

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

AOOS Short Film Contest – In honor of AOOS' 10th birthday, AOOS is sponsoring a Short Film Contest 10 minutes or less with a \$1,000 prize. Submissions are due Sept 15th. <http://www.aos.org/film-contest/>. Films will be shown at the AOOS 10th Anniversary Celebration on Nov 19th at the Anchorage Museum. Please help spread the word!

ADMINISTRATIVE

AOOS 2014 Proposal – A descope 2014 work plan and budget were submitted to the IOOS Program Office. Once we receive final approval, we can get all the subawards amended.

MEETINGS/CONFERENCES/TRAVEL

North Slope Long-term Monitoring – Ellen participated in a workshop on June 11 in Fairbanks focused on long-term monitoring efforts on the North Slope and developing an annual summary of research and findings.

Gulf Research Program – Molly attended the final meeting in Tampa, Florida June 11-13 of the National Academy of Science's Gulf Research Program Advisory Committee. The committee was given a one-year task of developing a strategic vision/plan for the \$500 million, 30 year program addressing environmental protection, oil system safety, and public health needs of the Gulf of Mexico and U.S. outer continental shelf following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The final document will be released in the fall. Nominations for a new implementing committee are now being sought. Contact Chris Elfring: celfring@nas.edu.

PAME Ecosystem Assessment Working Group – Axiom's Will Koeppen, representing the AOOS data team, participated in the 4th Ecosystem Approach to Management workshop convened by the Arctic Council's Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME) working group in Vancouver, BC June 16-18. The workshop served as a forum to discuss national approaches and international cooperation on ecosystem-based management in the Beaufort and Barents Seas. AOOS has agreements with the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans to share geospatial data and metadata across the boundary that splits the Beaufort Sea, efforts that were praised and highly encouraged to continue by the workshop participants.

ADF&G Partnership - AOOS and Axiom staff met with ADF&G data managers June 24 to review results of an ongoing partnership to facilitate integration and visualization of AYK (Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim) fisheries data. The goal is to incorporate a map displaying these data as a layer in the AOOS Ocean Data Explorer.

PRESENTATIONS

Alaska Command - Joint Task Force Alaska – Molly presented on AOOS activities and capabilities to the joint task force's monthly educational seminar at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson on June 17. The task force is made up of the Army, Air Force and Navy in Alaska. The seminars are attended by a broad range of state and federal agencies including NOAA, US Army Corps, Coast Guard, and Alaska Division of Emergency Services.

PROPOSALS

NFWF – AOOS collaborated with NOAA Fisheries and Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council on a pre-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 for manager and public use.



NPRB Collaborations – Two proposals recently funded by the North Pacific Research Board’s new Long-Term Monitoring Program include collaborations with existing AOOS observing projects. These include the Seward Line cruises and time series (Russ Hopcroft at UAF) and the new Chukchi Sea Ecosystem Mooring (Seth Danielson at UAF). We very much appreciate NPRB’s support for these two very important monitoring activities.

Enhancing the Cook Inlet Response Tool – A proposal to the Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat was selected for funding that will enable upgrades to the current CIRT tool, add new data layers, and provide trainings for wildlife managers and spill response personnel. We look forward to working with partners at KBRR and CIRCAC on this in the coming year.

UPDATES & HIGHLIGHTS

Anchorage Coastal Cleanup Day – AOOS co-sponsored the 4th annual Anchorage Coastal Clean-up, attended by more than 70 community members on June 22 along the Coastal Trail. The sunny day provided an opportunity to pick up wagonloads of trash. Most common items included plastic, broken glass and nails from pallets from beach bonfires.



Yukon River Chinook Salmon Run Timing: AOOS and Axiom staff worked again this year with NOAA's Phil Mundy to produce a forecast for ADF&G managers. The model performed well, closely predicting when Chinook would enter the Yukon River. Mundy will meet with ADF&G managers in the fall to review model results, discuss future needs and possible expansion of the model to other Alaska fisheries. [Link to story on website?](#)



Bike to Work Day – Robin Dublin, Molly McCammon, Marilyn Sigman, Ellen Tyler, Abigail Enghirst, Beverly Bradley, Terry Johnson, Paula Cullenberg and Deborah Mercy participated in the 10th Annual Bike to Work Day on June 4. 4,252 registered cyclists broke the record this year for participation on a gorgeous, sunny day, more than doubling the turnout in snowy 2013.

2015 Arctic Sea Ice Exhibit – AOOS is excited to be part of the organizing team for a sea ice exhibit at the Anchorage Museum set to run from May-Sept 2015. The exhibit will showcase sea ice from a multitude of perspectives, and include touch screens with AOOS data maps. Stay tuned.

GOING FORWARD – Some Key Upcoming 2014 Activities

- July 21-24 Pacific Northwest Economic Region, Whistler
- July 23 Alaska Marine Policy Forum – by teleconference
- Aug 7-8 NWAB Science Advisory Group, Kotzebue (McCammon)
- Aug 27-28 IOOS Regional Director Retreat, Boulder (McCammon)
- Sept 15 Deadline for AOOS film contest submissions
- Sept 18 ABCVA Vulnerability Assessment Town Hall, Unalaska (Tyler)
- October 9 ABCVA Vulnerability Assessment Town Hall, St. Paul
- Nov 19 AOOS 10th anniversary event, Anchorage Museum

Molly McCammon, Darcy Dugan, Ellen Tyler and Rob Bochenek