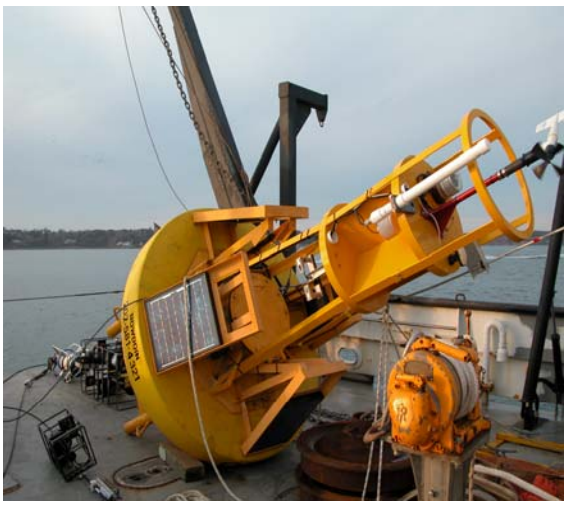
Harpswell Board of Selectmen - 6/14/07
The Bowdoin Buoy Facility

What is the Bowdoin Buoy Facility? The Bowdoin Buoy Facility (BBF) is a scientific buoy set in Harpswell Sound which relays data about weather, currents, water quality, and ocean life 24/7.



The surface buoy just before launching from the Argo Maine (12/14/06). Underwater instrumentation lies on the deck.

The surface buoy in Harpswell Sound 0.8 miles north of Cooks Lobster House (ODAS = Ocean Data Acquisition System

Who manages the BBF? The BBF is jointly managed:

Ed Laine, Associate Professor of Geology: Bowdoin College
Dr Collin Roesler, Senior Research Scientist, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences
Greg Teegarden, Associate Professor of Marine/Environmental Science, Saint Joseph's College

How was the BBF funded? Funds to design, construct, and install the BBF came as a result of successful proposal from Bowdoin to the National Science Foundation.

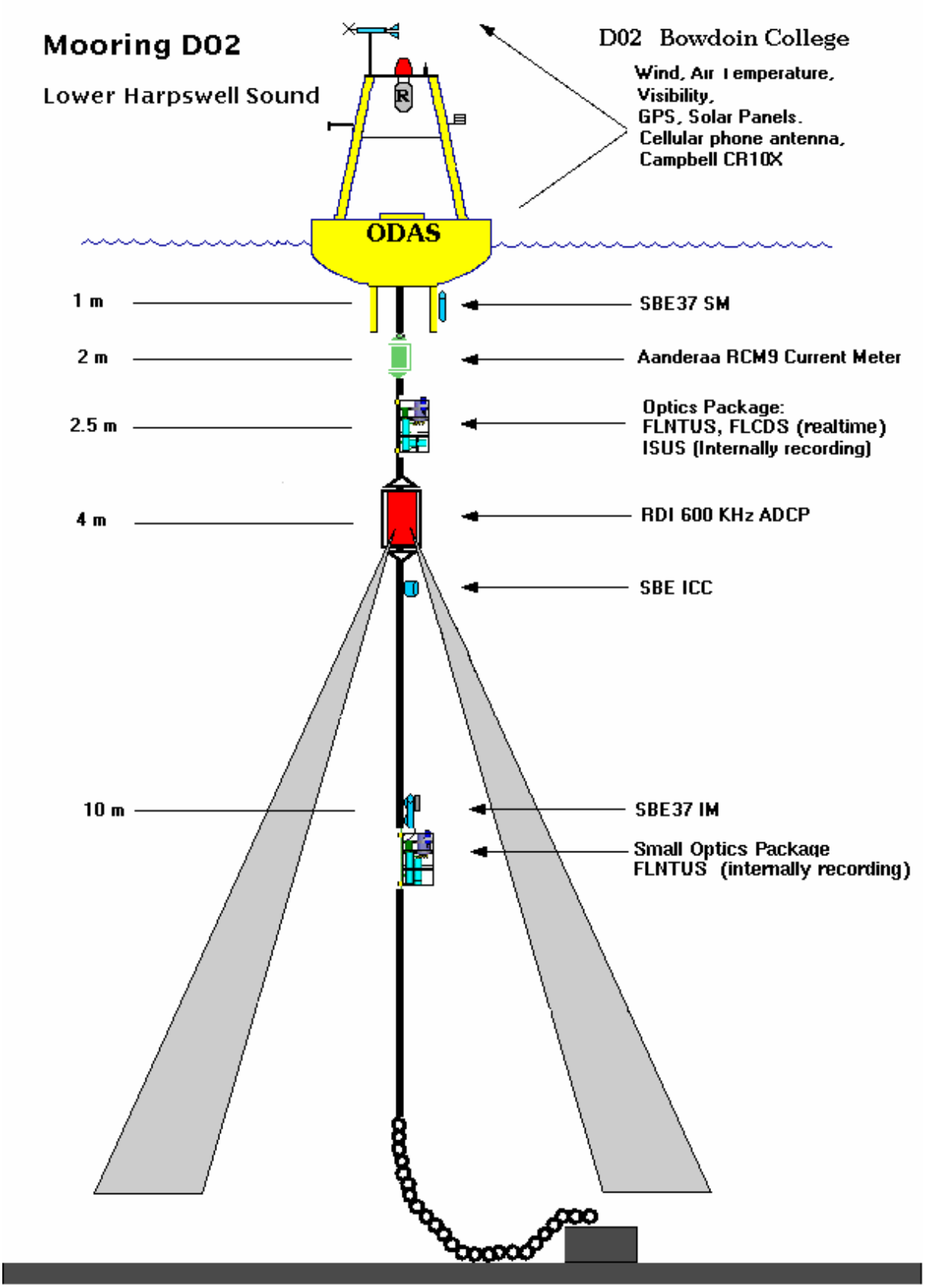
Why is the BBF important? The main goal of the BBF is to study Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs), also known as red tides. The new dock and the close proximity of the BBF to the CSC provide Bowdoin students with unparalleled opportunities to study the changes in the oceans in real time. The buoy's meteorological information provides the marine resources, marine safety, and aviation communities with timely information to plan safer more productive operations.

Where can I see the information coming in from the BBF? You can view and get the raw data at: http://gyre.umeoce.maine.edu/data/gomoos/buoy/html/D02.html.

You can see the buoy in context with other Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System (GoMOOS) buoys at: http://www.gomoos.org/data/recent.html (click on BOW).

This summer we are working on a Bowdoin web portal to highlight the BBF and demonstrate its educational and research roles. Check the Coastal Studies website (http://academic.bowdoin.edu/csc/) in August.

Need more info? Contact Ed Laine at: edlaine@bowdoin.edu (1-207-725-3621)


Mooring D02
Lower Harpswell Sound
D02 Bowdoin College
Wind, Air Temperature,
Visibility,
GPS, Solar Panels.
Cellular phone antenna,
Campbell CR10X
ODAS
1 m
SBE37 SM
2 m
Aanderaa RCM9 Current Meter
2.5 m
Optics Package:
FLNTUS, FLCDS (realtime)
ISUS (Internally recording)
4 m
RDI 600 KHz ADCP
SBE ICC
10 m
SBE37 IM
Small Optics Package
FLNTUS (internally recording)