



Gulf of Maine
Council on the
Marine Environment

Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 3, 2013

Bedford Institute of Oceanography
Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Needler Boardroom
1 Challenger Drive, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2

Briefing Book, Version 1

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Council Meeting Agenda v. 3

Tuesday, December 3, 2013 • Bedford Institute of Oceanography Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Needler Boardroom, 1 Challenger Drive, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2		
8:30 AM	Welcome, Introductions and Overview of Meeting Objectives <i>Lorrie Roberts, Executive Director of Policy, Nova Scotia Environment</i>	
8:40 AM	Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 2013 Council meeting summary acceptance • Upcoming Working Group and Council Meeting Dates (p. 17) • Gulf of Maine 2014 Awards – Call for Nominations (p. 18) • Fund Development Process / Roles Flow Chart (p. 19) • CZC 2014 – Logistics Recommendations (p. 20) • State of the Gulf Report – Aquaculture Theme Paper (p. 21) 	✓ For Decision
8:45 AM	GOMC 25th Anniversary Planning <i>Working Group members will provide an update regarding plans for celebrating the Gulf of Maine Council's 25th Anniversary and seek support from Council to participate and attend events. (Geocaching, Publication, multi-media display, postcards / bookmark, awards, outreach)</i>	✓ For Direction pp. 22-30
10:00 AM	Break	
10:15 AM	Climate Network: Update from September Conference Direction and Priorities for Gulf of Maine Council <i>Ellen Mecray, NOAA Regional Climate Services Director, Eastern Region</i> <i>Bill Appleby, Meteorological Services of Canada, Director, Eastern Region</i>	✓ For Information ✓ Internal ✓ For Direction pp. 31-33
10:45 AM	Implications of Sea Level Rise and Extreme Flooding Impacts in Rural Coastal Communities with Aging Populations <i>Patricia Manual, Dal School of Planning (or alternate)</i>	✓ For Information ✓ External
11:45 AM	GOMA Budget, Management and Admin. Rate, and Financial Reports <i>Cindy Krum, Executive Director, Gulf of Maine Association</i>	✓ For Information ✓ Internal p. 34
12:00 PM	Lunch – Awards Ceremony for 2013 Gulf of Maine Council Award Recipients from NS <i>Deputy Elizabeth Cody, Council Chair, Nova Scotia Environment</i>	
1:00 PM	Bedford Institute of Oceanography Tour	
1:45 PM	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget Estimates and Fund Development Update <i>W. Donald Hudson, GOMC Chair, Cindy Krum, GOMA Executive Director</i>	✓ For Information ✓ Internal ✓ For Direction p. 35-36
2:15 PM	GOMC Action Plan Updates, Priority Projects, and Core Funding Needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction – Joan LeBlanc, Council Coordinator • GOMC Committee Co-Chairs will provide 10-15 minute updates regarding key accomplishments, core funding needs, and priority projects in need of funding. 	✓ For Information ✓ Internal ✓ For Direction p. 38
3:45 PM	Other Business	
3:55 PM	Plans for June 2014 Council Meeting and Closing Remarks	
4:00 PM	Council Meeting Adjourns <i>Lorrie Roberts, Executive Director of Policy, Nova Scotia Environment</i>	
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Gulf of Maine Association Meeting <i>All Councilors are invited to this meeting</i>	

GOMC DRAFT Council Meeting Summary • Salem, MA • June 13, 2013

Meeting Participants

Council Members: Jennifer Anderson, NOAA Marine Fisheries Service; Doug Bliss, Environment Canada (via conference call); Priscilla Brooks, Conservation Law Foundation; Bruce Carlisle, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management; Terry Holman, US Department of the Interior; Don Hudson, The Chewonki Foundation; Kathleen Leyden, Maine Department of Conservation; David Millar, NS Department of Fisheries and Ocean; Ru Morrison, Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS); Rene Pelletier, NH Department of Environmental Services; Stephen Perkins, US Environmental Protection Agency; Sara Jane Snook, NS Environment (for Sterling Belliveau); and Lee Sochasky, New Brunswick.

Others participants: Heather Breeze, Department of Fisheries and Oceans; Robert Capozzi representing Perry Haines, NB Department of Environment and Local Government (via conference call); John Catena, NOAA/NMFS; Mel Cote, US Environmental Protection Agency; Lisa Dickson, Kleinfelder; Sophia Foley, NS Department of the Environment; Kevin Friedland, National Marine Fisheries Service / Regional Association for Research on the Gulf of Maine (RARGOM); Tim Hall, Department of Fisheries and Oceans; Lori Hallett, GOMA Finance Director (via conference call); Juli Beth Hinds, Birchline Planning LLC; David Keeley, GOMC Development Coordinator; Julia Knisel, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management; Christian Krahforst, Washington College; Cindy Krum, GOMA Executive Director; Julie LaBranche, Rockingham Planning Commission; Joan LeBlanc, GOMC Council Coordinator; J.T. Lockman, Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission; Kevin Lucey (for Steve Couture), NH Department of Environmental Services; Ellen Mecray, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (via conference call); Rebecca Newhall, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Betsy Nicholson, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Kathryn Parlee, Environment Canada; Susan Russell-Robinson, US Geological Survey/US Department of the Interior; Prassede Vella, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management; Peter Wells, Dalhousie University/Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership; and Julia Wyman, Marine Affairs Institute, Roger Williams University.

Opening Remarks

Council Chair Bruce Carlisle welcomed participants, outlined objectives for the meeting, and asked participants to introduce themselves.

Consent Agenda

The following consent agenda items were accepted.

- December Meeting summary (with minor edit to affiliation for Ru Morrison, Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems)
- Secretariat TORs
- Proposed Criteria for Distinguished Service Awards
- Committee Reports / Work Plans

The following items were removed from the consent agenda.

- Upcoming Working Group and Council Meeting Dates
- All Contractors Scopes of Services (Council requested that All Contractors Scopes of Services be kept off of the Consent Agenda and placed on the regular agenda for future meetings)

GOMA/GOMC Roles for Developing and Approving Budget

Cindy Krum, Executive Director, Gulf of Maine Association

GOMA Executive Director Cindy Krum worked with the Secretariat Team, and Management and Finance Committee to prepare two flow charts associated with GOMA / GOMC roles for developing and approving the budget. The purpose of the flow charts was to clarify the existing budget development and review process while recommending changes to address Council concerns about potential conflict of interest, and Working Group's (WG) request to review budgets during the spring. The first chart highlighted the role of the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Budget Preparation and Approval Process. The second chart highlighted the Gulf of Maine Association Fiscal Agent Budget Preparation / Approval Process. The flow charts proposed the following

two changes: 1) Council would view final budget summaries in June for informational purposes only, and 2) the Working Group would review and provide feedback on draft budgets during March.

Council members noted the following benefits of the proposal for Council to view budget summaries for informational purposes:

- The proposed change addresses concerns raised by Councilors about potential conflict of interest when approving budget summaries.
- The proposed change helps to clarify the different legal and fiduciary roles of GOMA vs. GOMC.
- Council will continue to have opportunities for weighing in on budget priorities, while GOMA will have the legal responsibility for approving budgets.
- The GOMA board has both US and Canadian representatives who will be continue to be involved with approving budget summaries.

Decision

- Council approved the flow charts outlining the process for budget preparation and approval. The following two process changes were approved: 1) Council will view final budgets in June for informational purposes only; and 2) WG will review and provide input regarding draft budgets during March.

GOMA Budget and Financial Reports

Cindy Krum, Executive Director, Gulf of Maine Association

Before beginning her presentation, Cindy Krum asked Council members what type of budget report they would like to receive at this meeting and future Council meetings, whether they would like the report to be included on the consent agenda or regular agenda, and whether they would prefer a detailed report or brief overview. Bruce Carlisle recommended that the budget be kept on the regular agenda (not the consent agenda) as an overview for informational purposes. Given that GOMA meetings always takes place on the morning of Council meetings, and GOMA meetings are open to all Councilors, Bruce suggested that Councilors interested in a detailed budget report could attend the GOMA meeting. Council approved Bruce's recommendation. Cindy then provided a quick overview of the following reports:

- GOMA Budget vs. Actual report for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2013
- GOMA Operating Budget for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2014, with FY2015 estimate
- GOMA Operating Budget for FY2014 (By Program Category), and
- GOMC through GOMA Membership Dues Summary

Copies of the financial reports were distributed to Councilors prior to the meeting and are on file with the Council meeting minutes. Actual spending for fiscal year through May 15, 2013 is 49% under budget. The lack of spending is primarily due to funds for climate change and restoration grants that have not yet been spent. GOMA will provide a revised year-end budget report to the GOMA board for approval. Any funds that are not spent this year will move into next year. As of May 15th, the budget is showing a deficit of (\$46,339). This is the second time in 10 years this has happened. The reserve account can be utilized to cover this cash flow issue. A revised budget in December will show a corresponding surplus in the amount of whatever the deficit is this year to replenish funds in the reserve account.

Action Items:

- As proposed by Don Hudson, when GOMA Executive Committee approves the budget report by September 15, that document will be shared with the Council for informational purposes.
- Financial reports will be included on the regular (not consent) agenda for future Council meetings as an overview for informational purposes.

GOMC Fund Development Plan

Juli Beth Hinds, Birchline Planning LLC

In December 2012, Councilors directed the Ad-hoc Fund Development Group (Don Hudson, Jack Wiggin, Rob Capozzi, Lee Sochasky, and Susan Russell-Robinson) to hire a consultant to develop a Fund Development Plan

during the first half of 2013. The group hired Juli Beth Hinds of Birchline Planning LLC to prepare the plan. From March 2013 through May 2013, Juli Beth worked with members of the Ad Hoc Fund Development Group as well as many other Working Group members, Councilors, committee members, and GOMC contractors to prepare a GOMC Fund Development Plan. Copies of the complete Fund Development Plan were distributed via email to all Working Group and Council members. The Fund Development Plan sought to answer the following key questions.

- How can the Council diversity and strengthen its funding base?
- What funding approaches and sources would promote the Council's long-term stability and effectiveness in its mission?
- What organizational matters must be addressed to move forward?

The plan identified the following core benefits of the Council that should be communicated to potential partners and funders:

- Convening Dialogue - The Council is the principal regional forum for discussion and technical exchange on international Gulf of Maine issues.
- Science and Data Synthesis - The Council conducts collaborative, high quality, and cost-effective research and data synthesis to inform public policy and decision-making.
- Habitat Restoration - The Council builds the technical capacity of local organizations and enhances the ecosystem through its outstanding habitat restoration program.

Juli Beth identified several existing challenges, including: 1) the need to increase the presence and visibility of GOMA / GOMC both internally and externally, 2) many private funders will not contribute to something perceived as a government entity, 3) private and foundation funders will not contribute to activities that are perceived as something tax dollars should support, 4) current funding sources are uncertain making it difficult to provide consistent funding for coordinators, 5) process for decision making needs to be formalized, and 6) there are potential conflicts of interest if some funding sources are pursued.

Juli Beth noted that some Council programs and activities are best suited to be carried out by a government organization with public funds (convening bi-national dialogue, facilitating research, compiling indications), while other Council programs are more appropriate for a non-profit organization to carry out with private or foundation funds plus some public funds (habitat restoration, education, community outreach, sustainability initiatives). Ideally, GOMC would have approximately \$1.1 million per year funded by a \$20 million endowment supplemented by project / grant funds. With the Council's 25th Anniversary coming up, now is an ideal time to explore federal authorization or other significant endowment funding.

The following GOMC recommended actions were presented for Council consideration:

- Develop a statement of support for securing an endowment and congressional authorization, with priority to funding core services and monitoring programs first.
- Begin to develop a working agreement through which GOMA can pursue certain types of funding independently, with a heightened profile and presence (especially on-line)
- Through Council Committees, develop project proposals suitable for foundation and/or public grant funding, focusing on climate and community resilience themes
- Establish committee or task force to consider International Joint Commission (IJC) funding options for an issue of concern in the watershed.
- Structure upcoming fund development efforts to address short-term opportunities (i.e. available grants and partnerships) and longer-term objectives (i.e. endowment, authorization, IJC, WERF and foundation support).

The following potential funding sources were recommended:

- Endowment: Begin work to identify projects and secure environmental mitigation payments from a regional project, structured as an income-bearing endowment to support core services and monitoring/indicators work.

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- US federal authorization/appropriation: Develop and carefully manage a new request for multi-year or (preferably) standing financial support.
- International Joint Commission (IJC) Funding: Consider developing a carefully-crafted request for research support on an issue of potential controversy or concern for the trans-boundary region.
- Grantmaking Foundations: Begin conversations and project development with selected grantmaking foundations to complete research, notably organized around climate change and community resilience themes.
- Donor-Directed Foundations: Working through GOMA, begin developing potential private-sector funders who may support Council initiatives through a donor-directed foundation program.
- Water Environment Research Foundation and Utility Partnerships: Partnering with utilities in the US and Canada, explore competitive grant and subscriber-directed research options with WERF.
- Public Grant Sources: Continue to pursue public funding sources, particularly to carry out project-specific work, diversifying beyond sources pursued in the past and including discussions with the US and Canadian Coast Guards.

Working Group Chair Prassede Vella summarized feedback from Working Group members regarding the Fund Development Plan. In addition to the actions and recommendations outlined by Juli Beth, Working Group also requested resources to:

- Convene workshop / discussion before the fall Working Group meeting regarding future GOMC / GOMA structure, and fund development priorities
- Redevelop website with greater profile for GOMA
- Initiate communications with possible funders
- Issue a fund development RFR
- Look at relevant bi-national models for organizations with public / non-profit partnerships

Prassede also noted that the GOMA board would need to develop a response and plan for a change in role depending upon direction from Council, and GOMA should hold off on significant fundraising until these directives are developed.

The following key comments / issues were raised as Councilors discussed the Fund Development Plan.

- Several councilors thanked Juli Beth for her excellent work on the fund development plan. Councilors noted that the report provides very good practical advice, an accurate picture of the current reality, and an effective framework for future fundraising efforts.
- Councilors asked questions about where funds for a potential endowment would come from. Juli Beth noted that mitigation / settlement funds are the most common source of funding for endowments. Pursuing these funds would require an opportunistic focus on related activities in the region.
- Additional political support is needed to pursue funding from existing and potential future partners. Also need to raise the visibility of the Council among existing and future partners.
- Council is limited in its ability to lobby for funds. Some members are restricted while others are not.
- There is a need to better distinguish role of GOMA vs. Council. This approach would be preferable to establishing a new entity. Although GOMA is a non-profit, there is still a perception issue. There are some examples of non-profit / public partnerships where government organizations have a non-profit partner for fundraising purposes (Wells Reserve / Laudholm Trust). May need to rethink GOMA staffing and structure so that it would be more like a typical non-profit organization.
- Any funding requests to IJC should link boundary waters and be focused on specific projects. Explore potential opportunities such as developing cross border protocols, impervious surface process development, linking fresh and saltwater, anadromous fish projects, or water quality / clam flat issues.
- A strategy session / workshop is needed to follow up on the recommendations of the fund development plan and to explore opportunities for distinguishing the GOMA / GOMC roles. The workshop should take place during the summer with teleconferencing opportunities. Birchline Planning should be asked to facilitate the workshop.

- Additional research is needed to evaluate the feasibility of several recommendations in the fund development plan.

Decision / Action Items:

- Council recommended that GOMA and the ad-hoc fund development group convene a full-day workshop this summer to follow up on fund development recommendations prepared by Juli Beth Hinds of Birchline Planning
- Council voted to extend Birchline Planning's contract to provide facilitation services for summer workshop and conduct additional research regarding potential development strategies
- GOMA will hold off on major new fundraising initiatives until after the summer workshop

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment - Action Plan Updates

Council members received updates from several GOMC committees regarding progress in achieving actions and priorities outlined in the 2012-2017 Action Plan. Detailed action plan updates are available online with the June 2013 meeting materials at: <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/2/about-the-council/meetings/>. Key points are also highlighted below.

Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning

US Co-chair Betsy Nicholson and Canadian Co-Chair Tim Hall provided an update regarding Coastal Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP) activities. Recent activities include completion of a one page Fact Sheet explaining the purpose of Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning, and initial planning for a fall technical workshop (with funding from WWF Canada). The workshop will focus on common approaches to mapping and sharing shipping and fisheries information. Tim and Betsy requested recommendations from Council members for a provincial person to join the committee.

Betsy provided an update regarding regional ocean planning efforts in the US. NOAA has taken the lead on US CMSP, and regional efforts in the northeast are being undertaken by the Northeast Regional Planning Body (RBP) with support from the Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC) ocean planning committee. The RBP drafted goals and framing principles with input from federal, state and tribal representatives. High level goals include 1) effective decision making, 2) healthy ocean and coastal ecosystems; and 3) compatibility among past, current, and future ocean uses. They are now hosting a series of public meetings to solicit feedback about what the priorities should be. Results of this regional planning effort will have implications on what the GOMC's CMSP committee might work on in future. Priscilla Brooks noted that the public meetings have been excellent (Conservation Law Foundation has been a participant).

Tim provided an update regarding regional ocean planning efforts in Canada. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is launching a new phase of their 'integrated oceans management program'. This fall they will launch a public outreach process to develop bioregional ocean plans that will provide information, guidance, and advice to decision makers in regards to conservation and ocean planning. Priorities include protecting high risk critical habitat, incorporating an ecosystem approach into the regulatory framework, and evaluating cumulative impacts.

Environment Canada and Parks Canada will also be launching a Marine Protected Area Network with the goal of increasing protected areas from 1.3% to 10%. The primary objective is conservation but they are also considering cultural, political and other factors. Tim noted that he will provide the Working Group with a more in-depth presentation on Canadian regional ocean planning efforts at the October Working Group meeting.

Gulfwatch Contaminants Monitoring

Canadian Co-Chair Peter Wells provided an update regarding Gulfwatch activities. Peter thanked outgoing US Co-chair Christian Krahforst and committee member Jack Schwartz for their contributions, and thanked Environment Canada, USGS/DOI, and the Maine State Planning office for funding. Gulfwatch activities focus on achieving Action Plan Goal 2.

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- Sampling, Analysis and Archiving. The data report for 2010 has been completed. Organic analysis for the 2011 samples is underway. Samples collected in 2012 have been processed but are archived at EC Moncton and BIO, NS for future analysis. Sampling for 2013 will proceed according to the new sampling design. These samples will be archived for future analysis. Archived samples are at EC Moncton, Battelle lab, BIO, and UNH.
- Three Phase Gulfwatch Program Business Plan. The Phase 1 report was completed by Dr. Steve Jones, UNH in January 2013 and reported on at the March Working Group meeting. The report recommends a newly designed Gulfwatch program with fewer sites (24 sites that rotate every three years and 11 key sites sampled annually), staggered sampling, dependence upon the archives, and inclusion of several key chemical contaminants of emerging concern. Implementing the revised program and related outreach activities would cost \$62,000 plus \$80,000 of in-kind support (without analyzing for new chemicals). The Phase 2 and 3 report was completed by Dr. David Buck, Biodiversity Research Institute, Gorham, Maine in May 2013. The report recommends several emerging chemicals to consider monitoring, other sentinel species to consider, budgetary needs, needs for outreach and education regarding emerging contaminants, and recommended publications and workshops. The proposed annual budget for emerging contaminants monitoring and associated outreach activities is \$216,500. Due to concerns by DMF and others, the Gulfwatch Committee does not endorse all of the findings of the Phase 2 and 3 Report completed by the Biodiversity Research Institute at this time.
- Gulfwatch Next Steps
 - Gulfwatch will convene a small internal workshop this fall to review the business reports and determine how best to move program forward. Approximately \$5,000 in funding is needed for the workshop.
 - The Committee is exploring opportunities to link with other programs / committees, focus on priorities, and conduct outreach.
 - Gulfwatch would like to prepare a Fact Sheet on the applications of the data.
 - A report synthesizing 18 years of data is almost complete. Most metals are low and are not changing over time. Most interesting finding over time is that there is DDT in some locations, indicating legacy contaminants in the system. Emerging contaminants have not been measured.
 - Recommendations for a new US Co-chair are needed.
 - Funding for a program coordinator is needed.

EcoSystem Indicator Partnership (ESIP)

Canadian Co-Chair Kathryn Parlee provided an update regarding ESIP activities. ESIP is a cross-cutting organization with work that intersects with several action plan goals. Most of ESIP's work with priority indicators and delivery of status and trend information for GOM and the Bay of Fundy helps to achieve Action Plan Goal #2 –

Environmental Monitoring and Environmental Indicators. ESIP's successes over the past year have included:

- Data updates to ESIP's Indicator Reporting Tool, including National Coastal Assessment datasets, shellfish sanitation datasets, and Employment & Population datasets (Goals 1 & 2).
- ESIP participation in a variety of meetings, including NERACOOS, BoFEP, Maine Waters, CERF
- Ten new ESIP journal entries published on ESIP webpage (now also released through GOM Times) (Outcome 3.1.1)
- Collaboration and use of Gulfwatch data for Contaminants indicator (Goal 1).
- Collaboration with State of the Gulf Report Team and review of theme papers.
- Assisted with getting funding to have eutrophication sampling in Bay of Fundy (Eastern Charlotte Waterways) (Previously no data)

Over the next 12 months, ESIP plans include:

- Completion of Tier 1 indicators (Goals 1 & 2)
- New 18 month plan (we've finished our last one!)
- Two new fact sheets: Contaminants and Coastal Development (Goals 1, 2 & 3)

- Smart Phone App linked with Monitoring Map webtool (Goal 3)
- Tier 2 indicators (Goals 2 & 3)
- More collaboration with Council committees, particularly Climate Network

The following committee requests were made:

- Struggling to obtain some key datasets, in particular with the fisheries indicators.
- Could use some outside assistance with respect to communications products and webtools.
- Need some new energy and leadership with the climate change subcommittee.

Kathryn thanked all of the steering committee members, and in particular Susan Russell-Robinson who served as US co-chair for seven years and will stay involved as a science advisor. Jim Latimer of EPA is now the US co-chair.

State of the Gulf of Maine

Canadian Co-chair Heather Breeze provided an update regarding progress of the State of the Gulf of Maine. Heather recognized and thanked US Co-chair Rebecca Newhall. State of the Gulf of Maine is a cross-cutting committee that primarily supports Goal 2, Environmental conditions support the health of people and the ecosystems of the Gulf of Maine. The Emerging Issues theme paper completed in 2010 will be updated in 2014 (in support of Activity 2.2.2 - Identify and Assess new and emerging environmental issues in the Gulf of Maine). Over the last two years, the following theme papers have been completed and posted to the website (in support of Activity 2.2.3 – Communicate about environmental conditions through the State of the Gulf of Maine reporting products and services): Offshore Ecosystems and Habitats, Eutrophication, Toxic Chemical Contaminants, Toxic Chemical Contaminants literature review, and Species at Risk. Theme papers on Coastal Land Use and Development, and Commercial Fisheries are close to completion.

Heather thanked numerous committee members and organizations for financial and in-kind contributions.

State of the Gulf of Maine future activities associated with theme papers include:

- completing remaining theme papers (watershed status, aquaculture) in 2013,
- updating emerging issues paper in 2014,
- identifying any theme papers that need updating, and
- determining if any new theme papers are needed.

Other future activities include developing a communications plan to promote use of the papers, and linking existing examples of Best Management Practices to State of the Gulf themes.

Priscilla Brooks commented that the GOMC 25th Anniversary provides a good opportunity to publish a revised State of the Gulf report. Don Hudson noted that we need to use our own media outlets to direct traffic to the papers. Peter Wells noted that the time frame for updating the State of the Gulf of Maine report is too short this year, but we could publish a 10 to 15 page paper with highlights. Tim Hall noted that plans for a 25th Anniversary publication will be discussed later on the agenda.

Habitat Restoration

US Co-Chair John Catena of NOAA presented a program update for the GOMC Habitat Restoration Committee which was prepared with GOMC Habitat Restoration Coordinator Slade Moore. NOAA has been working in partnership with GOMC and joining with provincial agencies to provide funding and expertise. Since 2002, approximately ten projects have been funded each year. Primary focus has been on fish passage, dam removal, and tidal wetland restoration. In addition to projects, the committee has published several resource guides to support habitat restoration projects in the Gulf of Maine.

NOAA's partnership with GOMC will conclude once remaining projects are finished in 2014. NOAA as an agency is moving away from the partnership model and instead will directly fund projects. Now Council / NOAA have to determine how to secure funding to continue habitat restoration. The Council has a great source of personnel to carry out and continue this work. The Habitat Restoration Committee has the capacity throughout the region to

move forward. A grant from the Royal Bank of Canada has provided \$100,000 to continue this work in the short-term.

Bruce Carlisle noted that the Habitat Restoration committee is a proven network with pre-identified projects that could be funded. Council members thanked John for his efforts, expressed their disappointment that the partnership is ending, and noted that there are other funding opportunities to be explored. Mel Cote noted that the National Estuaries Program has greatly benefited from the NOAA / GOMC partnership. Dave Millar commented that GOMC may not need to be a grant maker to be successful, but could instead provide technical advice or other support to habitat restoration projects.

GOMC Collaboration with Coastal Zone Canada 2014

Tim Hall, Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Tim Hall provided the Council with an update regarding plans for GOMC to collaborate with Coastal Zone Canada 2014 (CZC 2014), an international conference to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia from June 15-19, 2014. The Conference has established its theme: "Our Coasts: Legacies and Futures". A call for special sessions has been issued with a deadline of August 9th for submitting proposals. A call for papers is expected in September. Information about the conference is being regularly updated on Facebook. Because the conference coincides with the GOMC 25th Anniversary, it provides an excellent opportunity for the Council to feature aspects of its programs in the Gulf of Maine bioregion. In response to Council direction at the December 2013 meeting, an ad-hoc working group was established to identify opportunities for the GOMC to collaborate with CZC 2014. Since that time, the ad-hoc committee (with input from Working Group) has developed the following potential opportunities / ideas:

- Hold Working Group and Council meetings in conjunction with CZC 2014. The Council meeting would be held on June 17 and the Working Group Meetings on June 18-19. This would maximize opportunities for Council and Working Group members to participate in both events, and will provide cost saving opportunities for meeting space and accommodations at the Delta Hotel.
- Present the Gulf of Maine Awards at an appropriate opportunity during the conference to enhance visibility.
- GOMC should sponsor a special session. Potential topics include 1) retrospective of GOMC past 25 years, 2) collaborative governance in Gulf of Maine ecosystem – benefits and challenges of managing shared resources, 3) interactive panel with each jurisdiction, 4) focus on GOMC Action Plan, 5) interactive panel highlighting GOMC committee activities / accomplishments, 6) half day session on best practices for communications, 7) utilize a cross-cutting theme such as climate change to highlight GOMC accomplishments / GOM challenges.
- Erect a Gulf of Maine display to be maintained at all times during the conference.
- Encourage all GOMC, WG and Committee members to submit papers, posters and participate wherever possible. ESIP is planning to submit several papers.
- Commission a publication or document that would chronicle the history of the Council and its accomplishments in celebration of the 25th Anniversary.
- Launch a geocaching event to engage the public in celebrating the GOMC's 25th Anniversary.
- Working Group has created an ad-hoc committee to further develop plans for celebrating GOMC's 25th Anniversary and develop sessions / exhibits and other collateral for the CZC 2014 conference. Susan and Heather agreed to co-chair the committee.
- The US Department of Interior and Environment Canada are providing some financial support to the Council for its involvement in CZC 2014.

Economics Study

This item was removed from the agenda and will be taken up at the December 2013 Council meeting.

Climate Network: Committee Update, NExUS, and Plans for Fall 2013 Workshop

Ellen Mecray, NOAA Regional Climate Services Director, Eastern Region

Ellen Mecray provided the Council with an update regarding ongoing activities and products associated with reinvigorating the Climate Network. Funding from NOAA and Environment Canada has provided the foundation

for the Climate Network to begin creating a framework for climate on an international scale. Demand for climate products and services has been increasing among multiple sectors such as commerce, agriculture, maritime, infrastructure and environment. Extreme weather and climate events have been on the rise with 11 disasters causing more than \$1 billion each in the US during 2012. Global efforts to manage risks associated with climate change are being led by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) through development and incorporation of science-based climate information and prediction into planning, policy and practice on the global, regional and national scale. The Canadian representative for this program is David Grimes and the US NOAA representative is Holly Banford.

NExUS

In February 2013, the Climate Network released its first product – NExUS, a searchable online database that catalogs climate information needs, existing products and services, funded projects, and a directory of regional partners. The prototype is available at www.neclimateus.org. This effort has been supported by numerous partners including NOAA, National Wildlife Federation, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Environmental Protection Agency, and the North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative. The database is currently being updated to include Canadian data.

Quarterly Climate Outlook

Ellen announced that she recently received approval to prepare a new Quarterly Climate Outlook that will focus on the Gulf of Maine ecosystem, including all the states and the provinces. This new product will merge Environment Canada Meteorological Services and NOAA measurements for temperature and precipitation. The new Gulf of Maine Quarterly Climate Outlook will be produced in addition to the Quarterly Climate Outlook currently produced for the Eastern Region of the US -

<http://drought.gov/media/pgfiles/ER%20Spring%20Final%20June%2021%202013.pdf>.

Fisheries / Climate Outlook

The Climate Network also just received notice of funds to develop a new Climate Outlook that will highlight fisheries issues. This product will blend information and data from both the Northeast Fisheries Science Center and NOAA.

Climate Network Steering Committee

The Climate Network has established a strong new steering committee including excellent representation from both the US and Canada. Bill Appleby of Environment Canada is the Canadian Co-Chair. Membership currently includes Rob Capozzi and Martin Boulerville of New Brunswick, Will Green of Nova Scotia, Andrew Milliken of USFWS, Kathy Baskin and Vandana Rao of Massachusetts, Sherry Godlewski of New Hampshire, and Andrew Pershing of CINAR/GMRI). Additional representatives from Canada are still needed.

September 2013 Workshop

The Climate Network will hold a workshop on September 10 and 11, in Bangor, Maine with a focus on reinvigorating the Network. Approximately 50 key partners will gather together to discuss climate science, management, and potential direction and priorities for the GOMC's Climate Network. Topics will include lessons learned from extreme weather events, and resource management. A total of \$60,000 has been provided by Environment Canada and NOAA to support the Climate Network's activities. Council members were asked to provide Ellen with the names of two to three individuals per jurisdiction who should be invited to participate in the workshop.

Action Items:

- Climate Network will hire a coordinator to assist with planning.
- Climate Network will continue planning for September workshop.
- Councilors will recommend potential participants for the Climate Network Steering Committee and / or September workshop.

- Climate Network will highlight results from the September workshop at the Council's December 2013 meeting.

Municipal Responses to a Changing Climate: Results of the NOAA Grant to the Gulf of Maine Council

Julia Knisel, MA Coastal Zone Management

Julia Knisel provided an overview of the Municipal Resilience Initiative and facilitated panel presentations highlighting some of the coastal resiliency projects implemented within the Gulf of Maine. GOMC and NROC received \$285,000 from the NOAA Climate Program Office in 2011 to implement the following projects:

1. Roger Williams University developed best practices and case studies.
2. Communications projects were implemented by Clean Air-Cool Planet and the StormSmart Coasts Network / Blue Urchin.
3. Municipal technical assistance grants (\$150,000 total) were awarded to:
 - Ogunquit, ME
 - Portsmouth, NH
 - Scituate, Marshfield, and Duxbury, MA
 - Block Island, RI
 - Greenwich, CT
 - Guildford, CT

Julia noted that the project wraps up at the end of August. She thanked Cindy Krum, David Keeley and Adrienne Harrison for their assistance in managing all of the contracts for this project. The project presentations discussed below are all posted on the Gulf of Maine Council's website at:

<http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/internal/presentations/201306-council/>

Julia Wyman, Marine Affairs Institute, Roger Williams University

Julia Wyman provided a summary of efforts to create white papers highlighting state and local responses to climate change, and provide an overview of online resources for climate adaptation policies. 18 case studies in coastal New England and New Brunswick were drafted by ten law students - they are available on the Northeast Climate Change Adaptation website at: <http://necca.stormsmart.org/>

Lisa Dickson, VP Sustainability, Kleinfelder

Lisa Dickson provided a presentation on the regional *Sea Level Rise Study for Duxbury, Marshfield and Scituate, Massachusetts*. The primary goals of the project were to produce high quality maps / graphics of sea level rise and storm inundation, conduct a vulnerability assessment, identify potential adaptation strategies, and conduct public outreach and education. Modeling (SLOSH model) was used to develop various sea level rise and sea level rise with storm surge scenarios and associated maps. The results are being used for community outreach and to inform planning decisions and actions. So far, over 160 people have participated in public meetings.

Julie LaBranche, Senior Planner, Rockingham Planning Commission

Julie LaBranche provided a summary of the *City of Portsmouth's, NH Coastal Resilience Initiative*. In April 2013, the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment / Action Plan was completed – it is now being used as a planning tool to guide development of Portsmouth's Master Plan. Objectives of the Coastal Resilience Initiative were to:

- Describe the range of climate change and sea level rise scenarios identified for the New Hampshire Seacoast region
- Map four sea level elevations and anticipated impacts over the next 40 to 90 years
- Identify vulnerable physical assets (buildings and infrastructure) and natural resources
- Develop preliminary strategies for adapting to future conditions, and estimates of the adaptation costs
- Provide recommendations to guide adaptation planning, policies and regulations

Reports are available on the www.stormsmart.org website and at www.planportsmouth.com.

J.T. Lockman, Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission (SMRPC)

J.T. Lockman summarized the SMRPC's efforts to develop adaptation options to protect against sea level rise coastal floods, and stormwater surge at the *Ogunquit Maine Wastewater Treatment Plant*. Initial assessments had identified the Ogunquit plant as extremely vulnerable. Woodward & Curran was hired to conduct assessment. The plan determined that there is no practical solution that allows the current WWTP site to be viable beyond 2052 due to increasing flooding risks and Maine DEP restrictions. Alternative options should be pursued as the current plant will end its useful life in 20 – 30 years. After assessing all reasonable alternatives, the project team identified regionalizing waste water treatment with the Town of Wells as the recommended alternative. This option would utilize an existing plant that is less vulnerable to climate change, would result in lower combined operating costs, and is located away from beaches and natural habitat.

Canadian Efforts to Address Climate Change

Rob Capozzi, New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government, led a discussion regarding Canadian efforts to protect coastal resources in a changing climate. Rob noted that he is providing this presentation on behalf of Executive Director Darwin Curtis and Coordinator Martin Boulerville of the Climate Change Secretariat.

New Brunswick's vulnerability to extreme events is on the rise with storms of 'historic' proportion happening on a yearly basis. NB has dropped the term '100-year flood' as they have experienced these conditions in 2004, 2008 and 2010. With about 55% of the population living along the coast, communities are at high risk for severe coastal storms. This situation is compounded by a growing population and new development that is creating urban sprawl in high risk areas along the coast. In response to escalating costs of damage from coastal storms, New Brunswick is focused on increasing resiliency through adaptation. All sectors including business, agriculture and communities are being impacted by coastal storms.

Climate Change adaptation strategies are being developed at the Provincial level. New Brunswick is creating case study communities and developing adaptation plans for cities most at risk. They are pursuing cooperative efforts to identify regional funding and implementation strategies. Each year they are updating the 2007-2012 Provincial Climate Change Action Plan which encompasses both climate change adaptation strategies and greenhouse gas reduction efforts. The plan is available at:

<http://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/env/pdf/Climate-Climatiques/2007-2012ActionPlanSummary.pdf>

Climate Change indicators related to climate, water and people are now posted on the internet to increase awareness and educate residents about how the climate is changing. Indicators such as river ice, extreme rainfall events, coastal erosion, agriculture, and snow season can be viewed at:

http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/elg/environment/content/climate_change/content/climate_change_indicators.html

Funding from the Environmental Trust Fund is supporting several coastal dune restoration projects led by small non-profit organizations and / or residential groups. They are also working on a Memorandum of Understanding with federal partners taking care of small craft harbors so that clean sand from dredging is made available to communities for dune restoration projects. Current priorities include data acquisition / risk vulnerability / modeling / mapping / economic risk / rolling out climate adaptation strategy to all parties / promoting regional cooperation.

Overall, the public is becoming better informed about climate change and associated impacts of coastal storms. People are doing more due diligence when thinking about building or purchasing property. The government is also starting to buy properties in high flooding areas to get people to move out.

**Regional Association for Research on the Gulf of Maine (RARGOM) /
New England Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC)**

Dr. Kevin Friedland, National Marine Fisheries Service, provided an update regarding RARGOM activities and opportunities for collaboration with the Council. Kevin noted that RARGOM membership has been changing with higher participation by colleges as a follow up to their symposium. They are currently dealing with the challenges associated with no longer having a full-time staff person. RARGOM is working on the following activities:

- Gulf of Maine Symposium. Their last Gulf of Maine symposium in 2009 focused on advancing ecosystem research. They are currently seeking to organize a multi-day symposium for 2015.
- Annual Science Meeting. In 2010, RARGOM started their annual science meeting for researchers. Last year's event focused on nutrients. The next Annual Science Meeting is scheduled for October 8th in Portsmouth, NH. The topic will be 'Gulf of Maine Heat Wave – The New Normal?'.
- Community Learning Series. RARGOM launched a new community learning series with a workshop this past April on Generalized Additive Models. The goal of this series is to provide opportunities for researchers to learn about a specific technique or topic. The timeframe for the workshops will be ½ year from the annual science meetings.

Northeast Regional Association of Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS)

Dr. Ru Morrison, Executive Director of NERACOOS provided updates and led a discussion regarding sentinel monitoring, the Coastal Acidification Network, and status of Nova Scotia / US ferry service.

Northeast Sentinel Monitoring

Ru Morrison reported that NERACOOS is focused on a Northeast Sentinel Monitoring Project. The project will kick off with an all day workshop at the Seacoast Science Center in Rye, NH on June 27th. Funding of \$60,000 from NOAA will help with travel and meeting costs for 2014 / 15. The goal is to develop a regional strategy and network. GOMC is represented by Christine Tilburg. All of the state agencies have representation and NERACOOS is co-chair.

Coastal Acidification Network

NERACOOS is currently putting together a steering committee for a new Coastal Acidification Network. The network will be similar to a West Coast network. Tentative plans include hosting a science workshop during the spring of 2014. Helmuth Thomas of Dalhousie University is involved but they are looking for one additional Canadian representative. They also need one additional Sea Grant representative. The Sustainable Fisheries Partnership is providing some funding for the project.

Nova Scotia / US Ferry

Ru asked about the status of Nova Scotia plans to reinstate a ferry between Yarmouth, NS and the Northeast US. If the ferry does move forward, Ru would like to pursue opportunities for conducting scientific research and monitoring while the vessel is underway. A letter from the Council in support of this proposal would be helpful. Sara Jane Snooks noted that ferry service is still a long way from implementation as a working group only recently released an RFP for the service.

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

All Contractors Scopes of Services. Regarding Fund Development, Council affirmed Lee Sochasky's offer to approach IJC to initiate a dialogue. The Scope of Services for the current fund developer (The Keeley Group) was approved for extension to continue pursuing grant opportunities with the Habitat Restoration Committee. The Scope of Services for a new fund development planner was placed on hold pending direction from the fund development strategy session to be held this summer. Regarding the Climate Network, Council recommended that GOMA confirm funding before RFR is released.

Upcoming WG and Council Meeting Dates. Councilors approved the following plans for Working Group and Council meetings during the 2013 / 2014 Secretariat Year.

- Council Meetings will now be held before Working Group Meetings
- October 2014 Working Group meeting will be held on October 9 and 10 to avoid conflict with October 8 RARGOM meeting
- March 2014 in-person Working Group meeting will be replaced by either a one day virtual meeting or a series of phone calls
- The December 2013 Council meeting will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia on December 3, followed by Working Group meeting on December 4 and 5
- The June 2014 meetings will be held in Halifax, NS in conjunction with CZC 2014. Council will meet June 18. Working Group will meet June 19 and 20.
- Sophia and Joan will identify Seacoast area location for October meeting
- Sophia and Joan will develop proposal for March 2014 meeting

Closing Remarks, and Passing of the Gavel

Bruce Carlisle, Council Chair and Director, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management

Outgoing Council Chair Bruce Carlisle thanked Councilors and Working Group members for their contributions during the 2012 / 2013 Secretariat year. He noted the following highlights from this past year: 1) GOMC hired Joan LeBlanc as new Council Coordinator, 2) fund development plan prepared by Birchline Planning will help with strategic planning, 3) confirming GOMC / GOMA roles has been useful for positioning organization, and 4) committees continued to achieve excellent progress in implementing the Action Plan. Bruce also recognized and thanked outgoing Working Group Chair Prassede Vella for her outstanding leadership this past year.

Bruce passed the gavel to incoming Council Chair Sara Jane Snook of Nova Scotia Environment. Sara Jane expressed appreciation to Bruce for his efforts over the past year and noted that Nova Scotia is looking forward to working with all of the Councilors, Working Group and committees to ensure a very productive Secretariat year. Sara Jane noted that the Council will continue with the overall theme of climate change as this environmental challenge requires a multi-year effort. She also welcomed Sophia Foley as the new Working Group Chair for the 2013 / 2014 Secretariat Year.

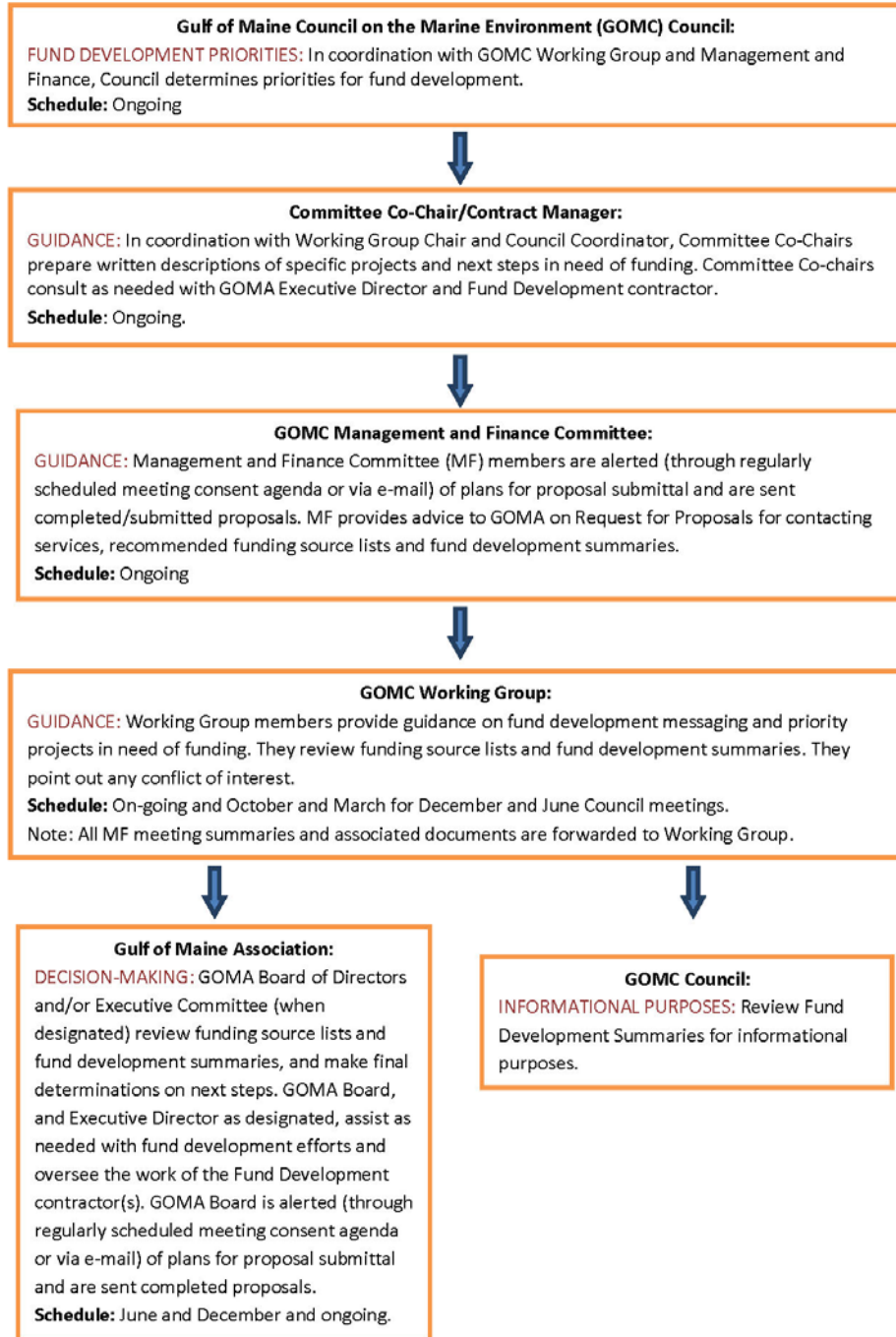
Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:40 p.m. ET.

Meeting summary prepared by Joan LeBlanc, GOMC Council Coordinator.

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note						
Title of Agenda Item: Upcoming Working Group and Council Meeting Dates						
Submitted by: Sophia Foley, NS Environment and Joan LeBlanc, GOMC Council Coordinator						
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For Direction	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> For Information (internal GOMC) </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> For Information (External) </td> </tr> </table>	For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)
For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)					
Background (required): The following Working Group and Council meetings are scheduled for the remainder of the Nova Scotia Secretariat Year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 March 2014 – Working Group – VIDEOCONFERENCE Last year Working Group decided to pilot a videoconference meeting in response to resource constraints. Sophia Foley, in conjunction with working group members, is in the process of identifying IT support in each jurisdiction. After contacts and arrangements have been made, a test date will be set up to ensure successful technology. 19 March 2014 – 1:00 pm ET / 2:00 pm AT – Working Group follow-up call This call has been scheduled to cover any additional business as a follow up to the March 5th videoconference. 17 June 2014 – GOMC Awards Ceremony This event is being held the evening before the Council meeting at the World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia in conjunction with Coastal Zone Canada (CZC). 18 June 2014 - Council Meeting This event is being held at the Delta Halifax Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia, in conjunction with CZC. (See CZC 2014 Briefing Note for additional details) 19 and 20 June 2014 Working Group Meeting Nova Scotia Environment Offices, Halifax, Nova Scotia 						
Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested (optional): Council and Working Group are asked to review and approve proposed meeting dates as part of the Consent Agenda.						
Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note):						

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note						
Title of Agenda Item: GOMC 2014 Awards – Call for Nominations						
Submitted by: Joan LeBlanc, GOMC Council Coordinator						
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For Direction	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> For Information (internal GOMC) </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> For Information (External) </td> </tr> </table>	For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)
For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)					
Background (required):						
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> 2014 Gulf of Maine Council Awards, Call For Nominations </div> <div> <u>Deadline:</u> March 30, 2014 </div> </div> <p>The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment is now accepting nominations for its 2014 Awards. In honor of its 25th Anniversary, the Council seeks to recognize the value of young people as well as experienced leaders in working together to protect the Gulf of Maine ecosystem. We welcome nominees of all ages (including students or youth organizations) for our 2014 Gulf of Maine Visionary Awards and Longard Volunteer Award.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Gulf of Maine Visionary Awards:</u> Up to two individuals, businesses, or organizations within each province and state bordering the Gulf of Maine will be selected to receive Visionary Awards (paid professionals or volunteers are eligible). The awards recognize innovation, creativity, and commitment to protecting the marine environment. Recipients may work in the fields of environmental science, education, conservation, or policy. They may be engaged in projects that involve public awareness, grassroots action, or business/manufacturing practices. • <u>Longard Volunteer Award:</u> The Council presents this annual award to an outstanding volunteer within the Gulf watershed who has made significant contributions to conserving or managing the Gulf's resources. Past recipients have been involved in stewardship projects, educational programs, volunteer monitoring and scientific research. The award is named in memory of Art Longard, a Nova Scotia resident and devoted conservationist who helped to conceive and launch the Gulf of Maine Council. • <u>Susan Snow-Cotter Leadership Award:</u> This award is bestowed in memory of Susan Snow-Cotter, a long-time friend of the Council and Working Group. The Award is given to an individual from one of the five states and provinces bordering the Gulf of Maine. The Susan Snow-Cotter Leadership Award honors those coastal management professionals who exemplify outstanding leadership or exceptional mentoring in the Gulf of Maine watershed. As former Director of the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management, Susan was recognized as a leader who exhibited unwavering passion, enthusiasm, and insight to develop pragmatic approaches to coastal management challenges. • <u>Gulf of Maine Industry Award:</u> The Gulf of Maine Industry Award is made annually to an individual, company, or organization within the Gulf of Maine region (Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia). The award recognizes demonstrated innovation and leadership in efforts to improve the well-being of the Gulf of Maine ecosystem and the communities that call it home. Nominations are sought from the following sectors: tourism, fisheries (commercial and recreational); aquaculture (finfish and shellfish); renewable energy generation (tidal, wave and wind) and transportation (shipping, ferries, etc.). • <u>Gulf of Maine Sustainable Community Awards:</u> The Gulf of Maine Council will recognize a community, or group within a community for exemplary work in achieving sustainability outcomes related to the environment and economy, that are in line with the objectives of the Council's Action Plan. 						
Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested (optional): Councilors are asked to accept the proposed GOMC 2014 Awards Call for Nominations.						

**Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment and Gulf of Maine Association
Fund Development Process (Working Group Recommendation)**



Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note						
Title of Agenda Item: Coastal Zone Canada 2014 Logistics						
Submitted by: Tim Hall						
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	x	For Direction	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">For Information (internal GOMC)</td> <td style="width: 50%;">For Information (External)</td> </tr> </table>	For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)
For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)					
Background: Coastal Zone Canada 2014 will be held in Halifax, NS on June 15 – 19, 2014. This is the 20 th anniversary year of this biennial series which is the major Canadian coastal management conference. It is an international conference which attracts delegates from Canada, the US and many other countries in Europe and Southeast Asia in particular. This conference is concurrent with the 25 th Anniversary of the Gulf of Maine Council and the Council is planning a significant presence and several activities which are outlined in a separate note. Additionally the June meeting of the Council and Working Group will be held in Halifax as Nova Scotia is the Chair for 2014. This presents opportunities for the GoMC members to participate in the conference and to draw additional attention to the work of the Council.						
Possible Activities / Next Steps: After consultation between the CZC 2014 Organizing Committee and the Secretariat the following arrangements are recommended for the June 2014 meetings. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 18 at the Delta Halifax which is the conference hotel. This will allow GoMC members access to both the hotel and easy access to the CZC 2014 conference. Wireless facilities are available through the Delta Halifax at no additional costs. 2. The Council Awards ceremony will be held on Tuesday, June 17 at the World Trade and Convention Centre which is hosting CZC 2014. The room cost will be covered by CZC 2014 and this will significantly enhance exposure to this event. Refreshments can be provided through the CZC 2014 contract with the WTCC (at cost). 3. The Working Group meetings will be held at the NS DoE offices nearby the conference site on June 19-20. This will allow for WG members to participate in the closing sessions on the morning of June 19. 						
Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested: Council is asked to review and approve these recommendations so that logistical arrangements can be finalized in a timely manner.						
Supporting Documentation: N/A						

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note						
Title of Agenda Item: Aquaculture Theme Paper, State of the Gulf Reporting Committee						
Submitted by: Heather Breeze, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Rebecca Newhall, NOAA (co-chairs, State of the Gulf Reporting Committee)						
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	X	For Direction	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> For Information (internal GOMC) </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> For Information (External) </td> </tr> </table>	For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)
For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)					
Background (required):						
<p>When the Gulf of Maine Council agreed to prepare a modular State of the Gulf of Maine report, a task group made up of Working Group members and other staff of member agencies was set up to decide on the priority theme papers. The list of theme papers approved by the Gulf of Maine Council in December 2009 included a paper on aquaculture.</p> <p>A contractor was engaged to complete this paper in October 2011. A draft was circulated to reviewers in March 2012. As a result of the comments, extensive changes were needed. The contractor provided a new draft in August 2012. A preliminary review by the editor and a reviewer from Nova Scotia determined that further changes were needed to meet the needs of the Council. A new draft was circulated to reviewers in November 2012.</p> <p>Because of the interest in the paper, many organizations had an interest in reviewing the paper (DFO Science; DFO Resource Management; NS Fisheries and Aquaculture; NB Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries; Maine Department of Marine Resources, NOAA). New Brunswick and Maine circulated the paper to the industry. Review comments were very mixed, with both very positive and very negative comments. Some of the reviewers missed the deadline for review and provided comments several weeks late, making it difficult to address the feedback within time provided. The editorial committee decided that the author had met the requirements of the contract. The editor attempted to revise the paper but has not been able to reconcile some of the comments with other available information. The draft paper is now out of date.</p>						
Possible Activities / Next Steps (optional):						
<p>Because of the difficulty in completing the paper in a timely manner and in reconciling the different comments, the State of the Gulf committee recommends that this paper be set aside.</p> <p>If this paper is taken up again, commitment from the key agencies involved in aquaculture around the Gulf of Maine will be required in order to complete it.</p>						
Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested (optional):						
<p>The editorial committee requests that Council concur with their decision to set the paper aside.</p>						
Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note):						
n/a						

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note				
Title of Agenda Item: Gulf of Maine Council 25 th Anniversary Planning				
Submitted by: Heather Breeze, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Susan Russell-Robinson, USGS; Ann Rodney, EPA; Sophia Foley, Nova Scotia Environment; Kathryn Parlee, Environment Canada; Theresa Torrent, Maine Coastal Program; Joan LeBlanc, Council Coordinator				
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	For Direction	X	For Information (internal GOMC)
For Information (External)				
Background (required):				
<p>At the June meeting, Susan Russell-Robinson and Heather Breeze were identified as co-chairs of the ad hoc GOMC 25th Anniversary Committee. Through the efforts of the ad hoc committee and working group, several activities related to the 25th anniversary have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the creation of a 25th Anniversary publication; • a special GOMC session at Coastal Zone Canada (CZC) 2014 in Halifax, NS; • GOMC awards ceremony at CZC that will highlight the 25th anniversary of the Council; • a display at CZC 2014, including a postcard/bookmark to hand out; • a multimedia presentation (will be used at CZC 2014 and other venues); and • a geocaching event, to be launched in June 2014 and continue over the next year. <p>These activities are in addition to the overall communications related to the 25th anniversary activities, for example: development of messaging related to the GOMC, press releases in each jurisdiction, encouraging GOMC committees to present on their work at CZC. A timeline showing major steps that need to be taken to June 2014 (the anniversary) is attached. A draft Communications Strategy (attached) is under development.</p> <p>Ann Rodney is the lead for development of the publication and has put together a subcommittee.¹ This group has developed an outline (attached) and identified potential contractors for the publication. The subcommittee meets regularly via conference call.</p> <p>Kathryn Parlee and Sophia Foley are the leads for the geocaching activity. They are in the process of identifying 5 partner sites in each jurisdiction, i.e., 25 sites in total. Some of the partner sites are previous GOMC award winners. The activity will not be a traditional geocache. Instead, participants will have to go to a site to be able to answer a question about it. The Gulf of Maine “geocache quiz” will be available on the GOMC website. Participants will print it off themselves. Once they’ve visited a certain number of geocache sites and are able to answer a number of questions, they can send in their quiz and receive a prize. It is hoped that this activity will engage youth and raise awareness about the GOMC, partner organizations and the Gulf of Maine generally.</p> <p>Susan Russell-Robinson and Heather Breeze are co-chairs for a special theme session at CZC2014. The theme session will be held Tuesday afternoon, immediately before the GOMC awards ceremony and the day before the Gulf of Maine Council meeting. They would like three speakers from the Gulf of Maine Council to present at the session. The three topics for the presenters are habitat restoration, state of the Gulf and indicators, and the climate network. A multi-media presentation will open the session (discussed below), followed by the speakers and then an invited panel with participants from diverse backgrounds (one member from the GOMC). The panel will be asked to talk about what they see as the value of the Gulf of Maine, and what is needed to ensure that those values continue into the future.</p> <p>A multi-media presentation will be developed, to be shown in Halifax at CZC/25th Anniversary event and potentially at other events. Susan Russell-Robinson is developing a storyboard and Rob Capozzi compiled a slideshow from previous GOMC presentations. The multimedia presentation will include video, photos, maps and potentially podcasts. A map is being developed to show where GOMC Award winners are located around the Gulf</p>				

¹ For ease of writing, the working groups associated with the ad hoc 25th Anniversary Committee are referred to as subcommittees.

of Maine. These items will be part of a general GOMC display at CZC2014. A postcard or bookmark will be developed to hand out at this and other events. The ad hoc committee will work on identifying other materials (e.g., Action Plan, ESIP fact sheets, State of the Gulf postcards, etc.) for the display.

Theresa Torrent has been liaising with the Outreach Committee on the 25th anniversary. We are asking Outreach Committee members to provide support to communications/outreach needs for the 25th.

Funding sources have been identified for most of these activities (we are requesting that the publication and postcard/bookmark be funded through the USGS grant, a potential funder for geocaching prizes has been identified, the multi-media presentation will be largely done by USGS in-house). However, some additional funds may be needed to assist with overall communications related to the events. The committee will have a specific request at the Council meeting.

Possible Activities / Next Steps (optional):

Once the publication subcommittee confirms USGS funding, they will contract for the writer and designer of the 25th anniversary publication.

Members of the Outreach committee will work with the 25th committee on messaging and communications activities.

GOMC committee members, working group members and Council members will be encouraged to attend CZC 2014, particular the GOMC session and award ceremony on June 17, 2014. The USGS may be able to fund some travel to the GOMC 25th anniversary celebrations at CZC2014 via invitational travel funds. However, this is still uncertain and the committee will continue to solicit other sources of funding. Priorities for travel funding are: 1) participants on GOMC special session at CZC and 2) award winners.

Kathryn Parlee and Sophia Foley will continue to look for partners for the Geocaching activity and work out the details for this event.

The static display for CZC will be coordinated by Susan Russell-Robinson.

Susan Russell-Robinson and Heather Breeze will continue to work on coordinating the special theme session at CZC2014 in conjunction with the CZC program committee. They are in the processing of identifying potential speakers/panelists.

Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested (optional):

1. Council members are asked to support the participation of Outreach Committee members from their organization in 25th anniversary activities.
2. Three speakers from the Gulf of Maine Council are needed to speak at the GOMC special session at CZC 2014 on June 17. There are also roles for other Councillors at this event (introducing speakers, introducing panelists, participating on the panel). Council is asked to identify speakers – preferably Councillors – for the GOMC Session, and other Councillors who will be involved.
3. Councillors who want to be involved in the 25th anniversary in other ways are asked to self-identify (e.g., announcing geocaching events, introducing the multi-media presentation at a venue in their area, helping to promote the GOMC's 25th anniversary activities through their organization's outreach, etc.)
4. Councillors are asked to support participation from their organization at the GOMC CZC 2014 special session.
5. A request will be sent in early January looking for specific multimedia (copyright free) materials. Additionally, can you or your organization articulate post-June 2014 events or activities where you might use the multimedia presentation, perhaps a podcast or freestanding computer display?
6. The committee may have a specific funding request at the December Council meeting, depending on funding secured at that point.

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

1. Outline for publication
2. Timeline: 25th anniversary activities
3. Draft communications strategy

GOMC 25th Anniversary Publication

Draft Table of Contents *(as of November 20, 2013)*

Introduction – 1 page

Include a box with the history of the council

Accomplishments – 3-4 pages

Include substance on all current and past committees

Large section on Habitat

Boxed highlight on 2-3 award winners

Map of accomplishments

Health of the Gulf of Maine – 2 pages

ESIP

Summary of State of the Gulf papers

Climate change and its effect on Humans

Climate Change and its effects on ecosystems, habitat and bioa

Coastal Land use

Habitat and restoration

Vision for the Gulf of Maine – 2 pages

Draw from Action Plan

Tides of Change vision

Appendix – 2 pages

List of all partners

Award winners

December 3, 2013 • Council Meeting • Briefing Book, Version 1

December 3, 2013 • Council Meeting • Briefing Book, Version 1

November 21, 2013

25th Anniversary Timeline - Page 1 of 3

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment
DRAFT - 25th Anniversary Activities / Timeline

November 21, 2013

Activity	2013			2014						
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Ongoing	
Multi-Media Presentation <i>Audience: peer organizations, general public</i> <i>Lead: Susan</i>										
• Develop multi-media presentation						X	X			
• Highlight in PR leading up to conference						X	X			
• 1 st display of multimedia presentation at CZC 2014								X		
• Develop list of sites and schedule for display beyond June					X	X	X	X		
• Rotate display to regional locations throughout anniversary year									X	
Display at CZC 2014 <i>Audience: peer organizations, conference attendees</i> <i>Lead: TBD</i>										
• Coordinate materials for a static display at CZC				X	X	X	X	X		
• Set up and staff display									X	
GOMC Session at CZC2014 <i>Audience: peer organizations, conference attendees</i> <i>Lead: Susan, Heather</i>										
• Identify speakers/panelists for GOMC Session	X	X	X							
• Prepare abstract for session		X								
• Host session at CZC 2014										
• Include in PR announcements leading up to the event						X	X		X	
• Post presentations on GOMC website										
• Circulate information and link to presentations via Facebook, LinkedIn, GOMC news brief via Constant Contact								X		
Geocaching <i>Audience: general public, families, youth, geocaching community</i> <i>Lead: Kathryn, Sophia, Dan</i>										
• Identify geocaching partners	X	X	X	X	X					
• Develop geocache event, identify prizes		X	X	X	X					
• Press release announcing launch of geocaching project						X	X			
• Link all information to geocaching website						X	X			
• Launch geocache project								X		

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment
DRAFT - 25th Anniversary Activities / Timeline
November 21, 2013

Activity	2013		2014						
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the project throughout the year with regular postings on Facebook and other media – feature in-depth information about one geocache site each time 									x
GOMC Awards									
<i>Audience: general public, peer organizations, focus on youth as nominees, GOMC WG and Council, stakeholders</i>									
<i>Lead: Joan, Sophia</i>									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solicit nominees 			x	x					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select award winners 					x				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help award winners arrange travel to ceremony/GOMC special session 					x	x		x	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present awards 								x	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jurisdictional press releases highlighting winners 								x	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional outreach – highlight winners on GOMC website, Facebook site, and via Constant Contact news announcement 								x	
Website									
<i>Audience: all</i>									
<i>Lead: Prassede, Jim</i>									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate 25th anniversary logo / banner 				x	x				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop anniversary 'page' highlighting GOMC anniversary and activities planned 					x	x			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update GOMC website with links to all ongoing anniversary activities 							x	x	x

Draft November 22, 2013

Communication Strategy: Gulf of Maine Council 25th Anniversary Activities

In 2014, the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment (GOMC) will celebrate 25 years of collaboration to protect and restore the marine environment. GOMC wants to celebrate its successes, raise awareness of the work of the Council among the interested public and continue its work in a spirit of collaboration.

Activities

Several activities are planned in conjunction with the 25th anniversary. The activities and their objective, target audience and key messages are listed in the table below. More detailed steps and the required timing of those steps are shown in the 25th Anniversary activities timeline.

Activity (Lead)	Objective	Target Audience	Messages	Communications Vehicle* (responsible party)	Date of Event
Anniversary announcements (TBD)	Announce anniversary and highlight activities planned	Interested public, partners	Celebrate 25 years of GOMC successes; highlight key actions moving forward; continue work in spirit of collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Press releases in each jurisdiction (Cathy, Kelly, Krista, others TBD) 25th anniversary page /announcement(s) on GOMC website (TBD) Announcement through Facebook (Sophia), other social media (TBD) Note: Look for synergies with CZC announcements	June 2014
25 th anniversary logo (Kathryn)	Refresh the image of GOMC website and products; create a product scalable to many sizes	External: People who live, work and visit Gulf of Maine	GOMC is dynamic and focused on the future.	All 25 th electronic and print products (various people)	April 2014
25 th anniversary publication (Ann)	To inform professionals and potential partners about the work of the GOMC.	Internal: new WG members & Councillors External: professionals in the field, e.g., scientists, educators, elected officials, policy makers, NGOs & other partners/potential partners	GOMC has many accomplishments over the past 25 years, and is poised for more in the next 25.	Electronic publication (Ann) Limited number of printed publications (Ann)	Launch May/June 2014

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment
December 3, 2013 • Council Meeting • Briefing Book, Version 1

Draft November 22, 2013

Activity (Lead)	Objective	Target Audience	Messages	Communications Vehicle* (responsible party)	Date of Event
Postcards/bookmarks (TBD)	Extend 25 th anniversary awareness in months after June 2014	Internal – share with others at meetings and events External – reminder about GOMC and its activities	In development, some examples: check out geocaching, anniversary pub, new GOMC website,	TBD	Launch May/June 2014
Multi-media presentation (Susan)		Interested public		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CZC special session (Susan/Heather) CZC – general display area (TBD) Locations around the Gulf of Maine: aquariums, science centers, parks, etc. -- need specifics (TBD) 	Will be first presented at GOMC meeting/CZC June 2014
Display at CZC 2014 (Susan)	Provide an overview of the activities of the GOMC, including publications and materials available on the website.	Professionals working in coastal and oceans management, researchers, participants in GOMC	We have developed documents and tools that are useful in your work. We like to partner with other organizations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Display materials: stand-up banners, existing publications, existing postcards and other promotional materials from committees (all committee co-chairs) 	June 2014
Special Gulf of Maine session at Coastal Zone Canada 2014: presentations, multi-media presentation, panel (Susan, Heather)	Overview current issues in the Gulf of Maine; discuss how the Gulf of Maine can continue to survive and thrive in the 21 st century.	Professionals working in coastal and oceans management, researchers, participants in GOMC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CZC website (CZC) Notice to GOMC committees and GOMIT distribution list (TBD) 	Abstract of session due December 2013
Geocaching (Kathryn, Sophia, Dan)	The general public learns about the Gulf of Maine and its importance in a fun way.	Youth (school groups, young naturalist groups, scouts, guides), families, geocachers.	Explore the wonder of the Gulf of Maine. Do your part to protect its treasures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Press release, social media announcements (see Anniversary Announcements row, above) Geocaching website (TBD) Partner site websites (TBD) 	Launched June 2014
Geocache coin (Kathryn)	Entice youth and families to participate in geocaching.	Youth (school groups, young naturalist groups, scouts, guides), families, geocachers.	Explore the wonder of the Gulf of Maine. Do your part to protect its treasures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geocaching website (TBD) Partner site websites (TBD) 	Launched June 2014

Draft November 22, 2013

Activity (Lead)	Objective	Target Audience	Messages	Communications Vehicle* (responsible party)	Date of Event
GOMC awards ceremony (Joan, Sophia)	Recognize recent contributions to action plan goals of GOMC.	GOMC WG and Council, stakeholders	GOMC values your contributions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletters in each jurisdiction (TBD) GOMT distribution list (TBD) Press release, social media announcements (see Anniversary Announcements row, above) 	June 2014
Other activities (tbd)	*Vehicle = actual communication activity.				

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note				
Title of Agenda Item: Climate Network Committee Update				
Submitted by: Ellen Mecray and Bill Appleby, Co-Chairs				
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	For Direction	For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)
		X	X	
Background (required):				
<p>The Climate Network held a very successful meeting in September, drawing 60 professionals from around the Gulf to discuss cross-sectoral, cross border climate issues and to help identify needs that the Network can meet. Some of the top needs that emerged from that meeting include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce the GOM region's capacity for place-based climate research, collaborative management and expanded funding (taking lessons from similar cross-border efforts such as the Gulf of Mexico Climate Community of Practice); Create outreach material on adaptation and planning for the general public, providing landowners and communities with examples of Best Management Practices (BMPs) related to climate change and with comparative cost-benefit analyses of adaptive changes; Help foster the sharing and coordination of data and modelling experiences, and help compile standardized and consistent land-based datasets (LIDAR, land-cover, LCC habitat classification map); and Support development of high-resolution maps (at 5 km) in conjunction with federal, provincial, state, municipal, and private entities. <p>Since that meeting, the Climate Network has submitted three grant proposals to help make its web pages more of a regional informational clearinghouse, and provide decision-makers with more cost-benefit information for adaptation planning.</p> <p>Planning is underway for creation of a quarterly Gulf-wide Climate Impacts and Outlook (see similar NOAA and EC models).</p> <p>The new Climate Network Coordinator, Marina Schauffler, has compiled an initial list of Canadian data for entry into the neclimateus.org (NExUS) online climate database.</p> <p>With support from EC (pending), the Climate Network will be compiling information from Canadian municipalities around the Bay of Fundy documenting low-cost adaptation measures. This data and comparable US examples (gathered in a recent NOAA study Cost-Efficient Climate Adaptation in the North Atlantic) will be publicized on the Network's web pages to help coastal decision-makers begin taking economical, ecosystem-based adaptation actions.</p>				
Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note):				
Executive Summary from the September Climate Network Meeting in Orono, Maine.				

***A Canadian/US Gathering to Develop Direction and Research Priorities
for the Gulf of Maine Council's Climate Network***

September 10 & 11, 2013, University of Maine at Orono

Executive Summary

More than 60 people (including federal, state and provincial employees; university faculty and students; and representatives of nongovernmental organizations and first nations) met to discuss climate change issues in the states and provinces that border the Gulf of Maine (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts). Discussions focused on lessons learned; planning and strategies for adaptation and migration; further needs for management and policy; and ideas for future Climate Network (CN) initiatives.

Presentations centered on several themes: forest impacts; extreme events and adaptive management approaches; and marine fisheries/ocean acidification. Many of the gathering's presentations are posted on the CN page of the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment (GOMC) website: <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/2/committees-and-programs/climate-change-network/>.

Presenting scientists shared data confirming a modest increase since 1955 in GOM region air temperatures (0.8°C or 1.44° F.) and precipitation (9 percent). Precipitation from extreme events in the GOM region has increased 74 percent since 1958. IPCC models project a more rapid increase of 2.5 to 3.5°C (4.5 to 6.3° F) by 2050, with precipitation increasing 5-9 percent and more extreme precipitation events expected. Temperatures in the Gulf of Maine have risen much more in recent decades than many other coastal waters around the world, and an anomalous 2012 "heat wave" in sea surface temperatures had damaging economic impacts.

Extreme weather already poses challenges in ecological, economic and social terms for GOM communities and much discussion focused on ways to meet these challenges through planning, emergency preparedness and infrastructure adaptations. Extreme weather events can provide a valuable opportunity to raise public awareness and the will to take preventive action. More economic analyses demonstrating the cost-effectiveness of both mitigation and adaptive management might help persuade communities to make up-front investments (a dollar invested up front in adaptation can save four dollars in response costs).

Throughout the presentations and the ensuing discussions, seven over-arching themes emerged.

- 1) Local: It's important to apply research to the local level and connect it to communities.
- 2) Knowledge sharing: An informational clearinghouse would help facilitate improved sharing of research and best practices.
- 3) Communication: Citizens and communities need climate adaptation and mitigation conveyed through accessible stories and pictures, and clear web-based guidance on best adaptive management practices.
- 4) Data sharing: Data available across the GOM region need to be combined and shared through a readily accessible data-management system.
- 5) Monitoring: Monitoring, which is critical to tracking climate change impacts, must use consistent standards for data to be shared and effective.
- 6) Mapping: More detailed mapping is needed for many facets of the GOM region (including hydrology, habitats, water use and bathymetry). Accurate forecasting of the timing and degree of climatic changes may help foster greater resilience.
- 7) Analysis: More socio-economic analysis of what people value is needed in the GOM region to help guide climate change adaptation.

Following presentations and discussions, participants shared ideas for constructive roles that the GOMC and Climate Network (CN) could play in relation to the gathering's themes. Some participants had limited understanding of the Council's role as a regional partnership promoting the Gulf's long-term health through connecting people, organization and information; raising public awareness; conducting environmental monitoring;

and translating science into management. Some ideas suggested by participants expressed more general needs for the Gulf of Maine region that are not within the GOMC's scope: these are recorded in Appendix A.

Recommendations for further GOMC Climate Network projects included the following:

- Reinforce the GOM region's capacity for place-based climate research, collaborative management and expanded funding (taking lessons from similar cross-border efforts such as the Gulf of Mexico Climate Community of Practice);
- Create outreach material on adaptation and planning for the general public, providing landowners and communities with examples of Best Management Practices (BMPs) related to climate change and with comparative cost-benefit analyses of adaptive changes;
- Create a list of indicator species to monitor how climate change is affecting GOM marine life;
- Help foster the sharing and coordination of data and modelling experiences, and help compile standardized and consistent land-based datasets (LIDAR, land-cover, LCC habitat classification map);
- Support development of high-resolution maps (at 5 km) in conjunction with federal, provincial, state, municipal, and private entities;
- Re-engage GOMC on subfloor mapping of the entire Gulf of Maine, and fund sediment/habitat/deposits mapping;
- Include more representatives from the forestry and transportation infrastructure sectors on the GOMC and engage them in discussion of climate-related issues; and
- Work with New England Governors-Eastern Canadian Premiers on resolutions concerning climate adaptation planning.

This presentation summary will help guide development of a Climate Network Plan (to be completed by April 2014) describing high-priority climate-related projects for the GOMC and region. Participants at the initial CN gathering in Orono found the sharing of perspectives across sectors to be valuable, and expressed a desire for the CN to organize additional forums fostering dialogue between scientists and those in management and policy. Future gatherings would draw participants from a broader spectrum of sectors such as agriculture, public health, public outreach, wastewater management and energy transmission.

Presentations from the meeting are available on the GOMC website at:
<http://www.gulfofmaine.org/2/committees-and-programs/climate-change-network/>

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note				
Title of Agenda Item: Fiscal Year 2012 -2013 Financial Report and Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget				
Submitted by: Cynthia Krum				
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	For Direction	For Information (internal GOMC)	For Information (External)
			x	
Background (required):				
<p>At the last Gulf of Maine Association (GOMA) meeting in June, 2013 the fiscal year July 2013 – June 2014 budget was conditionally approved and was reviewed by Council for informational purposes. Final GOMA operating budget approval was contingent on closing out the prior fiscal year (ended June 30, 2013). At their June meeting GOMA decided that they would approve the final operating budget prior to September 15, 2013. Page two of the “Fiscal Year 2012 -2013 Financial Report and Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget” document provided to the Council has the final 2013 – 2014 Operating Budget that was approved by GOMA on September 6, 2013. This document is provided for informational purposes.</p> <p>In addition, since the September 6, 2013 GOMA meeting an annual independent audit has been completed. Page one of the “Fiscal Year 2012 -2013 Financial Report and Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget” document is based on audited financial statements and depicts the unrestricted net assets and the administrative rate at the end of the prior fiscal year, June 30, 2013. The audit and administrative rate will be reviewed and acted upon at the Gulf of Maine Association meeting following the Council meeting on December 3, 2013. The new administrative rate will go into effect on December 4, 2013 on new grants and contributions.</p> <p>On the third page of the “Fiscal Year 2012 -2013 Financial Report and Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget” document detail is provided on the annual membership dues expected for fiscal year 2014 – 2015. This is provided for informational and planning purposes.</p>				
Possible Activities / Next Steps (optional):				
Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested (optional):				
Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note): Fiscal Year 2012 -2013 Financial Report and Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget documents – distributed via email directly to Councilors (not included in this Briefing Book)				

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note					
Title of Agenda Item: Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget Estimates and Fund Development Update					
Submitted by: W. Donald Hudson, Sophia Foley, Cynthia Krum					
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	For Direction	X	For Information (internal GOMC)	X For Information (External)
<p>Background (required):</p> <p>This document provides a review of core service and Gulf of Maine Association functions for fiscal year 2014-2015. It also provides an update on the fund development activities during the current fiscal year 2013-2014.</p> <p><u>GOMC Core Services Funding</u></p> <p>State and Provincial members pay annual dues to the Gulf of Maine Council to support Core Services. The Council Coordinator provides organizational management and assistance to the committees, Working Group and Council Chair, and is crucial to the effectiveness of the organization and the carrying out of the action plan. The Information Technology Support, Programming, and Systems Administrator (IT Support) contractor largely supports the website development and maintenance as well as listserves. The Fund developer helps the Council apply for funds identified by members, as well as, search out new sources of funding to support the work of the action plan. If there are any funds remaining, the money pays for meeting expenses and the awards ceremony.</p> <p>As resources became more constrained, Council established a priority order of core services to be funded by dues: first, Council Coordination and IT Support, and second, Fund Development. The Council Coordinator and IT Support report to the Working Group Chair and IT Support contract manager. The Fund developer reports directly to the Executive Director of the Gulf of Maine Association.</p> <p><u>Gulf of Maine Association</u></p> <p>Gulf of Maine Association (GOMA) funding is provided entirely through administration fee which is a portion of funding received for various programs. The administrative rate is set annually based on a calculation made by the auditor. The administrative fees pay for all required costs to operate GOMA such as an Executive Director, Finance manager, insurance, and the independent audit. If funds remain, they are used to pay for Council Coordination (as an administrative function). This frees up dues to be dedicated to fund development. The Association is the legal entity required to manage funds, including dues.</p> <p><u>Fund Development Update</u></p> <p>At the June, 2013 meeting the Council requested that GOMA in coordination with the ad-hoc fund development group convene a full-day workshop to follow up on fund development recommendations prepared by Juli Beth Hinds of Birchline Planning, LLC. Out of this workshop came the final recommendations for the contracting of a fund development contractor.</p> <p>A new fund developer, James Boyle, will be contracted by December 2, 2013. The fund developer will have a seven month contract through June, 2014. It is anticipated that in FY 15 the contract will be extended for another six months based on performance. This fund developer will work closely with the GOMA Executive Director, GOMA Executive Committee and GOMA Board. He will also work with the Council ad-hoc fund development group. Ad-hoc group members not on the GOMA Board include: Jack Wiggin, Susan-Russell Robinson, Robert Capozi and Prassede Vella. Additional members can be added at any time. This contractor will focus on raising funds for Council priority programs with emphasis on the project ideas reviewed by Council at this December, 2013 meeting.</p> <p>Since July, 2013 the following proposals have been submitted or are in the process of development to attract more funds to GOMA for the work of the Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environment Canada, Health of the Oceans - Additional proposed funds for December 2013– March, 2014 (not included in FY 14 budget) - for total of \$49,000 to include: 					

- Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the Gulf of Maine
 - Gulf of Maine Council Support
 - Modernization of the EcoSystem Indicator Partnership's Webtool
 - Cost-Effective Approaches to Municipal Climate Adaptation that Values Ecosystem Services in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia
2. NOAA Climate Program Office – Following two applications submitted for grants with start date of September 1, 2014 (FY 15):
- Providing Gulf of Maine Communities with Coastal Adaptation Tools that Value Natural Ecosystems – Total two-year request - \$247,405
 - MultiSector Approach to Improve Understanding of Impacts of Climate Change and Dam Removal on Nearshore Environments in the Gulf Of Maine - Total two-year request - \$292,092
3. Anticipated funding proposal:
- Royal Bank of Canada - RBC Blue Water Project – Funding request limit - \$100,000
 - Expression of interest due December 20, 2013 which will be submitted if projects warrant submittal (currently researching urban habitat restoration projects in approx. \$20,000 - \$25,000 range). Start date would be June, 2014.
4. Habitat Restoration funding inquiries in process
- Coastal Wetlands Restoration Partnership (suggestion of coordinator funding)
 - J.D. Irving (project specific ideas proposed)
 - Fundy Community Foundation (to set up organization similar to Coastal Wetlands Restoration Partnership)

Possible Activities / Next Steps (optional):

GOMC Core Services Funding

To maintain status quo for Council coordination and IT support, the amount of income derived from dues for fiscal year 2014- 2015 will at least need to equal what was paid in fiscal year 2012-2013 and anticipated for fiscal year 2013-2014. There is a shortage for fund development which is explained in further detail in GOMA section below. The meeting expenses, paid through registration fees (about \$2,000 annually), have not been enough to cover all meeting costs. This means all meetings will need to be held where free space is offered. There may be no funds to operate an awards ceremony in fiscal year 2014-15.

There are a number of jurisdictions who have not been able to pay their dues at the full amount in the past few years. If there are any more losses, it will be very difficult to maintain core functions. Some jurisdictions that are not able to pay for dues have assisted by paying for specific elements of core services instead.

Gulf of Maine Association and Fund Development Funding

In the "Fiscal Year July 2014 – June 2015 (FY 15) Budget Estimates," there are limited funds for both the Gulf of Maine Association and Fund Development. These limited funds are approximately one-half of what is in the current -year budget (FY 14). However, the work requirement, at least during the initial 6 months of FY 15 is expected to be almost equal to the current fiscal year workload. Considerations include:

- GOMA work for July 1 – December 31, 2014 includes audit assistance, closing out grants, fiscal agent responsibilities, and increased fund development and the payment for officers and directors' liability insurance and audit.
- New fund development is for seven-month. Would minimally like to provide an additional six-month contract to the new fund developer to continue the work that he will have started in current fiscal year.

It is recommended, during upcoming budget preparation, that Management and Finance and GOMA consider applying the full amount of funds (available in estimated budgets) for GOMA and the full amount of funding (available in estimated budgets) for Fund Development to the first on-half of FY 15 – July through December, 2014. This is based on two factors that could allow for additional funds to become available for January-June, 2015:

- Anticipate additional funds to be received by fall 2014.

- There is an excess (above \$120,000 of unrestricted net assets for cash flow purposes) in FY 14 budget that could, if realized, offset costs. This will be reviewed in depth during the budgeting process and any new information will be considered.

This recommendation is made because budget preparation takes place before GOMA and Management and Finance will know if additional funding sources for FY 15 will be received. If additional funding is not received by December 31, 2014 there would be significant cuts to GOMA and no Fund Development funds for January 1 – June 30, 2015.

Supporting Documentation (If applicable, list additional documents included in the Briefing Book following this Briefing Note):
Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget Estimates – distributed to Council via email (not included in this Briefing Book)

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Meeting Briefing Note					
Title of Agenda Item: GOMC Action Plan / Work Plan Updates					
Submitted by: Joan LeBlanc, GOMC Council Coordinator in collaboration with committee co-chairs					
Type of Item (place X in appropriate box)	For Decision	For Direction	X	For Information (internal GOMC)	X
For Information (External)					
<p>Background (required):</p> <p>Following the August 2013 fund development workshop and October 2013 Working Group meeting, committees were asked to identify potential priority projects and core committee functions that are in need of funding as part of their annual Action Plan updates for the Council.</p> <p>Gulf of Maine Council committee representatives will provide Councilors with a brief update regarding recent accomplishments associated with the GOMC 2012-2017 Action Plan. Where applicable, they will also provide information about priority projects in need of funding, and funds needed to support core committee functions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gulfwatch Contaminants Monitoring State of the Gulf of Maine EcoSystem Indicator Partnership Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning Habitat Restoration Climate Network (see also separate presentation earlier in agenda) 					
<p>Possible activities and next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority projects in need of funding will be provided to the GOMC fund developer so that they can be matched with potential sources of funding. 					
<p>Actions, Outcomes or Decisions Requested (optional):</p> <p>Councilors will learn about the accomplishments of each committee, as well as any requests for support needed for the committees to successfully carry out their work. Councilors will provide direction and feedback to committees as needed.</p>					
<p>Supporting Documentation:</p> <p>Committee-specific details regarding Action Plan updates, priority projects in need of funding, and core committee funding needs are not included in this Briefing Book. These GOMC committee write-ups are being compiled into a separate document that will be posted on the Gulf of Maine Council website along with meeting and presentation materials prior to the December 2013 meeting. When complete, they will be posted at:</p> <p>http://www.gulfofmaine.org/2/about-the-council/meetings/</p>					