

REPORT OF MONITOR TASK TEAM

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The MONITOR Task Team met from 9:30-13:00 hours on October 12, 2003, to review accomplishments of the preceding year and the status of various national and regional monitoring programs, and to make plans for the upcoming year. The participation list and meeting agenda are appended as *MONITOR Endnote 1* and *MONITOR Endnote 2*.

North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report - PICES XII MONITOR Workshop (Agenda Item 2)

Dr. David L. Mackas reviewed the outcome from the MONITOR Workshop to “Examine and critique a North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report” held October 10-11, 2003, at PICES XII. Summary of the workshop is included elsewhere in this Annual Report and will be published in January 2004, in PICES Press.

The workshop convened was a great success. Recommendations and scientific criticisms made by more than 40 participants will enable the PICES community to reach new heights in applied ecosystem monitoring and operational oceanography. Participants from across the globe brought insights from various ecosystems that greatly strengthened discussions and made for dynamic interactions.

The role of MONITOR in NPESR preparation and review was discussed. Task Team members agreed that this is an important present and future work for MONITOR. Potential actions and activities by MONITOR:

- contribute expertise to ‘scientific peer review’;
- initiate future NPESR editions (however, this role assumes a permanent mandate for MONITOR, probably extending beyond the duration of the CCCC Program);
- help future chapter authors find relevant data and specialist expertise; and
- contribute to ‘outreach’ communication.

Report on PICES CPR program (Agenda Item 3)

Dr. Sonia D. Batten provided a brief report on the status of the PICES North Pacific CPR (Continuous Plankton Recorder) Program. Funding (grant of US \$185,000 from the North Pacific Research Board) for the east-west transect (from Vancouver to Yokohama) is in place through June 2005. For the north-south line, funding through 2006 (grant at a level of US \$120,000 per year) is pending but not yet approved by the Gulf of Alaska Ecosystem Monitoring and Research Program of Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council. Starting 2004, change in ship availability will cause a route change for the north-south line – Puget Sound to Anchorage vs. Los Angeles to Prince William Sound. The new, shorter, route will provide continued good coverage of Alaska Gyre but much less coverage of the California Current System. A detailed report on this activity will be published in January 2004, in PICES Press.

PICES should continue to endorse, and encourage further development of the very successful North Pacific CPR Program.

Other monitoring activities (Agenda Item 4)

- 3 ‘new’ lines off Pacific coast of Japan crossing the Kuroshio and Oyashio current systems were initiated by the Japanese Fisheries Research Agency;
- A new ‘ferry box’ monitoring program in Alaskan coastal waters was launched in 2003 by the Gulf of Alaska Ecosystem Monitoring and Research Program.

Inter-sessional activities (Agenda Item 5)

Dr. Sei-ichi Saitoh will represent PICES at the Fifth Annual Meeting of POGO (Partnership for Observation of the Global Ocean). This meeting will be held November 18-20, 2003, in Yokohama, Japan, and focus on the

implementation of an ocean global observing system.

At last year's Annual Meeting, MONITOR recommended that PICES should endorse and sponsor two North Pacific "GOOS pilot projects" focused on the marginal seas and continental margin boundaries of the Northwest and Northeast Pacific. The Northwest Pacific pilot program was envisioned to be built around the expanding NEAR-GOOS program. The Northeast Pacific pilot program was envisioned as a coast-wide linkage of new and existing regional and national ocean monitoring programs in the California Current and Alaska Current systems. As a step toward building such a Northeast Pacific monitoring network and discussing the role of PICES in regional coordination, MONITOR will convene a 3-day (November 20-22, 2003) workshop on "Development of pilot coastal monitoring program(s) in the NE Pacific" in Victoria, Canada. Partial funding for the workshop is provided by the Pacific Coastal Observing System (PaCOS) and the Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring Program (EVOS-GEM). The meeting will be chaired by Drs. David Mackas (2001-2003 MONITOR Co-Chairman), Phillip R. Mundy (incoming MONITOR Co-Chairman and US GOOS Steering Committee member) and Skip McKinnell (PICES Deputy Executive Secretary). A report on this workshop will be published in January 2004, in PICES Press.

Session proposal for PICES XIII (Agenda Item 6)

A workshop and a Topic Session were proposed for PICES XIII:

- A 1-day workshop (joint with POC) on "North Pacific GOOS: Needs and activities"; recommended convenors: Vyacheslav B. Lobanov (Russia), Phillip R. Mundy (U.S.A.) and Sei-ichi Saitoh (Japan). This workshop could be combined with the proposed POC Topic Session on "Application of Global Observing Systems to physics, fisheries and ecosystems";
- A ½- or 1-day Topic Session on "MONITOR contributions to CCCC Program: New results from ongoing time

series"; recommended convenors: Sonia D. Batten (U.K.), David L. Mackas (Canada) and Sei-ichi Saitoh (Japan). Should this session be accepted, convenors will explore the possibility of publishing the results in the *Journal of Oceanography*. This could be part of a longer CCCC Topic Session on "CCCC, GLOBEC and GLOBEC-like results: First steps toward a synthesis of impacts of large-scale climate change on North Pacific marine ecosystem".

"Time series at risk" (Agenda Item 7)

The following time series were identified as "time series at risk":

- CalCOFI;
- US GLOBEC LTOP lines off Newport (Oregon) and Seward (Alaska);
- Bering Sea M2 mooring;
- JMA lines in the Japan/East Sea and oceanic western North Pacific (especially zooplankton analysis for the Japan/East Sea line).

This list may be incomplete as there were no Korean or Chinese representatives at the meeting during this agenda item.

Discussion of reports from NEXT and Study Groups on PICES Capacity Building and PICES Strategic Issues (Agenda Items 8-10)

Reports and recommendations from these groups were reviewed at a plenary session with other Task Teams, and the results of this discussion are reflected in the report of the Implementation Panel on the CCCC Program.

Interactions with TCODE (Agenda Item 11)

The Task Team discussed a proposal by Dr. Sei-ichi Saitoh for interaction between MONITOR and TCODE to promote data exchange and CD-ROM publication of long-term data sets, and recommends that MONITOR and TCODE jointly (i) identify and list available long-term monitoring data sets; and (ii) make these data sets more broadly available by 'publishing' them on CD-ROM, with priority set based on their value for current and future PICES activities.

Future role and status of MONITOR (Agenda Item 12)

It was generally agreed that the MONITOR Task Team should extend beyond the duration of the PICES CCCC Program. Key ‘permanent’ tasks for the Task Team include: (i) updates to the North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report; and (ii) implementation of the North Pacific GOOS. It was recommended that PICES recognize this role by forming a permanent MONITOR Committee.

Several alternative organizational structures were discussed. Most preferred by Task Team members was for MONITOR to become a Scientific Committee (like POC, BIO, MEQ and FIS). Second choice was to become a Technical Committee (like TCODE). A third option is for MONITOR to be merged with TCODE. However, group consensus was that MONITOR should maintain close contact with, but be separate from, TCODE because of differences in focus and expertise (collection and interpretation of time series vs. data archival and exchange). In practice, a combined committee would necessarily function as two sub-committees.

Specific funding requests (Agenda Item 13)

- 2 invited speakers for the Workshop on “North Pacific GOOS: Needs and activities” and 2 invited speakers for the Topic Session on “MONITOR contributions

to CCCC Program: New results from ongoing time series” at PICES XIII;

- 1 MONITOR representative to attend the ICES-IOC Steering Group on GOOS (SGGOOS) meeting to be held in April 2004, in Spain;
- 1 MONITOR representative to participate in NEAR-GOOS activities in conjunction with the 6th WESTPAC Symposium in April 2004, in Hangzhou, People’s Republic of China;
- Production of several copies of the “North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report Poster” to be carried to various scientific meetings by MONITOR members.

Election of new MONITOR Co-Chairman (Agenda Item 14)

Dr. Phillip R. Mundy (U.S.A.) was chosen (in a closed election with two other US scientists, Drs. Jeffrey M. Napp, and Steven J. Bograd) and recommended as the new MONITOR Co-Chairman to replace Dr. Mackas (Canada).

New PICES web site (Agenda Item 15)

Ms. Julia Yazvenko of the PICES Secretariat demonstrated the features of the new PICES web site. Each group will have a separate page on this new site. Using the proposed template, MONITOR will supply lists of ‘key tasks’, ‘projects’ and ‘products’ for the MONITOR web page.

MONITOR Endnote 1

Participation List

Members

Vyacheslav B. Lobanov (Russia)
David L. Mackas (Canada, Co-Chairman)
Phillip R. Mundy (U.S.A.)
Yutaka Nagata (Japan)
Jeffrey M. Napp (U.S.A.)
Thomas C. Royer (U.S.A.)
Sei-ichi Saitoh (Japan, Co-Chairman)
William J. Sydeman (U.S.A.)

Observers

Sonia D. Batten (U.K.)
Li-Qi Chen (China)
Kiyotaka Hidaka (Japan)
Elena Latkovskaya (Russia)
Stewart M. McKinnell (PICES Secretariat)
Kaoru Nakata (Japan)
Sachi Okhi (Japan)
Yasunori Sakurai (Japan)

MONITOR Endnote 2

MONITOR Task Team Meeting Agenda

1. Approval of agenda
2. North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report - discussion of draft report and of PICES XII MONITOR workshop on this topic
3. Report on North Pacific CPR program
4. Review other MONITOR activities in 2003
5. Description of upcoming inter-sessional activities:
 - a. POGO-5 meeting
 - b. Workshop on "Development of pilot coastal monitoring program(s) in the NE Pacific" and role of PICES in regional coordination
6. Plans/proposals for PICES XIII
7. Identification of "Time-series-at-risk"
8. Discussion of NEXT (NEMURO Experimental Planning Team) report and recommendations
9. Discussion of report from Study Group on *PICES Capacity Building*
10. Discussion of report from Study Group on *PICES Strategic Issues*
11. Interactions with TCODE (proposal for joint promotion of data exchange, CD-ROM press, development of marine GIS)
12. Role and status of MONITOR Task Team after end of CCCC Program
13. Specific funding requests for 2004 and 2005
14. Election of new MONITOR Co-Chairman
15. Other business.