

Bi-Weekly Z-GRAM 25 July 2008

www.IOOS.NOAA.gov

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

Programmatics:

- FY08: All the FY08 awards have been completed. Congratulations to SCCOOS and GLOS for the Regional Association Cooperative Agreements; second year of the FY07 projects: NERACOOS (WHOI) - A mobile Benthic-Pelagic Observatory to support Fisheries and Ecosystem Management; SCCOOS (Scripps) - Using ocean data assimilation to incorporate environmental variability into sardine and squid assessments; and NERACOOS (WHOI) - Standards integration of QA/QC requirements for Oceanographic Observing System. FY08 - RCOOS awards to SCCOOS and GLOS. Big thanks to Mary Culver who worked daily to get these cooperative agreements processed. We are finalizing the "fact sheets" that we post so that folks can read about the wonderful efforts that our ongoing within our IOOS effort. Thank you for your support in working with Mary and Jennie on these.
- Congressional Report: The report has been entered into the formal administrative system for NOAA - WebCIMS.
- FY09: **No change.**
- FY10: **No change.**
- FY11-15: **No change.**

Initial Operating Capability - Data Integration Framework (DIF); US DMAC

- IOOS DMAC Standards Process: **WE NEED YOU**. Please log into the following website: <http://ioosdmac.fedworx.org/ioos/dmac.nsf/WhatsNew?OpenForm> and participate in the US DMAC standards process. I had the chance to catch up with Bill Birkemeier in his capacity as interim Director of Ocean.US and Anne Ball - DMAC Steering Team chair and I wanted to pass on in reflecting back on the process that in less than 1 year we have submitted 12 standards and we are working to evaluate those standards to get them through to the recommended state. We have learned a great deal about the process and are better understanding the tremendous value that the DMAC ST brings to our collective effort. Anne is working now to solidify a date for the fall meeting and NOAA is committed to continue to resource this very valuable National process. I do realize that many of you are volunteers in this effort and we are committed to making sure we count on your intellectual capacity and provide the background support to make this work. THANK YOU.

- What the DIF?: **First milestone will be reached on 18 Aug !!!!!**
 - Web Services and Data Encodings Working Group: The first phase of DIF data interoperability for six of the seven IOOS core variables (currents, water level, ocean temperature, salinity, winds, waves) being addressed will be completed on August 18th at both CO-OPS and NDBC. Delivered to date are preliminary web services that provide currents (in-situ and profiles) and water level from CO-OPS and currents (in-situ and profiles) from NDBC. The remaining variables are on-track to be delivered as scheduled by mid-August. High frequency radar surface currents are on schedule to be completed by NDBC on September 30th and ocean color data, the seventh and final core variable being addressed for this phase of the DIF, is on schedule to be completed by NOAA CoastWatch on September 25th. Completion of these tasks, on schedule and on budget, will represent a major achievement for the NOAA IOOS Program and all of NOAA's associated partners and collaborators. It will also represent a major step forward in the implementation of IOOS with NOAA in terms improved value and use of these data.

Interagency Project Collaboration: (New section to replace the IWGOO section. The IWGOO is an important working group that gets together monthly to discuss interagency activities in the realm of ocean observing but instead of focusing on the what happens at the specific meetings I thought it would be better to discuss how we as partners are working together on a number of efforts). While I will not report on each of these weekly, the below are the areas where the Federal and Regional Associations have been already working and we want to strengthen these ties and move to integration across these projects. 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 all of them have project leads.

- IOOS and OOI: **No change.**
- OBIS and IOOS: **No change.**
- In weeks to come we will talk about interactions between IOOS and IOCM; IOOS and NWQMN; and IOOS and MPAs.
- Army Corps of Engineers collaboration on a National Waves Plan: On track for comment adjudication by 1 August and a next draft 15 August.
- NOAA-Navy collaboration on the GODAE server: Draft MOU has been provided by the Navy. NOAA IOOS will take the lead on this effort. GODAE server will remain operational through FY09. I encourage all of you to understand the capabilities that GODAE provides as we will need to continue to refine the requirements. I very much appreciate the partnership between the Navy and NOAA on this effort.

Other:

- **Rutgers University - Across the Pond - Nearing Halfway -**
<http://rucool.marine.rutgers.edu/atlantic/> Check out the Flight across the

Atlantic website at Rutgers. RU17 continues on. This week has been watching Tropical Storms and their impacts on the mission. Read the blog, it is quite interesting.

- **FLCOOS video on YouTube:** Check out Florida COOS video and new website. This example highlights the partnership of how the Federal, State and Regional partnership comes together in many ways to support our collective National vision of IOOS. The video is an overview to show people in Florida what a COOS is, and how it would benefit Florida - (www.marine.usf.edu/flcoos). The Florida COOS Consortium consists of a number of organizations with an interest in the marine environment. By applying local expertise, cutting-edge research, and high-tech instruments we provide information and develop solutions to help decision-makers, citizens, and visitors to better protect, manage, and use our beautiful surrounding coastal ocean environment. The ocean touches the lives of every Floridian and Florida COOS is here to help monitor, understand, forecast and preserve this precious resource. FLCOOS is a member of both SECOORA and GCOOS-RA and these efforts all contribute to the efforts of both RAs and the overall US IOOS. The funding for the video and the data management effort that supports the webpage was obtained through FLCOOS and came from the State of Florida via the Florida Oceans and Coastal Council, who have all shown support for the continued development of a COOS for Florida. The video is very nicely done and the new look to the website is great. The observations picture is telling particularly when you view the non-active stations. This is a challenge we all face together to continue to sustain observation systems.
- **Cape Henry Buoy REDEPLOYED:** The Buoy is back in the water. Julie wrote me and again this was a team effort. Her thanks to the USACE Norfolk district for their use of their vessel "Elizabeth". Thanks to Chief Scuillo at the Coast Guard for donating the anchor chain. Thanks to the NOAA CO-OPS folks for their logistics support. The buoy was moved just a couple of miles further offshore. Attached is the latest location.
- **NOAA Brown Bag Seminar:** I had great fun and a tremendous turn out for my Brown Bag Seminar. Since folks can dial into the seminar they are not limited to NOAA only. Thank you to Brian Melzian, who heavily market my briefing and I know the attendance by our MPA colleagues was as a result of his efforts. It was great for me to be able to show folks that IOOS is up and running and that collectively we are supporting and finding solutions to our Oceans, Coasts and Great Lakes challenges. For more info on NOAA Central Library Brown Bag Seminars: <http://www.lib.noaa.gov/about/news/brownbagseminars.html>
- **Funding Opportunity (Non-Fed):** Preliminary information about the 2009 National Spatial Data Infrastructure Cooperative Agreements Program award categories has been posted on the FGDC Web site, <http://www.fgdc.gov/grants/2009NSDICAP/2009CAPschedule>. The tentative schedule is included. If all goes as planned the CAP will open for proposal submittals in October and close in early January. It should be noted that when the announcement is posted it is important to read it carefully since in some of the categories award recipients from the past three years will not be eligible for a

CAP award. POC is Gita Urban-Mathieux, NSDI CAP Coordinator, Federal Geographic Data Committee, Email: burbanma@usgs.gov, <http://www.fgdc.gov/grants>

- **ACT - Opportunity Announcement - Demonstration of In Situ pCO₂ Sensors:**
ACT is accepting preliminary applications from developers, manufacturers, and distributors of in situ pCO₂ sensors interested in participating in independent performance testing. ACT will review responses from interested parties and invite those with technologies that meet established criteria to submit a full proposal package. This ACT Demonstration will focus on commercially available instruments, as well as prototypes, designed to measure the partial pressure of carbon dioxide directly in the field. The goal is to highlight the capabilities and potentials of these new technologies and to address critical environmental issues, such as ocean acidification. Field tests will be conducted in two or more diverse coastal settings throughout the U.S. and will be free of charge for qualifying applicants. All results will be made available to the public in summary reports.
Demonstration of Harmful Algae Detection Technologies and Methodologies:
ACT is also accepting preliminary applications from developers of in situ sensors/analyzers and methodologies used in the detection of harmful algae species and toxins who are interested in participating in independent performance testing. This ACT Demonstration will be conducted in collaboration with various state and NOAA harmful algal bloom programs. The focus will be on commercially available, as well as prototype, (1) in situ instruments designed to detect/quantify harmful algal species and/or their associated toxins directly in the field and (2) methodologies developed to detect/quantify harmful algal species and/or their associated toxins from field collected water samples. The Demonstrations will take place at three or four regional ACT Partner Institutions and will focus on local species of concern. The goal is to highlight the capabilities and potentials of these new tools and techniques designed to address the problem of harmful algal blooms. Participation is free of charge for qualifying applicants. Summary reports will be made available to the public. Visit ACT web site at www.act-us.info for additional information on ACT, to download application forms, and for detailed information on ACT Technology Evaluations (including application deadlines).
- **NOAA (IOOS and NDBC)/Shell Oil Collaboration Update:** Overall the project is going well. Here is the status on the six projects. (1) GOES transmission from AWOS on Shell Platforms/Dec. 2008 - This project is on schedule. Auger and Brutus will have AWOS installed in September. Ram Powell and Mars already have AWOS installed and will have transmitters installed late September; (2) Met stations in shallow water/April 2008 - Installation at Ship Shoal 241A will be ready in approximately 1 month. Installation was temporarily delayed due to legal issues with the site partner. This is now resolved. Installation at West Delta 143A was completed in June and data are being transmitted to NDBC. There is an issue with wind speed and gust parameters but this will be resolved soon and (3) (WAVEX and ADCP on Auger to GOES/End of 2008 - This project is on schedule. WAVEX will go on Auger in Sept/Oct 2008 timeframe, (4) Thermister Chain on Brutus/Fall 2008 - The

thermister chain required engineering design to determine how to place the chain beneath the platform in a non-interference mode. The Shell team worked on this issue and found a solution. The issue now concerns scheduling the ROV to Brutus; (5) HF Radar at Brazos A19/Winter 2009 - working ongoing to determine best alternative for which Shell Platform makes most sense and (6) Profiler/Winter 2009 - Various groups within NOAA provided information and preferences for instrument deployment on Brutus. Systems considered included a wind profiler, atmospheric microwave profiler (water vapor, temperature, etc), and GPS MET. All systems support NOAA missions, but there are cost differences to consider. Progress was made on determining what instruments should be deployed. Shell also reported a very positive response to the Shell Oil-NOAA Offshore Technology Conference presentation (May 7th).

- **National Marine Sanctuaries Science Meeting** 7/7-9 Newport News, VA: Charly made a presentation on the NOAA IOOS Program and the DIF. The presentation – which included a challenge to NMSP scientists to become more engaged with IOOS, particularly in the regions – was well received.
- **MAST Meeting (7/22-24) - Early Edition report:** Approximately 55 persons were in attendance including 18 from NOAA and representatives from the Navy, USGS and USACOE. Most of the IOOS RAs were represented as were numerous IOOS partners in academia and industry. The stated goal of the meeting was to foster broad-based partnership-community input to the planning of the MAST for IOOS. The meeting was formatted for a series of presentations on Day 1 with breakout sessions on Days 2 and 3 to identify opportunities, capabilities, and priority recommendations. Overall the meeting met its modest objectives and Chris Mooers – MAST Chair – is to be congratulated on bringing so many of the nation’s leading modeling experts together for such discussions.
- **IOOS Program brief to VADM Lautenbacher and Mary Glackin (NOAA DUS):** I was very fortunate to have a chance to brief VADM Lautenbacher and Mary Glackin on the wide range of data management activities both within NOAA and the Regions, the NOAA partnership that has really move IOOS forward and the support our Regional Partners provide to NOAA and the Nation.

Congressional:

- **Omnibus Bill Introduced in Senate:** On July 22, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) introduced an omnibus bill, [S 3297](#), that consolidates into one package a number of bills, and that he hopes to bring up for a vote the week of July 28. The NOAA related items in this bill include
 - Hydrographic Services Improvement Act Amendments of 2008
 - NOAA Undersea Research Program Act of 2008
 - Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act
 - National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2008
 - Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2008
 - Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2008

The Senate is currently scheduled to be in recess starting Saturday, August 2 through Monday, September 8. Senator Harry Reid (D-NV), the Senate Majority Leader, just moved the start date for the recess back one week and is pushing to complete their legislative agenda in time. There is still a possibility they may recess after August 2.
Communications: No updates

Upcoming Meetings:

- 26 July-2 Aug: Director, at Sea Gals (South Litchfield Beach, SC) doing some personal ocean observing.
- 12-13 Aug: Director will present at the NERACOOS Board of Director's meeting and visit to WHOI
- 19-20 Aug: Director will present MPA FAC S&T ocean observing panel meeting - Monterey, CA

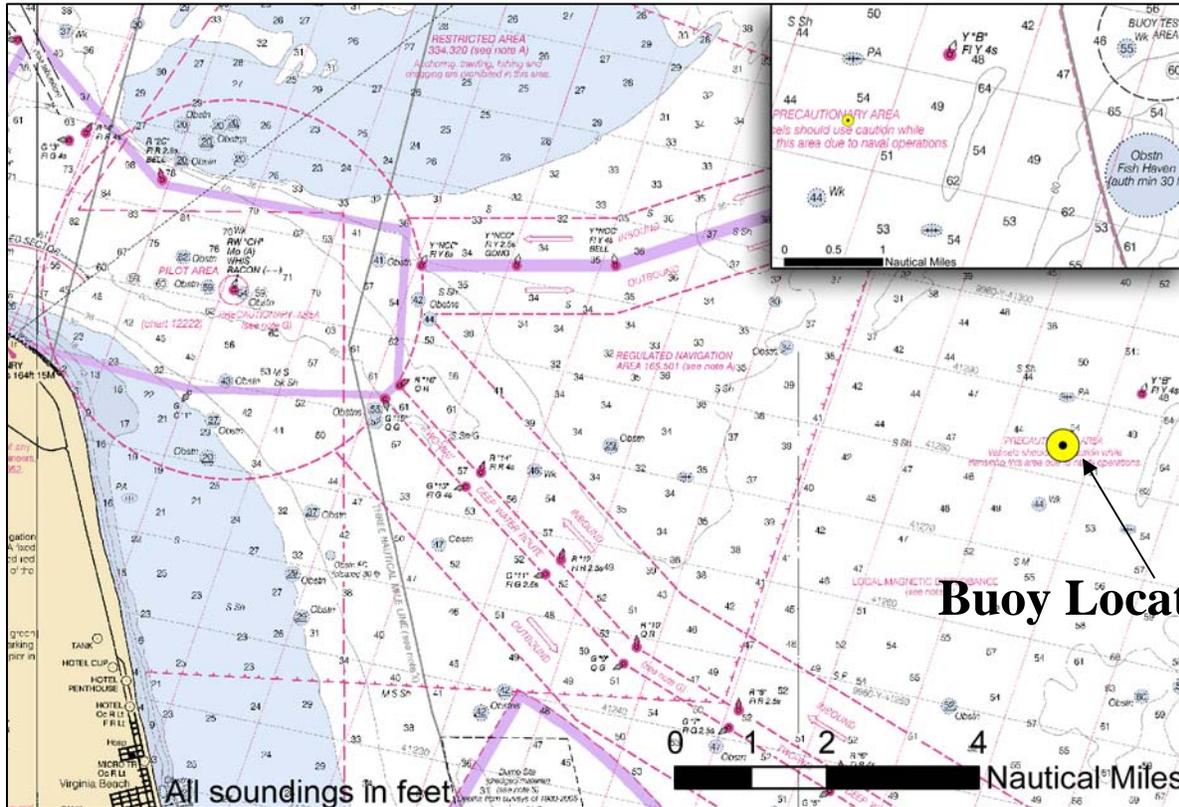
Cheers,
Zdenka



WAVE BUOY



Cape Henry, VA – Station 147, NDBC 44099 Deployed July 23, 2008



Location: Lat. $36^{\circ} 54.50' N$
 Long. $75^{\circ} 46.52' W$
Water Depth: 9 fm, 54 ft, 16.5 m

Buoys measure wave height, wave direction, wave period and sea surface temperature. The data are broadcast on the NWS Marine Weather Channel, and are also disseminated in near real-time on the web at <http://cdip.ucsd.edu> (click on RECENT). <http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/>

At night, the buoy will emit a yellow color flashing light.

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