



NERACOOS News and Updates

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Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems

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Dear Tom,

Welcome to the first NERACOOS e-newsletter! We will be sending this out four times a year to keep you informed about NERACOOS activities, including new data and tools, observing system status, partnerships and more.

You are receiving this because of your participation or interest in NERACOOS. If you do not want to receive this e-newsletter please use the "safe unsubscribe" link at the bottom. If you know somebody that would like to receive this e-newsletter, please use the "Forward" link also at the bottom.

Thanks for your support,
Ru Morrison, PhD
Executive Director

New products and new look for NERACOOS.org

Check out the new [NERACOOS.org](#)! We've redesigned our website to help highlight NERACOOS activities and partners and easily get you to the data and tools you use. We've been working closely with our web development partners, the Ocean Data Products group at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute to also bring you more data and tools from the GoMOOS website, which will be going offline in the upcoming months. Go take a look at the new [NERACOOS.org](#) and please let us know what you think.



NERACOOS receives \$1.77M award

The U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) program recently awarded NERACOOS \$1.77M in federal funding to help support all aspects of the organization including observations, modeling, program and data management, as well as education and outreach. The majority of the funds will go to our observing system partners to help maintain and operate the critical ocean observing system infrastructure that many rely on. This award is the first installment of funds from a 5-year award received by NERACOOS.

NERACOOS third annual meeting

NERACOOS held its third annual meeting on November 29th at the Seacoast Science Center in Rye, NH. We had an eventful day with over 50 stakeholders in attendance. In the morning, Dr. Ru Morrison, NERACOOS Executive Director, highlighted many of NERACOOS' accomplishments and US Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) Program Director, Zdenka Willis, provided an overview of the IOOS. The morning was capped off with a successful press event to announce our \$1.77M award. In the afternoon a panel of stakeholders discussed how NERACOOS data and tools were used by their sector and we wrapped up with an introduction to our new website.

its regional build out plan. You can download the plan from our [documents page](#).

NERACOOS recognizes University of Maine scientist

At the NERACOOS annual meeting, IOOS Program Director Zdenka Willis presented Dr. Neal Pettigrew and the Physical Oceanography Group with an achievement award recognizing their dedicated efforts to ocean observing. Their achievements include the collection of over a decade of hourly ocean data from a system of buoys in the Gulf of Maine. They also designed, built and operate the buoy system in the Gulf of Maine as well as several buoys for the Caribbean Coastal Ocean Observing System.



Observing system update

The system of buoys in the Northeast provides critical data for mariners, managers, researchers and many more. These buoys require ongoing servicing to ensure the continued operation and delivery of high quality data. Our observing system partners are always hard at work to keep the flow of data coming to you.

The University of Connecticut's buoy team has recently serviced a variety of sensors on several Long Island Sound buoys and they are planning to start the cycle of recovery, maintenance, upgrades, and redeployment of each data buoy over the winter period. Each buoy should only be out of the water for approximately 2-3 weeks. Over the past few months the University of Maine's Physical Oceanography Group has serviced and re-deployed the Gulf of Maine buoys in preparation for the winter season. Recently, the Jordan Basin Buoy (M) went adrift and was recovered by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service vessel the RV Delaware II. Buoy M is being repaired and will be re-deployed once the maintenance is complete. The University of New Hampshire recently removed the buoy from Great Bay and plan to re-deploy it in the spring. You can find real time data from stations in the northeast at the [NERACOOS real-time data portal](#).



StormReporter: A new way to report storm damage

StormReporter is a web-based tool that enables the rapid delivery and archiving of coastal storm damage observations. The information collected in StormReporter helps to inform emergency response activities, improve the accuracy of meteorological models, and guide future project planning. "We as coastal managers recognize that the information collected during a storm event is also very valuable for longer-term planning and hazard mitigation efforts," says Julia Knisel, coastal shoreline and floodplain manager for the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management. StormReporter was originally developed for Massachusetts but with additional support from NERACOOS, the development team was able to expand the reach of StormReporter to include four additional New England states (Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Connecticut). Additionally, the support led to substantial improvements making it easier to use and accessible through mobile devices. To learn more visit the [StormReporter website](#).

Northeast Regional Ocean Council hiring Ocean Planning Project Manager

The Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC-a federal-state partnership focused on ocean resource and management issues in New England) is hiring an Ocean Planning Project Manager. This position will play a critical support and coordinating role for NROC and the NROC Ocean Planning Director to implement the day-to-day aspects of the technical elements of NROC's work plan. This position will be located within New England, subject to agreement with NROC and the successful candidate. The application deadline is Wednesday, January 25 at 5:00 pm. Please see the web site of NROC's fiscal sponsor, Third Sector New England, for additional details and [application requirements](#).

Upcoming meetings and events

January 11, 2012 - Northeast Regional Ocean Council Winter Meeting, Boston, MA

January 12, 2012 - New England Coasts Restoration Summit, Wells, ME

January 23-24, 2012 - Gulf of Maine Integrated Ecosystem Research Program, Portland, ME

February 20-24, 2012 - 2012 Ocean Science Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT

February 28-March 1, 2012 - IOOS/NFRA Spring Meetings, Washington, DC

March 1-3, 2012 - Maine Fishermen's Forum, Rockport, ME

