

Goal 2: Environmental and Human Health Environmental conditions support the health of people and the ecosystems of the Gulf of Maine.			
Outcome 2-2 Environmental Indicators and Reporting Managers receive understandable, useful, reliable information about environmental conditions and trends in the region.			
Action Plan activity	Possible work plan tasks	GOMC lead	Potential Partners (self identified through 8-11 Partner Consultation & recommended by Working Group members)
2.2.2. Identify and assess new and emerging environmental issues in the Gulf of Maine.	Prepare SOE synthesis of priorities identified in theme papers.	SOE	BoFEP, RARGOM, Fisherman and Science Society, NEFMC
2.2.3. Communicate about environmental conditions through the State of the Gulf of Maine reporting products and services.	Complete State of the Environment theme papers; update completed theme papers where necessary. Prepare, implement and evaluate a communications campaign that is targeted at key end-users to make them aware of and use SOE materials.	SOE	BoFEP, ACAP/AEI, EAC, NEA, MERI, Acadia Nat Park, PON, TRAC

Glossary:

Acadia Centre for Estuarine Research (ACER); Atlantic Coastal Action Program (ACAP); Association of Canadian Delegates to the Gulf of Maine Council (ACDGOMC); Climate Adaptation Work Group (CAW); Clean Air – Cool Planet (CA-CP); Community-based Environmental Monitoring Network (CBEMN); Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Partnership (EHJVP); Ecology Action Centre (EAC); Fundy Energy Research Network (FERN); Geoscience Association of NS (GANS); Huntsman Marine Science Centre (HMSC); Maine Environmental Research Institute (MERI); Maine Island Trail Association (MITA); Southwest New Brunswick-Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Planning (MRP); National Estuary Program (NEP); National Estuarine Research Reserves (NERRs); New England Aquarium (NAQ); New England Coastal and Ocean Data Partnership (NECOPD); New England Community of Practice (NE COP); New England Fisheries Management Council (NEFMC), Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC); Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS); North Atlantic Regional Team (NART); Provincial Ocean Network (PON); Regional Adaptation Collaborative (RAC); Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS); Storm Smart Coast (SSC); TRAC (Transboundary Resources Assessment Committee)

TAPAS Information Fields	Responses
Name of activity	State of Environment Reporting (2.2.2 and 2.2.3)
Linkages to AP (direct & indirect)	<u>Direct:</u> 2.2.2 Identify and assess new and emerging environmental issues in the Gulf of Maine 2.2.3 Communicate about environmental conditions through the State of the Gulf of Maine reporting products and services.

	<p><u>Indirect:</u> Links to all three goals and particularly the following activities:</p> <p>1.1.1 Disseminate information about ways to improve and protect the region's marine and estuarine water quality.</p> <p>1.2.3 Promote greater public understanding of the environmental, human health, and economic effects of restoring coastal and marine ecosystems.</p> <p>1.3.1 Support the region-wide exchange of information on observed and predicted effects of climate change on the people living in the region and its coastal and marine habitats.</p> <p>2.1.3 Foster region-wide communication about existing monitoring activities, perceived gaps and partnership opportunities.</p> <p>2.3.1 Provide decision-makers with information to understand and prepare for sea-level rise, increased storm activity, and other climate-related impacts.</p>
Time period/# of months	2013-14; potentially future years
Summary of Activities	<p>All theme papers are completed or are in progress as of May 2013. Over the next year, 1-4 previously completed theme papers will be updated as necessary, as determined by the State of the Gulf Reporting Committee (e.g., Emerging Issues). The committee will also consider whether any new theme papers need to be developed. A synthesis of priorities and indicators listed in the theme papers will be developed once all theme papers have been completed.</p> <p>The editor will assist the Outreach Committee in their efforts to conduct a low-cost outreach and awareness campaign. This campaign will identify primary targets for the product and desired results/outcomes for the use of the product, develop an outreach plan, create and test materials, implement the plan, follow-up with the identified targets, and evaluate the campaign. We will consider the use of existing peer to peer networks to disseminate the reports; briefings on the SOG products and how they can be used; announcements, releases, links, talking points, etc.; press releases, conferences and other media events; articles in the Gulf of Maine Times; coordination with Ecosystem Indicator Partnership (ESIP); user registration for people downloading SOG materials; etc.). We will prepare an evaluation of the campaign, such as a follow-up to the 2012 survey on use of the information, working with the Environmental Information: Use and Influence research team based at Dalhousie University.</p> <p>The State of the Gulf Committee will look into developing guidance on "Best management practices" to address some of the issues discussed in the theme papers. Over the next year, the form that this guidance will take and a template will be developed.</p>
Deliverables <u>Outputs</u> (reports, data, meetings, fact sheets, etc.) <u>Outcomes</u> (effect or results)	<p><u>Outputs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed theme papers (all from list initially proposed). • Updated Emerging Issues theme paper. • Synthesis of priorities and indicators identified in the State of the Gulf of Maine Report.

of project)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary articles on theme papers and emerging issues in the Gulf of Maine Times. • Annual update on the status of the initiative to the GOMC and WG. • Outreach and awareness campaign for State of the Gulf of Maine Report. • Template for delivering information on “best management practices” related to the theme papers has been developed. <p><u>Outcomes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority environmental issues for the Gulf of Maine have been identified in a series of theme papers; the state of the Gulf related to the priority issues is known and/or knowledge gaps related to the state have been identified; activities (e.g., management, research) that aim to address the priority issues have been identified, along with gaps in management and research. • Decision-makers are aware of and use the reports that describe the priority issues. • Working Group and Council are aware of key emerging issues to feed into future work. • “Best management practices” related to the theme papers have started to be identified.
Evaluation	
GOMC Lead(s)	Editor of the State of the Gulf Report; State of the Gulf of Maine Reporting Committee (sub-committee of the Working Group)
GOMC Internal Partners	EcoSystem Indicators Partnership, Outreach Committee, potentially other committees
External Partners	<p><u>Existing:</u> Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership, Dalhousie University (Environmental Information: Use and Influence Research Team), Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Marine Environmental Research Institute, Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management, MIT Sea Grant, NB Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries, NB Environment, NOAA, NS Environment, NS Fisheries and Aquaculture, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Geological Survey, University of Massachusetts, University of New Hampshire</p> <p><u>Potential:</u> RARGOM, FSRs, ICES WG on NW Atlantic Regional Sea, TRAC, ACAP/AEI sites</p>
IT/Web requirements	State of the Gulf of Maine theme papers will be posted to the existing State of the Gulf page on the GOMC website (approx. 1 hour time). The GOMC website may need to be updated to raise the profile of this work, add best practices materials, and link with other GOMC initiatives (approx. 2-4 hours time).
Communication/Out-reach requirements	The outreach and awareness campaign will be led by Outreach Committee.
Budget Information: required, in place, shortfall	Total: \$37.8K* (\$7.6K new theme papers, \$15.2K theme paper updates, \$15K outreach campaign). \$ 8.7K secured for theme papers and updates (2.2K cash, 6.5K in-kind) \$ 4.3K secured for outreach and awareness (2.8K cash, 1.5K in-kind)

	<p>\$ 24.8K shortfall (\$14.1K for theme papers, \$10.7K for outreach and awareness)</p> <p>*Does not include DF0's in-kind support of an editor/coordinator for the series; does not include in-kind support of Dalhousie University's Environmental Information: Use and Influence Research Initiative.</p>
<p>Funding opportunities (\$; existing task or new task; grant or contract; submitted or in development)</p>	<p>In-kind support for the theme papers revisions will be requested over the next year.</p> <p>Cash funding for the outreach project needs to be identified. Some in-kind support may also be available.</p>

TAPAS - GULFWATCH (May-June, 2013)

TAPAS Information Fields	Responses
Name of activity	Gulfwatch (GCMSC) – trace chemical monitoring in the Gulf of Maine and Bay of Fundy, and interpretation in context of ecosystem health of the whole marine ecosystem.
Linkages to AP (direct & indirect)	<u>Direct Goal 2. (2.1) - all components, especially 2.1.1.</u> <u>Indirect Goal 2, sections on ESIP (2.2.1) and State of the Gulf Reporting (2.2.2,2.2.3).</u>
Time period/# of months	FY 2013-2014
Summary of Activities	<p>Also see Gulfwatch Briefing Note, May 31st 2013, and previous work plans..</p> <p>GULFWATCH BUSINESS PLAN AND ITS FUNDING</p> <p>1. Review and initiate the completed Gulfwatch Program Business Plan, Phases 1-3. 2. Initiate new funding initiatives, with assistance of the jurisdictions. 3. Complete estimate of in-kind support for the entire Gulfwatch program.</p> <p>SAMPLING AND SAMPLING METHODS</p> <p>4. Move ahead with sampling for Fall 2013 in all jurisdictions.</p> <p>5. Complete review of sampling methods: a) Cost out preparing and processing the paperwork re sample transfer more rigorously, as in-kind contribution. b) Prepare an overview of how the Gulfwatch samples are collected, in association with state and provincial programs. c) Distribute the Jone's Business Plan Report (Jan 2013) to all Gulfwatch members as it addresses the questions posed at the March 2012, Boston Gulfwatch meeting (i.e. . revisit sampling design; decide on criteria for selecting annual sites; have each GOMC jurisdiction review all of their local sampling sites, consider their priority, and report to Gulfwatch on their decisions re suitability of each site).</p> <p>SAMPLE ARCHIVES</p> <p>6. Coordinate and update inventory of where archival samples are, and evaluate how they are kept. 7. Summarize applications of the archived samples, e.g., oil spill damage. 8. Report on meeting between DFO personnel and co-chair regarding status of the BIO Gulfwatch tissue archives.</p> <p>MEMBERSHIP</p>

	<p>9. Continue action to bring new members to the Gulfwatch team, especially in relation to NB departments and personnel, and retiring personnel. 10. Confirm the new US Co-Chair to replace outgoing Co-Chair - CK.</p> <p>COLLABORATION WITH ESIP</p> <p>11. Continue to assist ESIP with the Gulfwatch data, as it is updated, and its entry into the ESIP indicators reporting and mapping tool. This is ongoing. Enter raw data into the system from our most recent reports (2010 data report). 12. Continue to work with ESIP Coordinator on the contaminants indicators, and on the overall ESIP committee.</p> <p>COLLABORATION WITH NOAA AND EPA</p> <p>13. Continue collaborating with NOAA and EPA to integrate the Gulfwatch and Mussel Watch sampling programs re choice of indicators, sampling sites and reasons for their selection, interpretation of data, and reporting. Link to the NCCR-EPA 2015 initiative and link to EPA re national and regional programs. Get the Gulfwatch data into the US national perspective (USA-NCC program). Assist EPA with access to the Gulfwatch data. 14. Continue discussions on the inter-calibration exercise and inter-lab collaboration with NOAA lab regarding inorganics (metals).</p> <p>OUTREACH - PUBLICATIONS TO PREPARE</p> <p>15. Move ahead with priority publications – a) new Gulfwatch fact sheet, with emphasis on use/applications of the program's information; b) the edited 18 year report and place it on the GOMC website (almost completed by Steve Jones); c) Gulfwatch overview article for the Mar. Pollut. Bull. (led by Co-Chair); d) specific paper e.g. pesticides in the GOM (led by Gareth Harding); e) a paper and poster for the CZC Conference, June 2014, Halifax, NS.</p>
<p>Deliverables <u>Outputs</u> (reports, data, meetings, fact sheets, etc.) <u>Outcomes</u> (effect or results of project)</p>	<p>Outputs – a new Gulfwatch fact sheet; the 18year report; three technical papers utilizing all or specific sets of Gulfwatch data;</p> <p>Outcomes – a rigorous data set. Interpreted, for use in the GOM SOE theme papers; use by the jurisdictions for any aspect of continued use of coastal waters for use (fisheries, recreation); contribution to overviews of health of the whole GOM ecosystem, and linkages with human health.</p>

Evaluation	Is done continuously (reports of 2005 and 2013; every WG mtg).
GOMC Lead(s)	Co-Chairs (US and Canada) : Peter Wells (BoFEP and Dalhousie U.), Steve Jones (contractor), US co-chair vacant (possible Dr. Jim Shine, HSPH).
GOMC Internal Partners	All jurisdictions of the GOMC.
External Partners	BoFEP
IT/Web requirements	Done through ESIP, and Jim Cradock. Need to mount new data reports onto the website annually.
Communication/Out-reach requirements	The new Gulfwatch fact sheet on program applications needs to be designed. A new fact sheet of ESIP (almost ready) incorporates Gulfwatch data.
Budget Information: required, in place, shortfall	Need 62 K/yr for basic program; 216.5K for expanded program. Program is currently unfunded for this new FY, except for in-kind support of the jurisdictions.
Funding opportunities (\$; existing task or new task; grant or contract; submitted or in development)	There are no new submissions for funding (that PGW is aware of)? Need to check with jurisdictions. There is significant in-kind support from the jurisdictions and their agencies, as well as from volunteers to the Program.

Work Plan Development Guidance
CMSP, EBM and Seafloor Mapping Task(s)

1. Become familiar with the pertinent part of the Action Plan (goal, outcome and activity) and possible work plan tasks (see table below);
2. Consider the following factors
 - Work plan tasks may span any part of the five-year period;
 - There needs to be a written/demonstrated connection to agency priorities;
 - Proposed tasks need to be achievable and linked directly to the activity;
 - There need to be people prepared to work on the tasks (could be a committee or ad-hoc group, may need to do recruitment, etc.);
3. Engage Working Group and committee members and potential partners in preparing a TAPAS work plan template for one or more tasks; and
4. Submit draft TAPAS template by Monday April 30th to theresa.torrent-ellis@maine.gov (for compilation and distribution to M&F for comment)

Goal 1: Restored and Conserved Habitats Habitats in the ocean and along the coast, including the rivers that flow to the ocean, are healthy, productive, and resilient. They support rich aquatic life, vibrant coastal communities, and ocean economies.			
Outcome 1-3 Habitat Conservation Coastal decision-makers have the data and information required to conserve coastal and marine habitats in a time of intensifying human uses and a changing climate.			
Activity	Possible Work Plan Tasks	GOMC Lead	Potential Partners (self identified through 8-11 Partner Consultation & recommended by Working Group members)
1.3.2 Advance the binational acquisition and use of seafloor mapping products and services for resource management decisions.	Connect Canadian and U.S efforts to compare habitat classifications schemes and their applicability to management	CMSP (see rosters on GOMC committees web page)	NRCAN, NOAA/OCS, NERACOOS, NROC (John Weber), SeaPlan, FERN, GANS, DFO (CHS)
1.3.3 Promote the exchange of information among decision-makers about ecosystem-based approaches to managing coastal and ocean habitats.	Share ecosystem-based management mapping and analysis approaches for various ocean uses (e.g., fishing, aquaculture), and impact these approaches have had on management decisions.	CMSP, science councilors	SBNMS,, NART, SeaPlan,, RARGOM, NEFSC
1.3.4 Strengthen linkages between U.S. and Canadian coastal	Investigate and make recommendations on roles/activities for the Council in CMSP, and exchange information on CMSP policies and	CMSP	NROC, WWF, RCCOM

and marine spatial planning efforts.	activities on both sides of border. Identify Canadian ex-officio representative to the Northeast region Planning Body.		
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TAPAS Template

<i>TAPAS Information Fields</i>	<i>Responses</i>
Name of activity	Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning
Linkages to AP (direct & indirect)	<p><u>Direct:</u> 1.3.2 Advance the bi-national acquisition and use of seafloor mapping products and services for resource and management decisions. 1.3.4 Strengthen linkages between U.S. and Canadian coastal and marine spatial planning efforts.</p> <p><u>Indirect:</u> 3.1.1 Support region-wide exchange of information about human uses and values of the Gulf of Maine</p>
Time period/# of months	2013 - 2015
Summary of Activities	The CMSP Committee will coordinate the completion and analysis of a Fact Sheet that compares the policies and application of CMSP in both Canada and the United States with an emphasis on the Gulf of Maine Bioregion. The results of the analysis will form the backdrop for a series of collaborative workshops and/or initiatives that will identify common data needs, shared data products and other areas where bilateral cooperation is of value. Initial data layers and products will be focused on commercial shipping, ballast water exchange, priority ecological areas, fishing intensity and human use characterization. Other areas may emerge through shared dialogue.
Deliverables <u>Outputs</u> (reports, data, meetings, fact sheets, etc.) <u>Outcomes</u> (effect or results of project)	<p>Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMSP comparative Fact Sheet • Shared data layers which could include the following: priority ecological areas, commercial shipping, ballast water exchange, human use characterization and possibly others. • Identification of a Canadian ex-officio representative to the Northeast Region Planning Body. • Technical workshop to share best practices, information and techniques across jurisdictions <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoMC members are aware of CMSP initiatives and direction throughout the Gulf of Maine bioregion • CMSP practitioners in both countries have access to the latest data and information to support ongoing activities • Agencies throughout the bioregion plan operations based on current information and collaborate across jurisdictional boundaries. • Best Management Practices and lessons learned are shared across jurisdictions
Evaluation	The co-chairs will regularly update the Working Group on progress, and provide an annual update to the Council. Committee will also ask NROC and RCCOM whether their binational and domestic work has been strengthened as a result of the Committee's work.
GOMC Lead(s)	NOAA and DFO
GOMC Internal Partners	States, Provinces, federal agencies, WWF Canada, Conservation Law Foundation, Urban Harbors Institute

External Partners	NROC, RCCOM
IT/Web requirements	Update and maintain the CMSP Committee web page, host CMSP Fact Sheet
Communication/Out-reach requirements	Nil
Budget Information: required, in place, shortfall	No direct funding is required from the Council, however participants/partners will be required to provide in-kind time for as well as travel costs to attend workshops or conference calls.
Funding opportunities (\$; existing task or new task; grant or contract; submitted or in development)	