

## **GLOS Steering Committee Conference Call Minutes – May 12, 2004:**

### **Roll Call**

Bob Allen  
Cathy Ballard  
Y Samuel Batzli  
Keith Bedford  
Y Mark Bobal  
Stephen Brandt  
Y Mark Burrows  
Joseph DePinto  
Marc Gaden  
Y Norm Grannemann  
*Paul Horvatin* [Glenn Warren]  
Brian Huberty  
Y Thomas Johnson  
Y Lorelle Meadows  
Scott Painter  
Jeffrey Reutter  
Y Dave Schwab  
Harvey Shear  
Stephen Stewart  
*Richard Wagenmaker*  
Marcia Weaks  
Jennifer Werner  
Y Roger Gauthier  
*Christine Manninen*  
Y Stuart Eddy  
*Chris Guenther*  
Y Dave Knight  
*Thomas Rayburn*  
Paul Scholz

[Prior to the Steering Committee conference call, there was a call from Mike Helmsley; Roger Gauthier and Dave Schwab were present:

Original email message from Mike Hemsley April 9, 10:36 am.

Attachment: [State of the Regional IOOS 2004](#)

His implication was that content from us is needed for IOOS Annual Report.

He needs GLOS's 5 priorities from the National Backbone and its 5 priorities for the Regional Observing System. We don't need to give him a timeline or budgets "right now", just the priorities. (General budgets are coming from us; specifics for the priorities have not been sorted and brought to the top.) Priorities are for FY07-11 timeframe, but Hemsley's perception is that our budget development categories are too general. He wants more specific statements about, for example, buoy needs by location or the need for additional water level gauges in order to do some specific task.

A bulleted list by close of business tomorrow is okay, but he would like to see it enhanced with a sentence or two for each item.

### **Update on Activities**

Lorelle Meadows – UM Naval Architecture, Coastal Radar – is on board as a new participant in the steering committee.

Contact info:

The Steering Committee is implementing “Action Items” list beginning with this call:

Ocean Commission Report – reviewed by the GLC; Chapter 26 discusses IOOS and does not completely match what Roger and Dave learned in Washington from Ocean.US.

Mark – Seemed to try to integrate Great Lakes, but didn’t make specific mention of ‘Great Lakes’ everywhere regional coordination was listed. Did GL get adequate attention?

Roger – 22 pages of reviews from the GLC were just completed. Multiple layers, from resources to economic development and many layers in between. This was a “Governor’s Draft” with a 6-week comment period, but Roger doesn’t know how comments are going to be provided. Regarding IOOS in particular, the report remains vague regarding distribution of funding, the percentage going to the backbone vs. to the RCOOSs, other details. Ocean.US and GLOS need to continue pushing.

Dave – Tom Johnson stated at the GLC Semi-Annual meeting that the Great Lakes was notably underrepresented.

Roger – Discussions took place last week with Joy Mullinix about Senate Bill 1400 and next steps regarding the House version of this legislation. The Great Lakes’ fingerprints need to appear on that, and both interagency transfer of funds and legal indemnification clauses need to carry through. The Corps and EPA not mentioned specifically, which makes the document weak for the Great Lakes region.

Tom Rayburn and someone from GLERL are currently at a National Ecological Observation Network (NEON) workshop through NSF, taking place at the Kellogg Biological Station. Background?

Roger will be at the St. Lawrence River Ecosystem Conference next week, where he will present to the full contingent of IJC commissioners.

Sam – Focus on integration of observing systems, w/ emphasis on data transfer formats and general connectivity. Integration within ROS and among/with backbone. Good representation across those present. Incorporation of existing standards (OGC), exploration of possible need for additional standards, tools. Autonomy vs. centralization?

Roger – The Ocean Commission report is calling for much more centralization than other documents have so far. A distributed information environment is the current pattern, and no one sees any great returns from a national centralization programs. The Regional Associations can push for continued decentralization.

Dave – Central data office may be more of a data gurus group that supports distributed processing at regional level.

Roger – Ocean.IT and Ocean.ED have come up as possible IT and education support channels. Is this to the regional associations? To the general Oceans.US audience? The Steering Committee needs to keep up with this.

Roger –

- Briefed the Council of Great Lakes Governors by conference call
- Attended a meeting with GL Commissioners
- Attended the Great Lakes Sustainability Conference w/ a breakout session on decision support
- Call to Coordinating Committee on GL Basin Hydraulic and Hydrologic Data

Glenn Warren –

- EMAP conference presentation:

Mostly EPA personnel. Attendees didn’t hear much about west coast but did hear a Gulf of Maine presentation. GoMOOS had a markedly different start from GLOS – they got a leg up on

all this w/ universities working together, developing buoy systems and a data framework. Only now are they trying to get federal partners involved. Their CEO is an academician, just now trying to get NOAA, etc. involved. Gary Foley of the EPA's atmospheric lab is interested in getting more involved

2<sup>nd</sup> year funding was still not confirmed by the time of the conference call. The 2004 Lake Erie buoys earmark was not funded; this highlights that some things will need to be revisited for 2005 and 2006.

(Everyone is encouraged to use the listserv for idea exchanges)

### **Budget Estimates**

Roger G:

Current exercise: Estimates for Ocean.US plus subsystem summaries/projections that will be incorporated into the Business Plan as a basis for FY07-11 budget estimates. 38 pages went to the Steering Committee with blanks in several categories. Sorry for those, but this needs to be discussed now.

That material will be email to the Steering Committee after this meeting, asking for 5 top priorities for National Backbone and 5 for the Regional Components by close of business today.

Some fiscal components are still missing and may be handled with placeholders for submission this Friday.

How much **really is** backbone? And how much is regional OOS responsibility?

Dave S:

We submit what we have and, at least for this budget exercise, let Ocean.US sort it out.

Roger G:

For the business plan, we need to make distinctions to set our structure adequately.

Sam B:

Agreement – the backbone may carry data, but much of it will need modification to suit GLOS needs. The region is going to have to be able to support any specialized data processing called for by unique aspects of the region.

Roger G:

Data access considerations also need to be examined. Airborne thermal imagery would be a valuable component in the system within 24 hrs to respond to oil spills. However, you can't get from the feds without clearance, which most RA members won't have.

DS:

Regionals can't change, but enough regionals saying the same thing might influence a change or cause development of an overarching set of tools.

Roger:

The budget grows over the 5-year span from 2007 to 2011:

Ca. \$1 million would be ideal right now (FY 2005 and 2006).

Ca. \$12 million total is the estimate for 2007

Ca. \$30 million total will be reached by 2009 or 2010

Dave S:

The range is about right. Keep it where it is. Are there 'to be determined' because there was no time to write them? Or because there is not enough info yet?

*Open water systems:*

Enough information; Roger will develop

*Nearshore observations:*

Incorporate land based radar, sub-aerial servicing patterns? NDBC doesn't match Tom

Johnson's needs? 4 times per year for servicing instead of early spring to late fall?

*Overlake meteorology:* (new category for User Needs)

Nexrad radar expansion into overlake precipitation

Tom Croley – lake evaporation

NDBC and EC-Met to talk about precipitation cans on buoys

*Science vessels:*

Use for buoy deployment?

Bragging about vessels not good – numbers are high but abilities are low compared to the coast.

Limit the listing for GLOS? (Stress the age? Select another cutoff?)

*Interconnecting waterways:*

Roger knows who he needs to contact

*Hydrodynamics:* (Open lake modeling)

Still need Dave Holtschlag to provide input; content needs a management angle

*Shore stations:*

*Tributary inflows:*

Some input from USGS Michigan; more needed

*Nearshore observations:*

Lorelle to assemble, including

- Corps input for wave gauges

- Habitat mapping

- Lidar from Lillycrop

*Air sampling:* – good

*Remote sensing:* – good

*Ecosystem modeling:* – good

*Mass balance modeling:* – GLC to write w/ Paul Horvatin

*Information Integration:* – review

*Education:* – review

*Governance:* – review

Norm Granneman - Has Doug Wilcox given any input on the NBII node? Otherwise, contact Scott Nelson. (connected to aquatic GAP effort – need someplace to store, serve all the data)

### **User Needs Assessments Summaries**

Status report from Dick Wagenmaker, please review and continue work.

### **Status Summary to Ocean.US (drawn from User Needs Assessments)**

5 priorities for the National Backbone

5 priorities for the Great Lakes Region

Contact Jeff Reutter for details on open water systems and buoys.

Endurance buoys – national (NDBC)? Regional? If so, GLOS? UMinn?

Open water workshop in December does the business plan no good – it will be written by then.

### **Next Call**

Thursday, June 17, 2004 @ 10:30 EDT

Sit-down meeting 90 days from now? Early Sept? 7,8,9,10?

Governance – Tom R

Incorporation – how long? What requirements? Where do we find a lawyer?