

Sustainable Fisheries GIT Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

May 20, 2019 from 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Participants

Sean Corson
Rob O'Reilly
Nancy Butowski

Bruce Vogt
Susan Conner
Marty Gary

Mandy Bromilow
Lynn Fegley

Morgan Corey
Bob Beal

Decisional

- **FY2019 GIT Funding Project Ideas**

- Background:

- Each year, Fisheries GIT has the opportunity to put forward 3-4 top priority project ideas that help to address GIT outcomes and can be accomplished for around \$50K to \$100K. Project ideas are due **June 14** and funding decisions will be made by late July.

- This year, criteria for funded projects include:

- Address components of the workplans (see actions identified for [blue crab](#), [oysters](#), [fish habitat](#), [forage](#)) and/or management strategy and removes barriers to achieving outcomes
 - Unique projects with deliverables that serve as a catalyst for action
 - Emphasis on **co-benefits** across **multiple goals and outcomes**
 - Work in advance with the CBPO Creative Team (GIS, web, and communications) to utilize internal capacity, if applicable
 - If possible, address an identified science priority and decision framework

- Past projects funded for Fisheries GIT

- Shoreline threshold analysis
 - Regional fish habitat assessment data inventory
 - Oyster restoration cost-effective monitoring protocol
 - Oyster shell budget
 - Striped bass disease mycobacteriosis
 - Blue crab ecosystem factors impacting mortality
 - Tom Miller will present results at June meeting
 - Hypoxia vertical water column monitoring with Water Quality GIT

- Project ideas under consideration by Fisheries GIT for 2019

- Shorelines communication product
 - Climate indicator linked to living resources
 - Striped bass habitat pilot
 - Oysters denitrification BMPs

- Feedback from Ex Comm

- Good response to shoreline website idea

- Fisheries climate indicator – could link to DNR Coastal Zone Services inundation maps for sea level rise, might be challenging to connect to changing habitat conditions and impacts to fish
 - Likely to use currently measured temp and salinity preference, more info available for how those parameters link directly to fish
 - Striped bass habitat pilot – caution trying to link habitat parameters to recruitment
 - Recruitment is highly variable, and strongly correlated with early springtime water flow, high flows tend to produce strong year classes
 - So many variables intertwined interacting, hard to draw conclusions on what impacts recruitment success
 - Could use year class strength and egg survival as metrics
 - Could relate striped bass pilot to climate indicator
 - Need an affordable method to check in regularly
 - Use data from Eyes on the Bay, CBIBS, VECOS
 - Can it be sustained?
 - **Action:** Morgan will send project summaries to Ex Comm and GIT members for feedback and ranking high priority projects, and Fisheries GIT will work to further develop project ideas before June 14 deadline
- **Future Ex Comm Meetings**
 - Agreed to keep monthly meetings on the books and adjust timing as needed
 - Advantage of checking in regularly with all jurisdictions, while being sensitive to members time commitment
 - Consider longer Ex Comm meetings in advance of biannual meetings and/or workshops
 - Fisheries GIT will continue to provide advance notice of any cancellations or changes in meeting schedule
 - We plan agendas based on what is coming up, but always welcome hearing from members what issues are important to discuss

Informational

- **June meeting agenda preview**
 - The June 26-27 [Fisheries GIT Biannual Meeting](#) will take place at Horn Point Lab in Cambridge, MD.
 - Agenda for Day 1 will focus on blue crab, including Winter Dredge Survey results and approval of the 2019 Advisory Report, fish habitat update on ongoing assessments, funded habitat research projects, and discussion of water column habitat modeling.
 - Day 2 will include OysterFutures and an oyster hatchery tour, funded forage research projects, and a discussion of 2019 GIT funding.
 - Consider that Manokin River is the last to finalize and officially name by the GIT for credit under 2014 Agreement oyster outcome (TBD if ready to vote in June)

- **Actions:** Morgan will send draft June GIT meeting agenda for final feedback
- **Member updates**
 - Sean: discussed with Matt Strickland VA oyster restoration tribs funding, and possibility of using TMDL to offset costs of projects; MD interest in expanding invasive catfish marketing, strong support for continuing 5 tributaries restoration
 - Rob: June 25 public hearing crab updates at VMRC
 - Commission voted unanimously on spring trophy season striped bass accepted by emergency, follow up public hearing May 28
 - Lynn: crab advisory committee meeting May 22 to discuss management
 - Marty: voted on crabs bushel limits; receiving more calls on blue catfish than striped bass right now mostly due to salinity expanded range and related to marketing challenges
 - Commission meets June 7
 - Being asked to see what can be done to address bottlenecking in short and long term, more fish and more people harvesting
 - **Action:** follow up with Invasive Catfish Work Group or a subset with new members, discuss hosting a meeting at PRFC
 - Sean: striped bass recreational harvest discards – is this a concern?
 - MRIP survey not designed to work at fine resolution
 - VA relatively low on dead discards
 - Susan: Lynnhaven fully funded and will be implemented in phases, positive Chesapeake comprehensive study moving forward this summer and supports overall Bay restoration work