

Alaska Ocean Observing System

1007 W. Third Avenue, Suite 100

Anchorage, AK 99501

www.aos.org

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT AOOS Data & Product Manager

Position Description

The Alaska Ocean Observing System ([AOOS](http://www.aos.org)) is one of 11 Regional Associations that makes up the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System ([IOOS®](http://www.ioos.org)). AOOS is recruiting a full-time position to serve as the Data & Product Manager. The position is based out of the AOOS Anchorage, Alaska office and will work closely in collaboration with the AOOS Data Management team at [Axiom Data Science](http://www.axiomdata.com) (Axiom). The Data & Product Manager is a new position being added to the AOOS team with the influx of the 5-year Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding.

In addition to working with Axiom on core data management activities, this position will integrate closely with other AOOS staff, an AOOS data management advisory committee, and other data product developers and collaborators to improve implementation of the overall AOOS Data Management and Cyberinfrastructure (DMAC) Sub-system. In this role, the Data & Product Manager may work on algorithm development, optimization, programming, performance analysis, and/or benchmarking assignments of moderate scope where the tasks involve a working knowledge of marine science, oceanography, and other aspects of environmental science. This position requires relevant domain science knowledge in multidisciplinary marine sciences, oceanography, and meteorology to lead and develop products for stakeholder clients. This position also requires a level of professional computing and programming abilities for medium-sized projects or portions of larger projects to work effectively with the technical staff at Axiom. As AOOS is seeking data science solutions to end-user requests for specific operational and decision-making tools, the position will also communicate and engage with diverse communities to understand their needs in order to implement data solutions for ocean and climate data services. The ultimate goal of these activities is to enhance the utility of ocean observing data for public use.

The successful applicant will help assemble and integrate data from a wide assortment of sources including academic researchers, local, state and federal agencies, and community observing programs. This individual will interact with data providers, help stage or preprocess data, ensure that metadata gets collected for data feeds. Data types are varied, ranging from physical observations (e.g., water level, temperature, ocean currents), biogeochemical (e.g., nutrients, dissolved oxygen, ocean acidification parameters, plankton species, suspended sediments), to qualitative (e.g., community visual observations, high water marks, at-sea freezing spray observations). Managing this variety of data types requires coordination with several initiatives to harmonize best practices including the AOOS current data management contractor (Axiom), The National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI), national data initiatives including the Marine Biodiversity Observation Network ([MBON](http://www.mbon.org)) and the Animal Telemetry Network ([ATN](http://www.atn.org)), and regional networking initiatives including the [Alaska Water Level Watch](http://www.alaska-water-level-watch.org), the Alaska Ocean Acidification Network ([AOAN](http://www.aon.org)), and the Alaska Harmful Algal Bloom Network ([AHAB Network](http://www.ahab-network.org)). This work will implement [FAIR and CARE data practices](http://www.fairandcare.org) that will include the integration of data through forming and applying best practices, which then make data findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable.

Work Location and Consideration

AOOS has offices in Anchorage and Fairbanks. The primary AOOS office is based in downtown Anchorage and staff are currently working in a hybrid fashion from home and office. We currently have

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[eight employees](#) that work to achieve our [mission](#). AOOS is considering remote working options for the Data & Product Manager position, where the successful candidate will not be required to move to Anchorage with an understanding that the candidate will travel to Anchorage on a regular basis (frequency to be negotiated).

Compensation

We offer a competitive salary, flexible working conditions, and an excellent benefits package with a generous leave policy through the Alaska SeaLife Center, the AOOS fiscal sponsor. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

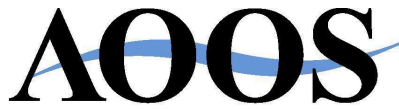
Qualifications - Training and Experience Requirements

- Bachelor's degree (or higher) in Marine/Environmental Sciences/Oceanography with computer / computational / data specialization or equivalent combination of education and experience. Master's degree desired.
 - Computer and data scientists who have experience working with environmental, ocean and meteorological data, and who have experience with multi-disciplinary, spatial and/or temporal data analysis of these types of data are encouraged to apply.
- Programming skills in one or more of Python, R/Shiny, SQL, JavaScript and Matlab, and working knowledge of programming design, modification and implementation for ocean science applications.
- Working knowledge of how to display and plot oceanographic and other environmental data in meaningful and useful ways for data visualization and data product development.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate technical information to technical as well as non-technical personnel at various levels in the organization and to external audiences. Ability to communicate with diverse audiences of all ages.
- Ability to design and conduct user interface tutorials for stakeholders/end-users.
- Ability to communicate through oral and written presentations the AOOS data management system and its various components at local, regional and national meetings.
- Demonstrated ability to regularly interface with management (Executive Director, project managers).
- The ability and willingness to work and sometimes collaborate across agencies and organizations to accomplish tasks, respond to agency needs, and meet user requirements.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team, and to successfully work on multiple concurrent projects.
- Demonstrated problem-solving skills, with ability to learn effectively and meet deadlines.

Desired Skills

- Experience with data management best practices and metadata standards.
- Experience using THREDDS and ERDDAP for data access.

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- Comfortable processing large oceanographic, environmental, and biologic datasets and working with different formats such as netCDF.

Major responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- May serve as the AOOS Regional Coastal Observing System (RCOS) Data Manager.
- Leads the AOOS Data Advisory Committee.
- Manages the AOOS core data management contracts with Axiom and contracts with data product developers.
- Assists in technical management and reporting of AOOS core grants, programs, contracts, and subawards related to data management and data products through tracking and reporting progress towards strategic goals and metrics; this includes reviewing scopes of work, budgets, invoices, and ensuring contractor milestones are being met.
- Helps develop statements of work and budgets for external proposals and awards involving AOOS Data Management Services.
- Takes the lead in developing and implementing data and information products within the organization, working closely with appropriate project managers, the outreach director and project PIs to ensure correct data representation is achieved while satisfying end-user/stakeholder needs.
- Listens well and filters and incorporates appropriate feedback on projects while keeping projects within scope and budget.
- With the support of other AOOS staff, plans and leads data management and related topics meetings and workshops for current and prospective ocean observing practitioners and broad-based information users.
- Supports AOOS and IOOS to facilitate data management working groups.
- Coordinates with NCEI to facilitate data archival of AOOS data assets and holdings and oversees data archival initiatives to be executed by Axiom, ensuring RCOS data management requirements are being met.
- Reviews QARTOD tests being implemented on AOOS real time data streams, to ensure they are appropriate, in range and are performing to qualify real time data as accurately as possible; may need to solicit expert reviews of existing QARTOD QC checks to accuracy and work with Axiom on standardization vs. special QARTOD checks for specific data types or locations.
- Develops ideas and capabilities to improve discovery and presentation/visualization of AOOS data holdings/
- Maintains knowledge of information product development and maintenance practices, including software development skills such as Python, Matlab, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and emerging tools.
- Works with the IOOS program office, its DMAC team, Axiom, and other AOOS contractors and partners (e.g. via regular conference calls and standards reviews).

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- Facilitates DMAC-related engagement with data providers, as well as data system end-users (e.g., tracking feedback, response and actions, identifying appropriate use-case metrics).
- Contributes to the dissemination of AOOS products and tools, including maintaining Internet-based education and outreach materials or data access training tutorials to improve data accessibility.

To Apply

Please submit a cover letter and resume to Thomas Farrugia at farrugia@aoos.org by COB December 2, 2024.

AOOS is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. AOOS considers all applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or covered veteran status in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws.