

1. Which of the following factors should drive SECOORA’s funding priorities? Please rate each of these from 1 (lowest priority) to 5 (highest priority).

	1 Lowest Priority	2	3 Moderate Priority	4	5 Highest Priority	Response Count
Activity is common across all IOOS regions and endorsed by IOOS office	9.1% (4)	18.2% (8)	31.8% (14)	20.5% (9)	20.5% (9)	44
Activity is only/uniquely provided by SECOORA	11.4% (5)	13.6% (6)	43.2% (19)	13.6% (6)	18.2% (8)	44
Activity meets regional user need by addressing current environmental/political drivers through research or observing	0.0% (0)	4.5% (2)	20.5% (9)	18.2% (8)	56.8% (25)	44
answered question						44
skipped question						0

2. Who are SECOORA's priority end users? Please rate each of these from 1 (lowest priority) to 5 (highest priority).

	1 Lowest Priority	2	3 Moderate Priority	4	5 Highest Priority	Response Count
Academic Research Community	6.8% (3)	4.5% (2)	29.5% (13)	25.0% (11)	34.1% (15)	44
US Coast Guard	0.0% (0)	2.3% (1)	22.7% (10)	36.4% (16)	38.6% (17)	44
NOAA National Weather Service, Weather Forecast Offices	0.0% (0)	4.5% (2)	13.6% (6)	34.1% (15)	47.7% (21)	44
Marine transportation community, including ports	0.0% (0)	6.8% (3)	15.9% (7)	47.7% (21)	29.5% (13)	44
State natural resource/environment agencies (fisheries managers, water quality managers)	0.0% (0)	2.3% (1)	15.9% (7)	40.9% (18)	40.9% (18)	44
Federal natural resource/environment agencies	0.0% (0)	4.7% (2)	25.6% (11)	46.5% (20)	23.3% (10)	43
Recreational boaters, fishers, surfers	4.9% (2)	22.0% (9)	36.6% (15)	19.5% (8)	17.1% (7)	41
Emergency responders (FEMA, state and local responders)	0.0% (0)	9.1% (4)	22.7% (10)	27.3% (12)	40.9% (18)	44
Local/state hazard planners	0.0% (0)	13.6% (6)	25.0% (11)	29.5% (13)	31.8% (14)	44
Educators	4.7% (2)	25.6% (11)	44.2% (19)	14.0% (6)	11.6% (5)	43
Students	13.6% (6)	27.3% (12)	31.8% (14)	15.9% (7)	11.4% (5)	44
answered question						44
skipped question						0

3. IOOS and SECOORA currently support the subcomponents listed below. Please rate each subcomponent from 1 (lowest priority) to 5 (highest priority).




	1 Lowest Priority	2	3 Moderate Priority	4	5 Highest Priority	Response Count
Observations (data collection and reporting funded by SECOORA)	0.0% (0)	2.3% (1)	6.8% (3)	11.4% (5)	79.5% (35)	44
Modeling (storm surge, ocean circulation, atmospheric circulation, fisheries, water quality, etc)	2.3% (1)	11.4% (5)	13.6% (6)	40.9% (18)	31.8% (14)	44
Data Management and Communication (data aggregation and access to data collected by SECOORA and other data providers within the region)	4.5% (2)	2.3% (1)	20.5% (9)	36.4% (16)	36.4% (16)	44
Product development (alerts, etc.)	6.8% (3)	20.5% (9)	22.7% (10)	34.1% (15)	15.9% (7)	44
Development of educational products (K-12)	31.8% (14)	22.7% (10)	31.8% (14)	6.8% (3)	6.8% (3)	44
Outreach, (non K-12) training and workshops	36.4% (16)	15.9% (7)	29.5% (13)	13.6% (6)	4.5% (2)	44
Research	2.4% (1)	19.0% (8)	23.8% (10)	28.6% (12)	26.2% (11)	42
Champion coastal and ocean observing (advocacy)	9.1% (4)	18.2% (8)	22.7% (10)	22.7% (10)	27.3% (12)	44
answered question						44
skipped question						0

4. How should SECOORA prioritize funding? Please answer yes or no to each option.



Choice

	Yes	No	Response Count
Focus on a small number of themes (Marine observations, coastal hazards, climate, ecosystems, water quality) while maintaining all subcomponents (observing, modeling, data management and communication, product development, stakeholder engagement, education and outreach, governance/management).	67.4% (29)	32.6% (14)	43
Focus on a small number of end user needs (within one or more themes) while maintaining all subcomponents.	32.6% (14)	67.4% (29)	43
Begin with a clean slate, i.e. equally evaluate need for existing assets and proposed new assets, need for and types of modeling, need for and types of data management, etc.	37.2% (16)	62.8% (27)	43
Continue with existing activities, i.e. build on existing infrastructure, which might include available non-deployed assets.	71.4% (30)	28.6% (12)	42
Identify key science question(s) to address via regional coastal and ocean observing system (RCOOS) activities.	78.6% (33)	21.4% (9)	42
		Other (please specify)	9
		answered question	43
		skipped question	1

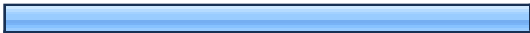

5. In a budget limited situation as we have now, is it most important to support: (Choose 1)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Maintenance of existing observing infrastructure, i.e. longer time series data collection		55.0%	22
Relocation of existing infrastructure to provide better coverage in needed observations		30.0%	12
Reallocate funding to establish new observations to fill known gaps in observations.		15.0%	6
	Please explain your response.		25
	answered question		40
	skipped question		4

6. In a budget limited situation as we have now, is it more important to: (Choose 1)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Ensure broad coverage of our coastal region with observations.		48.8%	21
Overlap observations to provide opportunities to verify and/or optimize observations, i.e. radar footprint over existing buoy sites to allow a three dimensional understanding of currents.		51.2%	22
	answered question		43
	skipped question		1


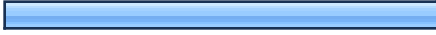
7. Do you think it should be a Board responsibility to identify non-IOOS sources of funding for SECOORA?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		79.1%	34
No		20.9%	9
	If not the Board, then who?		17
answered question			43
skipped question			1







8. In order to maximize the impact of IOOS funding, SECOORA may have to eliminate certain secondary expenditures. Please rate the following items in terms of overall importance (scale of 1 to 5 with 1 = least important and 5 = most important).

	1 Least Important	2	3 Moderately Important	4	5 Most Important	Response Count
Board related travel for SECOORA meetings	24.4% (10)	19.5% (8)	34.1% (14)	19.5% (8)	2.4% (1)	41
Board travel to non-SECOORA meetings to represent SECOORA	52.4% (22)	16.7% (7)	26.2% (11)	4.8% (2)	0.0% (0)	42
International or professional meeting travel for PIs	59.5% (25)	23.8% (10)	9.5% (4)	4.8% (2)	2.4% (1)	42
PI salary	12.2% (5)	9.8% (4)	22.0% (9)	26.8% (11)	29.3% (12)	41
Equipment (to be owned by PI)	14.6% (6)	14.6% (6)	29.3% (12)	26.8% (11)	14.6% (6)	41
Staff stipend and tuition (including post-docs, students or interns)	9.8% (4)	14.6% (6)	14.6% (6)	24.4% (10)	36.6% (15)	41
Publication costs	30.0% (12)	30.0% (12)	27.5% (11)	7.5% (3)	5.0% (2)	40
					Other (please specify)	10
					answered question	42
					skipped question	2

9. SECOORA's by-laws allow for a Board size of between 15 and 25. We currently have 23 Board members. Should SECOORA: (Choose 1)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Maintain the current size of the Board		34.9%	15
Increase the size of the Board		0.0%	0
Decrease the size of the Board		65.1%	28
		answered question	43
		skipped question	1

10. What is your SECOORA involvement? (select all that apply)

		Response Percent	Response Count
SECOORA member		67.4%	29
Federal affiliate member		4.7%	2
SECOORA Board member		32.6%	14
Member of a SECOORA committee		55.8%	24
Funded by SECOORA (currently or formerly)		58.1%	25
User of SECOORA data or products		48.8%	21
		Other (please specify)	3
		answered question	43
		skipped question	1

11. Are there any additional comments you'd like to share?

	Response Count
	15
answered question	15
skipped question	29

Q4. How should SECOORA prioritize funding? Please answer yes or no to each option.

1	Perhaps asset funding should be determined by the models/products generated from them. Models should be driven by the application of the model.	Oct 4, 2012 10:07 AM
2	I think the Education option in question 3 is biased. These efforts should focus on student inquiry (coastal processes) using data NOT developing canned products. Your survey maybe skewed bc of the question.....	Oct 3, 2012 1:19 PM
3	All Y/N responses above are qualified. I don't see these as clean Y/N issues in all cases and each statement is subject to a certain degree of interpretation. .	Oct 3, 2012 10:48 AM
4	I think we should focus on a small number of themes and a small number of end users, but that doesn't mean that we should maintain ALL subcomponets to do that. For example, we may find that we don't need modeling or product development once we target the end user needs.	Sep 21, 2012 11:07 AM
5	Choose a few things to do and do them well!	Sep 20, 2012 3:20 PM
6	Always fund small portion for E&O	Sep 20, 2012 12:54 PM
7	There are not enough resources to be all things to all people; select a few things that can be done well.	Sep 20, 2012 10:27 AM
8	Compliance with the ioos priority areas as this is the funding source	Sep 20, 2012 9:11 AM
9	Focus with priority on a reduced set of end user needs.	Sep 20, 2012 8:10 AM

Q5. In a budget limited situation as we have now, is it most important to support: (Choose 1)

1	Upgrade existing in-water assets with new technologies which could fill in gaps in obs.	Oct 4, 2012 4:02 PM
2	startup time and money for new or relocated infrastructure is too high - must wait for new resources.	Oct 4, 2012 1:10 PM
3	see my comments below	Oct 4, 2012 11:54 AM
4	People/agencies get used to and depend on the data being provided.	Oct 4, 2012 11:20 AM
5	Allows gap-filling as well as maintaining critical long time series	Oct 4, 2012 10:41 AM
6	If you lose time series data, the ability to do modelling with a historical depth is greatly reduced.	Oct 4, 2012 10:07 AM
7	We should put the observing infrastructure where it is most needed now. If there is an important (squishy to define) gap, then we should focus on filling that instead of maintaining an observation in another lower priority spot, just because its always been there.	Oct 4, 2012 9:40 AM
8	only if provided data is useful and still fills a need for the region	Oct 3, 2012 1:19 PM
9	This seems to me to be a rather over-simplified list of alternatives. For example the relationship between observations and models and IOOS priorities are not included here.	Oct 3, 2012 10:48 AM
10	feasibility of last 2 seems limited by constraints beyond SECOORA's control	Sep 28, 2012 4:31 PM
11	This is the least expensive of the three options if we assume that the existing infrastructure is valid. Relocation involves moving proprietary equipment, and that is quite problematic, while reallocating funding implies shutting down observation nodes-and that approach goes back to the reasoning for maintaining what you have.	Sep 28, 2012 9:19 AM
12	Both existing maintenance and filling gaps are important. Which one is highest priority depends on whether or not other funding sources can adequately support basic data collection. If so, focus on gaps; if not, focus on maintaining SECOORA infrastructure.	Sep 27, 2012 8:50 AM
13	Actually - a combination of the above. keep existing infrastructure where possible, but shift where necessary	Sep 25, 2012 1:24 PM
14	Stay the course, but look to add new obs in out years at strategically valuable locations as indicated by OSSE's or other quantitative means.	Sep 21, 2012 3:32 PM
15	I actually think that relocating existing infrastructure to provide better coverage is a good idea but who will define what "better coverage" means and who will we ask to provide input on asset re-distribution. If we work with the NWS and USCG, then it might be worthwhile. If we solely make the decisions based on member input, then we will have a flawed coverage map because we are too academic/research oriented.	Sep 21, 2012 11:07 AM
16	A preferred option might be to couple one and two; stations that are being used stay, and those that are not being used can be moved to gap areas where they	Sep 20, 2012 4:10 PM

Q5. In a budget limited situation as we have now, is it most important to support: (Choose 1)

will be used.

17	Assess and prioritize where observations are needed and maintain, relocate, or reallocate as needed	Sep 20, 2012 3:20 PM
18	Most observing infrastructure not relocatable and in place because of need.	Sep 20, 2012 1:42 PM
19	Important to maintain	Sep 20, 2012 12:52 PM
20	These are not easy choices: there is value in longer time series data collection, but we need to increase coverage.	Sep 20, 2012 12:06 PM
21	This really depends on the priorities--research mode vs operational mode? If you reallocate, what goes away?	Sep 20, 2012 10:27 AM
22	Use what we have to meet current needs - when was the last assessment of needs conducted?	Sep 20, 2012 10:05 AM
23	Maintenance of existing stations for long time series is not an attractive option as nobody does anything with the existing already long time series. On the other hand rather last two question say the same thing.	Sep 20, 2012 9:11 AM
24	Prioritize to meet end user needs. When that is done, optimize obs and modeling to meet those needs.	Sep 20, 2012 8:10 AM
25	It is difficult to choose among these and, really, a combination of the three is needed. There is a need to prioritize long-term data sets to continue critical ones while reallocating funds away from less important datasets to fill gaps in observations or provide better coverage to answer key questions.	Sep 20, 2012 7:53 AM

Q7. Do you think it should be a Board responsibility to identify non-IOOS sources of funding for SECOORA?

1	as well as any member who may have ideas on outside sources of funding	Oct 4, 2012 4:02 PM
2	The board sets policy. Alternate funding source identification should be primarily Secoora staff with Board input as available	Oct 4, 2012 11:20 AM
3	staff: some fraction of staff effort should be assigned to: find, track, write proposals for funding opportunities...with help from the board on subject matter, leads, writing and reviews, etc	Oct 4, 2012 9:40 AM
4	encourage partnering	Oct 3, 2012 1:19 PM
5	But not exclusively the Board (Members and Staff as well). And realistically I see this more as identifying leveraging opportunities; likely short-term projects or funding for equipment, infrastructure, ship time opportunities as opposed to funding SECOORA specifically.	Oct 3, 2012 10:48 AM
6	Executive Director should have a responsibility to identify and secure approval from Board to implement.	Oct 3, 2012 8:43 AM
7	everyone's	Sep 27, 2012 9:10 AM
8	not solely a Board responsibility - staff as well	Sep 25, 2012 1:24 PM
9	But also engage the members who were or could be Board members. Need to expand membership too.	Sep 21, 2012 2:20 PM
10	The Board and staff.	Sep 21, 2012 11:07 AM
11	Everyone should be beating the bushes; SECOORA staff, Board members, members, users, etc.	Sep 20, 2012 4:10 PM
12	Aggressive outreach to stakeholders	Sep 20, 2012 3:50 PM
13	Not ONLY the Board--the director, staff, and other members (especially those who have benefitted from IOOS funding) need to be actively involved in this!	Sep 20, 2012 12:06 PM
14	Board and membership- Have the Board narrow down responsibilities, then facilitate a final discussion with members- it will create a united front in moving forward.	Sep 20, 2012 10:05 AM
15	Secoora is part of ioos, thus Secoora should advocate for ioos funding, the boards role should not be to identify funds that members can get themselves, but to provide ammunition to Secoora for increased budget through NOAA.	Sep 20, 2012 9:11 AM
16	SECOORA staff	Sep 20, 2012 8:13 AM
17	The Executive Director with the Board	Sep 20, 2012 8:10 AM

Q8. In order to maximize the impact of IOOS funding, SECOORA may have to eliminate certain secondary expenditures. Please rate the following items in terms of overall importance (scale of 1 to 5 with 1 = least important and 5 = most important).

1	Expense money to fund proposed research	Oct 4, 2012 1:16 PM
2	Staff meaning staff, not tuition. Without equipment and skilled personnel, there is no observatory.	Oct 4, 2012 1:10 PM
3	Expenses related to observing systems are most important	Oct 4, 2012 11:54 AM
4	Not sure what is meant by PI salary or elated travel Salary/travel is usually included in the PI grant proposal, so not sure how it would be a secondary expenditure. Wiithout PI salary how can the work be done?	Oct 4, 2012 11:20 AM
5	2 board meetings per year in person is not necessary. board members can meet through conference calls	Oct 3, 2012 1:19 PM
6	Having tangible web or print products are important and they cost.	Sep 21, 2012 2:20 PM
7	For PI Salary - it should be capped at 1 month. Equipment is important but SECOORA should retain the ownership.	Sep 21, 2012 11:07 AM
8	Unclear if high rating means important activity and should be maintained, or important to eliminate! My "5" means most important to maintain.	Sep 20, 2012 10:27 AM
9	Not very good question. Every activity is undergone some budget including justification, if the justification is not solid, then this is to be identified at that time. Most savings should be coming from management and by reducing meetings and board size and board expenses is the non brainer.	Sep 20, 2012 9:11 AM
10	PIs should not own equipment funded by SECOORA. SECOORA should form an equipment pool available to all researchers as needed and prioritized.	Sep 20, 2012 8:10 AM

Q10. What is your SECOORA involvement? (select all that apply)

1	Formerly worked with SECOORA through the FIO	Oct 4, 2012 10:41 AM
2	Funding was past and did not include PI support.	Oct 3, 2012 10:48 AM
3	Individual member	Sep 20, 2012 3:50 PM

Q11. Are there any additional comments you'd like to share?

1	Question #2 was confusing : 1) speculate on who? - or 2) rate who "should be" users?	Oct 5, 2012 10:09 AM
2	This survey was very poorly worded. Answers to many of the questions could change dramatically depending on whether questions were asking about current SECOORA priorities or future SECOORA priorities.	Oct 4, 2012 1:16 PM
3	Board should have equal number of members from every state in SECOORA. Should consider shunting West Florida region into Gulf observatory.	Oct 4, 2012 1:10 PM
4	1) This question is too loosely worded. 2) The answers may be different if the question included what are the interests now, versus what should the interests be. It is clear to me that many who should be regular users of IOOS observations are not, and this requires remedy if IOOS is to be successful. 3) Modeling is given low priority because we are not doing it in a meaningful enough way, nor can we afford to. Funding for now must come from elsewhere. Priority would rise substantially in the event that IOOS funding increases to more healthy levels. 4) If IOOS and SECOORA are not committed to sustaining scientifically justified observations, then they have no reason to exist. 5) My answer assumes that the observations to be sustained can be scientifically justified. There must be a well articulated reason for making an observation. 6) My answer is consistent with my comment under 5) above. 8) It all starts with observations, and people are required to make these. Without staff, P.I. and expense support there will be no observations. Of course, everything requires justification and reasonable balance. 9) Board meetings must be made more meaningful. We also require some closed sessions so that we can actually speak more candidly with each other without external distractions.	Oct 4, 2012 11:54 AM
5	Item # 6 - True broad coverage costs money and is counter to the reality proposed in this question. Rather the question is it better to get a lot of sketchy info across the general region (with limited value) or more detailed data from a few locations of scientific or unique value.	Oct 4, 2012 11:20 AM
6	great questions and hopefully great discussion to follow....I'm going to submit some more items offline.... Thanks for getting this ball in play....Steve Woll	Oct 4, 2012 9:40 AM
7	Educational efforts should focus on students (college and high school) when students answer important conceptual questions about coastal processes with the data (NOT develop canned curriculum that is outdated and poorly used)	Oct 3, 2012 1:19 PM
8	I feel that the present SECOORA prioritization process is something of an interim exercise until the outcome of the "IOOS Summit" is known, especially in terms of the prospects for renewed leadership at the national level. It will be important to establish whether the RAs are looking to continue at the present level of funding in perpetuity or if there is any prospect for funding at the level needed to start to operate a basic RCOOS. If the present level of funding is what is to be expected, then the RA business model in general and that of SECOORA specifically will need to be reassessed.	Oct 3, 2012 10:48 AM
9	I think both items of #6 are important. I think both the Executive Director and the Board should be identifying other income streams. The Executive Director should be trying to close deals with approval of Board.	Oct 3, 2012 8:43 AM

Q11. Are there any additional comments you'd like to share?

10	None at this time.	Sep 27, 2012 8:50 AM
11	SECOORA needs more exposure and needs to supply information in regional initiatives (NSF Science Technology Centers, Governors Alliance, COSEE SE, NEERS, etc)	Sep 21, 2012 2:20 PM
12	You are in the midst of a funded five-year contractual initiative, so I am not sure what this survey is accomplishing at this point. I do see the significance of doing this survey closer to the end of the current five-year projective to help better / best plan for the renewal proposal. As related to question #2, a list of who is SECOORA's users and what SECOORA is doing to support them would be extremely helpful. For question #4 I think that options 1 and 2 can be effectively combined. For question #8, I cannot for any reasonable reason understand why PI salary support was included.	Sep 20, 2012 4:10 PM
13	SECOORA does not maintain what they already have. It should. SECOORA should be about observing and observed data. Everything else is secondary. There is too much board and middle management activity. SECOORA does a very poor job of obtaining funding from secondary sources other than IOOS handouts. The only real activity of the board should be acquiring additional funding to maintain and grow existing observing systems. It's an observing system. That's the activity. Observing.	Sep 20, 2012 1:42 PM
14	We need to aggressively seek out private support from other funding sources such as foundations.	Sep 20, 2012 12:54 PM
15	In this funding climate, no multi-state RA can be both a research engine and operational observing system. Funding to one priority compromises the ability to do the other well. Rather than be scattered, it makes sense to focus on fewer targeted stakeholder needs--using high quality research to drive the products developed.	Sep 20, 2012 10:27 AM