

HIGHLIGHTS



New CDIP Buoy Installed off the Port of Nome, AK– A valuable maritime safety asset was recently deployed on July 10, 2018 at 17:30 AKT off the Port of Nome jetties. Sitting in about 60 feet of water, the buoy measures wave height, direction and period as well as surface current and temperature. Data are broadcast through the National Data Buoy Center and the National Weather Service Channel. Data are also reported every 30 minutes via the AOOS Real-Time Sensor map and the CDIP websites. The Marine Exchange is also working to make data available to all mariners through the AIS vessel tracking system. Support for this buoy and data comes from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Coastal Data Information Program (CDIP), the Port of Nome, the AOOS and the Marine Exchange of Alaska.

ADMINISTRATIVE

AOOS EXCOM – The AOOS Executive Committee met July 31 to approve the final award received through AOOS' Cooperative Agreement with NOAA's IOOS Program. The final award included multiple awards to the University of Alaska Fairbanks, using AOOS as a replacement vehicle for UAF's Cooperative Institute since the institute that has not yet been reauthorized. The award also included funding for new high frequency radars in the Bering Strait region (\$900k) and for operation of the Animal Telemetry Network Data Assembly Center (\$350k).

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

CIRCAC EMC tour of KBay lab – Molly joined the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council's Environmental Monitoring Committee, which she chairs, for a tour of NOAA's Kasitsna Bay Lab near Seldovia. The committee heard presentations on some of CIRCAC's recent work in Kachemak Bay and Cook Inlet. Molly also took advantage of the opportunity to try out a survival suit for the first time.



Relocation of ASTRA GPS receivers to Homer – ASTRA and AOOS successfully ended a year-long trial using GPS receivers to measure water levels in Seward, AK. One of the receivers was relocated to Homer Spit July 11, and the system

has been running without issue collecting high resolution GPS data since. ASTRA is currently processing through the data, specifically looking at impacts the tidally exposed beach in front of the installation may have on the measurements. Shore Brew Espresso, located on the Homer Spit, was overwhelmingly generous in their offer to house this system for the next several months in order for us to trial this system in an area that resembles the landscape along the west coast of Alaska. Again, partnerships with local stakeholders are helping us fill gaps in ocean observing.



Bering Strait HABS – AOOS, NOAA's Arctic Program, and Alaska Sea Grant, with additional funding support from the US Arctic Research Commission and NOAA's Alaska Regional Collaboration Team, have joined together to implement some pilot research and monitoring efforts for potential harmful algal blooms in the Bering Strait region this summer and fall. Abnormally warm ocean temperatures continue, and there is concern about impacts on seabirds, marine mammals, and shellfish. Contact Molly or Darcy for more information.

IOOS ACTIVITIES

Data for the Blue Economy – This was the topic of a joint IOOS Association-Consortium for Ocean Leadership organized briefing sponsored by the U.S. Senate Ocean Caucus in Washington DC on July 11. AOOS sponsored Nome Port Director Joy Baker to participate and talk about needs for navigation infrastructure in the U.S. Arctic, including the Port of Nome. The briefing, moderated by Acting NOAA Administrator Admiral Tim Gallaudet, was attended by over 100 staffers and agency personnel, and was highlighted by speeches from Senator Lisa Murkowski (Alaska) and Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (New Hampshire).

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

Alaska Ocean Acidification Network – The steering committee met on July 12 to start developing plans for a 2019 State of the Science Workshop. More info coming soon.

OUTREACH

New Website Launched – The Central Beaufort Sea Wave and Hydrodynamic Modeling Study website was launched in July 2018, for which AOOS and Axiom are providing data management and outreach support. The project is funded by the Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management (BOEM). The data portal for this project is still under development but will be linked from the project website. For more details on this project, please visit the website at:

<https://www.aos.org/foggy/>.

Ocean Acidification eNews – the Alaska OA Network puts out a monthly eNews and you can read the [July edition](#) here. The highlights for this month included saildrones crossing the Bering Strait, updated data access, an interview with UAF grad student Marina Washburn, and an upcoming state of the science workshop.

DATA MANAGEMENT

New wave buoy – Real-time data feeds for the Nome, AK wave buoy (station 241) can now be accessed through the AOOS data portal [HERE](#).

Data portal feedback – The data management team continues to receive feedback about the new AOOS Ocean Data Explorer. This feedback is important for informing portal improvements and enhancements.

New team member – Axiom is pleased to welcome Elizabeth Dobbins as an Environmental Data Scientist to the AOOS data management team. Elizabeth has a strong background in numerical modeling and physical oceanographic data processing from her history as a research scientist at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, SFOS and NOAA, University of Washington. Elizabeth will be based in Axiom's Fairbanks office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 12-14	NOAA Ocean Acidification Program Data Synthesis Product Workshop (Dugan)
Sep 12	EVOS Science Panel Meeting, Anchorage (Janzen)
Sept 25-27	United Fishermen of Alaska meeting (Dugan)
Sep 26	EVOS Public Advisory Committee Meeting, Anchorage
Oct 17	EVOS Trustee Council Meeting, Anchorage (Janzen)
Oct 22-25	OCEANS'19, Charleston, SC
Nov 2	AOOS Board meeting, Sitka
Nov 14-16	Herring Research Monitoring (HRM) and Gulf Watch Alaska (GWA) PI Meeting, Anchorage (Janzen)
Nov 17-19	Pacific Marine Expo, Seattle (Dugan)
Nov 26-28	ADAC Annual Meeting, Washington DC (Janzen)
Dec 10-14	AGU, Washington DC

Molly, Carol, Holly, Darcy, and Rob