SOP 6.4b.1.2

1. **Title** : **Order of Operations for the Successful Recovery of a Prematurely Released SUBS Buoy with ARGOS Beacon for Location Tracking**

2. **Purpose**: All SUBS buoys to be deployed in deep locations will have ARGOS beacons attached so that we may track them should the release fail and the buoy surface earlier than the intended recovery date. This document outlines the ARGOS program information, establishes the CO-OPS PRIME CONTACT and then details the steps needed to ensure the successful recovery of a wayward buoy.

   Background/History: All ARGOS beacons used for tracking on ADS account CECAT (program # 02473) are set up to transmit location information. While the beacon is under water, the satellite cannot receive the signal, however if the buoy surfaces, we will begin to receive ARGOS messages.

   Our ADS account has been set up by ARGOS contact to send out e-mails to the group nos.coops.argossubs@noaa.gov if an ARGOS transmission is received by one of the satellites. This list is being maintained by Robert.Gillium@noaa.gov.

3. **Scope/Applicability:**

   PRIME CONTACT for Prematurely Released Moorings 2007
   If an e-mail transmission is received, please call the PRIME CONTACT person to make sure they have seen the notification so they may proceed. The PRIME CONTACT will email the list and let them know that action is being taken on that beacon. For the 2007 field season, the PRIME CONTACT is:

   Paul Fanelli
   Paul.Fanelli@noaa.gov
   Personal Cell Phone: (301) 204–3033

   BACK-UP CONTACTS
   Chris Paternostro
   Christopher.paternostro@noaa.gov
   Cell Phone: (301) 758-4079

   Steve Bassett
   Steve.Bassett@noaa.gov
   Cell Phone: (206) 276-3587

Duties of the PRIME CONTACT include

- Monitoring for any ARGOS transmissions during normal business hours (EST).
- Contacting Steve Bassett at FOD Seattle if a buoy appears to have surfaced early so that an emergency recovery may be planned.
- Tracking the beacons using the 'ARGOS data on line' web interface should a buoy release early
- Maintaining a list of which ARGOS beacons correspond to which deployments.
- Sending out an e-mail stating when messages can be disregarded, for example, during deployments and recoveries or instrument testing
- Maintaining contact with field lead during recovery of a wayward buoy, keeping them informed of last location received by ARGOS beacon

Alternate CONTACT

If the PRIME CONTACT cannot be reached, Christopher Paternostro should be contacted directly at (301) 758-4079. Steve Bassett should also ***always*** be contacted at (206) 276-3587. During off-hours, CORMS will monitor for any unexpected ARGOS e-mails. If an e-mail is received during off-hours, CORMS should notify the PRIME CONTACT.

4. Main Processes :

1. Receive notice from CORMS
2. Begin contact log
3. Make necessary contacts
4. Project Lead/Task Manager requests assistance
5. Coordinate retrieval
6. Project lead informs Prime Contact

5. Detailed Sub-Processes/Checklists:

PROCEDURE for un-planned mooring recovery

Once an email is received from ARGOS:

1. CORMS makes contact with the PRIME CONTACT
2. PRIME CONTACT should begin a contact log. Note which beacon/station is transmitting, present position at time of transmission and all phone calls made for assistance. The ARGOS data on line is a great utility for tracking the beacon https://www.argos-system.org (ADS account Username: CECAT Password: COOPS). You can view data transmitted by the ARGOS beacons over the last ten days.

3. PRIME CONTACT will ensure the USCG is notified of the possible navigation hazard.
4. PRIME CONTACT will call the Project Lead/Task Manager so they know there is a premature release. Both shall begin coordination to locate and track the hardware.
5. Project Lead contacts their respective supervisor to discuss plan of action and time needed. (Leave a message if there is no answer).
6. The Project Lead/Task Manager should work to acquire assistance in retrieving the surfaced buoy. The first step is to determine if any NOAA ships are in the area and are available. If not, they should contact the USCG and request assistance if any Coast Guard ships are in the area and available. If neither can be of assistance, and there are no other no-cost options available for recovery, the contractor should be notified so see if they may help. If this is the case, the Contracting Officer Representative (COR) (Marty Welch) and Product Lead (Laura Rear) must be notified such that the contract may be modified prior to any contractor work being performed.
7. If contractors are required, the Project Lead/Task Manager must receive a good faith estimate for the emergency work from them. This must be submitted according to the bid on the Task Order. In the case of EHI, within 24 hours of being contacted by CO-OPS.
8. It is not a requirement that personnel from CO-OPS be on site (on the recovery boat) for the emergency work. The feasibility of this should be determined when the cost estimate is received.
9. When the cost estimate has been accepted by the Contracting Officer, the contractor and the Project Lead will coordinate proper retrieval of the equipment and data card and determine if the equipment is needed on site or should be returned to CO-OPS. Data card can be returned to CO-OPS via traceable shipping methods if necessary.
10. If it is after normal business hours and emergency work must happen right away, the Project Lead must make every effort to contact their supervisor, COR and Product Lead the next business day to inform them of work performed, what has happened so far, what is expected to still happen, what costs are associated with the effort.
11. Once the equipment is retrieved the Project Lead should inform the PRIME CONTACT that the ARGOS beacon messages from that instrument should now be ignored. (If equipment is redeployed, then ARGOS messages should be monitored again for premature release).

Contact Information for Vessel Support

USCG contact:

For Notice to Mariners:

Kevin Shaw

Kevin.Shaw@noaa.gov
301-713-1968 ext 118
301-713-4516 fax

PO David Keller
DKeller@CGAlaska.USCG.mil
(907) 463-2272

Emergency after hours or on the weekend, call Command Center at (907) 463-2001 and they can also issue a Broadcast.

For USCG Buoy Tender Assistance:

CDR James Boyer
Branch Chief
Waterways Management Branch
James.M.Boyer@uscg.mil
(907) 463-2263

Dave Seris
Asst. Branch Chief
David.M.Seris@uscg.mil
Waterways Management Branch
(907) 463-2262

NOAA Vessel Support:

To get real time position information on the fleet, go to the shiptracker web site:

http://140.90.114.70/Shiptracker/

Note at the bottom of the shiptracker page you can select individual ships. This feature gives you an enhanced view of the selected vessel.

Contact:

Frank Wood
NOAA/NMAO/MOC/OPS
206-553-4764 voice
206-553-1109 fax
DeputyOps.MOP@noaa.gov

CORMS Contact Information:
301-713-2540 voice
corms@noaa.gov

6. **Quality Assurance/Control**: N/A

7. **Management/Responsibility**: The NCOP product lead oversees progress of recoveries.