



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**The Under Secretary of Commerce**  
**for Oceans and Atmosphere**  
Washington, D.C. 20230

June 5, 2024

Mr. Scott Rayder  
Chair  
U.S. IOOS Advisory Committee  
1315 East-West Highway, 2nd Floor  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Rayder:

Thank you for your most recent set of recommendations submitted in April 2024 to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Interagency Ocean Observation Committee.

NOAA welcomes the Committee's recommendations to improve and expand the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) and Marine Life components of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) program. NOAA supports the NOPP's collaborative efforts to advance interagency ocean science priorities and recognizes the value in sustained marine biological data.

I am looking forward to discussing these recommendations with you further at your next public meeting later this summer. In the meantime, the U.S. IOOS Office will coordinate with the NOPP and the Committee to analyze the recommendations and determine the feasibility for implementation – with the goal to provide a more detailed response in the coming months.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard W. Spinrad".

Dr. Richard W. Spinrad  
Under Secretary of Commerce  
for Oceans and Atmosphere  
and NOAA Administrator

cc: Sara Graves, Ph.D., Vice Chair, U.S. IOOS Advisory Committee  
Members of the U.S. IOOS Advisory Committee

THE ADMINISTRATOR

