TO: Scott Rayder, chair

Sara Graves, co-chair

Krisa Arzayus, IOOS FAC Designated Federal Officer

FROM: Molly McCammon

Julio Morell

DATE: November 30, 2022

RE: Suggestions for FAC consideration from IOOS

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Julio Morell and I met with Gerhard Kuska (IOOS Association chair) and Kristen Yarincik (IOOS Association director) last week to identify issues and topics of concern to the IOOS regions that arose during the recent IOOS fall meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico. We would like to bring these to your attention and hopefully have some time to discuss them during the upcoming IOOS FAC meeting.

1. **Offshore wind**. This is an ocean development issue of great importance to the northeast Atlantic, and soon will be so in the Gulf of Mexico and later to the Pacific coast. Activities are managed by a mixture of federal (BOEM and NOAA), state, and private sector entities, with seemingly little coordination. They also require extensive ocean condition monitoring, bathymetric surveys, and marine mammal monitoring. The data from these activities would be hugely valuable to the general public. But there is no policy in place requiring data sharing.

**POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION**: Set up a small FAC working group to develop recommendations pertinent to IOOS such as “Require data sharing through the IOOS RAs as part of the permitting process”.

1. **Interagency participation**. Currently the only two NOAA programs that require IOOS RA participation are the Ocean Modeling and Technology Transfer (COMT and OTT) programs under the auspices of the IOOS Program.

**POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION**: Assess other programs (within NOAA and outside NOAA) that would benefit from a requirement (or consideration) of IOOS RA participation, especially for multi-regional initiatives. Encourage language be included in future RFPs.

1. **Inflation Reduction Act**. There is substantial IRA funding for coastal economic and climate resilience. What is the IOOS role in these activities? What are the considerations that need to be given with public/private partners?

**POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION**: Ask the IOOS PO to update the FAC on the status of IRA funding opportunities and recommend what the IOOS FAC should/could be doing. Add something to current NBE recommendations?

1. **Low-cost technology for coastal resilience**. The IOOS RAs are leaders in fostering development of low-cost technologies for parameters such as water level monitoring (pressure sensors, GNSS, etc), ocean temperature gauges with adequate resolution, camera systems for monitoring coastline change, easily deployable spotter wave buoys, current meters, etc. Coastal communities are particularly interested in these affordable sensors to help address local and hyper-local issues.

**POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION**: Have IOOS FAC review these systems and develop some recommendations for IOOS actions.

1. New House Committee Chairs.

**POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION**: Have Scott and Sara send letter to new heads of House Congressional committees, introducing IOOS and RAs and highlighting value to issues important to them.