

Bi-Weekly Z-GRAM 5 September 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. If you want to see previous Z-grams go to the IOOS website under program updates

Programmatic:

- Welcome Aboard:
 - Carmen Solis has joined the NOAA IOOS team as our financial management specialist. We are lucky to get Carmen from the NOS headquarters office where she was working in the Resources Management Division. Carmen has over 17 years of federal service experience in NOS in financial management and will be a great addition to the IOOS team.
 - Jack Harlan joins the IOOS team as an FTE. Jack has been involved in NOAA HF radar research for 13 years before taking the lead of the NOAA IOOS HF radar transition-to-operations project about 4 years ago. Prior to that, he worked with NOAA wind profiler radars, satellite-based scatterometers and, as an undergraduate with the original NOAA HF radar "CODAR" team. He has degrees in Physical Oceanography (M.S., Fla State Univ) and Aerospace Engineering (Ph.D., Univ of Colorado).
- Congressional Report: Continues through the formal NOAA administrative system.
- FY08: [Fact Sheets](#) on IOOS funded projects are available on the NOAA IOOS [web site](#).
- FY09: **No Change**
- FY10: **No change.**
- FY11-15: We sent emails out to our Regional Collaboration leads and Line Office Representatives asking them to consider the IOOS® Program Alternatives as they prepare their Integrated Priority Lists as requested by NOAA PA&E.

Initial Operating Capability - DMAC subsystem of IOOS®

- [IOOS DMAC Standards Process](#): No change.
- [What the DIF?](#): Regional DMAC Conference Call – Wed 9/10, 3-4pm: DIF team will reconnect with key DMAC POCs in the Regions to discuss strategies for implementing DIF protocols in their regions.

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.

- Army Corps of Engineers collaboration on a National Waves Plan: **No change but not forgotten - support to Hurricane Operations required a temporary shift in focus.**
- NOAA-Navy collaboration on the GODAE server: MOU is being worked between NOAA and Navy and is on track. **No Change**
- IOOS® and OOI: On 28 August Charly and Jeff participated in a telecon with OOI/CI's Matthew Arrat (UCSD) and his team to discuss preliminary ideas for DIF/CI collaboration – particularly with respect to data transport/access and models. These conversations will continue in the next few weeks and are expected to result in a specific “SOW” that documents the approach. NMFS/SWFSC/ERD's “ERDDAP” tool is expected to be an important piece of this.

Other:

- **Rutgers University - Across the Pond - Nearing Halfway -** <http://rucool.marine.rutgers.edu/atlantic/> Circles to the right, circles to the left - tied to the phases of the moon? Curious - check out the Blog.
- **New Executive Director of Great Lakes Observing System:** I welcome Dr. Jennifer Read and congratulate her on her appointment. My public appreciation for all the efforts and hard work by Roger Gauthier as he stood up GLOS. From GLOS Release: Quote "Dr. Jennifer Read has been named the first executive director of the Great Lakes Observing System (GLOS), a new nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting Great Lakes stewardship through sound science and data management. GLOS is one of 11 regional nodes of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System, a nationwide federal initiative of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). As the only freshwater component of this nationwide system, GLOS will assume a central role in advancing science-based policy decisions and the exchange of scientific data among key agencies, organizations and academic institutions in the binational Great Lakes basin. “Dr. Read is the ideal person to lead GLOS, as she brings a wealth of Great Lakes expertise, leadership and vision to this critical position,” stated Bill Werick, chair of the GLOS Board of Directors. “She will play a key role in our efforts to bridge the gap between science and user needs for data-related products and tools.” Dr. Read holds a Ph.D. from the University of Western Ontario, where her research interests focused on the scientific and policy aspects of binational water policy in the context of the U.S. - Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. Over the last 15 years, she has held increasingly responsible positions in Great Lakes research, policy development and education/ outreach. She will assume the GLOS leadership role while maintaining her current position as assistant director at

Michigan Sea Grant. Prior to her appointment at Michigan Sea Grant in 2001, Dr. Read was a research associate at the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research, University of

Windsor; and a program specialist at the Great Lakes Commission. Read was a Fulbright Doctoral Fellow at the University of Michigan in 1998 and has multiple publications to her credit.

In accepting the appointment, Read stated, "I welcome this tremendous opportunity to build partnerships among diverse Great Lakes institutions. Sound science is the basis for sound management, and GLOS is well positioned to make a significant contribution to the restoration, protection and sustainable use of the binational Great Lakes." GLOS researchers presently have a number of applied research initiatives underway. A hydrodynamic model for the St. Clair River/ Lake St. Clair/Detroit River system is under development, and will provide managers and policymakers with

enhanced understanding of river and lake processes. An Internet based decision support tool, called "Harborview" is also under development, and will provide recreational boaters and commercial navigation interests with "real time" data and information on lake conditions and meteorological events. And, GLOS is supporting deployment of five buoys in several Great Lakes locations proximate to urban centers, where a range of data and information is being collected for research and policy application purposes. Read succeeds Roger Gauthier, a senior manager at the Great Lakes Commission who has served as interim director of GLOS since 2006" End Quote. Dr. Read can be contacted at 734.936.3622 or jenread@umich.edu.

- **PacIOOS/HiOOS Public Lecture Series:** HiOOS has launched an education/outreach lecture series that began in Aug 2008 and continues through February 2009. Each of these lectures will be held at the Outrigger Waikiki. August 13, 2008: Dr. Geno Pawlak, Associate Professor, Dept. of Ocean and Resources Engineering, UH-Manoa - The Kilo Nalu Reef Observatory: A Window into Hawaii's Coastal Environment; September 10, 2008: Dr. Eric Heinen De Carlo, Professor, Dept. of Oceanography, UH-Manoa - How Local Rain Events Affect Greenhouse Gas in the Atmosphere; October 8, 2008: Dr. Kim Holland, Researcher, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, UH-Manoa - Tracking Tuna and Sharks Around Hawaii and the Pacific; November 12, 2008: Dr. Marc Lammers, Assistant Researcher, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, UH-Manoa -EARs in the Sea; February 11, 2009 - Dr. Grieg Steward, Assistant Professor, Department of Oceanography, UH-Manoa - Water Quality and Health of Hawaii's Coastal Recreational Waters. These are aimed at the Public. For more information please contact: Marcie Grabowski, Educational Outreach Coordinator, Hawaii and Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System, University of Hawaii - Manoa (808) 956-6556, mworkman@hawaii.edu
- **SURA/SCOOP:** Charly, Jeff and I met with senior SURA SCOOP staff (Jerry Drayer, Don Winter, Joanne Bintz and Philip Bogden) to discuss priorities for continued collaboration. A number of key points were agreed to including a joint approach towards standards that will bring the OOSTethys and DIF work together. Jeff also met with with Luis Bermudez about DIF, OOSTethys, XML,

etc. to discuss harmonizing DIF and OOSTethys schema. Jeff also had a follow-up telecon with Luis and Philip Bogden regarding collaboration strategies.

- **MADIS:** Marcia and Jack H met with OAR's Patty Miller and Mike Barth about MADIS (Meteorological Assimilation Data Ingest System) and DIF connections. The discussions focused on recent decision to transition MADIS to NWS. Possible connection to DIF were also discussed – provision of additional winds observations in DIF formats.
- **Preparation for the upcoming IOOS workshop - OUTCOME Metrics:** Thank you to Timi who led the all day regional metrics workshop to finalize a regional IOOS mission statement and specific objectives for the IOOS Regions, and develop initial metrics that can demonstrate incremental progress. This is the critical work being done to ensure a successful outcome during our December meeting.
- **NOAA Climate Observation Division's 6th Annual System Review:** Mike Johnson, Climate Division Director - held his annual system review in Silver Spring. The meeting included presentations from each of the program elements. Members of the NOAA IOOS team had a chance to attend parts of the review. Some over arching themes continue to focus on the easy access to all available climate/ocean observations and their sustained delivery; need for climate quality data (e.g., robust quality control and metadata); systems approach to observations and data fields (routine production of ocean state and a reprocessing capability) and continued coordination between the observation community and the modeling community. I was also invited to participate in the executive council review where we discussed ensuring the data integration work under US IOOS (DMAC) and the Global Component of the US IOOS under NOAA's Climate Observation Division are coordinated and the potential to have a US IOOS coastal component representative on this advisory group.
- **GPS and Ocean Platforms:** I met with Dr. John Bruan, a Project Scientist of the COSMIC Program. He briefed me on the use of the Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) such as the Global Positioning System to address scientific problems related to the Earth and its atmosphere. Geophysicists and geodesists use GNSS observations to study plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, and glaciers. Atmospheric scientists can measure the refractive index of the atmosphere using GNSS observations and derive integrated water vapor observations (from ground based receivers) and density profiles (from space based receivers). He briefed me on some work looking at water vapor observations ties to hurricane intensity. John is conducting a planning meeting- Enabling Scientific Opportunities Using High Precision Global Positioning System Observations from Ocean Platforms Boulder, CO, October 27-29, 2008. Jack Harlan will attend for the NOAA IOOS Program and we have provide the information to some of our Regional Association Partners to attend. John has some limited funds to support travel. I encourage you to go the following links for a meeting announcement and his briefing:
http://www.joss.ucar.edu/joss_psg/meetings/Meetings_2008/ocean_workshop/index.html; http://www.cosmic.ucar.edu/~braunj/pickup/UCAR_OP_Meeting_2.pdf.

If you would like more info please contact John directly - braunj@ucar.edu, 303.497.8018.

- **Arctic Observing Network (AON):** I met with John Calder, NOAA Arctic Program Manager; Mike Johnson, Climate Observation Division and Molly McCammon in preparation of the upcoming Sustained Arctic Observing Network (SAON) meeting. We discussed how NOAA and the United States will participate. Molly will represent the NOAA IOOS Program, along with John Calder. We will continue to work to understand how the efforts of the IPY will be sustained.

Congressional: **No Update**

Communications:

- 3 September: Wilmington Star-News (North Carolina): Fewer Buoys Means Less Storm-Track data - By Gareth McGrath, Staff Writer
- 4 September: Fayetteville Observer: Fewer tracking buoys in Atlantic mean less data - The Associated Press
- 3 September: Palm Beach Post - NOAA launches new weather Web site - Palm Beach Post Staff Writer
- New article on the PaCOOS Habitat Server funded by NOAA IOOS. The data is being used by the state of OR to address key priorities in the West Coast Governors Agreement to "complet(e) a comprehensive seafloor map of all state waters of the West Coast (page 9) for addressing Ecosystem Approaches to Management (MPA siting and IEA which are a mechanism to achieve EAM) and habitat protection. - <http://www.registerguard.com/csp/cms/sites/dt.cms.support.viewStory.cls?cid=128924&sid=4&fid=1>
- Buoy network has funding shortfall (GoMOOS buoys): http://www.sunjournal.com/story/280219-3/MaineNews/Buoy_network_has_funding_shortfall/
- EP Technology published an article on the Shell Oil/NOAA Partnership to increase MET and Ocean Observations from their oil rigs in the Gulf of Mexico.

Upcoming Meetings:

- 15-18 Sep: Oceans 2008: Zdenka will provide a US IOOS Program Update; Jeff DLB will provide a DIF update. Hope to see you many of you during this meeting.
- 22-24 Sep: Becky Shuford will represent IOOS Program at the Census of Marine Life US National Committee Meeting and OBIS USA Advisory Committee meeting
- 16-20 Sep: Jack Harlan will represent US IOOS at the WMO-JCOMM-WIGOS Meeting to provide HFR data standard guidance to international community, Geneva. He will be joined by Ken Casey of NODC.
- 21-26 Sep: Jeff DLP will attend the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) Meeting, Boulder as the DIF has been submitted as a contribution to the GEO Architecture Implementation Pilot.

- Cheers,
Zdenka