

NOAA in the Carolinas Steering Committee Meeting

Date: Monday, December 15

Time: 10 AM until 2 PM

Location: UNCW, Center for Marine Sciences – 2nd Floor Conference Room
5600 Marvin K Moss Lane, Wilmington, NC 28409

Con Call: <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/join/592421386>

(866) 702 7489, passcode 9225126

Meeting ID: 592-421-386

Attendees: Mike Voiland, Jack Thigpen, Andy Shepard, Darin Figurskey, Rich Bandy, Jennifer Dorton

Call in: John Feldt, Susan White, Ginny Fay, Aleta Hohn, Bob Bacon, and Denise Sanger

AGENDA:

1. CI-FLOW update – Jack Thigpen
 - a. Tar-Pamlico and Neuse River Basins listed as hydrometeorological testbeds by NOAA.
 - b. 2 workshops planned: one to discuss operational gaps for Tar-Pamlico and Neuse and second meeting to discuss the research gaps.
 - c. Second week in Feb. in Chapel Hill there will be an organization and planning meeting for the testbed.
 - i. Day 1 – NC Sensor Workshop
 - ii. Days 3-5 – Operational gaps meeting
 - d. Will have outreach and education component
 - e. CI-FLOW, NinC and active SECART programs helped in choosing this location for the testbed. With T/S Hanna CI-FLOW tested storm surge and precipitation and the test went very well.
 - f. Jennifer working with the UNC-GA funded project to instrument Sounds. This project is hosting a meeting similar to the Sensor Workshop. Jennifer will work to coordinate these efforts.
2. Mission Statement review and approval – All
 - a. Andy would like a OneNOAA definition under the mission statement on the website.
 - b. This is a living/working document.
 - c. Vote around the room and on the phone – mission statement, with inclusion of “grassroots”, was approved.

Mission: NOAA in the Carolinas is a grassroots OneNOAA effort that works across agency lines and disciplines to enhance NOAA's value to and impact on the region.

Objectives:

- Identify local to regional challenges, needs and opportunities in North Carolina and South Carolina.
- Mobilize, share and integrate knowledge and capabilities across NOAA and extramural partners to respond to constituent needs and opportunities.
- Coordinate with NOAA's Southeast and Caribbean Regional Team (SECART) to support regional activities and more effectively engage extramural partners in mission planning and execution.
- Attract new resources to address regional issues and develop initiatives using a OneNOAA approach.
- Create opportunities for outreach that promote NOAA products and services.

3. SE Alliance update – Ginny Fay

- a. At the end of October there was a successful meeting at CEQ.
- b. In mid-Nov there was a Subcommittee on Integrated Management of Ocean Resources (SIMOR) meeting where federal support for SE Alliance was requested. EPA and DOI asked to lead.
- c. There have been a few phone calls over the past two weeks regarding standing up the Alliance and all of the documents sent to Governors in the four states.
- d. NC Gov. Elect Perdue is supportive of the Alliance.
- e. Public rollout and vetting process is being discussed.
- f. Mike Voiland stated that the Sea Grant SAARP group aware of the Alliance priorities and they have prepared an issues document based on the 4 areas of interest specified by the Alliance.
- g. Ginny Fay noted that there was a discussion to tie in the Alliance with the SAARP effort. Both groups will be supportive of each other.

4. Website update – Jennifer Dorton

- a. Please send all editorial comments on the website to Jennifer (dortonj@uncw.edu).
- b. Everyone look at the map and make certain that all of the NOAA offices are now listed.
- c. CSC is the profile org or Jan. All of their documents are in hand and ready for the web.

5. Long Bay Meeting Review – All

- a. NinC members who attended the Long Bay Meeting: Jennifer Dorton, Susan White, Aleta Hohn, Andy Shepard, Darrin Figurskey
- b. *General comments from NinC members who attended the Long Bay Hypoxia meeting:*
The group is very narrowly focused on Long Bay. Will they be open to broadening the project and work with NOAA partners? The Long Bay working group members were probably not prepared to think about the next steps. They provided some input on additional NOAA data that could help with their research (e.g. remote sensing, upland

runoff and precipitation data) and they have ID'd gaps in data and modeling. Fisheries and benthic data are lacking. UNCW has benthic data for the Cape Fear Region that could be used if we broaden the scope of the research focus. It will be beneficial to have NOAA disciplines at the next NinC meeting that corresponds to their disciplines to get them to think bigger. There is opportunity to discuss this project at the annual meeting, but might not be the sole focus for the meeting.

- c. Andy Shepard: This is a research group and hasn't published yet. Also, they are missing a NOAA star (such as Kevin Kelleher for CI-FLOW) to help push the regional potential. Can Denise lead this effort to the national level?
 - d. Aleta Hohn: Instead of thinking nationally at the moment (PPBES), let's think shorter term, smaller scale and consider an FY09 or FY10 CAMEO grant. The project has to have NOAA partners to apply to CAMEO. This will allow the project to broaden spatially and temporally and allow them to bring in some of the modeling efforts that they identified. The due date for the FY08 CAMEO proposal was June. So, if CAMEO is announced in 2009 or 2010 as it was in 2008, proposals due in June.
 - e. Ginny Fay and Jack Thigpen: The last NinC meeting was on ecosystems and the previous meeting was on water resources and weather. Maybe the next meeting should be about clean coasts. Discuss issues impacting clean coastal waters and bring in the Long Bay effort as an on-going research effort. Bring in water quality agencies for both states.
 - f. Darin Figurskey: Ecosystems and climate both have a good foundation for a clean coast. Next meeting should be a continuation of the last one.
 - g. Mike Voiland: This project doesn't merit the full focus of the next NinC meeting but it can be a component. We do need to tie "climate" into the next meeting.
6. Long Bay meeting: Question and Answer session with Denise Sanger (Denise came into the conference call to answer questions from the group).
- a. Denise Sanger: The research group will have to be expanded if we go outside of Long Bay. The existing team works locally. Some of the pieces can be applied on the broader perspective but we will need to pull in collaborators from more research entities - complementary activities that can help this research project. The framework for this project can be used in other embayments but we must expand from the original group. We have considered applying for the next NOAA Coastal Hypoxia Research Program (CHRP) grant. The RFP will be out in 2009. One of the unique things about the Long Bay group is that we have gone after bigger money and have had grander plans. At present have only spent \$200K-\$250K so far. We have discussed bringing in living marine resources.

- b. Aleta Hohn: There may also be the opportunity to apply for a Comparative Analysis of Marine Ecosystem Organization (CAMEO). These proposals focus on understanding how different forcing factors affect the ecosystem. NOAA and NSF provide the funding. Every proposal must have NOAA and academic partners. CAMEO is a larger scale project compared to the Long Bay work. A CAMEO proposal will require a comparison to other areas within or outside of Long Bay and add in other components (e.g. fisheries, benthic habitat). CAMEO will require a bigger perspective and quantitative data. We can use NinC to develop some interest and bring in expertise.
 - c. Denise Sanger: At present there are no other NOAA partners involved in this project (Sea Grant and NURC have been the only NOAA agencies involved so far). State of SC has been co-funding some of the research for the project as well.
 - d. Denise Sanger: The frequency of hypoxic events is increasing; however, we only have pier based, anecdotal evidence of this. There are hypoxic events in the coastal ocean related to day/night, similar to tidal creeks.
 - e. Denise Sanger: During next 3-4 months, trying to keep data collection on Apache Pier going. The PIs are wrapping up their work and sampling so should start working on publications. The team, as it exists now, will continue but if we go after a CAMEO proposal we will have to add collaborators. There is a sense that the team is interested in going after a larger proposal.
7. Plan for next NinC meeting
- a. General consensus that the Long Bay project should be part of the next meeting but not the sole focus of the meeting.
 - b. Meeting topic focus: Climate, Coastal Development, Water Quality ???
 - c. Dates – primary and alternative
 - i. We may not be able to submit the CAMEO proposal until 2010 since the 2009 date may be too soon. May be better to try to apply for the CHRP deadline in 2009.
 - ii. June is not good due to summer field work and May is too early. Fall is probably still best. Late Sept/early Oct.
 - d. Logistics
 - i. Location - HML is good location. CSC next best and also Coastal Carolina University. Use CSC to assist with registration again.
 - ii. Duration: 2 full days
 - iii. Meeting planning team to develop agenda (plenary and breakout sessions): Possible planning team members: Jennifer Dorton (until June), Susan White (need to ask), Scott Cross (need to ask)

1. Have a “save the date” announcement sent out by Feb.
 2. **Steering Committee needs to think about the composition of the meeting planning team and meeting topic/theme as well as outcomes.**
 3. **Steering Committee look at your calendars to determine if there are conflicts in Sept and Oct.**
 4. **Susan – please look at the open dates at HML and see it is available for a two day NinC meeting. Send Jennifer the possible dates.**
8. Next NinC meeting date and location: Tuesday, Jan 13 10AM at the NWS – Newport office.