US Animal Telemetry Network
Steering Group Meeting SG-4

August 23, 2018
Meeting Minutes

I.   ATN Updates (B. Woodward, Chair ATN Steering Group)

B. Woodward called for consensus on the meeting agenda and provided a brief update on ATN activities from April 2018-August 2018. The ATN has convened and/or participated in the following meetings during the last several months:
- PACIOOS Workshop – Honolulu: *April*
- NASA Biodiversity and Ecological Forecasting Team Meeting &
  MBON All-Hands Meeting: *April*
- IODE/OBIS-EVENT-DATA Workshop on Animal Tagging and Tracking (ATT) – Belgium: *April*
- ATN Workshop/Discussion Group at AFS 2018 – New Jersey: *August*

Additionally, the following activities have occurred:
- With NDBC, developing the capability for inserting ocean profiles from animal-borne tags onto the GTS
- DAC transition to Axiom Data Services nearly complete; lights are on with initial functionality: *July*
  - Soon beginning onboarding of PIs
  - As of August, there is initial functionality, full functionality in another few months
- M2M data links are being established between the DAC and Wildlife Computers, Argos, and SMRU
- ATN successfully secured administrative support via a NOAA/IOOS grant award to the Consortium for Ocean Leadership (COL)
  - Nick, Kruti and Callan will continue to help with our ATN SG Meetings as well as our Workshops
- Interagency agreement funds have been received and are currently going out to:
  - Regional Data Wranglers
  - Georgia Coastal Receiver Array
  - Argos fees for ATN Researchers
  - ATN DAC support for Axiom
  - ATN DAC Science Coordinator position (supported by NMFS funding)
- The SECOORA-CARICOOS Report is completed
  - Gained staff support for this effort
  - Currently working on the Alaska Workshop Report

The upcoming plans for the ATN for the next three months include:
- Configure Research Workspace for Animal Telemetry Network: *Fall 2018*
- DAC becomes a valuable operational resource for the telemetry community: *November 2018*
- Implement Asset Inventory Project: *Fall 2018*
- Workshop Reports completed: *Fall 2018*
- Attend IOOS Regional Association Fall Meeting – Annapolis: *September 2018*
- Attend Ocean Tracking Network Intl Data Management Committee Meeting: *November 2018*

- Three Region West Coast Workshop – partnered with OTN and MBON: *November 2018*
- Plan NERACOOS ATN Workshop: *Early 2019*
- Continued joint efforts with MBON to define/implement a sustained biological observing component in IOOS: *Ongoing*

II.   Voting Member Input
- M. Weise discussed the successful transition of the ATN DAC to Axiom. Axiom will be extremely helpful in the future and has impressive amounts of in-house capabilities.

III.   Non-Voting Member Input
- J. Levenson (BOEM) provided information on the 1-year feasibility study with NOAA and NASA to develop the next generation of animal telemetry communications.
    o Currently working with the NASA Center of Excellence for Collaborative Innovation (CoECI) to figure out a requirements list.
    o The guidelines for this effort will be released publicly for competition mid-September; group is welcome to comment.

IV.   Review of Actions from SG-3
- **Update language in the Process for Identifying and Funding Priority Observations according to review discussion (B. Woodward, M. Weise)**
    o **STATUS: COMPLETE—Language will be circulated.**
- **Ask all proposal submitters to update their ATN Program Assets according to the review discussion (B. Woodward)**
    o **STATUS: COMPLETE (this was overtaken by a new inventory process)**
- **Set up a demonstration of the research workspace capabilities once DAC is in operational mode. (B. Woodward)**
    o **STATUS: ON-GOING**
- **Decide date for posting call for Short Topic Descriptions for FY-19 funding. (B. Woodward, S. Simmons, M. Weise)**
    o **STATUS: ON-GOING**
- **Generate a google spreadsheet of upcoming meetings to assess SG member attendance (B. Woodward, K. Desai, C. Yanoff)**
    o **STATUS: ON_GOING**
- **Explore options of designing an ATN logo. (S. Simmons, K. Desai, C. Yanoff)**
    o **STATUS: ON_GOING**
- **Intersection with PAM – NCEI Archiving (J. Price, B. Woodward)**
    o **STATUS: COMPLETE**
- **Agreement on the ATN Inventory Data Fields/ Investigate the best method of obtaining vital data for the inventory (J. Young, M. Ogburn, S. Hayes)**
    o **STATUS: ON-GOING—Inventory google document and map portal link will be circulated**

V.   Items for Review, Feedback, Discussion, and Decision

   A.   Review New Axiom ATN DAC Website – Task Teams
- **ACOUSTIC TAG DATA incl. what should be displayed**
    o DAC needs to do more than simply compiling detections

- J. Young noted that it is challenging deciding which route to take for tools for the public, versus tools for the researchers. Also asked if there is a specific product we should be creating for the website (i.e. putting dots on a map)?
- **WEBSITE USABILITY: Is user community getting what it needs/Is it satisfied?**
  - Archival, Satellite, Acoustic groups should provide feedback to Axiom with thoughts
  - J. Young expressed interest in wanting to see the Research Workplace before providing feedback
  - M. Weise made the point that we need to ASAP find out what works and what's missing from current site, so Axiom can take this into consideration for their planned upgrade to DAC map interface.
- **DATA PRODUCTS (M. Weise, B. Woodward)** – Mike/Bill will work with Axiom to identify the data products currently planned for DAC interface, and identify any products that could be useful to the community and done soon.
- **MULTI-SENSOR DATA FROM TAGS (M. Weise, B. Woodward)**
  - Is current data in the DAC available?
  - New tag types (i.e. DTAG)
  - Adding environmental covariates
  - Considering standards

B. **ATN Steering Group (SG) Process for Identifying and Funding Priority Observations (M. Weise)**
- Open call for short topic descriptions for FY-19 Funds: If there are no additional funds to be coming in FY-19 should we do this?

  DISCUSSION:
  J. Price and B. Woodward are talking offline about the chances of an increase in BOEM funding for 2019. There is currently a possible notional increase amount of $80k from ONR and BOEM for 2019. This could be used to support one large award or possibly 4 smaller awards of $20k each. While these funds would allow us to support the community they are too small to warrant going through a process of competitive proposals. The consensus was that buying hardware (acoustic receivers, telemetry tags) and not releasing a competitive call for proposals is likely a better investment of the $80k.

VI.   New Items (B. Woodward)
ARGOS User Applications for Financial Support
- Feedback is welcome on the draft application for ARGOS users tracking marine animals to request having their ARGOS fees to be paid by the ATN
- ONR has contributed $150k for this effort, and the group is attempting to determine how long this will last in a given fiscal year.
- SC chair would appreciate feedback on a structure for how to spread those funds as widely as possible. The main suggestion was to limit each PI to a certain dollar amount, and geographic location of deployment. A ceiling of $20k per investigator is recommended.

Interagency Agreements
- We should give the opportunity for the 9 different participating agencies to aggregate their tagging related efforts to identify projects they would like to contribute data to the ATN DAC in the next year. The goal is to provide an outline to Axiom regarding the number and breadth of projects that will want to onboard data into the DAC within the next several months. Mike suggested the use of

a template used by ONR to communicate with the Axiom DAC team the specifics about all Navy (ONR, LMR, and Marine Species Monitoring Program (MSM)) current or recently ending project that will submit data to the ATN DAC.

- o Jim Price highlighted that BOEM did not yet add contract language to their contracts requiring PIs to submit data to the DAC. So, at this point it would be a list of projects that agencies would ask their PIs to submit. BOEM will consider contract language for this coming fiscal year – FY19.
- *ACTION ITEM: M. Weise to circulate a template to other steering committee members that are agency representatives to list agency-funded projects to contribute data to the ATN DAC.*
- Receiver pool opportunity for partnership facilitation by the ATN: Navy folks have a strong investment in salmon tagging with gliders
    - o Common for the East Coast institutions to put receivers on gliders
    - o Liquid robotics has the latest example of this
    - o J. Price's approach could give a model for how to approach receivers on the West Coast

VII. Summary and Next Meeting

- SG-5 is being proposed as in-person meeting in January. Date will be finalized over the coming weeks.
    - o Trying to coordinate SG-5 in conjunction with the West Coast Workshop is too much.
- Open discussion of data policy will be a focus at the next meeting

Meeting Attendees

Steering Group Members

Hayes, S.	NMFS	sean.hayes@noaa.gov
Levenson, J.	BOEM	Jacob.levenson@boem.gov
Price, J.	BOEM	james.price@boem.gov
Simmons, S.	MMC	ssimmons@mmc.gov
Weise, M.	ONR	michael.j.weise@navy.mil
Woodward, B.	IOOS/ATN	bill.woodward@noaa.gov
Young, J.	FWRI	Joy.Young@myfwc.com

Others

Yanoff, C.	IOOC	cyanoff@oceanleadership.org

Action Items

#	Action Item	Point	Due Date
1	Provide list for DAC folks.	M. Weise	Ongoing
2	Create google folder for storing/viewing ATN documents.	B. Woodward	Sept 18
3	Circulate ATN Inventory data fields google document and the link to the Inventory Map Portal for feedback	B. Woodward	Sept 14
4	Distribute updated language for the Process for Identifying and Funding Priority Observations for feedback	B. Woodward, M. Weise	Sept 14
5	Send e-mail to re-activate SG Task Teams	B. Woodward	Sept 5
6	Prepare draft text describing "What it means to submit data to the ATN DAC"	J. Young, B. Woodward	Sept. 30
7	Prepare draft document describing the ATN DAC data policy – schedule open discussion of it at SG-5	B. Woodward, M. Weise	Nov. 1

On-Going Action Items

#	Action Item	Point	Due Date
5	Schedule a demonstration of the research workspace capabilities once DAC is in operational mode.	B. Woodward	TBD
6	Generate a google spreadsheet of upcoming meetings to assess SG member attendance.	K. Desai, C. Yanoff	Ongoing
7	Decide date for posting call for Short Topic Descriptions for FY-19 funding.	M. Weise, B. Woodward, S. Simmons	TBD
8	Explore options of designing an ATN logo.	S. Simmons, K. Desai, C. Yanoff	Ongoing