

SOST Interagency Working Group on Facilities and Infrastructure

Briefly Discuss Priorities for Group

1. Review and evaluate Federal infrastructure plans regarding facilities (e.g., ships, submersibles, ROVs, AUVs, and maritime research aircrafts such as UAVs) necessary for the conduct of ocean research and observation
2. Facilitate coordination across Federal agencies on policies, procedures, and plans related to major Federal oceanographic assets
3. Evaluate future needs and coordinate plans for future investments in ocean-related facilities
4. Ensure plans for modernization of the Federal oceanographic fleet and its role are included in the broader national observing network

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Top 3 Deliverables for Group

1. Establish an annual presence of the IWG-FI at the MTS/IEEE OCEANS Conferences to provide a forum for the Federal government to communicate the status, needs, and challenges of the Federal Oceanographic Fleet.
 - a. The 2018 MTS/IEEE OCEANS conference will include at least three IWG-FI sponsored events: 1) a town hall panel discussion; 2) a live-streaming science-at-sea ship telepresence event; 3) technical track presentations [October 22-25, 2018]
2. Develop an Addendum report on Fleet metrics which updates the status of the *Federal Fleet Performance Measures Report* [Spring- 2019]
3. Develop an Action Plan for a collaborative project which combines three existing Federal agency programs to support Early Career Scientist training by using ship transits to take undergraduates to sea. [Summer-2019]

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Envisioned Collaboration Effort

1. The IWG-FI maintains coordination with the Interagency Ocean Observations Committee (IOOC)) through its dual Co-Chair representation. The collaborative workshop on Glider best practices and the IOOC Ocean Observations Metrics Task Team will benefit IWG-FI and IWG-SUS.
2. The IWG-FI is actively engaged with the USGCRP Observations Working Group through cross-working membership and collaborates with the NOPP.
3. The IWG-FI collaborates extensively on numerous Federal Oceanographic Fleet issues with the University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS) Council and Subcommittees and leverages ship construction, management and operations Lessons Learned and Best Practices through the International Research Ship Operators Group.