**Steering Committee Conference Call: August 26, 2010**

**Participants**

Al Hanson (Canadian Wildlife), Jim Latimer (EPA), Diane Gould (EPA), Kathryn Parlee (EC), and Marilyn ten Brink (US EPA)

***0.5 hour has been added as in-kind for all participants.***

**1. Coastal Zone Canada 2010 Report**

ESIP's co-chairs (Susan Russell-Robinson and Kathryn Parlee) along with Christine Tilburg participated in a panel discussion headed up by Susan and focused on using ecosystem indicators in various regions along the US-Canadian border. Christine provided a summary of what was discussed in both the panel and cafe sessions. In general, the other groups were interested in the webtools that ESIP is delivering data through. Kathryn agreed with this comment. Marilyn ten Brink commented that at a recent EPA meeting she attended environmental managers noted that the largest roadblock they have with their work is access to monitoring data.

**2. NEIWPCC Update**

Christine met with Beth Card and Becky Weidman to discuss NEIWPCC's intersections with ESIP on August 10 in Lowell, Massachusetts. After a brief discussion on the two programs areas of mutual interest and possible future projects were discussed. Beth and Becky were most interested in ESIP's efforts with impervious surface and climate change. Christine stated that there might be funds available to do a joint workshop to solidify the working relationship between NEIWPCC and ESIP.

**3. Student Involvement in ESIP**

There is a current effort underway to involve more students to assist in data gathering and analysis for ESIP. In the past, students such as Holly Elwell and Peter Joseph-Kelly (both EPA interns) have been able to provide valuable work on various indicator datasets. Christine has drafted a document outlining some potential student or intern projects. She mentioned that a discussion with Mel Cote (EPA) at the recent NERACOOS meeting resulted in the possibility of Peter Joseph-Kelly might continue his assistance to ESIP through the EPA this fall.

**4. Frameworks for Fact Sheets: Aquaculture and Climate Change**

The Climate Change and Aquaculture Subcommittees are drafting their fact sheets. To aid in the process, Christine has produced outlines of the two fact sheets along with the names of various ESIP members that have volunteered to write specific portions. Christine mentioned that she transferred any comments or ideas from conference calls for each subcommittee to this framework. There was discussion on the call regarding the importance of all of the fact sheets looking similar. Al Hanson also stated that it is important that all data providers be allowed to review the fact sheet before it goes to print. He used aquaculture as an important example.

**5. RARGOM**

Christine mentioned that ESIP has submitted an abstract for the upcoming RARGOM meeting (October 6th) titled "**Accessing the Gulf of Maine's wealth of climate change data.**" Kathryn Parlee said that she might be attending. Marilyn thought that there was a good chance she would also be there.