IOOS Association: Legislative Update

IOOS FAC
08/5/2020
FY 21 Appropriations

House Mark:
• $40.5 M
• Up $1.5M from FY20
• $2 for HAB observing netw

Senate: TBD

House Report Language

• The Committee supports IOOS’s efforts to expand its use of underwater gliders and encourages NOAA to fill critical gaps in the current surface mapping system and to ensure streamlined access to data for weather forecasting, detection of ecological phenomena, and safe maritime operations.

• The Committee provides $2,000,000, from within the funds allocated for IOOS, to continue and expand the pilot program launched in fiscal year 2020 for IOOS to enhance the nation’s capacity for monitoring and detection of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) by leveraging the expertise of the IOOS regional associations—including through expanding the deployment of in-situ observing assets—in order to improve HABs warning and forecast accuracy. IOOS is directed to coordinate with the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science on the implementation of these funds."
**ICOOS Reauthorization**

**Senate bill passed!!**

**House: HR 729 – passed House 12/2019**
- Straight reauthorization with 3 amendments:
  - Allows Feds to serve on RA Board
  - Clarifies language regarding interagency financing
  - Authorization: $47.5 M for FY21-FY25

**Senate: S 914**
- Updated language and purpose
- Add glider, HFR studies and OA
- Authorization levels:
  - FY21 $48M
  - FY22 $50M
  - FY23 $52M
  - FY24 $54M
  - FY25 $56M
COVID Impacts

- Highlighted vulnerability of system to interruptions
- Request to build resiliency to system: Aging infrastructure

Economic Stimulus - $25M

- ‘In the pipeline projects’ for maritime transportation, weather, sea level rise, ecological health (HABs), fisheries and coastal hazards.

Immediate Needs for Resiliency: $25 million for restoring, sustaining, and building resiliency for critical observations in support of weather forecasting, safe and efficient marine operations, and search and rescue missions.

IOOS works as an integrated system of a variety of observing platforms, but to restore mission critical operations impacted by COVID-19 and continue protecting lives and livelihoods, we request support specifically for our radars, buoys, and gliders. This includes:

- $12 million for high frequency radars
  - Supporting maritime commerce and at-sea safety
- $7 million for gliders
  - Supporting accurate weather forecasting including hurricanes
- $6 million for coastal moorings
  - Supporting accurate weather forecasting and real-time data for weather forecast offices

Longer Term Resiliency

COVID-19 further exposes gaps and weaknesses in our infrastructure and their negative impacts on life and the economy. For the IOOS system to achieve full resiliency, estimated costs are $75.65 million over the next 1-3 years.

The estimated cost for full resilience of the integrated system, by subsystem is:

- $32 million for high frequency radars
- $11.57 million for gliders
- $25 million for coastal moorings
- $5 million for shore stations, including water levels and met stations
- $2.15 million for modeling/computing capacity

Is support of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System

Alaska (AOOS) • Caribbean (CarriCOOS) • Central and Northern California (CoCoOS) • Great Lakes (GLOS) • Gulf of Mexico (GOOS) • Pacific Islands (PacIOOS) • Mid-Atlantic (MARACOOS) • Northeast-Atlantic (NERACOOS) • Pacific Northwest (NANOOS) • Southern California (SCCOOS) • Southeast-Atlantic (SECOORA)

Learn More: Josie Quinnell | josie@ioosassociation.org | www.ioosassociation.org
BLUE GLOBE ACT

Bolstering Long-Term Understanding and Exploration of Great Lakes, Oceans, Bays, and Estuaries

• Data management and monitoring
• Illegal fishing
• Workforce development
• CI on emerging technology
• Directs NOAA to better understand of needs of indigenous communities
• Creates an ocean innovation prize
• NAS study on ARPA-O
• IOOC- international coordination, supercomputing capacity and support cross-agency coordination for data collection
The bill would be strengthened by:

1) acknowledging the essential delivery of critical, real-time HAB information that already exists in the regions through the IOOS partnership with NOAA’s NCCOS to create sustain observing networks.

2) envisioning Centers of Excellence collocated with the IOOS regional offices and partner research institutions to avoid duplication of effort, make efficient use of resources, and prevent confusion among stakeholders about multiple regional entities addressing similar issues; and

3) building on existing IOOS capacity for data management by the creation of a national HAB and hypoxia data portal.