**Steering Committee Conference Call: June 21, 2016**

**Participants**

Heather Breeze (DFO), Jim Latimer (EPA), Matt Liebman (EPA), Kathryn Parlee (ECCC), and Christine Tilburg (GOMC)

**1. ICUC Update**

Christine Tilburg reminded the group that a new version of the ICUC smartphone app is available for review. To upload the app (a link was provided to Steering Committee members) the current version of the app on your smartphone needs to be removed. The current version allows for inappropriate photos to be reported, off-line synchronization, and clustering of sites.

**2. Fisheries Fact Sheet**

The Fisheries Fact Sheet is nearing completion. Christine mentioned that it has been a difficult subcommittee due to the fact that no chair has been leading the committee. She thought the Steering Committee should keep this in mind with respect to new ESIP 2.0 subcommittees. Heather Breeze asked specifically about which DFO individuals participated in the subcommittee. She also wondered if the document could be reviewed by Bill Whitman and Russ Henry. Christine stated that the Steering Committee will have another opportunity to review. In addition, there are often external reviews by data providers and the GOMC Outreach committee. She will add Russ and Bill to the list of reviews. ***(Action to be taken: Include Russ Henry and Bill Whitman to the list of reviewers. They will be given the opportunity to review prior to Steering Committee review).***

**3. Report from meetings**

Christine asked Kathryn Parlee to talk about feedback from the recent GOMC meetings. Kathryn stated that GOMC members were very excited about the ICUC smartphone app and the potential to link the Climate Network and King Tides effort. Steve Couture was particularly interested in tying the smartphone app to the King Tides project. Kathryn also stated that Susan Russell-Robinson will be officially retiring on July 1. As a parting gift she is donating funds to GOMC for two ICUC sites to be created for each State and Province. One site should be a site of wonder. The other site should be at a location that monitoring is needed but funds are absent.

Jim Latimer recapped his experience at Coastal Zone Canada. Jim stated that the meeting was excellent and focused on sustainability and resilience. He mentioned that the meeting was low in attendance. Kathryn and Heather thought this is likely due to lack of funds for travel. Jim had four speakers in his session and had good interactions with Alexi Baccardax Westcott (ACISC) and Mary Kennedy (COINAtlantic). In addition Jim talked to David Garbary about a potential site on Brier Island. Kathryn stated that Brier Island sees a lot of tourist visitors and might be a good location for a site. ***(Action to be taken: Need to include in list of potential sites. Christine needs to organize the proposed sites with Sara Ellis’ assistance).***

Heather and Kathryn discussed some of the feedback from the BoFEP meeting. Heather mentioned that people in the St. John area are also interested in an ICUC site.

**4. Show and Tell**

Christine discussed the proposed schedule for individuals to update the Steering Committee regarding their own work that might intersect ESIP’s interests. Kathryn wondered if the presenters can be from outside of the Steering Committee. Christine thought that was fine and pointed out that Jed Wright’s presentation at the annual meeting was a good start. She asked Matt Liebman to do the first presentation on the July call. Christine will produce a schedule for speakers on every other call. ***(Action to be taken: Christine needs to create this schedule).***

**5. Annual Newsletter**

ESIP traditionally releases an annual newsletter (Gulf Pulse) during the summer months. Christine has drafted most of the newsletter and will send it along for Steering Committee review in the next two weeks. Peggy Issenman will be producing the newsletter using the common ESIP branding from newsletters in the past.

**6. King Tides Proposal**

Christine mentioned an email from Marina Schauffler (Program Manager for the Climate Network) and Kathryn regarding a proposal to include some ICUC sites as part of the King Tides effort. The group discussed the balance between trying to get funds through other programs and the need to broadcast the ICUC project to new audiences. Kathryn thought $1200-$1500 would be a good amount for 5-6 sites (similar to the current contract with Sara Ellis). However, Ellen McCrey stated there is little funding with the King Tides project.

**7. Other Announcements**

Matt Liebman announced that ISMN is holding a final meeting Friday June 24 in Chelmsford, MA. Attendees will discuss the end of the project and how it might be implemented. He also discussed an effort within EPA regarding Climate Networks. Christine suggested he connect with Esperanza Stancioff regarding her Signs of the Seasons (SOS) project. In addition, she suggested Matt look into the document from 2007 led by Cameron Wake on indicators specific to the Gulf of Maine: <http://www.c-ciarn.uoguelph.ca/documents/Wake_2005.pdf>. Matt mentioned that Marine Schauffler produced and interesting document about climate indicators in Casco Bay.