



Working Group Meeting
Wednesday, October 18, 2017
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM ET
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM AT

Briefing Book

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<p>Meeting Call-in Information</p>

<p><u>Conference Call Access Information</u></p>

<p>Call In: 1 866-506-7697</p>

<p>Passcode: 9500660#</p>

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment
 October 18, 2017 • Working Group Meeting • Briefing Book

GOMC Working Group Meeting Meeting Agenda • Wednesday, October 18, 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	Networking / Roundtable Updates Working Group members will provide general networking updates plus any quick updates regarding GOMC initiatives.	✓ For Information
2:40 PM	GOMA Transition Update Don Hudson will provide an update regarding GOMA transition.	✓ For Information
2:50 PM	GOMC 2017-2019 Work Plan Quick check-in regarding status of any new or revised Work Plans.	✓ For Direction <i>Briefing Note: p. 4</i>
3:00 PM	Developing 2018-2022 GOMC Action Plan Working Group members will discuss development of the GOMC Action Plan -- including process for writing up GOMC accomplishments from the previous Action Plan period, providing additional information about Action Plan goals, and linking the goals to the Work Plan.	✓ For Direction <i>Briefing Note: pp. 5-6</i>
3:40 PM	December 2017 and June 2018 Council / Working Group Meetings Peter McLaughlin and Joan LeBlanc will provide an update regarding plans for the December 2017 Council / WG meeting. Working Group members are asked to provide feedback regarding the draft agenda for the December meeting. Peter McLaughlin and Bill Whitman will provide updates regarding status of planning for GOMC's June 2018 meeting.	✓ For Information ✓ For Direction <i>Briefing Note: pp. 7-8</i>
3:55 PM	Proposed GOMC Webinar Working Group members are asked to provide feedback regarding proposed topic for first GOMC webinar – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>New Hampshire's Tidal Crossing Assessment Protocol: Overview and Transferability to Jurisdictions in the Gulf of Maine</i> 	✓ For Information ✓ For Direction <i>Briefing Note: pp. 9</i>
4:00 PM	Adjourn	

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note				
Title of Agenda Item: 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
				X
				For Information (Internal GOMC)
				X
				For Information (External)
Background (required):				
<p>During the June 2017 Council / Working Group meeting, a draft GOMC 2017 – 2019 Work Plan was approved. The work plan outlines planned activities for Gulf of Maine Council from July 2017 through June 2019. Following the June 2017 meeting, Working Group members have updated some of the plans to incorporate feedback received during the meeting. The updated GOMC 2017 – 2019 Work Plan has been posted to the GOMC website. This Work Plan will be updated as needed to incorporate revised or new Work Plans going forward.</p> <p>GOMC is currently developing a five-year GOMC Action Plan. The Action Plan will highlight goals and provide a link to the GOMC two-year Work Plan.</p>				
Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Group members are asked to provide any updates regarding plans to develop new or revised Work Plans for inclusion in the GOMC 2017 – 2019 Work Plan. If ready in time, new plans will be submitted for approval during the December 2017 Working Group / Council meeting. The GOMC 2017 – 2019 Work Plan currently includes the following initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Climate Network ○ EcoSystem Indicator Partnership (ESIP) – to be updated ○ Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP) ○ GOMC Awards Program ○ GOMC GeoTour ○ GOMC Webinars ○ Gulf of Maine Symposium • Other potential plans that may be developed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gulfwatch ○ Marine Debris ○ Others? 				
Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note):				
<p>For reference, the 2017-2019 GOMC Work Plan is available at:</p> <p>http://www.gulfofmaine.org/2/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/GOMC-2017-2019-Work-Plan.pdf</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 x <small>(internal GOMC)</small>	For Information <small>(External)</small>
<p>Background (required):</p> <p>Following the GOMC’s organizational assessment and new framework approved in 2015, the goals and outcomes in the GOMC 2012-2017 Action Plan were reaffirmed and provided the foundation for a detailed GOMC 2015-2017 Work Plan.</p> <p>GOMC is currently developing a new 2018–2022 five-year Action Plan. This plan will include broad goals and a summary of accomplishments during the previous five-year action plan period. The new action plan will not include detailed activities but will provide the foundation or framework for activities included within the GOMC’s 2017-2019 Work Plan. The 2018-2022 Action Plan will include a link to the two-year work plan.</p> <p>The following goals for the GOMC 2018-2022 Action Plan were approved during the June 2017 GOMC Meeting:</p> <p><i>Goal 1: Restored and Conserved Habitats</i> <i>Goal 2: Environmental and Human Health</i> <i>Goal 3: Sustainable and Resilient Communities</i></p> <p>Next Steps</p> <p><u>1. Write Up Accomplishments (2012 – 2017)</u> GOMC Working Group members will prepare write-ups highlighting accomplishments during the previous Action Plan period. These write-ups should be very brief bullet points or paragraphs highlighting key accomplishments. A tentative list of topics with suggested ‘leads’ is highlighted below for discussion during the October Working Group meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Network – Ellen Mecray / Bill Appleby • Ecosystems Indicator Partnership – Kathryn Parlee / Jim Latimer • Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning – Betsy Nicholson / Glen Herbert • Gulfwatch – Peter Wells • GOMC Awards Program – Joan LeBlanc / Theresa Torrent • GOMC 25th Anniversary (collaboration with CZC 2014, ‘Facing Change’, GeoTour etc.) – Joan LeBlanc with others • State of the Gulf Report – Heather Breeze • Habitat Restoration – tbd • Other accomplishments? <p>Proposed deadline for submitting write-ups to Council Coordinator: Wednesday, November 8th.</p>				

2. Develop Detail Associated with Goals

During the October 2017 meeting, Working Group members will discuss potential strategies for providing additional detail associated with the three major goals. In past plans, outcomes that linked directly to GOMC initiatives were included in the plan. However, during the June 2017 meeting, Council and Working Group members decided that ‘outcomes’ are probably not appropriate for inclusion in the new GOMC Action Plan because the GOMC has shifted its framework toward an approach with a priority for sharing of tools / information and networking vs. long-term initiatives. For purposes of the new Action Plan, it may be appropriate to elaborate on the goals as well as highlight the key types of work and strategies to be undertaken by the GOMC. For discussion purposes, these may include:

- information exchange / networking
- sharing and transfer of tools and resources
- cross-border collaboration
- forum for policy discussions
- increase awareness and stewardship
- provide resources for decision makers

Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested:

- Working Group members are asked to review and provide feedback on the list of topics and associated leads for writing up accomplishments to be included in the 2018 – 2022 Action Plan.
- Working Group members are asked to provide feedback regarding proposed deadline of providing highlights of accomplishments by November 8 (a week in advance of the November 15 Secretariat Team meeting).
- Working Group members are asked to provide feedback regarding level of detail to include along with the goals section of the Action Plan.

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

For reference, a copy of the previous GOMC 2012-2017 Action Plan is available at:
<http://www.gulfofmaine.org/2/action-plan-homepage/>

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note				
Title of Agenda Item: Planning for December 2017 and June 2018 Council / Working Group Meetings				
Submitted by: Peter McLaughlin, Bill Whitman 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): Current status of plans: December 2017 - GOMC Council and Working Group Teleconference Meeting Monday, December 4, 2017, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM ET / 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM AT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US Regional Site: NH Department of Environmental Services, Portsmouth, NH • Canada Regional Site: will be set up depending upon interest • Draft agenda included following this briefing note. June 2018 GOMC Council and Working Group Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans for two-day in-person meeting are currently in development • Will include evening reception for GOMC Awards Program • Bill Whitman is exploring potential for hosting the June meeting in Nova Scotia • Dates TBD – first or second week of June 				
Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Group members are asked to provide input regarding the DRAFT December 2017 meeting agenda • Working Group members will receive updates regarding plans for the June 2018 meeting. 				
Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GOMC DRAFT Agenda for the December 2017 Council / Working Group meeting, <i>pp. 8</i> 				

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DRAFT MEETING AGENDA

Joint Council / Working Group Teleconference Meeting Monday, December 4, 2017 • 10 AM – 3 PM ET / 11 AM – 4 PM AT		
ATLANTIC TIME 11:00 AM	GOMC Council Meeting - Welcome, Introductions and Overview of Meeting Objectives <i>Council Chair: Perry Haines, NB Department of Environment and Local Government</i>	
11:05 AM	Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 2017 Council / WG meeting summary • October 2017 Working Group meeting summary • GOMA Budget and Transition Update 	✓ For Decision
11:15 AM	Roundtable Forum Council / WG members discuss key issues facing jurisdiction and / or region.	✓ For Information
12:00 PM	GOMC Initiatives Updates and discussion regarding progress in implementing 2017 – 2019 GOMC Work Plan.	✓ For Direction ✓ For Decision
1:15 PM	Lunch (on your own)	
2:15 PM	GOMC 5-Year Action Plan (2018 – 2022) Council / WG members review and discuss draft GOMC Action Plan. Specific details for this session will depend upon status of progress in developing Action Plan during fall 2017.	✓ For Direction ✓ For Decision
4:00 PM	Adjourn	

Gulf of Maine Council - Webinars

Proposed Topic:

*New Hampshire's Tidal Crossing Assessment Protocol:
Overview and Transferability to Jurisdictions in the Gulf of Maine*

About New Hampshire's Tidal Crossing Assessment Protocol:

In July 2017, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Coastal Program in partnership with the Nature Conservancy, the University of New Hampshire, and NOAA's Office for Coastal Management, published New Hampshire's Tidal Crossing Assessment Protocol ("Tidal Protocol") to evaluate crossing structures that convey tidal flows. The Tidal Protocol is an assessment methodology used to inventory and prioritize tidal crossing replacements based on a set of management objectives, such as a structure's condition, inundation risk, and restrictiveness to tidal flows, among others. The Tidal Protocol is a first screen to identify infrastructure replacement and ecological restoration priorities; it is not designed to comprehensively assess tidal crossings to meet site-specific engineering and restoration requirements.

For more information:

<https://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/newhampshire/oceans-coasts/nh-tidal-crossing-assessment-protocol.pdf>

About the Webinar:

Gulf of Maine Council Councilors and Working Group members are invited to participate in an informational webinar to learn about New Hampshire's Tidal Crossing Assessment Protocol. The webinar will include informational presentations, opportunities to ask questions, and discussion about transferability of the protocol to other jurisdictions in the Gulf of Maine. Gulf of Maine Council members are welcome to invite colleagues and other agencies to participate in this webinar.