



Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program

1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200A-N | Arlington, VA 22201
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Coordinating Council - Executive Committee Meeting February 5, 2015 12:45 pm

The Westin Alexandria, 400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria, VA

DRAFT AGENDA

1. Welcome/Introductions – Coordinating Council Chair C. Patterson
2. Public Comment* – C. Patterson
3. Committee Consent – C. Patterson
 - a) Approval of Agenda (Attachment 1) - **ACTION**
 - b) Approval of Proceedings from October 2014 (Attachment 2) – **ACTION**
4. Program Status Updates
 - a) Program Status – M. Cahall
 - b) MRIP Transition Status – M. Cahall
5. Review Action Items from previous meeting
 - a) At the end of the Coordinating Council meeting C. Patterson will meet with the Northeast states with G. Colvin to make a decision on NROC's use of eTRIPS/m. **Done**
 - b) E. Wyatt will send a welcome package to John Carmichael for his new position on the Executive Committee and the Coordinating Council. **Done**
 - c) L. Leach will do research to find a gift for B. Mahood for his service on the Executive Committee and the Coordinating Council. She will report back to C. Patterson. **Done**
 - d) R. Boyles will present the Governance survey results at the next Executive meeting in February per request from G. Colvin.
 - e) B. Beal will present the Funding subcommittee white paper results on funding dispersal for proposals at the February Coordinating Council meeting.
 - f) M. Cahall will present the progress of completion of the IPR recommendations at the February Coordinating Council meeting.
 - g) Once the SOP document is finalized the Coordinating Council will review the document yearly to ensure relevance.
 - h) The Coordinating Council will discuss at the next meeting giving the Operations Committee more authority to recommend a different funding split than the 75/25 when necessary.
6. Closed Executive Session

Our vision is to produce dependable and timely marine fishery statistics for Atlantic coast fisheries that are collected, processed, and disseminated according to common standards agreed upon by all program partners.

7. Other Business/Adjourn

*See Public Comment Guidelines:

http://www.accsp.org/documents/ACCSP_PublicCommentPolicyOct2013.pdf



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Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Executive Meeting

In-person Meeting
 October 28th, 2014
 Mystic, Connecticut

http://mahi.accsp.org:8888/pls/accsp/f?p=550:15:844589878730645::NO:15:P15_CAL_ID_1:1499

MEETING MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Name	Partner	Phone	Email
Mark Alexander	CT DEEP	(860) 434-6043	mark.alexander@ct.gov
Robert Beal	ASMFC	(703) 842-0740	rbeal@asmfc.org
Robert Boyles Jr. (Vice-chair)	SC DNR	(843) 953-9304	boylesr@dnr.sc.gov
Gordon Colvin (Proxy – Edward Cyr)	NOAA	(240) 357-4524	gordon.colvin@noaa.gov
Paul Diodoti	MA DMF	(617) 626-1530	paul.diodati@state.ma.us
Wilson Laney (Proxy – William Archambault)	US FWS	(919) 515-5019	wilson_laney@fws.gov
Cheri Patterson (Chair)	NH FGD	(603) 868-1095	cheri.patterson@wildlife.nh.gov

Others in Attendance

Name	Title	Partner	Phone	Email
Laura Leach	Director of Finance and Administration	ASMFC	(703) 842-0740	lleach@asmfc.org
Steve Meyers	Fisheries Biologist	NOAA	(301) 713-2347	steve.meyers@noaa.gov
George Lapointe	George Lapointe Consulting		(207) 626-7967	georgelapointe@gmail.com
John Weber	NROC Ocean Planning Director		(617) 875-1377	jweber@northeastoceancouncil.org
Kevin Chu	Assistant Regional Administrator for Constituent Engagement	NOAA	(410) 573-4578	kevin.chu@noaa.gov

Staff Members in Attendance: Mike Cahall (Program Director), Geoff White (Data Team Leader), Elizabeth Wyatt (Program Assistant)

Welcome/Introductions (C. Patterson)

Chair Patterson started the meeting at 10:15am. Attendance was taken.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Our vision is to be the principal source of fisheries-dependent information on the Atlantic coast through the cooperation of all program partners.

Committee Consent (C. Patterson)

- **Approval of Agenda**
 - G. Lapointe and John Weber were added to the agenda to talk about using eTRIPS/m for coastal planning.
 - A discussion of a replacement for Bob Mahood on the committee was added.
 - The agenda was approved by consent including the additions.
- **Approval of Proceedings for August 2014**
 - The proceedings were approved by consent.

eTRIPS/m Expanded Use

G. Lapointe and J. Weber came from the Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC) to discuss the possible use of eTRIPS/m in a project to look at current ocean use. They expect to use the tool throughout New England and New York with a focus on For-hire trip reporting. Committee members wondered how NROC using eTRIPS/m might affect ACCSP. M. Cahall stated that he felt that NROC will be a good pilot for eTRIPS/m in an expanded setting. Changes will need to be made to the location specifications with NROC paying for any modifications required. NROC's use should not interfere with the rollout of eTRIPS/m in North Carolina and by the time NROC would like implementation in the Northeast, the NOAA Fisheries Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) approval for the use of eTRIPS/m data in its Vessel Trip Report (VTR) program should be in place. NROC will be pilot testing For-hire vessels via volunteers. Several members spoke in favor of this type of collaboration but concern was expressed about the use of Global Positioning Satellites (GPS) for fishing locations. It is well known that the For-hire industry is often reluctant to report fishing locations. M. Cahall informed the group that the location can be enabled or disabled on the application by the captain. NROC is actually more interested in routes of travel. It was asked if law enforcement would have access to this data because they have been looking for a better way to target their efforts. M. Cahall stated that because this data will be processed through the Standard Atlantic Fisheries Information System (SAFIS), law enforcement will have access to it. **At the end of the Coordinating Council meeting C. Patterson will meet with the Northeast states and G. Colvin to make a decision on NROC's use of eTRIPS/m.**

Review Action Items from previous meeting

- **Chair Patterson will work with the three Atlantic Fishery Management Councils to replace Bob Mahood as an Executive Committee (EC) representative member.**
 - John Carmichael was suggested as a replacement from the three Atlantic Fishery Management Councils. All Executive Council members agreed. **E. Wyatt will send a welcome package.**
 - Currently, we have a plaque for B. Mahood, however the EC wanted to get him something more personalized due to his extensive contribution to ACCSP as a founding committee member. A gold pin was suggested, it was also mentioned to ensure that the gift be distinguishable from the Hart award. **L. Leach will do research for a gift and report back to C. Patterson.**
- **ACCSP Executive Committee Subcommittee work updates for next meeting:**
 - **Governance Workgroup (R. Boyles)**
 - This group met in August but has since not been able to move forward. There will be a report at the next Executive Committee meeting in February. **G. Colvin requested the survey results to be presented.**
 - **Funding Subcommittee (R. Beal)**

- Two conference calls have occurred resulting in a white paper presenting options. **The white paper will be presented to the Coordinating Council at the February meeting.** The white paper discusses the 75%/25% split and how long a project should be on ACCSP funding. The white paper does state that the Subcommittee is in favor of giving the Coordinating Council the authority to modify the funding split when necessary.
- The white paper also discusses which subcommittee should be tasked with how to secure more funding. This has been a priority for the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) to secure funding and will directly impact the Fisheries Information Network (FIN) programs. There has recently been negative discussion within NOAA about level funding (which ASMFC/ACCSP has) and members want to make sure this issue is being addressed. There was also concern for “unforeseeable costs” such as cost of living and inflation not being addressed within ACCSP. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) does allow for a slight increase in funding each year due to cost of living increases, etc.
- **Independent Program Review (IPR) Workgroup (M. Cahall)**
 - The IPR Excel spreadsheet has been recently updated and all implementation of approved recommendations from the IPR are at least in the planning stages. The IPR workgroup also decided that as long as a recommendation is in an approved action plan it can be considered completed. **It was suggested that a presentation be done at the May Coordinating Council meeting to update everyone on the progress being made.**
- **Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Subcommittee Update (M. Cahall)**
 - Currently the Program is on track creating SOPs. One issue that came up in discussion with the subcommittee is **how the whole SOP document will be maintained. This group decided that the Coordinating Council will need to approve the document annually to ensure that all SOPs are still relevant.**

ACCSP/ASMFC Marine Recreational Information Program – Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (MRIP – APAIS) Transition Plan Update (M. Cahall)

At the joint Coordinating Council/Interstate Fisheries Management Board meeting this afternoon the APAIS transition plan will be presented for approval. All states and ASMFC have completed and submitted draft budgets. The effort between states has been highly collaborative, especially between states that conduct the survey and states that do not. The total draft budget is \$4.8 million. The likelihood is that the total budget will decrease as issues are resolved. It does not appear that there will be any “no” votes from states. With this budget, NOAA Fisheries is in support of ACCSP/ASMFC taking over APAIS, however they only want this survey managed by one source. The NOAA Fisheries representatives expressed concern that a state might outright refuse to participate in the survey. No one on the committee knew of any states that seemed hesitant to move forward in conducting APAIS.

Other Business

M. Cahall and C. Patterson have been working to get as many projects as possible funded. ME, MA and NOAA will be working together to develop one swipe card project that will work for everyone. ACCSP will add \$40,000 to the administration budget to include ME’s needs to the project development, which will leave \$190,000 available for other projects. These additional funds can fund all maintenance and the first three new proposals, bringing the split between maintenance and new projects to 88%/12%. If ACCSP does receive the Sustainability Fisheries funding (\$150,000), that has been provided over the last three

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years, than the next new proposal (South Atlantic Shrimp Catch and Effort Automation) will be funded. It was suggested to emphasize this additional funding source to the Coordinating Council because often the South Atlantic is severely underfunded and with this additional funding a NOAA Fisheries South Atlantic proposal will be funded. It was also suggested to express to the Coordinating Council that ACCSP expects to be funded with \$3.35 million and with possible additional funding ACCSP could be funded in full with \$3.5 million. With this decision some members of the Executive Committee expressed frustration that this discussion was not had in front of all partners. The rearranging of the distribution of funds happened largely because the Operations Committee felt as though they didn't have the authority to make a recommendation that did not follow the 75%/25% split. **It was suggested that this issue be addressed by the Coordinating Council for the following year if it happens again.**

Closed Executive Session

Adjourn

Action Items

1. At the end of the Coordinating Council meeting C. Patterson will meet with the Northeast states and G. Colvin to make a decision on NROC's use of ACCSP's eTRIPS/m.
2. E. Wyatt will send a welcome package to John Carmichael for his new position on the Executive Committee and the Coordinating Council representing the three Atlantic Fisheries Management Councils and the South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council, respectively.
3. L. Leach will do research to find a gift for B. Mahood for his service on the Executive Committee and the Coordinating Council. She will report back to C. Patterson.
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