**Coastal Development Conference Call - June 6, 2011**

**Participants:**

Sarah Allen (Normandeau Associates)

David Mitchell (NS Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture)

Becca Newhall (NOAA)

Betsy Nicholson (NOAA)

Daniel Savard (NB Dept. of Env.)

Marilyn ten Brink (EPA)

Christine Tilburg (GOMC - ESIP)

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

**Point Source Update**

After introductions around the conference call Marilyn ten Brink provided a little information on what the Coastal Development subcommittee is trying to accomplish. She explained that the subcommittee effort is now accelerating as technology and data is available for use with the indicators. Christine Tilburg provided an update on the point source indicator. She stated that an EPA intern is mapping out all of the NPDES permit holders in the Gulf of Maine. She confirmed that the following questions are of interest with respect to the indicator:

1. Sewage versus industrial point sources
2. Sources within 5 miles of the coast
3. Major versus minor permitees.

**Employment and Population Density - Fine Scale**

Christine then reminded the group that the population and employment indicators are being analyzed in two ways - at the fine scale (census track level) and the coarse scale (county level). She stated that the fine scale analysis is being completed by individuals at the USGS and DFO and should be available on the next call.

**Employment and Population Density - Coarse Scale**

The group then discussed the coarse scale analysis that Christine has begun. Christine expressed dissatisfaction with how the graphs produced convey the data. The following suggestions were made:

1. Map population on a log scale
2. Map population based on percentage change.

The difficulty is in presenting information in a way that is relatively easy to understand. The employment graph produced makes it difficult to see changes on a State or Provincial level. Daniel thought that the employment data should be graphed at:

1. Log scale
2. Relative to population.

Christine agreed to produce these figures for the next call. Marilyn also suggested extrapolating the missing counties information in New Brunswick based on change for the years that data exist.

*\* With respect to the Quebec data Daniel Savard suggested that he participate in the calls with Chantal Gagnon, if necessary.*

**Focus Box:** Betsy Nicholson suggested that a NOAA product looking at coastal communities might be of interest to the group. The tool essentially looks at employment data county-by-county in the US and notes how many people are employed in ocean related jobs (tourism, fisheries, ship and boat building, etc). Marilyn wondered if the data originates straight from the census. Betsy stated that the data comes from the census and then are analyzed by a CSC economist. Christine thought that the tool and/or data might be appropriate for a focus box in the fact sheet. The group agreed. More information can be found at www.csc.noaa.gov/snapshots.

**Impervious Surface**

Marilyn then updated the group on information for the impervious surface indicator. She suggested that the coverage is available at the 30-m scale. In Canada the data is available for around the St. Croix watershed. The group discussed further work that Lee Sochasky (St. Croix International Waterway) is trying to accomplish to obtain more data for Canada.

Marilyn stated that the student working on the impervious surface indicator has been tasked with determining what data (and at what scale) exists. He then will be tasked with compiling the data that is available for the Gulf of Maine watershed. There was some discussion on interest that the DFO might have in extending impervious surface analysis in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Marilyn also stated that she is interested in the use of natural vegetation coverage as a complimentary indicator for the impervious surface information.