

North Slope Science Initiative

Interim Report
Ken Taylor, Executive Director
December 15, 2005

Major Activities

Soliciting and receiving nominations for the NSSI Science and Technical Group, responding to nominees, and preparing the nominations for review by the Oversight Group involved a substantial effort by NSSI staff during October and November. Sixty-seven nominations were received during the recruitment period, representing 41 disciplines. A sub-group of the Oversight Group met via teleconference November 30th to develop guidelines for the Oversight Group's review and recommendation process.

Other activities focused on development of the NSSI information management systems, including the NSSI website, GIS data systems and models, and other similar existing efforts across the country to construct seamless data layers for multiple resource data sets.

Conferences

Alaska Oil and Gas Annual Projects Conference- presented briefing on NSSI
GAP Analysis Conference
Permitting Strategies Workshop
Resources Development Council annual Conference

Meetings

Marine Mammal Commission meeting- science activities in the Arctic
Research Monitoring Team- developing a monitoring strategy and implementation plan
Altarum Institute- website development, remote sensing and water quality monitoring in the Arctic
North Pacific Research Board- selection process for science advisory group
Alaska Oceans Observing System- briefing on NSSI and potential areas of collaboration
University of Alaska Fairbanks GINA GIS system
ConocoPhillips resources GIS system, a potential model for NSSI

Briefings

ConocoPhillips monthly operations
British Petroleum- offshore operations and effects on marine mammals

Issues for Oversight Group Discussion

Potential workshop in Spring 2006 with Science Technical Group to introduce them to the NSSI and priority issues.