**Steering Committee Conference Call: September 21, 2010**

**Participants**

Gary Lines (EPA), Kathryn Parlee (EC), and Marilyn ten Brink (US EPA)

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

**1. RARGOM Presentation**

Christine Tilburg opened the call with a discussion of the upcoming RARGOM meeting in Portsmouth, NH on October 6 (http://www.rargom.org/SciMeeting2010.html). ESIP's abstract was accepted for a poster and is copied below:

Climate variables have been measured in the Gulf of Maine and its watershed for over one hundred years. However, managers looking for a quick answer to scientific questions rarely have the time to download and analyze data from the various US and Canadian sources. Consequently, as part of the Gulf of Maine Council's Ecosystem Indicator Partnership (ESIP), a webtool was devised that allows users to quickly and easily look at data for air temperature, precipitation and sea level rise alongside other ecosystem indicators. The Indicator Reporting Tool (www2.gulfofmaine.org/esip/reporting) is the result of several years worth of effort and user input. Managers can locate data in the region using the mapping capabilities and build graphs for the time periods of interest. Snapshots such as those provided by the tool can provide critical information in a timely fashion for those faced with making decisions quickly and provide critical baseline information for use with adaptation efforts.

Christine wondered who on the call will be attending. Marilyn ten Brink stated that she likely will not. Gary Lines and Kathryn Parlee will be there for the Working Group meeting but not the full day of the RARGOM meeting.

**2. Indicator Reporting Tool**

Christine stated that she has been working quite hard with Jim Cradock on the Indicator Reporting Tool. The new and improved tool uses Google Maps as the base map and is the result of the many suggestions voiced at the June 2010 Steering Committee meeting. Hopefully the new tool will be unveiled in the coming weeks with a message sent out to all ESIP members. Christine has asked Jim to have the new tool available for the RARGOM meeting.

**3. NERACOOS Funding**

NERACOOS just completed going through an intensive process to determine what projects might be funded if full funding is obtained for the next fiscal year. ESIP is in the budget for 40K over the course of two years. This funding would only occur if the federal funds are increase over the next funding cycle.

**4. Review order for Aquaculture and Climate Change fact sheets**

The ESIP Aquaculture Fact Sheet is now drafted and ready for review. Christine stated that the Climate Change Fact Sheet is also almost there. Her hope is that the fact sheets will follow the following schedule:

**Aquaculture Fact Sheet Tentative Schedule**

September 27 - Draft fact sheet to subcommittee for comments

October 11 - Comments for fact sheet due from subcommittee

October 12 - Draft fact sheet to Steering Committee for comments (due October 20)

October 21 - Draft fact sheet to Council outreach committee for comments (due Nov. 3)

October 21 - Draft to data providers (text & figures only) for comments (due Nov. 3)

November 4 - Draft fact sheet to designer (due November 25)

November 29 - Draft fact sheet to committee for final review (due December 6)

December 10 - Release Aquaculture Fact Sheet

**Climate Change Fact Sheet Tentative Schedule**

September 30 - Draft fact sheet to subcommittee for comments

October 15 - Comments for fact sheet due from subcommittee

October 18 - Draft fact sheet to Steering Committee for comments (due October 29)

November 1 - Draft fact sheet to Council outreach committee for comments (due Nov. 3)

November 1 - Draft to data providers (text & figures only) for comments (due Nov. 18)

November 19 - Draft fact sheet to designer (due December 2)

December 3 - Draft fact sheet to committee for final review (due December 17)

January 3, 2011 - Release Climate Change Fact Sheet

**5. Journal Entry**

Christine asked if anyone on the call had suggestions for a journal entry to be used at this time. The individual that was to write the September/October entry is not going to be able to complete it. No one on the call had a suggestion.

**Next Call: October 26 at 10:00 AM ET**