

Revisiting WHOI's NSDF Archive policy:

The issues:

Long standing community concerns about the availability and use of images collected during NSF funded programs

Scientists' concerns about WHOI's commercial use of images

Concerns about their own commercial /non-commercial use of images

- video taken with use owned equipment on NDSF vehicles belongs to whom?

Concerns about copyright

- Why WHOI?

Concerns about P.I.'s NOT being acknowledged in photos AND video

We will revisit these questions at the end of this brief presentation

Overview

The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) maintains an archival system for oceanographic data and samples, as well as visual and digital information, **obtained using** the vehicles and sensors of the National Deep Submergence Facility (NDSF).

The federal funding agencies that support WHOI's Deep Submergence Group (DSG) provide funding to help support these archives.

This archiving policy is intended to allow the WHOI/DSG to fulfill its commitment to properly document and archive these data for future scientific and educational use, without compromising the **Principal Investigator's (PI) right to sole use of the data for scientific purposes** during the first two years of the project following the observational period.

Because there will be changes and improvements in imaging technology, recording media, and operational characteristics of the NDSF facilities in the future, details of this archiving policy may be revised from time to time. WHOI, as Operator of the NDSF, will provide the funding agencies and the DEep Submergence Science Committee (DESSC) with periodic updates on the status of WHOI-archived NDSF data as part of normal WHOI facilities reports during DESSC meetings, together with any suggestions for improvements.

Video Imagery

On each dive or lowering of Alvin and Jason, two video channels are recorded, one on each of two master recorders. These video data are duplicated at sea and first-generation copies are provided to the scientific party. The original video tapes are archived at WHOI.

Electronic Digital Still Camera Imagery and Sonar Data

Digital images collected using electronic still cameras are recorded and processed at sea as standard image format files. The original media and a copy of the processed standard image format files are archived at WHOI, and a copy is provided to the scientific party.

Access to and use of Archived Data

During a proprietary period following the cruise, archived data may be accessed only by the Chief Scientist, or by others documented by the Chief Scientist in writing, as noted under Protocols, above. The length of this proprietary period is ... normally 2 years after the acquisition of the field data during the cruise for NSF and ONR funding.

At the end of the proprietary period, all data are available for general use by scientists and educators, and for public outreach. **Access to deep submergence data is viewed as important and every effort will be made to facilitate access to this information via the WHOI Archives and the News Office. Data will be made available to non-commercial users for the nominal cost of reproduction and distribution.**

Archived data are the property of WHOI, and rights for commercial use of the imagery data are vested in WHOI. Exceptions may be negotiated on a case-by-case basis if warranted. Such negotiations are to be conducted **well in advance** of the cruise on which the data will be collected. Otherwise the above policy will apply. Fees to be charged to commercial users of NDSF imagery will conform to industry standards and will keep in mind the importance of disseminating this type of information and providing the public with access to the results of deep submergence science and technology.

Access to and use of Archived Data, cont'd

Principal Investigators may use their discretion in distributing archivable images and data directly to the **scientific and educational communities and to the news media for non-commercial use**, or they may refer outside requests for such material to WHOI.

Principal Investigators must insist that appropriate funding agency and institution acknowledgments accompany all such distributed material. (A standard credit might be: Courtesy of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and NSF; John Doe, Principal Investigator, XYZ University.)

The preceding policies do not apply in cases involving U.S. Government classified material. Such material will be archived at WHOI only by direction of the sponsoring agency.

The NDSF will provide an accounting of all commercial income generated from deep submergence data as part of the annual Operator's report to the DESSC.

All proceeds from the **commercial use of NDSF data or images are to be used to support the NDSF and the archiving of data from NDSF vehicles.**

Addressing questions and concerns (also anecdotal ... we will more thoroughly address this issue over the next few months).

QUESTIONS

Long standing community concerns about the availability and use of images collected during NSF funded programs

Scientists' concerns about WHOI's commercial use of images

Should the policy be changed? If so, how? Should P.I.s be allowed to financially benefit from commercial sales of images and video? Should they be required to use these funds for research, education, etc?

Concerns about their own commercial /non-commercial use of images

- video taken with use owned equipment on NDSF vehicles belongs to whom?

The policy suggests that images taken with the vehicles are in the purview of WHOI. Opinions?

Concerns about copyright

-Why WHOI?

-Co –copyright is ugly. If not WHOI, then whom?

Concerns about P.I.'s NOT being acknowledged in photos AND video

-In my opinion, at the very least, this must be changed. It is both easy and appropriate. It is the first step in addressing these long-standing issues.

In my opinion...In terms of how this is accomplished, this responsibility should lie with the Chief Scientist and Co-P.I.s of each expedition. Perhaps... If they don't provide a "photo credit" list, then it defaults to WHOI.