



**Gulf of Maine  
Council on the  
Marine Environment**

**Council Briefing Packet • V.3**

Fredericton, NB • June 7, 2012



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## Council June 2012 meeting agenda

Wednesday, June 6, 2012, Delta Hotel, Fredericton, NB

6:00 PM	<b>Awards Reception</b> <i>Hon. Bruce Fitch – Council Chair and Minister, NB Department of Environment and Local Government</i>
8:00 PM	<b>Group Dinner Option at Bruno's Restaurant – Delta Fredericton Hotel</b>

Thursday, June 7, 2012, Delta Hotel, Fredericton, NB

7:30 AM	<b>US and Canada Association / Delegation Breakfast and meeting</b> <i>Introduction of the new Gulf of Maine Association and US/CAN Board members</i>
9:00 AM	<b>Welcome, introductions, jurisdictional interests and updates, and overview of meeting objectives</b> <i>Perry Haines – Assistant Deputy Minister, NB Department of Environment and Local Government</i>
9:05 AM PG 5 PG 12 none PG 18 PG 13 PG 14 PG 15	<b>Consent agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Council December 2011 meeting summary</li> <li>▪ New GOMC Letterhead</li> <li>▪ Committee and Subcommittee reports acceptance</li> <li>▪ Gulf of Maine Fund Development Report</li> <li>▪ Gulf of Maine Association update</li> <li>▪ Management and Finance Terms of Reference</li> <li>▪ Strategy for increasing philanthropic and corporate support: one focus is on habitat restoration in the provinces</li> </ul>
9:10 AM	<b>Update on potential impacts of the recent Federal budget on programs of interest</b> <i>Jackie Olsen – Environment Canada</i> <b>Outcome/Desired Action:</b> Information
9:30 AM PG 17	<b>Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Action Plan Workplans</b> <i>Theresa Torrent-Ellis - Working Group Action Plan Team and Kathleen Leyden, Maine State Planning</i> <b>Background:</b> In the December Working Group and Council meetings it was agreed that the Action Plan Team with leadership from MSPO would work with Justin Huston to revise the current TAPAS tool and help Committees develop new work plans that would respond to each of the activities in the AP for approval at the June Council meeting. Once approved by Council work plans will be incorporated into the Action Plan website through links at each of the activities. <b>Outcome/Desired Action:</b> Council will be introduced to the Action Plan Workplan components and will be asked to adopt them for implementation.
10:00 AM	<b>Action Plan Implementation: Projections of Core Funding Needs</b> <i>Rob Capozzi - Working Group Chair and Cindy Krum – US Gulf of Maine Association</i> <b>Background:</b> Review of scopes of services for all contractors and report out on new provisioning of Core Services via contracting each of Council Coordination, Fund Development, IT, and GOMT directly with Secretariat and putting each of these contracts out for bid / tender. <b>Outcomes/Desired Action:</b> Provide new deliverables in each Core Services contract to reflect the requirements of the new Action Plan, Council activities and programs.
10:30 AM	<b>Break</b>
10:45 AM	<b>Ocean and Coastal Protection in New England - EPA</b> <i>Mel Coté, EPA</i> <b>Background:</b> Update on program delivery within EPA Region 1. <b>Outcome/Desired Action:</b> Information



<p>11:15 AM PG 18</p>	<p><b>Developing an Economic Model for Evaluation of Program and/or Organizational Success</b> <i>Rob Capozzi – Working Group Chair, and Steve Couture - NH Dept of Environmental Services</i> <b>Background:</b> As a follow up to the March 2012 Working Group session with Dr Robert Johnston, members were identified to move forward a recommendation to Council on the desired outcomes and potential tools needed to be developed to be able to achieve economic evaluation products that identify the value of the GOMC and its programs and activities. <b>Outcome/Desired Action:</b> Council will review Working Group recommendations for next steps and provide direction on funding to implement this economic evaluation and study.</p>
<p>12:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Lunch at the Delta</b></p>
<p>1:00 PM</p>	<p><b>GOM Science/Research Update – RARGOM</b> <i>John Annala, Gulf of Maine Research Institute and Robert Stephenson, St. Andrews Biological Station, Department of Fisheries and Oceans</i> <b>Background:</b> information <b>Outcome/Desired Action:</b> information</p>
<p>1:30 PM PG 19</p>	<p><b>Update on Regional Inter-Organizational Ocean and Coastal Collaboration Report</b> <i>Robert Capozzi, New Brunswick Dept. of Environment and Local Government and Secretariat Working Group Chair</i> <b>Background:</b> In the June 2011 meeting the Council decided to participate in an effort to explore collaboration with NROC, RCOM, and NERACOOS. Formal consultations occurred and an options paper was prepared by consultant Evan Richert. At the March meeting, the Working Group reviewed the options paper and developed a set of recommendations for Council. <b>Outcomes/Desired Actions:</b> The Council adopts recommendations from Working Group.</p>
<p>2:00 PM PG 21</p>	<p><b>Engaging the foundation community</b> <i>Councilors Lamb, Hudson, Sochasky and Wiggin with support from David Keeley, Fund Development Coordinator</i> <b>Background</b> One of the Council's fund development strategies is to work in partnership with the foundation community to address the regional priorities described in its Action Plan. In 2010 it convened a funders forum to increase awareness about the Council and bi-national priorities and to cultivate foundation support of all parties working on these issues. One emerging approach is to increase Canadian philanthropic and corporate support for local habitat restoration projects in the provinces. A first step is to convene foundation leadership and staff through conference calls and a 1-day funders forum. Our intent is to 1) introduce the GOMC and its role as a regional convener, 2) describe the regional priorities in 2012 -17 Action Plan, 3) share the depth and breadth of their current environmental portfolio, and 4) explore their interest in securing additional funding for environmental conservation and habitat restoration. <b>Outcome/Desired Action</b> 1. Councilors are aware of this effort and discuss opportunities and issues; and 2. Council identifies possible foundation staff and corporate partners to engage.</p>
<p>2:30 PM</p>	<p><b>Guest Presentation: New Brunswick's Emergency Measures Organization</b> <i>Ernest MacGillivray, Emergency Measures Organization</i> <b>Background:</b> Emergency preparedness and mitigation of risk caused by flooding events and other emergency events, including anticipated future climate change impacts for New Brunswick. <b>Outcomes/Desired Actions:</b> Information</p>
<p>3:15 PM</p>	<p><b>Break</b></p>



4:00 PM PG 23	<b>ESIP update</b> <i>Susan Russell-Robinson</i> <b>Background:</b> 1) Changes to ESIP web based tools 2) Demonstration of jurisdictional representation in ESIP products 3) Group discussion of value of proposed "jurisdictional identifier feature" 4) Request for ESIP Journal submissions from GOMC Member Organizations <b>Outcome/Desired Action:</b> information piece and request for ESIP journal submissions.
4:30 PM	<b>Guest Presentation: The St. John River Society</b> <i>Ms. Molly Demma</i> <b>Background:</b> The St. John River Society exists for the appreciation and wise use of the natural and cultural resources of the St. John River watershed. Founded in 1992, the Society is dedicated to the promotion and appreciation of the River and the stewardship of its resources. The Society represents the entire length of the St. John River and undertakes programs that ensure its continued sustainable use and recognition as one of the major rivers of Canada. <b>Outcome/Desired Action:</b> Information
5:00 PM PG 24	<b>December meeting plans, closing remarks and passing of the gavel</b> <i>Perry Haines, Assistant Deputy Minister, NB Department of Environment and Local Government</i>
5:30 PM	<b>Adjourn</b>

## Council meeting summary

Saint John, NB • December 8, 2011

**Councillors present:** Michael Cormier for Margaret-Ann Blaney, NB Department of Environment; Mel Coté for Stephen Perkins, US Environmental Protection Agency; Sophia Foley for Sterling Beliveau, NS Department of Environment; Russell Henry for Michael Olscamp, NB Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture, and Fisheries; W. Don Hudson, The Chewonki Foundation (Emeritus); Peter Lamb, Private Sector, New Hampshire; David Millar, Department of Fisheries and Oceans; Ru Morrison, University of New Hampshire; Jackie Olsen, Environment Canada; Rene Pelletier for Thomas Burack, NH Department of Environmental Services; Greg Roach for Sterling Beliveau, NS Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture; Sochasky, St. Croix International Waterway Commission; Theresa Torrent-Ellis for Darryl Brown, ME State Planning Office; and Jack Wiggin, Urban Harbors Institute.

**Councillors present via conference call:** Priscilla Brooks, Conservation Law Foundation; Bruce Carlisle, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management; Pete Colosi for Pat Kurkul, National Oceans and Atmospheric Administration; and Danielle Diz for Bettina Saier, World Wildlife Fund Canada.

**Others present:** Andrew Allyn, US Fish and Wildlife Service (contractor); Jan Anderson, National Oceans and Atmospheric Administration; Martin Boulerville, NB Department of Environment; Rob Capozzi, Working Group Chair, NB Department of Environment; Tim Hall, Department of Fisheries and Oceans; David Keeley, The Keeley Group; Cindy Krum, Krum Steele Consulting, US Gulf of Maine Association; Kathryn Parlee, Environment Canada; Michele L. Tremblay, naturesource communications; and Peter Wells, Dalhousie University and Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership.

**Others present via conference call:** Steve Couture, NH Department of Environmental Services; Betsy Nicholson National Oceans and Atmospheric Administration and Peter Taylor, Waterview Consulting.

### Consent Agenda

Decision	Lead/contact	Due date
The Council accepted the consent agenda.	N/A	N/A

### Action Agenda

#### Plans for Joint Canadian and US Association

Jackie Olsen recognized Rob Capozzi, Ted Diers, Don Hudson, Justin Huston, Ru Morrison, Cindy Krum, and Theresa Torrent-Ellis for their efforts on the group who developed the recommendations. Don Hudson and Jackie provided background and presented the recommendations. His presentation focused on the progress to date with recommendations for the establishment of a joint Canadian and United State Association, including ramifications to the Canadian Association and the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment's organization structure. The Canadian Association would remain with no changes. Canadian members would be added to the US Association board of directors. A key message is that the new "blended" association would not duplicate or replace the Working Group's or Council's functions. It would focus on finances, fund development, and contractual issues but Management and Finance would be designated with financial and contractual oversight and there will be two Association representatives on Management and Finance (MandF). This will require a change to the MandF terms of reference on which the Council must vote. The Council will form a nominating committee to determine the composition of the new Association. Canadian federal members are allowed to serve but in the US, federal employees are barred from serving due to their conflict of interest guidelines. There was some concern about multiple layers of organizational structure that involve the same people. This new structure provides for better involvement from the private sector Councillors. Greg Roach wanted to be sure that the Association would be accountable to the Council and that the Council continue to be the driver and the decision maker for direction and policy. Don assured the Council that the Association was a supporting organization whose principal role was to manage finances. He said that since Councillors from Canada and the US will be on the board and the Working Group's participation, he is confident and certain that this will not occur. Greg wants to be sure that the Council remains engaged and that it remains as the policy and programmatic driver and that the Council and Working Group chairs participate in the new Association. Don said that the Association will take its "marching orders" from the Council.

Further information is available in the meeting briefing note posted at

[http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc\\_council\\_december\\_2011.pdf](http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc_council_december_2011.pdf).

The presentation is posted at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201112/>.

<b>Decision</b>	<b>Lead/contact</b>	<b>Due date</b>
The Council approved the recommendations to modify the existing Association of United States Delegates to the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment, form a Nominating Committee, and the implementation plan. The new organization will use the DBA name, "Gulf of Maine Association."	Don Hudson, Jackie Olsen, and Cindy Krum	N/A
The Council appointed to the Nominating Committee Don Hudson, Ru Morrison, Jackie Olsen, and Lee Sochasky.	Don Hudson, Jackie Olsen, and Cindy Krum	N/A

<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/contact</b>	<b>Due date</b>
The Council's Gulf of Maine Association Nominating Committee, W. Don Hudson, Ru Morrison, Jackie Olsen, and Lee Sochasky, will prepare a slate of board of directors nominations for a vote by the US Association. The current US Association Board of Directors will invite all Councillors to the conference call during which they will vote on the new nominees.	Don Hudson, Jackie Olsen, and Cindy Krum	February 2012

#### **Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Action Plan webpage explained and roll out of Action Plan**

Theresa Torrent-Ellis thanked those who worked on the Action Plan. She and Peter Taylor provided a guided tour of the Action Plan webpages and tools. The Plan is a web-based document and is posted on the new Council website. Peter provided a guided tour of the new Action Plan landing page and associated content including a three-slide show and a download for each of the goals. Talking points, fact sheets, questions and answers document, accomplishments, and other tools are posted on a page for Councillors' use in promoting the Action Plan. Working Group members have committed to speaking with at least three potential partners to promote the Action Plan and identify areas for collaboration. There may be press events in March in Boston and in June in Fredericton. Don Hudson wants to know who will edit talking points and other information to reflect changes such as the proposed dissolution of the Maine State Planning Office. The full Plan can also be downloaded as a PDF.

[http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc\\_council\\_december\\_2011.pdf](http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc_council_december_2011.pdf).

The presentation is posted at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201112/>.

<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/contact</b>	<b>Due date</b>
The Working Group will explore potential media events in March in Boston and in June in Fredericton.	Rob Capozzi, Working Group Chair	March 2012 and June 2012

#### **RARGOM Memorandum of Understanding updated**

John Annala, Chair, provided background on the past Regional Association for Research on the Gulf of Maine (RARGOM) memorandum of understanding with the Council. The current agreement is out of date and the new draft incorporates changes that the RARGOM (that their board of directors drafted). There is a concern that the item 2 in the revision specifies that the Council must appoint two RARGOM members for the Council's two science advisors. This is an issue and is not consistent with the Council's terms of reference and its intent to appoint two science advisors from any academic or other scientist organization. The Council's intent was to be able to decide on two appointees from any organization or from a pool of independent researchers. The first sentence in Article 2 will be deleted and replaced with "RARGOM will provide to the Council two nominees for consideration as science advisors." This way, the Council has the decision to appoint one, both, or neither of RARGOM's nominations. John does not have any issues with the revision but will need to seek approval from his board of directors before the joint statement may be approved.

Cindy suggests that since the US Gulf of Maine Association RARGOM's fiscal agent, that relationship should be specified in the joint statement.

The presentation is posted at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201112/>.

<b>Decision</b>	<b>Lead/contact</b>	<b>Due date</b>
The Council agreed to execute the revised joint statement between the Regional Association for Research on the Gulf of Maine and the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment. The first sentence in Article 2 will be deleted and replaced with "RARGOM will provide to the Council two nominees for consideration as science advisors."	Rob Capozzi and John Annala	immediately



Action	Lead/contact	Due date
The Council will execute the revised joint statement between the Regional Association for Research on the Gulf of Maine and the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment. The first sentence in Article 2 will be deleted and replaced with "RARGOM will provide to the Council two nominees for consideration as science advisors."	Rob Capozzi and John Annala	immediately

**Guest presentation and discussion: RARGOM Annual Science Meeting highlight**

Theresa introduced Andrew Allyn and provided background on why the Council should be aware of this new effort. From their website: [www.GOMIERP.org](http://www.GOMIERP.org): "Gulf of Maine Integrated Ecosystem Research Program will strive to understand the complex inter-relationships among living communities within the Gulf of Maine ecosystem and the physical marine environment, as well as how these relationships may respond to climate change and other large-scale disturbances.

As the list of management agencies and conservation groups supporting ecosystem-based management continues to grow, the Gulf of Maine has a unique opportunity to be among the first regions to implement this new management paradigm. A true ecosystem study, both in its geographical scale and in the scope of its research, the Gulf of Maine Integrated Ecosystem Research Program will provide the research foundation necessary to realize this opportunity." To date, there has not been a great deal of outreach to and participation by Canadian researchers and other audiences. There may be funding resulting through the Minas Basin tidal energy proposals. The lobster fishery in Maine and southwest Nova Scotia is experiencing unprecedented changes. This would be a priority for Gulf of Maine research. This work would be relevant to the Council, other organizations, and the industries that depend on the fishery. A fast response and swift management changes are needed.

The Council's role could be to organize a theme session for the spring RARGOM science symposium.

Andrew may be reached at [Andrews.Alyn@gmail.com](mailto:Andrews.Alyn@gmail.com) and 207.671.8483.

The presentation is posted at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201112/>.

Action	Lead/contact	Due date
The Council will organize a research priorities theme session at the spring RARGOM science symposium.	Rob Capozzi, Working Group Chair, Tim Hall, and Ru Morrison	

**Final July 2011 – June 2012 budget presentation and Action Plan implementation projections of core funding needs**

Cindy Krum provided a brief overview of the budget documents and contractor scopes of services. There are no funds being withdrawn from the reserve fund. There is \$9,000 in the reserve fund above what is required by policy. There is red text (funds not secured and added tasks) in some of the contractor scopes of services. The US Association contracts are increased to manage the NROC funds. The resulting indirect funds can also be used to fund either core services (Council Coordination) or can be re-allocated to the Reserve Account. Several jurisdictions' dues have not yet been received so contracts may need to be revised until the funds are secured, such as core services. No contracts will be executed until the funds for those scopes of services are in hand.

Because fewer dollars were managed by the Association last year, the indirect rate would have been much higher at 35%. The previous year's rate was 20.61%.

It may be less confusing next year to create a separate budget for funds managed for other organizations vs. combining them with the Council's administrative and programmatic funds.

Cindy provided a look ahead at fiscal year 2013 with a forecast or estimated budget for Action Plan implementation. There are significant funds needed for several programs and Secretariat operations.

Further information is available in the meeting briefing note posted at

Decision	Lead/contact	Due date
The Council accepted the July 2011- June 2012 budget.	N/A	N/A
The Council accepted the 20.61% indirect rate for the December 9, 2011 through the December 2012 Council meeting fiscal year.	N/A	N/A

**Gulfwatch's future**

Peter Wells presented a summary of Gulfwatch progress and plans for 2012 to 2017. There are 38 sites including benchmark, rotational, and multi-year, sampled according to the Gulfwatch manual. There are definite trends in the data including Gulfwatch data clearly demonstrating the efficacy of sewage cleanup in Boston Harbor. All of the Gulf of Maine jurisdictions use Gulfwatch data to make decisions on shellfish safety and other public health concerns.

Gulfwatch is cited in the Action Plan (Goal 2). Gulfwatch’s data are being used and this needs to be in a fact sheet and widely published. Continued support is needed from the jurisdictions, both as cash and in-kind contributions. Renewed NOAA-Mussel Watch program linkage including could include an inter-calibration exercise, the possibility of metal analyses being conducted at SC lab, and further work at shared sites in GOMC, such as histopathology. Gulfwatch is requesting that Working Group members provide their jurisdictions’ commitment to support and that the Council provide commitment of funding. There are linkages with the EcoSystem Indicators Partnership (ESIP) publicizing and marketing Gulfwatch and its data. It is not possible to specifically analyse web usage information to determine what Gulfwatch data are being viewed. There was a question about whether the metals are still relevant or if new sampling should be considered. Peter felt that less metal monitoring could be conducted and supplanted with organic-metallic compounds and other organics that the US Environmental Protection Agency lists, including personal care products. These endocrine disrupters and other chemicals persist in the environment and are considered toxic. The presentation is posted at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201112/>.

**Guest presentation and discussion: Atlantic Regional Adaptation Collaboration**

Robert Hughes provided a presentation on the Atlantic Regional Adaptation Collaboration (RAC). The presentation outlined examples in New Brunswick that are experiencing or threatened by saltwater intrusion in groundwater wells; severing of vital transportation links; and abandonment of lands, houses, and infrastructure due to inundation. A dynamic tool that provides high levels of detail including buildings and other details provides models based on projections of sea-level rise and its impacts. It will be publicly accessible after the municipalities are able to review the information. The initiative will conduct facilitated session and provide other opportunities so that communities can integrate the tools, such as the community vulnerability assessment. Predicting where and who will be impacted is key to target agencies’ focus and resources. Rene felt that there will need to be a shift from engineering solutions to prevent erosion to an approach that embraces natural systems or moves infrastructure and other users away from vulnerable areas. Canada has allocated \$148.8 million in climate change adaptation funding that will be distributed to

- \$29.84 million for Environment Canada’s Climate Change Prediction and Scenarios Program.
- \$16.55 million for the Department of Fisheries and Oceans’ Aquatic Climate Change Adaptation Services Program.
- \$2.41 million for Parks Canada toward Understanding Climate-Driven Ecological Changes in Canada’s North.
- \$8.5 million for Health Canada’s Heat Alert and Response Systems.
- \$10 million for Health Canada’s Climate Change and Health Adaptation for Northern First Nations and Inuit Communities.
- \$12 million to the Public Health Agency of Canada for Preventive Public Health Systems and Adaptation to a Changing Climate.
- \$20.02 million for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada’s Climate Adaptation and Resilience Program for Aboriginals and Northerners.
- \$3.5 million for Industry Canada and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, for Integrating Adaptation into Codes and Standards for Northern Infrastructure.
- \$35 million for Natural Resources Canada toward Enhancing Competitiveness in a Changing Climate.
- \$10.99 million for Transport Canada’s Northern Transportation Adaptation Initiative.

These approaches underscore the importance of having Natural Resources Canada at the Council table.

More about the initiative may be viewed at [www.atlanticadaptation.ca](http://www.atlanticadaptation.ca).

The presentation is posted at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201112/>.

<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/contact</b>	<b>Due date</b>
Jackie Olsen will provide information and/or a presentation for the June 2012 Council meeting on federal support and other implementation of the Atlantic Regional Adaptation Collaboration.	Rob Capozzi, Working Group Chair and Jackie Olsen	June 2012

**Impervious surface coverage**

Lee Sochasky provided an overview of a recent study on impervious surfaces and provided a map of the work conducted in New Brunswick. The EcoSystem Indicator Partnership has posted some data and other information is posted on the NB Department of Environment website.

**Developing Work Plans for implementation June 2012**

Rob Capozzi provided background on the Action Plan and the work plan formatting. Action Plan goal Committee and subcommittee engagement is key but their updates have not always been available. The TAPAS (Tracking Action Plan Activities System) has been used in the past and should be adapted for the new Action Plan. It will need to be revised for the new Action Plan structure and the public/private and brief/detailed needs for different audiences. A new governance structure that will facilitate implementation of the new Action Plan will be required and a revised organizational chart developed. Each goal should have a champion or a small group of champions/leaders to assure

that activities are moving forward and their progress communicated to the Councillors and the Council's partners. The elements of information management, communications, and evaluation should be incorporated in each work plan. The work plans will follow a five-year format (to match the Action Plan) but will be refreshed annually and an Action Plan alignment check-up should be conducted. The committee and subcommittee co-chairs will participate in the March meeting and will work on their work plans, which the Council will consider at their June 2012 meeting. Jackie suggested that Councillors review the Action Plan and decide what goals best align with their agencies' priorities and volunteer to be a champion. A terms of reference or description of roles and responsibilities is also required.

Further information is available in the meeting briefing note posted at

[http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc\\_council\\_december\\_2011.pdf](http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc_council_december_2011.pdf).

The presentation is posted at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201112/>.

<b>Decision</b>	<b>Lead/contact</b>	<b>Due date</b>
Don Hudson and David Millar volunteered to be the champions for Goal 1, Jackie Olsen and Ru Morrison volunteered to be the champions for Goal 2, and Jack Wiggin and Mike Cormier volunteered to be the champions for Goal 3.	N/A	N/A
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead/contact</b>	<b>Due date</b>
The Council accepted and endorsed the Working Group's recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Action Plan/work plan and organizational tracking will be implemented through TAPAS (Tracking Action Plan Activities System), which will serve as the reporting tool. It will be revised to meet public, private, detailed, and synopsis needs.</li> <li>▪ The organizational governance will be revised to reflect the new Action Plan structure.</li> <li>▪ Action Plan leads and support resources will be identified and secured to manage and implement these processes.</li> <li>▪ Information management, communications, and an evaluation plan will be incorporated in each work plan.</li> </ul>	Rob Capozzi, Working Group Chair	The process will begin immediately

#### **Atlantic Canada's Atlantic Ecosystem Initiatives**

Kathryn Parlee provided an overview on the history of the Initiatives and the linkages with the Gulf of Maine. Environment Canada is requesting the GOMC to confirm their support for the Environment Canada Atlantic's implementation of the Atlantic Ecosystem Initiatives in the Gulf of Maine ecosystem. This program builds on and supplants the Atlantic Coastal Action Program. Data sharing occurs through Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee's COINAtlantic ([www.coinatlantic.ca](http://www.coinatlantic.ca)). There are memoranda of understanding and partnership agreements that provide some funding and other support for implementation at the provincial, state, and local levels (depending on details). This approach involves implementation with better consistency within agencies and collaborating with others to work together more efficiently. The AEI would like a letter of support from the Council. Peter Lamb feels that this request is in alignment with leveraging the Council's influence to implement its Action Plan and the strategies of its participants.

Further information is available in the meeting briefing note posted at

[http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc\\_wg\\_december\\_2011.pdf](http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc_wg_december_2011.pdf).

The presentation is posted at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201112/>.

<b>Decision</b>	<b>Lead/contact</b>	<b>Due date</b>
The Council confirmed its support for Environment Canada Atlantic's implementation of the Atlantic Ecosystem Initiatives in the Gulf of Maine ecosystem and endorsement of its framework and approach.	Rob Capozzi, Working Group Chair	N/A



Action	Lead/contact	Due date
The Council will provide to the Minister of Environment Canada, the Honorable Peter Kent a letter with a confirmation of support for the Atlantic Ecosystem Initiatives in the Gulf of Maine ecosystem and endorsement of its framework and approach. The letter will include a thanks to Environment Canada, appreciation for its support and activities, and the alignment with the Council priorities for the Gulf of Maine.	Rob Capozzi, Working Group Chair and Melanie Corkum	By December 20, 2011

**Committee Highlight: update on the Restoration Partnership**

Slade Moore provided an overview of the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Habitat Restoration Partnership’s structure, operations, activities, and funded projects and the Maine stream restoration initiatives. The program has worked with agencies to gather data on restoration miles, acreage and fish and other species. Justin suggested that this program and its successes be presented to the Council on Thursday in lieu of the “maritime collaboration” agenda item. Fish and other species re-population is not a requirement of the grants. Mel said that the estuary programs in New England have benefitted from the Gulf of Maine Habitat Restoration Partnership. He said that culverts are not only fish passage barriers but have also caused flooding when they are improperly sized. There was a discussion about community resistance to dam or other barrier removal where impoundments created recreational ponds. Political will can change and sometimes does in these cases. All funded projects require monitoring component so river herring population returns can be measured but system response goes beyond the grant funding period. The US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service may have funding available for restoration.

Further information is available in the meeting briefing note posted at [http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc\\_wg\\_december\\_2011.pdf](http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc_wg_december_2011.pdf). The presentation is posted at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201112/>.

**Update on regional inter-organizational ocean and coastal collaboration**

Rob Capozzi updated the Council on the project that Evan Richert, (Richert Planning was contracted by the Maine State Planning Office for this work) conducted exploring the relationship between the Regional Committee on Coastal and Ocean Management, Northeast Regional Oceans Council, Northeast Regional Association of Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems, and the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment along with his recommendations for collaboration, mergers, and other inter-organizational changes. The report only arrived two days ago so the Working Group did not have time to fully review and discuss it nor has the Council has adequate time to read it. The Working Group’s recommendation is for the Councillors to email their comments and recommendations to Theresa Torrent-Ellis. The Working Group could then convene a meeting in March with the three other organizations to discuss the recommends. The Working Group can then form its own recommendations to the Council. Mel was concerned that there was only one set of recommendations in the report and wanted to know if further options could be developed. He asked if other Councillors could participate in the March meeting. Theresa said that the objective of Evan’s contract was to look at the four organizations, contact representatives from each, and to form recommendations for how the organizations could work together or merger. She said that the Council would be the organization that was the most affected if the recommendations were implemented and that it would be vulnerable without its program. Mel feels that the Council is unique with its non-governmental membership. Jackie is concerned that the document does not take into account important Canadian organizations and perspectives. Lee wants to see cross-border Canadian organizations included to form a true picture of transboundary collaboration. She said that since the report was paid for by the Maine State Planning Office, the Council is under no obligation to act on the recommendations or to take any further action on the process. Jackie feels that shared geographic and programmatic can be identified and their roles and responsibilities are clearly defined in a matrix or more explicitly compared. Mel feels that a format needs to be developed and provided to the Councillors so that they have a framework for their guidance. A SWOT analysis approach may also be helpful. Pete says that he and his staff have not had an opportunity to review and comment on the document. Jackie would like to incorporate into the coordination contract time to work on a format or framework for Council input and to survey Councillors.

Further information is available in the meeting briefing note posted at [http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc\\_council\\_december\\_2011.pdf](http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc_council_december_2011.pdf). The presentation is posted at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201112/>.



Action	Lead/contact	Due date
A template or framework will be developed so that regional organizations can provide information that will result in an objective comparison of their geographic, mission, and membership foci for the Working Group to analyze and prepare for the Council's June 2012 agenda. This can be part of the March 2012 Working Group meeting.	Rob Capozzi, Working Group Chair	March 2012
The revised and expanded maritime collaboration recommendations will be considered by the Council during its June 2012 agenda	Rob Capozzi, Working Group Chair	June 2012

**Economic Impact of the Council and implementation of its Action Plan**

Rob Capozzi said that Dr. Robert Johnston, an economics professor at Clark University, is working with an ad-hoc group that will present an approach to evaluate the value of the Action Plan activities. The overarching objective was to present the economic value of the Council's work and the implementation of its Action Plan. Jackie would like to see return on investment (ROI) in dollar amounts and job creation. This information would validate the agencies' work as well as their investment (cash and in-kind resources) in the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment. There are some good direct impact data but the indirect or second-, third-, and other tier information is not as easily obtained. For instance, how a restoration project has resulted in economic development or a number of jobs in a community. The Council's new talking points papers provide a lot of this information. Lee suggested starting with what is available now and then determine what is needed. Michele suggested a "study design" approach and asking Councillors to prepare questions they are asked or barriers that they encounter when defending their budgets or countering arguments. They could be engaged in a brief brainstorming session and then a follow-up survey and focus group can be conducted. Jackie has worked with a consultant that has provided a model. There are business schools, such as the Tuck School (Dartmouth College in New Hampshire) with graduate students who would work pro bono on a project. Jack would like to see the non-market values included. McGill University conducted a study on the salt marshes sequestering carbon.

Potential (study design) questions include

- For every dollar invested, what is returned in environmental improvement?
- How many jobs are created as a result of an investment?
- Gross domestic project increase?
- Tax base?
- Number of relationships and information sharing and application such as best practices (it may cost more to conduct these projects if the Council's information sharing function did not exist)

Action	Lead/contact	Due date
The Council will be surveyed in January 2012 about economic questions that they routinely face. The Working Group will organize a session on these topics at the March 2012 meeting and offer recommendations to the Council on a study design including the possibility of a focus group session at the June 2012 Council meeting.	Rob Capozzi, Working Group Chair and Jackie Olsen	January 2012

**June meeting plans and closing remarks**

Mike Cormier announced that the Working Meeting will be convened on June 5 and 6 and that the Council meeting will be held on June 7, 2012 at the Delta in Fredericton, NB. The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Awards program will be conducted during the Council meeting.

Further information is available in the meeting briefing note posted at

[http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc\\_council\\_december\\_2011.pdf](http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/docs/gomc_council_december_2011.pdf).

The presentation is posted at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201112/>.

Note: Where available, PowerPoint presentations, referenced handouts, and revised documents can be found at

<http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201112/>.

*Summary prepared by Michele L. Tremblay, naturesource communications*



## **New Council letterhead recommendations to the Council**

### **Listing proposal**

#### **Maine**

*Department of Conservation  
Department of Marine Resources*

#### **Massachusetts**

*Office of Coastal Zone Management  
Conservation Law Foundation  
Urban Harbors Institute*

#### **New Brunswick**

*Department of Environment and Local Government  
Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture, and Fisheries*

#### **New Hampshire**

*Department of Environmental Services  
Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems  
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation*

#### **Nova Scotia**

*Department of Environment  
Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture  
World Wildlife Fund Canada*

#### **Senior Science Advisors**

*Gulf of Maine Research Institute  
St. Andrews Biological Station*

#### **Federal Partners**

*Environment Canada  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
US Department of Interior  
US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
US Environmental Protection Agency*



## **Gulf of Maine Association Update**

### **Background**

The action item for this initiative that was recorded in the December 8, 2011 GOMC Meeting Summary was: "The Council's Gulf of Maine Association Nominating Committee, W. Don Hudson, Ru Morrison, Jackie Olsen, and Lee Sochasky, will prepare a slate of board of directors nominations for a vote by the US Association. The current US Association Board of Directors will invite all Councilors to the conference call during which they will vote on the new nominees."

### **Possible activities and next steps**

The Association of US Delegates to the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment has scheduled a conference call meeting for May 24, 2012 and has extended an invitation to all Gulf of Maine Councilors to participate in the call. The purpose of the call is to establish the new Gulf of Maine Association with joint Canadian and US representation. The current US Association board plans to vote on resolutions including amended and restated bylaws and the nominating committee's recommendations for the new board of directors. The first meeting of the new Gulf of Maine Association is scheduled for June 7, 2012 at 7:30 am prior to the Gulf of Maine Council meeting. All Council members are invited as observers.

### **Action or outcomes requested**

No action requested.

*Submitted by Cynthia Krum*

## **Gulf of Maine Association in Management and Finance**

Terms of Reference edits for adoption

### **Background**

At the December 8, 2011 Council meeting, The Council approved the implementation plan to modify the existing Association of United States Delegates to the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment to form the "Gulf of Maine Association." One part of the implementation plan was to add two "Gulf of Maine Association" Board of Director members to the Management and Finance committee. The Management and Finance committee and the Working Group have reviewed and recommend approval of the following amended Terms of Reference (change in italics):

### **Management and Finance**

*Terms of Reference • 12.4.08*

*Revised 1.5.12*

### **Purpose**

Management and Finance (MandF) serves the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment by managing and reporting on the Council's operations, contracting, and finances along with the service committees of Outreach (including the *Gulf of Maine Times*), Information Management, and Program Evaluation.

It facilitates inter-committee coordination, establishes and monitors implementation of Council procedures (e.g., Reference Handbook, etc.), and coordinates internal policy. It organizes Council and Working Group meetings as needed including the development of agendas and reporting out of the results. It seeks to secure funding in support of approved Council initiatives and projects.

Personnel – MandF is responsible to the Council for all contractor/personnel decisions. In doing so it will delegate appropriate authority to the committees, ensure they have adequate support to perform this work and will make recommendations to the Council as needed. It will work through Secretariat Team recommendations as relates to the three Action Plan goal committees and their subcommittees.

Finance and Budget – MandF prepares the annual budget for Council and Working Group review and then oversees its implementation. (It can amend the budget if the changes do not cumulatively exceed 10% of the approved budget.)

### **Membership**

Management and Finance is composed of a representative designated by each state and province, one provincial member at-large, one federal representative from each country, *and one Gulf of Maine Association member from each country*. The current Working Group chair serves as MandF Chair.

### **Support**

The Council Coordinator, Development Coordinator, Administrative Assistant, and the Executive Director of the US Gulf of Maine Association provide the necessary contractor support. In addition, other Council contractors, agency representatives, and committee co-chairs may assist as needed and contracted.

### **Decisions**

Decisions will be made by consensus.

### **Action or outcomes requested**

Adoption of amended Management and Finance Committee Terms of Reference shown above.

*Submitted by Robert Capози, Working Group Chair*

## **Strategy for increasing philanthropic and corporate support: one focus is on habitat restoration in the provinces**

### **Background**

A priority in the 2012-2017 GOMC Action Plan is habitat restoration. The Action Plan draws on many reports to describe the region's needs including the *Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Needs Assessment: Documenting Habitat Restoration and Land Conservation Programs and Needs* (Hinch - 2010) and the US Gulf of Maine Habitat Restoration and Conservation Plan (Alexander 2009). The new Action Plan is also greatly informed by the Gulf of Maine Council/NOAA Restoration Partnership Program. (Between 2007-2011 over 335 acres of salt marsh were restored throughout the Gulf of Maine watershed. More than 60 stream miles and 1,425 acres of lakes were made re-accessible to spawning alewife. Projects managed during this period totaled \$2.5 million, with \$3.8 million in matching non-federal support. In Nova Scotia \$200,000 was awarded to four projects that generated \$260,000 in match. In New Brunswick \$40,000 was awarded to two projects that generated \$170,000 in match.

Provincial members of the Working Group, facilitated by the Council's fund development coordinator, have begun work to increase Canadian philanthropic and corporate support for local habitat restoration projects in the provinces.

### **Possible activities and next steps**

The core concept is to increase the amount of funding available for on-the-ground habitat restoration projects in the two provinces. (DFO staff may prepare an inventory of existing habitat restoration programs to inform our discussions.) Our intent is to learn from the experiences and leverage the Council's habitat restoration program. We want to create an ongoing competitive grant program that can be branded by the funder and other contributors. We will use the content, guidelines and seek to offer, via a Canadian restoration coordinator, hands-on technical assistance to grantees.

At this time we are considering various organizational options including:

- A re-granting program like the GOMC/NOAA partnership that is coordinated and offered by the Council;
- A re-granting program that one or more Canadian non-profits operate and the Council is a collaborator/partner; and/or
- Philanthropic sources increase their support for habitat restoration and offer funding via a competitive process directly to sub-awardees performing the work.

### **Progress to-date**

1. An ad-hoc work group of provincial and federal staff is formed and has met a few times. It has agreed a next-step is to create a 1-2 page prospectus describing the idea.
2. Environment Canada has identified Canadian philanthropic sources and corporations that may be share an interest in supporting locally-based, on the ground habitat restoration.
3. In January 2012 the Council assisted the Fundy Community Foundation prepare a \$25,000 proposal to the NB Environmental Trust Fund that would build the capacity of FCF to secure resources and work with the Canadian foundation community on environmental conservation activities. (The proposal is pending.) Councilor Lamb helped to create an environmental field of interest fund at FCF.
4. A \$500,000 grant proposal to the Royal Bank of Canada/Blue Water Fund was prepared in 2011 and will be submitted in 2012. It will create a habitat restoration re-granting program that leverages the GOMC/NOAA restoration partnership and support a Canadian restoration coordinator.
5. A proposal concept to the corporate community is being explored. It would bundle 3-5 specific habitat restoration projects that are partially funded via the GOMC/NOAA partnership and seek Canadian corporate support to provide the remaining "20%". The Habitat Restoration Committee will discuss this idea in June.
6. A briefing of board leadership and staff with the Fundy Community Foundation (FCF), Saint John Community Foundation, the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia and the Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia is being explored. FCF staff is networking with their foundation colleagues to arrange a conference call that 1) introduces them to the GOMC and its role as a regional facilitator, 2) describes the regional priorities in 2012-17 Action Plan, 3) shares their current environmental portfolio, and 4) explores their interest in securing additional funding for environmental conservation and habitat restoration.

Once the foundations have confirmed their interest in a briefing the Council will partner to develop an agenda and compile resource materials for the call. A Canadian councilor and Working Group member will join the call and help to describe what the Council is and its achievements.



7. Councilors Lamb, Hudson, Wiggin and Sochasky are discussing the merits and logistics of convening New England-based and Maritime foundations that have a demonstrated interest/capacity in environmental conservation. (It is likely several larger national foundations will also be invited.) The intent is organize and convene a 1-day coastal and ocean briefing for the foundation community that would showcase issues, have high profile speakers, and create energy for these issues. A list of foundations invitees is being developed and seed-funds for the event are being looked for (e.g., Environmental Funders Network, FCF has pledged support, etc.).

**Desired actions and outcomes**

3. Councilors are aware of this effort and discuss opportunities and issues; and
4. Council identifies possible foundation staff and corporate partners to engage.

*Submitted by David Keeley*

## Presentation of Action Plan Workplans

The Work Plan with this briefing note document is posted as a separate PDF at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/new-site/about-the-council/meetings/>

**Background:** In December 2011 the Council released the 2012-2017 Action Plan and requested the Working Group to provide work plans that implement the Action Plan at its June 2012 meeting. In March the Working Group approved a revised TAPAS template and a process for committees to develop draft work plans between April and May. By mid-May about half of the work plans were submitted. (See attached resource materials)

### Possible activities and next steps

The Working Group needs to develop work plan recommendations for Council consideration on June 7th. While all aspects of the work plans are of concern a special focus of WG review are 1) alignment with the Action Plan "activities" and 2) completeness of the work plans. Specific questions the Work Group should consider include:

- Are the deliverables clearly described and are the end-users identified?
- Does the list of key partners include those organizations and individuals that the Council solicited to participate in the fall of 2011 during the Action Plan partner consultation process?
- Does the work plan have a communication strategy and is it complete?
- What work plan clarifications are needed?
- Does the Working Group recommend Council approval of the work plan (with WG amendments)?

**Session format** -- This agenda item is a working session where people will self-select one of four groups to participate in. (Groups of 5-7 people are likely.)

- #1 - Water and habitats (1.1.1; 1.2.1; 1.2.2; 1.2.3)
- #2 - CMSP & EBM (1.3.2; 1.3.3; 1.3.4)
- #3 - Monitoring (2.1.1; 2.1.3)
- #4 - Indicators/SOE (2.2.1; 2.2.2; 2.2.3)

Each breakout will have a recorder that uses flipcharts and template to record comments and a facilitator to run the work session. Each breakout will report out their results to the Working Group and joint recommendations to Council will be developed.

Time	Activity
15-min	Overview, instructions, announce recorders/facilitators - Theresa Torrent Ellis
5-min	Create breakouts
1 hour	Breakouts to discuss each work plan)
15-min	Break
20-min	Report-outs (5-minutes for each breakout group)
30-min	Develop recommendations to Council and create presentation strategy

### Action or outcome requested

1. The Working Group understands and supports the contents of each work plan.
2. The Working Group discusses those AP activities for which no work plan is available and devises an approach.
3. It recommends the Council adopt the work plans.
4. The Working Group develops a presentation strategy to Council that enables the Council to a) understand and support the work plans; b) provide guidance to committees on implementation; and c) understand the resource requirements.

*Submitted by Theresa Torrent-Ellis and David Keeley*



## **Developing an Economic Model for Evaluation of Program and Organizational Success**

The Working Group met with Dr. Robert J. Johnston of Clark University at the March WG meeting in Boston. The WG had previously contacted Dr. Johnson regarding the possibility of developing an economic assessment of the work of the various Council activities and programs. Dr. Johnson advised that an approach that would most effectively convey the value of our activities is a bio-geophysical model measurement that could provide a value of a healthy Gulf of Maine. A bio-geophysical model can assess the output of natural processes, habitats, and products over a large area. For example, when investigating the sources of methane gas the model can be used to assess methane emissions from natural wetlands by comparing it to known sources of methane. The end product would provide a unified message as to the economic value of the work undertaken by the GOMC.

At present, we only partly know the value of our investments in the Gulf of Maine. The direct value of our investments into programs and activities includes the direct dollars we are investing, the dollars we are leveraging, and the value of our products. Our programs and activities also provide a sustainability component to other values that have yet to be fully understood and quantified. These include the overarching value of healthy habitats and their direct benefit to a healthy fisheries sector and marine industries, ancillary industries and spin-off economies related to tourism, as well as the value of healthy communities. We also need to quantify for example, the value of infrastructure at risk to sea level rise and the impacts of climate change throughout the GOM watershed.

A cursory inventory of available sources of information points to existing economic reports, valuations, and studies, on such varied topics as aquaculture and fisheries, recreational activities, wetlands conservation, habitat restoration, stream restoration, infrastructure protection, etc. A formal gathering of this information by the WG can help us identify gaps and succinctly summarize existing economic analyses.

This is an opportune time for us to attempt to determine the overall value of the Gulf of Maine, with justification based on the value of protecting the activities, economies, livelihoods, social fabric and culture of this coastal and marine entity. A bio-geophysical model measurement could generate sector specific valuations and reports that could highlight many of these assets. The Working Group requires guidance from Council as to what important economic questions need to be answered to quantify the value of the Council's work.

*Submitted by Rob Capozzi, NB Department of Environment and Local Government and Steven Couture, NH Department of Environmental Services*

## Discussion on the Richert Report on Regional inter-organizational ocean and coastal collaboration

At the March meeting in Boston, Working Group discussed the Richert Report on collaborations and mergers with the four organizations including the GOMC, Northeast Regional Association of Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS), Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC), and Regional Committee on Ocean Management (RCOM). It is to be noted that the Report was not a recommendation but the results and analysis from interviews conducted with a small sample of GOMC members.

Many WG members felt that the Report overlooked several important roles of the GOMC. Agency priorities addressed at the Council table were not adequately reflected in the Report. Overwhelmingly, the Council is seen as an ideal transboundary 'bridge' organization, where efficiencies are gained by both the US and Canada working together.

Canadian agencies do not agree with the recommendations of the report. In particular, if the Council will only focus on discussions and information exchange, they will have a difficult time participating in the Council. They support continuing to implement the Action Plan. A search for efficiencies is acceptable but not the mergers and eliminations of the Council as suggested by the Report. An opportunity for efficiency might be for agency priorities to be brought to the Council to address be addressed collaboratively.

The RCOM Coordinating Committee is supportive of efficiencies and collaboration to maximize agency Resources, and are supportive of the Council being the transboundary 'bridge' organization.

NROC representatives noted that there are simple collaborative opportunities as outlined in the *NROC Collaboration Opportunities* handout, including committee and activity merger. For example, ocean planning efforts could be coordinated between the Council and NROC.

NROC recognizes the unique transboundary nature of the Council and its programmatic work.

NROC intends to continue to have the US Gulf of Maine Association (USGOMA) act as its fiscal agent and is applying for a new funding source.

ENV CAN felt that the Report compared very different organizations under the assumption that they were all similar. ENV CAN concurs with many that the Council is the only true transboundary organization. The Council works with many data that do not fit into the other three organizations' mission and activities. Many feel that the motivation for individual jurisdiction support of the Report might be because of participation fatigue. Jurisdictions may need to determine what issues are important to them and assess which organization best suits their needs. There is across the board recognition that we can work together more efficiently. Many jurisdictions remind us that their organizations regularly require transboundary information, perspectives, and collaboration for their work, and that the GOMC has always been the place to work collectively.

Working Group members speak to the value of GOMC, as being the best international entity to deliver its programs and attain jurisdictional objectives. Diminished resources are also identified as putting a strain on jurisdictions' ability to identify priorities and resources to address them. Many jurisdictions forecast reduced funding.

NERACOOS reports that NROC and NERACOOS committee integration is currently under way, and includes the coastal and ecosystem health group. NERACOOS proposes joint regional committees.

Massachusetts supports the recommendations in the report and recognizes that the Council, while playing an effective role, could focus more on important functions that fall through the cracks. NOAA agrees that the GOMC is unique and important for information sharing and suggests that there are some committees that could be made more collaborative as a pilot.

Environment Canada notes that while funding is uncertain it has made commitments to the GOMC on many levels. If the GOMC's scale and focus shifts then their commitment has lost its justification. A larger geographic scale will complicate and minimize EC participation and resources. The Action Plan is a great example of how well Canada and the US work together. Work plan development is the opportunity for refined agency alignment with the GOMC.

New Brunswick notes that the GOMC is a very good fit for them and wants to continue to see the programmatic activities and Action Plan implementation assure the health of the Gulf of Maine. Water quality is a priority for NB and the GOMC is the organization to coordinate these efforts. NB is sympathetic to the funding and time constraints jurisdictions are experiencing.

Gulfwatch notes that a region-wide conference would be helpful in accomplishing larger communication and collaboration. Some regional committees may make sense as well. NOAA suggests that there isn't necessarily a need for a wholesale change and that a regional summit could help assemble many additional agencies. The 2014 Canada Coastal Conference is booked for Halifax and could be the seat for the first regional summit. We need to continue identifying emerging issues and opportunities to work on, while continuing the self-analysis. Niches are important to recognize.



Using technology (conference calls, webinars, and document sharing) to coordinate meetings can help with the stated fatigue. Efficiencies are important though technology should not completely replace face-to-face meetings.

It was identified that GOMC receives significantly more from its supporting agencies than many other groups, which demonstrates the GOMC's reputation and track record.

NH proposed a resolution relevant to regional resilience would be a way to align Action Plan and NROC activities. Ecosystem health and climate change hazard efforts could be combined.

Many of the Richert findings have been addressed in the new Action Plan.

The Working Group did not come to consensus on the Richert report as a whole but has formed the following recommendations.

- Continue to implement the GOMC Action Plan while exploring collaboration and efficiencies.
- Explore opportunities for committee collaboration within the context of the Gulf of Maine, recognizing the broader boundaries of organizations such as Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment (GOMC), Northeast Regional Association of Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS), Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC), and Regional Committee on Ocean Management (RCOM).
- Pilot committee collaborations would be Ecosystem Health and Coastal Resiliency.
- A regularly convened summit, beginning with the 2014 Coastal Zone Canada conference in Halifax for all partner organizations. This event can recognize the Council's twenty-fifth anniversary.
- Using current communication technology and other tools to maximize remote participation in meetings.
- The future Secretariat will explore convening the spring or fall meeting virtually.
- Coordinating with partners and co-scheduling meetings so that travel may be combined.
- Updates from organizations as a standing agenda item will be included in agendas for the GOMC and other organizations' meetings. Partner organizations will be asked to provide their updates for the GOMC's meeting briefing books.

*Submitted by Rob Capozzi, Working Group Chair and NB Department of Environment and Local Government*

## Fundraising for the Council a summary of results between 2005-2012

**Background:** The Council supports its operations, ongoing programs and one-time activities through a variety of means including: agency contributions and dues (e.g. cash and services in-lieu of cash); partner and sponsor contributions on specific projects; and government and foundation grants which include indirect revenues. These resources may flow through either the Canadian and/or US Association. They may also go directly from a funder to support an activity (e.g., an agency contracts directly with an individual to perform a specific task, etc.). The largest ongoing source of support has been the NOAA/GOMC habitat restoration partnership (e.g., 11-years and \$4 million).

It is estimated that on an annual basis well over 70% of all Council cash and in-kind support results from federal/provincial/state agency personnel working internally to garner that support. (In-kind support is contributions of goods and services in lieu of cash.) This internal work by member agencies is a hallmark of the Gulf of Maine Council and a testament to the commitment of its member agencies.

In 2005, after significant Council discussion, the Council augmented its capacity to secure funding by soliciting and hiring a part-time fund development coordinator. Described below are the results of this work, lessons-learned that should inform future fund development work and a summary of the funds raised.

- A. A six-year overview of the results
- Expenses -- While annual amounts varied, over the past six and a half years (2005 and 2012) the Council has expended an average of \$27,000/year to develop proposals that implement Action Plan priorities.
  - Revenues -- The Council has received at least \$775,000 in cash (either in cash to the Council or organizations providing cash directly to a contractor) and \$25,000 in contributed staff time support flowing from the work of the fund development coordinator.
  - Sources of support -- The \$800,000 was provided by government, foundations, non-profits and academia. Amounts ranged from a low of \$3500 (Cox Foundation) to \$150,000 (GeoConnections) and \$285,000 (NOAA/Climate Change Program). Average awards were \$20-40,000.
  - Uses of funding -- Examples of how the funds were used include GOM Times, indicators, restoration, climate change, action planning, IT, etc. (Appended to this report is a 1-page summary of the uses of the funds, timing, sources and amounts.)
  - 4:1 Return on investment -- Approximately \$180,000 was spent to receive over \$800,000 in support of Council priorities.
- B. Lessons-learned
1. The annual contract review process should continue to occur (e.g., whether contractor deliverables and deadlines were attained, ways to improve approaches and conditions, etc.)
  2. An internal committee, consisting of Councilors and Working Group members that have fund development expertise, should be formed to advise the Council and Fund Development Coordinator. Further, fund development staff of the non-profit organizations represented on the Council should be periodically engaged/consulted with on Council funding needs, strategies and opportunities.
  3. External funders have made it clear that member agencies need to pay for internal, ongoing Council costs. Further, that the Council needs to provide matching funds when seeking external funder support.
  4. Thoughtful and competitive ideas form the basis of successful proposals. Rigorous committee work plans are essential for efficiently developing proposals. We know that developing and maintaining work plans is a challenge. Committees need to redouble their efforts to provide high quality work plans.
  5. Securing sponsors of the GOMT has proven to be effective but is time-consuming.
  6. It is more efficient to write larger proposals than multiple smaller proposals.
  7. Funders want to "share risk" with other funders and look for multi-partner proposals that leverage other resources. The Council needs to display significant leadership in cultivating and coalescing support for regional issues.
  8. Raising funds (and contributed staff time) to implement the Action Plan takes an organization wide commitment to securing the support to be successful. Expectations on the results/outcomes should be commiserate to the level of engagement by the Council, Working Group and committees.



**Partial listing of \$800,000+ in cash raised and services secured in-lieu of cash: 2005 to 2012**

There are three primary sources of support: cash raised and managed by the Association; cash provided by an organization and given directly to a contractor to perform a service for the Council; and staff time contributed to work on a Council project.

Summit follow-up - 2005 - DFO - \$5,000 (agency cash)  
On-line monitoring program inventory - 2005 - UNH - \$20,000 (agency cash)  
Federal - Provincial crosswalk - 2006 - EC - \$15,000 (agency cash)  
Support development of indicators - 2006 - EPA - \$10,000 (cash to Council)  
Support development of indicators - 2006 - NOAA - \$5,000 (cash to Council)  
Support development of indicators - 2010 - NERACOOS - \$14,000 (cash to Council)  
Develop GOM research priorities - 2005 - CSO - \$3,000 (cash to Council) - NOAA \$10,000 (staff time contributed)  
ESIP start-up grant - 2007 - NRCAN/GeoConnections - \$150,000 (cash to Council)  
ESIP - indicators work - 2006 - NOAA/CICEET - \$20,000 (cash to Council)  
ESIP - indicators work - 2006 - NOAA/NCCOSS - \$3,000 (staff time contributed)  
Science Translation - 2006 - NOAA/CICEET - \$40,000 (cash to Council)  
Assessment of cumulative impacts of coastal permitting - 2007 - ELI - \$10,000 (staff time)  
Indicators, web, science translation, and outreach - EPA - \$40,000 (cash to Council)  
Business plan for GOMT - 2008 - NOAA - \$3,000; MCF - \$5,000; NHCF - \$5,000 (cash to Council)  
Oceans planning integration effort - 2008 - DFO - \$10,000 (agency cash)  
Gulf of Maine Times - 2009 - 2012 - GOMT sponsors \$25,700 (cash to Council)  
Habitat restoration coordinator & restoration/conservation strategy planning - 2009 - Cox Trust \$60,000, MCF \$6,000, NHCF \$10,000 (cash to Council)  
Information technology - 2009 - Cox Trust - \$3,500 (cash to Council)  
Climate change research, communication and local grants - 2011 - NOAA - \$285,000 (cash to Council)  
Action Planning - 2006 and 2011 - MSPO - \$30,000 (cash to Council)  
SOE aquaculture theme paper - 2011 - NSF&A \$4,000 (agency cash)  
SOE eutrophication theme papers - 2012 - EPA \$3,000 (staff time contributed)  
Create digital GOM library & upgrade web site - 2012 - MSPO - \$4,500 (agency cash)

*Submitted by David Keeley, Fund Development Coordinator*

## ESIP and the Delivery of Ecosystem Indicators



### Eutrophication Fact Sheet

ESIP was very pleased to release the four-page Eutrophication Fact Sheet in early May. The fact sheet discusses the four priority indicators selected by the subcommittee: nutrient loading, chlorophyll *a*, secchi depth, and dissolved oxygen. As with all of the other ESIP releases, all datasets used for the fact sheet are now available in the Indicator Reporting Tool

([www2.gulfofmaine.org/esip/reporting](http://www2.gulfofmaine.org/esip/reporting)).

Annual ESIP Steering Committee Meeting



In March ESIP's Steering Committee gathered in Boston, Massachusetts for the annual ESIP planning meeting. Steps for wrapping up ESIP 1.0's priority indicators were discussed along with direction for ESIP 2.0. In addition the morning meeting included discussion with other GOMC chairs regarding collaboration between ESIP and other parts of the Council's work.

[Have you visited ESIP's Indicator Reporting Tool lately? Along with](http://www2.gulfofmaine.org/esip/reporting)

[data for the eutrophication indicators much more information is available for immediate graphing: Gulfwatch, Mussel Watch, Environment Canada, and data from coastal monitoring groups. Visit: www2.gulfofmaine.org/esip/reporting.](http://www2.gulfofmaine.org/esip/reporting)



**What's next: Release of the Contaminants Fact Sheet in Late 2012!**



## Meeting Schedule for MA Secretariat July 2012 – June 2013

### Background

Due to busy schedules and travel restrictions, it has become increasingly important to plan well ahead for meetings. A proposed schedule for the meetings to take place during the Massachusetts Secretariat (July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013) is provided below. This schedule was edited in response to the Working Group and the Management and Finance Committee. In addition we tried to ensure that there are no major conflicts with other meetings at this time.

### Proposed meeting schedule 2012-2013

<b>Working Group Meeting</b>	<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Location</b>
October 10-11, 2012	-	TBD	New Hampshire
December 11-12, 2012	December 13, 2012	TBD	Massachusetts
March 5-6, 2013		TBD	Nova Scotia (?)
June 11-12, 2013	June 13, 2013	Awards Ceremony	Massachusetts

### Possible activities and next steps

If there are no major issues with this schedule planning for the next meeting in October in New Hampshire can proceed.

### Action or outcomes requested

1. Provide Working Group with any major conflicts that may make it difficult for a Working Group member or Councilor to attend a meeting.
2. If there are no objections, approve the proposed schedule.

*Submitted by Prassede Vella, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management*