

## **FOO Surface Currents Working Group Terms of Reference**

The Australian Forum for Operational Oceanography aims to foster collaboration between the FOO pillars (Marine Industries, R&D Providers, Service Providers and Government Agencies) to align itself with the National Innovation and Science Agenda, and emphasise the importance of operational oceanography to sustain and enhance the social, economic and environmental benefits of Australia's marine estate.

The Surface Current Working Group (SCWG) was established following the first FOO event in 2015 to provide input to the FOO Steering Committee on issues relating to surface current priorities that are likely to affect the capability and productivity of operational oceanographic activities in Australia, and address Key Questions for FOO.

### **Role**

It is expected that the Surface Current Working Group will provide advice and guidance relating to surface current research, infrastructure, services and industry based on their relevant expertise, and from a potential user perspective. A key aim of the group is to facilitate information sharing between members to best promote enhancements and improvements to surface current research and forecasting and align it with practical benefits to the oceanographic and maritime community.

Specific activities are likely to include:

- Providing advice on priorities to support operational oceanography in Australia;
- Making recommendations about potential improvements to Australia's capability, particularly in response to emerging fields; and
- Acting as liaisons to the broader community through presentations at meetings and conferences.

Advice and guidance on other matters may be sought as appropriate, and the SCWG may comment on other matters as they relate to surface current oceanographic operations.

### **Structure and Membership**

The SCWG is to be comprised of members from all pillars of FOO. Membership is open to any person affiliated with a FOO pillar; interested in surface currents; and willing to contribute an appropriate level of effort towards FOO activities. Prospective members can nominate themselves for membership by contacting the current Group Chair. Appointment of members is made at discretion of the current Chair.

Group members are expected to provide representation of both their own expertise as well as their communities, and can nominate substitutes as needed to participate in meetings.

The group will meet on a regular basis by teleconference, approximately 6 times per year, in weeks preceding FOO Steering Committee meetings. The group will have a face-to-face meeting at each FOO event.

Membership is revisited at each FOO event. The Chair is appointed by the FOO steering committee, and reconsidered at each FOO event