

Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team
Semiannual Full GIT Meeting
June 19th -20th 2017

Address: Chincoteague Bay Field Station, 34001 Mill Dam Rd, Wallops Island, VA 23337

June 19th Webinar: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7334027712290391042>

June 20th Webinar: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1207195979090031874>

Meeting Materials: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/25044/>

Audio: (866) 917-0618 **Passcode:** 1613714

The Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team (Fisheries GIT) continues to provide a forum for connecting science and policy across jurisdictions and the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem. The diverse team meets biannually in June and December.

Day One of the June 2017 meeting will begin with a special session exploring habitat connectivity and fishery production between the Chesapeake Bay, coastal and marine systems. Recent efforts of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Atlantic States Marine Fishery Commission and others will tee up a conversation on integrating inshore-offshore habitat connections into fishery management. On Day Two, we will explore advances in blue crab and forage research and review our progress on our efforts to enhance our understanding and management of these important species.

Throughout the meeting, the Sustainable Fisheries GIT will focus on reviewing and improving our efforts as we move forward to achieve the Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team's Outcomes under the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. This year, the Sustainable Fisheries GIT will conduct reviews of our current efforts and approaches, identifying challenges that are inhibiting our progress, and adapting our approaches moving forward.

Monday, June 19th

10:00 am Welcome and Overview of Day 1

Sean Corson, Fisheries GIT Chair (NCBO)

Introduction to the meeting structure and objectives, including a review of recent GIT activity.

Inshore and Offshore Fish Habitat Connections

10:15 am Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

Presenters: Jessica Coakley (MAFMC); Facilitator: Bob Beal (ASMFC)

Objective: Learn how MAFMC has is addressing habitat for managed species through the Ecosystem Approaches to Fishery Management Plan, Essential Fish Habitat Review and application of Habitat Areas of Particular Concern.

- 11:00 am** **BREAK**
- 11:10 am** **Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission**
Presenters: Bob Beal (ASMFC), Lisa Havel (ASMFC); Facilitator: Rob O'Reilly (VMRC)
Objective: Review ASMFC habitat factor considerations for managed species and their role in leading the Atlantic Coast Fish Habitat Partnership.
- 11:55 am** **LUNCH**
 Lunch will be catered by the Ocean Deli
- 12:50 pm** **Chesapeake Bay - Fish Habitat Outcome**
Presenters: Bruce Vogt (NCBO); Facilitator: Marty Gary (PRFC)
Objective: Learn how the Fish Habitat Action Team is working with water quality and other managers outside the sphere of fishery managers to address ecosystem factors, such as impervious surface and shoreline hardening affecting fish health and productivity.
- 1:20 pm** **Habitat and Fish Productivity**
Presenters: Bryan DiAngelis (TNC), Andy Lacatell (TNC); Facilitator: Bruce Vogt (NCBO)
Objective: Learn about TNC projects in the coastal Bays and an preliminary work to calculate fish productivity associated with SAV and salt marsh habitats.
- 1:50 pm** **Inshore and Offshore Connections Discussion**
Presenters: Jessica Coakley (MAFMC), Bob Beal (ASMFC), Lisa Havel (ASMFC), Bruce Vogt (NCBO); Facilitator: Sean Corson (NCBO)
Objective: All GIT members discuss the following questions:
1. What common themes do you see across regional and local fish habitat efforts?
 2. Where can we make the highest value connections in fish habitat restoration and conservation?
- 2:40 pm** **BREAK**
- 2:55 pm** **Adaptively Managing Outcomes (Breakouts)**
Presenter: Bruce Vogt (NCBO)
Objective: Provide overview of the Chesapeake Bay Program Strategy Review System and identify Fish GIT priorities for forage, blue crabs, and oyster restoration outcomes.
- 3:40 pm** **Fisheries GIT Member Updates**
Objective: Goal Team members will have the opportunity to share brief reports on current projects, recent accomplishments, and emerging issues.

- 4:30 pm** **Recap of Day One Actions/Takeaways**
- 4:45 pm** **Adjourn**
- 6:00 pm** **Dinner**
Dinner will be held at Etta’s Channelside Restaurant, located at 7452 East Side Drive, Chincoteague Island, VA

Tuesday, June 20th

- 9:00 am** **Day 2 Overview**
Sean Corson (NCBO), Fisheries GIT Chair
- Blue Crabs**
- 9:15 am** **Blue Crab Recreational Harvest Estimates**
Presenter: Matt Ogburn (SERC); Facilitator: Dave Blazer (MD DNR)
Presentation: 20 min; Discussion: 20 min
Objective: Learn about a study which assessed recreational blue crab harvests in the Maryland portion of the Chesapeake Bay.
- 9:55 am** **2017 Blue Crab Advisory Report**
Presenters: Glenn Davis (MD DNR); Facilitator: Dave Blazer (MD DNR)
Presentation: 40 min; Discussion: 20 min
Objective: Review the results of the Winter Dredge Survey, blue crab population status, harvest and CBSAC’s recommendations.
- 10:55 am** **BREAK**
- Forage**
- 11:10 am** **Drivers of Forage Population Trends**
Presenter: Ryan Woodland (UMCES-CBL); Facilitator: Rob O’Reilly (VMRC)
Presentation: 30 min; Discussion: 20 min
Objectives: Review of the GIT-funded study, which investigated factors influencing forage population trends in the Chesapeake Bay. Explore how the Forage Action Team can apply the results.
- 12:00 pm** **LUNCH**
Chincoteague Bay Field Station’s Cafeteria will provide sandwich platters
- 1:00 pm** **Emphasizing the Importance of Forage: Forage Workplan and Strategy (Discussion)**
Presenters: Emilie Franke (ERT/NCBO), Bruce Vogt (NCBO); Facilitator: Sean Corson (NCBO)

Objectives: Discuss how recent developments in forage should influence our management priorities and objectives. Consider how we can best utilize available data to communicate the importance of forage and advance our proposed strategy.

1:30 pm **Recap of Meeting Actions and Takeaways**

2:00 pm **Adjourn**

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