



Greetings,

The first quarter of year 6 for GWA has passed and I thought I would provide you a brief, informal summary of what our program has been working on. I hope to continue the “GWA Quarterly Currents” for the next 5 years to keep Trustee staff informed on our activities. The goal will be to keep them short and informative.

Mandy Lindeberg, GWA Program Lead

1st Quarter Highlights (Year 6):

Program Administration

As of this date, NOAA has not authorized funding or made funding available to the non-Trustee Agencies but PWSSC has sent draft contracts to subawardees and they will be executed as soon as NOAA authorizes the program.

Program Management Team (*M. Lindeberg, K. Hoffman, R. Suryan, D. Aderhold*) – the PMT has been busy on several fronts to move the program into the next five year increment:

- A primary focus has been on finalizing grants and contracts. All documentation for NOAA Grants have been completed and we are simply waiting for authorization signatures in the system. Having a new administration has likely slowed down the process. Once we have authorization, things should get fully operational quickly.
- In early April the GWA Program Lead held a 3-day “Huddle” with the PMT to bring the team together, understand our roles, and start planning how to meet program objectives/deliverables for the short term and long term.
- A successful quarterly PI teleconference was also conducted in April. PIs were updated on program activities and deadlines coming in the 2nd quarter (e.g., Work Plans, Annual PI meeting). The majority of the call was spent having a good round table discussion by the PIs on over winter trends and any new developments with projects. Scott Pegau gave a briefing to the PIs on HRM activities. Everybody wants to know what is going on with this year’s herring spawning season – not very encouraging, similar to last year.

Deep Sea Research II Special Issue – Four papers are now available online, a 5th has been accepted and 3 have been recommended for acceptance by the guest editors. Approximately 10 more manuscripts are in various stages review/revision. Once the special issue is complete and paid for, all papers will be open access. Open access fees and color figure charges for special issue printing will be funded through PWSSC’s admin budget from the program. Below are links to the papers that are now online:

- [Wildlife population recovery, Esler et al.](#)
- [Variation in abundance of mussels, Bodkin et al.](#)

- [Movement of post-spawning herring, Bishop and Eiler](#)
- [Use of UAV for intertidal monitoring, Iken and Konar](#)

EVOSTC Final Reports – the majority of project final reports have been drafted and through an internal review. A good portion have also been through peer review by our GWA Science Review Team. The program management team is currently working on drafting program level final reports. All final reports will be submitted to EVOSTC staff June 1, 2017.

Data Management – Axiom is just finalizing GWA and HRM datasets for the first 5-years. Axiom is closing in on their status as a node for DataOne which should be wrapped up by mid-May and official DOIs (Digital Object Identifier; unique code) issued for dataset publication. Moving forward our datasets will be discoverable online, citable, and linked to! Also, Axiom has been staging for Year 6-10 needs by launching a FY17-21 Ocean Workspace and an upgrade later in the summer will help to centralize datasets for PIs.

Relevant Media:

- [Virtual Field Trip about The Blob](#) – GWA PI interviews for this field trip were completed during October 2017 PI meeting in Cordova.
- [Common Murre die-off \(NPS production\)](#) - Video by the National Park Service
- [David Rosenthal paintings of Katmai coast](#) – artist in-residence with NPS and Nearshore group.
- [Wildlife recovery following the EVOS was highly variable across species](#) – USGS press release.
- [Wildlife recovery 28 years after Exxon Valdez oil spill](#) - KTUU News TV interview with Dan Esler, USGS.

Important Dates:

- *Annual PI meeting... keep this section in mind for next edition*

GWA quarterly photo!



Gulf Watch Alaska Forage Fish Team: (top) Greg Snedgen, John Piatt, Erica Madison, (bottom) Mayumi Arimitsu, Brielle Heflin, Sarah Schoen and Keith Hobson. Photo for Delta Sound Connection article. USGS AK Science Center.