Update on Working Group Processes and Strategies

Presented to the NOAA Science Advisory Board
22 July 2020 by SAB Chair John Kreider
Purpose of meeting

- Increase effectiveness of Working Groups (WGs)
  - Look for opportunities to foster common processes
  - Identify unique aspects of WGs (e.g., EISWG congressionally mandated)
  - Share best practices
  - Discuss barriers
- Discuss primary purpose and current priorities of each WG
- Learn how to use SAB/WG expertise most effectively
- Determine what SAB might do to help WGs
SAB Standing Working Groups

- Climate Working Group (CWG)
- Data Archive and Access Requirement Working Group (DAARWG)
- Ecosystem Sciences and Management Working Group (ESMWG)
- Environmental Information Services Working Group (EISWG)
  - Coming soon! TSTAP (under EISWG)
## Attendees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>SAB</th>
<th>CWG</th>
<th>DAARWG</th>
<th>EISWG</th>
<th>ESMWG</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair/Co-Chair</td>
<td>John Kreider</td>
<td>Joellen Russell, Kirstin Dow</td>
<td>Chelle Gentemann, Molly Jahn</td>
<td>John Snow, Brad Colman</td>
<td>Rob Johnston, Mike Castellini</td>
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<td>SAB Liaison</td>
<td>Everette Joseph, Eugenia Kalnay*</td>
<td>Bob Grossman</td>
<td>Bob Winokur*</td>
<td>Mike Donahue</td>
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<td>Staff</td>
<td>Cynthia Decker, Caren Madsen, Courtney Edwards</td>
<td>Alli Matzelle</td>
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* Absent
Snapshot of SAB WG Current Activities

- **CWG**
  - White paper on Advancing Earth System Prediction
  - Work with EISWG on NOAA S2S Report

- **DAARWG**
  - Transition to Cloud

- **ESMWG**
  - Decision Making under Deep Uncertainty (DMDU)

- **EISWG**
  - Annual report
  - Review of NOAA Hurricane Forecast Improvement Program report
  - Work with CWG to review NOAA S2S Report
  - Oversight of the new Tsunami Science and Technology Advisory Panel (TSTAP)
Summary of Discussion

WG Co-Chairs and liaisons discussed the following at length:

- Purpose of Working Group (for mutual understanding)
- What’s working well
- Barriers to progress
# Common Themes for Working Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is working well?</th>
<th>What are barriers?</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Good relationships with NOAA</td>
<td>• Delayed response times from NOAA, once a report has been transmitted – up to 1 – 2 yrs</td>
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<td>• Able to attract good members</td>
<td>• High turnover on WGs and SAB</td>
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<td>o Good expertise</td>
<td>• Onboarding process for new members</td>
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<td>o Committed/willing to participate</td>
<td>• Succession planning for Co-Chairs</td>
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<td>• SAB liaisons very helpful</td>
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<td>• Good results when tasked with specific request</td>
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Key Conclusions and Actions Ahead

- The June meeting was valuable to help improve interactions & understand WGs
- **Recommendation:** SAB should allow more time for WGs to interact with SAB members
- **Action:** Hold 2-hr meetings 3x a year with same participants
- **Action:** Develop and discuss case studies of previous WG projects for lessons learned
- **Action:** Create an onboarding website page for new members:
  - Highlight selected WG reports for key background & WG purpose
  - Post SAB 101 presentation
- **Action:** Develop succession plan for WG Co-Chairs and SAB Liaisons