

## **Invasive Catfish Task Force Charge**

The *Invasive Catfish Task Force* under the Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team (Fisheries GIT) was further charged by the Fisheries GIT at the December 6-8<sup>th</sup> full GIT meeting in Port Isobel, Tangier Island. The Fisheries GIT latest charge is to develop an Action Plan that recommends specific *actions to mitigate* the spread of invasive catfish within three months that can then be implemented within the next six months. This work will be presented to the Fisheries GIT at the next full GIT meeting in June where an agreed course of action will be discussed and implemented by the jurisdictions.

### **Responsibilities and Role of the Invasive Catfish Task Force:**

The *Invasive Catfish Task Force* will be responsible for coordinating the best available science and developing precautionary management approaches aimed at mitigating the spread and minimizing the impacts of invasive catfish species on the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem in accordance with the *Invasive Catfish Policy*. The *Invasive Catfish Task Force* is also responsible for routinely communicating progress and recommendations to the Fisheries GIT.

### **Invasive Catfish Taskforce Charge:**

By June, 2013, the Fisheries GIT Executive Committee requests the *Invasive Catfish Task Force* to complete the Action Plan and be ready to present their work to the Fisheries GIT. Following completion of the Action Plan, the Fisheries GIT will review and agree on a final set of actions to which the Bay jurisdictions will implement in 2014.

- Develop and present the Invasive Catfish Action Plan to the full Fisheries GIT at the June, 2013 meeting.
  - The Action Plan should recommend specific actions for each jurisdiction to address invasive catfish.
  - These actions should be specific enough to address each jurisdictions need, but also target invasive catfish on a Baywide scale to mitigate negative impacts and reduce spread.
  - The Action Plan should seek to apply the latest science findings and geospatial tools to actions and build on existing outreach and education efforts.

### **Invasive Catfish Task Force Membership:**

- Geoffrey Smith (PFBC) – Susquehanna River Biologist
- Matt Fisher (DE - DNREC) – Fisheries Biologist, Delaware Division of Fish & Wildlife
- Nancy Butowski (MD DNR) – Program Manager, Chesapeake Bay Program
- Mary Groves (MD DNR) – Southern Regional Manager, Inland Fisheries
- Steve Vilnit (MD DNR) – Seafood Marketing Specialist
- Danny Ryan (DC DOE) – Fisheries Management, DC Division of Fish and Wildlife
- Ellen Cosby (PRFC) – Assistant Executive Secretary
- Mary Fabrizio (VIMS) – Associate Professor of Marine Science
- Robert Hale (VIMS) – Professor of Marine Science
- Greg Garman (VCU) – Associate Professor and Director, Center for Environmental Studies
- Bob Greenlee (VDGIF) – Fisheries Biologist
- Joe Grist (VMRC) – Plans and Statistics Department
- Mike Hutt (VA Marine Products Board) – Executive Director
- Andrew Turner (NCBO/Versar) – Fisheries Specialist