

Bi-Weekly Z-GRAM 18 April 2008

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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. If you want to see previous Z-grams go the IOOS website under program updates

Programmatic:

- FY08: Thank you for your efforts on providing NOAA information required to process FY08 Cooperative Agreements, these deadlines are critical for you to make so that we can meet deadlines within NOAA for process FY08 agreements. I do appreciate that the turn around is quick given the amount of effort that is required. On the positive note, we are beginning to see some of the cooperative agreements awarded. I do not have a specific schedule but we are looking at the Regional Association Agreements and the second year of the FY07 awards to start to complete the process. Five have been completed, AOOS, GCOOS and CeNCOOS RA agreement; year two for the Alliance for Coast Technology and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution - Maximizing the Economic Return from the Northeast Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS).
- Congressional Report: We are working internally with our budget office to make improvements to our report and will be providing additional information next week. My lead is Kim Cohen and she is doing a great job of putting together this effort and I appreciate her hard work.
- FY09: **No change**
- FY10-14: **No change**
- FY11-15: **No change**

Initial Operating Capability - Data Integration Framework (DIF)

- IOOS DMAC Standards Process: Spring IOOS DMAC Steering Team meeting - May 6-8, Silver Spring, MD.
- What the DIF?:
  - Work continues on the developing of the data schema and the design on the DIF. The team is now focused on determining the specific models /efforts will be bench marked in the four theme areas of HI, Coastal Inundation, IEA and Harmful Algal Bloom. These meetings point out that a number of efforts are ongoing in each of these areas and they are technical in nature on truly understanding what formats of data are going to make a difference. We have been meeting continuously with individuals across NOAA on this and are also taking the necessary step to document what we are learning.

- Draft version 0.4.0 of XML schemas and examples issued. Available on WebEx at <http://ioos.webexone.com/r.asp?a=12&id=12897>
- We are working closely with NOAA CSC - Jim Boyd - to each of the DMAC coordinators within each of the RAs on the implementation of implementation of DIF encodings/services when they become available in May

IWGOO: Next meeting 29 April

- IWGOO IOOS Strategic Plan: Comments received are being collated by the IWGOO Exec Sec and will then be forwarded to NOAA CSC - Paul Scholz who with his team will adjudicate these comments and send them back to the IWGOO for approval. As a reminder - Paul Scholz led this effort as the SIMOR rep to the IWGOO.
- OOI-IOOS white paper: **No change**

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

- Bathymetric collection California and Interagency Partners: **No change.**
- Army Corps of Engineers collaboration on a National Waves Plan: NOAA IOOS is in the process of receiving comments from HSRP; NOAA's Ocean and Observing Council. The comments we have seen so far are very helpful but will require that we take sometime to address them before we will be able to publish this plan.
- NOAA-Navy collaboration on the GODAE server: The ball is in my court to discuss with Navy.
- Waves in PORTS@: **No change**

Other:

- HF RADAR HITS 100 systems! The Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) added the 100th and 101st radars off the coast of Nova Scotia. The radars measure surface current speed and direction, in near-real time, which CCG can then use during search and rescue operations to track the probable path of victims and drifting ships. HFR data can also be used to support oil spill response, harmful algal bloom monitoring, and assessment of coastal water quality. The information can additionally provide value in ecosystem assessment and fisheries management, when evaluated retrospectively. HFR represents an example of successful and effective partnership among Federal and regional IOOS components with benefits at the national and local levels.
- USA-OBIS: Becky and Jeff had a conference call with Mark Fornwall (USGS; USA OBIS) to discuss the technical details of the DIF implementation so that Mark is well informed as he moves forward with efforts to enhance USA OBIS and more importantly set up a workshop to develop a "data model" for selected sets of biological data (e.g. CalCOFI, MARMAP, SEAMAP, NMFS trawl surveys). We also discussed contact with CalCOFI who is embarking on a project

to make accessible the historical CalCOFI physical and biological data sets from Scripps and NMFS.

- 16-17 April GLOS RA meeting: Thanks to my NOAA colleagues for the great participation at the GLOS RA meeting - we had reps from NOS, NWS, and OAR representation and our local NOAA folks actively participate in the GLOS RA. We were hosted by Dr. Val Klump - Director, The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Great Lakes WATER Institute which has as a mission area - "Now more than ever, we need science not only to understand threats to human health and to sustain a surprisingly fragile ecosystem, but also to address sound management, protection, and restoration strategies that are both effective and cost-efficient." The meeting focused on where the RA is now and where they are going in the future. The two biggest issues facing the Great Lakes region is drinking water and beach closures. Dave Schwab, NOAA-GLERL talked about the modeling efforts that he is doing within GLOS on the Huron-Erie Corridor Modeling and the generation of modeled currents output that can be used by HAB forecasting and potentially HAZMAT modeling. Christian Stewart, talked about the Great Lakes Modeling & Assessment Center; one of their initial steps is a model inventory. I promised to forward the work that Florida and the Gulf of Mexico Alliance had done as a template. Pete Giencke updated us on DMAC and talked about the efforts between GLOS and the Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN) which is a great delivery mechanism for GLOS data. GLIN is an effort of the Great Lakes Commission. Pete was complimentary of both DIF and CSC Data Transport lab; he will leave GLOS/GLC for Google and I expect Google Great Lakes in the near future. Dave Hart, SeaGrant, gave a briefing on the GLOS Harbor view project and one of the potential uses of Harbor view would be recreational boaters to parallel a similar Great Lakes driving tour that is very popular in this region. On day two we had a presentation on the Sea Grant's ability to serve as a great liaison and communication/outreach entity for GLOS and heard about some of the great programs under the Wisconsin Sea Grant program. I learned a new term - mash ups - brining folks together and providing them a number of data sets and mapping services tools to see how they "mash up" this data to create new products. I provided an update on US IOOS and NOAA activity that was well received. Thank you to Roger Gauthier, Christine Manninen and the entire GLOS board for inviting NOAA to participate.
- VADM Lautenbacher travels next week to HI for Earth day and a number of events and then to Alaska for the National Ocean Sciences Board. We provided IOOS information to him for both PacIOOS and AOOS.

#### Congressional:

- NRFA was tasked by the Senate Commerce Committee staff on impacts to the regions from FY08 funding. NFRA met with staff members on 16 April to discuss the results of the NFRA call for these impacts.

Communications: No update

Upcoming Meetings:

- RA Assessments:
  - 23-24 APR, SECOORA, GCOOS, CaRA, -Houston TX
  - 30 APR, MACOORA, NERACOOS- New Brunswick, NJ (Rutgers)
  - 4 JUN, SCCOOS, CeNCOOS, NANOOS - Seattle, WA
  - 12 JUN, PACIOOS - Silver Spring (Telecon)
- 22 April: IEA workshop - La Jolla, CA (NOAA Fisheries/SWFSC) - Becky Shufford will attend for IOOS

Cheers,  
Zdenka