

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council

*August 3, 2020
10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Web Conference*

Draft Agenda

The times listed are approximate; the order in which these items will be taken is subject to change; other items may be added as necessary.

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*L. Fegley*)
2. Council Consent
 - a. Approval of Agenda
 - b. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
3. Public Comment
4. Review and Discuss ACCSP Governance Survey Results (*G. White*)
5. Committee and Program Updates (*J. Simpson, G. White*)
6. Status of 2020 Action Plan Items (*G. White*)
7. Other Business/Adjourn

**DRAFT PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ATLANTIC COASTAL COOPERATIVE STATISTICS PROGRAM
COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**Via Webinar
May 5, 2020**

These proceedings are draft and subject to approval by the
Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council.
The Council will review the minutes during its next meeting

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Call to Order, Chairman Lynn Fegley 2

Approval of Agenda 2

Approval of Proceedings of October 2019..... 2

Consider Approval of the Funding Decision Document and 2021 Request for Proposals..... 3

Marine Recreational Information Program State Partnership Report to Congress 4

Adjournment..... 6

These proceedings are draft and subject to approval by the
Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council.
The Council will review the minutes during its next meeting.

INDEX OF MOTIONS

1. **Approval of agenda** by consent (Page 1).
2. **Approval of minutes from October 2019** by consent (Page 1).
3. **Approval of the Funding Decision Document and 2021 Request for Proposals by consent** (Page 4).
4. **Move to adjourn** by consent (Page 6).

These proceedings are draft and subject to approval by the
Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council
The Council will review the minutes during its next meeting.

ATTENDANCE

Council Members

Bob Beal, ASMFC
Megan Ware, MA, proxy for P. Keliher
Cheri Patterson, NH
Dan McKiernan, MA
Jason McNamee, RI
Matt Gates, CT, proxy for J. Davis
Maureen Davidson, NY, proxy for J. Gilmore
Joe Cimino, NJ (AA)
Kris Kuhn, PA, proxy for T. Schaeffer
John Clark, DE, proxy for S. Michels
Lynn Fegley, MD, Chair

Lewis Gillingham, VA, proxy for P. Geer
Dee Lupton, NC, proxy for S. Murphey
Mel Bell, SC, proxy for P. Maier
Kathy Knowlton, GA, proxy for D. Haymans
Jim Estes, FL, proxy for J. McCawley
Derek Orner
Brandon Muffley, MAFMC
Marty Gary, PRFC
John Carmichael, SAFMC
Mike Millard, USFWS

Staff

Geoff White

Julie Defilippi Simpson

Guests

Gordon Colvin, MRIP

The Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened via webinar; Tuesday, May 5, 2020, and was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Chairman Lynn Fegley.

ROLL CALL

MR. GEOFF WHITE: Welcome everybody, we are just a moment after our time, and I wanted to just run down through a quick list of people that I'm aware are already on the phone and have had their sound checks done at some point today. I want to maintain as much time as we can for our meeting.

There are a few folks that I have not yet found on the webinar, and I will be asking for you to speak up at the right time. But for ASMFC we have Bob Beal, Maine, Megan Ware, New Hampshire, Cheri Patterson, Massachusetts, Dan McKiernan, Rhode Island, Jason McNamee, Connecticut, Matt Gates, New York, Maureen Davidson. Do we have Maureen on the line in the webinar yet, another representative from New York?

MS. TONI KERNS: Geoff, let me just make sure she's not muted by me. I just have to get to her.

MS. MAUREEN DAVIDSON: Hi, can you guys hear me now?

MS. KERNS: Yes.

MS. MAUREEN DAVIDSON: Okay, I'm here.

MR. WHITE: Fantastic, good to have you Maureen.

MS. KERNS: Geoff, one more. I apologize, Cheri just texted me and said that she will need to do a check, so when you're done with the list if we could go back to Cheri to do a sound check that would be great.

MR. WHITE: You're there now, why don't you just go ahead.

MS. KERNS: I think she's got to get her headset in her ear, so if we do it at the end that will be great.

MR. WHITE: Okay, we'll come back. No problem. The next folks that I think are on the list, maybe I'll do five and pause. For New Jersey we've got Joe Cimino, Pennsylvania, Kris Kuhn, Delaware, John Clark, and Maryland our Chair, Lynn Fegley, and in Virginia Lewis Gillingham. Are we good there? I'll assume silence is good. Moving on, in North Carolina we have Dee Lupton on the line, South Carolina, Mel Bell, Georgia, Kathy Knowlton, Florida, Jim Estes, PRFC we have Marty Gary. DC Fisheries, we were looking for Bryan King, but I wanted a confirmation there, maybe not. For NOAA Fisheries we have the potential for David Detlor, Alan Lowther, and Derek Orner. Maybe the three of you, or whoever is available, speak up please.

MR. DEREK ORNER: Hey there Geoff, this is Derek, I'm on line.

MR. WHITE: Thank you, Derek. Moving to Fish and Wildlife Service, Mike Millard, and for the Councils we do have John Carmichael on for South Atlantic, and Brandon Muffley for Mid-Atlantic. I'm not aware of a member for, in New England is Tom Neis or another representative on the line?

MS. KERNS: I'm just double-checking to make sure, and I need to do a sound check with Brandon Muffley in one second. I think PK has gotten off the phone, who was on for New England earlier. I don't see him here anymore. Then Brandon Muffley, I'm just going to quickly do a sound check with you. You're unmuted.

MR. BRANDON MUFFLEY: Hey Toni, I'm here.

MS. KERNS: Great, and if you just re-mute yourself. Okay Geoff.

MR. WHITE: Sound check with Cheri?

These proceedings are draft and subject to approval by the
Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council.
The Council will review the minutes during its next meeting.

MS. KERNS: She said she is good; she does not need to do one. Thank you.

MR. WHITE: Okay, then I know we have Gordon Colvin checked in as our MRIP speaker for later. Just once again asking if David Detlor or Alan Lowther have joined us.

MS. KERNS: I don't see them on the list.

MR. WHITE: No problem. I think we're good on our attendance. I will ask Maya to move one slide forward. Overall, the webinars have been going very well today. I think folks are getting really good at this. But I do want to say the credit today goes to Toni, and the whole ASMFC staff team approach in their preparation and attention to get this going.

I'm not going to read all this to you, but a highlight on how to mute, un-mute, raise hands when necessary, and I believe we have one motion today that we will do a roll call for again. That kind of gets us in and going. The one last item that I want to steal the microphone for another moment, and then I'll turn it over to our Chair, Lynn, is to say welcome to everybody.

I do appreciate kind of the ongoing attention that you and your staff have had to ACCSP activities. As a group we have had and seen a lot of progress in succeeding from a distance. The program updates that were sent out with supplemental materials include a long list of those items, where we as a group have maintained timelines of deliverables under some significant and unforeseen challenges, of which the pandemic is not the only one. Thank you all, and Lynn, take it away.

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIRMAN LYNN FEGLEY: All right, hi, good afternoon everyone. Welcome to the meeting of the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council. This is going to be a pretty quick meeting. We only have one

action item really to get through, as Geoff said, and that is the approval of the Funding Decision Document and the 2021 Request for Proposals. I want to start with a couple of consensus requests.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Do I have consensus on Approval of Agenda? If anybody has an issue with the agenda, please raise your hand now.

MS. KERNS: I don't see any hands raised, Lynn.

APPROVAL OF PROCEEDINGS

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Seeing none, we'll go on to approval of the meeting minutes from October, 2019 in New Hampshire. Is there anyone who requests an edit, or change to those meeting minutes? Please, raise your hand if you do.

MS. KERNS: I don't see any hands raised.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Okay, and seeing none, the third bullet here is, as a time saving mechanism, Geoff and Julie and staff have included a summary of Committee and Program Updates in your packet. They are great, and I just want to say quickly, in regard to those first. Congratulations to Alex DiJohnson, who has been selected as the new Recreational Data Team leader.

I also want to extend just massive thank you to all of the states. The spring data load was completed early this year, by April 14. Thank you to everyone and to your staff for a job well done there. With that is there anybody who has questions or comments about the Committee Updates?

MS. KERNS: I don't see any hands raised, Lynn.

These proceedings are draft and subject to approval by the
Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council.
The Council will review the minutes during its next meeting.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE FUNDING
DECISION DOCUMENT AND
2021 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Great, okay moving right along then to Agenda Item 3, we are going to Consider Approval of the Funding Decision Document and 2021 RFP, and with that I will kick it over to Julie.

MS. JULIE DeFILIPPI SIMPSON: What I wanted to do today was just to very quickly highlight the RFP changes and additions that are substantial. In your RFP packet there was a summary page at the beginning that highlighted these as well, but they also included any other content changes that were made, and hopefully that helps to find those changes in the document for you.

The first change that I wanted to highlight was the language on the 75/25 split. This was added by the Funding Subcommittee, because this was a topic that they were asked to review. They decided that there was no need or appropriate reason to change the 75/25 split at this point. But they wanted to make sure that how the 75/25 split was handled was very clear in the RFP. On Page 2, the red text is new. The gray text indicates text that has existed prior to this. That red sentence is a new sentence that has been added. Before I move to the next slide, are there any questions on the 75/25 split?

MS. KERNS: I don't see any hands raised.

MS. SIMPSON: On this slide we have one change and one addition. One of the other items that was discussed by the Funding Subcommittee was the number of years for maintenance and new projects, and also how the base funding was going to be calculated. There was a proposal put before that Committee that there would be four years of maintenance funding, and that would be preceded by a single year of new funding.

There will be one year of new funding and then there would not be an option of, do you want to

be new or maintenance, and the second year you would automatically be maintenance in Year 2. The four years of maintenance funding would be used to calculate the base funding as the average of those four years.

The primary bullet of second sub-bullet there was changed to reflect that. But there were also other edits made throughout the document, so that references to the base funding were consistent throughout the document. The final item that is an addition to the RFP is that the Subcommittee has created socioeconomic priorities.

That document was reviewed by the Operations and Advisory Committee, and the approved version is in your materials. This is in addition to the RFP that we haven't had in previous years. These are the major changes or additions to the RFP. Does anyone have any questions at this point?

MS. KERNS: Julie, Dee Lupton has her hand up.

MS. DEE LUPTON: In addition to calculating the base to determine the average funding for the maintenance projects being the four years of maintenance. It looked like you also changed the number of years a project is considered new. That was on, I think Page 7 of the proposal format. It says Partner Projects never funded by the program new projects may not exceed a duration of one year. This is a change too. I just wanted to point that out.

MS. SIMPSON: Yes, Ma'am. You faded in and out a little wee bit, but I believe that what you stated is correct. It's essentially a twofold change, and that is that the new funding will only be available for one year, not up to two years, and that the base will be calculated off of the four years of maintenance funding. It is a twofold change, one is the number of years available new funding, which is down to one, and then the second is the base is actually calculated

off the four years of maintenance. Yes, you're correct that is a twofold change.

MS. KERNS: I do not see any other hands raised.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Okay. All right, well thank you, Julie, for that. Nice job! I really appreciate the method of just highlighting the changes. That is very helpful. At this point I think what I would like to do to move this along. I know this is an action item, but I would like to try approving the, if it's the pleasure of the Council, I would like to try approving this just by consent. **What I'm going to do is ask if there is any opposition to the approval of the Funding Decision Document, and the 2021 Request for Proposals.** If you're opposed, please raise your hand, and we'll discuss and move to the next step. **But if we see no hands, we'll considered it approved.**

MS. KERNS: Lynn, I do not see any hand raised.

CHAIRMAN FELGLEY: That's great, thank you everyone for your participation and forbearance. I appreciate that. We're looking forward to a good 2021 of projects.

MARINE RECREATIONAL INFORMATION PROGRAM STATE PARTNERSHIP REPORT TO CONGRESS

CHAIRMAN FELGLEY: With that I'm going to go back to Geoff White to discuss the MRIP State Partnership Report to Congress. Take it away, Geoff.

MR. WHITE: Outstanding, thank you, Lynn. As mentioned earlier, we do have Gordon Colvin on the line to help us out when we get to the questions. It's a one slide presentation, so that will keep us on track. In the meeting materials there is a PDF summarizing the State Partnerships Document, and over e-mail prior to the meeting, I did send out a Word version requesting querying council input on the document itself.

This is one of several reports to Congress required by the Modern Fish Act. This one in particular covers both. The language at the top does state creating new partnerships, but the direction from MRIP and ACCSP is really to cover existing state partnerships, as well as new opportunities.

Without going through it section by section, there are areas on state surveys that have been informed by the Gulf of Mexico, where there are multiple certified sampling designs, and trying to balance out those things, the certification pathways and process, the funding approaches a little bit, as well as the criteria for the MRIP standards and the data consolidation.

There is a section there on the use of the NSAR, the National Saltwater Angler Registry data, and come back to that at the bottom. In the original e-mail I had asked for your comments back on the document. As of, I think, May 11 based on some other feedback that has been extended, so I've kind of asked that by May 20 if there is a chance to get that back to me that would be wonderful.

MRIP Has moved it back to near the end of the month so that we have a chance to both compile your comments, as well as providing anything additional on our end. This was presented to the ACCSP Operations Committee on April 15, and they've had a chance to comment already. Today we have an opportunity for any discussion that you would like to raise, any questions you may want to ask of myself or Gordon.

Before I open it up to that discussion, I did want to go back to the idea that the NSAR MOUs between NOAA and each state are on the list for updating, and MRIP will be in contact with each of the state contacts for that already. I've shared updated contact information with Gordon already to support that activity. That is the very broad overview, and with that I will ask Maya to move to the next slide, and see if folks wanted to raise their hands and have any discussion about

These proceedings are draft and subject to approval by the
Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council.
The Council will review the minutes during its next meeting.

this, potentially starting with Gordon. Was there something you wanted to add at this point?

MR. GORDON COLVIN: Actually, there are two things I would like to kind of say here at the beginning of the discussion, and the first one is just a little bit off subject, but you'll see in a minute. Earlier you asked if David Detlor or Alan Lowther was present for the meeting, they are not. But you're not stuck with me.

I do see that Richard Cody has joined us, and although he's muted, Richard is present and able to follow along. That is particularly important, and now I'm going to embarrass him at this moment in time, because we have all just learned, much to our delight that Richard effective on Monday, will become the Division Chief for the Fisheries Statistics Division, the position that you all know Dave Van Voorhees was in for so many years.

Richard will be taking over that responsibility, and there is not much more in our office more closely affiliated with ACCSP than that. Please join me in congratulating Richard in that new assignment, and I'm sure that given his experience with ACCSP he's going to be pretty comfortable. Now at some point, Toni, it may be appropriate to unmute Richard, just to let him say a word or two about that. But I kind of took him by surprise by doing this, and I thought it was timely.

MR. WHITE: Well, Gordon, I appreciate that. I don't know if this is functionally possible. But if we were all in the room together this would be a moment of applause. Toni, is it possible to unmute everyone, so we may give Richard a round of applause? I know that's a weird big ask.

MS. KERNS: I would say we are virtually giving him a round of applause. I don't know how.

(Whereupon there was virtual applause at this moment!!)

MR. WHITE: Congratulations, Richard, great to have you!

MR. COLVIN: Thank you for indulging me for that. The second thing I wanted to just briefly mention. In addition to the State Partnership Plan that Geoff is coordinating state review and comment for. We will also, and I wanted to let you all know that we will also be sending an e-mail, there will be an e-mail coming from Richard to each state in the next few weeks that is specific to the National Saltwater Angler Registry portion of this required Review and Report to Congress.

It will be fairly self-explanatory, I hope, and it will relate to the Registry content in the plan that you have available to you. But essentially, we will be asking the states to do three things in this memo. We will be asking them to pull out, dust off, and review their individual MOAs, so that we can be assured that both parties are familiar with its content, as we proceed with the evaluation.

Secondly, it will ask for some feedback on the Registry specific components of the evaluation that we are required to do for the report, and thirdly, it will ask the states to identify point of contact for me to work with over the next few months, as we complete this review. With that if there is anybody who has any questions about the documents you have, I would be glad to take them. I would like to thank Geoff for arranging for this discussion, and for coordinating the review of the State Partnership Plan. Thank you, Geoff.

MS. KERNS: Geoff, I don't see any hands raised yet.

MR. WHITE: Richard, while folks think for a moment, would you like to take the floor, the microphone, what are we calling it there?

MS. KERNS: We're going to have to un-mute him, so just give us a second.

MR. RICHARD CODY: Well thanks. I just wanted to follow up what Gordon mentioned about the memo that we'll be sending out in the next few weeks. It's probably been a few years since people have looked at the MOAs. Feel free to contact us if you have difficulties locating them, and identifying a point of contact. But we'll be reaching out over the next few months to move the process along. Well anyway, thanks everybody for the introduction. Gordon caught me by surprise, so I was kind of thankful that I was muted.

(Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 1:29 p.m. on May 5, 2020)

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Okay, congratulations, Richard that's exciting. Is there anybody that has, I'll give it one more chance, any additional questions regarding the MRIP Report to Congress?

MS. KERNS: I don't see any hands raised, Lynn.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: All right, thanks Toni. I would definitely encourage folks to look that over. Geoff has placed some specific questions in the margins of that document for states to look at. I would encourage everybody to look it over, and if you have comments get them to Geoff by, I believe May 20 is now his date. With that we'll move on. Is there anybody with any Other Business to present? Please raise your hands, if so.

MS. KERNS: I don't see any hands raised, Lynn.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Okay, I'll ask one more time, is there anybody out there who has public comment for the Coordinating Council?

MS. KERNS: Still no hands raised.

ADJOURNMENT

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: That is brilliant, so it is 1:29 and if there is not any opposition raised, we will stand adjourned. Thank you everybody as always for your participation, and to staff for a job very well done. We stand adjourned.

These proceedings are draft and subject to approval by the
Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council.
The Council will review the minutes during its next meeting.