

**Sustainable Fisheries GIT Executive Committee  
Meeting Summary**

April 25th, 2016 from 1:00pm-2:00pm

Materials: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/23787/>

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**Call Participants:**

*Bob Beal*

*Bruce Vogt*

*Dave Blazer*

*Emilie Franke*

*Kara Skipper*

*Karl Blankenship*

*Lynn Fegley*

*Marty Gary*

*Nancy Butowski*

*Peyton Robertson*

*Rob O'Reilly*

**Decisional**

➤ **June Full Sustainable Fisheries GIT (SFGIT) Meeting**

- The June full Sustainable Fisheries GIT meeting will be held on June 2nd at the VCU Life Science Building in Richmond, VA and on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the VCU Rice Rivers Center in Charles City, VA.
- The June agenda has been further developed by integrating efforts included in the 2016-2017 Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) workplans and incorporating feedback from the Ex Comm into the agenda items.
- **Discussion:**
  - Ex Comm members agreed to facilitate agenda items and provide ideas for discussion questions/objectives. The ownership of items is detailed below:
    - Peyton Robertson:** Welcome and Overview Day 1
    - Bruce Vogt:** Workplan Discussion
    - Rob O'Reilly:** Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management : Intersections with Sustainable Fisheries GIT
    - Marty Gary:** Effects of Land Use on Aquatic Health in the Chesapeake Bay
    - Bob Beal:** National Fish Habitat Partnership Fish Habitat Assessment
    - Peyton Robertson:** Day 2 Overview
    - Marty Gary:** Status of the Invasive Catfish Fishery
    - Peyton Robertson:** Sturgeon Update
    - Dave Blazer:** The Effect of Climate Change on Blue Crabs
    - Dave Blazer:** 2016 Blue Crab Advisory Report
  - The discussion for the Effects of Land Use study will include evaluating the methodology and management implications.
  - The facilitation for the Fish Habitat Assessment can connect the assessment to species relevant to Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC). The 2015 Inland and Marine Assessment for Fish Habitat is slated to be presented in May 2016. Bruce requested a focus in on the Chesapeake Bay for the presentation.
  - The Status of the Catfish Fishery will have a focus on the new USDA regulations in addition to harvest numbers from the past 6 years.
  - Jason Kahn is facilitating a meeting on sturgeon on May 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>. Bruce has requested that Jason provide a summary of the information shared at the meeting to the SFGIT at the June meeting.
- **Action: Bruce will send management implications from the Effects of Land Use study to Marty.**
- **Action: The SFGIT will look for a USDA contact to clarify the new USDA regulations and how these regulations will impact the catfish fishery.**

- **CBSAC Membership**
  - Joe Cimino, Deputy Chief of Fisheries Management at the Virginia Marine Fisheries Commission (VMRC) and Katie May Laumann, Fisheries Planner at VMRC were nominated for Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee membership.
  - **Discussion:**
    - Ex Comm approved CBSAC nominations.
- **Stock Assessment Planning**
  - Blue crab stock assessment planning is continuing. Members have expressed a need for a model that can be updated annually.
  - **Discussion:**
  - Suggestions included organizing the Terms of Reference (TORs) by priority to indicate which TORs are more time-sensitive than others, utilizing staff resources to decrease costs, enlisting the full GIT to discuss whether stock assessment is appropriate for our efforts, and approaching CBP for financial assistance to achieve the blue crab outcome.
  - **Action: Emilie and the managers will look into obtaining a line item budget for the 10 TORs in the stock assessment.**
  - **Action: CBSAC will explore the suggestions included above as current stock assessment costs are not sustainable.**
- **May and July Ex Comm Calls**
  - May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016
  - July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- **Ex Comm Updates**
  - The Baywide Winter Dredge Survey (WDS) results will be shared with VMRC on Tuesday, April 26, 2016. VMRC will be looking at proposals to change regulations for minor gear types.
  - ASMFC will be holding their spring meeting next week May 2-5<sup>th</sup>. Chesapeake Bay topics include a short menhaden meeting discussing a draft addendum for bait fisheries.
  - Marty expressed concern about how to better understand recreational catch and in the Potomac River. Current landings are being attributed to Maryland or Virginia recreational statistics. Bob will bring this issue back to staff at ASMFC.

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## **Informational**

- **Confirm upcoming meeting dates**  
*Ex Comm Call (Mondays from 1:00-3:00pm)*  
 May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016  
 July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016