

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

**Office Shutdown** – Like other organizations and businesses, AOOS is hunkering down here in Alaska. Our office is closed to business, with all employees working from home. If you need to reach one of us, please look on our website for our email and cell phone contact information.

**Welcome Jill Prewitt** – AOOS welcomes Jill Prewitt to our team as Regional Ocean Data Sharing Coordinator. Jill will be the lead staff for the new Bering Ocean Data Sharing Initiative and related Bering Sea data projects. She comes to us most recently from NOAA where she worked as a marine mammal specialist on Endangered Species Act analyses. Prior to that, she spent 5 years in Norway as the scientific secretary for the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO), and prior to that, as a pinniped research coordinator at the Alaska SeaLife Center. Jill's contact email is [prewitt@aoos.org](mailto:prewitt@aoos.org). Her official start date (and that of her dog, Finn) is April 6.



**AOOS Seeking Project Ideas by April 10 to Add to Our 5-Year 2021-26 IOOS Proposal** – AOOS continues to solicit our stakeholders for project ideas to include in our upcoming 5-Year proposal to the Integrated Ocean Observing System. This proposal will determine how we proceed with our observing program from 2021-2026 and is an important opportunity to provide your input. To learn more about this effort, visit our [website](#) which includes instructions on how to submit your ideas. We invite your ideas on how we might expand our observing activities to address Alaska ocean and coastal issues and concerns. If interested in providing some input, please send us an [email](#).

## **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS/PRESENTATIONS**

**IOOS Spring Meeting** – Molly joined her IOOS colleagues in Washington DC March 4-5 for the annual spring meeting between the IOOS Program Office and the Regional Associations. Day 1 focused on discussions on Converging Opportunities (UN Decade for Ocean Science, IOOS Grand Challenges and Decadal Vision for Ocean Science and Technology); National Ocean Services Opportunities (Nicole LeBeouf and Mark Osler); Opportunities for Observing Biology; Regional Ocean Projects update, and IOOS Program Updates. Molly was also able to check in with the Alaska delegation offices to keep them updated on AOOS activities.

**2020 Alaska Coastal Mapping Summit** – The summit was previously scheduled for April 9th in Anchorage and has now been postponed until later this year. Currently, we are targeting to coincide the Summit with this fall's Alaska Mapping Executive Committee (AMEC) meeting if it is held in Alaska.

## **COLLABORATIONS**

**Alaska OA Network** – OA researchers are in the process of figuring out what research and monitoring will take place this summer and what will be postponed. They will be providing updates within the OA community via Zoom on April 3.

**Coastal Mapping Strategy for Alaska** - The November 2019 presidential [Memorandum on Ocean and Coastal Mapping](#) called for NOAA, the State of Alaska, and AMEC to draft a coastal mapping strategy for Alaska. With AOOS assistance, the draft is complete and is currently under review by the Office of Science and Technology Policy. Document release is anticipated in June of this year.

## **DATA MANAGEMENT**

**Satellite Data Course in AK postponed** – The NOAA CoastWatch Ocean Satellite Course, originally to be offered in Anchorage, Alaska, April 7-9, 2020, has been postponed. More information is available online: [https://coastwatch.pfeg.noaa.gov/courses/satellite\\_course\\_reg.html](https://coastwatch.pfeg.noaa.gov/courses/satellite_course_reg.html)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Mar 31-Apr2 Arctic Observing Summit, Iceland (Molly) – **held by video conference**

April 1-4 Western Alaska Science Symposium, Dillingham (Darcy) - **cancelled**

Apr 29-May 1 Arctic Planning Session: UN Decade of the Ocean, Copenhagen (Molly) – **postponed**

**Molly McCammon, Carol Janzen, Holly Kent, and Darcy Dugan, and our data team at Axiom Data Science**

We thought you might want to see where we are all working from during these days of trying to flatten the curve!

