



Meeting of Committee on Observations and Networks (CON)

1st July 2025 16-17 CEDT / 10-11 am EDT / 14-15 UTC

Telephone conference

1. **Welcome and Review of Agenda** – Alice Bradley, Co-Chair of the Committee on Observations and Networks (CON) opened the meeting and a quick round of introductions took place (see Appendix 1 Participants). No additions were noted to the agenda (see Appendix 2). Alice noted that the [Minutes](#) from the last CON meeting held on May 6th are available for review.
2. **Use Case Discussion** – Alice led this discussion, building on previous CON meetings, to examine the scope and coverage of inventories. She reinforced that CON is in a rebuilding phase and is moving forward with a 2018 workplan that called for conducting an inventory of national observational capacities. CON has agreed that the first product from these discussions could be a White Paper that describes the scope of inventories (e.g. to gain a better understanding of the possible uses and benefits from said inventories). Alice noted that considerable relevant input has been provided from the Registry of Polar Observing Networks [RoPON](#) on how to address possible use cases for observing inventories. At the CON meeting in May, the example of the Svalbard Integrated Observing System (SIOS) www.SIOS-svalbard.org was discussed to learn more on how they are using the information that they have in their observing efforts.

Alice reported that detailed descriptions on five use cases had been provided from CON members (see: [Poll](#)). She presented a preliminary table/matrix to describe inventories from a user perspective – for example use by their geographic extent (e.g. site, to local, to global), their participation (e.g. national, regional, etc.), and their discipline (e.g. system, multi-disciplinary, etc). The Committee then took five minutes to work through or think through various use cases using this table. The ROPON list was used as a reference but it was agreed that all relevant use cases should be reported from the poll, even if they also had been formulated by ROPON. The Association of Early Career Polar Scientists (APECS) was suggested as an organization to provide input on the use case table.

Action: *Members are asked to continue to add uses cases through the poll, even if they similar use cases have already been formulated by POAwg/RoPON. In addition, members are to identify organizations and potential users of inventories who are out there, so that CON can reach out to them for their perspective and input on what should be captured as use cases.*

3. **Contact Information for Networks** – Bill Manley provided an update on the Registry of Polar Observing Networks (RoPON) which is creating a listing of networks from across

the Arctic. A new version of the Registry was released 1st July that has updated software aspects and he demonstrated data entry for the network. He identified a [list of already identified networks](#) that RoPON would like to have included in the registry, noting that they would like to reach out to other new networks. Bill noted that RoPON includes both observing networks, as well as discovery portals for observing assets (e.g. not an observing network per se but which compiles and shares information about observing activities and infrastructure).

Action: *Members are asked to review the RoPON spreadsheet that lists networks and to complete information on any additional networks and discovery portals that could be incorporated.*

4. Other Business

Jan Rene described the ongoing survey on Polar data sets at risk, (<https://data.arcticobserving.org/form/datasets-at-risk>) that is organized by the SAON Arctic Data Committee (ADC) and Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS).

Action: *Members are asked to provide input to the survey on any Polar data sets that they are aware of that may be at risk as a consequence of funding or other constraints.*

The next CON meeting has been scheduled for 2nd September 2025. CON will continue to meet the first Tuesday of every second month.

Appendix 1

Participants - Committee on Observations and Network (CON) Meeting

1st July 2025 Teleconference

Members

Alice Bradley, Williams College, USA, CON Co-chair and AOS Co-chair
Warren Cairns, CNR, Italy
Lauren Divine, Aleut International Association (AIA) – ROADS AP Co-Chair
Hajo Eicken, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Libby Larson, NASA, USA
Heikki Lihavainen, Svalbard Integrated Observing System, SIOS, CON Co-chair
Bartek Luks, Polish Academy of Sciences
William Manley, U of Colorado, USA, Chair Polar Observing Assets WG
Tetsuo Sueyoshi, JAMSTEC/NIPR, Japan
Kjetil Tørseth, Norwegian Institute for Air Research (NILU), Norway
Vito Vitale, ISAC, Italy

Advisory Panel Ex-Officio members

SAON Secretariat – Jan Rene Larsen

More information about Committee members and their affiliation is found at
<https://www.arcticobserving.org/committees/con/members>

**Appendix 2 - Agenda -
Meeting of Committee on Observations and Networks (CON)**

1st July 2025 16-17 CEDT / 10-11 am EDT / 14-15 UTC

Telephone conference (Teams - link below)

Draft agenda

1. Welcome to the call. Introductions. [Minutes from teleconference 6th May 2025](#).
2. Use case discussion (Alice)
 - Results from the homework (what are the requirements for use cases?). [Poll](#)
 - Discussion of 1-3 particular cases
 - What do we need for a white paper on inventory requirements and use cases?
3. Contact information for networks - [list of already identified networks](#). (Bill)
4. Next steps
5. AOB
 - Survey on key Polar data sets at risk:
<https://data.arcticobserving.org/form/datasets-at-risk>

CON will meet the first Tuesday of every second month. The next meeting is planned for 2nd September.

Background:

SAON Goal 1) Conduct an inventory of national observational capacities.

Before we can make progress on an inventory of national observational capacities, it is clear that we need a better understanding of what said inventory/inventories would be used for.

Teams link:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YTFhZjEwMWQtNDQwMy00NGU1LTg2ZWYtMTQ3ZGZjYjEx%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e85164ec-9598-49a2-98a1-709a3f29cfc6%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2201df34a-7bdc-4596-b7a2-09094429e16e%22%7d