



## **The Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System Regional Association: Much More than Data!**

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The Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System Regional Association (GCOOS-RA) is one of the eleven regional associations under the US IOOS Program. The GCOOS-RA serves the stakeholders of the 5 Gulf states (Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida) and aggregates real time and near real time data from a variety of Federal, state, and NGO's from around the Gulf. The data is made available to all. Many people have the misconception that GCOOS is only interested in real time data. Not so! The GCOOS-RA has an extensive history of working with near real time data and archival data. Many people also believe that GCOOS only handles physical oceanography data. This also is untrue. The GCOOS-RA has extensive experience in working with both biologic and chemical data. The GCOOS-RA data management team has created a variety of products to visualize and display various data sets. Three examples are the autonomous underwater vehicle portal (<http://gcoos2.tamu.edu/gandalf/>), the citizen science portal (<http://gulfcitizenscience.org/>) and the Hypoxia-Nutrient Decision Support tool (<https://nutrients.gcoos.org/>). These products, as well as many others, have been created and refined by stakeholder feedback. The GCOOS-RA team is interested in working with scientists across the Gulf. Please visit the GCOOS website for more information ([gcoos.org](http://gcoos.org)) about us. We look forward to working with you and making data management our concern and let the science of the project be your concern.