

## July-August 2014 Update

### Celebrating 10 years of eyes on Alaska's oceans and coast!

**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** – Mark your calendars for AOOS' 10<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Celebration on Nov 19 at the Anchorage Museum. There will be food, drinks, and screenings from the AOOS Short Film Contest. The contest deadline is Sept 15<sup>th</sup> so there's still time to <u>submit a film</u>!

### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

**AOOS 2014 Proposal** – Our descoped FY14 work plan was approved and we are now in the process of amending the subawards.

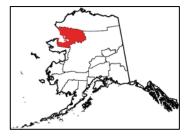
#### **MEETINGS/CONFERENCES/TRAVEL**



#### Everyone has a story

celebration of our 10<sup>th</sup> nniversary, the Alaska Ocean bserving System (AOOS) eks short films highlighting aska's coast or oceans.

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**Northwest Arctic Borough Science Program** – Molly serves on the new program's Advisory Committee, which met recently in Kotzebue on August 7-8. AOOS was asked to submit 2 suggested proposals for this year, both of which were funded at lower levels. One funds a pilot drifter program to study circulation patterns in Kotzebue Sound this fall – to be conducted by UAF's Seth Danielson. The other funds AOOS to develop a preliminary "AOOS lite" data app for borough residents focusing on real-time data in the region.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Admiral Papp – Molly was joined August 14 by AOOS Executive Committee members Ed Fogels and Tara Riemer for a one-on-one session with the new U.S. Special Representative for the Arctic Admiral Robert Papp. Also present were David Balton (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Fisheries), Julie Gourley (Senior Arctic Official) and Hillary Lebail (Arctic Affairs Officer). Molly gave a short powerpoint on AOOS and our various Arctic programs, capabilities, and data system. The presentation was very well received and Admiral Papp said he was "really excited" about what AOOS currently does, and our capacity to do more in the Arctic. He was especially interested in our focus and expertise on data integration and visualization - calling it essential for "maritime domain awareness." He also highlighted AOOS expertise at a public listening session later that day in Anchorage.

### **PROPOSALS**

**NFWF** – AOOS was asked to submit a full proposal to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to incorporate the Beluga Sightings Database (developed by the AOOS data team at Axiom) into a more comprehensive Cook Inlet Beluga Ecosystem Data Portal. The resulting portal would be for manager and public use. The proposal is a partnership with NOAA Fisheries and the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council.

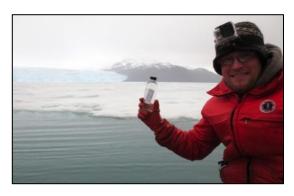


**MARES** – AOOS was included as the data management services partner in two competing proposals submitted in response to BOEM's MARES program, a large integrated research program proposed for the Beaufort Sea. The proposals are under review.

**NSF DIBBS** – NSF declined to fund the data management proposal submitted jointly by AOOS and the National Snow and Ice Data Center. Better luck next time.

### **UPDATES & HIGHLIGHTS**

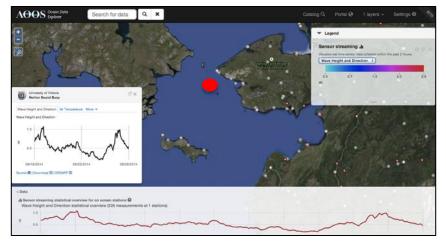
**Ecological Forecasting webinar** – NOAA is currently developing a national Ecological Forecasting Roadmap. Program manager Allison Allen will be in Anchorage on Tuesday Sept. 16 to hear from key researchers and stakeholders about existing efforts and needs across Alaska. <u>More here</u>.



**OA Legislative Initiative** – AOOS is working with partners to develop a statewide initiative for OA research and monitoring activities to bring to the Alaska Legislature next year. This strategy is proposed in light of expiring funding for current OA monitoring (May 2015) and increasing interest and desire for information and research by Alaskans. This effort will be kicked off with a 2-day workshop to be held Dec 2-3 and include opportunities both to hear the latest science and develop priority research and monitoring objectives to be included in the proposal. Stay tuned for more!

**Real-time in-situ OA monitoring** – The week of August 11, a brand new state-of-the-art multi-parameter OA monitoring "burkolator" was installed at the Alutiiq Pride shellfish hatchery in Seward. This equipment was funded by the national IOOS office and complements a suite of OA monitoring activities being tested and deployed in Southcentral Alaska

Bering Strait Wave Buoy – On July 29 a wave and weather buoy was deployed in the Bering Strait, 35 miles west of King Island. The buoy streams hourly information on waves, wind, air temperature, and sea surface temperature, and is accessible via the <u>AOOS Real-time Sensor Map</u>. This is the second year that AOOS and the University of Victoria, with funding from the Western Alaska LCC, have supported this effort. The goal is to assist village residents, National Weather Service forecasters, the U.S. Coast Guard,



commercial and recreational ships, and anyone else transiting the region. On October 6, AOOS will convene a meeting in Nome to discuss local ownership of this asset. If you would like to be included, please e-mail Ellen at Tyler@aoos.org.



**Cook Inlet Wave Buoy** – The Cook Inlet wave buoy underwent repairs this summer in California, and is now on the dock in Homer getting prepped for deployment. Hopefully by the time you read this, it will be streaming data. Check the AOOS real-time sensor map, or email Darcy at <u>dugan@aoos.org</u> if you'd like to be on a listserve for buoy updates.

## **GOING FORWARD – Some Key Upcoming 2014 Activities**

Sept 3-4	Gulf Research Program Environmental Monitoring Workshop, New Orleans	
Sept 3-5	NOAA Emergency Response Workshop	
Sept 15	Deadline for AOOS film contest submissions	
Sept 15-16	US Arctic Research Commission meeting, Anchorage	
Sept 15-18	MTS annual conference, St. John, Canada	
Sept 16	AOOS Eco-forecasting roadmap workshop, Anchorage	
Sept 18	ABCVA Vulnerability Assessment Town Hall, Unalaska (Tyler)	
Sept 23-24	North Slope Science Initiative, Anchorage	
Sept 25	AOOS Data Management Advisory Committee	
Sept 22-26	IOOS Data Mgr Derrick Snowden visit to AK	
Oct 6-10	Week of the Arctic, Nome, Kotzebue and Barrow	
Oct 6	Ocean Obs and Navigation Safety AOOS stakeholder workshop, Nome (Tyler and McCammon)	
Oct 7-10	Bering Sea Days, St. Paul	
Oct 9	ABCVA Vulnerability Assessment Town Hall, St. Paul	
Oct 17	AOOS Board meeting, Anchorage	
Nov 11-12	ABCVA Capstone Workshop, Anchorage	
Nov 19	AOOS 10 <sup>th</sup> anniversary event, Anchorage Museum	

# Molly McCammon, Darcy Dugan, Ellen Tyler and Rob Bochenek

