

diverse set of emerging observing platforms, and well-integrated observational and modeling efforts. Some of the promising observational tools include: (1) hyperspectral optical instrumentation that can be deployed from aircraft, satellites, and *in situ* platforms; (2) new biological, chemical, and optical sensors, many of which have (or soon will have) the capacity to measure on virtually the same time and space scales as physical sensors (e.g., temperature, conductivity, currents); (3) several new observing platforms including AUVs, profiling floats and moorings, drifters, and gliders, and (4) real-time two-way data communication techniques. Interdisciplinary models are also critical for developing new parameterizations and algorithms that can be applied to complex ecosystems with special focus on HABs. They will also be needed to design optimal sampling arrays. Data assimilation models will be especially important for directing adaptive sampling assets.

Presently, most HAB research is response oriented and is not useful for studying the critical problem of pre-conditioning of HAB events. Therefore, future focused process studies devoted to HABs need to be done in the context of high frequency, long time series observations as the full evolution of a particular HAB event needs to be observed and documented. This concept may soon be possible by instrumenting coastal global observing system platforms with key instrumentation to measure variables relevant to the HAB problem and by utilizing emerging color satellites including those with hyperspectral sensors and high spatial resolution capabilities. Using data assimilation models along with these complementary data sets, it should be possible to quantify ecosystem and HAB variability on time and space scales down to hours and meters and to make plausible predictions of HAB conditions that are useful for environmental management.

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