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Justification for Sole Source Purchase: SeaSonde Radar equipment and Accessories

Stephan Howden at the Department of Marine Science has been funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce and Texas A&M: To procure and replace the CODAR equipment that was damaged at the Henderson Beach State Park research site by Hurricane Sally in 2020 and 2021 and to purchase a full spare site for the GCOOS Network.

Dr. Howden is part of a Gulf Consortium that monitors surface current data using High Frequency Radar systems (HFR). USM currently operates 5 base stations along the Coastline from Destin, Florida to Waveland, Mississippi. This request is to replace the full Long-Range Radar site.

CODAR Ocean Sensors is the standard for the equipment used to preform surface current measurements across the globe. The antenna is a specialized, proprietary design for the CODAR SeaSonde systems, and is needed to obtain accurate measurements of surface currents. There is not an off the shelf replacement of the same design from another vendor.

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