

MINUTES

PaCOOS Board of Governors Meeting

December 8-9 2005

La Jolla, California

BACKGROUND

The Board held its fifth meeting at Scripps Institution of Oceanography on December 8-9, 2006. The meeting was co-chaired by Bill Fox and Usha Varanasi. A list of Board members in attendance, and guests is attached.

DECISIONS

1. **PaCOOS Executive Committee established.** The Board established an interim executive committee (ExCom) to handle routine matters until the next Board meeting. The committee shall be composed of Jack Barth, Russ Davis, Elizabeth Clarke and Jonathan Phinney. They will be supported by *ex-officio* professional staff members John Hunter and Dolores Wesson. At its next meeting, the Board shall review the performance of ExCom, and decide if it should be continued in its present form or modified.
2. **CCLME Climate and Ecosystem workshop:** PaCOOS will co-sponsor a workshop in 2006 with the Joint Institutes of Marine Observation (JIMO) as described in the draft prospectus from Russ Davis and Peter Niiler attached to these minutes. The workshop shall focus on observation requirements for modeling, needs and priorities for the Pacific Coast including the California Current System, and near shore processes, key element of the three regional associations.
3. **New Board Members invited**– The Board invited the following organizations to join the PaCOOS Board: NOAA's National Ocean Service (NOS), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and US Geological Survey (USGS).

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Pacific Coast integrated federal backbone.** David Martin agreed to draft a framework describing the responsibilities of all federal agencies and the regional association involved in ocean observing on the Pacific Coast. This draft framework would expand the role of PaCOOS to become the West Coast element of the national backbone for IOOS and would define the responsibilities, structure, and steps needed for this enhancement. Up to this point, PaCOOS has focused only on the living marine resources and ecosystem aspects of ocean observing. In this plan, the living marine resource component as defined in the PaCOOS science plan, would be one element of a broader organization. The draft will be circulated to the Board and the three regional associations for review.

2. **Linking PaCOOS to IMECOCal and other Mexican observing systems.** Francisco Chavez and other Board members have received requests from Mexican institutions asking to be included in PaCOOS and invited to Board meetings. The Board directed ExCom to solicit ideas and make a recommendation to the Board on how best to link the PaCOOS ecosystem observing efforts in the US portion of the California Current with those in Baja California, Mexico.
3. **PaCOOS letters of support** – Elizabeth Clarke will draft a template letter of support, procedures and criteria for recommending funding proposals. ExCom will review the draft and the Board will approve the final template letter. Future letters of support will be written by ExCom and signed by the Chairs.
4. **Increase information content of PaCOOS.org** – The Board recommended that the information content of the Web site be substantially improved to include the following items:
 - *Results of the data integration project.* The chairs stressed that the two PaCOOS demonstration projects on data integration, CalCOFI oceanographic and biological data, and biologic, geologic, and physiographic habitat data need to be linked and available to the public as soon as possible.
 - *NOAA Sentinel Species information.*
 - *White paper on unusual ocean conditions of 2005 CalCOFI state of the California Current.*
 - *Fisheries and the Environment (FATE) indicators.*
 - *Produce an overarching text and illustrations on the web page to present these links.*
5. **Draft invitation letters** – ExCom was requested to draft invitation letters to NOS, USGS, and USFW to be signed by the PaCOOS Chairs.
6. **Duties and responsibilities of the PaCOOS Executive Committee** – ExCom was requested to draft a set of duties and responsibilities for its operation and circulate these to the Board for review.
7. **Workshop on CCLME modeling and analysis in support of regional management** – The PaCOOS coordinators were requested to work with the coordinators of the three West Coast regional associations, and Beth Turner (NOS) to develop a workshop plan that meets the requirements of PaCCOS and West Coast regional associations. Once done, ExCom will review the plan and circulate it to the Board.
8. **Update of PaCOOS Science plan** – The Board recommended that the Science Plan be updated to include a description of the proposed integration of the federal backbone (see Action Item 1.) as well as addressing gaps related to new technologies and procedures—i.e., the use of electronic tags with the POST and TOPS programs.

9. **Compatibility of plankton and hydrographic observations** - Francisco Chavez (lead), was requested to work with Bill Peterson, Mark Ohman, Roger Hewitt, and Eric Bjorkstedt, to develop an agenda for a meeting on standardization or compatibility of plankton and hydrographic observations for PaCOOS sentinel surveys. The meeting plan would be submitted to ExCom for review and implementation.
10. **Draft brochure for PaCOOS** - A draft brochure was prepared by Dolores Wesson and circulated for comments and revisions. Comments from Board members will be included in the final version that will be circulated for final approval from the Board before printing.
11. **Implementation plan** – Jonathan Phinney will draft an implementation plan describing the pilot project's priorities and a strategy to integrate the federal backbone for living marine resources and the regional association's activities. The plan will be reviewed by ExCom, and circulated to the Board for approval.

Attachments:

- a) List of participants
- b) Prospectus by Davis and Niiler