

**Sustainable Fisheries GIT Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes**

April 24, 2017 from 1:00pm-3:00pm

Materials: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/24965/>

Participants

Bruce Vogt	Dave Blazer	Emilie Franke	Kara Skipper	Marty Gary
Nancy Butowski	Rob O'Reilly	Sean Corson	Susan Conner	

Decisional

➤ **Biannual Sustainable Fisheries GIT Meeting**

- Ex Comm members reviewed and discussed the draft June Sustainable Fisheries GIT agenda.
- Discussion:
 - The first day of the meeting will include a session on inshore and offshore connections, exploring how regional fishery and local fishery management bodies are addressing fish habitat. Members suggested that we develop specific questions to guide this session and to encourage discussion of potential points of collaboration.
 - Suggested questions:
 - Where can collective efforts add value to the Fish GIT's current efforts?
 - What species and life stages are being addressed in current habitat management plans?
 - Can collaboration help to fill data gaps in shallow water habitats?
 - Can we use this discussion to develop proposal ideas for future Atlantic Coast Fish Habitat Partnership funding opportunities?
 - How can we relate current regional efforts to CBP's Fish Habitat Action Team priorities: impervious surface and shoreline hardening?
 - Kara reviewed facilitation roles for the Ex Comm during the June meeting. A summary of facilitation roles is provided below:
 - Bob Beal: MAFMC, ASMFC
 - Bruce Vogt: Habitat and Fish Productivity, Adaptively Managing Outcomes
 - Dave Blazer: Blue Crab Rec. Harvest Estimates, 2017 Blue Crab Advisory Report
 - Marty Gary: Chesapeake Bay Fish Habitat Outcome
 - Rob O'Reilly: ASMFC, Drivers of Forage Population Trends
 - Sean Corson: Inshore and Offshore Connections Discussion, Forage Workplan
- Decision:
 - Ex Comm decided that a webinar covering the Critical Habitat Designation for Sturgeon would be beneficial to host in the next couple of months. Members will inform interested parties of the webinar and determine if there is a way to record the webinar so all who are interested can view.
 - Susan Conner or a representative of the Lynnhaven River Oyster Interagency Team will provide a member update on the recommendation to reevaluate oyster metrics based on bottom habitat availability.
- Actions:
 - Kara will send out a reminder to the full team and Ex Comm to reserve their hotel and RSVP for the meeting this week.

- Ex Comm members will reach out to members of their organization to identify items that they would like to include in the member update session on Day One.
- Bruce will reach out to Bryan DeAngelis (TNC) to request a brief presentation on the development of a tool, which will assess fish habitat benefits for SAV and salt marsh.
- Susan will submit a member update for the Lynnhaven River's request, which will be presented at the June Fish GIT meeting.
- Susan will present Lynnhaven River's request in more detail at the July 24 Ex Comm conference call.

➤ **Fish Habitat Strategy Review System**

- Gina Hunt presented the Fish Habitat Outcome at the first Strategy Review System meeting in early May. While follow-up for the Fish Habitat's request (to have fish habitat considerations included in the Watershed Implementation Plans) is currently being evaluated, there are no actions at this time. The Fish Habitat Outcome request had an overall positive reception, and the CBP Management Board will discuss all Outcome requests at their June 15 meeting and decide on a course of action.
- Discussion:
 - We will be addressing forage, blue crab and oysters at the Strategy Review System quarterly meeting in August.
- Actions:
 - Ex Comm members will begin considering potential requests for forage, blue crab and oysters, as we will revisit this topic during the June Fish GIT meeting.

➤ **Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee Spring (CBSAC) Meeting**

- CBSAC met recently to discuss the 2017 Blue Crab Advisory Report. Their goal is to have a final draft completed before the June 19-20 Fish GIT meeting for potential approval at/right after the June meeting.
- Action:
 - Ex Comm members should contact Emilie with questions/guidance if they would like CBSAC to provide written comments on the [Derelict Crab Pot report](#).
 - Update: Ex Comm members followed up with Emilie and indicated that written comments from CBSAC would be helpful to better understand the report's findings and mortality estimates. Emilie will forward that task to CBSAC.

Informational

➤ **Confirm upcoming Ex Comm meeting dates**

Monday, June 19th – Tuesday, June, 20th – Full GIT Meeting in VA
 Monday, July 24th, 1pm-3pm – Conference Call
 Monday, August 28th, 1pm-3pm – Conference Call