

**Sustainable Fisheries GIT Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

October 21, 2013 from 1:00pm-3:00pm

Materials: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/S=0/calendar/event/19249/>

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➤ **Presentation: Derelict Fishing Gear Assessment in the Chesapeake Bay (1:00-1:30)**

**Jason Landrum and Nancy Wallace - NOAA Marine Debris Program**

- Handout: *DFG assessment bkgd\_ Fish GIT ExComm*
- A team from NOAA's Marine Debris Division will brief the Ex Comm on a Derelict Fishing Gear (DFG) Regional Impact Assessment planned for the Chesapeake Bay. This assessment seeks to better understand the impacts and causes of DFG, and this work in the Bay will serve as a template for future assessments in other regions.
- Discussion:
  - The assessment will look at multiple aspects of DFG including the concentration and distribution, economic impacts, potential habitat impacts, and ultimate loss of value in the industry.
  - The assessment will be from a scientific, non-regulatory perspective to advance knowledge of DFG in the Bay.
  - Most DFG in the Bay is crab pots, and money lost due to lost gear is significant in the blue crab fishery.

Action: Ex Comm and relevant staff in their jurisdictions will stay in contact with the Marine Debris team to ask any questions and give input on the project as it develops.

➤ **December full GIT Meeting Planning (1:30-2:30)**

- Handout: *Dec 2013 draft agenda v4*
- Tuesday-Wednesday, December 3-4, 2013 in Solomons, MD
- The handout lists potential topics to include on the December meeting agenda.
- Discussion:
  - Ex Comm agree that there should be more time allotted for each jurisdiction presentation and full GIT discussion during the oyster management section.
  - Ex Comm would like to see a more concrete and developed EBFM agenda item. They suggest focusing the discussion on defining the forage base.
  - Ensure there is enough time for discussion on the agenda in general and that discussion topics are feasible for the amount of time allotted.

Actions:

- Staff and Ex Comm members will identify oyster points of contact for each jurisdiction to develop content for the oyster management discussion.
- Staff will reach out to CBSAC members and forage fish experts when developing the EBFM discussion agenda item.
- Staff will incorporate Ex Comm members' comments into the next draft of the agenda.

**Executive Session**

➤ **Membership (1:30-1:40)**

- Tom O'Connell has nominated Jim Price of the Chesapeake Ecological Foundation to be a member of the Fisheries GIT.

- Decisional: The Ex Comm agreed to the nomination and added Jim Price as a member of the GIT.

Action (complete): Peyton has extended a membership invitation to Jim Price.

➤ **Ex Comm Updates** (*time permitting*)

- Discussion of any relevant updates, issues, or events from Ex Comm members in their jurisdictions/organizations.

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**Informational**

➤ **Catfish Commercial Landings Data**

- Andrew has been working with your staff to obtain access to state blue catfish landings data, and is working with Greg Garman estimating blue catfish distribution based on commercial landings data and harvest reports.

➤ **Invasive Catfish Task Force Meeting**

- Task Force meeting is scheduled at PRFC on Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Staff are organizing a panel of stakeholders for the meeting to discuss their interactions with catfish.
- The Task Force will be discussing progress on current tasks and work to finalize their draft report.

➤ **Oyster Reef Ecosystem Services (ORES) Project Meeting**

- The NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office, MD DNR, and the PI's involved in this multi-jurisdictional project are meeting at PRFC on November 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss coordination for this project.
- The PIs are listed below:
  - Ken Paynter (UMD), Lisa Kellogg (VIMS), Mark Luckenbach (VIMS), Paige Ross (VIMS), Jeff Cornwell (UMCES HPL), Rom Lipcius (VIMS), Rochelle Seitz (VIMS)

➤ **Chesapeake Bay Program's State of the Bay Report**

- Each year the Bay Program publishes a report describing the Program's work and accomplishments from the previous year. The report for 2012-2013 is in progress.
- Draft language for the Fisheries GIT section will be sent out for the Ex Comm's approval in the coming weeks.

➤ **Confirm upcoming meeting dates**

Upcoming Meeting Schedule (1-3 pm)

Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday-Wednesday, December 3-4<sup>th</sup> (Full GIT Meeting)

*Location: Chesapeake Biological Lab in Solomons, MD*