The Coastal Coupling Community of Practice: An Interagency Collaboration Working Toward Continental-scale Modeling in the Coastal Transition Zone

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Communities of Practice

CO-LLABORATING

COMMUNITY
Who cares about it

PRACTICE
What & how we do things together

CHALLENGE
What we care about

CO-LEARNING

CO-NECTING
Over 100 million Americans who live near the coast aren’t protected by total water forecasts that account for combined freshwater and saltwater flooding. The NOAA Water Team is collaborating to provide lifesaving environmental intelligence through coastal coupling.
Our Community

Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services
Practitioners are motivated differently. Communities of Practice organize around common motivations.

- **Data assimilation for model/obs improvements**
- **Desire to see applications of their research**
- **Process understanding**

Basic Research | Applied Research | Operational Applications
Challenge
Coastal coupling of models through collaborative community engagement for integrated coastal solutions employing research, model development and application, data provision, observations, analysis, and service delivery.

Mission
To enable
• Coupling of models across the coastal zone
• Actionable information provided to stakeholders in accessible and user-friendly formats
• Accelerated national coverage of integrated water prediction capabilities
Our Practice

Objectives
• Determine best strategies
  — Stakeholder requirements
  — Science and operational needs
• Establish an active, functioning, and sustainable community
  — Identify community members
  — Identify knowledge gaps
  — Identify the available models - strengths and weaknesses

Activities
• Multi-institutional steering committee (NOAA, USGS, USACE, academia)
• Annual in person meetings
  — May 12-13, 2020, National Water Center, Tuscaloosa, AL
• Bimonthly webinar series
• Scientific sessions/townhalls at conferences
• Website
Key Questions

- Coastal transition zone is dynamic
- Stakeholder needs
- Common terminology
- Topobathy/shoreline
- Data and mapping services
- Transition of models

[Diagram of coastal transition zone with labels: Upland Zone, Hand-off??, Coastal Zone, Transition Zone]
NOAA Coastal Models

Network of operational hydrodynamic models (Operational Forecast System) providing nowcasts and short-term forecasts of:

- Water levels
- Currents
- Salinity
- Temperature

Coupling efforts

- Hindcast coupling of 2D ADCIRC storm surge model with NWM for COASTAL Act

Future developments:

- Inland Hydrology
- Waves
- Ice coverage
- Data assimilation

Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services

Moghimi et al., OM33B-01 Wednesday 14:00
Coastal Hydraulics and Coupling

- Currently working on regional hindcast simulations for Named Storm Events
- V3.0 will feature freshwater-estuary-ocean model coupling in the forecast mode
- Will allow for simulation of compound flooding involving freshwater, storm surge and tides
NOAA Water Initiative (TWL-projects, NOS/CSDL)

- University of Oklahoma: “Steps Towards Automating River Connections and Addressing Precipitation in ADCIRC”
- Notre Dame University: “Grid Development and Automated Grid Generation for River Connections”
- Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences: “Implementing SCHISM Model to Improve Integrated Water Modeling Projects”

IOOS Coastal Ocean Modeling Testbed (COMT)

- University of North Carolina: “Coupling the National Water Model to the Coastal Ocean for Predicting Water Hazards”
- University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth: “Coupling the Northeast Coastal Ocean Forecast System (NECOFS) to NWM and the Water Balance Model”
- North Carolina Statue University: “Multi-Level River-Ocean Coupling using the Coupled Northwest Atlantic Prediction System”

Joint Technology Transfer Initiative (JTTI)

- Notre Dame University: “Advancing ADCIRC U.S. Atlantic and Gulf Coast Grids and Capabilities to Facilitate Coupling to the National Water Model in ESTOFS Operational Forecasting”
Conclusion

Our membership has grown to over 120 members in less than a year.
Continuing to build relationships and make connections to reduce the duplication of efforts.

For technical details on modeling work, session tomorrow:

- Oral session - OM33B – Wednesday 2:00 – 4:00 pm
- Poster session - OM34B – Wednesday 4:00 – 6:00 pm
For more information or to join the CC CoP please contact me

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Thank you

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