**Coastal Development Conference Call - February 23, 2012**

**Participants:**

 Becca Newhall (NOAA)

 Marilyn ten Brink (EPA)

 Lee Sochasky (Resource and Development Consultant)

Christine Tilburg (GOMC - ESIP)

*\* Slides were prepared for use with this conference call*

**Population Analysis Figures**

The group began the conversation with a figure utilized during the last conference call (population normalized by km2). During the last conference call it was requested that the counties included be listed). Christine noted that the counties are listed in the textbox below the figure. However, she was unsure as to whether a reader would know where the counties are actually located. The group then discussed the figure on Slide 3 (Population Change as a bar graph (also requested during the last call). Becca Newhall stated that if figures like this one are used an overall question should be included in the figure. Christine agreed and thought that the GIS figures also produced are clearer. Marilyn stated that it depends on what is being discussed. For example, GIS is good for depicting current status. However, line or bar graphs are good for showing trends over time. She feels that both are needed. Becca agreed that the graph showing trends over time could be useful - but the simpler the better.

Lee Sochasky stated that she preferred the figure in Slide 4. The group also discussed the table shown on Slide 5. In general, the table was found to be useful. Christine stated that she feels the pie graph is important in showing how each State or Province is important around the Gulf of Maine. Lee stated that she feels that the information in Slide 3 or 4, along with the pie graphs, and the final GIS figure are the most helpful. Christine agreed to put together a simple figure combining Slide 3 (or 4 - undecided) with the pie chart. ***(Action to be taken: Christine will revise these into 1 figure).***

Becca mentioned that Slide 9 is important but some changes need to be made. Marilyn agreed to have Ingrid work on a revisions to the slide ***(Action to be taken: Revisions to GIS).*** The changes needed are as follows:

* Modify the colors chosen. Right now the over-all population values (2000) are difficult to differentiate. ***(Action to be taken: Christine will use colorbrewer and make suggestions to Ingrid ).***
* Modify the State portions to NOT include waters of the State (i.e. use the correct shoreline.
* Add Halifax in to the figure.

**Future Directions**

Marilyn wondered what other groups are doing with the figures they don't use in the fact sheet. She's worried about losing this hard work. Christine stated that some groups are thinking about producing a white paper or peer-reviewed article to make available on the ESIP webpage.

Finally, a call between Marilyn and Christine will be set up to discuss beginning the impervious surface analysis.