

Interagency Ocean Observation Committee (IOOC) Metrics for Ocean Observing Systems (MOOS) Task Team

Proposed Extension

May 18, 2020

Summary of Activities

The first installment of the IOOC metrics task team operated from 2018-2020. The team identified an audience and goals and developed a suite of measurable and repeatable pilot metrics for three ocean observing themes. These metrics are summarized in the report *Measuring the Performance of Ocean Observing Systems: Pilot metrics for sea level rise, ocean acidification, and harmful algal blooms*. The report suggested that the IOOS enterprise, either through the Program Office, IOOC, contractors, or some combination thereof; should invest in collecting high-quality, repeatable metrics. It also produced specific guidelines to move beyond the pilot project and make metrics a robust, interagency effort with tangible impacts and recommendations for program managers and policy makers.

New Objectives

In accordance with the report's recommendations, the metrics team proposes an extension of the MOOS task team to ensure the foundational metrics work is built upon and transitioned into sustained efforts. The extension will allow the team time to pursue the following actions:

- **Test Repeatability:** Collect the same pilot metrics again (~1 year from initial collection), to measure how easily they can be replicated;
- **Expand Pilots:** Investigate additional thematic topics and choose one additional topic under which new metrics will be developed and collected;
- **Solicit Feedback:** Share initial efforts with broader observing community via webinar or workshops; collect and integrate feedback on how to improve metrics;
- **Examine Resources:** Assess the level of effort and funding required to find the data for each pilot metric (weighed in relation to the predicted); and
- **Provide Recommendations:** Evaluate and recommend steps to ensure impactful, cross-agency metrics become a sustained and valued component of U.S. ocean observing efforts.

Timeline and responsibilities

- Create and host metrics webinar (2 months)
- Repeat collection of pilot metrics (5 months)
- Determine metrics for new topic (3 months)
- Develop recommendations for agencies (3 months)

Resources Required

Staff and Facilities: IOOC support staff with the assistance of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership will provide basic logistical requirements to facilitate meetings and conference calls.

Sunset Date

Task team will remain constituted until May 18, 2021, unless disbanded sooner or extended.

A review of the Scope of Work will be undertaken after the first six months initially, and then extended as agreed to upon review thereafter, to ensure continuing relevance to IOOC goals.