



**National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration**
Science Council

NOAA SCIENCE COUNCIL MEETING

August 15th, 2023

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM EST

Google Meet

MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Executive

Sarah Kapnick, Chair
Steve Thur, Vice Chair
Saiontoni Sarkar, Exec Sec
Celina Harris, Exec Sec
Isha Renta, Exec Sec

Principal

Margo Schulze-Haugen, NOS
Fiona Horstall, OAR (alternative)
Douglas Howard, NESDIS
Kristen Koch, NMFS
Hendrix Tolman, NWS (alternative)
Randall Tebeest, OMAO

Advisory

Cynthia Decker, NOAA Scientific Integrity Liaison
Casey Stewart, Science Advisory Board Executive Director
Alison Krepp, Social Sciences Committee Co-Chair
Kelly Goodwin, S&T Synergy Committee Chair
Natasha White, Office of Education Liaison
Tony LaVoi, Chief Data Officer

Other Attendees

Alexandra Neal, OAR
Brooke McHansen, NWS
Debbie Sinmao, CIO
Eric Bayler, NESDIS
Ishrat Jabin, OAR
Jason Cooper, NESDIS
Jessica Morgan, NESDIS
John Walker, OAR
Joshua Lee, NMFS
Kenneth Vierra, OAR
Laura Newcomb, OAR
Megan Deehan, OAR
Melissa Yencho, NMFS
Michael Liddel, NMFS
Monica Grasso, CFO
NESDIS PCO
Sarah Davis, OAR
Tyler Christensen, NESDIS
Victoria Luu, OAR
Alek Krautmann, NESDIS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

Notify Exec Sec at science.council.execsec@noaa.gov within two weeks of the following meeting if any changes to the minutes are needed. Minutes from the June 20th NOAA Science Council meeting were **approved**.

CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The OSTP Quadrennial S&T Data Call Tasker was rescinded and efforts to collect the data were distributed to other entities within NOAA to streamline collection efforts.

MINUTES

<http://sciencecouncil.noaa.gov>

- Consider the May Science Council meeting minutes **accepted**.

ACTION ITEM REVIEW

- The Exec Sec reviewed all current action items. [Tab 3]

BRIEFINGS: Briefing materials are available in the Science Council Meetings 2023 folder on Google Drive.

NOAA Science Advisory Board Nominations: Casey Stewart

The materials and content from this briefing are subject to confidentiality restrictions. Please reach out to the NOAA Science Council Executive Secretariat at science.council.execsec@noaa.gov for the minutes from this discussion.

Data Governance Update: Tony LaVoi - [Tab 4]

Informational

6 areas of coordination (as outlined at Oct 2022 briefing) were set for the Data team and they have successfully incorporated 5 of those area recommendations into practice. Currently, they are trying to identify the outcomes wanted and the impact goal and use that to drive what the actions are going to be. The focus of the work is not on standards and metrics and compliance. It was recommended to Science Council members that they identify their Assistant Chief Data Officer for their Lion Office to meet and identify areas of closer collaboration.

It was noted that NOAA is on target to meet PARR guidance. The Data team has already received feedback that finding NOAA data is very hard. They are working to convene a variety of users to work with service delivery to make finding data easier and more accessible. They will be releasing an updated data catalog and highlighting an open data licensing guidance to NOAA scientists on how to release data. Next step areas: PARR (some action reviews this year), NOAA Center for AI, increased partnership with Social Science Committee, and engagement with SAB's Data Access and Archive Requirements Working Group

Jason Cooper was introduced, he is a current LANTERN Detailee working on Open Science for the Data team. Open Science Practices include pre-registration of research goals and hypotheses with publishing of preliminary results throughout the process leading to the final publication. Data and software provided alongside results. NW Fisheries Science Center has partnered with OpenScapes to implement these ideas already. The question was raised to members: Consider what you think of Open Science and how NOAA does R&D. What should NOAA do in the open science space?

Discussion

What should the tone be back to SAB with respect to Open Science? Jason has a lot of interactions with bench scientists from this perspective. Open Data is very much in Tony's wheelhouse, but not Open Science as a whole.

NWS raised the question of what does open science mean from a modeling perspective? While Open Science has been discussed broadly, the idea of software and modeling is not a unique NOAA question. The UK and EU are having these discussions/issues as well. Software more available is completely fine, but the question to the researchers always goes back to how open do they want the collaboration with the external community? NMFS highlighted that while NW Center was mentioned as an example, these practices could be extrapolated to Fisheries. NMFS is taking steps using IRA funding, and have developed a community of practice around openscapes. NMFS recognizes there are some concerns on data confidentiality that will need to continue to have protocols developed around.

The Vice Chair raised that, given the very complex web of science that NOAA does and funds, NOAA's adoption of open science principals will not be universal. Given how NOAA funds contract firms, collaborative institutions, and arm's-length research through NOFOs are all very different and have their own legal

complexities. The Vice Chair raised that NOAA will need to adopt the principles in a variety of ways and adopt them in collaboration with many other individuals.

NWS raised that we may need to consider the NAO on software development guidance being developed through the NEC so that handbooks can be developed in a timely manner. The team developing that NAO recognizes this needs to be considered by LO because of the variety of ways we are using softwares.

State of the Science Factsheets - Updated Approach: Megan Deehan [\[Tab 5\]](#) [\[Tab 5.1\]](#) [\[Tab 5.2\]](#)
Informational/Discussional

Megan highlighted that the updated approach aligns with NAO 216-113. She shared the draft rollout plan that has been developed and is generally looking for feedback and reaction. She also presented the Sea Level Rise example and highlighted that this pulled primary details from written PDF products and added additional interactive components. Title sections and graphics can still be updated to be more interactive and engaging - feedback on this was welcomed as well. She posed the discussion question to the Council: should SoS Fact Sheets be continued and revamped going forward with this approach?

NOS believes this transition will be a great step for greater accessibility and access to a wider audience. They asked if it is expected that the headers be consistent across all factsheets or if they will be more unique to each fact sheet? Megan responded that while this is a general framework, each fact sheet will be unique and that detail attention matters for the messaging and communication to the audience

NWS indicated they liked having the PDF version available for use in high schools, but that they appreciated the new version. They recommended working with social science folks working on this and offer the NWS Social Science team if that would be useful for SoS relevant to NWS science. NWS also raised that if NOAA will be working through an electronic version of fact sheets, that there should be a monitor at NOAA booths dedicated to pulling fact sheets up during conference attendance. NESDIS dittoed this in chat.

The Vice Chair recommended running a draft through public affairs and a few journalists to see if a message-enhancing cadre's suggestion on how they would use this for grabbing information and messaging it in their own stories could be used to tune the information presented.

NMFS raised that the way the Science Council has reviewed SoS Fact Sheets in the past is through our tasker list serve. Fisheries has a very complex communications network and they had a lot of comments because they hadn't been involved in SoS review before. Their communication teams had some comments about the audience and engaging them would be necessary to ensure proper delivery. In this vein of reaching an audience for delivery, NESDIS raised the question generally for consideration that we should consider how we plan to continue communicating with younger generations who aren't using websites or older social media sites? Specifically, how do we translate websites into mobile devices for students?

The Chair also suggested that for interactive graphics, ensure that the information is downloadable so media can make their own files as many of those teams are having data scientists incorporated into their teams. All line offices recommended moving forward with the updated formatting and approach. NMFS provided a yes, with a caveat to engage communication teams sooner and frequently. NESDIS also raised the concern of 508 Compliance and a request to ensure these products maintained compliance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next NOAA Science Council meeting is September 12th from 10:30am to 12:30pm ET via Google Meet.

ACTION ITEMS

Action Number	Due Date	Subject Line	Assigned To	Status
20220510-01	TBD	Cooperative Research Committee ToR	Group of NOAA Science Council principals and advisory members	The group is following up on the motion proposed by Gary Matlock at the May Science 2022 Council meeting.
20220830	June 2	Science Council ToR	SC/NEP	Approved by NEP, NEC review complete. Received comments from NOS AA. Response to comments sent back. Awaiting response.
20221104-2	TBD	SoS Fact Sheet - Drought	NIIDIS	POC working on updating first draft.
20221107	June 15	SoS Fact Sheet - Tornadoes	NSSL/NWS	Revisions from showstopper sent to LO representatives who had further edits.
20230414	TBD	MOU/MOA NAO Revision Task Force	NOAA Science Council	ToR drafting in progress.
20230705	July 19	SoS Fact Sheet - Emerging Science for Mobile Earth Observations	NOAA Science Council	Review completed. To be formatted.
20230711	July 28	Review and rank SAB candidates	NOAA Science Council principals	Review completed. Rankings sent to SAB Director.
20230713	July 20	Comments on FY26 SRGM Outline	NOAA Science Council	Review completed. Office of the Chief Scientist incorporating comments.
20230726	August 9	Sole-Source OAR Continued Support of NDC hosted by NASEM	NOAA Science Council	Review completed.
20230804	August 9	Red Flag Review of NITRD & NAIIO Supplement to the President's FY 2024 Budget and Cybersecurity Roadmap	NOAA Science Council	Review completed. Comments sent to Michael Weiss.
20230804	August 18	Quadrennial S&T Agency Data Call	Reassigned	Science Council tasker rescinded. Tasker questions redistributed per Science Council leadership.