March 2011 tsunami were released into the air and ocean near Japan. Safe amounts of these particles in the air reached California, ocean born particles along with floating debris may reach the U.S. in 2-3 years, seafood contamination is the most looming issue currently. See CeNCOOS report on the CeNCOOS website

Congressional: No updates

Communications/Outreach and Website Updates:

- **PacIOOS releases a Video on the Importance of the Ocean to Pacific Island Communities:** As residents of the Pacific Islands, our lives are regularly and intimately tied to the ocean that surrounds us. There is rarely a day when we aren't reminded that the ocean provides for our society, underpins our traditions, is the means by which we transport goods between our islands, and allows us ample space to recreate and connect with nature. PacIOOS recently produced a short video in an attempt to reinforce that message and remind us all how important the ocean is to our past, our present, and our future.
- **AOOS Home Page Redesign:** Check out the new look and feel. We will be continuing to expand the site with regional and theme pages soon, as well as functional upgrades to the data portal.

IOOS Conference Involvement: This section will highlight those conferences where US IOOS is a sponsor/has a session/relevant sessions of interest to US IOOS:

- **Coastal Zone 2011: Join us for US IOOS related sessions**
 - 19 July: 1:15-2:45 -Panel: US IOOS - New and Improved Tools for Coastal Managers' (*Z. Willis, D. Dugan, J. Thomas, K. O'Brien, H. Kerkering)
 - 19 July: 2:45-4:00 - Model Testbeds Defining the Goals (Levin, Smith, Harding, Tolman, Howlett, Bub, Mooers)
 - 20 July: 1:15-2:45 -'US IOOS: Tracking Water Quality' (*Quintrell, Morrison, Newton, Porter, Read)
 - 20 July: 2:45-5:00 pm: (Café) 'CMSP, IOOS, and Data: They Don't Have to be Four Letter Words' (*Easter, Sheldon, Quintrell)
- **MTS/IEEE Oceans 2011- Kona, Hawaii September 19-22, 2011:** For Oceans 2011, we are going to host two IOOS town hall panel sessions. The first will be focused on partnerships to integrate ocean observations to meet customer needs. We will be asking leaders from U.S. and other national ocean observing programs to highlight successful strategies. The second town hall will focus on Ocean Observing Technologies and the chain of marine technology development from new ideas to building systems. We will be asking experts to help us explore what's working and what could be improved within that chain of development. Both sessions will be designed to include significant question and answer discussions. We look forward to seeing you there. Carl Gouldman is the lead within my office for coordinating panel participation and preparation - Carl.Gouldman@noaa.gov.

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

Cheers,
Zdenka