



**UPDATE**  
Central and Northern California Ocean  
Observing System

March 2008

## **CeNCOOS and IOOS Funding and Legislation**

### *CeNCOOS Operations Funding*

CeNCOOS successfully competed in the 2007 NOAA RFP competitive process. CeNCOOS received \$1M award from NOAA for FY08 to support the project proposed, "CeNCOOS: Long-term monitoring of environmental conditions in support of protected marine area management in central and northern California." An August 1, 2008 start date is expected. Thank you to all who participated and continue to participate in this process. Please contact Steve Ramp ([sramp@mbari.org](mailto:sramp@mbari.org)) with questions.

### *CeNCOOS Administration and Coordination Funding*

CeNCOOS received a \$400K NOAA award for FY08 for the proposal, "Leadership and Coordination of the Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System." A June 1, 2008 start date is expected. Each of the 11 RAs was funded at this level for administration and coordination to continue the regional components of the national IOOS. Please contact Heather Kerkering ([heather@mbari.org](mailto:heather@mbari.org)) with questions.

### *IOOS Funding*

Total NOAA IOOS Funding FY08: \$27.2M. NOAA IOOS recommended that \$20.4M go to regional partners.

NOAA is not planning to run a new competitive process for FY09 but hopes to use the results of the 08 process.

### *IOOS Legislation*

**The US House of Representatives passed the National Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observing Act of 2007 by unanimous consent on Monday, March 31, 2007.** The Act would create an Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). The Senate has yet to consider its version of the IOOS bill (S. 950), which was approved by the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee last year.

## California Workshops and Reports

*“Making Use of Ocean Observing: Applications to MPAs and Water Quality in California.” San Francisco, CA. September 2007.*

A final report from the workshop is now available:

<http://www.cencoos.org/California-Workshop-Report-FINAL.pdf>

We are still planning to build on the workshop by developing a cohesive plan for how observing systems can meet management needs. This effort would produce a plan that is scientifically sound, but also compelling to policy makers, managers and the general public. CeNCOOS is working with the Coastal Conservancy and the Ocean Protection Council to build on the workshop recommendations.

*California Current Ecosystem Based Management Workshop. Santa Cruz, CA. January 29-31, 2008. <http://ims.ucsc.edu:16080/ccebm/>*

After almost 2 years of planning, a successful workshop focused on CCEBM was held in late January. As a member of the Planning Committee, CeNCOOS is helping develop final reports and determine action items based on the workshop recommendations and outcomes. Please find all materials on the website.

*San Francisco Estuary National Water Quality Monitoring Network Pilot Project Report*

[http://www.sfei.org/rmp/reports/548\\_RMP\\_SFEstuaryNWQMN\\_PilotReport.pdf](http://www.sfei.org/rmp/reports/548_RMP_SFEstuaryNWQMN_PilotReport.pdf)

*National Level: <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/network/design/index.html>*

## CeNCOOS Web Updates/Success Stories

CeNCOOS success made the front page of NOAA IOOS: <http://ioos.noaa.gov/>

Please visit the CeNCOOS website: [www.cencoos.org](http://www.cencoos.org) for:

New Success Stories, Reports and Fact Sheets (more to come – stay tuned!):

1. OceanObs Inventory Update and Success Story
2. Success Story: Ocean Observations Benefit Local Abalone Farm
3. Surface Currents Fact Sheet
4. HAB Fact Sheet

Improved access to “Products and Data” <http://www.cencoos.org/data.htm>

Improved access to current “Coastal Conditions” <http://www.cencoos.org/conditions.htm>

Improved inventory at Oceanobs: <http://www.oceanobs.org/>

## CeNCOOS Upcoming Events

### NOW

CeNCOOS is currently running an election process to accept 3 new members to the Governing Board, for a total of 15. The MOA Signatories are participating in the process. Stay tuned for results and upcoming meetings.

**April 5, 2008**

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Symposium 2008: *Oceans of Change: Our Climate, Our Sanctuary, Our Future*. CSU Monterey Bay. Seaside, CA.

<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/research/currsymp2008/welcome.html>

**April 24-26, 2008**

Humboldt Symposium 2008. Eureka, CA.

Poster abstracts due April 6, 2008. Information on dates, call for posters, registration forms, and recent media release. <http://www.humboldtbay.org/harbordistrict/symposium/>.

**April 29, 2008**

First Biennial Ocean Climate Summit: Finding Solutions for San Francisco Bay Area's Coast and Ocean. Gulf of Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. San Francisco, CA.

**May 6-8, 2008**

IOOS DMAC Steering Team Meeting. Silver Spring, MD. May 6-8.

**June 1-2, 2008**

IEA and West Coast Ocean Observing Systems Workshop. Portland, OR. Stay tuned.

**June 4-5, 2008**

NOAA IOOS Assessments of West Coast RAs. Seattle, WA.

**National News, Workshops and Reports***Ocean.US Reorganization*

Ocean.US is currently going through a transition phase. Dr. Mary Altalo will complete her tenure as Director of Ocean.US on March 31, 2008. Dr. William Birkemeier will be the acting Ocean.US Director and will lead this transition from April 1, 2008 through the end of FY08. The Interagency Working Group on Ocean Observations (IWGOO) has agreed to develop a transition plan for Ocean.US.

**!!** IWGOO IOOS Strategic Plan: Announced for review on the Federal Register March 11, 2008. Access for review from the Ocean.US Webpage: <http://www.ocean.us/IWGOO/spcomments>. **Comments are due 4 April.** Please visit the website to view our comments.

*ORRAP Ocean Observing Subpanel created. First meeting scheduled for June 2008*

*NOAA IOOS Program Strategic Plan: 2008-2014*

[http://ioos.noaa.gov/pdfs/IOOS\\_Prog\\_StratPlan.pdf](http://ioos.noaa.gov/pdfs/IOOS_Prog_StratPlan.pdf)

*IOOS Updates and Communication*

For IOOS Updates from the Director, Zdenka Willis, please see Z-grams

[http://ioos.noaa.gov/other\\_res/program.html](http://ioos.noaa.gov/other_res/program.html)

Updates on data management, DMAC standards, legislation, new collaborations, etc.

*MPA Framework: Developing a National System of Marine Protected Areas Draft Report.* Marine Protected Area Draft Report. Comments due April 16, 2008. You can find electronic copies of the full draft framework and associated documents at <http://www.mpa.gov>

## **Other Things Keeping Us Busy**

Census of Marine Life and IOOS Workshop. Washington DC. January 2008.  
Numerous *Cosco Busan* Oil Spill Assessment Meetings in San Francisco and Oakland, CA. Many partnerships and relationship have developed and grown from this experience. Example partnerships: SF PORTS; Harbor Safety Committee; CA Natural Resources Committee; NOAA; OSPR; Sanctuaries.  
Piecing together oceanographic events surrounding the Monterey Bay “Mystery Oil Spill” from Fall 2007. Working Group established.  
CeNCOOS hosted the Central Coast Area Committee Meeting at MBARI. February 22, 2008.  
Ocean Sciences Conference and NFRA Board of Governors Meeting. Orlando, FL. March 2008.