



Working Group Meeting

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM ET

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM AT

Briefing Book

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<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting Call-in Information</p> <p><u>Conference Call Access Information</u> Call In: 1 866-506-7697 Passcode: 9500660#</p>
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Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment
 March 15, 2017 • Working Group Meeting • Briefing Book

GOMC Working Group Meeting Meeting Agenda • Wednesday, March 15, 2017 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM ET / 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM AT		
ATLANTIC TIME 2:00 PM	Welcome, Introductions, and Overview of Objectives for the Meeting <i>Peter McLaughlin, Working Group Chair</i> <i>NB Department of Environment and Local Government</i>	
2:05 PM	DRAFT Policy for Industry Funding Working Group members are asked to provide feedback regarding the draft policy for GOMA and the Canadian Association to solicit and receive corporate or industry funds in support of GOMC initiatives.	✓ For Direction <i>Briefing Note: pp. 4-5</i>
2:20 PM	GOMC Awards Program – Quick Update Council Coordinator will provide an update regarding GOMC 2017 Awards nominations received to date, deadlines and selection process. Working Group members will provide any additional updates.	✓ For Information ✓ Internal ✓ For Direction <i>Briefing Note: p. 6</i>
2:30 PM	Developing 2018-2022 GOMC Action Plan Working Group will discuss and provide direction regarding potential GOMC goals and outcomes to be included in the next GOMC Action Plan	✓ For Direction <i>Briefing Note: p.7</i>
3:00 PM	Developing GOMC 2017-2019 Work Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Working Group members will provide updates regarding progress and plans for developing two-year Work Plans for review and approval at the June 2017 meeting. ➤ Working Group members will discuss potential opportunities for GOMC to collaborate with NROC plans. 	✓ For Direction <i>Briefing Note: p. 8</i>
3:30 PM	Planning for June Council / Working Group Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Logistics Update ➤ Agenda Development - Working Group members are asked to provide feedback regarding policy issues and other potential agenda items for the June 2017 Council / WG meeting. 	✓ For Information ✓ Internal ✓ For Direction <i>Briefing Note: pp. 9-11</i>
3:45 PM	Request for GOMC Letter of Support for NERACOOS Proposal Working Group will discuss preparing a letter of support from GOMC for NERACOOS' Proposal – “Transitioning ocean and coastal acidification models into outlooks, forecasts, and warnings for the Northeast”	✓ For Decision <i>Briefing Note: pp. 12-13</i>
3:50 PM	Other Business / Networking	
4:00 PM	Adjourn	

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note					
Title of Agenda Item: Draft Policy for Corporate or Industry Funding					
Submitted by: Peter McLaughlin, Joan LeBlanc, and Cindy Krum					
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	For Direction	X	For Information <small>(internal GOMC)</small>	For Information <small>(External)</small>
Background (required):					
<p>As part of its efforts to create a financially self-sustaining initiative, the Gulf of Maine Council’s EcoSystem Indicator Partnership (ESIP) program has been exploring potential sources of funding from the corporate community. During discussions about potential funders, Working Group members identified the need to develop a policy for considering corporate or industry funding to support Gulf of Maine Council initiatives.</p> <p>J. LeBlanc prepared a draft policy for corporate or industry funding, with input from P. McLaughlin and C. Krum, as a follow-up to discussions and input during several Secretariat Team meetings. The draft policy incorporates some elements of a sample policy from another non-profit organization shared by Don Hudson with the Secretariat Team.</p>					
Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Group members are asked to provide feedback and direction regarding this initial draft policy. • Council Coordinator will incorporate feedback into the draft policy. • If needed, follow up discussion and additional feedback will be provided at the April Secretariat Team meeting. • The goal is to develop a recommended draft policy for final Council / Working approval at the June 2017 meeting. 					
Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note):					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Policy for Industry Funding, <i>p. 5</i> 					

Gulf of Maine Association / Canadian Association
DRAFT Policy Regarding Funding from Corporate or Industry Sources

Goal

The goal of this policy is to encourage corporate donations to the Gulf of Maine Association (GOMA) and / or the Association of Canadian Delegates to the Gulf of Maine Council (Canadian Association) in support of the mission of the Gulf of Maine Council (GOMC).

Responsibility for Raising funds from Corporate or Industry Sources

The Gulf of Maine Association, a United States 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization, manages contractual and fiscal operations in support of Council initiatives. GOMA supports Council programs and projects by raising funds, approving budgets and overseeing compliance with all grants and contributions. Consistent with its mission, GOMA is responsible for soliciting and making decisions in regards to corporate donations in support of the Gulf of Maine Council's operations and / or programs. GOMA decisions are made in coordination with the Secretariat of the Association of Canadian Delegates to the Gulf of Maine Council (Canadian Association), a Canadian charitable organization established to facilitate grants and contributions from Canadian entities in support of Council initiatives.

Internal Review

Prior to soliciting any corporate or industry donations, GOMA will circulate a 'Notice of Intent' to Gulf of Maine Association board members and the Canadian Association for review. A consensus among GOMA and the Canadian Association will be required to move forward with any corporate or industry donations.

All Notices of intent will also be circulated to GOMC Council and Working Group members for informational purposes. While GOMC members are not responsible for review or approval of budgetary or fundraising matters they are welcome to submit comments regarding any notice of intent to GOMA for consideration. Each Notice of Intent shall include the name of the potential corporate funding party, amount of contribution to be requested, purpose of the funding, and expected plans for providing credit to the funder, i.e. placement of corporate logo, press materials or other recognition.

Type of Corporate Donations

Donations to the Gulf of Maine Association may be in the form of cash, products, or in-kind services. The Gulf of Maine Association reserves the right to decline any donation that it judges not to be in its best interest, in the interest of the Gulf of Maine Council, or in the interest of promoting a healthy Gulf of Maine watershed.

Donor Recognition

All corporate donations to GOMA or the Canadian Association will be recognized by corporate logo on the Gulf of Maine Council website in a location appropriate for the initiative supported, i.e. shown as a supporting partner on a specific program webpage. The corporate logo will also appear on related program materials where appropriate and as agreed upon in advance by both parties. A written agreement regarding corporate recognition will be prepared by the lead GOMC representative and approved by GOMA, the Canadian Association, and the corporate funder. A copy of the recognition agreement will be circulated to GOMC Council and Working Group members for informational purposes. No corporate advertising slogans will be permitted. Corporate partners will be recognized annually during the Gulf of Maine Council's annual awards ceremony and in media outreach materials following the awards ceremony and reception.

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note				
Title of Agenda Item: GOMC 2017 Awards Program				
Submitted by: Peter McLaughlin and Joan LeBlanc				
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	For Direction X	For Information X (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)
<p>Background (required):</p> <p>The Gulf of Maine Council is currently accepting nominations for GOMC 2017 Awards. The deadline for submitting nominations is Friday, March 31, 2017. Information about the awards program, past award winners, and nomination forms are available for download at: http://www.gulfofmaine.org/2/gomc-home/awards/</p> <p>Once all nominations are submitted, GOMC Secretariat Team will meet to review nominations and recommend award winners. Council and Working Group members are welcome to participate in the April Secretariat Team meeting to review the slate of candidates. Recommendations for award winners will also be circulated via email to Council and Working Group for feedback prior to final decisions.</p> <p><u>Please Note:</u> Visionary Award winners will be decided by each jurisdiction while Gulf-wide award winners (Longard, Susan Snow-Cotter, Industry, Sustainable Community) will be determined via GOMC consensus.</p> <p>Awards will be presented during the June 7th Awards Ceremony and Reception in Portland, Maine.</p>				
<p>Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Coordinator will provide an update regarding nominations received to date. Working Group members are asked to provide an update regarding any nominations that are in the works and continue facilitating nominations by the March 31st deadline. 				
<p>Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note):</p> <p>n/a</p>				

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note				
Title of Agenda Item: Development of GOMC 2018-2022 Action Plan				
Submitted by: Peter McLaughlin and Joan LeBlanc				
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	For Direction x	For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)
<p>Background (required):</p> <p>Following the GOMC’s organizational assessment and new framework approved in 2015, the goals and actions in the GOMC 2012-2017 Action Plan were reaffirmed and have provided the foundation for a more detailed two-year work plan. GOMC is currently tasked with developing a new 2018 – 2022 five-year Action Plan. This plan will include broad goals and outcomes but not the detailed activities of previous GOMC Action Plans. Instead, the new action plan will provide the foundation or framework for activities included within the GOMC’s 2017-2019 Work Plan currently under development.</p> <p>The following goals and outcomes are included in the GOMC 2012-2017 Action Plan.</p> <p><i>Goal 1: Restored and Conserved Habitats</i></p> <p>Outcomes: 1.1 Water Quality Protection 1.2 Habitat Restoration Outcome 1.3 Habitat Conservation</p> <p><i>Goal 2: Environmental and Human Health</i></p> <p>Outcomes: 2.1 Environmental Monitoring 2.2 Environmental Indicators and Reporting 2.3 Climate Adaptation</p> <p><i>Goal 3: Sustainable Communities</i></p> <p>Outcomes: 3.1 Understanding How People Use the Gulf of Maine 3.2 Community Stewardship</p> <p>For reference, a copy of the full GOMC 2012-2017 Action Plan is available at: http://www.gulfofmaine.org/2/action-plan-homepage/</p>				
<p>Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Group members are asked to provide direction and feedback regarding potential goals and outcomes to be included in the 2018 – 2022 Action Plan. 				
<p>Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note):</p> <p>n/a</p>				

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note				
Title of Agenda Item: Development of GOMC 2017-2019 Work Plan				
Submitted by: Peter McLaughlin and Joan LeBlanc				
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	For Direction	x	For Information (internal GOMC)
For Information (External)				
Background (required):				
<p>1. The Gulf of Maine Council is currently operating within the 2015 – 2017 Work Plan which highlights GOMC initiatives and planned activities for the period July 2015 through June 2017. GOMC is in the process of developing a new Work Plan covering the period July 2017 through June 2019. The Work Plan will include both continuing and updated initiatives. Working Group members are in the process of updating existing or developing new Work Plans to be included in the 2017 – 2019 GOMC Work Plan which will be considered at the June 2017 GOMC meeting.</p> <p>2. GOMC currently has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Northeast Region Ocean Council (NROC) to promote collaboration when feasible. Steve Couture suggested that GOMC take a look at NROC’s two Work Plan items for 2017 – 2018 to see if there are opportunities for synergy with GOMC’s work plan.</p>				
Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Group members are asked to provide updates regarding progress and plans for developing two year Work Plans for review and approval at the June 2017 Council / Working Group meeting. Continuing or potential new initiatives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Climate Network ○ EcoSystem Indicator Partnership (ESIP) ○ Gulfwatch ○ Marine Debris ○ Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP) ○ Coastal Resilience / Living Shorelines ○ GOMC Awards Program ○ Others? • Working Group members will consider potential opportunities for synergy between GOMC Work Plans and the following two recently approved Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC) Work Plans for: 1) Coastal Hazards Resilience, and 2) Ocean and Coastal Ecosystem Health 				
Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note):				
<p>For reference, the 2015-2017 GOMC Work Plan is available at: http://www.gulfofmaine.org/2/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/GOMC-2015-2017-Work-Plan-v.2.pdf</p>				

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note				
Title of Agenda Item: Planning for June 2017 Council / Working Group Meeting				
Submitted by: Peter McLaughlin, Theresa Torrent and Joan LeBlanc				
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	For Direction	X	For Information (internal GOMC)
				X For Information (External)
Background (required):				
The following plans have been confirmed for the GOMC's June 2017 meeting and awards ceremony.				
GOMC Joint Council and Working Group Meeting Wednesday, June 7 and Thursday, June 8, 2017 University of Southern Maine, Abromson Center, 88 Bedford Street, Portland, Maine				
GOMC Awards Reception and Ceremony Wednesday, June 7, 2017, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM Gulf of Maine Research Institute 350 Commercial Street, Portland, Maine				
Recommended Accommodations Courtyard Marriott Portland Downtown / Waterfront 321 Commercial Street, Portland, Maine <u>Reminder:</u> Book by deadline of May 6, 2017 to receive discount rate of \$161 Link for GOMC reservations: Book your group rate for Gulf of Maine Council				
The agenda for the June 2017 GOMC meeting is currently being developed.				
Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Group members are provided with an update regarding logistics and plans for the June 2017 meeting. • Working Group members are asked to provide feedback regarding their plans for attendance at the June 2017 meeting in Portland. • Working Group members are asked to provide direction and feedback regarding policy sessions and other potential agenda items for the June 2017 Council / Working Group meeting. 				
Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note):				
GOMC Placeholder Agenda for the joint Council / Working Group meeting, <i>pp. 10-11</i>				

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment
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DRAFT PLACEHOLDER –MEETING AGENDA – Day 1

All Times are ET

Joint Council / Working Group Meeting • Wednesday, June 7, 2017 University of Southern Maine, Abromson Center, 88 Bedford Street, Rooms 214-215, Portland, ME		
8:30 AM	GOMC Council Meeting - Welcome, Introductions and Overview of Meeting Objectives <i>Council Chair: Perry Haines, NB Department of Environment and Local Government</i>	
8:40 AM	Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 2016 Council / WG meeting summary • March 2017 Working Group meeting summary • GOMC / GOMA Finance / Budget Update 	✓ For Decision
8:45 AM	Roundtable Forum Council / WG members discuss key issues facing jurisdiction and / or region.	✓ For Information
10:45 AM	Break	
11:00 AM	GOMC 5-Year Action Plan (2018 – 2022) Council / WG members review and discuss draft GOMC Action Plan. Amount of time needed for this item will depend upon progress in developing and receiving support for draft Action Plan during spring 2017. Depending upon needs, this will be either a quick check-in regarding proposed draft or a working discussion session to further develop the Action Plan.	✓ For Direction ✓ For Decision
12:30 PM	Lunch (provided on-site)	
1:30 PM	GOMC Workshop – Developing GOMC 2-Year Work Plan GOMC Council and Working Group members will work together to develop GOMC work plan by discussing proposed two-year work plans for existing and new GOMC initiatives. Workshop will include brief updates regarding accomplishments for continuing initiatives.	✓ For Direction
3:00 PM	Break	
3:15 PM	GOMC Workshop – Developing GOMC 2-Year Work Plan (continued)	✓ For Direction
4:00 PM	Adjourn for the Day	

Wednesday, June 7, 2017 • GOMC Awards Reception Gulf of Maine Research Institute, 350 Commercial Street, Portland, ME	
5:30 PM	GOMC Awards Reception GOMC will host special reception and ceremony to present GOMC 2017 Awards.

*Please note: this is a placeholder agenda for travel planning purposes.
 The meeting agenda will be revised and further developed throughout the spring.*

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DRAFT PLACEHOLDER –MEETING AGENDA – Day 2

All Times are ET

Joint Council / Working Group Meeting • Thursday, June 8, 2017 University of Southern Maine, Abromson Center, 88 Bedford Street, Rooms 214-215, Portland, ME		
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	Gulf of Maine Association Meeting Gulf of Maine Association will hold a breakfast meeting in advance of the regular GOMC Council / Working Group Meeting. All GOMC Council / Working Group members are welcome to attend.	
8:45 AM	Gulf of Maine Council Meeting Begins / Overview of Objectives for Day 2 <i>Council Chair: Perry Haines, NB Department of Environment and Local Government</i>	
9:00 AM	GOMC Workshop – Developing GOMC 2-Year Work Plan (continued) Council and Working Group will continue workshop and finalize decisions regarding GOMC initiatives to include in the two-year work plan.	✓ For Direction ✓ For Decision
10:30 AM	Break	
10:45 AM	Additional Day 2 GOMC Topics – TBD Agenda items for Day 2 are still under development. Additional topics may include policy discussions, presentations from external speakers, and / or educational field excursion.	
12:00 PM	Lunch (provided on site)	
1:00 PM	Additional Day 2 GOMC Topics – TBD Agenda items for Day 2 are still under development. Additional topics may include policy discussions, presentations from external speakers, and / or educational field excursion.	✓ For Direction
4:00 PM	GOMC Plans for 2017 / 2018 Secretariat Year New Brunswick Leadership – Year 2	✓ For Direction
4:30 PM	Meeting Adjourns	

*Please note: this is a placeholder agenda for travel planning purposes.
 The meeting agenda will be revised and further developed throughout the spring.*

Recommended Accommodations:

- **Courtyard Marriott Portland Downtown / Waterfront**
 321 Commercial Street, Portland, ME 04101, (207) 780-6000
<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pwmcd-courtyard-portland-downtown-waterfront>
- Discount rate of **\$161** per night
- Book by deadline of **May 6, 2017** to receive discount rate
- Important - Use this link to book your GOMC online reservations:
[Book your group rate for Gulf of Maine Council](#)
- If reserving by telephone, be sure to request Gulf of Maine Council group rate

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note						
Title of Agenda Item: GOMC Support Letter for NERACOOS						
Submitted by: Steve Couture, NH DES						
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	x	For Direction	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;">For Information (internal GOMC)</td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;">For Information (External)</td> </tr> </table>	For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)
For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)					
<p>Background (required): GOMC has been asked to prepare a letter of support for the following NERACOOS Proposal.</p> <p><u>Transitioning ocean and coastal acidification models into outlooks, forecasts, and warnings for the Northeast</u></p> <p><u>Partners:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ru Morrison, NERACOOS • Joe Salisbury and Bror Jonsson, UNH • Changsheng Chen, UMassD • Bob Beardsley, WHOI • Riley Young-Morse, GMRI • Peter Taylor, Waterview Consulting <p>Globally CO₂ levels are increasing and oceans are acidifying. In coastal waters the amount of acidification is more complex, influenced by freshwater and nutrient inputs from coastal rivers. The waters off the Northeast U.S. to the Nova Scotian shelf are poorly buffered and potentially have increased vulnerability to Ocean and Coastal Acidification (OCA). These waters are also highly productive with an historic and commercially important fishing industry. In 2012, \$1.2 billion of finfish and shellfish were landed with the calcifying lobster and sea scallop accounting for two-thirds of this value. Recreational fishing and mariculture are also important in the region.</p> <p>The Northeast Coastal Ocean Forecast System (NECOFS), established in 2007, is an integrated atmosphere-ocean model forecast system designed for the northeast US coastal region covering a computational domain from the south of Long-Island Sound to the north of the Nova Scotian Shelf. NECOFS, a foundational component of the Northeast Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS), produces three-day forecasts every day and has been validated with hindcasts back to 1978. Smaller subdomains are nested within the larger regional domain and various modules, for example water quality, may be included. A carbonate chemistry module addressing OCA has recently been developed for the Massachusetts Bay subdomain. However, NECOFS currently lacks the ability to forecast freshwater discharge, an important factor in OCA in the northeast.</p> <p>The Northeast Coastal Acidification Network (NECAN) was established in 2013 as the leading organization for the synthesis and dissemination of regional acidification data and information. NECAN’s mission is to provide rigorous and balanced scientific information to decision makers and user groups regarding the current state of knowledge of coastal acidification and its potential environmental and socio-economic impacts to the northeast region. NECAN also serves as a conduit through which these groups can provide guidance for regional research and monitoring. Established under the Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS), NECAN is a partnership among government agencies, industry and the scientific community. NECAN activities to date include webinars, a state-of-the-science workshop and summary article, developing translation materials, six stakeholder engagement workshops, and the development of a 2017 NECAN Implementation Plan. This plan identified the need for “the development of a regional OCA model that integrates physical, hydrological, biological processes for hindcasting and forecasting” and the need to “develop and serve visualizations of monitoring and model results to allow people to assess the state of OCA in the region”.</p>						

The proposed work will build on the regional stakeholder engagement and established regional modeling and observing capacity to directly address the NECAN priorities by;

- Documenting and fulfilling stakeholder information requirements with an interactive approach based on established and continued engagement activities,
- Transitioning the carbonate chemistry model to the full NECOFS region,
- Transitioning NECOFS to a system with a coupled river freshwater discharge model by incorporating a river forecast developed with previous IOOS funding,
- Incorporating the carbonate chemistry and freshwater discharge models into the three-day forecast production cycle,
- Hindcasting the carbonate system back to 1978 and use the hindcasts and observations to identify System States and their drivers,
- Development of state change scenarios based on a matrix of modeled climate change indicators, and
- Producing warnings, scenarios, and educational materials based on the identified stakeholder requirements.

The many industries that could be affected by OCA are commercial fishing, shellfish harvesting, aquaculture, and seafood distribution. The above approach would provide these industries with the required information at the right temporal and spatial scales. Modeling will allow the interpolation between observations points, provide three-day forecasts and warnings, allow for mid-term outlooks to be developed based on system states, and explore possible future scenarios. People operating businesses in those industries need objective information to help them prepare for and respond to the impacts. Regional policymakers and resource managers are beginning to address ocean and coastal acidification, and they too require this high-quality scientific information for decision-making.

Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested:

- Working Group members are asked to decide whether GOMC will provide a letter of support for this NERACOOS proposal. A quick decision is needed as the request is due on March 24, 2017.

Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note):

n/a