

**Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS)
First Annual Implementation Conference
31 August - 2 September 2004**

Tuesday, August 31, 2004

0830 – 1200 Plenary I: Overview, Goals, and Procedures

0830 – 0930 Overview of the IOOS and the preliminary *Development Plan*, conference goals, procedures, and deliverables (Tom Malone)

0930 – 1030 Agency Perspectives (Ocean.US Executive Committee (EXCOM) members, five minutes each) (led by EXCOM Chair or designee)

1030 – 1035 Form small groups (three to four people) to discuss and agree on the following (Dick McCaffery):

- (1) Overall, are you comfortable with the preliminary draft of the *First Annual IOOS Development Plan*?
- (2) Do you have particular issues or concerns that you would like to have clarified? If so, what are they (maximum of two)?

[This will be a “self organizing” activity, with each group including at least one person from a federal agency and one person from a region. Each group will be asked to report back in plenary on one to two issues. All of these will be recorded for the Conference report.]

1035 – 1045 BREAK

1045 – 1100 Small group caucuses to address questions (1) and (2) above

1100 – 1200 Brief reports from groups and panel-led¹ discussion to clarify issues related to IOOS development and to determine if there are common themes that can be used to improve the *IOOS Development Plan* and, if appropriate to the topic, can be addressed in subsequent sessions (led by EXCOM Chair or designee)

1200 – 1300 LUNCH

Working lunch with Chairs, Co-Chairs, and Rapporteurs of sessions scheduled on days one and two (Tom Malone and Dick McCaffery)

1300 – 1500 Plenary II: Regional Development

Overview of Regional Association (RA) and Regional Coastal Ocean Observing System (RCOOS) development, including the rationale for federal investment in their establishment and sustained operation; current status of RA and National Federation of Regional Association (NFRA) development, the establishment of RCOOSs, and next steps. (David Martin, Chair NFRA Organizing Committee)

Recommend actions needed to be eligible for certification as an RA and the process for certification with estimated costs (FY 05-06); recommend actions needed to establish the NFRA (Discussion led by Dick McCaffery)

1500 – 1530 BREAK

1530 – 1730 Plenary III: Data Management and Communications (DMAC)

Overview of the DMAC Plan, key issues, and opportunities (including recommended next steps for developing DMAC capabilities) (Lee Dantzler and Steve Hankin)

Data management intersects almost all aspects of IOOS. Ocean.US will provide an overview of the DMAC Plan, key issues, and opportunities for moving forward, as well as planned DMAC activities. The goal of the subsequent discussion will be to help ensure that a common view of DMAC considerations is incorporated into the breakout discussions. Recommendations will be solicited from the workshop participants regarding forthcoming IOOS DMAC “best practices” and standards development activities, and to help ensure that the key issues and priorities have been identified.

Wednesday, September 1, 2004

0800 – 0900 Plenary IV: The Global Ocean-Climate Component

Review of the global plan, the status of implementation, and future developments.
(Chet Koblinsky)

0900 – 1000 Plenary V: Product-Driven, Prioritized, Phased Implementation

Review charge to Working Groups (WGs) and procedures for formulating a prioritized, phased implementation plan for developing an integrated system that will deliver new or improved products (Tom Malone and Dick McCaffery)

1000 – 1030 BREAK

1030 – 1200 Breakout Session

Five groups work in parallel (each group with co-Chairs from a federal agency and a regional group, and a rapporteur). One WG will work on establishing priorities for coordinated development of the global and coastal components of the IOOS.² Four WGs will focus on product-driven implementation plans (see “Guidance for Product-Driven Working Groups”) as follows:

- (1) Coordinated development of the global and coastal components
- (2) Water Level, Surface Current, and Wave Fields
- (3) Distribution and Volume of Sea Ice
- (4) 3-Dimensional fields of dissolved inorganic nitrogen, chlorophyll-*a*, dissolved O₂, and pCO₂
- (5) Spatial extent and condition of Essential Fish Habitats for living marine resources (e.g., coral reefs, oyster reefs, sea grass beds, kelp beds, tidal marshes, and mangrove forests)

1200 – 1300 LUNCH

1300 – 1500 Breakout Session (continued)

1500 – 1530 BREAK

1530 – 1700 Plenary VI: Working Group Results

Reports from WG chairs (short-term and long-term priorities for implementation and development) followed by a comment session for the record.³

Rapporteurs deliver completed work sheets from each WG to Kristine Stump no later than 1700.

Thursday, September 2, 2004

Meeting of Federal Agencies with Ocean.US

Given recommendations from days one to two and the preliminary *IOOS Development Plan*, agree on the following:

- (1) Potential agency roles and responsibilities for IOOS implementation (for subsequent vetting by the agencies following the conference as described below); and
- (2) A 30-day action plan for accepting, rejecting, and prioritizing recommendations for implementing the IOOS during FY 05-06 and FY 07-14.

For the coastal component (backbone, RAs) and coordinated development of global and coastal components, the EXCOM leads the following:

- (1) Discuss intersections with or potential linkage of recommendations from days one and two with current and/or planned agency programs;
- (2) Identify major problems and inconsistencies in these recommendations; and
- (3) Agree on a 30-day schedule for each agency to answer the following questions for **each** set of recommendations in the categories of “national backbone,” RAs and global-coastal coordination:
 - (a) Is the recommendation a high, medium, or low priority for your agency to implement? If high or medium, indicate when implementation should begin (FY 05-06 or FY 07-14).
 - (b) In terms of the seven IOOS goals in general, should the recommendation be a high, medium, or low priority for IOOS implementation?
 - (c) For (a) and (b) above, should your agency be the lead agency for implementation? If interagency collaboration is needed, which agencies should be involved and how will this be accomplished?
 - (d) Given (a), (b), and (c) above, which recommendations (or elements thereof) is your agency willing to commit to and fund? What are your agency’s priorities, and which can be committed to in FY 05-06 or FY 07-14? What conditions must be met, and what issues must be addressed for implementation to occur?

Results of days one and two of the workshop and agency responses to these questions will be used by Ocean.US to revise the preliminary *IOOS Development Plan* for public comment. Based on these comments, a final, EXCOM-approved draft will be prepared for transmission to the National Ocean Research Leadership Council (NORLC).

FOOTNOTES

- ¹ The Ocean.US Executive Committee, Director of Ocean.US, and Chair of the NFRA Organizing Committee will constitute the panel.
- ² Discuss the interdependencies of the global and coastal components, and formulate recommendations for coordinated development of an IOOS in which the coastal component meets requirements of the global component and vice versa (FY 05 – 14).
- ³ The comment period is intended to give everyone an opportunity to express a point (pro or con) for the record. This may include questions for clarification, issues of concern, statements of support, etc. The purpose is to listen, not to debate.