SPURS - Atlantic Data Sharing Policy for funded SPURS PIs

February 23, 2011

1. SPURS PIs will make preliminary science data available to SPURS data managers and other SPURS PIs as soon as possible to aid in planning and execution of the experiment. "As soon as possible" means in near-real time or no more than 48 hours after collection or download. "Making data available" means placing a copy on an ftp site that is accessible to SPURS participants. This policy (and the next one) applies to routine measured data such as salinity, temperature, current, etc. It is understood that derived quantities or data taken from a new or novel platform will take longer to release.

2. Data will be made available in netCDF format if at all possible.   netCDF is the de facto community standard and allows use of the data in a number of already available visualization tools. If the PI decides to provide data other than netCDF, they need to contact the SPURS-DMS team well in advance (before Sept. 2011) to negotiate the data format and standard. It is also important that the directory structure in which the data will be made available be decided upon and fixed at least 4 months before the start of the field campaign. By 4 months before the first SPURS cruise, SPURS PIs will provide some sample data to the SPURS-DMS to facilitate setting up the DMS.

3. SPURS PIs are primarily responsible for access and quality control of their own data. Shared data must include metadata (a readme file) that describes

the dataset in enough detail to make it useful to SPURS PIs and data managers. It is especially important that all data include quality control flags described in the metadata.

4. Within 6 months of the end of the completion of the field phase of the experiment SPURS investigators will provide a publicly releasable dataset to the SPURS-DMS including all standard oceanographic and meteorological measurements and as many specialized products as are releasable. Updates, preferably including all data, should be released by the end of the analysis period. Released data will include an ISO 19115-compliant metadata file (http://www.fgdc.gov/metadata) and will be placed in the PO.DAAC archive. PIs should also submit their data to NODC.

5. Implicit in the above is the need to behave ethically with respect to the data of other SPURS PIs. This means allowing PIs to publish the results of their own data and not sharing data outside of SPURS and Aquarius PIs without permission. If particular observational data or model output is used in peer-reviewed publications, permission should be requested from the data provider, who can decide whether he/she needs to be a co-author or credited in the acknowledgements.

6. All releasable SPURS field data will be made available to the public at the end of the 3-year SPURS-Atlantic program through PO.DAAC.

SPURS - Atlantic Data Sharing Policy for non-SPURS investigators

All SPURS realtime and archived data available through this website may be freely used. Anyone making use of these data is advised to use caution as data may be preliminary or uncalibrated. You should pay special attention to quality control information provided with the data. Ethical scientific practice requires that use of SPURS data be discussed with SPURS PIs and management prior to publication and that SPURS investigators be properly acknowledged or credited with co-authorship as appropriate. If data are used in scientific publication, proper acknowledgement must be included.