

Z-GRAM 29 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 addressees, or if you are receiving and no longer want to receive. If you think other could benefit from the Z-gram please pass it on.

A fall Saturday edition of the Z-Gram. While I hope each of your favorite college footballs teams prevailed, I am please that the University of South Carolina was victorious today - of course my thoughts are with my Mississippi colleagues who were defeated.

Organize for success:

- Program Office Stand up: No Change
- FY07: We closed out at 99% expended funds. Thanks goes to Carl Gouldman and our team at CSC for accomplishing this feat. Carl has overall responsibility for execution (and PPBES) and CSC (just one elements of their support) helps us get our grants/cooperative agreements out the door. We will be publishing what I have named "Fact Sheet" for all projects funding by IOOS FY07 funding within the next week. The intent is to help all of us collaborate and leverage IOOS work.
- FY08: The House voted 404-14 on September 26th to clear a six-week continuing resolution (HJRes 52) with the Senate following on September 27th by a vote of 94-1. The CR essentially keeps in place current FY '07 spending levels for all federal agencies. The CR would fund the federal government until November 16th. For IOOS we have been given a first quarter allotment that covers our salaries, must do travel and a small amount of contract dollars.
- FY09: I have been asked to provide an IOOS FY07 accomplishments brief on 11 October. The focus is on how a new NOAA IOOS office made a difference and discussion about the move to the competitive process on the RCOOS side. If I can get our brief cleared I will share this briefing with all.
- FY10-14: Program guidance was issued on 28 September and we will continue to fight for IOOS dollars through the programming phase.
- NOAA IOOS Program Office Strategic Plan: THANK YOU for all the comments we have received, we are now addressing them.
- NEP Update: NOAA's business model has two entities that help VADM Lautenbacher make decisions. The NOAA Executive Panel (NEP) and the NOAA Executive Council (NEC). We will brief the NEP on 8 November to provide an update of what the NOAA IOOS office has done since its stand up in February.

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: IOOS has been taken off this list within NOAA. Please know that within my office we will continue to prepare the necessary documentation required to get ready for a major acquisition we think is needed for IOOS. We will continue to work with the NOAA Observation Council and NOAA Ocean Council to make sure we are moving forward in the best way - we will do this because it makes sense. I will no longer report on this weekly in the the Z-gram but will ensure that you are privy to all of our documentation and thoughts as we go forward.
- Standards Process: See attached - we are so excited that we are going to kick off the DMAC process. I really appreciate all who continue to believe in IOOS and have responded that they will continue in their effort to support the DMAC Steering Team. **I am very excited about this effort.**
 - CAPT Chris Moore briefed NOAA's Data Management Committee to ensure that what we do through DMAC will also be useful to the NOAA GEO-IDE process.
- What the DIF?: We are collecting comments on our DIF documents reported on last week.

IWGGOO: No Change - next meeting 16 October

- 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. The NOAA IOOS got behind (OMB briefing) and we still owe our comments back to Army Corps of Engineering.
- NOAA IOOS web site and project tracking data base: NOAA IOOS web site will be launched 24 October.
- Collaboration with USCG: Admiral Lautenbacher and the Commandant of the Coast Guard we scheduled to meet on 28 September. We provided talking points regarding IOOS collaboration. I will try to get feedback for a future Z-Gram. 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: NOAA has formulated a letter on FY08 funding scenarios. We briefed NOS CFO shop on Friday and will hope to be able to issue this letter in the next week. We will work the draft letter back

through the key stakeholders (NFRA, CORE and OL (CORE). It is my intention to be able to sign the letter upon my return from Oceans 2007.

Other:

- 24-26 September: I and CAPT Chris Moore tag teamed the MDA summit. I was provided a IOOS brief focused on the DMAC elements. The words in the MDA CONOPS compared to IOOS principals with regard to sharing data are very close. Thank you to the many of you across the our RA/RCOOS and my NOAA colleagues who were involved in helping the MDA community understand what we have to offer. A special thanks to Ms.Cj Beegle-Krause who asked very strategic questions. Sorry if I embarrassed you CJ. CJ works in oil spill modeling response in NOAA OR&R Seattle office - she has been working across NOAA to understanding both the data and modeling needs to support OR&R's mission. Thank you to my NOAA colleagues as we had representation from ocean modeling (NOS and NWS) and NESDIS that all contributed significantly. Thank you to NOS SP for their support in facilitating the work groups and will also help write up the proceedings thus assisting my office. I also appreciate the engagement by our RA/RCOOS partners - your intact with our users in the region and your perspectives were invaluable. Thank you to EPA for hosting the meeting and especially Brian Melzian, our EPA rep to the IWGOO who did all the leg work to make this happen and was a valuable contributor to this conference. Thank you to Ocean.US for leading this worthy effort..

Press:

- Check out Sea Technology September issue - theme is Ocean Observing. Eric Terrill and his team did a nice job of describing our plans with HF radar. Eric and his team's work made the Front Cover. Thank you to Jack Harlan of my office for providing support for this article.

Upcoming:

- 1-4 October: Oceans 2007
- 10 October : I will participate in the MACORA board meeting
- 11 October: I will brief OMB
- 22 October: SAVE the DATE - GEOSS and NOAA