**Steering Committee Conference Call: January 20, 2015**

**Participants**

Adria Elskus (USGS, UMaine), Jawed Hameedi (NOAA), Jim Latimer (EPA), Matt Liebman (EPA), Kathryn Parlee (EC) and Christine Tilburg (GOMC)

**1. Update Coastal Development**

Christine Tilburg updated the Steering Committee on the progress of the Coastal Development fact sheet. She mentioned that through Kathryn Parlee’s efforts with Environment Canada there are now funds available for the design work and printing. The funds need to be utilized before March 31. The current version of the fact sheet is with the subcommittee. Christine plans to mail the fact sheet for Steering Committee review on January 21, 2015. The Steering Committee will also have a chance to review the designed version in February.

**2. ICUC Team**

The ICUC team met in December and has a late January call also scheduled. The team consists of Kathryn Parlee (EC), Jim Latimer (EPA), Abe Miller-Rushing (DOI), Susan Russell-Robinson (USGS), and Ron Kozlowski (Media Lab, U Maine). Christine and Kathryn mentioned they are particularly thankful that Ron is participating because of his experience with social media. Adria Elskus agreed that he is extremely helpful as he has a lot of experience on similar projects.

**3. ESIP Stories**

Christine stated that one of the Environment Canada deliverables for the current contract is to create a button on the ESIP webpage that connects users to stories for the states or provinces. Christine would like to set up a framework for determining what locations might be best for one of the “ESIP stories.” The following suggestions were made:

* Locations for which there are ESIP datasets available (C. Tilburg).
* Locations for which there are active citizen science efforts (C. Tilburg).
* Locations that are being used for the combined ESIP-ORD project (J. Latimer).
* Subject: Hilary Neckles’ Acadia National Park research that detailed how development might affect the waters around the park (A. Elskus).
* Subject: Shellfish bed closings (A. Elskus).
* Subject: Sea level rise and vulnerability of marshes.
* Subject: Mercury in Penobscot Bay (under litigation, A. Elskus – that project generated their own data; but data in the ESIP indicator tool were used for the Contaminants FACT SHEET)
* Sites that show trends and management issues (M. Liebman)

**4. Annual Meeting**

The group discussed the 2015 annual Steering Committee meeting. June 16 has been proposed as the date. The GOMC Council will meet on June 17 and the Working Group on June 18. Christine is hoping to do an ESIP presentation to the Working Group as the Coastal Development fact sheet will have been released and the ICUC app should be of interest. Christine mentioned that the GOMC meetings will be in Portsmouth, NH. Kathryn thought that the meetings might be in the Portsmouth library. Christine will connect with Joan LeBlanc and obtain some details. ***(Christine needs to talk to Joan about details for the GOMC meetings).*** Christine asked the Steering Committee members to see if they are free on June 16.