



DIARY DATE

EVENT: Pacific Northwest Waters: Gateway to Our Future – A workshop bringing together users and providers of marine information to explore how monitoring and forecasting the ocean, coast and estuaries can deliver safety, economic and environmental benefits to industries, governments and citizens of the Pacific Northwest.

DATE: Thursday, February 2nd, 2012

VENUE: Microsoft Conference Center, Redmond, Washington

ORGANIZED AND SPONSORED BY: Northwest Association of Networked Ocean Observing Systems (NANOOS) and the Interagency Ocean Observation Committee (IOOC)

HOSTED BY: Microsoft Research

FURTHER INFORMATION: www.iooc.us/pnw

Pacific Northwest Waters: Gateway to Our Future

Ensuring coastal safety requires an understanding of hazards such as tsunamis, flooding, erosion and harmful algal blooms. Monitoring and predicting the coastal ocean and estuaries provides direct economic benefits to maritime operations, ports and harbors, fisheries, aquaculture and the recreation and tourism industries. Even far inland, the ocean influences weather and climate affecting all businesses and citizens.

Managing the sustainable use of marine resources and the quality of the marine environment requires continuous monitoring of threats such as deleterious spills, low oxygen concentrations, and ocean acidification.

'Pacific Northwest Waters: Gateway to Our Future' will bring together beneficiaries and providers of marine information to explore existing and emerging user needs for data, information and forecasts.. This free to attend workshop being held at the Microsoft Conference Center in Redmond WA on February 2nd will provide delegates from industries, governments, and academia with an opportunity to learn more about the benefits provided by sustained and integrated marine observations.

"By combining excellent speakers describing regional collection and application of marine information with a series of case studies from a wide range of industry and government beneficiaries, we will connect providers and users of marine information. Through engagement with a diverse audience in a workshop setting, we aim to stimulate a valuable debate about the future development of the Integrated Ocean Observing System" said Jan Newton, Executive Director of NANOOS.

To register for this event, or to obtain further information about the agenda for the day, please visit www.iooc.us/pnw.

Notes to Editors

The U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (U.S. IOOS) is a vital tool for tracking, predicting, managing, and adapting to changes in our ocean, coastal and Great Lakes environments.

- **Safety:** IOOS helps ensure the safety and security of citizens now and into the future.
- **Economy:** IOOS unlocks economic and business benefits of the ocean.
- **Environment:** IOOS is key to protecting our environment for generations to come.

Website: www.ioos.gov

The Northwest Association of Networked Ocean Observing Systems (NANOOS) is the Regional Association of the national Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) in the Pacific Northwest.

Website: www.nanoos.org

The Interagency Ocean Observation Committee (IOOC) was created by *The Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009* and to oversee and develop the National Integrated Coastal & Ocean Observing System. Led by three federal Co-Chairs and supported by agency representatives and support staff, the IOOC carries out various provisions of the Act for implementing procedural, technical, and scientific requirements to ensure full execution of the System.

Website: www.iooc.us

For further information please contact:

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