

**From:** Alex E. Cruz [mailto:[capt.acruz@gmail.com](mailto:capt.acruz@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2010 10:37 AM  
**To:** Jorge Corredor  
**Subject:** Re: carta

You have my full endorsement of this letter

Regards  
Capt. Alex E Cruz

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 28, 2010, at 9:50, "Jorge Corredor" <[jorge.corredor@upr.edu](mailto:jorge.corredor@upr.edu)> wrote:

Alex,  
Borrador abajo. Por favor, corrige lo necesario y autorizame a usar el texto a tu nombre. A tu regreso, agradecería que me enviaras un scan de la carta formal. Apreciamos mucho tu ayuda.  
Saludos  
Jorge Corredor

To Whom It May Concern:

Timely and accurate provision of ocean information contributes to save lives, to protect the environment and to support the economy. As a user of ocean information, I am writing to support the Caribbean Regional Association for Integrated Coastal Ocean Observing – CaRA and the national IOOS in their efforts to provide such oceanographic information.

I am a harbor pilot for the port of Ponce, Puerto Rico. In my work, I make constant use of ocean information provided by CaRA through its Caribbean Integrated Coastal Ocean Observing system, particularly data on ocean winds and waves and AIS data on ship traffic.

There is a pressing need for a fully-developed national ocean observing system to provide sustained and effective ocean data and information targeted to the needs of local users. The IOOS project, building upon federal-regional partnerships effectively addresses such needs. I consequently extend this endorsement to IOOS and to CaRA and its Caribbean observing system.

Sincerely,

Alex Cruz  
Port Pilot  
Port of Ponce



Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico

## Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales

PO Box 366147  
San Juan, PR 00936  
Tel. (787) 999-2200  
Fax: (787) 999-2247

January 29, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Timely and accurate provision of ocean information contributes to save lives, to protect the environment and to support the economy. As a user of ocean information, I am writing to support the Caribbean Regional Association for Integrated Coastal Ocean Observing – CaRA and the national IOOS in their efforts to provide such oceanographic information.

CaRA has provided significant assistance to the Jobos Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. In particular, CaRA has been instrumental in developing climatologies for temperature, salinity and dissolved oxygen within the bay. Such climatologies serve Reserve personnel to make informed judgments regarding environmental health of Bay waters.

There is a pressing need for a fully-developed national ocean observing system to provide sustained and effective ocean data and information targeted to the needs of local users. The IOOS project, building upon federal-regional partnerships effectively addresses such needs. I consequently extend this endorsement to IOOS and to CaRA and its Caribbean observing system.

Sincerely,

  
Angel Dieppa  
Research Coordinator  
Jobos Bay NERR  
787-853-4617  
adieppa@gmail.com



Port of Ponce

National Federation of Regional Associations

**Date January 28, 2010**

To Whom It May Concern:

Timely and accurate provision of ocean information contributes to save lives, to protect the environment and to support the economy. As a user of ocean information, I am writing to support the Caribbean Regional Association for Integrated Coastal Ocean Observing – CaRA and the national IOOS in their efforts to provide such oceanographic information.

At the Port of Ponce, Puerto Rico our port pilots make constant use of ocean information provided by CaRA through its Caribbean Integrated Coastal Ocean Observing system, particularly data on ocean winds and waves and AIS data on ship traffic.

Furthermore, the Port of Ponce is undergoing a multi million dollar expansion (\$700 million) in what is to become a mayor transshipment port for the Caribbean with an estimated annual capacity of 2.2 million TEU's (20-foot-long container). In light of this development, federal agencies have already recognize the strategic importance of the Port of Ponce and have awarded more than \$5 million in federal grants aimed at increasing the security of our Port. Shipping traffic is expected to at least double and the size of ships to quadruple in size making navigational safety a critical aspect of the projects success. I encourage you to visit the project's website at [www.portoftheamericas.com](http://www.portoftheamericas.com) for more information.

There is a pressing need for a fully-developed national ocean observing system to provide sustained and effective ocean data and information targeted to the needs of local users and stakeholders. The IOOS project, building upon federal-regional partnerships effectively addresses such needs. I consequently extend this endorsement to IOOS and to CaRa and its Caribbean observing system.

Sincerely,

Jorge A. Hernández Lázaro  
Executive Director

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