



Alaska Ocean Observing System
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AOOS Jan 11, 2018 Board Summary
(draft prepared by Darcy Dugan, 2-7-18)

Present in person: Katrina Hoffman, Larry Hartig, Theresa Peterson, Cheryl Rosa, Betsy Baker, Dee Williams for Aime Devaris, Amy Holman, Mark Storzer and Lissa Lynker for Jim Kendall, Paul Webb, Tara Riemer, Ed Page, Paula Cullenberg

AOOS Staff: Molly McCammon, Darcy Dugan, Holly Kent, Carol Janzen

By phone: Brad Moran, Chris Siddon for Sam Cotten, Dave Aplin for Margaret Williams, Doug DeMaster, Josie Quintrell (IOOS Association)

Board Acting Chair Katrina Hoffman called the meeting to order at 9:34am.

ACTION: The committee unanimously approved the agenda and previous board and executive committee meeting summaries. *Motion by Riemer; second by Hoffman.*

IOOS Association national update (Josie Quintrell, IA Executive Director)

- Congress is interested in funding HF radars and added some new funds in the FY 17 budget, but not enough to fund new radars in Alaska. Hopefully, additional funds will be provided in the future.
- The Trump Administration reduced or eliminated funding for many extramural programs in FY18, but IOOS is intact at 29.5M.
- Molly has been hard at work networking in DC and building strong connections with our Congressional delegation. Congressman Young is a big supporter of IOOS and has introduced ICOOS Act reauthorization legislation twice in the House.
- AOOS is one of 9 IOOS Regional Associations that have been certified.
- IOOS Association is starting to explore how to encourage private foundations for funding.
- The IA has a new Op-Ed Project; the goal is to run 1 op-ed in each region and work with RAs to find compelling stories and authors. Editorial assistance to frame story for publishing will be provided.

AOOS activities update (Molly McCammon)

Alaska Activities

- AK Marine Science Symposium – AOOS is involved in numerous capacities, including organizing keynote speakers, running an OA Network executive committee workshop and an AHAB meeting, and hosting a booth at the poster session. Admiral Gallaudet was

scheduled to give a keynote and be briefed by AOOS collaborators but his trip was cancelled due to the government shutdown.

- AOOS/NOAA meeting with NOAA Office of Coast Management in Charleston, SC – Molly and Amy Holman discussed Alaska’s services and needs at a recent meeting.
- New joint initiative with UAF CFOS at Seward: Molly and Brad Moran met with the National Data Buoy Center in Stennis, MS to explore further collaborations.
- AK Coastal Mapping strategist position – AOOS recently hired a coastal mapper who will be housed at ADNR starting in late January.
- AK Climate Change Leadership Team & strategy – Molly is on the team, in addition to AOOS board member Larry Hartig.
- Oceans 17 meeting – held in Anchorage for the first time in Sept. Carol Janzen helped organize the program; Molly served on a panel; Darcy gave a presentation; and Holly ran the AOOS booth.
- Certification – AOOS is certified! A signing ceremony was held at MTS in September.
- Recent PI meetings held: ADAC, EVOS (Gulf Watch), LTERs, AMBON

National activities

- IOOS Association spring meeting: board member participation will be Katrina Hoffman.
- Consortium for Ocean Leadership: public policy forum will be held March 7.
- Molly is now one of the IARPC Environmental Intelligence team co-leads. The team has 3 sub-teams (data, models & observations).
- Plans are underway for the Arctic Observing Summit in Davos, Switzerland June 2018.
- Carol will be representing AOOS at Ocean Sciences in Portland OR February 2018.
- Plans are underway for Ocean Obs 19 in Honolulu, September 2019, with an emphasis on stakeholder engagement and meeting societal needs.
- Public comment on the National Climate Assessment⁴ is due by Jan 31

Alaska Ocean Acidification Network update (Darcy Dugan)

- The Alaska Marine Highway vessel Columbia is now tracking OA on its weekly run from Bellingham to Skagway thanks to a group of committed partners.
- Alaska has 2 new Burke-o-Lators in Sitka and Kodiak.
- Sildrones with carbon sensors ventured to the Arctic this fall for the first time.
- A new OA Tribal Monitoring group is off the ground.
- The network has 35 partner orgs, a new communications plan, and a 1,100+ list serve.
- Darcy and other members have been giving presentations around the state as well as at the Pacific Marine Expo in Seattle.
- The network circulated a stakeholder survey and received 125 responses which will help guide future monitoring efforts.

Alaska Water Level Watch Update (Carol Janzen)

- There is now an Alaska Water Level Watch webpage hosted by AOOS and populated with links that discuss aspects of water level observations.
- A workshop is planned for April 2018 to revise the water level build out plan for Alaska.

- AOOS has partnered with ASTRA for GPS reflectometry trials in Seward to see if the technology can be used to collect water level info. So far the ASTRA measurements are mapping well with the nearby NOAA tide gauge and the data looks great. After 1 year, the systems will be relocated in Homer and Anchorage. Right now Homer has no NWLON or water level platform – a clear data gap!
- AOOS has also been partnering with UNAVCO to measure water levels in western Alaska through GPS reflectometry. Four sites were identified in 2017 and the first one in St. Michael was installed this past summer. Look for another report in May 2018.
- The ultimate goal of the partnership is to fill in NWLON gaps with ASTRA and UNAVCO technology which is much cheaper!
- Ed Page: these should be co-located with AIS stations.

AOOS Role in ShoreZone (Molly McCammon)

- AOOS has been approached by NOAA to take on management of the ShoreZone program.
- ShoreZone data is currently housed at NOAA AK Regional Center and managed by Steve Lewis.
- AOOS currently serves up the imagery and shoretype data.
- In the past, ShoreZone has had a coordinating committee and various groups have committed funding to support a ½ time person (previously at The Nature Conservancy). Doug Mecum asked if AOOS would take that on.
- AOOS will continue to provide data support and display but we need to think about the organizing part since this would involve extensive staff support and additional resources.
- Molly will bring this up to the board in next few months.

AOOS/IOOS Animal Telemetry Network (Carol Janzen)

- AOOS recently held a regional ATN workshop with the goal of maximizing collaborations and increasing data sharing with regard to tagged animals. The workshop was one in a series of regional workshops, and included 47 people in person + 11 remote.
- There were panels for industry, resource management, coastal and tribal communities and research sectors, and breakout sessions on observing needs, challenges & concerns in Alaska (and potential benefits of network), and proposed telemetry data aggregation and sharing pathways.

External Data Management Review Committee

AOOS invited a team of experts to comprehensively assess the AOOS data management system. The assessment involved the following steps:

- Offsite assessment of system usability
- Online user satisfaction survey
- Reviews of certification and work plan docs
- On-site review
- Final findings, recommendations, and report

The draft recommendations were described by Molly. The Board discussed these briefly, and in general, agreed with them. They were very positive about the committee's findings, and thought there was significant value in holding the review.

Results of user satisfaction survey (Holly Kent)

Future of AOOS's data management advisory committee (Molly McCammon)

Molly reported that there is some question as to whether the group needs new direction or membership. It recently lost its chair, Phil Mundy, due to retirement. Some ideas were circulated about forming smaller subcommittees with specific functions which would report to the larger committee although that would require additional staff support. The board made no decision at this time.

Future of AOOS data management services contract

Axiom's contract ends Aug 31, 2018 and the review committee did not make formal recommendation about whether AOOS should hold another RFP.

- Pros: Transparency, ensure we get best team available
- Cons: Unlikely to find a competitor of same caliber, would require a lot of work if no real competition; AOOS is pleased with Axiom.

ACTION: Motion to develop a new 2-year contract with Axiom Data Science to provide data management services for AOOS from Sept 1, 2018 through August 31, 2020, incorporating the recommendations from the external review. A decision on whether or not to have an open competition will be revisited at a later date. *Motion by Williams, second by Holman. Approved unanimously.* Betsy Baker volunteered to be on a working group to develop the new contract.

Grant funding:

- **ACTION:** Motion to approve commitment of additional \$100k towards the Gulf of Alaska ecosystem mooring as match for a Murdock Foundation grant to UAF. *Motion by Ed Page, second by Betsy Baker. Approved unanimously.*
- **ACTION:** Motion to accept funding for AOOS/Axiom subaward from UAF for participation in a BOEM funded project on Central Beaufort Sea Wave and Hydrodynamic Modeling Study. *Motion by Theresa Peterson, second by Ed Page. Approved unanimously.*
- **ACTION:** Motion to accept year 2 funding of \$262,925 for the National Academy of Sciences' project to AOOS to develop an integrated planning tool using AIS vessel tracking data, subsistence harvest data and oil spill scenarios. *Motion by Amy Holman, second by Ed Page. Approved unanimously.*
- **ACTION:** Motion to accept funding from USARC for \$19,500 for OA sampling in the Arctic and \$25,000 for HABs sampling in the Arctic. *Motion by Paula Cullenberg, second by Theresa Peterson. Approved unanimously.*

New Board Member:

ACTION: Approved Hilcorp as new AOOS member and Bill Britt as representative to AOOS Board. *Motion by Theresa Peterson, second by Dee Williams. Approved unanimously.*

Officer elections:

ACTION: Motion to approve Katrina Hoffman as AOOS board chair and Ed Page as vice-chair until fall 2018 board elections. *Motion by Dee Williams, second by Betsy Baker. Approved unanimously.*

The meeting adjourned 2:09pm.