Forum for Operational Oceanography Data Sharing Working Group

Summary minutes of the second meeting, 2018-06-14, 1000-1110 AEST

Present: In Hobart – Sebastien Mancini, Roger Proctor (IMOS), Edward King (CSIRO); On zoom – Frans Schlack (Pilbara Ports), Jason McConochie (Shell), Chari Pattiaratchi (UWA), Boris Kelly-Gerreyn (BoM), Jason Antenucci (DHI Perth), Zhi Huang (GA), Andrew Walsh/Scott Rivett (RAN), Carsten Hofmann (OMC). (Apologies if I’ve missed anyone).

Apologies: Tim Moltmann, Indi Hodgson-Johnston (IMOS), Farhan Rizwi (CSIRO), Greg Hibbert/Joe Healy (OMC), Ryan Lowe (UWA), Martin Exel (Austral Fisheries), Gus Jeans (Oceanalysis), Jan Flynn (Woodside), Steve Buchan/Greg Williams (RPS), Caroline Ochieng-Erfemeijer (WAMSI), Jenny Smith (WALIS), Daryl Metters/John Ryan (QLD DSITI), Paul Irving (AMSA), Alex Babinin (ANU), Simon Foster (Fugro).

The Agenda was as follows:

1) Introductions
2) Minutes of the last meeting, actions arising
3) Budget update, impact on IMOS-AODN
4) Datasets for sharing, the google sheet
5) Requirements for data sharing, the google doc
6) Starting data sharing - the metadata submission tool
7) End-to-end data use case showing value of data sharing
8) Partner updates
9) AOB

1) A round of introductions was carried out, with a special welcome to Franz Schlack from Pilbara Ports, Zhi Huang from GA (replacing Johnathan Kool) and Andrew Walsh and Scott Rivett from RAN (replacing Barbra Parker).

2) The previous meeting minutes were accepted, with a small correction to the spelling of Boris Kelly-Gerreyn. Actions arising from the meeting were discussed as items 4-7 below.

3) RP related the good news coming from the Federal budget (8 May) that NCRIS funding was announced, meaning IMOS would have funding through to June 2022. This now allows structured thinking about observing system developments and offers potential co-investors a window of funding certainty. ZH added that the GA Digital Earth Australia project had received funding for the next 3 years and would include marine remote sensing products. BK-G also offered the news that the Bureau now had funds for IT systems replacement over the next 4 years which should enable better options for data sharing; funds are also available for the upgrade of the Bureau’s 630 Automatic Weather Stations (AWS). It was also noted that the new Bureau organisational structure provided for a Chief Data Officer, who is Anthony Rea (Anthony is also a member of the IMOS Advisory Board).

4) Action 1: AODN would set up a google doc (or equivalent) to enable working group members to compile information of potentially shareable datasets, detailing locations, constraints etc. RP has set up a google folder for group use called FOO_Data_Sharing_WG (https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SPS2nDrp84I-5wla__KNf6gimlUeF9cd). Within this there is a spreadsheet called ‘FOO DSWG Datasets’ which is universally accessible for folk to
add datasets / data collections that are potentially shareable. This currently has only a demo record (on real-time waves) and an entry for Pilbara Ports, added by FS during the meeting. FS indicated he was open to sharing the Pilbara Ports wave and sea-level data with any non-commercial entity but was unsure on how to do this and had presented a discussion paper to the Pilbara Ports board to try and clarify the situation. CP asked if the data was available for research and FS said yes. Some discussion took place around the purpose of the spreadsheet – was this for datasets folk wanted to share (or have help sharing) or was this for datasets folk would like to see shared? RP thought this was the former, but that it might be a good idea to set up an additional spreadsheet for the latter. An example of the latter was from SR who was looking for coastal discharge data. RP mentioned that the Bureau Water Division were currently compiling a 25-year (1992-2016) coastal discharge dataset as a component of this year’s Data enhanced Virtual Laboratory project (details on request), and BK-G mentioned that the Bureau flood warning service was currently undergoing a review which would likely lead to additional stream gauges. RP urged the community to populate the spreadsheet and agreed (ACTION) to set up a second spreadsheet for dataset requests.

5) Action 2: **AODN would provide working group with details on best data management practice.** RP prepared a note in the google folder ‘Notes on best practice data management’. A short note containing details of a) best practice manuals available from the [https://www.oceanbestpractices.net/](https://www.oceanbestpractices.net/) website; b) some details about intended Australian best practice through the adoption of the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) data and metadata principles; c) details on publishing data and metadata through the AODN. Working Group members should (ACTION) comment on this document and offer suggested enhancements / specific requirements.

6) Action 3: **AODN would provide working group with metadata requirements and encourage use of the AODN metadata submission tool ([https://metadataentry.aodn.org.au/submit/](https://metadataentry.aodn.org.au/submit/)) by proving an example entry.** The first action on data sharing is to make folk aware of the existence of the data. This can be achieved by creating a metadata record for publication in a publicly accessible catalogue. The ‘Notes on best practice data management’ contains a section on the use of the AODN metadata submission tool and there is also a separate table in the google folder (‘Required_fields_AODN catalogue’) showing which terms are mandatory and which are optional. AODN is willing to help any group member to complete metadata records using the tool, or to collect the metadata from them and create the metadata record for you.

7) Action 4: Farhan Rizwi agreed to provide an end-to-end use case to illustrate the value of data sharing. The Chair agreed to contact the other FOO WGs to elicit use cases. FR provided an example slide showing the end-to-end data process for data in the eREEFS context, attached to these minutes as an Appendix. RP action to approach other working groups for examples is carried over.

8) No partner updates were provided, rather the discussion centred around having a more structured approach to meetings. JM suggested the working group should have a defined schedule of activity which could be measured and presented at subsequent meetings. What do members want from the working group? All members are requested (ACTION) to propose tasks for the working group which could be enacted.

9) AOB. a) Given the range of members organisations it has become apparent that some organisations place restrictions on the use of the ZOOM teleconference facility resulting in either only use of phone dial-in or in extreme cases inability to take part at all. Members are requested to provide RP with their preferred (or allowable) conference facility to see if a
more suitable solution can be used; b) it is also the case that use of the google folder may be problematic for some, so (ACTION) can members please indicate if this is a problem for them, and we will look at alternative ways of providing information (e.g. email); c) given a) above (and possibly b)) it is suggested that the meeting slides be placed in the google folder beforehand – this will be done.

10) Date of next meeting: 11 September 2018.

ACTIONS:

1) AODN to set up a spreadsheet for datasets working group members would like to see publicly available.

2) Working group members are requested to comment on the ‘Notes for best practice data management’ and offer suggested enhancements / specific requirements.

3) Working group members are requested to propose tasks for the working group which could be enacted.

4) Working group members are requested to provide AODN with their normal working teleconference facility and /or if they have issues with using the google folder.
Appendix: Farhan Rizwi (CSIRO) end-to-end use case

CSIRO eReefs marine models

Things to consider:

- Ocean boundary and Atmospheric forcing data are generally known within our community, in this case from BoM.
- River flow data is usually much more difficult to find, especially when it comes to nutrient load. eReefs case was okay but data form Macquarie Harbour modelling in Tas. is much more difficult to find. And when it is found not readily available in a machine readable format.
- Unlike the above 2 that require regular data for the duration of model runs, the calibration/validation step can happen whenever data is available - this is usually relied on IMOS but what about all the coastal data up estuaries?

More info: https://research.csiro.au/eereefs