

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Board of Fish OA presentations** – On behalf of the Alaska Ocean Acidification Network, Darcy organized the first ever ocean acidification presentation to the Alaska Board of Fish on Oct 23. Speakers included Bob Foy (NOAA) who provided the most recent science on species response, and Toby Schwoerer who gave a briefing on a new project looking at ocean acidification and salmon. Later that evening, the network hosted a public presentation in the same venue that was attended by around 40 people. The video recording can be found on the Alaska Ocean Acidification Network website.

## CONFERENCES/MEETINGS/PRESENTATIONS

**High Arctic Research Center Science Workshop** – Molly participated in an NSF-sponsored planning workshop in Fairbanks October 29-30 to identify science gaps and needs for a potential research facility to be located on or near Oliktok Point between Utqiagvik and Prudhoe Bay. The Department of Energy and Sandia National Labs are especially interested in a potential proposal. The UAF lead is Nettie La Belle-Hamer, Deputy Director Geophysical Institute and Alaska Satellite Facility director.

**Consortium for Ocean Leadership (COL)** – Molly ended her term as an elected trustee of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership at its fall meeting in Washington DC October 23-24. The meeting focused on strategic thinking for upcoming ocean research priorities and concluded with an industry forum on offshore wind energy.

**Coastal Ocean Modeling Testbed (COMT)** – While in DC for the COL meetings, Molly was able to attend the first day of the COMT PI meeting October 22. She met with Axiom staff oceanographer/modeler Jesse Lopez and Joannes Westerink of Notre Dame University who is working with a team, including AOOS, on a storm surge model for western Alaska. Trey Flowers with the National Water Institute in Tuscaloosa announced plans to bring the national water model to Alaska in summer 2022, starting with the Copper River basin and Cook Inlet.

**EVOS PI meetings** – Carol and Axiom staff Stacey Buckelew and Chris Turner participated in the October 8-10 *Exxon Valdez Oil Spill* (EVOS) Gulf Watch Alaska (GWA) and Herring Research Monitoring (HRM) programs' PI meeting in Homer, AK. Carol also provided a status report to the EVOS Trustee Council in Anchorage on October 11 summarizing the 5-year Data Management Program AOOS and Axiom are overseeing for all the GWA and HRM projects.

**NOAA Ecosystem Sciences Management Working Group (ESMWG)** – Molly met with the group in Portland, OR October 7-8, focusing on developing a draft report on technological alternatives to ship surveys for use in fisheries management. The working group reports to the NOAA Science Advisory Board.

**OCEANS'19 (MTS/IEEE/OES)** – Carol participated in the OCEANS'19 technical conference in Seattle, WA October 27-31. Special sessions included polar and under ice stationary and mobile observing systems and best practices in sensor design and use, systems operations, and data management. Conference presentations are accompanied with a paper. The technical program can be found at <https://program.oceans19mtsieeseattle.org/glance.cfm>.

**Alaska OA Network steering committee** – Darcy hosted a meeting on October 2 to discuss topics including a statewide data synthesis effort, the future of the ferry for science in Southeast Alaska, upcoming presentations, and a carbon policy podcast series.

**Adapt Kodiak** – Darcy gave a presentation on ocean acidification in Alaska to the Adapt Kodiak workshop on Oct 24.

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

**Coastal Mapping Strategic Plan** – Marta Kumle, AOOS Coastal Mapping Specialist, has been working at the Alaska Department of Natural Resources to help develop a prioritization plan for Alaska coastal mapping. The plan will be released to the public late this year and culminates a 2 year effort to develop and implement a process setting priorities for mapping the Alaska coastline (e.g., knitting together sea bed bathymetry and upland terrestrial maps).

**Regional Ocean Data Partnership** – A working group of the AOOS board met October 3 and approved using the new funds received by AOOS to focus on increased data sharing, community engagement and communication and outreach



*Darcy Dugan at the Board of Fish Meeting in Anchorage.*

products in the Bering Sea region, given the rapid ecosystem changes there. Molly has been meeting with potential partners (ACCAP, ABSI LCC and WALCC, ANTHC, IARPC, TNC, etc.) to identify components of the project and develop a more detailed implementation plan.

**2<sup>nd</sup> HF Radar deployed in Shishmaref** – In the last update, we reported the successful installation of a new Bering Strait High Frequency radar in Wales. A 2<sup>nd</sup> station was installed September 26 in Shishmaref and operated without incident through October 4, when a power issue occurred, stopping the record. The data are providing great coverage all along the northwestern side of the Seward Peninsula. Though data are not currently available due to cell phone modem issues, UAF has developed a [project page](#) for these HF radars that will feature information as it becomes available.



*2<sup>nd</sup> Bering Strait HF Radar installation in Shishmaref, AK. October 2019 (photo courtesy Rachel Potter, UAF)*

**Expanding autonomous glider observing in Alaska** – AOOS received substantial funding from NOAA as part of a national IOOS Fill the Gaps campaign to capitalize and increase glider operations in the Alaska region. The motivation is to support commercial fisheries and associated ecosystem assessment needs. AOOS held stakeholder conference calls on how to best utilize gliders for these activities. Fisheries scientists and managers expressed their need to better understand the timing and magnitude of the spring bloom, the single most important biological event of the year's productivity cycle, since in the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea, a number of commercially important species have evolved a life history strategy through the months preceding and surrounding the spring bloom. AOOS will use the glider capital support to upgrade the existing UAF-based glider fleet to extend range and mission endurance, and to update the sensor payloads for comprehensive ecosystem assessment surveys. Operational support will focus on training new glider pilots who will be dedicated to the 24/7/365 day operations planned for the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska starting in 2020. The ultimate goal is to implement a multi-year, spatially repeated glider survey to provide critical information for the annual Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) assessments.

## **COLLABORATIONS**

**AK HAB Network** - AHAB is currently without a coordinator while AOOS and partners are looking into funding options to support a position. In the meantime, key tasks have been divided among AHAB members and monthly calls will continue. The next one is on Thursday, Nov 14. A summary of the 2019 HAB season will be produced this fall.

**AK OA Network** – Check out the [October OA eNews](#). Topics include an interview with Arley Muth about her work on pH in the Beaufort Sea, the Board of Fish briefing, news about the OA-monitoring ferry M/V Columbia going back into service, a new OA academic database, OA kits available to high school teachers, and OA legislation sponsored by Senator Sullivan. Darcy hosted a call on October 10 between other OA networks around the country to discuss how networks handle the topic of carbon emissions/reductions. She will also be hosting an OA Network table at the Pacific Marine Expo coming up in Seattle.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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| Nov 13-14 | White House Science and Technology Summit, Washington DC – Molly |
| Nov 14    | Alaska HAB Network monthly call                                  |
| Nov 14-15 | Alaska Women's Adaptation Network Initiative, Anchorage - Darcy  |
| Nov 21    | NGA Arctic Domain awareness, Virginia – Carol                    |
| Nov 21-22 | NOAA OCM Regional Ocean Data Sharing, Charleston – Molly         |
| Nov 21-23 | Pacific Marine Expo, Seattle – Darcy                             |
| Dec 3-5   | ADAC Arctic Oil Spill workshop, Anchorage – Molly                |
| Dec 5-6   | CIRCAC Board Meeting, Anchorage – Molly                          |
| Dec 9-13  | AGU, San Francisco – no one attending this year                  |
| Dec 16    | AOOS Board Meeting, Anchorage                                    |

**Molly McCammon, Carol Janzen, Holly Kent, Darcy Dugan, and Stacey Buckelew**