

TO: PaCOOS BOARD OF GOVERNORS

FROM: JOHN HUNTER AND ELIZABETH CLARKE, COORDINATORS

DATE: MAY 22, 2004

RE: MINUTES - MAY 17-18 2004 MEETING IN LA JOLLA CALIFORNIA

Ten of the eleven organizations on the PaCOOS Board of Governors were represented at the meeting; Patty Burke, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, was unable to attend. Presentations were made by invited guests, Charles Alexander (Chief National Programs Branch Marine Sanctuaries Division), Donald McIssac (Pacific Fisheries Management and Council), and Skip McKinnell (Deputy Director executive Secretary PICES). In addition, three Board members gave presentations on the three Pacific coast Regional Associations: Jack Barth (NANOOS), Francisco Chavez (CENCOOS), and Russ Davis (SCCOOS). Potential relationships between PaCOOS and National Sanctuaries of the west coast were discussed as were those between PaCOOS and the Regional Associations of the IOOS. A major fraction of the meeting was devoted to review of drafts PaCOOS documents: the General Science Plan, cost estimate for the Plan, and the charter. The last item on the agenda was "Identification of critical areas needing work prior to implementation of PaCOOS" The meeting adjourned on May 18th at 3:30pm. Key recommendations and decisions made by the board were as follows:

1. The name of PaCOS was changed from Pacific **Coastal** observing System, to Pacific **Coast Ocean** observing System, the new acronym becoming PaCOOS. The change from coastal to coast was recommended by the Board. Subsequent to the May Board meeting, we found the name PaCOS.org was taken, while PaCOOS.org. was not. The chair made the executive decision of reserving the name PaCOOS.org, hence PaCOS changed to PaCOOS.

- 2., A new organization was added to Board of Governors, the National Marine Sanctuary Program (NOAA/NOS). Daniel J. Basta, Director of NMSP shall represent the five Sanctuaries in the California Current Ecosystem on the Board of Governors of PaCOOS, with Charles Alexander, and Steve Gittings as alternates.

3. Many helpful suggestions were made during the page by page review of the PaCOOS general science plan. In addition to many small but important changes which shall be incorporated into the document (not detailed here), a few more extensive changes were suggested. These included: adding a set of specific objectives (based on the performance objectives) to the introduction; expansion of the discussion of catch data both in the gap analysis, and managed species sections of the plan; expansion of the "Relationships to other organizations" by adding a discussions of relationships to NESDIS, and to the west coast Regional Associations of the IOOS; and, to expand the information on high frequency observation and include as new subsection of 4.2 (Ecosystem and Climate observation). All recommended changes shall be incorporated

into a revised document to be circulated to the board members for their approval. No response by a Board Member 2 weeks after the notification shall be considered equivalent to approval of the document.

4. The Board carried out an item by item examination of the cost estimate. Some estimates needed to be revised and, or, better documented. To this end, volunteers agreed to: clarify and document budget items on fishery dependent data (P. Wolf, and T. Jagielo); estimate and document Sentinel system costs, (R.Davis, R. Georicke) which shall be separated into two separate Sentinel budget items, one for ship surveys and the other for high frequency autonomous observations.

5. The revised document, ready for the review process, shall be posted on a web site. Board members shall receive their user names and passwords to access the documents.

6. When the revised general science plan has been approved, the Board agreed to make the document available to public access on the PaCOOS web site.

7. The Board carried out an active and detailed discussion of the PaCOOS charter using two straw-person draft documents. Participants made many helpful suggestions regarding the specific wording of the Charter which shall be incorporated into the next draft but shall not be detailed here. The Board requested the coordinators to draft a Charter for their review following these general guidelines:

- a) The charter should take the form of an MOU
- b) Qualification for Board membership shall include a requirement for meaningful contributions to PaCOOS.
- c) No financial responsibilities shall be specified in the charter. Federal support for participating organizations within PaCOOS shall be managed separately through existing agreements such as the Cooperative Ecosystem Study Units (CESU), the NOAA /OAR joint institutes, and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission.
- d) The specific structure of PaCOOS shall be quite general, with the specifics left almost entirely to the discretion of the Board of Governors, including, type, number, and membership of committees, appointment of executive officers, executive committees, review, and transition from the current interim arrangements to a formal organization.

8. PICES representative, Skip McKinnell, provided the following options for PICES coordination of links between Canada and Mexico.

- a) Cheerleader (costs nothing, might provide an opportunity for some CCS sessions at PICES annual meetings)
- b) Organize 1 annual 2/3 day PaCOOS-Int conference (US\$50k) - no other involvement

- c) Establish a PaCOOS-INT desk at PICES Secretariat (US\$150k) - includes option 2 + 1 staff member in charge of coordination plus new CCS products and publications.
- d) Master & Commander (US\$488k) - establish full Secretariat for PaCOOS (and the other –Regional Associations in eastern Pacific) providing all services and products for PaCOOS that we currently provide for PICES.

These will be considered by the Board in future meetings.

9. Mike Laurs agreed to write a draft white paper on PaCOOS requirements for new or improved remote sensing products. After being circulated and reviewed by Board members, the revised edition of this white paper shall serve as a basis for future discussions with NESDIS / Coast Watch regarding collaboration with PaCOOS. Should these discussions prove fruitful; a representative will be asked to make a presentation at the next Board meeting.

10. The last agenda item “Critical areas needing work prior to implementation”, evoked a broad discussion on the criteria for the selection of elements of the PaCOS general science plan most needing support prior to plan implementation. Four criteria were identified: 1) Protect from loss and sustain critical elements of the existing observing system; 2) accelerate and modernize data collection and management of existing elements; 3) through collaborative projects, increase ecosystem observation capacity of existing species surveys; and, 4) contributions that provide more than a simple incremental improvement in the observing system. Using these four criteria, participants identified the following four subject areas for further consideration by the Board. These are listed below with those volunteering to form working groups to write sections.

- a) Protect existing Sentinel species observing lines from losses. (R. Goericke, F. Chavez, add NW representative)
- b) Improve data management of Sentinel Species observation systems (R. Goericke, F. Chavez, add NW representative)
- c) Expand ecological measurements and synthesis on existing NOAA fisheries resource survey cruises. (E. Clarke, & J.Hunter)
- d) Modernize the collection of Pacific coast catch statistics. (P.Wolf, T. Jagielo, add P.Burke)

To help the board in subsequent discussions, volunteers were asked to form committees to write short 1-2 page documents, for each of the above items. Such documents should include, title, committee member names, identification of the element in the PaCOS general plan, explanation of need for early support, a description of the work, and a cost estimate. To simplify the planning, 2.5 million per year over a two year period was set as an approximate target for the total funding for such activities, with 2007 identified as the target year for implementation. Working groups are strongly encouraged to add members to provide a full geographic scope to their document. The dead line for submitting these documents, is June 25, 2004.

Some participants left, before this last agenda item was completed, and did not have the opportunity to identify other subject areas that may meet one or more of the four criteria, nor did they have the opportunity to volunteer to participate in the adhoc committees for the four identified subject areas (a-d above). PaCOOS participants wishing to participate in these writing sessions are encouraged to contact the committee members with a copy to the coordinators John Hunter and Elizabeth Clarke). If you wish to develop an additional subject area that meets one or more of the criteria listed, please contact the coordinators.