



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Science Council

CALL-IN INFORMATION

This meeting will be held remotely. Please view your calendar entry to join this meeting via Google Hangouts and/or to join by phone.

1. BUSINESS (10:30 AM – 10:35 AM)

Minutes [Tab 2 and Tab 2.1]

Action Items [Tab 3]

2. BRIEFINGS (1:05 PM – 2:50 PM)

- **Prospectus for Cooperative Institutes in the 21st Century** – Gary Matlock and Shannon Louie
10:35 AM – 11:05 PM (30 min)
Informational [Tab 4]
- **Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) Research Strategy** – Jessica Cross and Dwight Gledhill
11:05 AM – 11:35 AM (30 min)
Directional [Tab 5]
- **LOTMC Update on Transitions Reports** – LOTMC Exec Sec
11:35 AM – 11:40 AM (5 min)
Informational [Tab 6]
- **Stalled Transitions Strategy** – Craig McLean, Chair
11:40 AM – 12:25 PM (45 min)
Discussion [Tab 7]

SUMMARY AND ACTION ITEM REVIEW (12:25 PM – 12:30 PM)

- **Announcements** – Executive Secretariat

ADJOURN

SCHEDULED BRIEFINGS	Title	Presenter	Sponsor	Category
February	NOAA IR Annual Briefing	Jennifer Fagan-Fry	Chair	Informational
February	NCAI Briefing	James Sims	Chair	Informational
February	LOTMC Transitions Reports	Stephan Smith	Chair	Directional
February	Ecosystem Working Group	Jason Link	Chair	Discussion

March	Unified Modeling Committee Transition to the NOAA Modeling Board	UMC	Chair	Discussion
-------	--	-----	-------	------------

NOAA SCIENCE COUNCIL MEETING

January 11, 2022

10:30 AM to 12:30 PM EST

Google Meet

MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES

<p><i>Executive</i></p> <p>Craig McLean, Chair</p> <p>Cisco Werner, Vice Chair</p> <p>Isha Renta, Exec Sec</p> <p>Ishrat Jabin, Exec Sec</p> <p><i>Principal</i></p> <p>Mitch Goldberg, NESDIS</p> <p>Gary Matlock, OAR</p> <p>David Detlor, NMFS alternate</p> <p>Margo Schulze-Haugen, NOS alternate</p> <p>James Sims, NWS alternate</p> <p>Randall TeBeest, OMAO</p> <p><i>Advisory</i></p> <p>Deirdre Clarkin, NOAA Libraries Advisory Committee</p> <p>Cynthia Decker, Scientific Integrity Committee and NOAA Science Advisory Board</p> <p>Shannon Louie, Cooperative Research Committee</p> <p>James Sims, S&T Synergy Committee</p> <p>Natasha White, Office of Education</p> <p>Monica Grasso, Social Science Committee</p> <p>Kelly Wright, Technology Partnerships Office</p>	<p><i>Other Attendees</i></p> <p>Shannon Louie, OAR</p> <p>Jessica Cross, OAR</p> <p>Dwight Gledhill, OAR</p> <p>Nicole Kurkowski, NWS</p> <p>Beth Norton, SO</p> <p>Brooke McHansen, NESDIS</p> <p>Christian Meinig, OAR</p> <p>Eric Bayler, NESDIS</p> <p>Fiona Horsfall, OAR</p> <p>Francis Choi, OAR</p> <p>Gina Digiantonio, OAR</p> <p>James Herzog, OAR</p> <p>Jennifer Fagan-Fry, OAR</p> <p>Katelyn Robinson, OAR</p> <p>Kathryn Carria, NOS</p> <p>Laura Newcomb, OAR</p> <p>Melissa Yenko, NMFS</p> <p>Neil Christerson, OAR</p> <p>Roxie Allison-Holman, USEC</p> <p>Sandra Byers, OAR</p>
--	--

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

Notify Exec Sec at oar.rc.execsec@noaa.gov within two weeks of the following meeting if any changes to the minutes are needed. Minutes from the December 14th NOAA Science Council meeting were approved. The Exec Sec reviewed all current action items (TAB 3).

BRIEFINGS - Briefing materials are available in the Science Council Meetings 2022 folder on Google Drive.

Prospectus for Cooperative Institutes in the 21st Century – Gary Matlock, OAR

Congress provided language in the Senate Report 116-127 accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020, which directs NOAA to fully implement the CI21 recommendations to the extent to which the agency has not already done so. The “CI21” is a summary report, fully titled as the “Prospectus for Cooperative Institutes in the 21st Century”, that provides findings and recommendations intended to elevate the capacity and capability of the Cooperative Institutes (CIs) and strengthen NOAA’s research enterprise. Gary Matlock and Shannon Louie presented the CI21 implementation update.

Discussion

Gary Matlock begins the discussion highlighting the value of CI’s and what they bring to NOAA. Though there are many opportunities, there are also many challenges. NOAA needs to be cooperating with them. The different rules for federal and non-federal employees can generate animosity. Non-federals cannot sign purchase agreements, which can generate a feeling of exclusion. Part of NOAA’s job is to engage with the CI’s, train them, and help to create an understanding of why there are certain rules. Cooperative agreements are NOAA agreements. Craig McLean, Chair, raises a suggestion to do a review or compliance check up on how compliant NOAA is with CI21. Program tech managers should be SES certified due to the financial requirements. Gary states that there is a mechanism for these kinds of procedures: Management Control Reviews (MCRs). It may help to answer how well the management of CIs are going. Some of what is being done in CI21 are requirements and others are just recommendations. Shannon Louie offers that a similar approach is being done with AMS Social Science, where they are attempting to measure progress with the outcomes of the CIs.

Action: The Chair will engage further with the CI program office.

Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) Research Strategy – Jessica Cross, PMEL

Jessica Cross, lead of the Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) Task Force, presented a briefing on their CDR research strategy and the urgency to which NOAA must act upon efforts in CDR Research. Jessica noted that if NOAA is not involved, efforts to track the global carbon budget can fall apart. This can potentially devalue current NOAA missions, derail future science efforts, and destabilize offset markets. The draft research strategy explains NOAA’s federal motivation for CDR research, a review of CDR techniques and science, a synopsis of NOAA’s key assets for CDR research, and the vision of CDR research at NOAA. The CDR Task Force has requested the Science Council to use their network to facilitate inter-agency connections and to help raise early seed funding.

Discussion

The discussion begins with a focus on the request for seed funding. Margo Schulze-Haugen asks if there are connections to other funding sources. Jessica Cross responds that originally the Bill Back Better was still on the table, and was thought to be a better home than the IJJA Spend Plan. The economic argument is really important when looking at the carbon market. The longer NOAA waits, the more challenging it will be to determine if the market is doing its job. Colm Sweeney suggests taking this opportunity to build off of the FY22 budget in regards to infrastructure. NOAA needs to build the infrastructure for the global observing system for tracking the carbon system. Jessica Cross emphasizes

that carbon management can become as big as the oil and gas industry. DOE has rebranded their Office of Fossil Energy to Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management. If NOAA waits till FY24 to do this, then it may be too late. Cisco echoes Craig's recommendation to take this briefing to the Climate Council for consideration.

Action: Science Council will review the draft CDR Strategy and provide a POC for inter-agency coordination.

LOTMC Update on Transitions Reports – Nicole Kurkowski, LOTMC exec sec

The Science Council tasked the Line Office Transition Managers Committee (LOTMC) with providing a summary of existing transition plans and their required cleanups based on feedback from Dr. Richard Spinrad. Nicole Kurkowski provided a timeline on their approach and determined that by January 2022, the LOTMs will complete the RDEC's FY21 Actuals Data Call and conduct a second query of the NRDD for quality control. In March of 2022, the results will be presented to the Science Council.

Discussion

Nicole Kurkowski offers to answer any questions regarding this action/update. Mitch Goldberg asks if the motivation for the transition plan is that the end user is within another agency. Nicole states that they are looking at all transition plans whether they transition internally or externally. Mitch Goldberg also notes that there are efforts underway, within NESDIS, to move things into the NRDD. Margo vocalizes that NOS has more project plans than transition plans. They are working with transition managers to collect this information and coordinate as appropriate. However, they must be cognizant of the fact that the level of detail will vary by project and what's on everyone's plate. Craig states that if someone wants the funding, this is what they have to do for it and get into the habit of taking accountability. Mitch adds that they are making sure their project plans have the attributes of the NRDD, including making sure their milestones are mapped to readiness levels. He also expresses that if a receiving organization cannot fund then it becomes challenging. The NRDD database should be able to identify if there are issues in transitioning. Fiona Horsfall, of ORTA, is offering training and support with templates for transition plans. She responds that transition plans don't necessarily have to have a commitment for funding. They are living documents that emerge through the funnel. It is used to get early acknowledgement that a project has value to someone. Mitch then proposes that an attribute to the NRDD can be added to receive acknowledgement that funding was committed.

Action: Nicole Kurkowski will provide a summary of the LOTMC discussion on stalled transitions.

Stalled Transitions Strategy - Craig McLean, Chair

During the November Science Council meeting, the LOTMC gave a briefing to the Science Council on their FY21 Q3 R&D transition updates. The LOTMC identified 12 projects that have been stalled from transitioning. This led to a conversation spurring the question of what procedural actions Line Offices can take to be more attentive to stalled transitions. The discussion for this item was to delve deeper into these strategies and how they may overcome some of the challenges.

Discussion

Please see the discussion above, on LOTMC Update on Transitions Reports. The two discussions were merged.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next NOAA Science Council meeting is on February 8th at 10:30am - 12:30pm ET via Google Meet.

ACTION ITEMS

Action Number	Title	Assigned To	Due Date
20211109 - 1a	NOAA Science Council co-sponsor a seminar with the Office of Education	NSC & OEd	March 2022
20211109 - 1b	Craig McLean, Steve Smith, and Mitch Goldberg have agreed to write a one-pager thought piece on hiring early career scientists.	Craig McLean, Steve Smith, and Mitch Goldberg	February 2022
20211109 - 2	OAR and OMAO develop a draft UxS transition plan to push the issue of stalled transitions forward	OMAO & OAR	February 2022
20210921 - 01	Summary of Existing Transition Reports	LOTMC	March 2022