

**Sustainable Fisheries GIT Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes**

November 18, 2013 from 1:00pm-3:00pm

Materials: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/S=0/calendar/event/19250/>

Decisional

➤ **Plans for Postdoc Fellow – Troy Hartley (VA Sea Grant) (1:00-1:20)**

- Handout: *Postdoc criteria*
- Troy presented plans for a joint VA Sea Grant/NCBO funded post-doc fellow next year. The post-doc will sit at VIMS with some travel around the region.
- Troy and his team are working to develop criteria for the post-doc's project that will likely be focused on EBFM.
- The process moving forward will be to finalize the criteria for the position, and then review and choose project options.
- Discussion:
 - The Ex Comm likes this proposal and would like to make sure that existing research priorities are considered in the project selection process.

Action: Staff will compile jurisdiction, ASMFC, and Fisheries GIT work plans and research priorities to send to Troy and his team to consider in the project selection.

➤ **CBP Fisheries Indicator Changes (1:20-1:45)**

- Handout: *Fish Indicator Options*
- Discuss the current content, concerns, and proposed changes for the following indicators on the Chesapeake Bay Program website:
 - Native Oyster Abundance
 - Restoring Oyster Reefs
 - Striped Bass Abundance
 - Juvenile Menhaden Abundance
- Decisional: Decide how to proceed with these indicators and what data to use on the Bay Program website.
 - The Ex Comm discussed a strategy for each of the above indicators.
 - Native Oyster Abundance – Explain the switch to the tributary-based approach; consider developing a new indicator using jurisdiction oyster survey data and/or results from the VIMS oyster survey research.
 - Restoring Oyster Reefs – Work to develop a chart to show the identified tributaries for restoration and their status in the planning process; show acreage data and targets for tributaries in the implementation phase
 - Striped Bass – Continue to report ASMFC's coastwide female SSB and fishing mortality data; add MD and VA juvenile indices data to the website
 - Menhaden – Show the PRFC pound net index, which ASMFC uses as a proxy for coastwide adult menhaden abundance; also add ASMFC coastwide fishing mortality data
- Discussion
 - The striped bass and menhaden indicators can be updated relatively soon working with ASMFC and the jurisdictions' data.

- The oyster indicators will take more time to develop through 2014. The Fisheries GIT will work with Chesapeake Bay Program communications to modify the existing web content to explain that the indicators are under development.
- Restoration and sanctuaries are not the only aspect of oysters, and the wild fishery and aquaculture aspects should be considered for the indicator in the future if relevant data and goals exist.

Action (complete): Bruce will present the strategies to the Bay Program Management Board.

➤ **December full GIT Meeting Planning (1:45-2:30)**

- Handout: Dec 2013 draft agenda v10_discussion
- Review meeting logistics and the full agenda.
- Finalize the “Oyster Management Primer” agenda item
 - Ex Comm members Jack T, Tom O, and Marty G will present this agenda item giving a brief overview of their jurisdiction’s oyster management
 - We will use the Oyster Management chart developed for the November CBC meeting
- Discussion:
 - Commercial/recreational attendance is feasible because of the meeting’s location in Solomons
 - Jim Price and Jim Uphoff would like to present work on striped bass predation on blue crabs

Action: Andrew T. will reach out to some of the local (Solomons) area watermen to invite them to the full GIT meeting.

Action: Tom O. is following up with Jim P regarding his proposed presentation on striped bass.

➤ **CBSAC Membership – Joe Grist (CBSAC Chair) (2:30-2:45)**

- Inform the Ex Comm of recent CBSAC membership discussion and proposed additions.

Action: The Ex Comm will follow up on this and will provide guidance by January 2014.

➤ **2014 Meeting Dates (2:45-2:50)**

- Handout: 2014 Fisheries GIT Calendar 11-15
- Choose Ex Comm meeting dates for the beginning of 2014
- Meetings will continue to be Monday afternoons from 1-3 pm
- Scheduled January 13, 2014 and February 24, 2014

➤ **Ex Comm Updates (2:50-3:00)**

- Executive Committee members’ updates and discussion of management issues.
- The Ex Comm discussed the outcomes from the November CBC meeting on oysters and water quality.

Informational

- **Invasive Catfish Task Force Meeting – October 30th**
 - Handout: Task Force 10-30 Summary_ UPDATED
 - The Task Force met in person to discuss new research and modeling, updates on current research and jurisdiction actions, and to review the draft management strategies in the Task Force's Invasive Catfish Response Plan.

- **Oyster Reef Ecosystem Services (ORES) Project Meeting**
 - The NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office, MD DNR, and the PI's involved in this multi-jurisdictional project are meeting at PRFC on November 20th to discuss coordination for this project.
 - The PIs are listed below:
 - Ken Paynter (UMD), Lisa Kellogg (VIMS), Mark Luckenbach (VIMS), Paige Ross (VIMS), Jeff Cornwell (UMCES HPL), Rom Lipcius (VIMS), Rochelle Seitz (VIMS)

- **CBSAC Meeting November 21st**
 - CBSAC will be meeting in-person to discuss addressing the gear selectivity issue, which was determined a high priority in CBSAC's research needs prioritization.

- **Confirm upcoming meeting dates**

Tuesday-Wednesday, December 3-4th (Full GIT Meeting)
Location: Chesapeake Biological Lab in Solomons, MD

2014 (Mondays 1-3 pm)

January 13th

February 24th