

**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)**
 - 10 min presentation; 15 min discussion
 - Handout: *Oyster-Dominated Placed-Based Work Plan; EBFM one-pager*
 - Amy Freitag (VIMS) will describe her project plans for her NCBO/VA Sea Grant post doc position.
 - 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)**
 - Handout: *WDS Visualization; CBSAC Timeline*
 - Glenn Davis (MDDNR) has put together maps that visualize the abundance of crabs caught at each WDS station in the Bay for specific years.
 - Andrew Turner will explain these initial maps and review additional data layers and ways the data could be visualized.
 - Andrew will review the CBSAC timeline for the coming year.
 - 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)**
 - Handout: *Fish Habitat Priority Table; STAC Species Table_DRAFT; Fish_mgmt approaches*
 - 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.
 - Staff will review the timeline for distribution to the GIT and the opportunity for public input.
 - 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)**
 - Handout: *2015 calendar*
 - Ex Comm will identify possible dates and locations for the June 2015 full GIT meeting.
 - 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 16th, 2015

April 20th, 2015

May 18th, 2015