

Sustainable Fisheries GIT Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes for September 24th, 2012 from 1:00pm-3:00pm
Materials: www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/18780

In Attendance: Peyton Robertson, Bob Beal, A.C. Carpenter, Jack Travelstead, Bruce Vogt, Andrew Turner, Danielle Chesky, Nancy Butowski, Susan Connor, Danny Ryan, and Adam Davis

Decisional

2012 GIT Workplan and June Full GIT Meeting Priorities

- Handout: GIT Work Plan and June GIT Priorities Survey Responses.pdf
- Peyton walked the Executive Committee through the work plan and June GIT priorities survey responses.
- Jack Travelstead recommended the two items below be bumped to high priority and the Executive Committee agreed.
 - In order to make progress towards developing an interjurisdictional blue crab allocation framework, we should begin discussions on an allocation process and develop an allocation framework complete with preliminary numbers for each jurisdiction.
 - Identify a single tributary, that by oyster metrics, is seen as restored and then quantify the ecosystem services and fishery benefits.
- USACE is beginning to apply the oyster metrics to the Great Wicomico and Lynnhaven rivers to assess restoration.
- NCBO is hosting a workshop to investigate nitrogen removal by oysters planned for early January in Wachapregue, VA.
 - <http://www.ncseagrant.org/home/coastwatch?task=showArticle&view=listarticles&id=750>
- **Action:** Keep USACE informed on the oyster nitrogen removal workshop and results.

Land Use Meeting with MD DNR

- Andrew gave a summary of the meeting he and Adam had with Margaret McGinty and Christine Conn from MD DNR to discuss land use issues. Margaret and Christine informed us on numerous previous projects and initiatives we will begin to look into as we consider land use issues within the Bay watershed.
- At the June meeting we agreed to target several locations within MD and VA. These locations were discussed and it was agreed upon to focus on both Deer Creek and the North East River in Maryland for land use targeting. This was due to the fact that Charles County is already facing pressure for the ongoing Mattawoman Creek restoration and the notion was not to throw another initiative in Charles County that could potentially derail the Mattawoman Creek's successes.
- **Action:** We would like to hold a similar meeting with Virginia land use managers and planners so we can evaluate and consider which tributaries identified at the June meeting will hold similar promise.
 - VA-DEQ's Coastal Zone Management Program is holding a meeting in December on land use. We would like to get involved in this meeting and begin identifying who the proper people are that we can begin working with in Virginia.

Membership

- Handout: *Fisheries GIT Membership Review 8-31-12.pdf*
- The Executive Committee reviews the current membership list. Several people were identified that have either moved on or are no longer the correct person for specific representation.
- Rick Robins was identified to represent VMRC.
- Dennis Fleming was identified to represent PRFC.
- **Actions**:
 - GIT staff will reach out to those that have not attended any meetings.
 - Nancy Butowski will check with Matt Fleming (MD CZM) and Jack Brooks (MD Tidal Fish Advisory Committee).
 - Jack Travelstead will reach out to Rick Robins.

December full GIT Meeting

- Handout: *December Fisheries Goal Team Summit.pdf*
- The Executive Committee reviewed the summit document describing the objectives of the December meeting. They agreed that the written meeting objectives and outcomes are the intended goals from this meeting.
- **Action**: GIT staff will work up a proposed agenda for the meeting to be discussed at the October Executive Committee meeting.

Informational

Maryland Oyster Population Status Report – 2011 Fall Survey

- <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/oysters/pdfs/2011FSreport.pdf>
- "Disease levels were at their lowest since systematic monitoring began in 1990, resulting in the lowest oyster mortalities in over 25 years...The lower salinities proved to be beneficial to the majority of oysters in Maryland by reducing disease impacts to allow the yearling oysters to thrive. As a result, the 2011 Oyster Biomass Index increased by 44% over the previous year."

Fisheries Science Research Priorities for 2013

- **Action**: Please fill out the below poll so we can determine NCBO research funding for 2013.
 - <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GXZ87C6>

GIT Chairs Meeting

- Peyton went over outcomes and key points from the GIT chairs meeting on Wednesday, September 20th.
- The meeting focused on where the GITs priorities overlap and how they can support each other's work in specific locations. Harris Creek was used as an example, but the goal was to find more areas of cross-collaboration amongst the GITs.

Blue Catfish Task Force

- Initial meeting will be scheduled for October. Updates and outcomes of the newly assembled task force should hopefully come at the October Executive Committee meeting.

CBSAC Male Blue Crab Reference Point Meeting

- October 17-18 @ Chesapeake Biological Laboratory (Solomons Island).

Chesapeake Bay Program Tasks

- GIT Goal Statements Updated
 - http://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/17764/git_goal_statements_june_2012_2.pdf
- CBP Indicator Status:
 - Striped Bass Abundance
 - Revised indicator due fall 2012
 - Moving towards ASMFC reporting - control rule
 - Contacted ASMFC for guidance
 - Menhaden Abundance
 - Revised indicator due fall 2012
 - Moving towards ASMFC reporting
 - Contacted ASMFC for guidance
 - Oyster Restoration and Abundance (separate indicators)
 - Revised indicators due by 2013 CBP Executive Council Meeting
 - Shad – developing an entirely new indicator
 - New indicator due spring 2013
 - Update: The American Shad Indicator Action Team met on August 29th to initially scope out a new indicator. The idea is to develop a new indicator incorporating habitat and fish recovery efforts. The next meeting for this group will be in October.
- Decision Frameworks (DF)
 - Oyster DF completed but needs updating
 - Second is due by December 31st

Newsletter

- Handout: *Fisheries GIT - Newsletter - 9-2012 (v1).pdf*

Fisheries GIT Meeting Schedule

- ***October Executive Committee – Need Date***
- ***November Executive Committee – Need Date***
- Full GIT – December 6th-8th
