

Welcome Members, Board of Directors, Guests, & Staff to our Spring 2026 GCOOS Members Meeting!

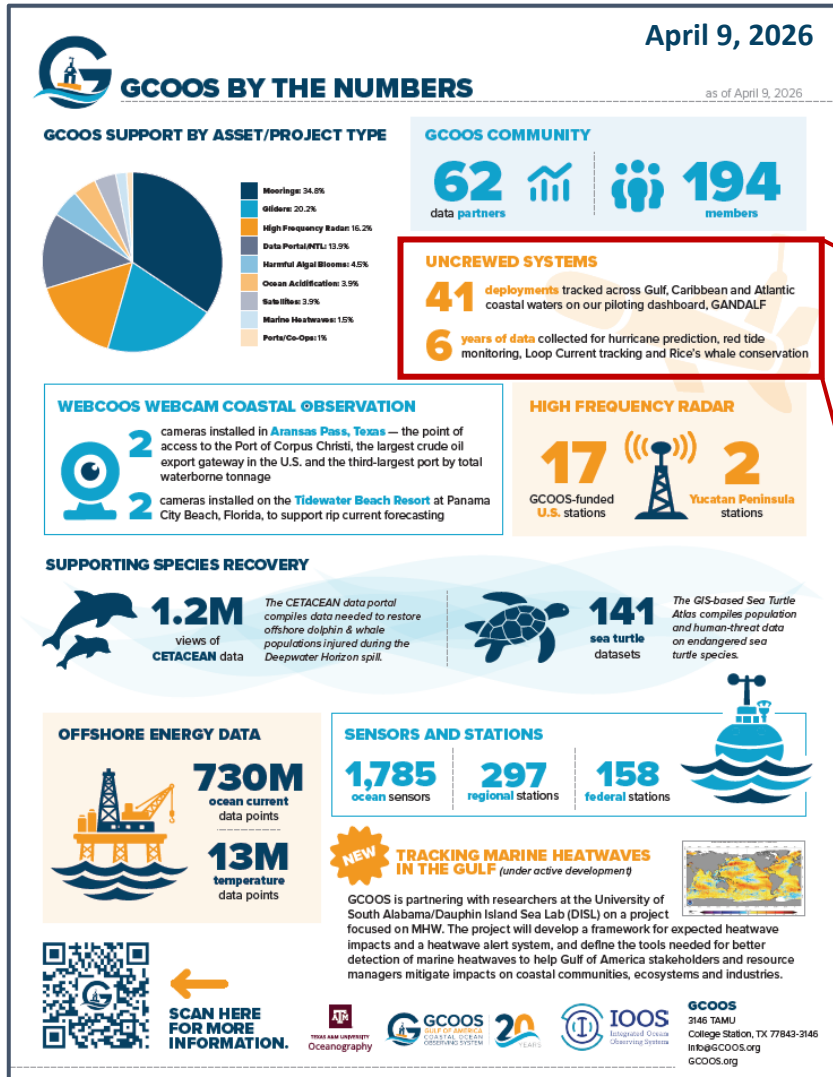


Happy 20th Anniversary GCOOS!

As GCOOS celebrates its 20th Anniversary, it marks its expansion with **30 principal investigators** and **62 partners** providing data from sensors in the Gulf. GCOOS has **194 institutional and individual members** and its eNewsletter reaches more than **1,900 readers monthly!**

Tuesday, April 14, 2026
(meeting will be recorded)

GCOOS by the Numbers

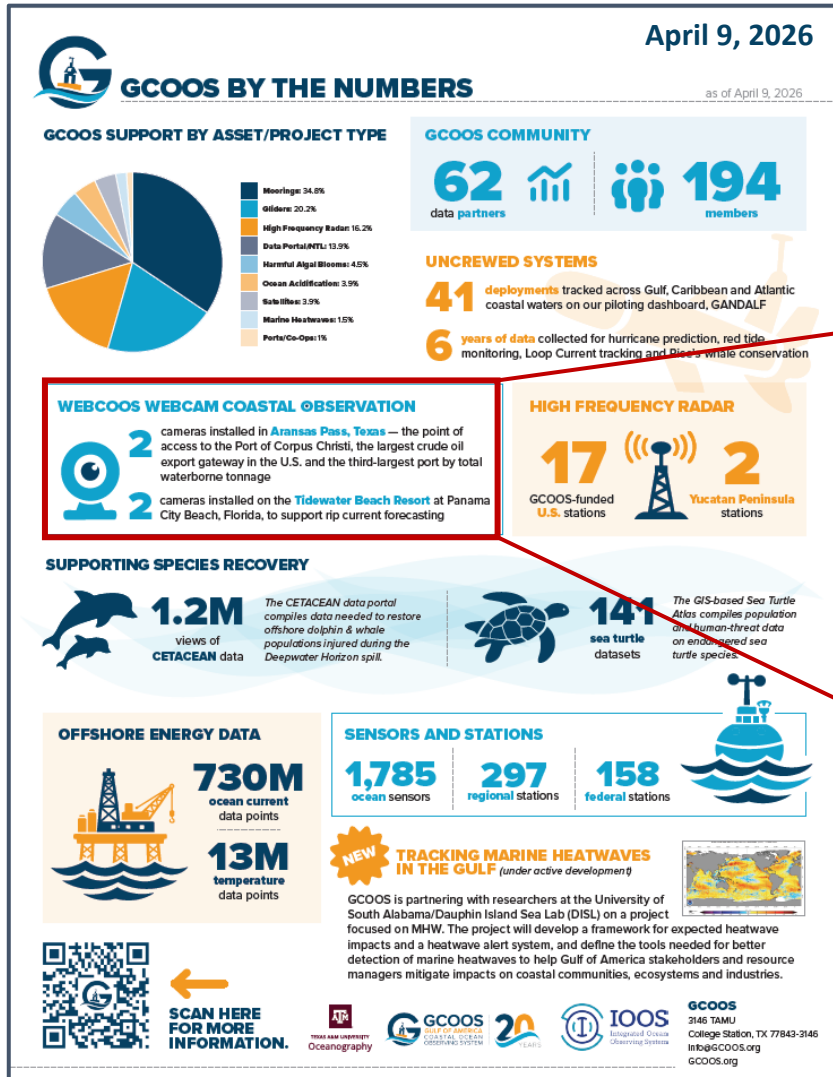


UNCREWED SYSTEMS

41 deployments tracked across Gulf, Caribbean and Atlantic coastal waters on our piloting dashboard, GANDALF

6 years of data collected for hurricane prediction, red tide monitoring, Loop Current tracking and Rice's whale conservation

GCOOS by the Numbers

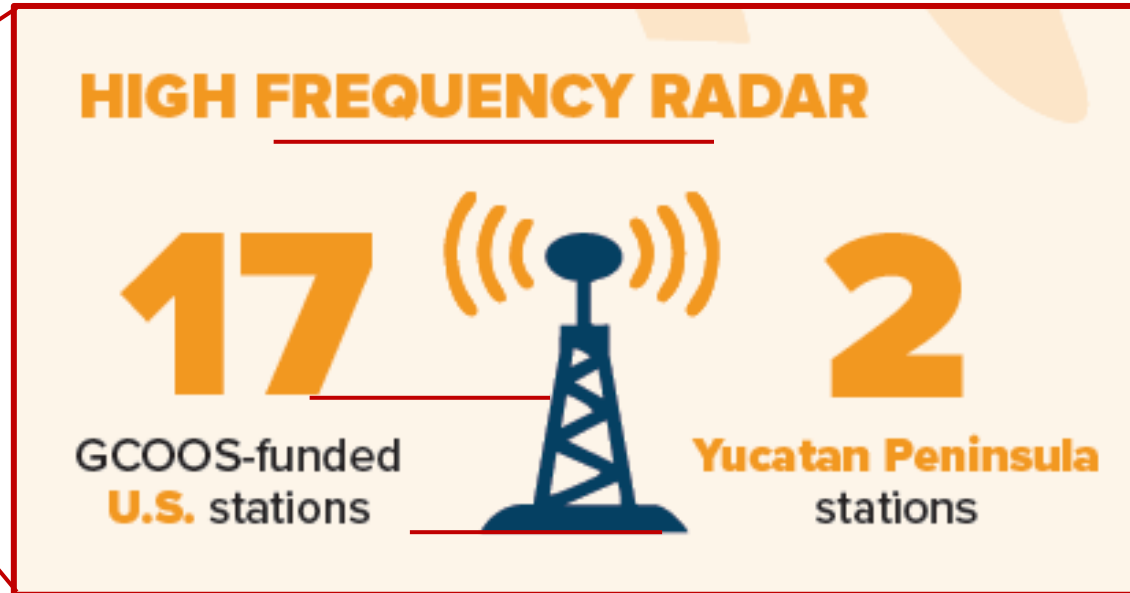
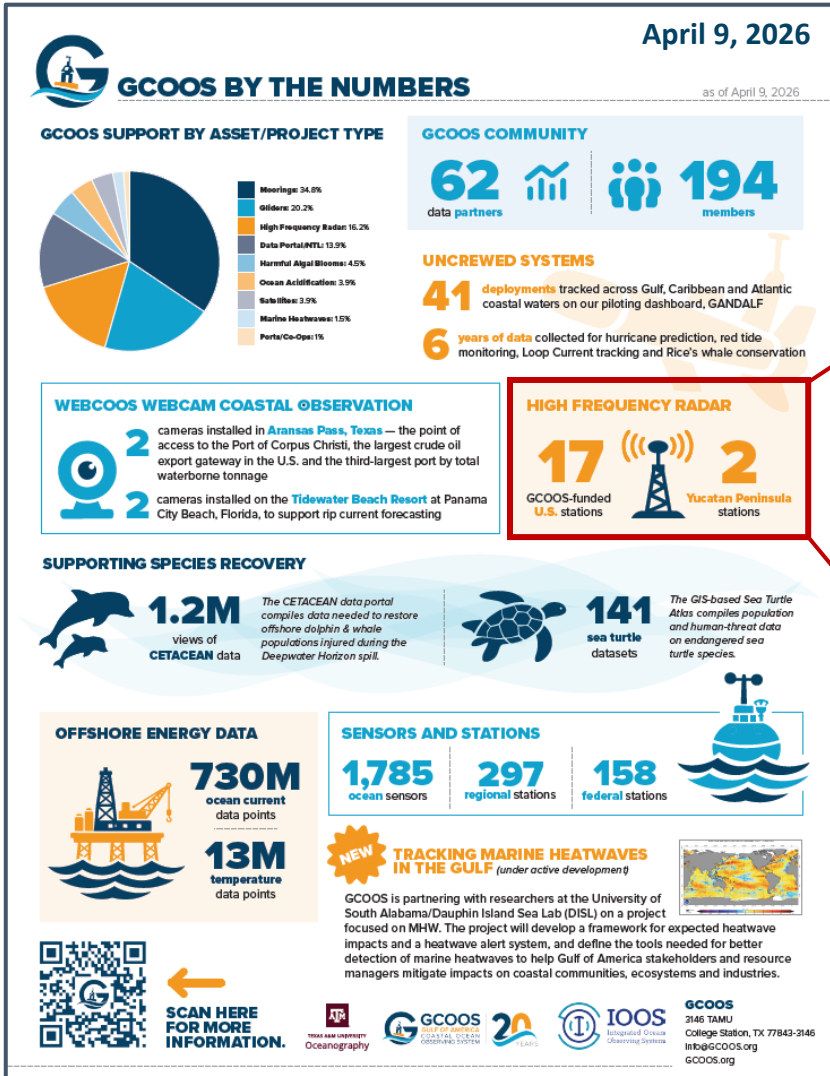


WECOOS WEBCAM COASTAL OBSERVATION

2 cameras installed in **Aransas Pass, Texas** — the point of access to the Port of Corpus Christi, the largest crude oil export gateway in the U.S. and the third-largest port by total waterborne tonnage

2 cameras installed on the **Tidewater Beach Resort** at Panama City Beach, Florida, to support rip current forecasting

GCOOS by the Numbers



GCOOS by the Numbers

GCOOS BY THE NUMBERS April 9, 2026
as of April 9, 2026

GCOOS SUPPORT BY ASSET/PROJECT TYPE

Moorings	34.6%
Gliders	20.2%
High Frequency Radar	16.2%
Data Portal/NTL	13.9%
Harmful Algal Blooms	4.5%
Ocean Acidification	3.9%
Satellite	3.5%
Marine Heatwaves	1.5%
Port/Co-Op	1%

GCOOS COMMUNITY
62 data partners | **194** members

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HIGH FREQUENCY RADAR
17 GCOOS-funded U.S. stations | **2** Yucatan Peninsula stations

SUPPORTING SPECIES RECOVERY
1.2M views of CETACEAN data | *The CETACEAN data portal compiles data needed to restore offshore dolphin & whale populations injured during the Deepwater Horizon spill.*
141 sea turtle datasets | *The GIS-based Sea Turtle Atlas compiles population and human-threat data on endangered sea turtle species.*

OFFSHORE ENERGY DATA
730M ocean current data points | **13M** temperature data points


SENSORS AND STATIONS
1,785 ocean sensors | **297** regional stations | **158** federal stations

NEW TRACKING MARINE HEATWAVES IN THE GULF (under active development)
 GCOOS is partnering with researchers at the University of South Alabama/Dauphin Island Sea Lab (DISL) on a project focused on MHW. The project will develop a framework for expected heatwave impacts and a heatwaves alert system, and define the tools needed for better detection of marine heatwaves to help Gulf of America stakeholders and resource managers mitigate impacts on coastal communities, ecosystems and industries.

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION.


GCOOS
 2146 TAMU
 College Station, TX 77843-2146
 info@GCOOS.org
 GCOOS.org

SUPPORTING SPECIES RECOVERY



1.2M
views of
CETACEAN data

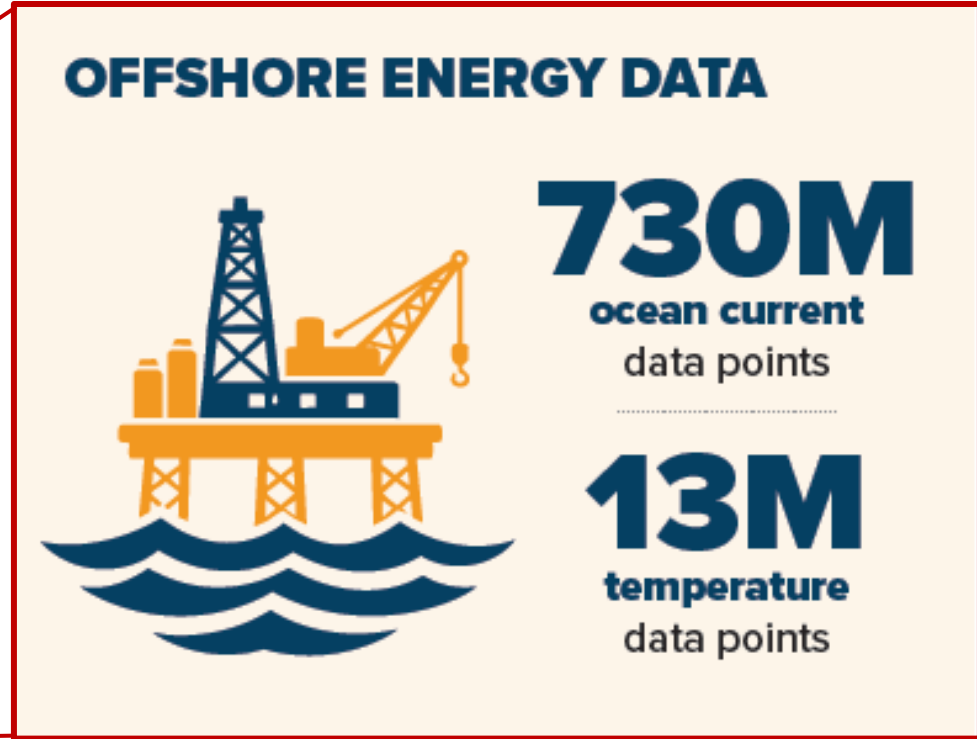
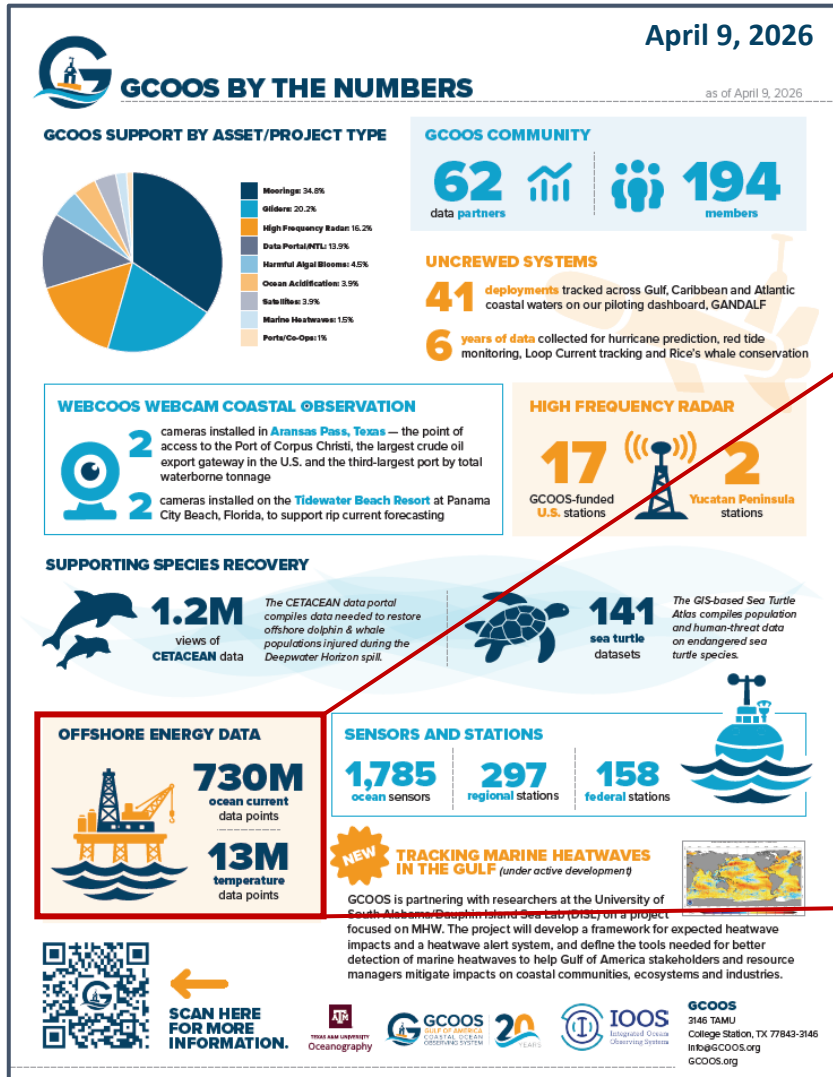
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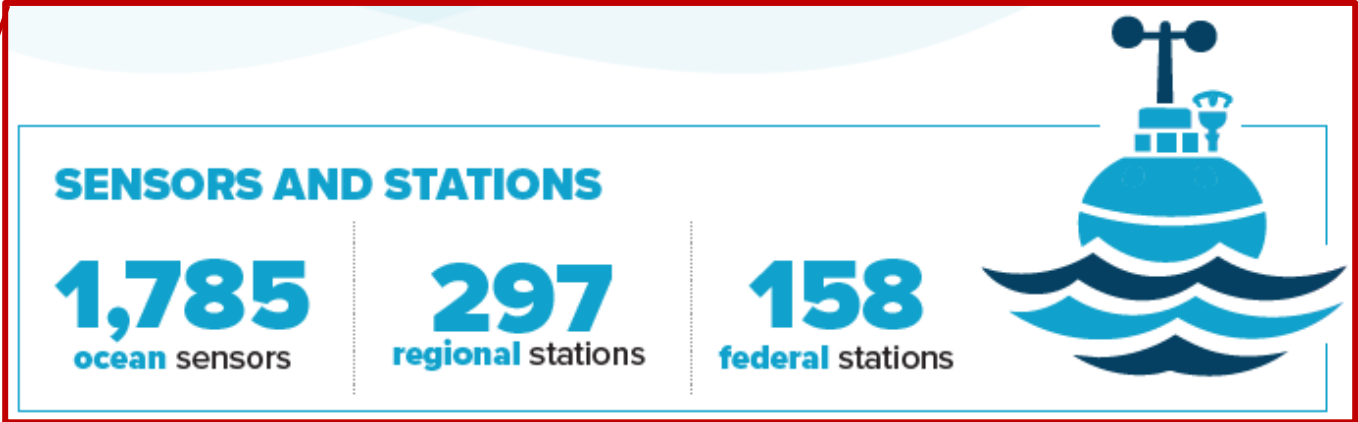
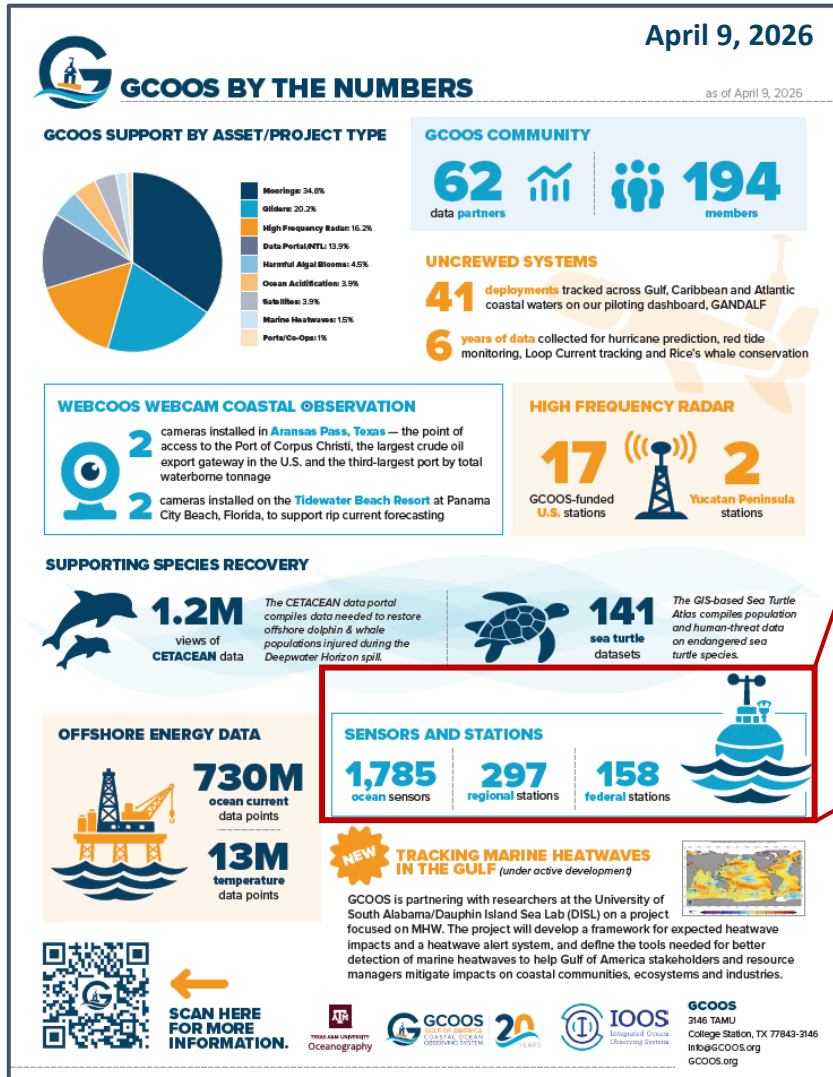
141
sea turtle
datasets

The GIS-based Sea Turtle Atlas compiles population and human-threat data on endangered sea turtle species.

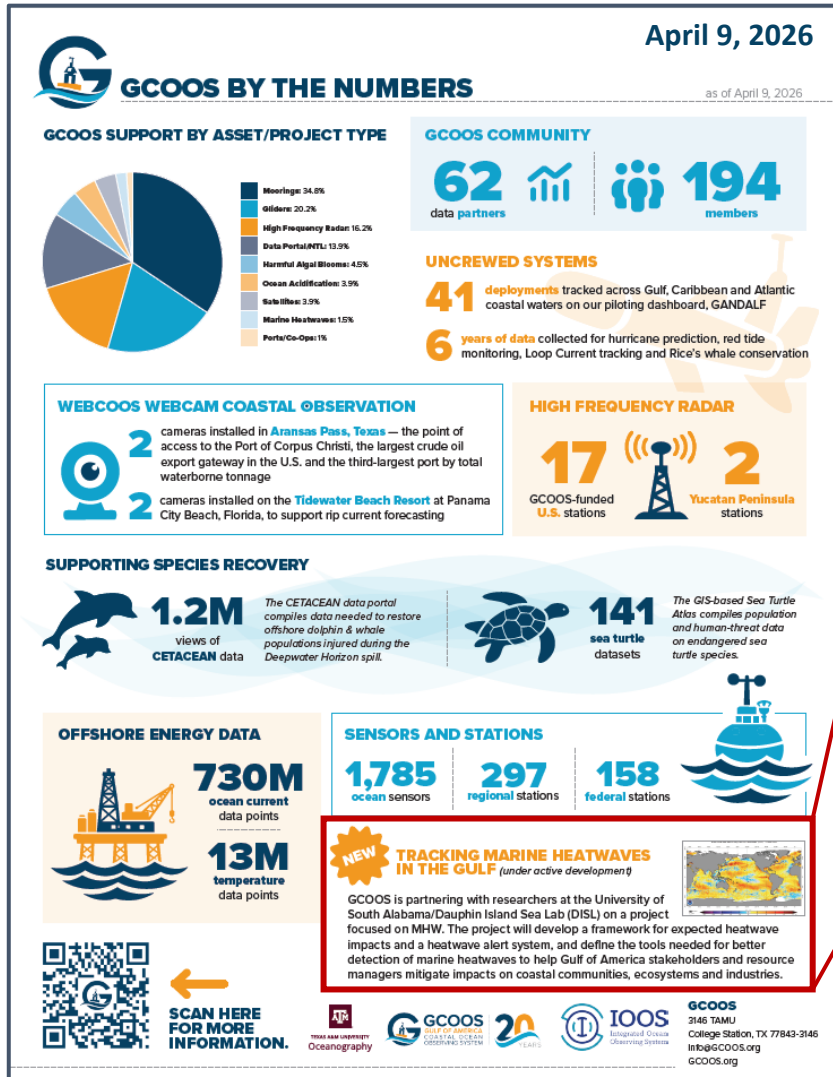
GCOOS by the Numbers



GCOOS by the Numbers

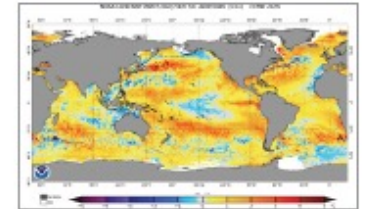


GCOOS by the Numbers



TRACKING MARINE HEATWAVES IN THE GULF

(under active development)



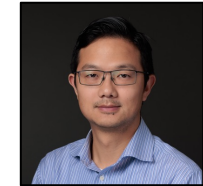
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Board of Directors 2026 Election Results

New Members (Fall 2026):

Private Sector:

Mike Yang, Chevron



Outreach & Education Sector:

Chrissy Weiderwohl, Texas A&M



Government Sector:

Courtney Bouchard, NOAA, NCEI



Private Sector



Dr. Emily Hall
Mote Marine Laboratory
Board term expires in 2027

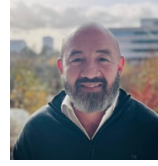


Dr. Rafael Ramos
(Treasurer)
Woods Hole Group
Board term expires in 2017

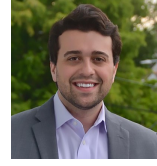
RETIRING BOD



David Driver
BP (retired)
Board term expires in 2026



Dr. Sergio Jaramillo
Shell Global Solutions US Inc.
Board term expires in 2028



Nick Gagliano
Kongsberg Discovery
Private Sector
Board term expires in 2028

Academic Sector



Dr. Antonietta Quigg
Texas A&M University at
Galveston
Board term expires in 2026



Dr. Stephan Howden
(Secretary)
University of Southern
Mississippi
Board term expires in 2028



Dr. Nick Shay
University of Miami, RSMAS
Board term expires in 2027

Outreach and Education Sector

RETIRING BOD



Suraida Nañez-James
(Vice Chair)
Gulf Reach Institute
Board term expires in 2026



Dr. Sara Graves
University of Alabama,
Huntsville
Board term expires in 2026



Dr. Brian Roberts
LUMCON
Board term expires in 2027



Dr. Nan Walker
Louisiana State University
Board term expires in 2028

Government Sector



Dr. James Kendall
Bureau of Ocean Energy
Management (BOEM)
Board term expires in 2028



Dr. Kate Hubbard
Florida Fish & Wildlife
Conservation Commission, Fish &
Wildlife Research Institute
Board term expires in 2027



Dr. Kimberly Yates
(Chair)
U.S. Geological Survey (retired)
Board term expires in 2026



Dr. Pat Hogan
NOAA/NCEI - MS
Board term expires in 2028

RETIRING BOD



Kirsten Larson
(Immediate Past Chair)
NOAA/NCEI
Board term expires in 2026



Returning Members (Fall 2026):

Academic Sector: Dr. Antonietta Quigg, Texas A&M University at Galveston

Outreach & Education Sector: Dr. Suraida Nañez-James, Gulf Reach Institute

Government Sector: Dr. Kimberly Yates, U.S. Geological Survey (retired)

Retiring Members (Fall 2026):

Private Sector: David Driver, BP (retired)

Outreach & Education Sector: Dr. Sara Graves, University of Alabama

Government Sector: Dr. Kirsten Larson, NOAA/NCEI

Agenda Summary (Central Time)

8:45 - Welcome and Agenda Review, Dr. Kim Yates, GCOOS Board Chair

9:00 - Welcome and Introduction to TAMU, Dr. Shari Yvon-Lewis, Prof. & Head of Oceanography Dept.

9:05 - IOOS Program Office Updates, Dr. Krisa Arzayus, Acting IOOS Director

9:30 - Welcome from U.S. Representative Randy Weber's Office, Hayden Crawford, Legislative Director

9:45 - Texas Sea Grant College Program update, Laura Picariello, Director

10:00 - GCOOS Update, Dr. Jorge Brenner, GCOOS Executive Director

10:30 - Networking Break

11:00 - Industry Partner Updates: presentations & panel discussion

12:00 - Lunch (provided)

Agenda Summary Continued (Central Time)...

1:15 - Industry Partner Updates continued: presentations & panel discussion

2:00 - Ecosystem/Environmental Balance: presentations & panel discussion

2:45 - Networking Break

3:15 - UGOS Summary and Next Steps: Brief presentations and discussion

4:00 - Shaped by Our Story: The History of GCOOS, Dr. Worth Nowlin, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Texas A&M University

4:45 - Closing Remarks, Dr. Kim Yates, GCOOS Board Chair

5:00-6:00 p.m. Student Poster Session (11th floor University Club)

Today's Presentations & Panel Focus

11:00-2:00 Industry Partner Updates (Moderators: Marcus Ogle & Dr. Rafael Ramos)

2:00-2:45 Ecosystem/Environmental Balance (Moderator: Suraida Nañez-James)

- *Brief summaries from GCOOS PIs and stakeholders on how they use GCOOS data followed by open discussion focused on the value & utility of observation platforms & data for stakeholders.*

3:15-4:00 UGOS Summary & Next Steps (Moderator: Dr. Jorge Brenner)

- *Brief summaries on UGOS-3 goals, strategies, & stakeholder perspectives followed by open discussion focused on next steps and GCOOS' role.*

Panel Discussion Points

How can we maximize the value, utility, and accessibility of observation platforms and data for stakeholders?

How do we improve collaboration among data users and providers to enhance mutual benefits and value for shared data across all sectors and partners?

Evening Special Events (Central Time)...



6:00-8:00 p.m. GCOOS 20th Anniversary Celebration

- **6:00** - Networking and beverages
- **6:30** - Open mic – informal tributes and memories of GCOOS
- **7:00 - 8:00** - Networking

Meeting Logistics

Very many thanks to our meeting coordinators!!



Marcus Ogle



Dr. Chris Simoniello



Xaio Qi



Tuomo Saari



Suraida Nañez-James

- WIFI: TAMU_Visitor
- Group picture in meeting room before lunch
- Lunch downstairs, 11th floor University Club
- Meeting will be recorded