

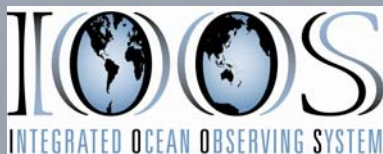


# Update on NFRA

Josie Quintrell, NFRA Executive Director

CaRA

December 2008



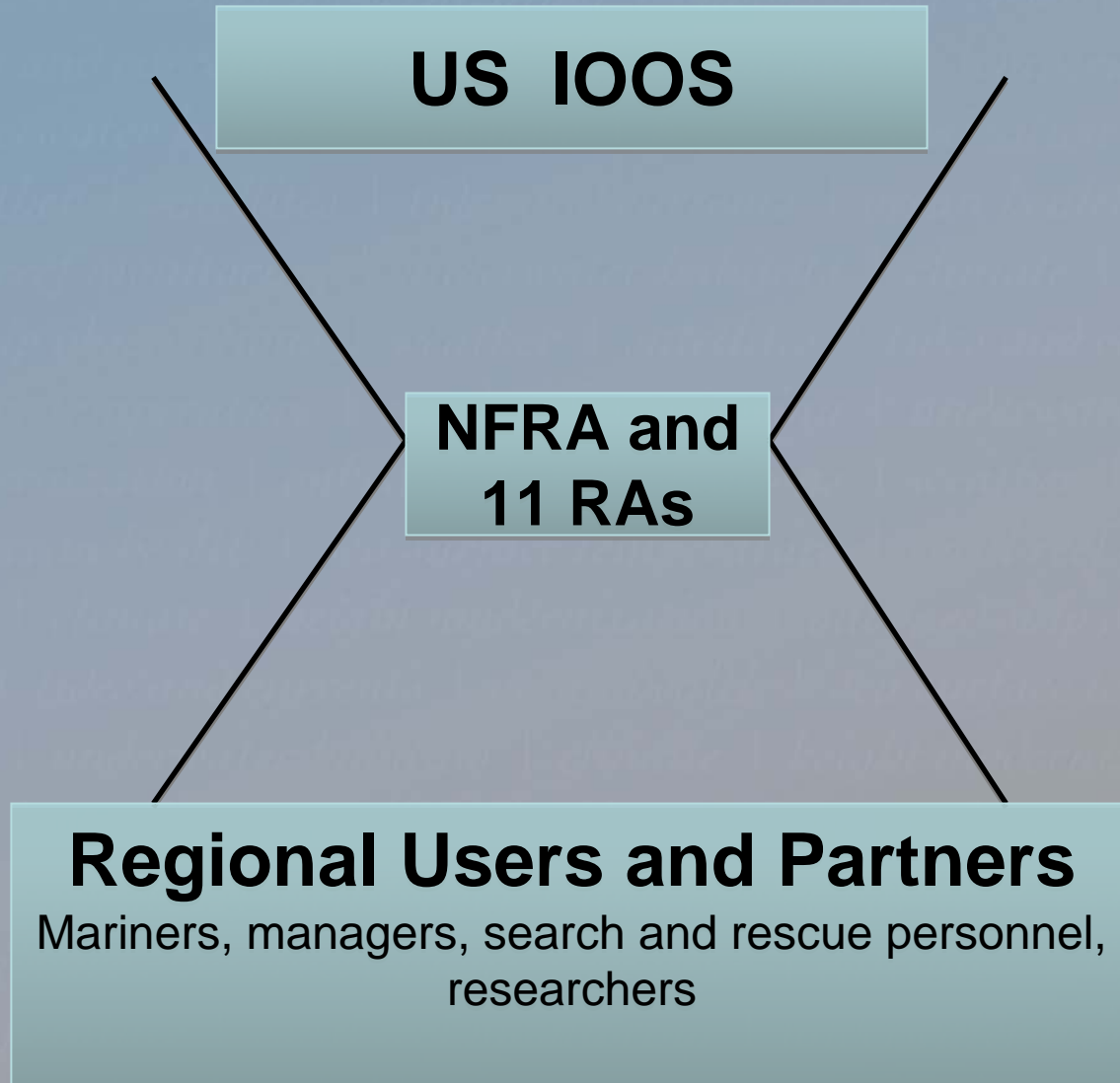
# National Network of Regional Associations



11 RAs serve the entire US Coastline, including Great Lakes, the Caribbean and the Pacific Territories

RAs are the legal entities that seek out user needs, design and implement the Regional Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (RCOOS)

# RAs link between Users and Federal Partners





A non-profit association dedicated to:

- Representing the needs of the 11 Regional Association to IOOS partners and others
- Developing “one voice” for the regional perspective
- Educating through communication of lessons learned, success stories
- Governed by Board of Directors appoint by RAs
- Represent regional perspective on IOOS policy issues
- Advocate for national legislation and funding

Funding: RA dues, NOAA contract, special projects

Leadership: Molly McCammon (AOOS), Chair; David Martin (NANOOS), VC; Rick DeVoe (SECOORA), Treas. Christine Manninen (GLOS).

Staff: Josie Quintrell, PT Executive Director

## NFRA Goal:

- Ensure the growth and development of an dynamic network of RA that are dedicated to providing ocean and coastal observation to society

## Major Activities:

- Advocate for the needs of the regions with the IOOS agencies and with Congress
- Foster communication among the RAs for sharing of information, techniques, lessons learned and the development of position papers
- Foster communication between the RAs and the IOOS agencies and Congress
- Promote the understanding of IOOS and regional IOOS

## Desired Outcomes:

- \$96 m for IOOS with \$50m for the RAs in the FY09 and FY10 budget
- Passage of the IOOS legislation
- Synergies among regions for addressing common issues
- Appropriate regional policies and actions from NOAA and IWGCOO

# Accomplishments for 2008

- Advocacy - Outcome of Board Retreat
  - Funding
  - Legislation
  - NFRA Strategy Session - Focus on Climate
- Communication among RAs:
  - Established NFRA Subcommittees/Working Groups: Education and Outreach; Modeling and Analysis; HF Radar ; DMAC
  - Monthly regional calls
  - NFRA Website
  - IOOS messaging material
- Communications with federal partners:
  - Monthly RA phone calls
  - Strategic session with NOAA IOOS and NFRA Executive Committee
  - Position papers -- JSOST Letter Re: Ocean US Office, Coordinate response
  - Performance metrics
- Outreach
  - Presentations (CHOW, Coastal Cities, CSO)
  - CSO/IOOS workshops



# IOOS Funding History ...

in \$ millions

	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08	FY 09
Pres Req	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$14	\$ 21
Cong	\$6	?	\$13	\$16	\$36	\$42	\$33	\$21	\$ 27	CR until Mar FY08 levels*

- 74% of FY08 IOOS dollars going to regions.
- All regions received Planning and RCOOS support in FY08.
- FY09 Marks – Senate \$38m (\$30m regions /\$8m National) ; House \$29m (\$19.5m regions/\$8.5m National/\$ 1m for ACT)

# NFRA Next Steps

- Advocacy Strategy -- March 2008 Board Retreat. FY09 - CR to March at FY 08 Levels
  - Recognized importance of advocacy to support IOOS
  - Adopted new strategy:
    - Formally appointed Executive Committee responsible for advocacy;
    - Develop sources of non-federal funds to support advocacy. Ask each RA to pay \$500 of the \$5,000 annual dues in non-federal sources
    - Engage regional experts in developing and implementing strategy.
- FY09 - Omnibus now being negotiated
- FY10
  - Appropriations request: \$96 million for IOOS. \$50m for regional IOOS, \$46m for National IOOS (administration, integration of regional and federal data, enhancements to the system)
  - Legislation
- FY11 - NOAA will implement new funding. NFRA has been working with NOAA and hopes that this new approach will address several RA concerns -- combining RA Planning and RCOOS funds, reduce competition between regions, extend length of award to 5 years.



# Legislative ....

- Foregoing any lame duck surprise - we'll have to reintroduce legislation next session.
  - Important issues:
    - formalization of IOOS,
    - recognition of NOAA as lead agency,
    - recognition of RAs,
    - liability coverage,
    - federal participation on RAs,
    - interagency financing,
    - funding process for regions
  - Need to find new House Sponsor
  - Administration considering submitting bill
- Build awareness of IOOS - contacting Congressional members



# CSO/CaRA Workshop

- Sept 2008 -- 40 coastal managers from CZM in PR and US VI
- Purpose: to identify how CaRA can assist CZ managers in addressing issues related to sea level rise
- Managers concerns:
  - Emergency response - hurricanes, flooding, flash floods
  - Long term planning for sea level rise
    - Shoreland erosion/sediment transfer
    - Development set backs
    - Improved predictions
    - Water quality impacts from flooding
    - Offshore impacts on coral reefs from water quality
    - Public safety - beach water quality, rip tides
- US VI and PR - similar issues, different challenges
  - US VI capacity
  - PR – political will

# Identified Needs (The Christmas List .....

## Observations

- Wind, waves and currents
- Sediment transport and rates, including impact on coral reefs
- Wet weather sampling for water quality
- Shoreland maps that include historic and current shorelines, inundation rates, sedimentation rates
- Sediment and water quality observation on coral reefs
- High-resolution bathymetry
- Water quality indicators

## Products

- Interactive models that show potential impact.
- Touch screen maps for data`
- CaRA website should serve as “one-stop-shopping” for data and information in region

## Formats

- Format accessible to managers
- Reliable, up-to-date

- Interpreted products, not raw data

# The List (con't) and Recommendations

## Outreach and Public Awareness

- Expand the CaRA Office in US VI
- Increase interactions between PR and USVI
- Increase public education and outreach
- Create modeling center
- Encourage alignment of EPA, NOAA, and FEMA regions for the Caribbean
- Provide information on coastal and ocean science for the lay person

## Recommendations

1. Develop a central server capacity for making data accessible.
2. Develop interpreted data products.
3. Develop interactive visualization tools.
4. Develop predictive capacity.
5. Enhance CaRA office in the US VI.



Thank you

