



CCAMLR

COMM CIRC 08/66
SC CIRC 08/23

Tuesday, 20 May 2008

IPY Metadata Depository

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**TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION
AND THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

**COMM CIRC 08/66
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20 May 2008

IPY Metadata Depository

Members are advised that CCAMLR has been nominated as an archive organisation for metadata collected during the CAML IPY project (a census of Antarctic marine life). A letter from the IPY Data Committee is attached.

The Secretariat will be developing metadata for CCAMLR-related IPY projects and other CCAMLR datasets, as agreed by the Scientific Committee (SC-CAMLR-XXVI, paragraph 2.29). Archiving of CAML-IPY metadata will have minimal impact on the Secretariat's resources.

The Secretariat will provide an update on availability of CCAMLR-related IPY data at CCAMLR-XXVII.

Dr D.G.M. Miller
Executive Secretary

Attch.



15 May 2008

David Ramm

Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources Data Centre

Dear Dr. Ramm:

We write to you on behalf of the IPY Data Committee. The IPY data coordination office (<http://ipydis.org>) has identified you or your organization as point of contact for data management for one or more IPY projects, as listed in the IPY Data and Information Service (IPYDIS) Directory (<http://ipydis.org/community/directory.html>). You have been identified as a contact for the IPY project: 53, A Census of Antarctic Marine Life.

The Data Committee has developed a basic data management strategy for IPY, and we would enjoy your active and collaborative participation in ensuring IPY data are readily discoverable, accessible, and preserved. The first step in that strategy is simply to identify what data are collected as part of IPY through shared metadata. The IPY Data Policy requires that "all IPY projects must promptly provide basic descriptive metadata of collected data in an internationally recognized, standard format to an appropriate catalog or registry." The Data Committee has defined some standards and services to help meet this requirement and we request that you:

1. Describe each IPY data set according to the IPY Metadata Profile and Crosswalk. The Profile is compatible with several recognized metadata standards. See <http://ipydis.org/data/metadata.html>.
2. Register each metadata record with a recognized IPY directory. The Global Change Master Directory (GCMD) has established a metadata portal for IPY at <http://gcmd.nasa.gov/portals/ipy/>. Metadata records can be entered individually through an online form, but we can also arrange for automated metadata harvests, if desired. Please contact ipydis@ipydis.org to make arrangements. In addition, some nations, including Canada and Norway are establishing national IPY metadata registries. It is not necessary to register with both the GCMD and a national registry, but please tell us if you are working with a national registry.

The next steps are to share the actual data through interoperable protocols and to preserve the data for the long term. We coordinate with and plan to make use of the WMO Information System. The IPY Space Task Group explores increased accessibility of polar remote sensing data. Many IPYDIS

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participants are building interoperable partnerships, notably around OGC and THREDDS protocols. We seek to expand these partnerships and broaden collaboration and data sharing, especially across disciplines.

3. We encourage you to participate in the IPYDIS discussion forum (<http://ipydis.org/community/participate.html>), and we welcome your feedback on how we can improve the availability and interoperability of IPY data. There may also be opportunity to discuss these issues face-to-face at the IPY Open Science Conference in St. Petersburg, Russia 8–11 July 2008. Please let us know if you plan to attend.

Finally and most importantly, we wish to document IPY data preservation strategies. The IPY data coordination office (ipydis@ipydis.org) can help you identify an appropriate long-term archive and help you develop a data preservation plan.

4. Please describe your data preservation plans. Will your institution be the long-term archive? Will you transition the data to a formal archive? Will you adhere to particular archive standards? Which ones?

Please acknowledge your willingness to participate in this effort and indicate your ability to adhere to these requirements. We are aware that some nations have national data coordinators, so please tell us if you are working with a national coordinator to make your data available.

Please reply to ipydis@ipydis.org by 30 May 2008.

We look forward to working with you. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask. Together we can ensure a lasting legacy of IPY.

Yours sincerely



Mark A. Parsons
Co-chairs, IPY Data Policy and Management Subcommittee



Taco de Bruin

cc: David Carlson, Director, IPY International Program Office