

Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System (GCOOS)

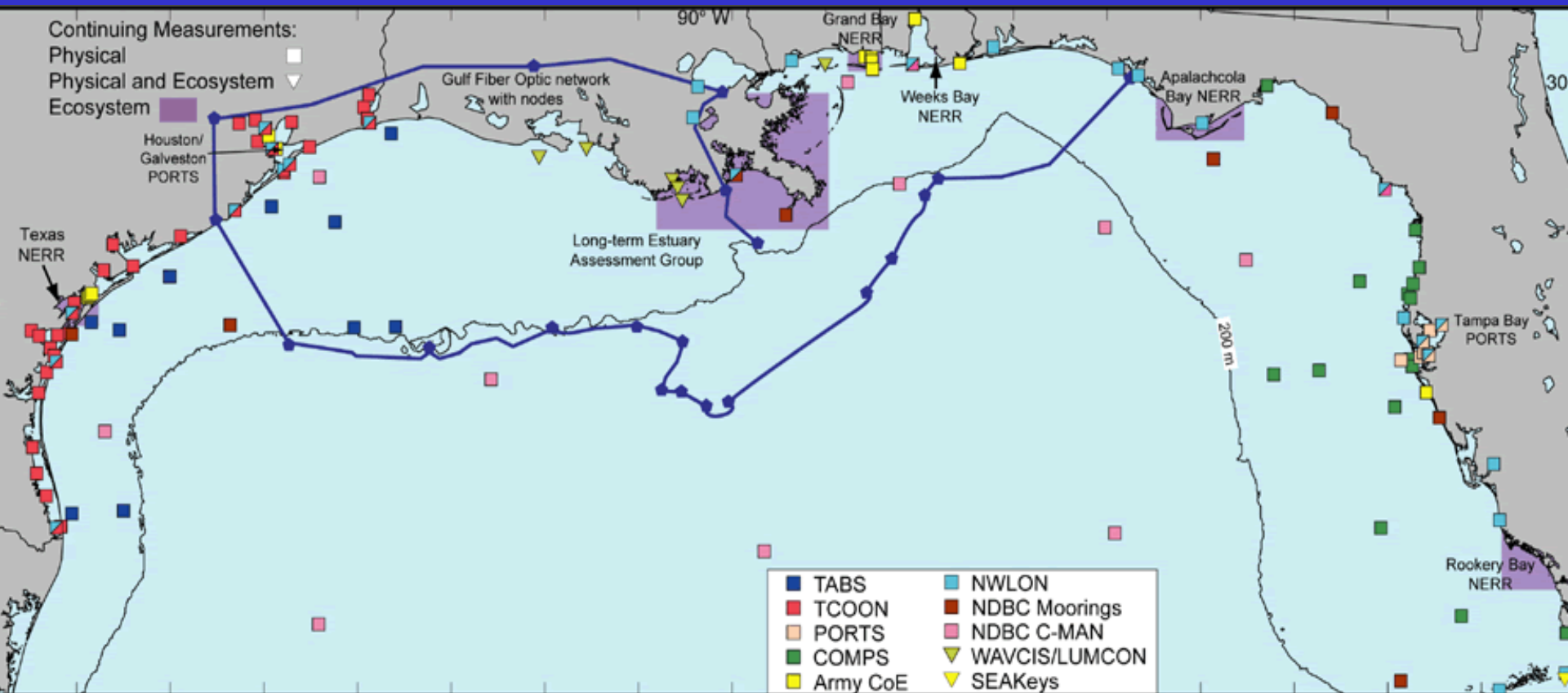
Mike Spranger

Assistant Dean - Environmental & Natural Resource Programs

Assistant Director - Florida Sea Grant Extension

University of Florida

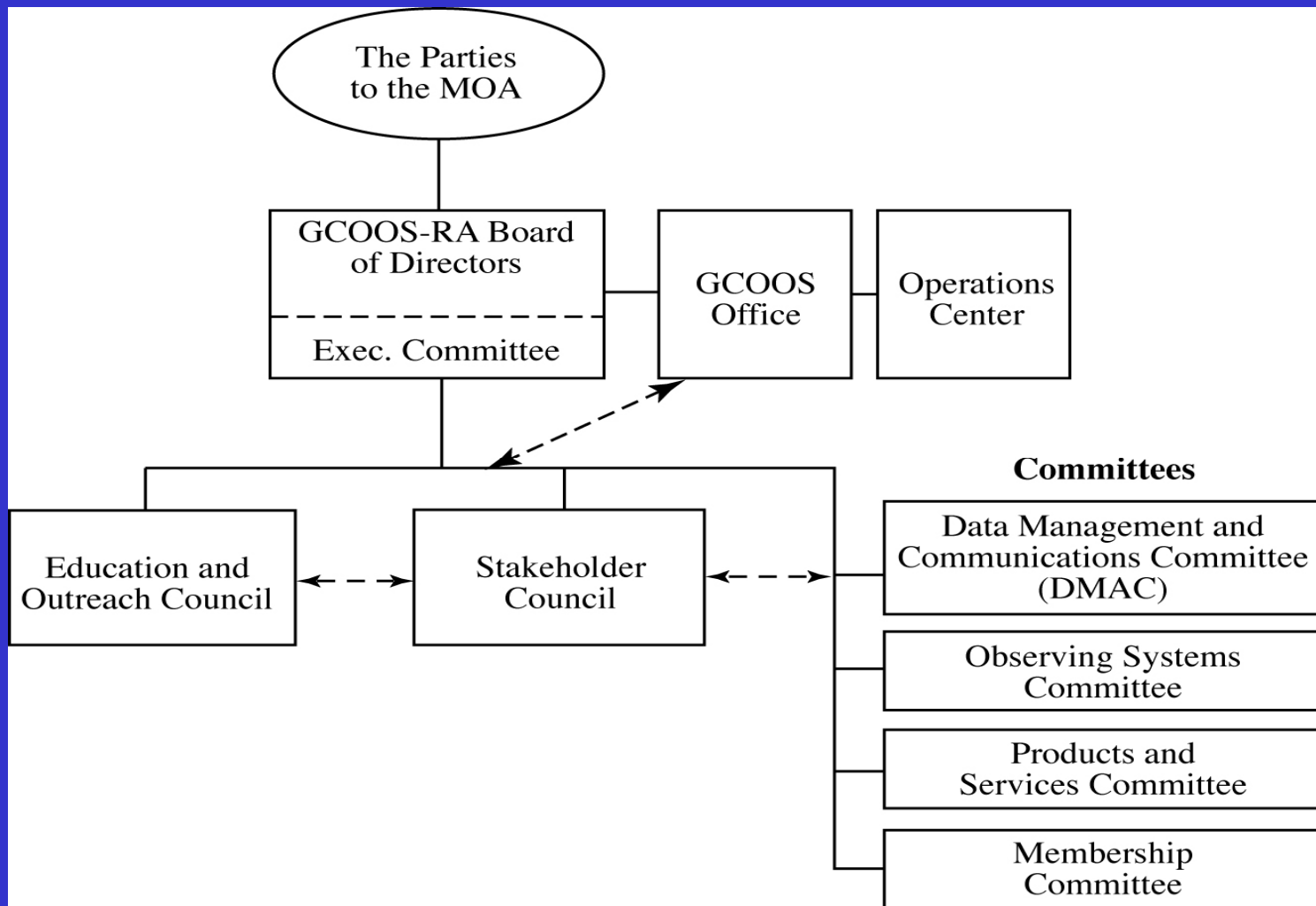
GCOOS Region and Subsystems



GCOOS Status

- Formal MOA established in January, 2005
- Currently 43 signatories to the MOA
- Board of Directors elected in June, 2005
- First BOD meeting in Houston in August, 2005
- Business Plan Reviewed by Board
- Boards and Committees now being established

GCOOS Organizational Structure



GCOOS Board of Directors

Private Sector representatives

Cortis Cooper, ChevronTexaco

Alfred Prelat, The Boeing Company

*Raymond Toll, Science Applications International Corporation

Jan van Smirren, Fugro GEOS

Governmental representatives

*Robert (Buzz) Martin, Texas General Land Office

Chris Oynes, Minerals Management Service

*Don Roman, University of Southern Mississippi

Academic representatives

Mark Luther, University of South Florida

*Worth Nowlin, Texas A&M University

Nancy Rabalais, Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium

Education and Outreach representatives

*Mike Spranger, Florida Sea Grant Program

Sharon Walker, J.L. Scott Marine Education Center & Aquarium

* Executive Committee

Parties to GCOOS MOA

- **Peter Betzer** on behalf of University of South Florida, College of Marine Science
- **Kendall L. Carder**, Individual
- **Michael Dagg**, Individual
- **William Dentel** on behalf of Aquatrak Corporation
- **Richard E. Dodge** on behalf of Nova Southeastern University Oceanographic Center
- **Richard Eckenrod** on behalf of Tampa Bay Estuary Program
- **James W. Feeney** on behalf of Horizon Marine
- **George Forristall** on behalf of Forristall Ocean Engineering, Inc.
- **Wilford Gardner** on behalf of Texas A&M University Department of Oceanography
- **Sherryl Gilbert** on behalf of The Alliance for Coastal Technologies, Gulf of Mexico Partner
- **Norman Guinasso** on behalf of Texas Automated Buoy System (TABS); GERG
- **Robert Hetland**, Individual
- **Roger R. Hoffman** on behalf of The Boeing Company
- **Patrick Hogan** on behalf of Naval Research Laboratory
- **Matthew Howard**, Individual
- **Stephan Howden**, Individual
- **Ann Jochens**, Individual
- **Björn Kjerfve**, Individual
- **Harvey Knull** on behalf of Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi
- **Steven E. Lohrenz** on behalf of The University of Southern Mississippi
- **Mark Luther** on behalf of Tampa Bay PORTS

Parties to GCOOS MOA (cont)

- **Kumar Mahadevan**, on behalf of Mote Marine Laboratory, Inc.
- **Robert "Buzz" Martin** on behalf of the Texas General Land Office
- **Thomas McGee** on behalf of the Gulf of Mexico Hydrates Research Consortium, University of Mississippi
- **Douglas Meffert** on behalf of the Tulane/Xavier Center for Bioenvironmental Research and LEAG
- **Frank Muller-Karger**, Individual
- **Worth D. Nowlin, Jr.**, Individual
- **James J. O'Brien** on behalf of COAPS, Florida State University
- **Chris C. Oynes** on behalf of Minerals Management Service Gulf of Mexico Region
- **Nancy Rabalais** on behalf of LUMCON
- **Sammy Ray** on behalf of DermoWatch
- **Mitchell Roffer** on behalf of Roffers Ocean Fishing Forecasting Service
- **Kerry St. Pe** on behalf of Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program
- **Steve J. Smith** on behalf of ChevronTexaco Energy Technology Company
- **Mike Spranger** on behalf of Florida Sea Grant Program
- **Robert Stickney** on behalf of Texas Sea Grant College Program
- **Joseph W. Swaykos** on behalf of the Center of Higher Learning, University of Southern Mississippi
- **Raymond F. Toll, Jr.** on behalf of Science Applications International Corporation
- **Neil Trenaman** on behalf of RD Instruments
- **Jan van Smirren** on behalf of Fugro GEOS
- **Sharon H. Walker** on behalf of J. L. Scott Marine Education Center & Aquarium
- **William W. Walker** on behalf of Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

GCOOS Stakeholder Council

Vern Asper (A) University of Southern Mississippi

Stuart Burbach (P) Retired, Pogo Oil

David Buzan (G) TX Parks & Wildlife Department

Tricia Clark, (P) Skaugen Petro Trans

Cort Cooper (P) Chervon

Jim Feeney (P) Horizon Marine

Tom Fry, (P) NOIA

Tom Gustafson, (A) Nova Southeastern University

Paul Kelly, (P) Rowan Industries

Chris Oynes, (G) Minerals Management Service

Robert Stickney, (A/G) Texas Sea Grant

Kerry St. Pé, (G) Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary Program

Dave Yeager, (G) Mobile Bay Estuary Program

GCOOS Education and Outreach Council

Alabama

John Dindo, Dauphin Island Sea Lab
Lloyd Scott, Mobile Bay School District
Margaret Sedlecky, Weeks Bay NERR
Lee Yokel, Mobile Bay NEP

Florida

Mike Spranger, UF/Florida Sea Grant
Gary Lytton, Rookery Bay NERR
Chris Verlinde, Santa Rosa County Extension
Charlene Mauro, Navarre High School

Out of Region

Rusty Low, UCAR-DLESE

Louisiana

Jessica Katler, LUMCON
Dianne Lindstedt, LSU Sea Grant
Jean May-Brett, LA Dept. of Education

Mississippi

Sharon Walker, J.L. Scott Marine Center
Joe Swaykos, Stennis Space Center
Jennifer Buchanan, Grand Bay NERR

Texas

Rick Tinnin, University of Texas
Ralph Rayburn, Texas Sea Grant
Rob Smith, Shell Inc.
Lisa Spence, NASA

Data Management and Communications Committee

Steve Anderson Horizon Martin (P)

Brenda Babin, LUMCON (A)

Steve Braudet, SAIC/NDBC (P/G)

Bill Burnett, NDBC (G)

Jennifer Colee, Mobile District, USACE (G)

Scott Duff, TAMU Corpus Christi (A)

Matthew Howard, TAMU (A)

Jay Ratcliff, New Orleans District, USACE (G)

Robert Raye, Shell (P)

Vembu Subramanian, USF (A)

Susan Starke, NCDDC (G)

Observing Systems Committee

Jim Byous, Ocean Specialists (P)

Don Conlee, NDBC (G)

Stephan Howden, University of Southern Mississippi (A)

Gary Jeffress, TAMU Corpus Christi (A)

Linda Lillycrop, Mobile District, USACE (G)

Neil Trenaman, RD Instruments (P)

Jan van Smirren, Fugro GEOS (P)

Mike Vogel, Shell (P)

Nan Walker, LSU (A)

Products and Services Committee

Russell Beard, NCDDC (G)

Frank Bub, NAVOCEANO (G)

Richard Crout, National Data Buoy Center (G)

Mark Dortch, Vicksburg District, USACE (G)

Dave Driver, BP (P)

Robert Hetland, Texas A&M University (A)

Alexis Lugo-Fernandez, Minerals Management Service (G)

Kathleen O'Keefe, Florida (G)

Frank Muller-Karger, University of South Florida (A)

Patrick Hogan, Naval Research Laboratory (G)

Mitch Roffer, Roffer's Fishing Service (P)

Membership Committee

Landry Bernard, University of Southern Mississippi/NDBC (A/G)

Jerry Boatman, PSI (P)

Terry McPherson, National Aeronautics & Space Administration (G)

GCOOS Past Workshops

Integrated Data Systems for Oceanography, 31 October-2 November, 2000
Stennis Space Center, MS

NVODS Workshop for Managers of Coastal Observing Systems, 14-15 January, 2003
Stennis Space Center, MS

Exploration of Private Sector Interests in IOOS: Focus on GOM and Southeast U.S. 2-4 March, 2004
Houston, TX

Harmful Algal Blooms: GCOOS Role in Detection, Monitoring, and Prediction 13-15, April, 2004
St Petersburg, FL

Formation of a GCOOS Education and Outreach Council, 29-30 November, 2004
Biloxi, MS

Initial GCOOS Stakeholder Meeting: Development of a Governance Structure, 24-25 January, 2005
New Orleans, LA



GCOOS Workshops

Oil and Gas Production and related industries, 2-4 November, 2005 Houston, TX

Stakeholder Council and Board of Directors Meeting, 10-13 January, 2006 Mobile, AL

Education and Outreach Council Meeting, Spring, 2006 Site TBD

Fisheries Industries Workshop, Spring, 2006 Site TBD

Storm Surge (GCOOS/SEACOOS) Workshop Site TBD

Oil and Gas Production and related Industries Workshop

Identified High Priority Needs

Product Needs

Hurricane Severity Forecasts
Surface current forecast maps
Measurement & Product archive
Operation maps of SSTs
Forecast maps of 3-D deepwater currents
Forecast maps of winds and waves
3-D current forecasts on shelf
Probability maps of bottom hazards

Measurement Needs

Hurricane severity model improvement
Operational satellite altimeters (near real-time)
Operational satellite radiometers (near real-time)
Operational satellite wind (QuikSat)
2Hz wave data (not real-time)
Improve hurricane severity forecasts (real-time)
Offshore meteorology measurements (real-time)
Upper column current and temp/salinity profile
Marine mammals and sea turtle sightings
High resolution coastal bathymetry, topography
and subsidence rates

The Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System (GCOOS)

GCOOS Home

Welcome to GCOOS

GCOOS Activities

- [News Board](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [GCOOS Reports](#)
 - [Past Meeting Reports](#)
 - [Reports of Councils & Committees](#)

Regional Association

- [Mission Statement](#)
- [Resolution](#)
 - [Signatories](#)
- [Memorandum of Agreement \(pdf\)](#)
 - [Parties to the MOA](#)
- [Board of Directors](#)
 - [Minutes of Board Meetings](#)
- [Councils/Committees](#)

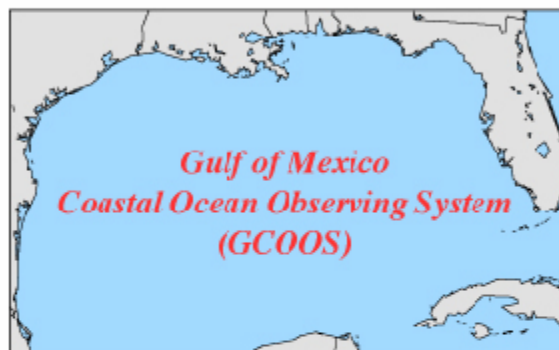
GCOOS System

Building Blocks

- [Overview graphic](#)
- [In Situ Observations](#)
- [Satellite Observations](#)
- [Model Output & Products](#)
- [Inventory](#)

Priorities

- [Top Priorities for National Backbone Additions](#)
- [Top Priorities for National Backbone Enhancements](#)



What is GCOOS and the GCOOS-RA?

Many organizations and individuals are concerned with sustained observations and/or products and services based on such observations from the estuaries and Exclusive Economic Zone of the Gulf of Mexico. A group of these entities have signed a [resolution](#) agreeing to form a Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System (GCOOS)

beginning with the integration of existing observing system elements and the sharing of non-commercial and non-proprietary data and products. You are welcome to join the [signatories](#) to this resolution. General agreement has been reached on a [GCOOS mission statement](#) or vision. This regional system will be a part of the U.S. sustained and Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS).

The Memorandum of Agreement for the GCOOS Regional Association (GCOOS-RA) became effective on 25 January 2005. **Qualified individuals are encouraged to become [Parties](#) by signing the [MOA](#) either on behalf of their organizations or as an individual.** This Regional Association provides formal governance of GCOOS. The [GCOOS Business Plan](#) is in preparation. On June 22, 2005, ballots were counted and the initial [Board of Directors](#) of the GCOOS-RA was elected. Members of the Board represent the distribution of private sector, government, academia, and education and outreach [Parties](#) to the MOA.

An ongoing series of meetings and workshops are being held as part of the development of this Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System. Key meetings held to date have dealt with: an integrated data system for the Gulf of Mexico; the mission, initial building blocks, and tentative organization for GCOOS; a meeting to consider next research activities in the Gulf to support socioeconomic needs; the private

GCOOS Contact Information

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