

HIGHLIGHTS

AOOS Board Chair Receives Ocean Leadership Lifetime Achievement Award – Congratulations to Chair Ed Page, Executive Director of the Marine Exchange of Alaska on receiving this prestigious award, presented at the Alaska SeaLife Center’s Marine Gala February 13. The award recognized Ed for his tireless efforts in promoting initiatives to increase maritime safety in Alaska waters.



Congratulations also to longtime AOOS supporter Arliss Sturgulewski, who received the Ocean Ambassador Award at the same event. The award recognized Arliss for her contributions to ocean education and research as a state legislator, and long-time member of both the UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences Advisory Committee and the Alaska Sea Grant Advisory Committee.



ADMINISTRATIVE

AK USGS Climate Science Center – Molly participated as a stakeholder during the Center’s review February 12.

Official budget numbers – AOOS received its final anticipated budget for the coming year (starting June 1). It is essentially the same as last year. We now have to submit a descoped work plan and budget.

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

Alaska Marine Policy Forum – Molly hosted the bi-monthly call on February 3 that was attended by congressional staff and Alaska state legislators. You can find the meeting summaries on the AOOS website at <http://www.aos.org/ak-marine-policy-forum/>

Arctic Research Cruise Visualization Planning – Molly and Rob met with others from NOAA and NSF February 25 to discuss how to proceed in displaying planned research cruise tracks near subsistence communities in Alaska. The group has some potential options for going forward.

Cook Inlet Beluga Ecosystem Portal Steering Committee – Holly, Carol and Rob met with this group on February 2 to coordinate final activities for this project, funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

NWS NCEP visit – Molly briefed Thomas Cuff, the National Weather Service’s new Director of the Ocean Prediction Center, on the AOOS program and our collaborations with NWS during Tom’s Alaska visit February 23.

Arctic Domain Awareness Center – Molly met on February 19 with Doug Causey and Randall “Church” Key, the new PI and Executive Director of the Department of Homeland Security’s ADAC at UAA, and discussed future collaborations.

Alaska Ocean Acidification Network in the works – AOOS has funding to support development of an Alaska Ocean Acidification Network, similar to networks already underway on the west coast, the Northeast Atlantic and the Southeast Atlantic. Darcy Dugan is heading up the initiative with a planning group that met February 23. The group is establishing an Interim Steering Committee to develop plans for the coming year.

Integrated Water Level Observing Network – AOS and National Weather Service partners met February 24 to discuss how to spend the \$200k transferred to AOS for water level observations, as well as priorities for additional funding that might be coming Alaska’s way.

AGU Ocean Sciences Meeting – Carol attended the meeting in New Orleans February 22-25 on behalf of AOS and presented a talk on “Expanding Alaska’s Remote Ocean Observing Capabilities Using Robotic Gliders and Remote Sensing Technologies” and a poster on the Chukchi Ecosystem Mooring (a partnership with Seth Danielson).

DATA MANAGEMENT

Bering-Aleutian Salmon International Survey (BASIS) - Fish catch data from BASIS has been added to the portal. This was a long-running collaboration between Axiom, AOS, and AFSC. At NOAA, we worked closely with Jeanette Gann (with additional input from Wes Strasburger, Kristin Ciecil, Ed Farley, and Mandy Lindeberg) to get these data in order and make them useful.

The layer allows you to filter by many types of parameters, including by year, method, fish life stage, and/or taxonomy. It also allows you to generate a report over an arbitrary area by drawing a polygon, or just download the whole thing.

<http://portal.aos.org/#module-metadata/d4fe79aa-75b6-11e4-956f-00265529168c/56141368-63b2-11e4-95b2-00265529168c>

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 1-3 IOOS Program spring meeting, Washington DC (Molly, Carol & Board Member Duncan Fields)

March 11 AOS Data Management Advisory Committee

March 12-18 Arctic Science Summit Week, Fairbanks (Molly & Carol)

March 16 AOS Board Meeting, Fairbanks (Molly & Carol)

March 23 Alaska Marine Policy Forum

April 5-7 National Moored Data Buoy Plan Meeting, Stennis Space Center, MS (Carol)

Molly, Carol, Holly, Darcy, and Rob