

Sustainable Fisheries GIT Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes for January 23rd, 2012 from 1:00-3:00pm

In Attendance: Peyton Robertson, Tom O'Connell, A.C. Carpenter, Jack Travelstead, Danny Ryan (for Bryan King), Bruce Vogt, Derek Orner, Roger Mann, Nancy Butowski, Bob Greenlee, Mark Mansfield, Frank Dukes, Karl Blankenship, Andrew Turner, Adam Davis

Presentation

Oyster Gear Efficiency Comparisons

- Roger Mann (VIMS) presented his latest findings on efficiency comparisons between oyster dredges and patent tongs. His preliminary results show there is general agreement between the two gear types, however the nature of the shell base (loose or dense) is important when considering between gear conversion estimators.
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Decisional

December Meeting De-Brief

- Comments on meeting:
 - Perhaps a May & November full GIT meeting would result in higher attendance and participation. The December holidays may detract from our desired attendance and productivity.
 - Giving time for the recreational and commercial anglers on the agenda was really helpful. Providing them with agenda time got them engaged.
 - The seating arrangement presents a trade-off: ExComm at head of table means they are separated and may cause others to be less vocal; If ExComm sit together they can confer and discuss issues privately.
 - The land use issue seems like a good niche for GIT1.
 - During the workshop's small group discussions there was significant interest in developing strategies and science based tools to assist stakeholders in articulating the impacts of development on living resources.

Invasive Catfish Policy Adoption Statement

- There was one final edit necessary to the policy statement in order to gain agreement from all jurisdictions.
- The language below was changed:
 - Paragraph 3; Line 4:
 - From: "Flathead and blue catfish are likely causing detrimental impacts throughout their expanding range potentially creating unbalanced ecosystems."
 - To: "Flathead and blue catfish are causing impacts throughout their expanding range; of particular concern is the potential for significant negative impacts on native species, which would further affect the health of the Bay ecosystem."
 - Bullet 4:
 - From: "Develop a set of management measures (e.g. increased harvest and/or nutrient reduction) aimed at controlling populations and mitigating adverse effects of blue and flathead catfish while recognizing that these two catfish species currently support fisheries with economic and recreational value;"

- To: “Develop, evaluate ,and implement a set of management measures (e.g. increased harvest and/or nutrient reduction) aimed at controlling populations and mitigating adverse effects of blue and flathead catfish while recognizing that these two catfish species currently support fisheries with economic and recreational value;”
- **Action Item**: The policy statement was deemed finalized and ready for signatures. In order for adoption to be finalized, electronic signatures need to be sent to Adam ASAP.

Potential STAC Workshop

- CBP’s Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) is now accepting proposals for STAC-sponsored workshops
 - Proposed workshops must be convened to gather critically needed scientific or technical information related to the protection and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed
- The Executive Committee agreed to submit a proposal for developing tools to link land use and fisheries. This topic will further our work from the December full GIT meeting and is most appropriate for STAC to consider.
- Tom O’Connell offered Jim Uphoff’s help with developing this workshop
- **Action Item**: Bruce Vogt will call Matt Johnson from STAC to get more details on the proposal, and then will coordinate with GIT staff to write and submit a proposal.

2012 Work Plan

- Executive Committee reviewed the proposed 2012 workplan developed with topics such as: Blue Crab, Oyster, Invasive Catfish, Land use and Fisheries, as well as some other priorities and administrative duties.
- Suggestions:
 - Male Blue Crab reference points should be a priority, especially with the recent topic of sperm limitation.
 - **Action Item**: Derek Orner and Lynn Fegley will work up a proposal through CBSAC as a response to this need. Items to consider include cost, timeframe, necessary steps, and who will be involved.
 - Advanced planning needed for Winter Dredge Survey. VMRC will make regulatory decisions by May, so a press release will be necessary prior.
 - Categorize oysters by restoration, aquaculture, public fishery, etc.
 - Have Mark Mansfield brief the Executive Committee on the Oyster Master Plan.
 - Develop a mechanism to communicate efforts and progress of each GIT to all GIT members.

Informational

2012 American Fisheries Society Meeting

- Andrew Turner and Derek Orner’s proposal for a symposium at the 2012 American Fisheries Society was accepted. Their symposium, titled ‘Making the connection: land, water, and sustainable fisheries,’ was accepted and will build off of our December full GIT meeting. They are currently working on coming up with a finalized list of presenters and would appreciate any help in identifying new leads.
- **Action Item**: Please forward any presenter names to Andrew Turner and/or Derek Orner.

Next Executive Committee Meeting:

- February – Need a date
 - **Action Item:** Adam will send out a doodle poll to schedule the February Executive Committee meeting.

Annual Meeting Planning

- Executive Committee Meetings
 - **Action Item:** If you have any ideas for science briefings, please send them to Adam Davis
- Schedule:
 - **Action Item:** Mark your calendars with these dates, otherwise, respond to Adam with conflicts.
 - March 19th
 - April 16th
 - May 21st
 - June 11th-12th (Full GIT Meeting)
 - July 16th
 - August 20th
 - September 17th
 - **October – Need a date**
 - **November – Need a date**
 - December 3rd-4th (Full GIT Meeting)