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**Fall 2007 SEACOOS Workshop –
Reviewing the SEACOOS experience
To further SE RCOOS development.
October 22-23, 2007**

Venue: Tradewinds Island Grand Resort, 5500 Gulf Blvd., St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

Objective:

To review and discuss the SEACOOS project as a whole, focusing on "lessons learned," that may influence future development of RCOOS in the southeast, associated Information Management challenges and applications for stakeholders both in the SE US and other regions.

Expected outcome:

A report synthesizing the major points and discussions from the broader RCOOS community that will be included in the final SEACOOS documentation

Preparation: SEACOOS draft final reports from the four working groups:

Monday, October 22

815a Breakfast

845a Welcome, workshop overview of purpose and expectations

9a **Opening Plenary – Overview of SEACOOS program documentation – synthesis and lessons learned. Several summary documents will be distributed in advance of the workshop and will provide the basis for further discussion at the workshop.**

Documentation of the Five Year Project: overview presentation (Seim)

945 coffee break

1015 Panel/Open forum – discussion of SEACOOS program documentation. Does this document provide content, clarity of concepts and explanatory material, and appropriateness of conclusions and recommendations in order to address the purpose and balance of activities. (panel to include SEACOOS doc team and SECOORA representatives – DeVoe, Lumpkin)

1100 System development/design – review of existing documents

1120 Panel discussion of major players in the region with their design and updates
Panelists from USACE, CO-OPS and NDBC [5-min ea, 3 slides apiece (should have reps from feds, states and privates as well as SEACOOS if possible)

1121 Expected outcome: how best to foster coordination in implementation of regional systems

(USACE, Jensen; NDBC, Moersdorf; Mark Luther, Parker Lumpkin)

1220 Brief on expectations for the afternoon breakouts

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1230 Lunch – box lunches

1330-1700 Four Breakout Groups will focus on key topics and issues for appropriate RCOOS development with emphasis on how best to advance these issues in the future and how to incorporate insight from the SEACOOS and other regional COOS experiences.

1. Information Management (Moderator: Sam Walker; reporter: Madilyn Fletcher)–

Focus Question: What aspects of SEACOOS IM serve as a viable model for SECOORA and what should the next priorities for IM development be to facilitate regional and national interoperability and application development?

Background: SEACOOS developed an information management system that incorporates data flows from a wide variety of providers based on establishment of a set of standard and protocols. Success in the area led to a very active role in early interoperability exercises like openioos.org. What aspects of that implementation should be emulated and which shouldn't? What aspects of the program have been reproduced elsewhere and with what success? Does the system promote/permit interoperability with adjacent RCOOS and national efforts? What should be changed?

2. Linking coastal ocean research (e.g., process, sensitivity, and design studies and experiments) to applications (e.g. K-12 education, specialized user products, analyzes)

(Moderator: Harvey Seim; reporter: Dave Chapman)

Focus Question: How best to define and connect the research and development component of the RCOOS to achieving societal goals? Where and how to engage stakeholders?

Background: Understanding coastal ocean processes is central to addressing the societal goals of IOOS. How can we achieve synergy between Coastal Ocean research and applications of RCOOS information? This relates to “stakeholder” driven RCOOS.

3. Concept of Operations and Operations Management and Coordination (Moderator: Paul Moersdorf; reporter: Jim Nelson)

Focus Question: Is there an appropriate way for all interested and/or responsible parties (private, academic, state and federal) to coordinate efforts in RCOOS system design, development, maintenance and operations?

Background: RCOOS will be expected to fulfill its established as now undefined list of functions. Then, the requirements/attributes needed to meet those functions can be outlined. A system diagram can be constructed and the potential realms of each (private, government, academic) sector in that system diagram be defined. A Concept of Operations is a process to provide a clear definition of the roles and responsibilities of all parties engaged in an enterprise. In the case of the RCOOS, this includes the design of the overall system, defining who supports and who implements development, a method for assessing the functionality (uptime, accuracy, etc) of the system, as well as specification of maintenance and operations of all the elements of the RCOOS. How all the participants coordinate their activities to address these questions needs to be answered.

4. Supporting applications/analysis (e.g. K-12 education, specialized user products, analyzes) (Moderator: Judy Gray; reporter: Chris Simonello)

Focus Question: How can a dedicated effort in application development, partnership development and analysis of RCOOS itself best be accomplished?

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Background: SEACOOS did not explicitly fund the activities above and instead incorporated these tasks under its working groups. The end result was a tension between responsibility for maintaining basic infrastructure (e.g. observing assets, modeling systems, data management) and for developing the tools that utilize the system. Is the structure proposed in the RCOOS design an appropriate solution? Exactly what form should this approach take? What resources, both monetary and personnel, are needed to ensure adequate progress?

5p Adjourn

6p Reception

Tuesday October 23, 2007

830a Recap, breakfast

Closing Plenary Session - Presentation from the four breakout groups
15 minute presentation from breakout leaders with 15 minute discussion immediately following each presentation.

845a 1. Information Management

915a 2. Tying process studies to applications

945 break

1015a 3. Concept of Operations

1045a 4. Supporting Applications/Analysis

1115 Wrap-up – panel discussion

(SEACOOS, SECOORA, county, state, federal, academia, private and NFRA - Josie Quintrell, Sandy Vargo, Paul Moersdorf, Harvey Seim, Russ Lea)

Implications of SEACOOS Overview

Opportunity for workshop participants to provide input

Presentation of the plan for the workshop report to be reviewed by participants prior to finalizing the document.

1145a adjourn