**Steering Committee Conference Call: July 27, 2015**

**Participants**

Adria Elskus (U Maine/USGS), Jim Latimer (EPA), Matt Liebman (EPA), Kathryn Parlee (EC), Marilyn ten Brink (EPA), and Christine Tilburg (GOMC)

**1. ICUC**

Christine Tilburg updated the Steering Committee on the ICUC app progress. A Canadian company (Tesera) has been contracted to build the app for approximately $34,000 USD. A conference call was held on July 17 with another scheduled for this Friday (July 31). Christine mentioned that Jim Cradock was able to participate in the first call which was very appreciated as Tesera had many technical questions that Jim was able to answer.

**2. 18 Month Plan**

ESIP put together a temporary 2 year work plan for discussion at the June 2015 Working Group meeting. Since then Kathryn Parlee has been working to revise the 2 year plan. At the same time ESIP has been working without an 18 month plan. Having a plan helps Christine schedule out ESIP activities. Christine asked that the Steering Committee change the normal “work plan” to a 2 year work plan so that the same document can be used within ESIP and with GOMC. In addition, Christine suggested that she work through the current plan and add tentative dates under the “milestone” section (and remove the $ section for within ESIP). She will send the document back to the Steering Committee on Tuesday (August 4). All comments will be due back August 6 so that Kathryn can resubmit the document to Joan LeBlanc (GOMC) on August 7. ***(Action to be taken: Christine needs to revise the 2 year plan and send the document back to the Steering Committee).***

**3. Working Group Feedback**

The day after ESIP’s annual meeting Christine presented to the GOMC Working Group. Participants were asked what issues would be of highest importance to them with respect to ESIP 2.0. Steering Committee members discussed some of the responses. Jim Latimer asked what social indicators NH is using. Christine mentioned that she spoke with Kirstin Howard and the group is moving forward with a framework to look at social indicators in Great Bay. Kathryn wondered what model they are using. Christine stated that they are using the InVEST model developed by several academics, The Nature Conservancy, and WWF. Marilyn ten Brink mentioned that this model was also used for Gulf Breeze and Puget Sound.

Christine mentioned that she feels the Steering Committee needs to dedicate several hours to determine how best to move forward with ESIP 2.0 and the restructuring of ESIP. Jim agreed that might be the next best step. This topic and potential for a brainstorming session will be added to the August Steering Committee agenda. ***(Action to be taken: During the August Steering Committee call a tentative timeline for ESIP 2.0 and brainstorming will be discussed).***

4. **RARGOM**

The 2015 RARGOM meeting will be October 14 in Portsmouth, NH. In the past ESIP has presented a poster and engaged in excellent conversations during the poster session. USGS has offered to produce a “vertical banner” for ESIP’s use and has already given Christine a base for use with this type of poster. Christine wondered if the Steering Committee wants to produce a traditional science poster or perhaps use a more promotional banner and table with ESIP materials. ***(Action to be taken: Christine needs to verify that ESIP can display a promotional banner at no cost).*** Christine wondered if it might also be possible to put a QR code on the banner that will link to the ESIP video. ***(Action to be taken: Christine needs to look into this).***