**NOAA SCIENCE COUNCIL MEETING**

**July 19, 2022**

**10:45 AM to 12:30 PM EST**

**Google Meet**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES**

| *Executive*  Sarah Kapnick, Chair  Cisco Werner, Vice Chair  Isha Renta, Exec Sec  Anita Harrington, Exec Sec  *Principal*  Mitch Goldberg, NESDIS  Gary Matlock, OAR  Evan Howell, NMFS  Steve Thur, NOS  Stephan Smith, NWS  Randall TeBeest, OMAO    *Advisory*  Deirdre Clarkin, NOAA Libraries Advisory Committee  Shannon Louie, Cooperative Research Committee  Natasha White, Office of Education Liaison  Kelly Wright, TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS OFFICE LIAISON | *Other Attendees*  Fiona Horsfall, OAR  Abigail Arnold, OAR  Katelyn Robinson, OAR  Melissa Yencho, NMFS  Julie Price, NESDIS  Tony LaVoi, OFA  Jennifer Fagan-Fry, OAR  Ishrat Jabin, OAR  Brooke McHansen, NESDIS  Bryan Cole, OAR  Elizabeth Gugliotti, OAR  Pat Harr, Jupiter Intelligence  Philip Hall, OMAO  Rebecca Atkins, NOS  Roxie Allison-Holman, HDQ  William Mowitt, OMAO  James Jenkins, OAR  John Cortinas, OAR  Josh Hacker, Jupiter Intelligence  Justin Rogers, Jupiter Intelligence  Kelly Goodwin, OAR  Kenneth Vierra, OAR  Lisa Nakamura, OFA  Mark Osler, NOS  Laura Newcomb, OAR  Victoria Moreno, OAR  Eric Bayler, NESDIS  Sarah Davis, OAR  Terence Lynch OAR |
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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS**

Notify Exec Sec at [science.coucil.execsec@noaa.gov](mailto:science.coucil.execsec@noaa.gov) within two weeks of the following meeting if any changes to the minutes are needed. Minutes from the June 14th NOAA Science Council meeting were **approved**. The Exec Sec reviewed all current action items.

**CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

* Welcome to New Chief Scientist & Science Council Chair, Dr. Sarah Kapnick
* State of the Science Fact Sheets

The Vice Chair asks, how can we evolve the structure of the fact sheets? Should they be more infographic? The Chair suggests adding some of them in climate.gov given all the work that goes into them. The Chair asks if there is a fact sheet on terrestrial heat? There is not. NWS suggests using story maps software - it seems to be effective. Twitter is also used a lot to reach a wide audience and points out that there is not a fact sheet on social science and equity. NOS says the fact sheets are accessed very infrequently, the current format is not very web savvy. The council should work with comss staff to update this before generating new fact sheets. NESDIS suggests including the social dimensions and equity topics in the fact sheets. The library informs the council that the NOAA IR can also track usage (views, downloads, etc.). OAR points out it is worth remembering the reason for these fact sheets - it was to provide a NOAA view of the state of the science in a particular topic - it revived in that direction, they are not used by NOAA, they are thought about as an afterthought, hard to find, and not impacting much.

**ACTION** - Review where we are, determine if the role of the fact sheets needs to be re-evaluated, check with comms staff, bring back to the next Science Council meeting for discussion

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

**Jupiter Intelligence CRADA** *– Mark Osler, Josh Hacker*

Cooperative Research and Development CRADA with Jupiter Intelligence (2019 - 2024). This CRADA is not a funding agreement, it is a no cost agreement. They are seeking NOAA SMEs to engage. Potential focus areas include seasonal to annual predictions, ecosystem changes, and machine learning techniques. Jupiter has the capabilities to augment NOAA expertise and accelerate R2OR2. The pillars of Jupiter are science transparency, flexibility and our independence, enterprise. They serve many different sectors of customers including banking, insurance, utilities, chemicals, real estate, oil and gas, and the public. Potential areas that could be of interest to NOAA are seasonal to annual sea level predictions, subseasonal to seasonal tropical cyclones, precipitation downscaling, linking with ongoing efforts like MAPP, nature based solutions to coastal restoration, sea level rise global to local effects, coastal impacts, ML framework local to long stretches of coast. Jupiter is looking for SMEs and to get the conversations started.

*Discussion:*

Mark Osler notes there is the potential to have SME workshops to convene on these topics. NWS asks, which collaboration topics are low hanging fruit or would be the biggest return on investment? Josh Hacker responds that seasonal to annual and nature-based coastal restoration would have the broadest impact on the economy.

Communicating information that we provide to individual citizens could Jupiter help with a NOAA app for citizens? Josh Hacker agrees that there is value in that sort of app. Mark Osler responds that the sub seasonal annual piece came up because there is new money in the infrastructure bill so that would be low hanging fruit. OAR asks, given the focus on R2O, who do you envision the current operators to be within NOAA or outside and how do you go about the planning? The operators are decision makers and are making financial decisions, Jupiter does the processing themselves. NOS asks, does the CRADA involve staff exchanging? Kelly Wright, who manages CRADAs at NOAA, responds that there is the ability for staff exchange.

**OAR and OMAO UxS Transition Plan to Address Stalled Transitions** *– Captain Philip Hall, Fiona Horsfall, Bryan Cole*

The reasons that transitions stall include cultural obstacles, regulations and policies, technical issues, lack of resources, lack of detailed transition plans, and lack of RSI information. OMAO plans to help transitions by setting up conversations between end users early on and providing resources to create transition plans. There are two additional plans in the works including a pilot bridging program to help cross ‘the valley of death’ and a demonstration program.

*Discussion:*

The Chair begins the discussion by asking, are you defining your needs and then soliciting CRADAS?

Bryan Cole responds that they are trying to put a RFI for companies - so yes, it starts with a NOAA requirement. NWS supports the call for demonstrations because it is difficult to quantify the impact of a single observation or a unique observation with a niche use. NWS asks/suggests using uncrewed systems to understand human behavior. Bryan agrees that it is essential in case of new capabilities you can demonstrate that it works or the cost effectiveness. NMFS responds that it is good to see NOAA having clear roles, this will strengthen NOAA’s voice when we know who is doing what and it would be good to have regional leadership tignoff ahead of time.

ORTA is encouraging folks to engage before RL4, there is no way to know if a transition is stalled unless there is a transition plan. The Vice Chair asks what goes into evaluating a proposal? Bryan Cole responds that it depends on the type of technology, requiring a transition plan could be premature in the early stages - proposals could be written in a transition plan format. NWS and OAR agree that transition plans should be required early as possible. Captain Hall informs the council that some transition plans are a huge effort but they are required in the RFP process. Transition plans are required for R&D projects (at RL 4 or higher) by NOAA in its NOAA ADministrative Order. It's not limited to UxS.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* The next NOAA Science Council meeting is on **August 9th at 10:30am - 12:30pm ET** via Google Meet.

**ACTION ITEMS**

| **Science Council: This spreadsheet lists all current open action items currently assigned to the Council. Additional information for each entry can be found in the original email assigning this task. If you have any questions, please email science.council.execsec@noaa.gov.** | | | | |
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| **Date Assigned or Action Number** | **Subject Line** | **Assigned To** | **Due Date** | **Status** |
| 20210713 - 01 | New State of the Science fact sheet on methane for climate change | OAR | End of 2021 | Review concluded April 8th. Authors are currently responding to comments. |
| 20211109 - 02 | UxS Transition Plan on Stalled Transitions | OAR & OMAO | June 17th, COB | OAR and OMAO to develop a draft UxS transition plan to push the issue of stalled transitions forward. The plan has been sent for SC Review but there were questions. |
| 20220426 | DEI Integration Best Practices | NSC | August 2021 | The first round of review is complete and comments are being addressed. |
| 20210309 - 02 | State of the Science Factsheet on Aerosols and Climate Change | OAR | TBD | Authors are working to address first round of comments |
| 20220531 | State of the Science Factsheet on Emerging Technologies | S&T Synergy Committee | TBD | In the process of being drafted |
|  | Social Science Committee Terms of Reference | Social Science Committee |  |  |
| 20220510-01 | Cooperative Research Committee ToR | Group of NSC principals and advisory members | Update by August 2021 | The group is following up on the motion proposed by Gary Matlock at the May Science Council meeting |