Sustainable Fisheries GIT Executive Committee
Meeting Agenda
February 23rd, 2015 from 1:00pm-3:00pm
Call-In: 877-921-8911; Pass Code: 7762916
Webinar: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6480322887097996801
Materials: http://www.chesapeakebay.net/S=0/calendar/event/22468/

Decisional

➢ NCBO/VA Sea Grant Post Doc Project – Amy Freitag (VIMS) (1:05-1:30pm)
  o 10 min presentation; 15 min discussion
  o Handout: Oyster-Dominated Placed-Based Work Plan; EBFM one-pager
  o Amy Freitag (VIMS) will describe her project plans for her NCBO/VA Sea Grant post doc position.
  o Discussion: Ex Comm comments or suggestions on the project? Where do Fisheries GIT and Ex Comm involvement fit into the project plan?

➢ Winter Dredge Survey Data Visualization (1:30-1:50pm)
  o Handout: WDS Visualization; CBSAC Timeline
  o Glenn Davis (MDDNR) has put together maps that visualize the abundance of crabs caught at each WDS station in the Bay for specific years.
  o Andrew Turner will explain these initial maps and review additional data layers and ways the data could be visualized.
  o Andrew will review the CBSAC timeline for the coming year.
  o Discussion:
    ▪ What visual representations of the WDS data would be useful to managers and/or stakeholders?
    ▪ Are there additional maps Ex Comm members would like to see?

➢ Management Strategy Status and Updates (1:50-2:20pm)
  o Handout: Fish Habitat Priority Table; STAC Species Table_DRAFT; Fish_mgmt approaches
  o Staff will briefly describe the status of each management strategy, focusing on the progress made on the fish habitat and forage strategies.
    ▪ The Fish Habitat team developed a chart at their meeting on Feb 10th that outlines priority species and approaches for different habitat types.
    ▪ A list of priority forage species was produced from the STAC workshop for consideration in the strategy.
  o Staff will review the timeline for distribution to the GIT and the opportunity for public input.
  o Discussion:
    ▪ Ex Comm comments on the approach for the fish habitat strategy (priority species, habitat types)?
    ▪ Should the forage management strategy focus on a few key species from the STAC list of species? How do we focus the strategy?

➢ June 2015 full GIT Meeting (2:20-2:30pm)
  o Handout: 2015 calendar
  o Ex Comm will identify possible dates and locations for the June 2015 full GIT meeting.
  o Staff have compiled possible agenda items:
- CBSAC 2015 report and stock assessment update
- CBP GIT Funding Projects discussion (forage, CBSAC, striped bass)
- 2-year workplan development for management strategies
- Staging for the Chesapeake Bay Program Executive Council meeting in early July
  - Highlight potential completion of Harris Creek restoration and possibility that Lafayette may have achieved oyster success metrics for a restored reef.
  - Discussion:
    - Ideas for meeting locations in Virginia? Other topics of interest for that meeting?

➢ Ex Comm Updates
  - Executive Committee members’ updates and discussion of management issues.

Informational

➢ VA Fishery Resource Grant Program Report – Commercial Electrofishing Pilot Project
  - The final report is complete for the catfish commercial electrofishing pilot project that took place in 2014 funded by the Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program.
  - The Invasive Catfish Task Force will consider this report when updating their final report and recommendations.

➢ STAC Forage Workshop Report
  - A complete draft report is currently out for review by the Workshop Steering Committee and will be available for use in drafting the management strategy.
  - Next steps will be review by all workshop participants and STAC.
  - The final report should be complete by the spring.

➢ CBP Funding for GITs
  - Projects have been selected for the three Fisheries GIT projects funded by EPA through the Chesapeake Bay Program: forage indicator development, CBSAC research priorities, and a striped bass health indicator.
    - Forage indicators and nutritional profiles for Chesapeake Bay fishes – Drs. Andre Buchheister and Ed Houde (UMCES-CBL)
      - Deliverables: 1) develop a suite of forage indicators for dominant prey species in Chesapeake Bay and 2) develop a nutritional profile for five predatory fishes
    - Analysis of blue crab survey data and reproductive output to assess causes of population variability – Drs. Thomas Miller and Michael Wilberg (UMCES)
      - Deliverables: 1) Analysis of the summer survey data from the VIMS trawl – survey and 2) Assess how many broods each adult female can produce over a lifetime
    - Striped bass health indicator development – Rebecca Scott, Data Analyst, EcoAnalytics LLC
      - Deliverable: Use force-of-infection models to estimate the potential increase in mortality associated with mycobacterial infection

➢ Fish Habitat Workshop
Bruce Vogt (NOAA) and Jennifer Greiner (USFWS), coordinators for the Fisheries and Habitat GITs, have submitted a proposal for a STAC workshop on fish habitat characterization to support the fish habitat management strategy.

- **Confirm upcoming meeting dates**
  
  Ex Comm Mondays 1:00-3:00pm
  
  March 16\textsuperscript{th}, 2015
  
  April 20\textsuperscript{th}, 2015
  
  May 18\textsuperscript{th}, 2015