

Bi-Weekly Z-GRAM 28 November 2008

www.IOOS.noaa.gov

The Z-gram is an informal way of keeping you up-to-date on 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 under program updates

IOOS® - Our Eyes On Our Oceans, Coasts and Great Lakes.

Programmatic:

- **Congrats:** NOAA's National Ocean Service (NOS) 2008 Awards saw recognition for members of the IOOS Program Office and partners working with us on IOOS projects. Peer Recognition "Rafting" Award: Citation – The following employees are recognized for outstanding day-to-day collaborative efforts involving crosscutting programmatic tasks that contributed to the accomplishments of the NOS mission during 2008: Dr. Rebecca Shuford - IOOS, Marcia Weeks - IOOS, Dr. Andrea Hardy - Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (COOPS), Kathleen Fisher - COOPS, and Michelle Tomlinson - National Centers for Coastal Ocean Sciences (NCCOS); NOS Team Member of the Year: Citation - The following are recognized for demonstrated exceptional and sustained efforts toward the accomplishment of NOS mission during 2008 as recognized by their peers at the National Ocean Service: Robert Ragsdale - IOOS
- Congressional Report: After speaking with DUS on Wednesday, she has now cleared the report and it will now move to the NOAA Administrator.
- FY09: **No Change.**
- FY10: **No change.**
- FY11-15: **No Change**

Initial Operating Capability - Data Management and Communications (DMAC) subsystem of IOOS®

In FY09 we are focused on 6 areas for this subsystem: (1) Data Integration Framework (DIF) support to Customer Applications: Harmful Algal Blooms forecast system; Integrated Ecosystem Assessments (IEAs); Coastal Inundation; Hurricane Intensity; (2) DIF Regional Implementation; (3) DIF Evolution & Enhancements; (4) Development of the best approach to DMAC (5) High Frequency Radar (HFR) – A National Network; and (6) Continue strong support, with the Inter Agency Working Group on Ocean Observations (IWGOO), to the IOOS DMAC Standards Process and working with the DMAC Steering team and the first 5 areas

- IOOS DMAC Standards Process: DMAC Steering Team meeting 8-10 December.
Get Involved:
<http://ioosdmac.fedworx.org/ioos/dmac.nsf/WhatsNew?OpenForm>

- What the DIF: For all documents and information, please visit the www.ioos.noaa.gov website and hit the button that says **IOOS Data**.
 - Coastal Inundation: We held Webinars of IOOS-Funded Work (11/17): The NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) Office of Hydrologic Development and the NOAA IOOS jointly hosted a webinar for two IOOS-funded Coastal inundation project briefings for participants from across NOAA, NASA, USGS, and academia”(1) Bob Beardsley (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution) presented the "Northeast Coastal Ocean Forecast System (NECOFS): Storm Surge and Inundation Project"; and (2) Peter Sheng (University of Florida) presented "A Regional Storm Surge and Inundation Model Testbed for SECOORA". Fifty three sites joined the webinar, from operational NWS offices, Oceans and Atmospheric Research (OAR) laboratories and NOS offices.
 - IOOS Funded Coastal Inundation Project Workshop (12/4): There will be 21 Federal and Regional attendees. Meeting will follow the Regional IOOS workshop. The workshop primary goals are: (1) Identify commonalities in terms of data standards, evaluation criteria and synergies that could be pursued among the work going on within the inundation community; and (2) Identify current or planned high value projects to transition to operations.
 - First Regional DIF Implementation Team Call (11/18): There was much enthusiasm expressed by the team, made up of all 11 RA DMAC leads (7 of 11 reps were on the call), to get beyond planning and move into an implementation phase. The next team call will be on December 12. Rob and Becky have also established our online communication tools including a WebEx based page where documents can be posted, discussions had, and a calendar created, among other collaboration tools. In addition we will be establishing a list serve with message archive capability to facilitate discussions, and keep a record of those discussions. Becky also had a very good discussion with Sam Walker, Ocean Data Partnership lead for SECOORA, as he was unable to make the first call.
 - Observing System Monitoring Center (OSMC) Demonstration (11/20): NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory's (PMEL) Steve Hankin led a web-based seminar for the NOAA IOOS Program staff and DIF IPT members on current OSMC capabilities and planned IOOS-funded enhancements. NOAA's National Geophysical Data Center's (NGDC) Ted Haberman provided additional details regarding proposed data base enhancements/requirements. The presentation provoked a number of useful questions and discussions and also provided insight to staff on how these enhancements can provide an improved tool for visualization and analysis of the coastal IOOS capacity – regional and national.

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 all of them have project leads.

- **Army Corps of Engineers collaboration on a National Waves Plan:** A revised version was distributed back out to the Hydrographic Services Requirements Panel (HSRP), Interagency Working Group on Ocean Observing (IWGOO), NOAA's Ocean Council and Observing Councils, NOAA's Commerce and Transportation Goal Team, and NOAA's COOPS for a final review. Additional comments were requested back to NOAA IOOS Program/ USACE by December 17, 2008. The goal is to have a final version of this plan by January 10, 2009.
- **NOAA-Navy collaboration on the Global Ocean Data Assimilation Experiment (GODAE) server:** NOAA IOOS Program got pre-clearance from Department of Commerce General Council and the MOU will now enter the formal process. Zdenka met with the Navy in Monterey, the transition of the GODAE server from Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Command to Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) - Monterey has been completed. Good dialog on NRL's future plans. We agreed that NRL would put together a 1-2 page explanation of the services that GODAE can provide to the Regional Partners and then we would make this a agenda at an upcoming RA monthly telecon.
- **Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS):** Jim Sargent, Information Architect for NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and Michael Feldman of Census of Marine Life-OBIS USA opened the dialog on making the connections between NOAA and OBIS USA. Next steps are to set up a second call, this time to include the technical programming team for OBIS-USA so that Jim can get his more technical questions addressed. Jim's questions, and suggestions, should also provide new and valuable insight to the OBIS-USA development team as they go forward with their project execution plans. NOAA IOOS Program POC: Becky Shuford.
- **National Water Quality Monitoring Network (11/25):** Jeff DLB, Rob and Ami (NOAA IOOS) had a conference call with David Briar (United States Geological Survey) and Chuck Spooner (Environmental Protection Agency) that focused on WaterML. This discussion led to discovery of a very specific area of intersection and possible collaborations:
 - WaterML is planning to adopt OGC Observation & Measurement (O&M) schema, which the DIF already uses; next steps will be to determine whether we can converge on same schema.
 - An Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) Hydrology Domain Working Group (HDWG) has been initiated to discuss WaterML and related topics. Jeff transmitted an email to Ken McDonald (NOAA OGC Rep.) regarding this matter so that he can attend the HDWG session at next week's OGC meeting.

Other:

- **18-20 November: Marine Protected Area Federal Advisory Committee (FAC):** Brian Melzian, EPA, and I had a chance to represent the IOOS community at the MPA FAC. I was joined on an expert panel by some true experts - Dr. Ceri Recchia, Marine Protect Area Monitoring Enterprise,

California; Dr. Brian Keller, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, NOAA; Paul Siri, Ocean Science Applications, and; Heather Kerkering, Central and Northern California Ocean Observation System where we had a great dialog with the entire MPA FAC on the white paper linking IOOS to MPA's. We concluded that there are very good linkages and made great progress on refining the white paper which will be a product of the MPA FAC. Not only did we interact during the panel, the FAC was gracious to allow us to interact throughout the meeting and both communities gained in the dialog. My hats off to our National MPA Center - Joe Uravitch, Charlie Wahle, Lauren Wenzel, Rondi Robinson and Katya Wowk for their hard work in making sure that there is a true partnership between NOAA/DOI and this FAC. I also want to congratulate the MPA Center and the entire FAC for their efforts in the release of the Framework for a National System of Marine Protected Areas for the United States. The United States has developed a national system of marine protected areas (MPAs) to advance the conservation and sustainable use of the nation's vital natural and cultural marine resources. If you would like more information please go to www.mpa.gov.

- **The Navy Chief Information Office (CIO) released the Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) Architecture Management Hub Strategy:** IOOS is discussed within the MDA strategy. The Department of the Navy has been designated as the national lead for designing the Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) enterprise architecture. Execution of this responsibility has been delegated to the DON Chief Information Officer. This strategy outlines how the DON CIO intends to carry out these responsibilities by leading an interagency effort to identify the standards and procedures that will allow maritime stakeholders to exchange MDA data and information more effectively, thus allowing leaders to make more timely and informed decisions in support of the nation's safety, security, economy and environment. For your copy go to <http://www.doncio.navy.mil/PolicyView.aspx?ID=807>.
- **Heads Up! High Frequency Radar (HFR) Plan:** Jack Harlan provided an initial draft to the IOOS Program office for review. He is incorporating those comments and our goal is to put this plan into review in mid-December with comments being due by the end of January.
- **Visit to Navy's Fleet Numerical Meteorological and Oceanography Center and Naval Research Lab - Monterey, CA:** I was hosted by the Executive Officer and Technical Director of FNMOC and the Deputy of NRL. See above for the great discussions on the GODAE server. I was also able to provide the US Look at Ocean Observing Initiatives to the wardroom and members of both commands. This is the briefing I provided at the final GODAE meeting and I appreciate being able to talk to the Navy folks on the multitude of initiatives that they may not have had a chance to be exposed to.
- **Initial Workshop Announcement - Instrumentation Needs and Readiness Levels for Ocean Observing:** Background and Foci: The processes that actively shape the earth and ultimately impact society must be investigated over the spatial and temporal scales at which they occur. To characterize the processes occurring in the ocean, new types of infrastructure are needed that are capable of providing long-term, high-resolution observations of critical environmental parameters. In

order to provide the U.S. ocean sciences research and management communities with access to the basic infrastructure required to make sustained, long-term and adaptive measurements in the oceans, the NSF's Ocean Sciences Division has developed the Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI). The OOI is an outgrowth of many years of community-wide scientific planning efforts, both nationally and internationally. As these efforts mature, the research-focused observatory network enabled by the OOI will be an important collaborator with the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS), the operationally-focused national system, and NSF sponsored programs such as EarthScope and the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program. The success of these efforts is based in large part on identifying effective and reliable in situ instrumentation as observing networks are being designed, deployed and expanded. Therefore, the goal of this workshop is to engage members of the technology development and manufacturing communities with scientific, engineering, and agency ocean observing communities in a discussion of OOI requirements and supplier capabilities. Logistics, Dates, and Location: This workshop is sponsored by the OOI Program Office and will be open to all interested suppliers and manufacturers of the marine sensors and instrumentation identified as part of the OOI Final Network Design. Registration will be required. The workshop will take place on March 12-13, 2009 in Portland, OR. Additional details and information will be available shortly at www.oceanleadership.org/ocean_observing. Steering Committee: Mario Tamburri (Alliance for Coastal Technologies, Committee Chair), Lorraine Brasseur (Consortium for Ocean Leadership), Doug Au (MBARI), Brian Bornhold (NEPTUNE Canada), Al Plueddemann (WHOI), Deb Kelley (UW), Kendra Daly (USF), and Charly Alexander (IOOS). Questions can be directed to Mario Tamburri (tamburri@cbl.umces.edu) or Lorraine Brasseur (lbrasseur@oceanleadership.org).

Congressional: **No update**

Communications:

- ST Petersburg Times: World Leaders look to tackle coasts' issues, by Curtis Krueger, Times Staff Writer, Published Sunday, November 16, 2008 9:26 PM
- Navy releases plan to integrate maritime systems
<http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20081125_4760.php> - Plans discusses IOOS in the Navy Maritime Domain Awareness Strategy

Upcoming Meetings:

- 25-27 November: Fourth Forum of the GOOS Regional Alliances - Ned Cyr will represent the United States - NOAA IOOS Program prepared his briefing
- 2-4 December: Third IOOS Regional Coordination Workshop will be held 2-4 December in Baltimore. The NFRA annual meeting will be 0800-0945 on Tuesday morning 2 December.
- 4 December: IOOS-Funded Coastal Inundation Projects Meeting

- 9-10 December: CaRA Stakeholders meeting 9 December, site visit 10 December (Zdenka, Jack Harlan)
- 9-11 December: DMAC Steering Team, Washington, D.C.
- 10-11 March: NOAA IOOS Regional DMAC Workshop, Silver Spring, MD
- 12 March: IOOS Industry Day - Silver Spring, MD
- 14 April: Small Sea Change: Big Business Impacts - IWGOO IOOS sponsored workshop. Silver Spring - A workshop to explore how enhanced understanding of the oceans improves weather and climate prediction enabling better informed business decisions. For more information:
<http://www.oceanleadership.org/iwgoo>

Cheers,
Zdenka