



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team

December 2018 Biannual Meeting

December 17 - 18, 2018

The Mariner's Museum
100 Museum Drive
Newport News, VA 23606

Conference Line: 866-917-0618

Conference Code: 1613714

Day 1 Webinar: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/544642469>

Day 2 Webinar: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/546261013>

Meeting Materials:

https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/sustainable_fisheries_december_2018_biannual_full_git_meeting

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 with full membership to discuss progress towards Chesapeake Watershed Agreement outcomes.

Monday, December 17, 2018

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| 8:30 am | Coffee and refreshments available |
| 9:00 am | Welcome and Overview of Day 1
<i>Sean Corson, Fisheries GIT Chair (NCBO)</i>
Introduction to the meeting structure and objectives, including a review of recent GIT highlights. |
| 9:20 am | Introduction to the Mariner's Museum at Newport News, VA
<i>David Alberg, Monitor National Marine Sanctuary Superintendent</i> |

Restoration Progress for Oysters

9:30 am Oyster Restoration Status in the Chesapeake Bay
Presenters: Stephanie Westby (NCBO), Susan Conner (USACE)
Facilitator: Sean Corson (NCBO)
Presentation: 50 minutes; Discussion: 25 minutes
Objective: Update GIT members on the status of restoration progress in each of the selected tributaries.

Monitoring Performance of Restored Oyster Reefs

10:45 am Oyster Restoration Monitoring Review in the Choptank Complex
Presenter: Ward Slacum (ORP)
Facilitator: Rob O'Reilly (VMRC)
Presentation: 15 minutes; Discussion: 15 minutes
Objective: Review monitoring results for restored oyster reefs in Maryland tributaries based on success metrics.

11:15 am BREAK

11:30 am Tributary Selection in Maryland's St. Marys and Manokin Rivers
Presenter: Jodi Baxter (MD DNR)
Facilitator: Sean Corson (NCBO)
Presentation: 10 minutes; Discussion: 20 minutes
Objective: Explain the selection criteria and justification for recommendation of Maryland's last two tributaries to achieve the oyster restoration outcome.
Decisional: Executive Committee members will vote to formally approve the tributary selection of St. Marys River in Maryland.

12:00 pm LUNCH

Benefits of Restored Oyster Reefs

1:00 pm Socioeconomic Analysis of Oysters in the Choptank River
Presenter: Scott Knoche (MSU), Tom Ihde (MSU)
Facilitator: Marty Gary (PRFC)
Presentation: 20 minutes; Discussion: 10 minutes
Objective: Learn about research quantifying the socioeconomic impacts of oyster restoration efforts in the Choptank using an ecosystem model and economic model, and discuss key findings from report.

1:30 pm Modeling Oyster Denitrification Potential in Harris Creek
Presenter: Lisa Kellogg (VIMS)
Facilitator: Dave Blazer (MD DNR)
Presentation: 20 minutes; Discussion: 10 minutes
Objective: Learn about results from research modeling the impacts of restored oyster reefs on water quality in Harris Creek, including the denitrification potential of healthy oyster reefs.

2:00 pm BREAK

Remaining Challenges for Oyster Restoration in 10 Tributaries

2:15 pm Discussion of Lessons Learned in Large-Scale Oyster Restoration
Presenter: Dave Blazer (MD DNR), Andrew Button (VMRC)
Facilitator: Bruce Vogt (NCBO)
Presentation: 30 minutes; Discussion: 20 minutes
Objective: Discuss barriers to meeting the goal of 10 restored tributaries by 2025 and factors influencing success to prioritize near-term next steps, guided by the Chesapeake Bay Program's Strategic Review System process.

3:05 pm Implementing Oyster Restoration Monitoring Recommendations
Presenter: Ward Slacum (ORP)
Facilitator: Rob O' Reilly (VMRC)
Presentation: 10 minutes; Discussion: 25 minutes
Objective: Discuss recommendations for a standardized, cost-effective monitoring protocol based on results of a GIT funded study conducted by Oyster Recover Partnership (ORP) and discuss implications for Maryland and Virginia monitoring toward the success metrics.
Decisional: Executive Committee members will vote to endorse interim methodology for monitoring restoration tributaries in Maryland that reduces sampling effort and cost.

Emerging Issues for Oyster Management

3:40 pm Oyster Best Management Practices for Water Quality
Presenter: Jeff Cornwell (UMCES)
Facilitator: Bruce Vogt (NCBO)
Presentation: 20 minutes; Discussion: 15 minutes
Objective: Learn about and provide input on the Oyster Best Management Practices (BMP) Expert Panel's draft recommendations concerning oyster reef restoration and aquaculture for BMP consideration.

- 4:15 pm Conclusions and Discussion of Day 1
Sean Corson (NCBO)
- 4:30 pm Adjourn Day 1
- 5:30 pm DINNER at Harpoon Larry's Fish House & Oyster Bar
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Tuesday, December 18, 2018

- 8:30 am Coffee and refreshments available
- 9:00 am Recap Day 1 and Overview of Day 2
Sean Corson (NCBO)

Oysters Continued

- 9:15 am Maryland's Oyster Stock Assessment Results and Recommendations
Presenter: Mike Wilberg (UMCES)
Facilitator: Sean Corson (NCBO)
Presentation: 30 minutes; Discussion: 35 minutes
Objective: Learn about results from the Maryland Oyster Stock Assessment that will be used to inform sustainable oyster harvest.
- 10:20 am BREAK

Current Challenges to Chesapeake Bay

- 10:30 am Summer 2018 Precipitation Impacts to Chesapeake Bay Fish and Habitats
Presenter: Peter Tango (USGS)
Facilitator: Marty Gary (PRFC)
Presentation: 30 minutes; Discussion: 45 minutes
Objective: Discuss the high levels of precipitation in summer 2018 with observed physical data and anticipated impacts to biota to better anticipate challenges from future extreme weather events.
- 11:45 am LUNCH

Forage Fish Outcome

12:45 pm Threshold Effects of Altered Shorelines on Forage Species
Presenter: Rochelle Seitz (VIMS), Troy Tuckey (VIMS)
Facilitator: Dave Blazer (MD DNR)
Presentation: 20 minutes; Discussion: 20 minutes
Objective: Learn about ongoing research efforts to quantify threshold effects of shoreline development as stressors for forage species abundance.

1:25 pm Development of a Chesapeake Bay Forage Indicator
Presenter: Sara Coleman (ERT/NCBO)
Facilitator: Bruce Vogt (NCBO)
Presentation: 10 minutes; Discussion: 25 minutes
Objective: Highlight progress made towards developing a forage indicator tool that will evaluate relative abundance of key forage species from year to year and gather feedback on value of the indicator for management.

Invasive Catfish: Past Progress and Looking Forward

2:00 pm Invasive Catfish Symposium Report and Recommendations
Presenter: Bruce Vogt (NCBO)
Facilitator: Rob O' Reilly (VMRC)
Presentation: 20 minutes; Discussion: 30 minutes
Objective: Update members on key findings from November 2017 Symposium and recommendations from the final report by the Invasive Catfish Task Force (ICTF).
Decisional: Executive Committee members will determine next steps and better define the role of the Invasive Catfish Task Force.

2:50 pm BREAK

Blue Crab Stock Assessment Update

3:00 pm Blue Crab Stock Assessment Decisions
Presenter: Lynn Fegley (MD DNR)
Facilitator: Sean Corson (NCBO)
Presentation: 10 minutes; Discussion: 35 minutes
Objective: Share key outcomes and decisions from September 2018 discussions regarding a benchmark stock assessment, with a discussion on long-term planning for blue crab management.
Decisional: Executive Committee members will make a determination on need for a benchmark stock assessment and respond to recommendations from the stock assessment update.

3:45 pm

Member Updates

GIT members will have the opportunity to share brief reports on current projects, recent accomplishments, and emerging issues.

4:00 pm

Concluding Remarks and Adjourn Day 2

Sean Corson (NCBO)