Coastal Ocean Applications and Science Team (COAST) held its third Meeting September 7-8, 2005, at the CHM2 Hill Alumni Center at OSU, Corvallis, Oregon.

The third COAST Meeting Objectives were to:

- Review status of HES procurement and HES-CW requirements. Response to our recommendations on the requirements.
- Overview of Risk Reduction Proposal and Plans.
- Initiate planning for risk reduction activities.
- Develop initial plan for September 2006 Monterey Bay experiment.

To kick off the meeting Curt Davis reviewed the recommendations for modifications of the HES-CW requirements that the COAST had made at the last meeting. Monica Coakley from MIT Lincoln Labs. who supports the NOAA HES Procurement Team gave the COAST an update of the progress and response of NOAA to our requests. Our recommendation for changing the wavelength of two of the threshold channels was accepted. The other changes were included as goals to be considered over the next 9 months as the competing companies complete their initial design studies.

Curt Davis then presented an overview of the risk reduction proposal and plans. In particular he introduced the need for field experiments to collect prototype HES-CW data for developing products and algorithms prior to the launch of GOES-R, so that the algorithms will be available at launch. This was followed by a Presentation by Paul Bissett on the SAMSON hyperspectral imaging system that we propose using for the field experiments.

Raphe Kudela presented an overview of the Monterey Bay, CA site, including ongoing projects and existing infrastructure that we can build upon for our experiment. Oscar Schofield made a similar presentation on the NY/Mid Atlantic Bight site proposed for the 2007 field experiment. Bob Arnone was scheduled to make a similar presentation on the Mississippi River plume experiment planned for the FY2008 field experiment. Bob and his team at NRL at Stennis Space Center are fine, but he was unable to attend due to the considerable damage to his area from Hurricane Katrina. Discussion of the FY2008 experiment was postponed to a later time period.

After this overview of the experiments, individuals presented their proposed risk reduction activities and the particular measurements they planned to make at each experiment. These discussions continued into the second day and included discussions of fisheries applications by Cara Wilson, atmospheric correction by Menghua Wang and calibration and the status of MOBY by Ken Voss.

Following the individual presentations the rest of the meeting was focused on designing the first field experiment to be conducted in Monterey Bay in late August or early September, 2006. Planning included initial discussions on the experimental plan, housing, laboratory space, ship support, coordination with other ongoing activities, etc. A draft plan will be circulated for discussion and refined over the next several months.
Mark Abbott led a brief discussion of the status of VIIRS and what role COAST might take regarding VIIRS. VIIRS is to be the operational source for global ocean color data beginning with NPP in 2008 and continuing on the NPOESS polar orbiting satellites. The COAST expressed a desire to help NOAA assure VIIRS data is well calibrated and of the highest quality.

The final topic was planning for the next meeting. It was agreed that the next meeting should be in the Monterey area so that the experiment participants can see facilities, ships, etc. and make more specific plans for the experiment. The meeting was tentatively scheduled for April 2006 pending receipt of funding of the risk reduction activities.