

Z-GRAM 21 September

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.

Organize for success:

- **Program Office Stand up:**
 - Welcome Aboard: Ms. Rshawn Wynn began on 17 September and will provide full support to myself, CAPT Chris Moore and Suzanne Skelley. Ms. Jaquisha Kearson who will be with us 2 days a week in a technical writing position. Her first task is to get our web site up and running.. Thank you to Caroline Abraham who had been doing double duty as my secretary and providing administrative support to the IOOS team, Caroline will now dedicate full time for administrative help to the IOOS office.
 - We are in the process of making the offer to our Financial Specialist.
 - Communications Specialist: conducted first set of interviews this week and we will conclude interviews next week.
 - ZA-2 and ZP-0854-4/Computer Engineer - awaiting certifications list from WFMO.
- FY07: Congrats to the following lead organizations for the following awards. Final two awards were signed: Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution - Standards Integration of QA/QC Requirements for Oceanographic Observing Systems; and Scripps Institute of Oceanography - SCOOS - Th southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System. By 1 October, I will publish fact sheets on all FY07 IOOS FFO and BAA projects so we can better understand the capacity we are building together. At the same time, we will publish FY05/06 NOAA IOOS projects and their status.
- FY08: NOAA received 37 "Letters of Intent" submitted by applicants in response to the announcement of Federal Funding Opportunity for FY 2008 Implementation of Regional Integrated Ocean Observing System. All LOIs were reviewed by NOAA IOOS Program Office staff and Coastal Services Center IOOS staff. Each LOI was reviewed by a minimum of 2 people and more frequently, 3 to 4 people. Scores were averaged to provide a composite score to the applicant. All comments were combined to provide the applicant with feedback on the LOI. **NEW** this year - based on our lessons learned meeting we discussed the ability for the proposers to ask questions of NOAA. In the return of the LOI, all applicants have been given the opportunity to submit questions. All questions submitted to NOAA will be answered and posted on NOAA (CSC) website. NOAA (CSC) is again doing a superb job of keeping this process going, particularity in the face of uncertain funding. What this means is that IOOS will be ready when the funding levels are known. NOAA is operating on the assumption that we will be in a CR at the start of the Fiscal Year. At this time we are being told to expect a CR until the Thanksgiving time frame.
- FY09: NOS CFO - Ms Liz Scheffler briefed OMB on 18 September and we are answering several questions from OMB.

- FY10-14: **No Change.**
- NOAA IOOS Program Office Strategic Plan: THANK YOU for all the comments we have received, we are now addressing them.

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.
- Major Project: On hold
- Standards Process:
 - NOAA IOOS Program and Ocean.US are excited to jointly announce the **resourcing and initial execution of the IOOS DMAC Standards Process.** The DMAC Standards Process will begin accepting standards for submission on October 1, 2007. A solicitation for Standards submission will go out this week to all Federal and non-Federal Observing System data providers. NOAA IOOS Program has developed a web support tool that will allow for electronic submission of Standards to the DMAC process, threaded discussions among the Expert Teams and the Steering Team, and track the status of the Submitted Standard through the process.
 - Consolidated brief on the DMAC Standards process, roles and responsibilities of the Steering Team and Expert Teams, and a user's guide for the web support tool is being developed by the NOAA IOOS Program and will be available by the end of the month. The NOAA IOOS Program will also host a WebEx live demonstration of the web support tool and provide an opportunity for Questions and Answers to the Review Teams and submitters during the first week of October.
 - Submitted standards will be reviewed for relevance to IOOS by an appropriate expert team and forwarded to the DMAC Steering Team for decision on elevating the 'Submitted' standard to a 'Proposed' status at a meeting November 28-29, 2007 at Ocean.US.
 - Congrats to Ms. Anne Ball - she has been by Director, Ocean.US, as the new DMAC Steering Team Chair and will oversee the execution phase of the IOOS DMAC Standards Process that was identified at the May 2006 DMAC Steering Team meeting and is described in IOOS DMAC Plan. She will be replacing Mr. Kurt Schnebele's honorable service due to his retirement in September.
 - The initiation of the DMAC Standards Process is an exciting and necessary step towards data interoperability. Ocean.US, as the National Planning Office, has been charged with the planning of the United States Integrated Ocean Observing System. Ocean.US has intended that the elements of the National plan would be executed by Federal Agencies. The DMAC Standards Process is one element of the National IOOS Plan. NOAA's National Ocean Service NOAA IOOS Program has mapped the

detail necessary for the successful execution of an open and formal Standards process for interoperability practices that are applicable to the implementation of a National IOOS. The overall concept of this process has been laid out in the DMAC plans and is consistent with Ocean.US's phased implementation approach.

- What the DIF?:
 - The NOAA IOOS Program has completed a series of critical planning steps to advance the Data Integration Framework (DIF). Three documents have been completed – Master Project Plan; Functional Requirements Document; and the As-Is Baseline Systems Document. These documents are being reviewed for comments.
 - Implementation of the DIF will be accomplished by focused working groups of Subject Matter Experts (SME) overseen by an Integrated Products Team (IPT). Initial working groups for CONOPS and Data Standards have been formed and the leads for these groups are Roy Mendelsohn and Daniel Martin, respectively. The IPT is currently being formed and will be composed of SME from the Data Provider Community and the Modeling Community. Formation of the IPT is expected to be complete by the end of September. A Project Review Team will provide overall management oversight and guidance for project execution and is expected to be formed in October.
 - Our draft conceptual approach is to develop a common data model based on existing standards (when available) and tailored to the goals of the DIF IOOS project. . The model will address the structure, content, and encoding of a data record which will facilitate data sharing at all levels of the government and private sector. Future steps will address standards for data transport, metadata, QC and IT security.

IWGGOO: No Change

- 24-26 September: Global Maritime Situational Awareness conference. This is the next in the series of implementation conferences that will focus on "Embracing the Full Spectrum of Environmental Information from Ocean Observation to Achieve Maritime Domain Awareness." This summit is being co-hosted by Ocean.US and the National interagency Office of Global Maritime Situational Awareness (OGMSA). The summit will take place on 24-26 September 2007 in Washington, D.C. as the USEPA Headquarters East, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
- The IWGGOO Strategic Plan is still under review by ICOSRMI. IWGGOO still intends for the Strategic Plan to be released for public comment after ICOSRMI approval.

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

- Bathymetric collection California and NOAA: **No change.** Weekly discussions are occurring between Office of Coast Survey and representatives from the

California Ocean Protection Council (OPC), CA. Progress is being made on a proposal that can meet both the needs of California and NOAA nautical charting requirements. This is really exciting and I look forward to when this proposal can be agreed to by both NOAA and OPC.

- Army Corps of Engineers collaboration on a National Waves Plan: Army Corps delivered the draft plan to USAEC and NOAA IOOS office. We are providing comments to the plan and anticipate wrapping this up by next week. From there we will submit this plan to the IWGOO for staffing.
- NOAA IOOS web site and project tracking data base: As mentioned above Ms. Kearson is working on putting this together - by next week we will be able to announce the date this website will become live.
- Collaboration with USCG: **No Change**. We are following up with USCG on the requirements letter and MOU efforts. Jack Harlen will work with USCG on HF radar issues. No change.
- 14 Aug IOOS FY07 Lessons Learned Meeting: Thank you to NOAA CSC and NFRA for providing their recommendations. I am now taking this under advisement and will staff a NOAA announcement on funding priorities next week.

Other:

- 12-13 September: I visited with MBARI, CeNCOOS, Moss Landing Marine Labs, NOEP. Thank you to Heather Kerkering and John Graybeal who hastily set up this meeting. I only provide the highlights of the wonderful discussion:
 - On the afternoon of 12 September I met with Marcia McNutt, Director MBARI and we discussed the history and business model of MBARI and their hosting of CeNCOOS and support to IOOS. I met with Mike Godin; Yanwu Zhang; Francisco Chavez; John Graybeal; Mike McCann, Gene Massion, Duane Edgington, Heather Kerkeing, Steve Ramp and provided and overview of IOOS and discussion on the programmatic nature of IOOS. I received a briefing on MB06 and the focus of one element the determination of best vehicle mix to measure ocean conditions which continues to remind me the difficulty in observing the ocean. I toured the Western Flyer, the AUV shop and the tank. I had a quick briefing with Chris Scholin on the sensor to detect HAB in situ. I had a quick tour of MBARI's ocean video lab- IMPRESSIVE. I met with John Greybeal/Luis Bermudez on MMI: We talked about their development of a software infrastructure for the Monterey Bay Observing System that automatically passes metadata generated by the moorings, we talked about a number of MMI activities and about the potential for an IOOS focused vocabulary workshop.
 - On the morning of 13 September I met with CeNCOOS -Kenneth Coale, Gary Griggs, Jason Smith, Raphe Kudela, Jeff Paduan, Steve Ramp, Heather Kerkering, Mike Clancy, Francisco Chavez, Sarah Lester. Thank you to Kenneth for hosting us at Moss Landing Marine Labs and for taking us out to actually see the moorings. We had a very good

discussion on CICORE capacity and again on the IOOS program in general. Mike Clancy of the Navy's Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center (FNMOC) provided a briefing of the GODAE server and the products and services that are being used by almost all of the regions. With IT security getting tighter and tighter, the GODAE server is pretty close to the only way the civilian oceanography community can get to Navy oceanographic information. I also met with Judy Kildow of the National Ocean Economic Program and was impressed on the efforts of her small team on the collection of economic and socio-economic information about the U.S. coasts and in coastal waters.

- 14 September: I briefing the Hydrographic Services Review Panel (HSRP) is a Federal Advisory Committee established by Congress to advise NOAA on carrying out its Navigation Services mission and provide effective planning and support to the U.S. Marine Transportation System (MTS). The HSRP is composed a diverse group that represents private companies involved in all aspects of navigation, from MTS related associations, state and local governmental interests and academia. This was an administrative meeting meaning the public was not invited. This FACA is very interested in the National IOOS program and I had a chance to go over the how NOAA is supporting the National effort, how the National IOOS program is supporting the MTS sector through both through funding at the Federal level and how this sector can better be engaged by the Regional Associations. We discussed the projects funded under the FY07 FFO and specific ties to the MTS sector. I will send the project sheets (mentioned above) to the FACA members so they can become involved. It was a very good dialog with this group and I look forward to engaging the HSRP on their input to shape the National IOOS program.
- 19 September: I had a chance to brief the NOAA IOOS Program at the NOAA Central Library Brown Bag series. A great series that hosts an informal lunch time speaker on many topics across NOAA. Thank you to NODC and the NOAA Central Library for inviting me to speak. I really enjoyed presenting how the NOAA IOOS Program Office has advanced since its stand up in February.

Congressional: No Update

Press: No Update

Upcoming:

- 24-26 September: Ocean.US and the National interagency Office of Global Maritime Situational Awareness (OGMSA) - invited participation across NOAA. Dr. Spinrad, Ms. Anne Ball and myself will brief on Monday. Days 2 and 3 are devoted to working groups and identification of needs.
- 1-4 October: Oceans 2007