**Goals of second GCOOS Ecosystem Workshop**

The principal geographic focus must be on the region most used by our stakeholders, namely the waters of the estuaries and shelves. Thus, a tentative set of goals for a second workshop might be:

(1) To review current ecosystem modeling in estuarine and shelf waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

(2) To identify significant gaps in information needed for such ecosystem models. This should include a discussion of ongoing efforts and consideration of ways to provide boundary conditions to coastal nested models.

(3) To discuss/identify key model output needed for GCOOS stakeholders with priorities based on feasibility, and

(4) To identify pilot projects that would significantly advance ecosystem modeling in estuarine and shelf waters of the Gulf.

(5) To identify possible funding mechanisms for the pilot projects.

**Foci:**

1. Should focus on efforts that will utilize GCOOS data stream (this suggests we might not want to consider wetlands).
2. Improved biological & chemical (nitrogen, phosphorus, silicon) sensors.
3. Developing comprehensive datasets of nutrients.