

REPORT OF THE STUDY GROUP ON GOOS

The Study Group to develop a strategy for GOOS (hereafter SG-GOOS) met from 18:30–20:30 hours on October 17, to consider the draft report of SG-GOOS to MONITOR. All Study Group members were in attendance (*SG-GOOS Endnote 1*). The SG-GOOS Terms of Reference are presented as *SG-GOOS Endnote 2*.

An extensive discussion of the draft report occupied the available time at the meeting. Preliminary recommendations were expended to clarify the role of PICES as a coordinator of observing systems. It was noted that clarity must be achieved on what is an observing system*. In the future, it will be important to distinguish between observing systems, as indefinitely long-term multi-disciplinary integrated monitoring systems, and programs for producing a limited time series of observations for limited periods of time.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- PICES should not propose a North Pacific GOOS pilot project to I-GOOS;
- PICES should establish a coordinating body for North Pacific observing systems, NPOS, as a section under MONITOR (*SG-GOOS Endnote 3*). This NPOS Section would provide a forum for representatives of the existing North Pacific observing systems to develop, in cooperation with TCODE, cross-GRA (GOOS Regional Alliance) international observing projects, observing technologies, and data and information sharing protocols, starting in 2007;
- the Terms of Reference of the MONITOR Committee be modified to explicitly include facilitation of cooperation, communication and coordination among North Pacific ocean observing systems.

* Working definition - Observing systems are bodies organized for long-term monitoring of marine environments

Next steps

It was suggested that the next steps should include:

- Sending a PICES representative to the 3rd Forum of GOOS Regional Alliances to be held on November 14–17, 2006, in Cape Town, South Africa. It appears that Dr. Vyacheslav Lobanov may be able to attend; however, Dr. Skip McKinnell may be able to serve as a backup;
- Contacting the GOOS Scientific Steering Committee (GSSC) to explore possible roles for PICES in the context of the broad objectives recommended above;
- Requesting the coordination role of PICES be placed on the agenda of the next GSSC meeting to be held on March 13-17, 2007, in Seoul, Korea, and sending a representative from the NPOS Section to attend this meeting. Dr. Dong-Young Lee, who chairs GSSC along with Dr. John Field, has offered to facilitate participation by the NPOS Section should it be approved by Council;
- Establishing contacts with the leadership of the relevant GRAs to explore ways in which PICES can enable their development and facilitate coordination with other North Pacific GRAs. The NPOS Section, if approved, will make these contacts, based on the information provided in Table 1;
- Tasking the NPOS Section to report annually on progress, and preparing further recommendations on relations between MONITOR and North Pacific GRAs for the purpose of developing scientifically and technically sound observing systems. This report would address status of coordination among the components of existing observing systems, status of cross-GRA projects such as the Continuous Plankton Recorder project, progress in establishing foundations for scientifically sound observing systems, and progress in the use of common information exchange methods such as the Global Telecommunications System (GTS).

Table 1 Draft survey of North Pacific Ocean Observing Systems including LMEs.

| Acronym or title | Contact Party | Status | Real time |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------|-----------|
| <i>Western North Pacific</i> | | | |
| NEAR-GOOS | Takashi Yoshida | E | Y |
| CREAMS/PICES | Kyung-Ryul Kim and Yasunori Sakurai | E | N |
| EAST I | Kyung-Il Chang | E | N |
| SEATS | Kon-Kee Liu | E | Y |
| YELLOW SEA LME | Yihang Jiang | E | N |
| YOOS | Gongke Tan | P | |
| <i>Eastern North Pacific (north – south)</i> | | | |
| AOOS | Molly McCammon | E | Y |
| Canada Pacific Coast | David Mackas | E | Y |
| NANOOS | Jan Newton and David Martin | E | Y |
| NEPTUNE Canada | Chris Barnes | E | Y |
| ORION | K. Daly | P | Y |
| PaCOOS | Dolores Wesson | E | Y |
| CeNCOOS | Heather Kerkering | E | Y |
| SCCOOS | Eric Terrill | E | Y |
| PacIOOS | Eileen Shea | E | Y |

Legend: E= existing, P= planned, Y= yes, N= no

Justifications

The establishment of the NPOS Section:

- Meets the PICES mission of promoting cooperation and collaboration in marine sciences among member nations; a forum for international collaboration within each region is much needed;
- Meets MONITOR Terms of Reference to promote international cooperation in development of observing projects, observing systems and means of data gathering and information exchange;
- Provides workers and contacts to assist in the production of the North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report, which is the responsibility of MONITOR.

Identification of North Pacific Observing Systems

The identification of specific data types by observing systems has been deferred pending the results of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) Circular Letter No. 2199, requesting that member states provide “National contributions to the Global Ocean Observing

System” which will be available at PICES XVI, and subsequent reports of the proposed MONITOR NPOS Section. In lieu of this information, two summary tables (Tables 1 and 2) have been provided.

Table 2 North Pacific Observing System national contacts and potential NPOS Section members.

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---|
| Canada | William Crawford | E |
| | David Mackas | E |
| China | Shaohua Lin | E |
| Japan | Hiroya Sugisaki | E |
| | Sei-Ichi Saitoh | E |
| Korea | Hee-Dong Jeong | E |
| Russia | Vyacheslav Lobanov | E |
| | Evgeny Karasev | E |
| United States | Jack Barth | E |
| | Phillip Mundy | E |

With input from the participants, SG-GOOS identified potential members of a North Pacific Observing Systems Section within MONITOR. Drs. Mundy and Lobanov were identified as possible Co-Chairmen.

Acknowledgements

The Study Group wishes to thank Prof. Worth Nowlin, Chairman of the U.S. GOOS Steering Committee, and the members of this committee

for their consideration of the issues and for their advice. Thanks also to Drs. Thomas Malone, Skip McKinnell and Alexander Bychkov for most helpful comments and advice.

SG-GOOS Endnote 1**Participation list**Members

William R. Crawford (Canada)
 Dong-Young Lee (Korea)
 Vyacheslav Lobanov (Russia)
 Phillip R. Mundy (U.S.A., Chairman)
 Sei-Ichi Saitoh (Japan)

Observers

Alexander Bychkov (PICES)
 Mizuho Hoshimoto (Japan)
 Adolf Kellermann (ICES)
 Anthony Koslow (Australia)
 Patricia Livingston (U.S.A.)
 Jeffrey M. Napp (U.S.A.)
 Jonathan Phinney (U.S.A./PaCOOS)
 John E. Stein (U.S.A.)
 Takashi Yoshida (Japan/NEAR-GOOS)

SG-GOOS Endnote 2**Terms of Reference for a Study Group to develop a strategy for GOOS**

1. Identify and describe the major observing systems (present and proposed) in the PICES region. Descriptions should include general data types, contact information, and data transmission (real-time vs. delayed);
2. Provide a recommendation and justification to MONITOR on whether or not PICES should propose a North Pacific GOOS pilot project to IGOOS.

SG-GOOS Endnote 3**Proposed Terms of Reference for a Section on North Pacific Observing Systems (NPOS)**

To establish a NPOS Section to:

1. Develop a scientific coordinating relationship with international GOOS (I-GOOS) through appropriate GOOS Scientific Steering Committees and regional observing systems;
2. Provide a forum for communication for existing North Pacific observing systems;
3. Assist in the development of international observing projects and observing technologies;
4. Aid, working in cooperation with TCODE, the development of data and information sharing protocols and the use of common information exchange methods such as the Global Telecommunications System (GTS).

