

Meeting Summary
Sustainable Fisheries GIT Executive Committee Meeting

August 19, 2013 from 1:00pm-3:00pm

Call-In: 877-985-4165; Pass Code: 5370599

Materials: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/S=0/calendar/event/19247/>

➤ **Membership Review (1:00-1:20)**

- Handout: *Fisheries GIT Membership Review 7-24-13*
- Discussion of changes proposed by Ex Comm members
 - Focus on commercial/recreational watermen
 - Member updates:
 - Bill Goldsborough will represent MD DNR's Sportfish Advisory Commission (replacing Jim Gracie as Chair)
 - Proposed Additions:
 - Robert T. Brown for Maryland Watermen's Association
 - Gibby Dean for Chesapeake Bay Commercial Fishermen's Association
 - Wayne France for Twin Rivers Waterman's Association
 - Jorge Holzer for MD Sea Grant
 - Tom Murray for VA Sea Grant
- **Actions**:
 - Jack T. will recommend a new commission member to replace Ernie Bowden
 - Jack T. will recommend a VA commercial waterman representative to replace Ken Smith
 - Staff will identify a potential representative for NY
 - Ex Comm will extend membership invite to proposed new members
 - Ex Comm will include PA Fish and Boat Commission representation for any relevant discussions and decisions

➤ **Discussion of New Agreement Fisheries Outcomes (1:20-2:00)**

- Handouts: *Goal and Outcome Summary*; forage fish and habitat language; management strategies draft elements; stakeholder comments
- Review: Blue crab abundance and management outcomes
- Discussion:
 - Oysters – # of tributaries; language around ecological benefits
 - Agreed to ten tributaries
 - **Action**: Staff will finalize the oyster outcome background document and include Maryland tributaries and cost estimates; send out for review by Susan Conner and Angie Sowers
 - Forage fish
 - Stakeholders and public concerned that only blue crabs and oysters are represented in the New Agreement
 - Agreed to Bill Goldsborough's proposed language with a revision to the year 2016 to align with outputs of ASMFC work
 - **Action**: Reach out to the academic community to determine the research needed for this strategy

- Habitat
 - Outcomes under the Habitat GIT represent mostly terrestrial habitat; need to make the connected to aquatic species
 - CBC, ASMFC, Habitat and Watershed GITs provided prior input to develop this language
 - Agreed to proposed outcome language while continuing discussions with PA on whether the outcome should address only tidal waters or both tidal and nontidal
 - **Actions:**
 - Pat Buckley will reach out to PA Fish and Boat Commission to get feedback on their potential participation and benefit from the future habitat mapping/ application associated with this outcome
 - Staff will develop a list of current habitat projects or tools that are related to this outcome
 - **Decisional:**
 - What is the Ex Comm's recommendation on adding a forage fish and habitat outcome?
 - **Action:** Peyton will present finalized language for all fisheries outcomes at the next Bay Program Management Board meeting for their approval
 - Outcomes: blue crab abundance, blue crab management, oyster, forage fish, habitat
- **Priorities and Work plan (2:00-2:15)**
- **Handout:** *SFGIT Aug 2013 Work plan*
 - **Discussion** of GIT work plan and priorities
 - **Action:** Staff will revise work plan to include priorities for forage fish and habitat
- **December Full GIT Meeting (2:15-2:30)**
- Potential Dates: first or third week of December
 - Target date: Tuesday, December 3-4th
 - Location Ideas
 - Promote increased stakeholder participation, especially watermen
 - Chesapeake Biological Lab; St. Mary's College
 - **Action:** Staff will finalize the location and date and begin planning accordingly.

Informational (2:30-3:00)

- **Public Service Announcement explaining the Chesapeake Bay Program**
- **Handout:** *PSA CBP info*
 - The Chesapeake Bay Program is developing a 2-3 minute PSA video as a public outreach tool about the Bay program and restoration in the Bay. Each GIT will be featured in the video by having a representative read a short mission statement to be filmed at a field location.

- FINAL STATEMENT: “We’re working to create a sustainable future for the Bay’s fish and fishermen, using science and technology to improve management and the Bay’s ecosystem.”
- Discussion:
 - Agreed to the above statement
 - Filming location to represent GIT priorities
 - Proposed location: ORES Project (Oyster Reef Ecosystem Services) in Choptank River complex; video footage of fish sampling
 - Proposed location: October 1st – oystering on the Rappahannock
 - Representative: Peyton or Tom
- **Catfish Public Outreach**
 - Handout: *BCF Handbook Messaging*
 - The Invasive Catfish Task Force has reached out to jurisdictional representatives on the Task Force for input on catfish content for guidebooks
 - Review proposed content
 - Discussion
 - There is a need for consistent web messaging across all jurisdiction websites. Contacts for web content: Karen Knots (MD); Marty Gary (PRFC); David Whitehurst/Gary Martel/Becky Gwynn (VA); Bryan King (DC)
 - **Actions:**
 - Staff and Task Force will compile catfish messaging material and be in contact with Ex Comm members and contacts stated above about publishing this content on jurisdiction websites
 - Staff and Task Force will work to finalize content to publish in fishing guide books
- **Science presentations for Executive Committee meetings**
 - Handout: *Ex Comm science presentations*
 - Discussion:
 - Use the full Fisheries GIT meetings as a forum for science research
 - Members find the science presentations beneficial
 - December meeting should include the most timely and relevant science presentations
- **Letter to the Navy**
 - Handout: *Fish GIT Navy Letter*
 - Peyton sent the letter to the Navy expressing the Fish GIT’s support for their telemetry array and its potential use for long-term tracking of migratory fish
- **Confirm upcoming meeting dates**

Upcoming Meeting Schedule (1-3 pm)

September 23rd

October 21st

November 18th

December (Full GIT Meeting) – December 3-4th