

**An Integrated Ocean Observing System Operational Wave Observation Plan
GCOOS-RA Comments
17 December 2008**

General Comments:

The Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System Regional Association (GCOOS-RA) appreciates the opportunity to provide further comment on the draft National Operational Wave Observation Plan. Our comments are on the "Wave_Plan_Text_24 November_2008.pdf" document provided by Zdenka Willis. Our comments are:

1. "GCOOS" is the Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System, and "GCOOS-RA" is the GCOOS Regional Association. This naming convention should be used in the document.

REPLY: This has been changed in the report.

2. Add to the List of Abbreviations and Acronyms:
 - a. GCOOS: Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System
 - b. GCOOS-RA: GCOOS Regional Association
 - c. CaRA: Caribbean Regional Association

REPLY: These have been added in the Abbreviation and Acronym list.

3. Comment: I believe these acronyms were used in a table in the low resolution document (Table B1; note "GCOOS" should be "GCOOS-RA in this table).

REPLY: This has been changed in the report.

4. Line 1211 (Figure A5 caption): Change "Gulf of Mexico Ocean Observing System Regional Association" to "Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System Regional Association"

REPLY: This has been changed in the report.

5. Line 1269 (Figure B5 caption): Change "Gulf of Mexico Ocean Observing System Regional Association" to "Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System Regional Association"

REPLY: This has been changed in the report.

6. Line 1304: Change "Gulf of Mexico Ocean Observing System Regional Association" to "Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System Regional Association"

REPLY: This has been changed in the report.

7. Lines 1304-1308: The GCOOS-RA presently is using existing assets to build the GCOOS itself. We, of course, hope that we will be able to add new observing resources in the near future, but the GCOOS is not "in its infancy stages." Additionally we are not focused only on meteorological sites. We are incorporating currents, waves, and other oceanic measurements from many different data providers into the GCOOS we are building. Additionally mention might be made of the Gulf of Mexico Alliance, which is the Gulf coast states governors' effort to address common coastal resource issues. I suggest deleting the first two sentences and replacing them with:

"The Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System Regional Association (GCOOS-RA) has focused on building the observing system by integrating observations from many sources. These include contributions from state resource agencies and the activities of the Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA). The contribution of the NDBC buoys is an important element of the GCOOS."

REPLY: The report has been revised to reflect the above comments.