



NEWSLETTER OF THE GULF OF MEXICO COASTAL OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEM

GCOOS NEWS AND UPDATES FOR 26 AUGUST 2011

GULF OF MEXICO REGIONAL NEWS

Loop Current Eddy Halts Work at GoM Projects

GCOOS member, Horizon Marine, Inc, issued this news release on Loop Current Eddy Hadal on 25 August 2011. "The most recent Loop Current eddy to halt operations in the Gulf of Mexico with 4.0+ knot currents shows no sign of letting up any time soon. In support of multiple projects, Horizon Marine has mobilized three of its ocean current monitoring systems to provide fine-scale monitoring of Eddy Hadal*, the latest eddy to shed from the Loop. This large, vigorous oceanographic feature has impacted operators in Mississippi Canyon, Green Canyon, and Walker Ridge since June." Over the years, the Loop Current and associated eddies have cost the offshore industry millions of dollars with operators reporting downtime as 'Waiting on Currents'. The Fast Automated Survey Technology (FAST) Eddy survey systems, designed to measure currents to a depth of 1800' (550m), effectively captures the location, intensity, and movement of these strong currents. The survey vessel typically steams along at 6-8 knots following a predetermined survey pattern, providing clients with near real-time data via a website to assist in operational decision-making. Armed with situational awareness and near-term forecasts, operators can be more confident in decisions regarding mobilizing an ROV, splashing a BOP, pulling riser, and putting divers in the water.

*Horizon Marine monitors and forecasts the Loop Current and Loop Current eddies, naming 62 of them since starting the Eddy Watch program in support of the offshore industry in 1984.

New Water Level Stations Installed for Storm Surge Monitoring Network in Alabama

In July, the first three water level stations in the Mobile Bay Storm Surge Monitoring Network were installed in Mobile County, AL. This accomplishment involved NOAA/National Ocean Service-Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services' (CO-OPS) first operational installation of microwave radar water level sensors. The main objective of the project is to install a state-of-the-art water level network, consisting of five new strategically located stations to provide real-time storm surge data to Mobile County's emergency managers, weather forecast office, and others. The goal is to provide better spatial coverage of water level observations throughout Alabama's complicated and flood prone coasts.

National Estuarine Research Reserves Scholarship Program for Undergraduate Students

The National Estuarine Research Reserve Association (NERRA) and the Friends of Rookery Bay (FORB) have announced a relatively new scholarship program that is available again for undergraduate students. The Lois Yoder-Swaim Memorial Scholarship will provide its second year of funding for deserving students who agree to conduct a project in cooperation with the staff of a National Estuarine Research Reserve. The scholarship application deadline is 23 September 2011. [Learn more.](#)
<http://www.nerra.org>

Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Principal Investigator's One Year Update Workshop

There will be a [Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Principal Investigator's One Year Update Workshop](#)

held from 25-26 October at the Don CeSar Resort in St. Petersburg, FL. This two-day workshop will focus on research conducted in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) and its coastal communities in response to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon Mississippi Canyon 252 (DWH) oil spill. Objectives of the workshop include 1) updating results of studies that were in progress during the Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology (JSOST) coordinating conference in October 2010 (see <http://www.masgc.org/gmrp/documents/oiljsost.pdf>); 2) sharing results of more recent projects; 3) providing input to future GOM research directions; and foster collaborative partnerships. The workshop will bring together academic institutions, private research institutes, state and federal agencies, and important stakeholders active in the GOM science and research. Topical areas include: 1) impacts and mitigation associated with coastal environments, offshore environments, human health and socio-economic systems, living marine resources 2) use of in situ and remote sensors, sampling and systems for assessing the extent, fates, impacts and mitigation of oil/dispersant and 3) oil/dispersant-extent and fate. For more information contact Alan Leonardi (NOAA) at <mailto:alan.leonardi@noaa.gov> / 305-361-4306, or Mike Allen (NOAA) at <mailto:mike.allen@noaa.gov>.
<http://www.masgc.org/gmrp/documents/oiljsost.pdf>

NATIONAL NEWS

National Ocean Council Seeks Nominations for Advisory Committee

The National Ocean Council's formal advisory committee, the Ocean Research Advisory Panel (ORAP), will be seeking nominations for members. Current ORAP members include representatives of the National Academies, ocean industries, State governments, academia, and others, including eminent individuals in the fields of marine science, marine policy, and related areas such as ocean resource management. Anyone (including any organization) may nominate qualified individuals (including one's self) for membership on the panel. The deadline for nominations is 15 September 2011. If you require information, please contact CDR Stephen D. Martin, U.S. Navy, at stephen.d.martin@navy.mil or check out the following link:

http://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2011/08/18/2011-21116/nominations-for-membership-on-the-ocean-research-advisory-panel?utm_content=previous&utm_medium=PrevNext&utm_source=Article#p-6

Recreational Water Quality Criteria 2011 Stakeholder Webinar - Sept 20 2011

The EPA is conducting a webinar on selected presentations from the 2011 Stakeholder Meeting on EPA's Development of New or Revised Water Quality Criteria. The webinar will be held on Tuesday, 20 September 2011 from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm EDT. The purpose of the webinar is to obtain input from interested stakeholders who were unable to attend the face-to-face meeting in New Orleans in June 2011. Stakeholders will have an opportunity to provide feedback to EPA on the general direction and EPA's evaluation and current thinking for the new or revised recreational water quality criteria. For more information and to register for the webinar, go to:

<http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/standards/criteria/health/recreation/index.cfm>.

The final agenda and presentations from the 2011 Stakeholder Meeting are available at:

<http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/standards/criteria/health/recreation/index.cfm>

The meeting summary for the 2011 Stakeholder Meeting has been posted at:

<http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/standards/criteria/health/recreation/index.cfm>.

Upcoming NOAA Science Seminars/Webinars

The OneNOAA Science discussion seminar series is a joint effort to help share science and management information and to promote constructive dialogue between scientists, educators, and resource managers. To keep informed about upcoming seminars, subscribe to a weekly email by visiting <https://list.woc.noaa.gov/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/onenoaascienceseminars> or send and email to OneNOAAscienceseminars-request@list.woc.noaa.gov with the word 'subscribe' in the subject or body (don't include the quotes).

COMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

August

Meeting: "[Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force](#)" 30 August 2011, Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center, Biloxi, MS. The meeting will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. CT and is open to the public with listening sessions immediately following from 2:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. CT. To pre-register for this meeting; please go to this link, <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e4aekwljefe91ecc&llr=lpkzsifab> Pre-registration will close on 27 August 2011. On-site registration will be available on Tuesday, 30 August 2011 starting at 8 a.m. CT.
www.epa.gov/gulfcoasttaskforce/

September

Meeting: "[GCOOS-RA Board of Directors](#)" 15-16 September 2011, Mote Marine Laboratory, Sarasota, FL.

Meeting: "[OCEANS '11 MTS/IEEE](#)", 19-22 September 2011, Hilton Waikoloa Village, Kona, HI. Of special interest on Wednesday from 8:20-09:40 Emerging Ocean Observing Technology Forum: This will be an interactive question/dialog with a panel from industry and US IOOS on the emerging/existing observing needs for the emerging technologies could meet. It will be open to ALL registrant and the goal is to foster closer relationships with the Industry sector of the US IOOS.
<http://www.oceans11mtsieeeekona.org/>

National Estuaries Day, 24 September. To find out more about National Estuaries Day and the events scheduled on that day please visit their website.
<http://estuaries.gov/GetInvolved/Default.aspx?ID=153>

October

Conference: "[ADCPS in Action](#)" 2-5 October 2011, The Catamaran Hotel, San Diego, CA. The conference will focus on these three themes: Marine Measurements Detailed Training, Water Resources and Navigation. Please visit their [website](#) for more on these schedules.
<http://www.rdinstruments.com/aia2011.aspx>

Meeting: "[Ocean Innovation 2011](#)" 18-21 October, Iqaluit, Nunavut, Canada.
<http://www.oceaninnovation.ca/Themes/2011/Content/index.php>

Meeting: "[American Shore & Beach Preservation Association's Expanding Coastal Horizons](#)" 19-21 October 2011, New Orleans, LA.
http://www.asbpa.org/conferences/conf_fall_11.htm

Meeting: "[Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Principal Investigator One Year Update Workshop](#)" 25-26 October 2011, Don CeSar Resort, St. Petersburg, FL. Topical areas include impacts and mitigation, use of in situ and remote sensors, sampling and systems for assessing the extent, fates, impacts and mitigation of oil/dispersant, oil/dispersant-extent and fate.
<http://www.masgc.org/gmrp/documents/oiljsost.pdf>

November

Meeting: "NRDA for the Gulf: Improving Our Ability to Quantify Chronic Damages" 2-4 November 2011, The National Aquarium, Baltimore, MD.
http://app.bronto.com/public/?q=preview_message&fn=Link&t=1&ssid=2525&id=i54q5mei775lgk60s4aojgxzkvtrd&id2=16kbzuc8wgmavms801ea1owop5hk0&subscriber_id=awmxryazphmbxsdbgydpndhdqjimpbjm&messageversion_id=baqwlfgzufatmelglaxwqmcjnxgobhm&delivery_id=amdxnkwrgt

Meeting: "[Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation](#)" 6-10 November 2011, Ocean Center,

Daytona Beach, FL.
<http://www.sgmeet.com/cerf2011>

Meeting: “Using Modeling to Solve Engineering and Environmental Assessment Problems”, 7-9 November 2011, The Renaissance Resort, St. Augustine, FL.
<http://www.oce.uri.edu/ecm12/>

Meeting: “NFRA/IOOS Regional Coordination Workshop, 14-17 November 2011, New England.

December

Meeting “[State of the Gulf Summit](http://www.hartheresearchinstitute.org/state-of-the-gulf-summit/)”, hosted by Harte Research Institute, 4-8 December 2011, Omni Galleria Hotel, Houston, TX.
<http://www.hartheresearchinstitute.org/state-of-the-gulf-summit/>

Meeting: “[American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting 2011](http://www.agu.org/fallmeeting)”, 5-9 December 2011, San Francisco, CA. The keynote address will be delivered by Simon Winchester on 5 December in the Moscone Center North.
<http://www.agu.org/fallmeeting>

2012

Meeting: “[AMS 92nd Annual Meeting](http://ametsoc.org/meet/annual/)”, 22-26 January 2012, Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA. This year’s theme is “Technology in Research and Operations – How We Got Here and Where We’re Going”.
<http://ametsoc.org/meet/annual/>

Meeting: “2012 Ocean Sciences Meeting”, 19-24 February 2012, Salt Lake City, Utah. Please contact Lynda West (lyndaw@sgmeet.com, Tel: 254.776.3550) at the conference office if you have any questions.
(<http://www.sgmeet.com/osm2012/submittal.asp>)
REGISTRATION AND ABSTRACT DUE DATE: 7 October 2011.

Meeting: “[World Ocean Summit 2012](http://www.economistconferences.asia/event/world-oceans-summit)” 22-24 February 2012, Capella, Singapore
<http://www.economistconferences.asia/event/world-oceans-summit>

Meeting: “[2012 Defense Security + Sensing](http://spie.org/x6765.xml)” 23-27 April 2012, Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, MD. This meeting is sponsored by SPIE, the International Society for Optics and Photonics.
ABSTRACT DUE DATE: 10 October 2011.
<http://spie.org/x6765.xml>

Meeting: “2012 ASLO Summer Meeting” 8-13 July 2012, Lake Biwa, Otsu Japan.

Symposium: “[12th International Coral Reef Symposium](http://www.coralcoe.org.au/icrs2012/NewsCoral2012/CoralNews.htm)”, 9-12 July 2012, Cairns, Australia.
<http://www.coralcoe.org.au/icrs2012/NewsCoral2012/CoralNews.htm>

Meeting: “[OCEANS '12 MTS/IEEE](http://www.ieee.org/conferences/mts/2012)” 15-19 October 2012, Hampton Roads. VA.

EMPLOYMENT

Shell Position for Metocean Specialist

Shell is seeking candidates for an experienced meteorologist/oceanographer position in Houston, TX. The job entails supporting offshore engineering and operational activities. The application deadline is 16 September. The posting can be found at:

http://www.shell.com/home/page/careers/professionals/job_search/app_xp_find_a_job_08092006.html

Select Region - Americas, Country - United States
Job ID #: U25493

NOAA's seeks Physical Scientist

The NOAA National Ocean Service's Center for Operational Oceanographic Products & Services (CO-OPS) has posted a vacancy announcement for a Physical Scientist, ZP-1301-2/3 (Operational Modeling) on USA Jobs. The opportunity closes 8/31/2011. For more information go to: www.usajobs.gov <<http://www.usajobs.gov>> and enter Vacancy Announcement # NOS-COOPS-2011-0057 in the box titled "What: (keywords)".



GCOOS is the Gulf of Mexico regional component of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). Our mission is to provide timely, reliable, and accurate information on the open and coastal ocean waters of the Gulf of Mexico to ensure a healthy, clean, productive ocean and resilient coastal zone. Your input, guidance, support, and membership are important to the development of the data, products and services that you need. Contact GCOOS Coordinator, Ann Jochens (ajochens@tamu.edu), to become a GCOOS member and for more information.

We welcome your feedback. If you have an item that you would like to share with others, please email that item to Laura Caldwell (<mailto:lcaldwell@geos.tamu.edu>).