2022 Regional HF Radar Accomplishments and Challenges

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HF Radars Updates from SECOORA

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USF: Cliff Merz

- Co-authored HFR build out plan
- Leveraged NASEM-GRP Gulf of Mexico Current outflow study
  - 3 new Codar installations in Marathon, Key West, and Dry Tortugas
  - all part of HFR build out plan
- All Codar sites upgraded to R21
- Challenges include infrastructure upgrade discussions with Elgin AFB: WERA and CODAR location
U Miami: L. K. (Nick) Shay, J. Martinez Pedraja and B. Jaimes de la Cruz

- Re-deployed WERA radars at Virginia Key and Crandon Park damaged by Hurricane Irma
- Virginia Key WERA repaired and redesigned after King Tide water damage
- Challenges: Hurricanes, King Tide damage, and park maintenance cable damage, rising costs for travel, electricity, and technician time

*Image credit: NOAA NOS*
• Rebuilt GA WERA stations on Jekyll and St. Catherine's (JEK, CAT) in spring 2021; completed frequency conversion for both
• CAT and JEK operational but troubleshooting/fighting hardware component failures
• Installed/tested/calibrated Canaveral National Seashore (CNS) WERA station Jan 2022
• Land Use permits secured for Kennedy Space Center (KSC) spring 2022, full installation Aug/Sept pending scheduling with NASA site managers
U. South Carolina: George Voulgaris

- Existing sites at Georgetown (GTN) S.C. and Ft. Caswell N.C. converted to approved ITU 5.25 MHz - more noise
- 3rd site install completed at Myrtle Beach State Park in 2021 at ITU approved 13.5 MHz
- GTN: New Tx/Rx cables and Tx array rebuilt and new Rx antennas installed
- Guy-less antennas optimized for turtle nesting
- Experimented with beamforming vs. direction finding- hybrid solution may optimize radar performance
- Challenges remain with king tides, storm surge, and erosion damage
Florida Institute of Technology: Steven Lazarus

- Treasure Shores WERA installed February, 2022
- Satellite Beach WERE approved by city council, install planned for November 2022
- Challenge 1: IT communication with Treasure Shores
- Challenge 2: Permissions and install window for Satellite Beach
• Ocracoke ~5MHz Codar installed and operational March, 2021
• NSF HFR project funded- re-analyze NC HRF data since 2004 to quantify Gulf Stream variability at Cape Hatteras
• Phase 1 DOE SBIR completed with Oscilla Power, Codar, CSI: design wave-powered offshore transmitter to complement NC coverage. Phase 2 in review
• 3 new HFR related publications in press
• Cooling problem with Low Power HFR at CORE solved
• Challenges: poor coverage/spacing at DUCK, move to Jennette’s Pier, Nags Head
Received!