

OCEAN OBSERVATORIES INITIATIVE

The Pioneer NES Array Al Plueddemann and the CGSN Team

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OOIFB MAB Workshop 10-12 Sep 2024







The Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI)



2000

NSF developed the OOI based on years of community-wide scientific planning efforts, both nationally and internationally







2003

ABLING CEAN RCH IN THE 21* CENTURY Implementation of a Network of Ocean Observatories

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL











NSF Request for Assistance (RFA)

Proposals

• Prepared 2004, reviewed 2005

Award

- No funds would be awarded!
- Results folded into OOI design process

New England Shelf (NES) Pioneer Array was among the highly ranked proposals





REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE



Ocean Research Interactive Observatory Networks:

Conceptual Science Experiments for the Establishment of the Ocean Observatories Initiative Infrastructure

CONTACTS

Programmatic: Dr. Peter Milne (pmilne@joiscience.org) Administrative: Ms. Emily Griffin (egriffin@joiscience.org)

TARGET DATES:

Letters of Intent (optional): March 14th 2005 Full Proposals: May 23rd 2005



Revealing the Secrets of Our Ocean Planet





The Pioneer NES Array

Overarching Theme:

Coastal Ocean Dynamics and Ecosystems

Key Question:

 How do shelf/slope exchange processes structure the physics, chemistry, and biology of continental shelves?

Site Characteristics:

- Northern MAB Shelf/Slope
- Prototypical shelfbreak system
- Well defined frontal zone







46°N







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Pioneer and OOI Science Themes

Pioneer science maps onto four of the six OOI science themes:

- Coastal dynamics and ecosystems
- Ocean-atmosphere exchange
- Climate, circulation, and ecosystems
- Mixing and bio-physical interactions







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Pioneer NES Observing Approach

- Multi-platform, multi-scale
- 10 moorings at 7 sites
 - Mooring pairs at 3 sites
 - Array spans the shelfbreak
- 5 gliders on 4 track lines
 - Upstream and slope sea
- 2 AUVs
 - Transects around moorings
- ~7 years of operation
 - Spring 2016 Fall 2022





COASTAL PIONEER ARRAY

72°W

(4)(1)

70°W 40'

70°W



- 1 Upstream Inshore Profiler Mooring
- Central Surface Mooring & Profiler Mooring
- Output Provide Amount of the Amount of th
- Inshore Surface Mooring & Profiler Mooring
- G Central Inshore Profiler Mooring
- Central Offshore Profiler Mooring
- Offshore Surface Mooring & Profiler Mooring
- 🗡 Mobile Assets







Shelf Break Processes

- Winter storms
- Summer heating
- Fresh water input
- Salinity intrusions
- Convergence zone
- Frontal instabilities
- Shelf-water eddies
- Warm-core rings
- Others?







Gawarkiewicz and Plueddemann, 2020



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Pioneer NES Moored Array

- Inshore moorings: Shelf water
- Central triangle: Jet region
- Offshore moorings: Slope water
- Array extent matches typical frontal extent
- Array spacing matches expected correlation scales









Gawarkiewicz and Plueddemann, 2020





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Early Returns

- Air-sea fluxes from buoys
- Subsurface variability from profilers
- Eddies and streamers from gliders
- Snap-shots of frontal structure from AUVs
- Multi-disciplinary variables from NSIF and MFN









Gawarkiewicz et al., 2012

Gawarkiewicz and Plueddemann 2020



Gawarkiewicz et al. 2018







Regional Processes

- Gulf Stream stability changing
 - Andres, 2016
- More WCR in the slope sea
 - Gangopadhyay et al., 2019
- Marine heat waves
 - Gawarkiewicz et al., 2019
- Shelf water getting saltier
 - Gawarkiewicz et al., 2018
- De-stratification by storms
 - Taenzer et al., 2023
- CO2 exchange over shelf seas
 - Eveleth and students, 2020
 - Lima et al., 2023









Shelf-Slope Dynamics

- T/S changes at the shelfbreak
 - Gawarkiewicz et al., 2012; Harden et al., 2020
- Ring water intrusion
 - Zhang and Gawarkiewicz, 2015
- Shelf water subduction
 - Zhang and Partida, 2018
- Subsurface intrusions
 - Chen et al., 2022; Gawarkiewicz et al., 2022
- Salinification of the cold pool
 - Taenzer et al., submitted





Zhang and Gawarkiewicz





Harden et al.



Chen et al.





Interdisciplinary Science

- Assimilative regional modeling
 - Levin et al., 2020, Part 1 & 2;
 Lopez et al., 2020;
 Moore et al., 2021
- Phytoplankton dynamics
 - Oliver et al., 2021, 2022;
 Smith et al., 2021
- Process Studies
 - NES-LTER, SPIROPA, NESBA, SMax









Summary

Pioneer NES shows successful implementation of a multi-platform, multi-scale, shelf-slope array

Impacts

- First sustained shelfbreak observatory
- New frontal dynamics and exchange mechanisms
- First glimpse of a changing coastal regime
- Interdisciplinary exploration of continental shelf ecosystems







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Lessons Learned

- Good array design will allow for new discoveries
- Moorings under-resolved the upper ocean
- Glider tracks were too far from the moored array



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Data Access: http://oceanobservatories.org

- Data Explorer
 - GUI with data discovery, plotting and download
- THREDDS server
- ERDDAP server
- Machine to Machine interface
- Raw data archive
- And more...
- Questions:
 - help@oceanobservatories.org









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Questions?

