



**AGENDA FOR THE
U.S. PORT METEOROLOGICAL OFFICERS MEETING;**
Stennis Space Center, Mississippi
August 26th-28th
Building 1100, **Log Town** Conference Room 11161
228-688-1457

This meeting will be separated into two parts:

Part 1 – The VOS Program from PMO, Regional and NDBC Perspectives. (Day 1)

The PMO brief will be held to a 15 minute limit. The PMO's brief will provide:

- a. Briefly cover your area of responsibility/ports.
- b. Any unique issues and/or challenges.
- c. Success, endeavors, highlights. Any above and beyond activities to showcase.
- d. "Forward-looking", how do you see VOS in the future? Ideas, hopes, opinions. *this will contribute to later discussions and the overarching topics at hand.

Part 2 – VOS Topics, Specific Discussions – (Days 2 and 3)

NDBC and others will facilitate the open forum to develop the VOS Program's short term goals and targets from now until 2016 as well as some long term objectives reaching out to 2024. The outcome will be a draft document that will be provided to VOS Program Managers and NWS Headquarters as guidance to move the VOS program forward and normalize VOS under the guidelines of NWS Headquarters.

***Day 2, there will be one Breakout Session at 1400 (PMO Position Discription) and two concurrent sessions at 1530 (Equipment and database)**

***Day 3, there will be one Breakout Session at 1130 (Recruitment practices)**

Breakout Sessions: ~1 hr 10 min:

- 10 Min- for identifying specific questions, issues and challenges.
- 5 Min- for choosing: **Group leader** (keeps session participants on task)
Timekeeper (insures the group stays within time constraints)
Spokesperson (to report back with results for action)
- 45 Min- for group participation within the breakout session.
- 10 Min- for the Spokesperson to report results.

Panel Discussion: Day 3 0900-1045

Four panel members from the marine environment, Captain/mates. Each will be given 4-5 questions (in advance). Each will have 20 minutes to answer the posed questions. (TBD) Supporting PPT's can be provided, but not necessary. If time allows following each members' comments, we will open it up for a few questions, then move on to the next panel member. After all panel members have presented, we will open it up for general questions and discussion for all panel members (time permitting).



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Timekeepers and Note Takers:

Day 1: Timekeeper: Terry Brisbin (SRH)	Scribe: Wayne Weeks (NWSHQ)
Day 2: Timekeeper: Melinda Bailey (SRH)	Scribe: Jeff Lorens (WRH)
Day 3: Timekeeper: Brian Hirsch (CRH)	Scribe: Hector Machado (ERH)

Logistics and general information

Meeting attire: Business Casual

Welcome/Gathering: Hollywood Hotel Lounge (on your own \$)

Icebreaker: Hollywood Hotel Lounge (on your own \$)

Morning coffee: Coffee/Tea and water is not paid by VOS (against NOAA policy), if you drink coffee/Tea and water, please donate \$ what you can. Much appreciated!

Lunch: The *Cafeteria* hosts several items for all tastes. Cafeteria hours are from 10:00 - 1:00 pm. Hot and cold sandwich station as well as daily plate special which features things such as Redbeans and rice, fried chicken, baked potatoes with all the fixings. Salad bar and potato bar.

PJ's New Orleans style coffee is located close to the cafeteria in building 1100. There you can find snacks, sandwiches, and yogurt. Very similar to Starbucks.

Quick stop is just a convenience type store. Snacks, sodas, and the like. Located in building 1100 As soon as you enter the lobby of building 1100 across from the courtyard area, located on the right.



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Dinner: At the Hollywood Hotel, you will find a nice choice of dining pleasures.

<http://www.hollywoodbsl.com/Casino>

If you venture into the town of Bay St. Louis, you will find a nice variety of restaurant choices and get a great view of our small and quaint coastal town. Remember, it is now SHRIMP Season on the Gulf Coast!

http://www.yelp.com/search?cflt=restaurants&find_loc=Bay+St.+Louis%2C+MS

***Bogarts located at the Hollywood Hotel: VOS Dinner (on your own \$):**

Wednesday evening -- Bogarts Steakhouse, 1830ish until ...

*If you are interested in dining together at Bogarts, **Please make your own reservations** by calling 228 466 8032. They have a great special running, a four-course select menu for two \$39.99. This is a really good deal. Please call ahead for reservations to insure a space.

<http://www.hollywoodbsl.com/Dining/Bogarts%20Steakhouse>

Things to do for spouse/partners/guests of participants:

*Bay St. Louis: Old Town <http://www.baystlouisoldtown.com/>

*One of the "coolest" small towns in America. Budget Travel Magazine's annual contest, Bay St. Louis was chosen as one of the top three Coolest small towns in the country 2013.

*so many shops, cafés, and quaint little spots to visit and love. Only 10 minutes from the Hollywood Casino/Hotel. A bus runs from the Casino to Old Town.

*New Orleans is 40 minutes away! Walk to the Quarter and take a horse and buggy ride through all the historical places you always wanted to see. Food, fun and music galore. (don't forget to return!)

*Golf...Hollywood is situated on an Arnold Palmer designed golf course overlooking the bay of St. Louis...just beautiful.

*The lazy river...just newly designed and opened.

*Biloxi Schooner rides...1 hour east. https://www.maritimemuseum.org/w/?page_id=136

*Ship Island Excursions <http://www.msshipisland.com/?q=ferry%20schedule%20and%20fares>
<http://www.msshipisland.com/?q=about>



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Monday, 25 August - Travel Day, arrival of participants.

<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
1800 – 2100	Welcome/Gathering <i>(Relaxed and casual gathering on the arrival of participants. On your own \$)</i>	Hollywood Hotel Lounge

Tuesday, 26 August Location: Log Town Conference Room, Building 1100, SSC

Timekeeper: Terry Brisbin (SRH) Scribe: Wayne Weeks (NWSHQ)

<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
0830 – 0900	Morning Coffee/Tea	
0900 – 0915	Welcome-Meeting Overview and Goals/Logistics VOS Program Manager VOS Operations Manager OPS 51 Branch Chief	Steve Pritchett Paula Rychtar Joe Swaykos
0915 – 1000	Deputy Director, NOAA’s National Weather Service Keynote Speaker/Establishing a framework for success	Laura Furgione
1000 - 1025	Director, NWS Office of Science and Technology <i>Observations Portfolio perspective</i>	John Murphy
1025 - 1050	Welcome – NOAA’s National Data Buoy Center Director of NDBC/ Deputy Director NDBC <i>NDBC Command Brief</i>	Helmut Portmann Kathleen O’Neil
1050 - 1100	VOS Program Manager/VOS Operation Manager <i>State of VOS</i>	Steve Pritchett/Paula Rychtar



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Tuesday, 26 August Location: Log Town Conference Room, Building 1100, SSC

***PMO and Regional/Manager Briefs (*Focus topics indicated in Italics*)**

<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
1100 – 1130	Break (30 min)	
1130 -1145	Houston PMO (SR) <i>Turbowin + overview</i>	Chris Fakes
1145 - 1200	Seattle PMO (WR) <i>Marine Debris Surveys</i>	Matt Thompson
1200 - 1215	Duluth PMO (CR) <i>Turboweb, how it is utilized through cell-phone, DMAWDS District 9 USCG Cutters and their observations, Shipmasters Association</i>	Ron Williams
1215 – 1310	Lunch (55 min)	
1310 – 1340	New York/New Jersey PMO (ER) <i>Port Vision – demonstration for its uses and benefits</i>	Jim Luciani
1340 - 1355	Charleston PMO (ER) <i>PMO Area of Responsibility</i>	Tim Kenefick
1355 -1410	Norfolk PMO (ER) <i>Coordination efforts promoting observations from the Chesapeake Bay</i>	Pete Gibino
1410 – 1425	Jacksonville PMO (SR) <i>Growth and expansion of JAX ports and WFO support efforts and Responsibilities. Maritime partners in community.</i>	Rob Niemeyer
1425 - 1440	Alaska PMO Focal Point (AR) <i>Alaska ship observation encoder, websites, data collection and Team members</i>	Larry Hubble
1440 – 1455	Miami/Port Everglades PMO (SR) <i>Newly initiated cost effective practices.</i>	Dave Dellinger



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<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
1555 – 1510	Baltimore PMO (ER) <i>OPC interaction</i>	Lori Evans
1510– 1535	Break (25 min)	
1535 – 1545	AR Marine, Public and Severe Weather Program Manager NWS AR Headquarters <i>AR overview and goals of VOS AR perspective</i>	Louise Fode
1545 – 1555	SR Public and Marine Program Mngr. NWS SR Headquarters <i>SR overview and Tsunami's</i>	Melinda Bailey
1555 - 1605	Program Support Division NWS WR Headquarters <i>Overview and goals of VOS WR perspective</i>	Jeff Lorens
1605– 1615	Deputy SOD Chief NWS ER Headquarters <i>Overview and goals of VOS ER perspective</i>	Hector Machado
1615 – 1625	Transportation Sector Services PM NWS CR Headquarters <i>Overview and goals of VOS CR perspective</i>	Brian Hirsch
1525 – 1640	NWSEO President	Dan Sobien
1640 - 1700	Senior International Program Analyst <i>Cooperation and Compliance with The International Community.</i>	Jennifer Lewis
1700	Adjourn for the Day	
1800 – 2000	Ice- Breaker – Hollywood lounge at Hollywood Hotel	



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Wednesday, 27 August Location: Log Town Conference Room, Building 1100, SSC

Timekeeper: Melinda Bailey (SRH) Scribe: Jeff Lorens (WRH)

<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
0830 – 0900	Morning Coffee/Tea	
0900 – 0930	NWS Reorganization, how will VOS be affected, where does VOS fit in? *PPA's *Budget *Normalization of VOS under Headquarters	Steve Pritchett
0930 – 1000	United Kingdom- Ship Observations Manager <i>E-SURFMAR VOS Activities/VOS recruitment</i>	Sarah North <i>Ship Observations Manager</i>
1000 – 1015	National Climatic Data Center <i>SEAS 2000 Archive Issues</i> <i>Data Flow</i> <i>Importance of US VOS reports for ICOADS and the International Community.</i>	Eric Freeman <i>Marine Observation Analyst</i>
1015 - 1030	Ocean Prediction Center <i>OPC perspective on the value of the relationship</i> <i>Between the VOS program and the PMO's.</i> <i>Data Quality, how the data is used, ship data ingested into the Models and</i> <i>How data is flagged for errors.</i>	Christy Schultz <i>Technical Ops Coordinator</i> <i>Meteorologist</i>
1030 - 1045	Break (15 min)	



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<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
1045 – 1100	National Hurricane Center/ Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch Chief <i>-Proposed E Pacific offshore waters forecast</i> <i>-Recent changes to Radio-fax charts</i> <i>-TAFB gridded marine forecasts to commercial users</i>	Hugh Cobb
1100– 1115	Environmental and Safety Program Manager NWS SR Headquarters <i>Port Safety</i>	Terry Brisbin
1115- 1130	USCG Search and Rescue Operations Program Manager Commandant <i>AMVER</i>	Jack R. Frost
1130– 1230	<i>Lunch (*be back promptly by 1225 if you intend to go on the tour, bus will be waiting)</i>	
1230 – 1320 (*1230 – 1320)	Tour of NDBC (50 min) *PMO’s - Turbowin Training (50 min) <i>“PMO’s only”</i>	Matt Thompson Chris Fakes
1320 – 1335	Office of Marine and Coastal Services Branch NWS Headquarters <i>Marine Web Portal</i>	Wayne Weeks <i>Meteorologist</i>
1335 – 1350	AOML Physical Oceanography <i>PMO contributions to AOML Ocean Observations</i> <i>Global Drifter Program</i>	Shaun Dolk
1350 -1405	AOML, Oceanographer <i>AmverSEAS development/Status and Plans</i>	Francis Bringas



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<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
1405 – 1510	Breakout Session: Position Description for PMO’s (two groups) ALL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Min- for identifying specific questions, issues and challenges. • 5 Min- for choosing: Group leader (keeps session participants on task) Timekeeper (insures the group stays within time constraints) Spokesperson (to report back with results for action) • 40 Min- for group participation within the breakout session. • 10 Min- for the Spokesperson to report results. 	
1510 – 1540	Break (30 min)	
1540 – ~1700	Breakout Sessions: Equipment Plan /Database Updates ALL *Two concurrent Sessions will be held. We will hear the outcome of them both with the remainder of time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Min- for identifying specific questions, issues and challenges. • 5 Min- for choosing: Group leader (keeps session participants on task) Timekeeper (insures the group stays within time constraints) Spokesperson (to report back with results for action) • 45 Min- for group participation within the breakout session. • 15 Min- for the Spokesperson to report results. 	
1700	Adjourn for the Day	
1830 till....	Dinner at Bogart’s Steakhouse, Bay St. Louis, Hollywood Hotel	



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Thursday, 28 August Location: Log Town Conference Room, Building 1100, SSC

Timekeeper: Brian Hirsch (CRH) Scribe: Hector Machado (ERH)

<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
0830 – 0900	Morning Coffee	
0900 – 1045	Panel Discussion via Telecom/"goto" meeting <i>External Customer Forum- Customer Service/Products/Improvements</i>	Jeff Lorens, Moderator
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0900-0905: Introductions and Instructions • 0905-0925: Panelist #1: Commander Jeremy M. Adams, NOAA <i>OMAO NOAA Liaison to the USCG, CG-5PW</i> • 0925-0945: Panelist #2: LCDR Lindsay Kurelja, NOAA <i>OMAO MO Crew Supervisor</i> • 0945-1005: Panelist #3: Captain Scott Putty, Asst Professor of the Practice Department of Marine Transportation Texas A&M Maritime Academy • 1005-1025: Panelist #4: Captain Rick Smith, New York Maritime Master of the training ship EMPIRE STATE, New York Maritime College • 1025 – 1045 Open forum/questions and answers 	
1045 – 1105	Break (20 min)	



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<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
1105 – 1115	VOS recruitment practices overview	Sarah North <i>Ship Observations Manager</i>
1115– 1225	Breakout Session: Recruitment practices (2 groups) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 Min- for identifying specific questions, issues and challenges.• 5 Min- for choosing: Group leader (keeps session participants on task) Timekeeper (insures the group stays within time constraints) Spokesperson (to report back with results for action)• 35 Min- for group participation within the breakout session.• 20 Min- for the Spokesperson(s) to report results.	ALL
1225 – 1325	Lunch	
1345 – 1400	Goals for 2015-16 (Short Term)	Steve Pritchett
1400 – 1430	Long Range Goals/Plans (2016-25) <u>Open Forum discussion</u>	Steve Pritchett
1430 - 1500	Break (30 min)	
1500 – 1530	Review of Meeting	Steve Pritchett/Paula Rychtar Scribes (All)
1530 – 1700	Establish Action Items/Dates Preliminary Final Report for review	Steve Pritchett/Paula Rychtar Scribes (All)
1700	Closure of Meeting	

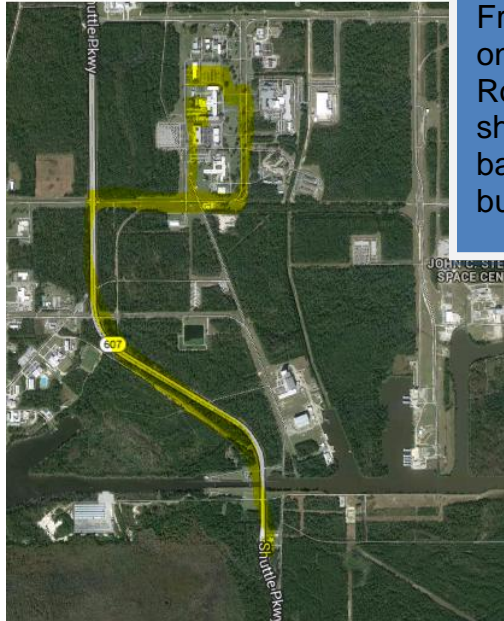
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When you exit I10 for Stennis, you will come to this guard gate. If you have a CAC card, show that and proceed. If you don't, you will need to go to the adjacent building and acquire a pass for the three days. Paula Rychtar will be your sponsor. I will need to know in advance who I will be sponsoring. If you do need to get a pass, arrive accordingly as there can be a long line waiting for badges.

Paula.rychtar@noaa.gov 228 327 3210 or 228 688 1457

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From the guard gate proceed straight on road 607 and turn right on "J" Road. As the Google map to the left shows, you can choose to park in back, or on either side of the building.



Building 1100

**Log Town
Conference
room**

**PJ's
coffee**

Cafeteria