

## BCO-DMO: IMPROVING DATA DISCOVERY AND ACCESS FOR OCEAN SCIENCE RESEARCH



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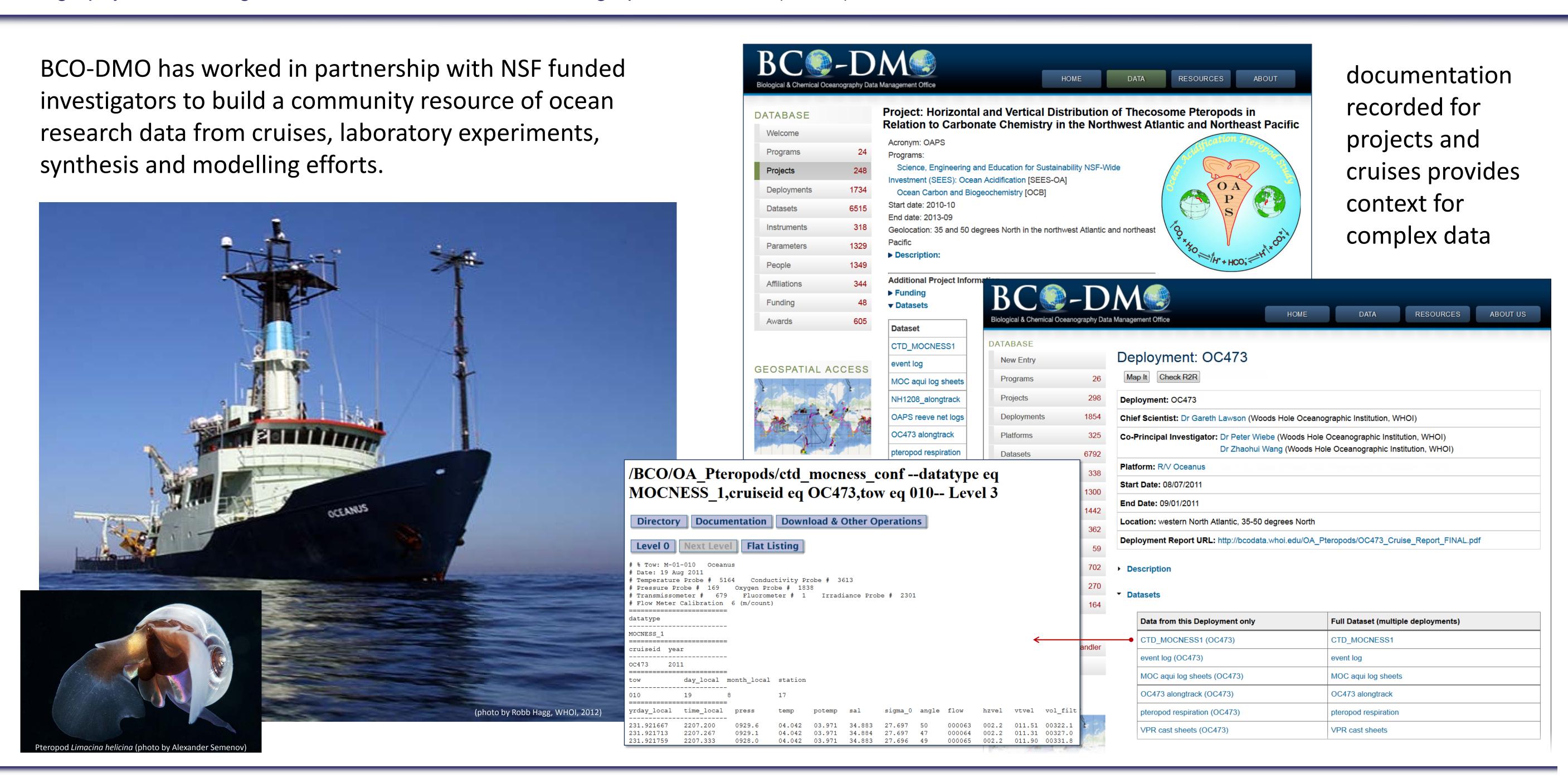
## INTRODUCTION

Oceanographic research is an interdisciplinary field of study that generates and requires access to a wide variety of measurements. In late 2006 the Biological and Chemical Oceanography Sections of the National Science Foundation (NSF) Geosciences Directorate Division of Ocean Sciences (OCE) funded the Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). In late 2010 additional funding was contributed to support management of research data from the NSF Office of Polar Programs (PLR) Antarctic Organisms & Ecosystems Program (ANT). The BCO-DMO is recognized in the 2011 Division of Ocean Sciences Sample and Data Policy as one of several programspecific data offices that support NSF OCE funded researchers and was accepted in 2013 as an Associate Data Unit of the UNESCO/IOC International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange.

The BCO-DMO data system accommodates many different types of ocean science data including: in situ and experimental biological, chemical, and physical measurements; modeling results and synthesis data products. The system enables reuse of oceanographic data for new research endeavors, supports synthesis and modeling activities, provides "real data" for classroom use, and provides decision-support field data for policy-relevant activities. NSFfunded ocean science researchers in the U.S. have been contributing data from recently funded projects to the BCO-DMO data system, and it has evolved into a rich repository of data from ocean, coastal and Great Lakes research programs.

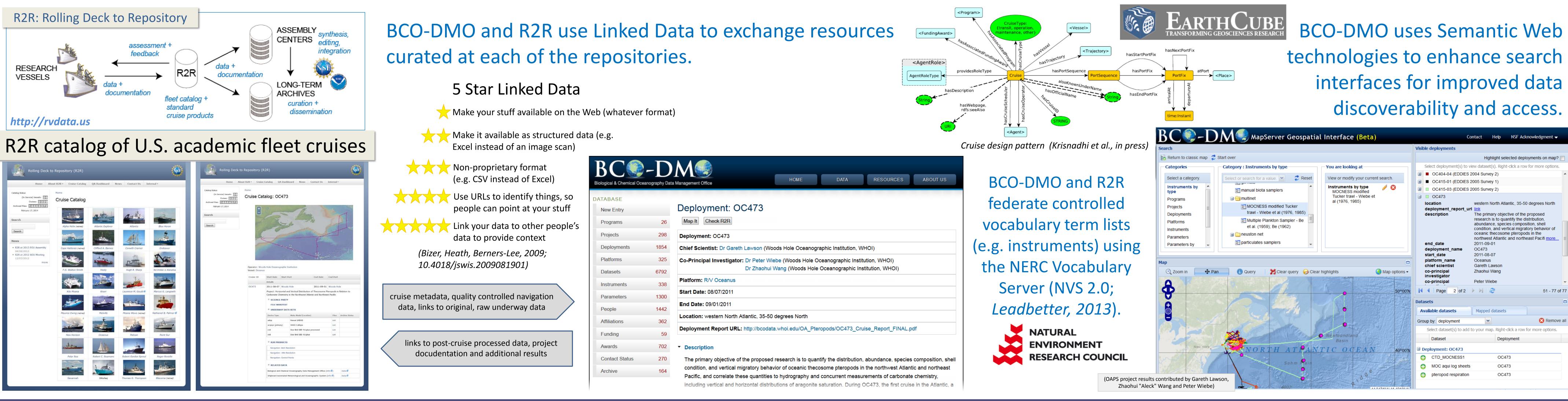
BCO-DMO staff members work in partnership with NSF-funded investigators from large national programs and medium-sized collaborative research projects, as well as researchers from single investigator awards to ensure that data resulting from their respective research projects are archived at the appropriate U.S. National Data Center. Support is provided at no charge to projects funded by OCE Biology or Chemistry or PLR ANT and available to other investigators for a fee. Data management activities at BCO-DMO span the full spectrum of the data life cycle, enabling discovery and accurate re-use and ensuring long-term permanent archive of the data that are an important component of a researcher's legacy.

BCO-DMO staff members work on several synergistic research projects, the results of which will enhance data discoverability and access. The BCO-DMO data system has been improved recently through integration of Semantic Web technologies that help connect BCO-DMO managed data with complementary data and resources in other repositories. Collaborative projects that explore new technologies are done in close partnership with groups that support other research communities, thus helping to integrate distributed data repositories and to build a valuable knowledge network.



**Ocean**DataPortal

A variety of Semantic Web technologies recently integrated into the existing BCO-DMO architecture contribute to improved data discovery and access.



NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC



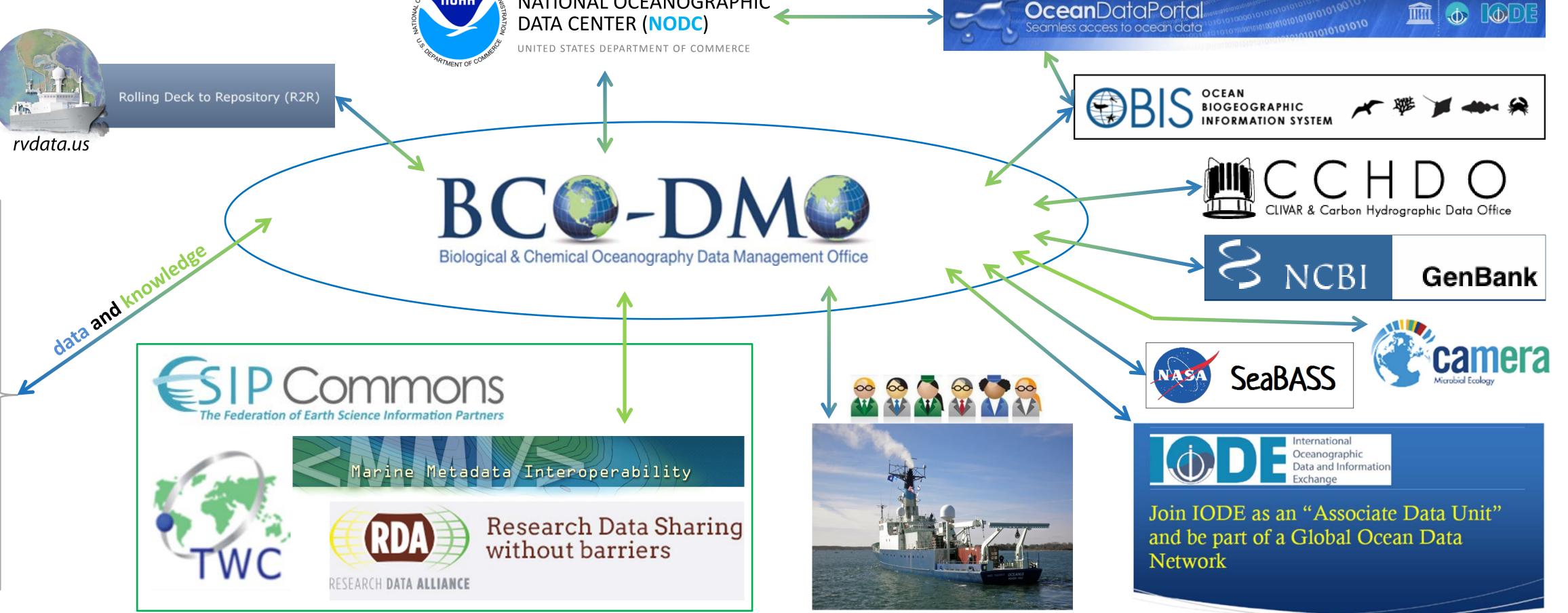
Georgia Coastal Ecosystems LTER

Increased data and knowledge exchange is

Imer Station Antarctica

Long Term Ecological Research

fostered through collaborative partnerships



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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