

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

**2021 Chukchi Whale Glider** - The 2021 Chukchi Whale Glider mission is underway! An autonomous underwater glider was launched on July 12 in the Chukchi Sea from the Norseman II. The glider has sensors to detect the occurrence of several species of marine mammals, and also sensors to measure oceanographic data such as temperature, salinity, chlorophyll fluorescence, and turbidity. The resulting data will be used to study relationships between the distribution of Arctic and sub-Arctic marine mammals and the oceanography of the Chukchi Sea. See what marine mammals the glider has detected on the [Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution](#) website and the oceanographic data on the [AOOS Ocean Data Explorer](#).

**Gulf of Alaska Ecosystem Observatory (GEO) Turnaround Success** - The Long Term Ecosystem Research (LTER) cruise successfully recovered and re-deployed all of the moorings that make up the GEO. [Real time data from GEO3](#) is now available. The GEO moorings provided a full year of acoustic data, sediment trap samples, and water samples. Other instruments are still being downloaded and data recovery assessed. All in all, the GEO has had a successful year at providing critical ecosystem information for the northern Gulf of Alaska. To learn more about this project, visit the [AOOS GEO project page](#) on the AOOS website.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE**

The Fall AOOS Board meeting has been set for Tuesday October 19, 2021. We hope to have this in person in Anchorage!

## **IOOS**

**Descope of FY2021:** The team continues to work through the de-scope process for Year 1 of the new FY2021-2025 cooperative agreement.

## **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS/PRESENTATIONS**

**Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC)** - Sheyna presented the NSF Proposal submitted in June to the AEWC 2nd annual convention on July 21. The proposal is a collaboration among AOOS, NANOOS, PacIOOS, and Indigenous partners across all three regions to equip communities with affordable, easily-deployable Sofar Spotter buoys.

## **COLLABORATIONS/PARTNERSHIPS**

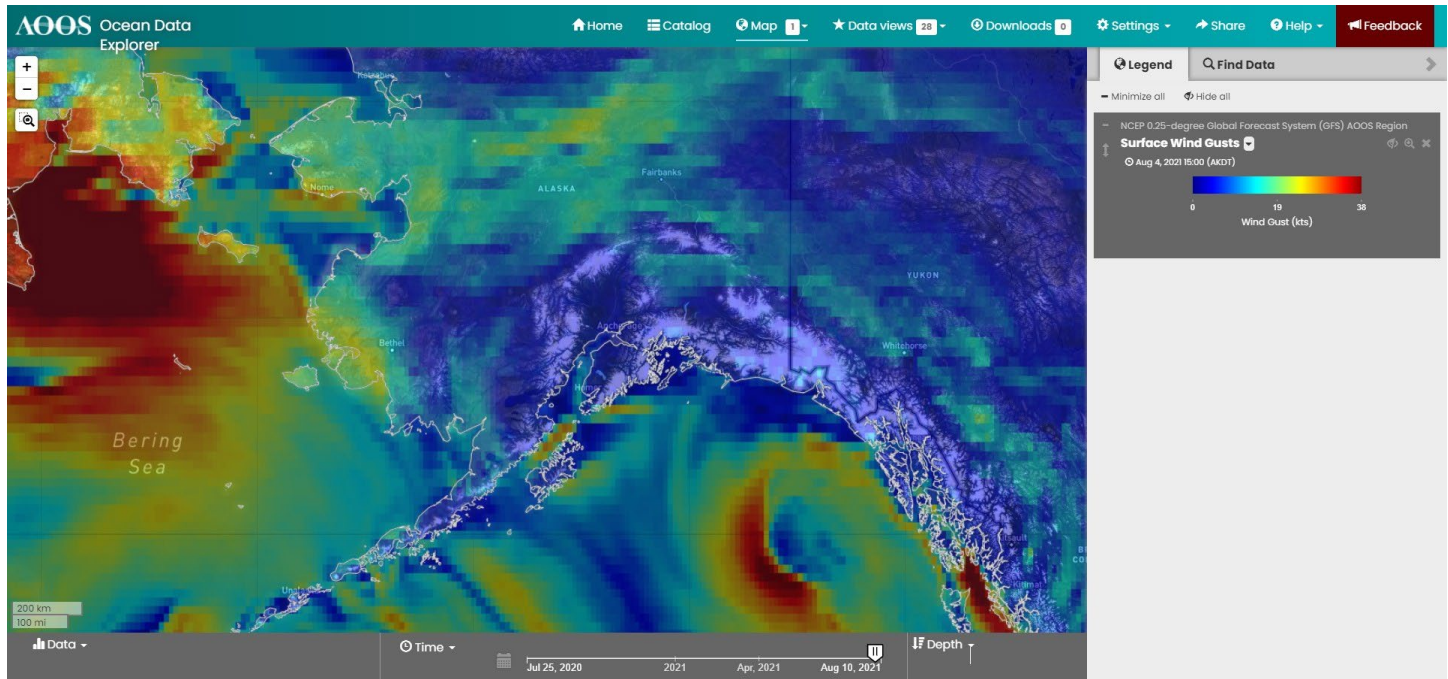
**NOAA Alaska Regional Team meetings** - Sheyna continues to participate in monthly team meetings.

**Alaska Harmful Algal Bloom Network** - Thomas finalized the [2020 Alaska HABs summary](#), which reports out the monitoring efforts and results from AHAB network members from around the state. This showcases all the great work being done by network members, and acts as an overall summary record of the activity on HAB monitoring taking place in Alaska. The AHAB network is hoping to build upon this great work, and do even more monitoring in 2021. Thomas also worked on finalizing the FY21 and FY22 budget and spend plans for the AHAB network. During the month of July, Thomas has been working remotely from Seward, where he has been helping AOOS partner Markus Horning on a sleeper shark tagging project. Thomas has also joined the planning committee for the Water Resources track of the Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management, and will help put together conference sessions on water-related topics.

**Regional Ocean Data Sharing Initiative** - Jill and Molly finalized the FY21 spend plan and budget for the RODSI funds, and began reviewing Statements of Work for upcoming projects. Jill worked on project management tools for the AOOS Data Portals and Products, including Trello to track tasks. Jill met with Defenders of Wildlife to discuss their AOOS hosted data products and how we can collaborate more in the future. Jill and Molly are preparing a presentation to the 43rd Joint Planning Group Meeting and Exercise under the Russia-US Joint Contingency Plan meeting Aug 31-Sept 3 on the Bering Strait Transboundary Incident Response Tool (BSTIRT). Jill worked with Axiom to submit 2 abstracts to the [Polar Data Forum](#) (virtual, Sept 20-24) on the BSTIRT and the AOOS Data Portal. Jill joined the planning committee for the Water Resources track of the Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management, and will help put together conference sessions on water-related topics.

## DATA MANAGEMENT

The EMC WAVEWATCH III® global wave model Multi-1, which was available through the AOOS data portals, was decommissioned in NCEP operations on March 22, 2021. It has been replaced by a new configuration of the WAVEWATCH III global wave model, called GFS-Wave, and coupled to the [Global Forecast System \(GFSv16\)](#), as part of the [Unified Forecast System](#). The GFS Wave model is available through the AOOS data portal for interactive visualization and data download. Click [this link](#) to access the model and its various parameters, including: surface wind gusts, mbar thickness, temperature, precipitation rate, and reduced pressure.



## ENGAGEMENT METRICS

Audience Name	Type of Presentation	# of people
Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission	Presentation on NSF proposal (joint AOOS/AEWC)	40
Alaska Harmful Algal Bloom Network	Facilitated monthly meeting and update	35

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug 31-Sept 2** US-Russia Joint Planning Group Meeting tabletop exercise, Anchorage, AK (Molly & Jill)
- Sep 20-23** OCEANS'21 (MTS/TOS/IEEE) Conference in San Diego, CA (in person)
- Sept 20-24** Polar Data Forum, virtual (Jill, Sheyna, Stacey)
- Oct 5-7** IOOS Association fall mtg, Washington DC (Sheyna, Molly & Katrina)
- Oct 19-21** IOOS Community Modeling Workshop, virtual
- Oct 21-23** Alaska Federation of Natives Conference 2021, Anchorage
- Nov 1-4 & 8-11** Coastal & Estuarine Research Federation Conference 2021 (virtual)
- Nov 2-4** 2021 Maritime Risk Symposium, University of Houston College of Technology (in person)
- Dec 13-17** AGU Fall Meeting 2021, New Orleans, LA (in person) (Abstracts due Aug 4)
- Feb 27-Mar 4, 2022** Ocean Sciences Meeting, Honolulu, HI (in person) (Abstracts due Sep tbd)

Sheyna Wisdom, Molly McCammon, Carol Janzen, Holly Kent, Darcy Dugan, Jill Prewitt, Thomas Farrugia, Marta Kumle and our data team at Axiom