

Return-Path: <rick.lumpkin@noaa.gov>  
Received: from islay.aoml.noaa.gov (inferno.aoml.noaa.gov.  
[192.111.123.247])  
by mx.google.com with ESMTPS id  
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(version=SSLv3 cipher=OTHER);  
Mon, 15 Oct 2012 13:16:49 -0700 (PDT)  
Message-ID: <507C6F30.9040607@noaa.gov>  
Date: Mon, 15 Oct 2012 16:16:48 -0400  
From: "Rick.Lumpkin@noaa.gov" <rick.lumpkin@noaa.gov>  
Organization: NOAA/AOML  
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86\_64; rv:10.0.7) Gecko/20120825  
Thunderbird/10.0.7  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: Steve Piotrowicz <steve.piotrowicz@noaa.gov>  
CC: Candyce Clark <candyce.clark@noaa.gov>  
Subject: Re: Fwd: Media request -- NY Times  
References:  
<CAGcXJNejiAZCmecScW205CsOXzd+zEcSX+OVhNcrvTj9BBmwwA@mail.gmail.com>  
<CACz524PLBJeHCMqyjeNhu0iCS2LChMo--MAzPmijYgVtQOTz6g@mail.gmail.com>  
<CACz524OsUyp9stsLe\_a9\_BKR8dDVPxyr+OU7QtAvq6\_ti\_5B8A@mail.gmail.com>  
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Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks for update, Steve. The drifters deployed were all barometer drifters - we previously had quite a large gap in the North Pacific, so this cruise seemed to offer a good chance to reseed the area for NWP as well as ocean monitoring efforts.

Rick

On 10/15/2012 04:13 PM, Steve Piotrowicz wrote:

> This has now gotten to the NY Times.  
>  
> I am still working it.  
>  
> Steve  
>  
> ----- Forwarded message -----  
> From: \*Steve Piotrowicz\* <steve.piotrowicz@noaa.gov>  
> <mailto:steve.piotrowicz@noaa.gov>>  
> Date: Mon, Oct 15, 2012 at 4:05 PM  
> Subject: Re: Media request -- NY Times  
> To: Linda Joy <linda.joy@noaa.gov <mailto:linda.joy@noaa.gov>>  
> Cc: Diane Stanitski <diane.stanitski@noaa.gov  
> <mailto:diane.stanitski@noaa.gov>>, David Legler  
> <david.legler@noaa.gov <mailto:david.legler@noaa.gov>>, Jana Goldman  
> <jana.goldman@noaa.gov <mailto:jana.goldman@noaa.gov>>, Caitlyn H  
> Kennedy <caitlyn.kennedy@noaa.gov <mailto:caitlyn.kennedy@noaa.gov>>  
>

>  
> Linda, there is confusion between the Argo profiling float program and  
> the ARGOS satellite Data Collection System-geolocation system.  
>  
> What the article is referring to are ARGOS-equipped surface drifting  
> buoys (drift at the surface transmitting data hourly) not profiling  
> floats. Drifting buoys primarily provide in situ Sea Surface  
> Temperature observations which are used, primarily, to calibrate and  
> validate remotely-sensed SST. The in situ data, and the  
> remotely-sensed data, are combined into a blended, global SST product  
> which is used by operational weather centers for incorporation into  
> their models. Surface velocities (currents) are obtained from  
> displacements of the buoys using the satellite geolocation system on  
> the ARGOS DCS. Some drifters may be equipped with GPS but you do not  
> need it because the satellite position (a doppler technique) is more  
> than adequate for trajectory work. GPS requires a separate antenna so  
> even though a GPS system is relatively inexpensive the extra antenna  
> is an added failure mode. Some drifters are also equipped to measure  
> sea level pressure but not all drifters have this capability - it is  
> expensive to implement and is only really necessary in truly remote  
> oceanic regions like the southern ocean.  
>  
> Profiling floats drift at 1,000 meters depth and only come to the  
> surface every ten days to transmit data.  
>  
> ARGOS is a Joint Program (MOU) between NESDIS and CNES (Centre  
> Nationale d'Etudes Spatiales) of France. I do not know who is the  
> Program Manager at NESDIS for ARGOS today (it used to be Chris O'Connors).  
>  
> They can provide the details on how the program is operated and how  
> the data is shared. The data from drifting buoys (and many other  
> systems) is free and openly available in real time for operational  
> purposes like weather prediction and ocean state estimation.  
>  
> Steve  
>  
> On Mon, Oct 15, 2012 at 3:45 PM, Linda Joy <linda.joy@noaa.gov  
> <mailto:linda.joy@noaa.gov>> wrote:  
>  
> Diane, David, and Steve,  
>  
> I'm writing from the OAR public affairs office where work with Jana  
> Goldman. I just took a media request from a New York Times reporter  
> who has some basic Argos questions -- who runs the program, how, and  
> with whom is data shared. The context is that earlier today The UK  
> Guardian newspaper ran a story on "the world's biggest geoengineering  
> experiment." You can see it here:  
>  
> <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2012/oct/15/pacific-iron-fertilisation-geoengineering>.  
>  
> The person who conducted this experiment says, in the article,

>  
> ... his team of unidentified scientists has been monitoring the  
> results of the biggest ever geoengineering experiment with equipment  
> loaned from US agencies like Nasa and the National Ocean and  
> Atmospheric Administration. He told the Guardian that it is the "most  
> substantial ocean restoration project in history," and has collected  
> a  
> "greater density and depth of scientific data than ever before".  
>  
> The New York Times reporter is trying to assess whether this could  
be  
> true. He seemed skeptical about that claim and would like to learn  
> about the program. Could you recommend who might be best at NOAA for  
> him to speak with and let me know? Give me a call if you like --  
> 301-734-1165 <tel:301-734-1165>.

>  
> thanks!  
> Linda

>  
>  
> --  
> -----  
> Linda Joy  
> NOAA Research Public Affairs  
> linda.joy@noaa.gov <mailto:linda.joy@noaa.gov>  
> 301-734-1165 <tel:301-734-1165>  
> www.research.noaa.gov <http://www.research.noaa.gov>  
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> --  
> Stephen R. Piotrowicz  
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> NOAA/OAR/CPO/COD  
> Silver Spring, MD USA 20910  
> Tel.: (+1) 301-427-2493 <tel:%28%2B1%29%20301-427-2493>

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