**Steering Committee Conference Call: April 25, 2016**

**Participants**

Heather Breeze (DFO), Jawed Hameedi (NOAA), Jim Latimer (EPA), Matt Liebman (EPA), Kathryn Parlee (ECCC), Abe Miller-Rushing (NPS), Marilyn ten Brink (EPA), and Christine Tilburg (GOMC)

**1. Fisheries Fact Sheet**

Christine Tilburg opened the call with an update on the Fisheries Fact Sheet. This fact sheet will be the last of the ESIP 1.0 subcommittee work. Heather Breeze was able to find funding for the design and print of the fact sheet. Christine plans on sending the fact sheet to the Steering Committee after the subcommittee has worked on it (target date: May 23). The fact sheet should be released by July 28.

**2. Annual Meeting details and agenda**

The group then discussed the annual Steering Committee meeting on May 24 from 10:00 AM ET to 3:00 PM ET. Christine has reserved a room at the Maine Audubon center in Falmouth, Maine. The agenda has been drafted and Christine suggested that people send agenda items to her for the meeting. Jed Wright will open the meeting with a discussion of the connection between ESIP’s activities and USFWS projects. At this time it looks like Jawed, Jim, Kathryn, Abe, Matt and Christine will be attending ***(Action to be taken: Please connect with Christine if you have transportation questions/needs).*** Heather asked if a phone connection will be available. ***(Action to be taken: Christine needs to look into a phone/call in option for Heather and Marilyn).***

**3. Reports from meetings**

Members of the ESIP Steering Committee have been busy presenting at meetings recently (with several more lined up over the next two months). Meetings that have been completed are listed below.

* March 23-24: NEAEB (New England Association of Environmental Biologists) in Rockland, Maine. Christine presented a poster at the NEAEB meeting. The meeting was very interesting with many fabulous talks. Christine spoke with individuals about other citizen science efforts and has a follow-up call with Christine Voyer at GMRI. Matt Liebman commented that the NEAEB meetings tend to be very useful as the attendees are mostly state biologists focused on real world problems.
* March 29: Maine Sustainable Waters Conference. Christine and Adria Elskus presented a poster at this conference. Visitors to the poster were interested in both the smartphone app and other printed materials.
* April 9: Penobscot Watershed Conference. Christine presented at the Penobscot Watershed Conference. She was able to talk to several ESIP members and learn about other programs to include in the Monitoring Map and smartphone app. Christine mentioned that she had very little time for her presentation and no time for questions because people earlier in the session had run over their allotted time.
* April 15: NEERS (New England Estuarine Research Society) in York, Maine. Christine and Jim Latimer presented at the NEERS Spring meeting. The audience was particularly interested in the ESIP 2.0 ecosystem services work. Audience members also requested information on the Monitoring Map and how their own programs can be included in the Monitoring Map and smartphone app. Jim stated that the best part of the meeting was preparing for it as it required him to work on the difficult issues with respect to ecosystem services.
* Still to come: BoFEP (Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership), Coastal Zone Canada, and (perhaps) ACCESS (Atlantic Canada Coastal & Estuarine Science Society).

**Next Steering Committee is our Annual Meeting: May 24 at 10 AM ET**.