

## **Technical committee conference call**

June 12, 2007

1:00 PM

Those Present: Anne Ball; Jim Manning; Deb Soule; Bob Branton; Tom Gale; Tom Shyka; Bob Groman; Nick Wolff; Daniel Martin (Daniel.martin@noaa.gov)(CSC), Lou Van Guelpen, Seth Barker; Philip Bogden.

### **Agenda/Notes:**

#### **1) Develop an update of committee projects for the GoMODP newsletter**

The reports/discussion from this meeting will be compiled to create a newsletter to distribute to the partnership.

#### **2) Partner expertise table**

A survey was developed by a subcommittee and distributed by Sylvia to the partners. She has received several completed surveys. Bob Groman took the initiative to develop a web page with a backend database to enter and query for expertise information. Link available at: <http://www.fleetlink.net/utilities.html>

Form is now ready for data entry and a simple data retrieval utility is ready as well. Bob will add the ability to output/edit forms online, so that people can see all of the entries on the form. The name of the page will be changed to be partnership specific. Once these changes are complete, Sylvia will resend to the partnership to get a new round of entries.

We discussed who should be included. Agreement was reached that any technical resources within the partnership's organizations should be encouraged to register as long as they could or are willing assist a member in need. Keeping the information up to date will be a maintenance issue.

#### **3) Data Transport Lab**

NOAA Coastal Services Center is supporting a Data Transport Laboratory (DTL) that could potentially be leveraged by GoMODP partners. Link available at <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/DTL> Daniel Martin joined this call to provide background information on DTL.

Data interoperability standards are being promoted by OceanUS and others. Goal is to understand the options and provide information on how to utilize the various protocols by evaluating performance and ease of use. The DTL has multiple projects underway, spending a few months on each one. Projects in the following areas have been completed: OpenDAP implementation, OOSTethys, Ocean Observation Registry, and a few others – project descriptions available on the website. Additional goal is to try to capture the projects that “come and go,” so that learnings are not lost. DTL project website has write-ups of these projects.

Discussion on including a presentation on this effort at OBI2007 in Nova Scotia.

Tom Gale/Daniel Martin to discuss overlap in WFS projects and possible collaboration. Tom to follow up with Daniel by phone.

Anne would like to know if the partnership would like to participate in FY08 projects.

DTL experiments #3 and #4, OOSTethys, OceansIE are complimentary efforts to define/test OGC technologies. OOSTethys and OGC Interoperability experiment discussion – Link available at: <http://oostethys.org/>

OCEANS IE is an OGC sanctioned “Interoperability Experiment” that OOSTethys participants are leading. Other participants in the OCEANS IE include UniData, Argonne, Lamont, Columbia Univ, and some international partners as well. Best practices will be the output of the experiment. Looking for the ODP to develop a demonstration project of our own to test these strategies. Some small amounts of funding may be available to fund small projects. There are multiple ways that data providers, data developers and data users can get involved. OBIS is working to use WFS to push data out to community. One of the issues tackled by these experiments is the concept of a controlled vocabulary. CF has begun to serve this need, for example.

There are ODP partners in the region that are involved in this high-end interoperability experiment. Interoperability between OBIS, OGC and Exchange Network standards is an ongoing ODP concern. How we begin to craft some activities around this idea is the topic of a future subgroup meeting – Tom/Philip to craft a meeting introduction. Sylvia will send out a meeting announcement on this topic.

#### **4) Dataset accessibility project**

A set of questions were developed by a subcommittee to assess partner’s web data links for accessibility. After a test and review of information gathered, the questions were further refined. Many data links listed in the GCMD or through previous partner surveys were reviewed and results compiled in a spreadsheet. Now this information must be analyzed to determine just how “accessible” the partnership’s data is. Spreadsheet is available at: <http://www.gomodp.org/technical-committee>

The subcommittee needs to regroup to make a suggestion to the larger group as to how to analyze this data and make a report for Evan Richert as he was the one who originally requested this information. Subcommittee will be Deb, Sylvia, Jim, Nick, Bob G., Bob B., and Lou. Sylvia will send out meeting notice for next week.

#### **4) Monitoring Location Pilot Project**

Requesting additional partners to submit monitoring location data according to the template developed last fall was put on hold pending the review of the IOOS Regional Observation Registry (<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/ioos/obsRegistry/obsRegistryInstructions.pdf>) and the outcome of our Exchange Network Grant application. The Registry is geared towards relaying buoy data and does not provide the ability to capture much of the information we agreed was necessary (such as watershed and grab type of samples) for the developing monitoring location web site. Therefore, it cannot be

used in lieu of our template to provide monitoring location data. Limiting the number of disparate data requests to the partners is a key concern.

## 6) Data Center Validation

Link to results: <http://www.gomodp.org/technical-committee>

The datasets on the GCMD portal have all been assigned to partners by contacting the partners to identify their datasets/data centers. Need to follow up with Melanie Meaux to get this information loaded onto the portal. This project points to the need for additional metadata entries/key words so that the datasets are better associated with partners. Other than that, it doesn't have the same obsolescence issues as the overall data accessibility study

## 7) Other

Exchange Network Grant Status – expect to hear final word soon. No definitive answer has been received from the EPA yet..

Bob Branton provided the link to the Centre for Marine Biodiversity Technical Committee's most recent activity report:  
<http://www.marinebiodiversity.ca/cmb/groups/tc/CMBTC%20%20May%2031%2C%2007.pdf/view>

Next meeting will be scheduled as project needs determine.