



NEWSLETTER OF THE GULF OF MEXICO COASTAL OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEM

GCOOS NEWS AND UPDATES FOR 13 JANUARY 2012

GULF OF MEXICO REGIONAL NEWS

Annual GCOOS Parties Meeting

The Annual GCOOS Parties Meeting will be 14 March 2012 at the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies in Gulfport, MS. If you plan to attend and wish to raise an issue for discussion or have informational items to include on the agenda, please provide these issues and items to Ann Jochens (ajochens@tamu.edu) by 29 February 2012 so they can be included on the agenda. This meeting will be followed by the 14th Meeting of the GCOOS Board of Directors (14-15 March 2012). Details as they become available will be posted on the website at <http://gcoos.tamu.edu/calender.html>. Also, if you plan to attend, please RSVP to Susan Martin (srmartin@tamu.edu) by 29 February 2012 so that we can plan accordingly.

GCOOS Build-out Plan Available for Review

The GCOOS Board of Directors, in consultation with various experts in the GCOOS-RA region, has prepared a 10-year build-out plan for 17 priority elements. Version 1.0 of the summary document is now available at http://gcoos.tamu.edu/BuildOut/GCOOS_BuildoutPlan_V1.pdf. This plan will evolve through time to meet changing user needs. Comments on any aspect of the plan are welcome at any time. Send comments to Ann Jochens (ajochens@tamu.edu).

Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Trustees Call for Public Input

On 14 December 2011 the Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Trustees [released](#) the Deepwater Horizon Draft Phase I Early Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment (DERP/EA) for public comment. The plan proposes the initial eight projects - two each in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi - receive funding from the \$1 billion Early Restoration [Framework Agreement](#) announced by the Trustees and BP on 21 April 2011. The proposed projects include shoreline marsh creation, coastal dune habitat restoration, nearshore artificial reef creation, oyster cultch restoration and construction of boat ramp facilities. The Trustees will hold 12 public meetings in January and February 2012 throughout Gulf Coast communities and in Washington, D.C. to solicit formal public comment on the DERP/EA. Visit <http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov> to view the DERP/EA, access public meeting details, view additional details of the proposed Early Restoration projects, and submit public comment. The public comment period will end 14 February 2012.

Flower Gardens Bank National Sanctuary, BP and Liquid Robotics to partner

Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary is collaborating with Russell Putt, contractor to BP, to deploy wave gliders to conduct acoustic and current surveys in the Gulf of Mexico. Three Liquid Robotics wave gliders were deployed from two locations along the Gulf Coast. Two of the gliders are outfitted with acoustic packages that will be used to detect marine mammals in the Eastern and Western Gulf of Mexico. The third outfitted with an Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler will conduct surveys at East Flower Garden Bank to collect data as a contribution to a study being conducted by the Naval Research Lab. The objective of the study is to model micro-movement of water around topographic features. The glider time is being donated by BP.

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council to Meet in Mobile, Alabama

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will meet 30 January – 2 February 2012 at the Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel in Mobile, Alabama. For a copy of the detailed agenda or to review briefing book materials, please visit the Council web site at www.gulfcouncil.org. The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council is one of eight regional Fishery Management Councils established by the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. The Council prepares fishery management plans, which are designed to manage fishery resources within the 200-mile exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico.

http://www.gulfcouncil.org/council_meetings/index.php

NATIONAL NEWS

New Report on Dead Zones and Hypoxia

The report “[Hypoxia and Nutrient Reduction in the Coastal Zone: Advice for Prevention, Remediation and Research](#)” - undertaken by the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP), which is administered by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and advises the Global Environment Facility (GEF) - was released as part of the Sixth GEF Biennial International Waters Conference. Authors of the report, examined data from water bodies known to experience depleted dissolved oxygen levels. The study found that one of the most efficient ways to reduce dissolved oxygen depletion was to stem the flow of nutrients from fertilizers, municipal sewage or livestock waste into coastal waters. The report recommended that the GEF and its partners “urgently increase their support to nutrient reduction projects.” For more information, visit: <http://www.unep.org/stap>.

Ocean.Data.Gov Released

[Ocean.Data.gov](http://www.oceandata.gov) joins the growing number of communities on Data.gov that focus on issues of national importance to American citizens and businesses. Ocean.Data.gov is the National Ocean Council's portal for data, information, and tools to support people engaged in planning for the future of the ocean, coasts, and the Great Lakes.

<http://www.data.gov/ocean>

COMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

January

Meeting: “[AMS 92nd Annual Meeting](#)”, 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: “[Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council](#)” 30 January – 2 February 2012, Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel, Mobile, AL.

http://www.gulfcouncil.org/council_meetings/index.php

February

Meeting: “[Social Science For Coastal Decision-Making](#)” 15-16 February 2012, Francis Marion Hotel, Charleston, SC.

<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/socialcoastforum/>

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>.

Meeting: “[World Ocean Summit 2012](#)” 22-24 February 2012, Capella, Singapore

<http://www.economistconferences.asia/event/world-oceans-summit>

March

Workshop: “[9th ONR/MTS Buoy Workshop](#)”, 5-8 March 2011, Victoria’s Marriott Inner Harbour, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
<http://www.whoi.edu/buoyworkshop/2012/index.html>

Meeting: “GCOOS Annual Parties Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting” 14-15 March 2012. Institute for Marine Mammal Studies, Gulfport, MS. More details will be posted soon.

Conference: “[Oceanology International](#)” 13-15 March 2012, London, England. Oceanology International is the global forum where industry, academia and government share knowledge and connect with the marine technology and ocean science community, improving their strategies for measuring, exploiting, protecting and operating in the world’s oceans.
<http://www.oceanologyinternational.com/>

April

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

Conference: “[Inaugural AGU Science Policy Conference](#)” 30 April-3 May 2012, Ronald Regan Building and International Trade Center, Washington, DC.
<http://sites.agu.org/spconference/>

Summit: “[Coastal Cities Summit](#)”, 30 April – 3 May, St. Petersburg, FL.
<http://www.coastalcities-ioi.org/>

May

Meeting “[National Water Quality Monitoring Council’s 8th National Monitoring Conference – Water: One Resource – Shared Effort – Common Future](#)” 30 April – 4 May 2012, Portland, OR.
<http://acwi.gov/monitoring/conference/2012/index.html>

Meeting: “[From Stem to Stern](#)”, 15-17 May 2012, Clearwater Beach Marriott Suites on Sand Key, Clearwater, FL.
<http://www.flseagrant.org/boating/StemtoStern/>

June

Meeting: “[The Coastal Society’s 23rd International Conference](#)”, 3-6 June 2012, Hyatt Regency, Miami, FL.
<http://thecoastalsociety.org/conference/tcs23/index.html>

Conference: “[National Marine Educators Conference](#)” Co-Hosted by AOOS, 24-28 June 2012, University of Alaska Anchorage Campus, Anchorage, AK.
<http://www.coseealaska.net/nmeaconference2012/>

July

Meeting: “2012 ASLO Summer Meeting” 8-13 July 2012, Lake Biwa, Otsu, Japan.
Workshop: “[EARTH Workshop](#)” University of North Carolina, Wilmington, North Carolina.
<http://www.mbari.org/earth/>

Symposium: “[12th International Coral Reef Symposium](#)”, 9-12 July 2012, Cairns, Australia.
<http://www.icrs2012.com>

September

Meeting: “GCOOS-RA Board of Directors Meeting” 26-27 September 2012, Corpus Christi, TX.

October

Meeting: "[Restore America's Estuaries 6th National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration](#)" 20-24 October 2012, Tampa, FL.

DUE DATE FOR SUBMITTAL: 1 FEBRUARY 2012

<http://www.estuaries.org/conference/>

Meeting: "[OCEANS '12 MTS/IEEE](#)" 15-19 October 2012, Hampton Roads. VA.

<http://www.oceans12mtsieeehamptonroads.org/>

EMPLOYMENT

Policy Specialist, Consortium for Ocean Leadership

The Consortium for Ocean Leadership is currently recruiting a Policy Specialist to conduct public policy activities. The Policy Specialist contributes to the implementation of legislative and outreach strategies, maintaining relationships with key congressional and federal agency staff regarding ocean science, research, and education issues. This position edits congressional testimony, communication documents and policy statements. The position also facilitates Ocean Leadership membership participation with and outreach to Congress, the Administration and federal agencies for relevant policy issues. The Policy Specialist reports directly to the Senior Policy Manager, and is based in Washington, DC. To learn more about the position and how to apply, visit: <http://www.oceanleadership.org/2011/policy-specialist/>.

Manager of the President's Office, Ocean Conservancy

The Ocean Conservancy is hiring for the position of Manager of the President's Office. The position provides direct support to the President and CEO and serves as liaison to internal and external partners on behalf of the President. The Manager is responsible for organizing the President's daily workflow and preparing or coordinating the information and materials needed to equip the President for meetings, events and presentations. The role facilitates execution of the President's activities by vetting internal and external requests, channeling assignments to appropriate staff, working closely with the President's direct report team, managing internal and external correspondence, monitoring the Executive Office budget, spearheading special projects for the President, taking the lead on research and briefing preparation, and managing special events. To learn more about the position and how to apply, visit:

<http://www.oceanconservancy.org/who-we-are/work-for-us/manager-of-the-presidents.html>.

Marine Programs Associate, Island Institute

The Island Institute is hiring a Marine Programs Associate to join the Marine Programs staff. The Marine Programs Associate will work on projects focused on sustainable federally-managed fisheries. This work will include providing staff support for creative partnerships with fishing communities in Maine, including fishing gear research projects and the Institute's groundfish permit bank; as well as providing administrative support for a collaborative network of community-based fisheries organizations across the country. The Marine Programs Associate will also provide staff support for the Marine Programs Director on fisheries management and policy issues as they move through the New England Fisheries Management Council and National Marine Fisheries Service. In addition, the Marine Programs Associate is expected to work with other staff as needed on issues related to the marketing and branding of ethically-harvested seafood; working waterfront preservation; offshore wind energy; climate change; marine spatial planning and other projects that emerge. To learn more about the position and how to apply, visit:

<http://www.islandinstitute.org/careers.php> - [MarineProgramsAssociate](#).

Assistant or Associate Professor University of Florida

A person with academic training in marine biology, ecology, fisheries, and spatial or landscape ecology is being sought for a full-time contract position with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS), Center for Coastal Monitoring and Assessment (CCMA), Biogeography Branch. [View the details](#).

Waquoit Bay Reserve Coastal Training Assistant

The Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (WBNERR) is currently accepting applications for a part-time Coastal Training Program (CTP) and Collaboration Assistant. Primary duties will involve planning, facilitating and supporting collaboration processes and activities between scientists and end users for a large climate change research study being spearheaded by WBNERR. The Collaboration Assistant will aid the CTP Coordinator/Project Collaboration Lead in coordinating collaboration related aspects of the project and will function as a member of the diverse project team. This position is located at the Waquoit Bay Reserve headquarters in Falmouth, Massachusetts. [View the details.](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

2012 NMEA Call for Proposals

The Call for Proposals for the [2012 National Marine Educators Conference](#), North to Alaska's Seas: a confluence of science and culture, is now open until February 17, 2012. The conference, which will take place in Anchorage, Alaska, during June 24-28, 2012, will bring together formal and informal educators, scientists, students, and resource managers to share ideas about the world of water. Since 1976, NMEA conferences have built a reputation of cutting-edge ideas, presentations, information and experiences. Conference sponsors this year are the Northwest Aquatic and Marine Educators (NAME) and the Alaska Center for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence (COSEE Alaska). Conference themes include Science and Art, Science and Culture (to include the integration of traditional knowledge and western science), Science and Technology, and Large Marine Ecosystem Science and Education. Download the [Call for Proposals](#) here.

<http://www.coseealaska.net/nmeaconference2012/>



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 Executive Director, 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 (lcaldwell@geos.tamu.edu).