MARS Council Meeting Summary

General Information	
Date/Time:	Thursday, January 22, 2009, 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm
Location:	SSMC-3, Room 13836

Attendees:

Maureen Pulver - NMFS	Marina Rubina – NMFS/OCIO
Tonya Coleman - NMFS	Sylvia Scott – OAR
Mark Blades – NMFS	Dinara Holmes - OAR
Shelia Foster - NWS	Gerald Thomas – NMAO
Mary Rieck – NWS	Jim LeDuc – CFO
Penny Schmiedeberg – NMFS	Sue Bracey – NWS
Peter Boyle – Program Support	Alicia Taylor - NOS
Jim Lewis - NEDIS	

Closed CCR's (Promoted to Production)

Status (12/9/08)	Count
Closed	71
Open	18
Hold	6
Work In Progress	18
New	6
Total	120

- **CCR884 (DE) – Open the Domestic/Foreign Travel feature for OMAO and OAR** **-** Modifications have been made to the module that provide the LO Administrator, currently using the feature, the capability to setup their own range information.

Work In Progress

* Items in Bold are Key discussion items

Mod.	Pri.	CCR	Short Description	Type CCR	Comments	Due
Both	1	69	C.Req/C.Buy Data Extract and Commitments	Business	Approved by in the MARS Implementation Plan 11/30/06 v2	
Both	**1**	**561**	**Grants Data Extract & Commitments**	**Business**	**Approved by in the MARS Implementation Plan 11/30/06 v2. Process has been modified to populate the 'Month' (AcMon) field for 2009 Grants Commitments with Award_Start_Date from GOL system. Change currently being tested by D. Holmes.**	
Both	1	864	C&A Documentation	Infrastructure	Approved by the O&M Group on 9/16/08 SDLC and CM Documentation under review by M. Pulver and M. Rieck	
Both	3	1024	System Documentation Webpage	Infrastructure	Approved by the O&M group 12-2-08 OAR Developing page that will house all internal documentation. Will be available to LO's	
DE	1	949	Budget Module – No Locking of surcharge lines	Business	Approved by Council 11/19/08	
DE	2	664	NDW/MARS Extract Improvements	Infrastructure	Approved by the O&M Group 7/15/08	
DE	2	948	Budget/Funds Control (suspend when decreasing budget total)	Business	Approved by Council 10/19/08	
DE	2	1044	Travel Report Changes	Business	Reporting requirements pulled from CCR's 563, 624 & 884 and combined into this CCR. Approvals associated to originating CCR. Most reports are complete with the exception of foreign travel.	

RQ	1	72	BO Reporting Performance Improvements	Infrastructure	Approved by NWS (Mary Rieck)	
RQ	1	361	Financial Statement Graph Modifications	Infrastructure	Approved by NWS (Mary Rieck)	12/08
RQ	2	481	MARS NOAA 118 Rpt Modifications	Business	Approved by Council 6/12/08	12/08
RQ	**2**	**704**	**Flux Reporting**	**Business**	**Approved by Council 11/13/08 Mark, Jim, and Peter provided positive feedback on the report. Mark will send additional CWIP report requirements. When Penny is close to being complete, we'll reconvene the working group to review the product before promoting to production.**	**12/08**
RQ	2	724	WFM Report – Duplicate PER300	Infrastructure	Approved by NWS (Mary Rieck) Currently being tested.	
RQ	2	421	WFM Mate Study for NOS	Infrastructure	Approved by NWS (Mary Rieck) Position Information without Privacy: It is completed except for the Retirement Eligibility Date data element.	
RQ	3	70	WFM Report – Initial Request to convert HRDS reports	Infrastructure	Approved by NWS (Mary Rieck) Waiting on WFM to provide data.	
RQ	3	924	Create Budget Universe for Adhoc Queries	Infrastructure	Approved by NWS (Mary Rieck)	12/08
RQ	3	925	Create New BOBJ Universe for PCARD (CPCS) information	Business	Approved by Council 11/13/08	
RQ	3	1004	Sync MARS DW columns with NOAA DW	Infrastructure	Approved by NWS (Mary Rieck) New C.Buy/C.Stars fields in NDW_APTRANS	

Decision/Discussion Item

CCR1104 (RQ) Dinara Holmes – IT Cost Accounting (Additional Information) - In addition to the CCR # 989 & 987, we are providing a proposed structure-table to accommodate OAR's IT cost accounting reporting requirement.

Action: CCR1104 are additional requirements to be included with the approved IT-Costing CCR's 987, 989, and 1087.

CCR1164 - (RQ) Lisa Berry – IT Cost accounting for NWS – In conjunction with the new NOAA requirement of tracking IT costs in FY 2009. NWS requests that a crosswalk table be established identifying the 9-IT categories with the associated NWS Task Codes. To allow for the dynamic nature of weather activities the crosswalk table must permit NWS to add new task codes and/or change the percentage of IT costs on a quarterly basis. If you have any questions or need further clarification feel free to reach Sue Bracey at (301) 713-9050 x160.

Action: CCR1164 are additional requirements to be included with the approved IT-Costing CCR's 987, 989, and 1087. Detailed requirements discussed at the meeting, relating to P00/F* Tasks, have been documented within the CCR.

CCR1124 (RQ) Peter Boyle – Remaining Commitment/Encumbrance Reporting - A programming change is required for the MARS Data Warehouse, in order to show Remaining Commitment/Encumbrance data amounts for the month just closed, on the first day after month end/General Ledger close, for the month just-closed. This change is required because the MARS

Data Warehouse is currently designed based on an expectation the Month End Snapshot would be created late night of the last day of the month/GL Close, and then be available on the first day of the new month/after GL close (Feb 1st for Jan month end). But the Snapshot is actually not created until late night on the first day of the new month/ and not available until the morning of the second day (Feb 2nd). This lag under the current programming causes that data in Business Objects for Remaining Commitments and Encumbrances for the just-closed month to appear blank when reports are run for the just-closed month on the first day after GL close/month end.

Action: CCR approved by the Council, however as discussed, the MARS Technical group will evaluate the possibility of providing a preliminary data snapshot to be used to reconcile commitment and encumbrance information before being etched in stone through the snapshot process.

CCR1144 – (RQ) Dinara Holmes – Reimbursable Reporting - OAR would like to request Reimbursable Agreements Universe. What is the possibility of creating Reimbursable Funding queries? Presently neither of the modules provides the data needed such as Reimbursable Customer or sponsor, reports on Budget Initiative Number.

Action: CCR approved by the Council. First step, contact reimbursable POC's Lois Coleman or Candy Meyers to inform them of our intentions and to develop a working relationship with the Reimbursable group.   Dinara will provide Discoverer workbook information so the technical team can identify the source tables.

CCR1146 – (RQ) Dinara Holmes – Reimbursable Reporting "NOAA Policy on Reimbursable Research by NOAA Labs" - Can the MARS team re-create tools or reports to assist with NOAA wide report named "NOAA Policy on Reimbursable Research by NOAA Labs". Its annual data call executed by each LO and compiled by OAR for the NOAA CFO Council. Presently few reports for this datacall exist in Oracle Discoverer, but run with difficulties and data needs to be often verified in CBS or MARS repetitiously. OAR requests to look into the option of creating few necessary reports for this NOAA wide exercise. I can provide the copy of the annual report at the request.

Action: CCR on hold (not approved) until CCR1144 solution identified.

CCR1147 – (DE) Sylvia Scott – DE Close Date - Revisit Software Council decision to close FY 2008 processing in Data Entry module. End result of decision is that prior years inaccessible through the data entry module. Users unable to access any data entry forms for prior years and therefore unable to easily find data through queries on data entry forms. Potential solutions (Just suggestions ... would like to hear other opinions): 1. Make data entry forms available but read-only (lock fields); 2. Create a report in Business Objects that gives uses a browse capability; 3. For commitments, some data-entry reports available, but not if parameter is name, remarks, description, etc. ... perhaps change parameters on report 6?

Action: CCR 1147 Approved by the Council. The team will evaluate several options to provide

Outstanding Issue/Items for discussion
- o Recertification Phase 2 – FMC, LO and S/W Council Approvals due 1/28/09

Best Practices
- o Open forum - None discussed.

CCR Queue (Open)

Open CCR's should be reviewed when evaluating and prioritizing new CCR requests.

Mod.	Pri.	CCR	Short Description	Type CCR	Comments	Due
Both	3	984	Reference Guide for Reports	Infrastructure	Approved by Council 11/13/08	
DE	2	604	Load CBS Adjustment BOPS	Infrastructure	Discussed at the 7/10 council meeting and MARS O&M. CCR not approved yet, still under evaluation. Working with Tonya to explore idea.	
DE	2	950	Budget Detail Report for tracking monthly plans and adjustments.	Business	Approved by Council 12/11/08	
DE	3	461	CCR System Enhancements	Infrastructure	Changes pending approved CM Procedures	
DE	3	904	New Match Parameter Rpt - Auto Ob Settings	Business	Approved by Council 11/13/08	
RQ	1	1087	IT Cost Accounting for MARS	Business	Approved 1/9/09 by the MARS Council.	
RQ	2	59	Labor Projection Mod - Project Overhead Costs	Business	Approved by NWS (Mary Rieck) 5/14/09	
RQ	2	60	Leave & Benefit Statement / OC 77 Modifications	Business	Approved by NWS (Mary Rieck) 3/4/08	
RQ	2	441	Comp Time Rpt	Business		
RQ	2	724	WFM Report – Duplicate PER300	Business		
RQ	2	987, 989	IT Cost Accounting for NOS	Business	Approved 1/9/09 by the MARS Council.	
RQ	3	61	GSA Data Import	Business	Approved 1/10/07	
RQ	3	63	DE to RQ Report Conversion	Infrastructure	Approved by in the MARS Implementation Plan 11/30/06 v2	
RQ	3	64	User interface for R&Q maintenance tables	Infrastructure		
RQ	3	65	User interface for Appropriation Data	Business		
RQ	3	67	Sunflower Data	Infrastructure	Approved by in the MARS Implementation Plan 11/30/06 v2	
RQ	3	141	BOBJ Upgrade to R3	Infrastructure	Approved by NWS (Mary Rieck)	
RQ	3	684	Quarterly Fin Rev. - Graph & Comments	Business		