



International Arctic Science Committee

Marine Working Group

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Work Plan, September 2017

Overall goals for the MWG Work Plan include:

1. Improve the engagement of working group members in actions of the MWG between face-to-face meetings
2. Encourage and facilitate two-way communication between working group members and their national science constituencies.
3. Improve lines of communication and cooperation with terrestrial, cryospheric, atmospheric and social scientists where appropriate, as with researchers focused on parallel southern hemisphere scientific questions.
4. Promote transparency in MWG decisions that support international cooperation in Arctic marine research.
5. Support of early career scientists for involvement in international research coordinated by IASC member countries, including expanding roles for IASC Fellows in MWG tasks.

Specific work goals:

Project coordination and support: We will directly involve MWG members in coordinating research activities and promoting opportunities for appropriate marine science in cross-cutting and other research coordination and planning activities. Prominent examples where the MWG is poised to provide contributions include: renewal of the Arctic in Rapid Transition network that has provided a mechanism for the early career science community to become engaged in international arctic research, implementation of the Multidisciplinary drifting Observatory for the study of Arctic Climate (MOSAIC), contributing to the planned Workshop on Arctic Glaciology and Proglacial Marine Ecosystems, and expansion of the Distributed Biological Observatory on a pan-Arctic basis.

Developing international ties: We will participate in IASC's International Initiative in the Russian Arctic (ISIRA) activities, in expectation that renewal of this forum will improve conditions for international cooperation in the large proportion of the Arctic within Russia's Exclusive Economic Zone, including international efforts such as the Nansen and Amundsen Basins Observational System (NABOS) and German-Russian studies in the Laptev Sea. Strengthening and improving international cooperation with Russian scientists will remain the key goal. We will strive to facilitate the international networking that will emerge from the planned Polar-2018 meeting co-sponsored by IASC and SCAR. For each of these activities, we plan to designate specific interested working group members who will participate in the specified initiatives, and thereby strengthen international outreach by reporting



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back through IASC's reporting processes to the working group to the IASC in general.

The Arctic Council: We will work to identify additional funding sources and mechanisms to involve working group members in Arctic Council observer activities and meetings. This should involve delegation of members or representatives of the MWG in some cases to attend appropriate meetings and workshops and to provide action reporting back to the MWG and IASC.

Engagement with national programs: We will identify communication forums for MWG members to provide information back to home countries on IASC initiatives and efforts, as well as to more effectively use the IASC website to promote communication of MWG efforts. This will include but not be limited to identification of points of contact and websites designed to provide more details for projects that are proceeding with working group support and points of contact for specific projects.

IASC Fellows: We will strengthen the role of the IASC Fellows by insuring that they feel supported and empowered to undertake projects of interest that will contribute to international research initiatives, as well as coordination opportunities that will arise from the joint Polar-2018 meeting with SCAR.