

GoMODP

Technical Committee Guidance

December 2005

Technical Committee Members

- **Anne Ball** – NOAA – Coastal Services Center
- **Seth Barker** – Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment
- **Philip Bogden** – Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System
- **Bob Branton** – Bedford Institute of Oceanography
- **Bob Groman** – Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
- **Stephen Hale** – EPA, Atlantic Ecology Division
- **Jim Manning** – NOAA, Northeast Fisheries Science Center
- **Just Moller** – Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary
- **Sylvia Most** - Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System
- **David Mountain** - NOAA – Northeast Fisheries Science Center
- **Joan Palmer** - NOAA – Northeast Fisheries Science Center
- **Chris Polloni** – USGS, Woods Hole Science Center
- **Annette Schloss** – Coastal Ocean Observation and Analysis - UNH
- **Tom Shyka** - Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System
- **Lou Van Guelpen** - Huntsman Marine Science Centre/Atlantic Reference Centre

Sub-committee member – developed initial draft of guidance

Accomplishments

- Several meetings/conference calls
- Enhanced survey
- Technical guidance document

The guidance document

Goal was to recommend/provide:

- criteria to establish *data authority*
- *standard names* for species, parameters and place names
- guidelines for *constructing metadata*
- *data transport and access* methods
- “best practices” to facilitate *data interoperability*

Some hurdles to creating the guidance document...

- Survey was good but wasn't conclusive
- Technology isn't completely in place yet (crosswalks)
- Disparity in techno know-how
- Can't make it burdensome
- Time

First things first – what do we want for data sets?

- Type
 - Initially want multi-year or relatively stable datasets with a surface water/ocean (not groundwater) component.
- Geographic Scope
 - Gulf of Maine watershed area. An outer ocean boundary has not been explicitly stated. However, important datasets for areas outside this watershed, such as Nova Scotia and south of Cape Cod, will not be excluded.

Data authority (and assurance)

- Are you the owner? Questions to ask yourself.
- Did you enhance someone else's work? Cite properly in metadata.
- Give us your best most current data.
- Is there a problem with the data? Please fix it quickly.
- If a flood occurs, is your data safe? Preserving data for perpetuity.
- Can't serve a valued dataset any more? Work with the Partnership to ensure the data are secured for future availability.

Standard Names (Vocabularies)

- No common vocabularies among partners for species, parameters, or place names.
 - For instance, I call it "Dissolved Oxygen", you call it "D.O.", he calls it "Oxygen, Dissolved", etc.
- Let's watch other groups build crosswalks (like MMI).
- We could build our own (painful and resource intensive).
- Partners should work towards incorporating/developing crosswalks to well known standards in their datasets.

Constructing/Registering Metadata

- Recommended place and theme keywords
- If haven't registered metadata yet, consider using GeoConnections or Global Change Master Directory (GCMD) portals. They share.
- If have registered with GeoSpatial One-Stop, get your record incorporated into GoMODP GCMD portal.

Data Transport and Access Methods

- Let's try to minimize # of technologies used
- Continue to support your customers
- How do you feel about web services?

Exchange Protocol in Use	# of Datasets
OPeNDAP	10
OGC Web Map Service (WMS)	7
OGC Web Feature Service (WFS)	1
FTP	7
HTTP/HTTPS	3
EPA Exchange Network	1
Other/specify (most common alternative was CDROM)	15
DiGIR	17
No response provided	39

Data Interoperability

- Groundwork for data interoperability presented in previous sections. Let's stick to standards whenever possible.
- Let's do a pilot project.

Next Steps

- Achieve full metadata construction and registration.
- Table of partners' data expertise
- Pilot projects
- Other items generated at this meeting

2006 Technical Committee

- First, thanks to the 2005 committee!
- For 2006, ideally need a small group of technical type people who can actively participate.
- 2005 members will be rolled over into 2006 committee unless they tell me otherwise.
- If you aren't already on the committee but want to be, please let me know.