

PacIOOS Work Plan
September 1, 2007 - May 31, 2008

1.0 Work Plan

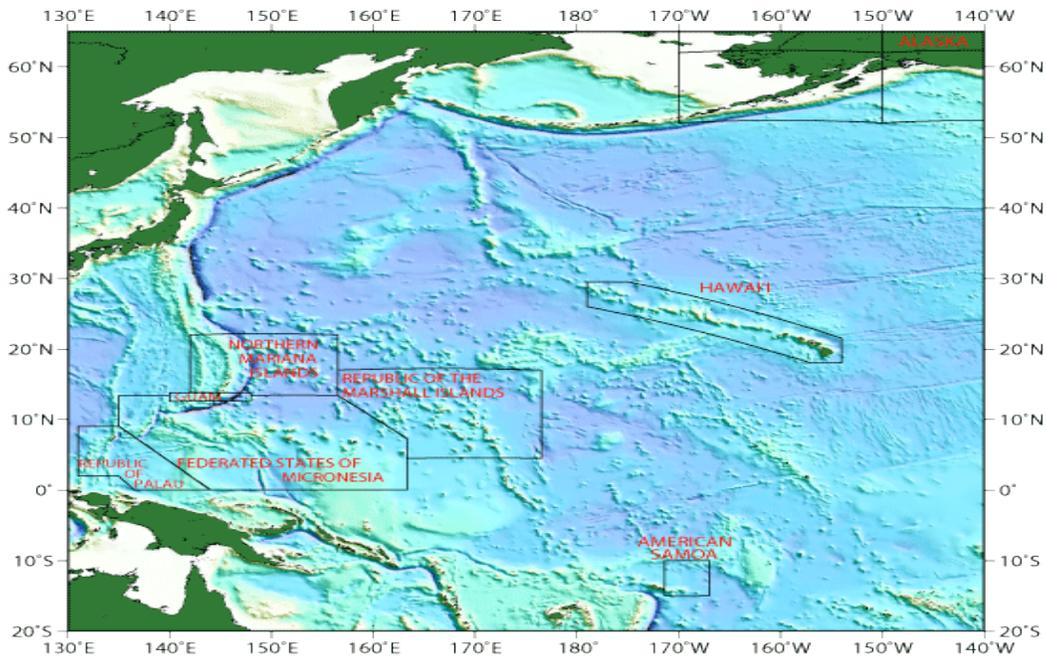
The Regional Association (RA) of the Pacific Integrated Ocean Observing System (PacIOOS) is entering its third planning year. PacIOOS is committed to developing a fully functional RA, which requires meeting the following three goals:

1. Ensure broad engagement of key stakeholders and partner institutions,
2. Identify critical information needs, and
3. Establish appropriate oversight, coordination and implementation mechanisms.

To that end, the following work plan is proposed for year three as a joint effort between the University of Hawaii School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST), University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program (UH Sea Grant, administered under SOEST), and the East West Center (EWC). The principle investigators (PacIOOS leadership team) include Brian Taylor, Alexander Shor, Margaret McManus and James Potemra (UH/SOEST), Darren Okimoto (UH/Sea Grant) and Eric Wong (EWC).

We divide the vast region of PacIOOS (encompassing 45° of latitude, 75° of longitude and six time zones) into four sub-regions: the State of Hawaii, the U.S. Flag Territories of the South Pacific (comprised of American Samoa) and the Western Pacific (comprised of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), and the U.S. Affiliated Islands (comprised of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands).

SOEST has received NOAA/CSC funding to develop a Hawaii-Pacific Ocean Observation and Information System (HI-POOIS), which will focus on Hawaii. Thus, SOEST will coordinate activities in the Hawaiian Islands. Activities in the remaining three sub-regions, constituting the U.S. Flag Territories and Affiliated Islands, (referred to hereafter as the U.S. Pacific Islands) will be coordinated by UH Sea Grant.



Our first step will be to identify stakeholders in each region and engage them in the RA. For Hawaii, SOEST will hire two staff: a Coordinator and an Education/Outreach Specialist. They will work with the PacIOOS leadership team to broaden the existing engagement with representatives from the various government agencies (federal, state, city and county) as well as non-governmental groups (industry, civic and environmental groups, research institutes). The SOEST team will identify the relevant contacts in all groups with an interest in contributing to, and taking advantage of, HI-POOIS. They will also work and coordinate with the SOEST HI-POOIS investigators, thereby acting as a link between the stakeholders, product providers and data collectors.

For the rest of the Pacific, a designated UH Sea Grant Extension Agent will serve as a U.S. Pacific Islands Coordinator. Identification and interaction with stakeholders in these three sub-regions will occur locally in each place, as many of the stakeholders have requested. To accomplish this, the Pacific Islands Coordinator will work with two Liaisons, one for the South Pacific (based in American Samoa) and one for the Western Pacific and Affiliated Islands (based in Guam). The Coordinator and Liaisons will visit the six island groups and identify local PacIOOS representatives from each.

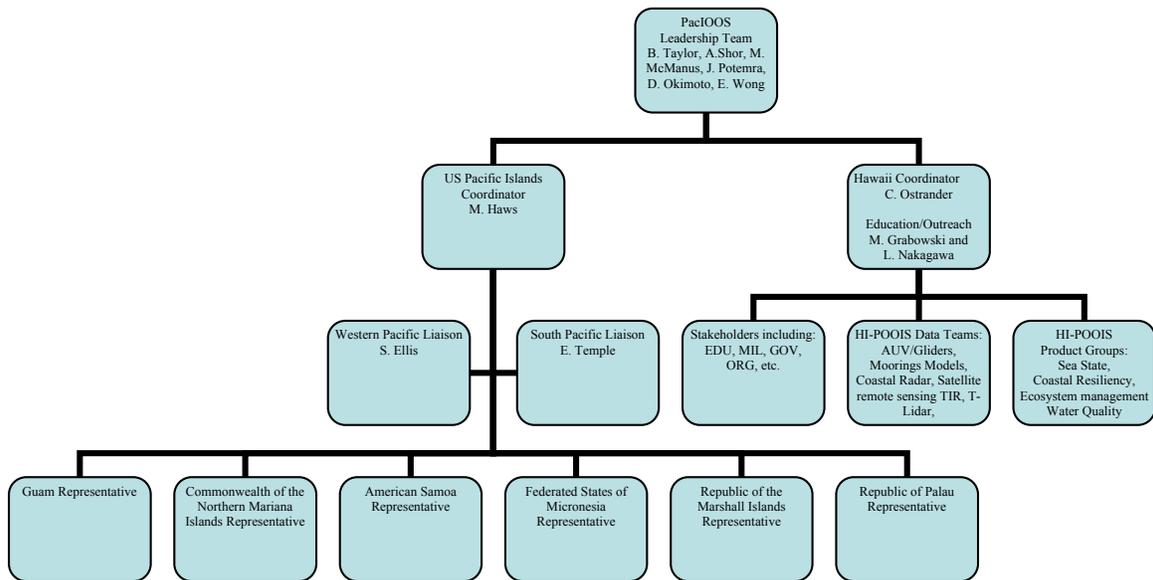
Our second step involves identifying local needs for IOOS data and data products. For Hawaii, this will be done via a workshop, held in Hawaii by the EWC, involving the contacts identified by the Hawaii Coordinator. The end-product of this workshop will be a list of interested agencies, points of contact, data needs, preferred product delivery or access methods, and, potentially, contributions to PacIOOS data product development.

For the regions outside Hawaii, the U.S. Pacific Islands Coordinator will work with the two Sea Grant Liaisons during the visits to the other regions. A series of local meetings, or workshops, will be held in the regions to bring together stakeholders and to understand the regional needs for data and data products. Similar to the workshop in Hawaii, the

data products and preferred product delivery/access method will be assessed. Again, local contributions to the PacIOOS data stream will also be sought.

The final step will be to initiate a PacIOOS governance structure. The PacIOOS leadership team, Hawaii and U.S. Pacific Island Coordinators, Pacific Liaisons and Education/Outreach Specialists, will meet representatives from Hawaii and the six U.S. Flag Territories and Affiliated Islands at a workshop in Hawaii at the end of year three.

Following an organization chart (over-page), a brief summary of year three activities is given as milestones in the next section.



2.0 Milestones

- 2.1 Staffing of Hawaii Coordinator and Education/Outreach Specialist. These two will meet with the SOEST HI-POOIS data teams and product groups to understand the data products and their schedule of availability.
- 2.2 Leadership team, Hawaii Coordinator and Education/Outreach Specialist will contact stakeholders and quantify their interest in HI-POOIS, including resources and data (if any), user needs, and product delivery/access preferences.
- 2.3 Workshop for Hawaii stakeholders to determine local IOOS needs. This meeting will be organized by the EWC.
- 2.4 U.S. Pacific Islands team (Coordinator and two Liaisons) canvases the Pacific Islands (excluding Hawaii) to determine local contacts, needs and assessments. This will be done via a series of meetings held in the six Pacific Island regions (Guam, American Samoa, CNMI, Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands).
- 2.5 Six U.S. Pacific Islands representatives identified.

2.6 Begin dialogue on PacIOOS governance structure and business plan with an “all-hands” meeting in Hawaii (leadership, Coordinators, etc and all the regional representatives).

The first two will be done by SOEST, while 2.4 and 2.5 will be done by Sea Grant personnel. The EWC will organize the workshops in 2.3 and 2.6.