

**BEST-BSIERP Science Advisory Board teleconference**

**Tuesday, 30 June 2009, 1000-1200 Alaska time**

**In attendance: Carin Ashjian, Rodger Harvey, Mike Lomas, Jeff Napp, Phyllis Stabeno, Tom Van Pelt, and Bill Wiseman.**

**Agenda:**

1. Cruise planning and ship updates for 2010 (Wiseman and Crain).
2. NSF-BEST preliminary ideas for project synthesis and integration with BSIERP end dates (Wiseman).
3. 2010 Ocean Sciences meeting - update and special session (Harvey)
4. Fall PI meeting planning.
  - a. Strawman schedule feedback and discussion of survey results.
  - b. LTK project request for plenary.
5. 2011 ESSAS Open Science Meeting
6. Next meeting timeframe.

**Meeting notes:**

1. Given that Healy is unavailable until at least May 2010, Bill Wiseman provided an update on vessel options for spring 2010 cruise, based on information from Renee Crain. The Healy will be available for the summer cruise. Three options:
  - a. Delay the spring 2010 Healy cruise by one year, so that it becomes spring 2011 Healy cruise.

- b. Adapt our planned work to the *Polar Sea* and/or adapt the *Polar Sea* to our planned work for the spring cruise.
- c. Continue pursuing other vessel options, including Korean and Russian icebreaker options.

In re. option a: Jeff, Bill, and others pointed out that delaying a year *may* increase the chance of catching a warm year to contrast to current cold conditions, which would help address program hypotheses.

The group noted that delaying a year raises a series of very important issues, including scientific issues such as alignment with extra NOAA cruise efforts in 2010, match with other BEST-BSIERP components, and modeling integration; plus practical issues such as employee and grad student timelines. Also general momentum and integrity of program will be impacted.

In re. option b: Carin pointed out that the berthing space on the *Polar Sea* is limited, and also- maybe more importantly- the lab space is small. Also winches and wire setup is substantially different from Healy and may be limiting. Also supply of incubator seawater is questionable.

In re. option c: Bill said that so far there hasn't been any positive indications for using another nation's icebreaker to replace the Healy cruise. Korean and Russian icebreakers may be possible, but the group didn't express much optimism based on recent background of work with Russian ships and on recent discussions with Korean colleagues.

General conclusion was that it's looking like there is no easy replacement for the Healy, and that the BEST-BSIERP program is facing some hard choices. We need to evaluate impact on individual project components (e.g. by using a smaller and less well-equipped ship like Polar Sea) and impact on overall program and linkages (e.g. by delaying spring cruise by a year) so that we can better judge the tradeoffs.

Therefore action items are:

- Carin will further evaluate the Polar Sea capabilities, Rodger will assist.
- Jeff will talk with NOAA colleagues to get more information on how delaying the spring Healy cruise by a year would impact linkages to NOAA work.

[Update from 2 July: Jeff talked w. Russ Nelson (the RACE Division Director) at the AFSC about how postponing the 2010 field season for one year would be impacted by NOAA cruises. The spring NOAA larval fish cruise to the SE Bering will likely continue and those data would still be available to BEST / BSIERP if we postponed to 2011. The summer hydroacoustic survey (pollock, cod, euphausiids) will most likely be in the Gulf of Alaska in 2011 so that it can complement the summer bottom trawl survey. Both surveys are supposed to be on a biennial schedule where they both alternate (in tandem) between the Gulf and the Bering. They broke that pattern for BEST / BSIERP, but need to get back to it. So the data on pelagic habitat and fish that Chris Wilson, Anne Hollowed and others are contributing from that summer survey would likely be lost if we delayed by one year. The late summer BASIS cruise will likely continue in 2011 and so those data would likely continue to be available to BEST / BSIERP, however the same group has proposed a pilot cruise for GOA IERP during roughly the same period of 2011 so they will be busy.]

2. Rodger brought up the issue of synthesis timing, noting that BEST projects include a single funded year of synthesis work (ending in 2011), whereas BSIERP projects include two years of synthesis (ending in 2012). Asked Bill about options. Bill stated that NSF bottom line is they are supportive and interested in the synthesis work, but they're not sure how to accomplish it. Proposals in the 2010 application cycle could ask for support to accomplish BEST-BSIERP integration, potentially filling the current gap. On the plus side, NSF proposals for BEST-BSIERP integration in 2012 would be seen as leveraging NPRB funds.

Rodger asked about potential for additional synthesis support from NPRB; Tom responded that the NPRB Board is unlikely to provide additional BSIERP funding, especially considering that the original funding for two years of synthesis work was explicitly planned to provide adequate synthesis support. All agreed that this is extremely important issue to tackle; timing is good in that we can make some progress on strategy prior to PI meeting, and then at the PI meeting we can reach some agreement with PIs on action and steps forward.

3. AGU Ocean Sciences meeting 2010. Rodger provided an update. SAB is pleased that our session proposal was well-received, and receptive to options for resolving session conflicts per email from Robin. But SAB wants to ensure adequate time for presentation of BEST-

BSIERP program results. Concluded that \*\*Rodger will talk with Robin to get more information and will come back to the group on this topic at the August SAB meeting.

[Update from 7 July: After several rounds of discussion, Rodger reports that the organizers have agreed to accept our proposal as submitted. Mike and Rodger will remain as the conveners. We will maintain a focus on the Bering Sea, and other sessions will be edited or combined to have a bit more geographic emphasis. Calls for abstracts will be in early fall.]

4. October 2009 PI meeting planning. SAB reviewed the strawman meeting plan, and discussed first take on the survey monkey results. Agreement that first day plan is sound; but major question remains how to nudge the “meso-scale” groups together, and how to ensure representative presentations. Carin and Jeff had taken first stabs at binning up the self-identified groupings from the survey monkey results. To help the discussion and also to identify gaps (since not all PIs responded to the survey), agreed that \*\*Tom will use Carin and Jeff’s groupings and the survey monkey information to work on overlaying self-identified groupings on the vertically-integrated figure representing models and individual projects, to be circulated prior to our next meeting.

We discussed whether to move the modeler/observationalists breakout groups up to the morning of the second day. \*\*Agreed that we need to get input from modeling group.

Need to budget time on second or third day for SAB to discuss “road map” toward synthesis papers (this will be core outcome of the meeting). Agreed that it might need to happen on the fly or in the bar at night; but also may want to schedule a longish lunch on third day to build in some time for SAB discussion.

Group will consider these points and we’ll pick up the discussion at next meeting. \*\*Tom will circulate a reminder to all PIs informing them of PI meeting timing (start at 0900 Tuesday 13 Oct; finish no later than 1700 Thursday 15 October) for travel planning.

5. ESSAS Open Science meeting, 2011. Continued interest in BEST and BSIERP PIs to have a day or day and a half. The meeting is tentatively planned for June 2011 and the venue is likely Seattle (not Hawaii as originally planned). Hopes for special issue with substantial synthesis.

Sigler attended ESSAS meeting the week prior to GLOBEC and can give more information at next SAB meeting.

6. Next meeting: Agreed that we need to keep to a more frequent meeting schedule now while we work out PI meeting planning. Aim for a day within 22-31 July window- \*\*Tom will send out a doodle poll to query availability. Rodger will miss that meeting but Sigler will be back.

Update: Next SAB teleconference scheduled for 27 July, 1000-1200 Alaska time; usual call-in details.