BEST-BSIERP Science Advisory Board teleconference

Agenda and Meeting Notes

Wednesday, 11 February 2009, 1000-1130 am Alaska time

Agenda

1. Make sure we're organized for upcoming cruises (main meeting purpose)
2. Take a look at draft of 2008 summary article
3. Western Alaska Interdisciplinary Science Conference: Nome, Alaska April 6-10, 2009. Any BEST-BSIERP PIs planning to attend?
4. Lead PI meeting tentatively October 13-16, 2009 in Girdwood; conflicts?

In attendance: Mike Sigler, Rodger Harvey, Carin Ashjian, Phyllis Stabeno, Kerim Aydin, Tom Van Pelt

1. Phyllis updated the SAB on current planning for coordination between the Healy and Knorr cruises. NSF is planning to support the additional costs due to needing to transfer gear from the Healy to the Knorr in Dutch Harbor, including storage costs in the interval between cruises, and the transport costs to get gear back to Seattle following the Knorr cruise. Issues are getting worked out, most recently with a conference call on Monday, 9 February, including Phyllis (Knorr co-chief scientist), Carin (Healy chief scientist), Eric Benway (Knorr liaison), Dave Forcucci (Healy liaison), Silas Ayers (Healy Marine Science Officer), Jeff Henderson and Tom Rueter (Alaska Maritime, Dutch Harbor agents), Bill Floering (PMEL), and Tom Van Pelt (NPRB).

   Phyllis, Carin, and Tom explained the hazmat planning-- it is looking complicated and expensive to deal with Healy hazmat in Dutch Harbor, so current plan is to leave all Healy hazmat aboard Healy following HLY0902, and prepare a separate set of hazmat for Knorr. This means shipping hazmat to Knorr in San Diego or Dutch Harbor. Rodger brought up concerns on this, since his team and others are currently preparing to load two cruises' worth of chemicals onto Healy. Phyllis will notify all participating scientists of the current hazmat plan immediately, and will work on options… e.g. some of the chemicals intended for loading on Healy could be diverted to ship to San Diego for the Knorr. Could coordinate with Scripps; Knorr will be at MARFAC in San Diego 29 May through 1 June; departs 2 June. Phyllis will also look into hazmat disposal options for the Knorr, maybe in Honolulu. Should have resolution on the hazmat plan by next week.

Incubators are another question- the Healy is planning to have the two CG-owned incubators taken off in Dutch Harbor for transfer to Knorr. What about getting them back to Healy following the Knorr cruise? Rodger hadn't heard that the Healy will be in Dutch Harbor during the time the Korr returns to Dutch in July—Rodger will look into whether or not the incubators could be transferred back over to the Healy at that time. If that works out, Rodger will let Tom know so that it can be factored into the shoreside planning.

Carin wrote to Bill and Renee asking about a definite Seattle port call for whichever vessel we wind up using in 2010. No definite answer. Carin will continue to work on that. Meanwhile we agreed to retain the NOAA Sand Point storage at least until we get definite information on the 2010 vessel.

2. EOS article- Mike and Rodger asked for feedback. Everyone agreed that they're on the right track, and support going further. Tom suggested need for more intro and conclusion, and all agreed that the exciting parts need to be more emphasized. Mike and Rodger will develop draft further and circulate for a second round. We talked about potentially putting the article out to different outlets, perhaps with some reworking (Carin brought up copyright concerns). One clear possibility would be to prepare an expanded version for the BEST-BSIERP website, with links to individual results slides etc.; if the EOS article contained link to expanded version on BEST-BSIERP website, would be a great way to drive a broader audience to website.

3. WAISC- no PIs known to plan attending. Francis Wiese plans to attend.

4. 2009 PI meeting in Girdwood. Talked about conflict with chosen dates (12-16 October) and Society of Marine Mammalogy meeting in Quebec. We could lose all or most of the marine mammal PIs to the Quebec meeting, which is the major marine mammal meeting and is held only every other year. Another major problem is that Trites is a key BSIERP person as the Patch Dynamics lead PI. Discussed our options. Decided to approach marine mammal folks (Trites, Zerbini, Moore, Friday, Jay) to ask in more detail about conflicting dates—is there a way to resolve the conflict, possibly by dividing up personnel between the meetings or shifting PI meeting by a day forward or back. Kerim also brought up the issue of needing to pay federal folks overtime for attending PI meeting on holiday.

5. Agreed to schedule next meeting for Tuesday March 3, 10-11 AM Alaska time, to deal with any further cruise issues, SAB voting, autumn PI meeting, etc.