



Ocean Exploration
Advisory Board

Chair's Introduction

Ocean Exploration Advisory Board

January 20-21, 2016
University of South Florida

OEAB Boundaries

- ✓ Advise the Administrator on **priority areas for survey/ discovery**
 - ✓ ~Understand FY15-16
 - ✓ Advise on FY17
 - Advise on FY18+
- Assist the OER in development of a 5 year plan
- ✓ Review (annually): **proposal review process**
- Other assistance as Administrator requests
- ✓ Comply with FACA rules

Administrator Requests

- Focus first on the NOAA OER areas for discovery
 - **OER = OKEANOS + OET + ECS + Competitive Grants**
- Consider Administrator's priorities:
 - OE must support NOAA mission requirements
 - Exploration results must lead to “actionable environmental information” for NOAA clients

Note: We will get to other agencies and institutes in due course

NOAA OE Program Funding

- Approximate Funding:
 - FY 13: \$23.688 million
 - FY 14: \$26.0 million
 - FY15 : \$28.0 million
 - **FY16: \$32.0 million (Omnibus Appropriation)**
 - FY17: probably done
 - FY18: already in early formulation

January 2016 Meeting

- Hear about CIOERT Cooperative Center
- Dr. Leonardi update on NOAA OER
- Quick report on National Forum III in Baltimore
- Quick review of Charter
- **2 Discussions among Board Members**
 - Member items as desired
 - Open Session , but Members only discussion
 - May result in recommendations
- Hear from USGS about its exploration and charter
- Start a two-meeting review of Arctic exploration
- **Dr. Rick Spinrad response to our October letter**

Some Issues

- NOAA OER FY17 Budget request
 - Indication of NOAA Leadership interest (Decadal Review)
- Appropriators' Report Language
- Reauthorization (year behind IOOS)
- Planning for campaigns with other agencies/partners
- Strategic Plan (now or next Administration?)
- Syncing up: Science opportunities and NOAA requirements
- Next Forum (Oct 20-21 in NYC)
- OE national visibility
- Etc.

Back up

Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009 (PL 111-11)

- Establishes a national OE program within NOAA
 - in collaboration with others
- Directs NOAA to explore
 - in collaboration with others
- Directs NOAA to develop an OE Strategic Plan
 - in collaboration with others
- Establishes an OEAB

NOAA OER Organization

- Under Secretary of Commerce/NOAA Administrator
 - *Dr. Kathryn Sullivan*
- Chief Scientist
 - *Dr. Rick Spinrad*
- Assistant Administrator for NOAA Research (OAR)
 - *Mr. Craig McLean*
- Director, Ocean Exploration and Research (OER)
 - *Dr. Alan Leonardi*
- Deputy Director, OER
 - *Mr. John McDonough*
- OEAB DFO
 - *Mr. David McKinnie*