

Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning

Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body Meeting

September 23-24, 2015

Norfolk Waterside Marriott

235 E Main Street

Meeting Room: Hampton Roads I-IV

Norfolk, VA 23510

This document has been formatted for double-sided printing.

Contents

- Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning Meeting Agenda

- Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body Roster of Members and Alternates

- Updated Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body Timeline for Ocean Action Plan Development (September 2015)

- Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Action Plan Draft Outline

- Scopes and Objectives for Information Synthesis to Support Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning

- Regional Ocean Assessment Draft Outline

- Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body Draft Interjurisdictional Coordination Actions

Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning

Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body Meeting

September 23-24, 2015

Agenda

Meeting Objectives

- Review draft data synthesis and information products, discuss public input gained during September 22 MARCO public workshop, and discuss next steps
- Determine how Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body (MidA RPB) goals and objectives will be addressed through specific interjurisdictional coordination (IJC) actions, consider public input, and identify next steps
- Agree on components of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Action Plan (OAP) as described in a draft OAP outline
- Receive public input on topics under consideration by the MidA RPB

Location: Norfolk Waterside Marriott
235 E Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510
Meeting room: Hampton Roads I-IV

Wednesday, September 23, 2015

8:00 am Registration

9:00 am Tribal blessing and welcome

- *Kelsey Leonard, Tribal RPB Co-Lead, Shinnecock Indian Nation*
- *Laura McKay, Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program*

9:10 am Introductions and agenda review

- *Laura Cantral, Meridian Institute*

9:20 am Remarks from National Ocean Council Director

- *Beth Kerttula, National Ocean Council*

9:30 am Review of progress since last RPB meeting and timeline through 2016

- *Robert LaBelle, Federal RPB Co-Lead, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior*

- *Kelsey Leonard, Tribal RPB Co-Lead, Shinnecock Indian Nation*
- *Gwynne Schultz, State RPB Co-Lead, Maryland Department of Natural Resources*

MidA RPB Co-Leads present brief updates of progress since the last RPB meeting in January 2015 and review a timeline through 2016.

9:45 am Update on draft data synthesis and assessment products

- *Pat Halpin, Duke University, Marine Life Data and Analysis Team (MDAT)*
- *Melanie Schroeder Gearon, RPS ASA, Mid-Atlantic Regional Human Use Spatial Data Synthesis Project (HUDS)*
- *Peter Taylor, Waterview Consulting, Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Assessment Project (ROA)*

MARCO-supported data synthesis and assessment project teams provide presentations about their work.

10:30 am Break

10:45 am Report-out of public input on data synthesis and assessment products from Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean (MARCO) Workshop on September 22

- *Laura McKay, MARCO Management Board Chair, Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program*

The RPB hears a summary of public input about data synthesis and assessment efforts from the September 22 MARCO public workshop from the MARCO Chair.

11:00 am RPB discussion of data synthesis and assessment products

RPB discussion with data synthesis and assessment projects, consideration of public input received during the September 22 MARCO workshop, and identification of next steps.

11:45 am Tribal engagement efforts and input to date

- *Kelsey Leonard, Tribal RPB Co-Lead, Shinnecock Indian Nation*

An update about ongoing MARCO-supported tribal listening sessions from the RPB's Tribal Co-lead, followed by RPB discussion.

12:15 pm Lunch

Lunch options are available outside of the meeting venue for public participants.

1:15 pm Overview of *Draft Ocean Action Plan Outline*

- *Ingrid Irigoyen, Meridian Institute*
- *Deerin Babb-Brott, SeaPlan*

A brief presentation of the *Draft OAP Outline*.

1:30 pm RPB review and discussion of draft IJC actions

RPB members whose entities are championing specific draft IJC actions provide brief presentations, followed by RPB discussion.

(2:15 pm is the deadline to sign up for the 2:45 pm public comment session)

2:45 pm Public comment

Interested members of the public will be provided an opportunity to offer public comment on any topics they wish. Depending on how many individuals would like to comment, the time limit will be between 2-3 minutes. A sign-up list and instructions will be available at the meeting registration table.

3:45 pm Break**4:00 pm RPB reflection on public comment and discussion of draft IJC actions and *Draft OAP Outline***

RPB members reflect on public comment and discuss draft IJC actions. During this session the RPB will also clarify whether any refinements need to be made to the *Draft OAP Outline* prior to day two of the meeting.

4:45 pm Stakeholder engagement through OAP submission in 2016

- *Gwynne Schultz, State RPB Co-Lead, Maryland Department of Natural Resources*

A brief presentation followed by RPB discussion of ongoing and potential future stakeholder engagement efforts through 2016.

5:15 pm Updates from the Northeast Regional Planning Body

- *Nick Napoli, Northeast Regional Ocean Council*

Updates from Northeast RPB staff and MidA RPB discussion of opportunities for cross-regional coordination.

5:30 pm Day one summary and wrap-up

- *Laura Cantral, Meridian Institute*

5:45 pm Adjourn day one**Thursday, September 24, 2015****8:30 am Registration****9:00 am Welcome back, summary day one, agenda review day two**

- *Laura Cantral, Meridian Institute*

9:10 am Resume discussion of draft IJC actions and review refinements to *Draft OAP Outline*

Continued discussion of the substance of and process for further developing draft IJC actions and review any refinements made overnight to the *Draft OAP Outline*.

10:30 am Break**10:45 am Identify and discuss outstanding OAP components**

RPB members identify and discuss components of the OAP and/or planning process that still need further attention, and determine next steps.

(11:00 am is the deadline to sign up for the 11:30 am public comment session)

11:30 am Public comment

Interested members of the public will be provided an opportunity to offer public comment on any topics they wish. Depending on how many individuals would like to comment, the time limit will be between 2-3 minutes. A sign-up list and instructions will be available at the meeting registration table.

12:15 pm Lunch

Lunch options are available outside of the meeting venue for public participants.

1:15 pm RPB reflection on public comment and looking ahead to the planning process after 2016

RPB members reflect on public comment and discuss any aspects of the planning process after 2016 that the RPB should be preparing for at this time.

2:15 pm Clarify next steps and wrap up

- *Laura Cantral, Meridian Institute*

The RPB clarifies key outcomes from the meeting and next steps.

2:30 pm Adjourn

Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body

Roster of Members and Alternates

September 2015

Federal Agency Representatives

Joe Atangan

Physical Scientist, U.S. Fleet Forces
Command, U.S. Navy, Chairman Joint
Chiefs of Staff
Email: joe.atangan@navy.mil
Tel: 757-836-2927

Alternate:

Christine Mintz
Natural Resource Specialist,
Environmental Planning Branch,
NAVFAC Atlantic
Email: christine.mintz@navy.mil
Tel: 757-322-8155

Kevin Chu

Assistant Regional Administrator,
National Marine Fisheries Service,
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration, U.S. Department of
Commerce
Email: kevin.chu@noaa.gov
Tel: 410-267-5650

Alternate:

Darlene Finch
Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator,
National Ocean Service, Coastal Services
Center, National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration, U.S.
Department of Commerce
Email: darlene.finch@noaa.gov
Tel: 410-260-8899

Patrick Gilman

Wind Energy Deployment Manager,
Wind and Water Power Technologies
Office, U.S. Department of Energy
Email: patrick.gilman@ee.doe.gov
Tel: 720-356-1420

Alternate:

Lucas Feinberg
Offshore Wind and Ocean Renewable
Energy Environmental Science and Policy
Specialist, U.S. Department of Energy
Email: lucas.feinberg@ee.doe.gov
Tel: 202-586-9136

Terron Hillsman

State Conservationist, Natural Resources
Conservation Service, U.S. Department of
Agriculture
Email: terron.hillsman@md.usda.gov
Tel: 410-757-0861

Michael Jones

Director, Environmental Planning &
Conservation EV2 Commander,
Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
U.S. Navy, Department of Defense
Email: michael.h.jones1@navy.mil
Tel: 757-341-1988

John Kennedy

Director, Mid-Atlantic Gateway Office,
Maritime Administration,
U.S. Department of Transportation
Email: john.kennedy@dot.gov
Tel: 202-366-0706

Alternate:

Jeffrey Flumignan
Director, North Atlantic Gateway Office,
Maritime Administration,
U.S. Department of Transportation
Email: jeffrey.flumignan@dot.gov
Tel: 212-668-2064

Robert LaBelle (Federal Co-Lead)

Senior Advisor to the Director,
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management,
U.S. Department of the Interior
Email: robert.labelle@boem.gov
Tel: 703-787-1700

Alternate:

Leann Bullin
Program Manager, Bureau of Ocean
Energy Management, U.S. Department of
the Interior
Email: leann.bullin@boem.gov
Tel: 703-787-1755

Charles (Buddy) LoBue

Clean Water Division
Dredging, Sediments, and Oceans Section,
Region 2, U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency
Email: Lobue.Charles@epa.gov
Tel: 212-637-3798

Alternate:

Kate Anderson
Chief, Clean Water Regulatory Branch,
Clean Water Division, Region 2,
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Email: anderson.kate@epa.gov
Tel: 212-637-3754

Chris Scraba

Deputy Chief, Waterways Management
Branch, 5th District, U.S. Coast Guard,
Department of Homeland Security
Email: chris.p.scraba@uscg.mil
Tel: 757-398-6230

Alternate:

Doug Simpson
Marine Information Specialist, Waterways
Management Branch 5th District,
U.S. Coast Guard,
Department of Homeland Security
Email: douglas.c.simpson@uscg.mil
Tel: 757-398-6346

State Representatives**John Bull**

Commissioner,
Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Email: john.bull@mrc.virginia.gov

John Clark

Environmental Program Administrator,
Fisheries Section, Department of Fish and
Wildlife, Delaware
Email: john.clark@state.de.us
Tel: 302-739-9914

Sarah Cooksey

Administrator, Coastal Programs,
Delaware
Email: sarah.cooksey@state.de.us
Tel: 302-739-9283

Kelly Heffner

Deputy Secretary for Water Management,
Department of Environmental Protection,
Pennsylvania
Email: kheffner@pa.gov
Tel: 717-783-4693

Ginger Kopkash

Assistant Commissioner,
Land Use Management, NJDEP
Email: ginger.kopkash@dep.nj.gov

Alternate:

Elizabeth Semple
Manager, Office of Coastal and Land Use
Planning, NJDEP
New Jersey
Email: elizabeth.semple@dep.nj.gov
Tel: 609-984-0058

Joseph Martens

Commissioner, Department of
Environmental Conservation, New York
Email: joe.martens@dec.ny.gov
Tel: 518-402-8545

Alternate A:

Kathy Moser
Assistant Commissioner, Natural
Resources, Department of Environmental
Conservation, New York
Email: kathleen.moser@dec.ny.gov
Tel: 518-402-2797

Alternate B:

Karen Chytalo
Assistant Bureau Chief, Department of
Environmental Conservation, New York
Email: karen.chytalo@dec.ny.gov
Tel: 631-444-0431

Catherine McCall

Director, Coastal and Marine Assessment
Division, Department of Natural Resources,
Maryland
Email: catherine.mccall@maryland.gov
Tel: 410-260-8737

Laura McKay

Program Manager, Virginia Coastal Zone
Management Program
Email: laura.mckay@deq.virginia.gov
Tel: 804-698-4323

Cesar Perales

Secretary of State, Department of State,
New York
Email: cesar.perales@dos.state.ny.us
Tel: 518-486-9844

Alternate A:

Gregory Capobianco
Director, Division of Community
Resilience and Regional Programs,
Office of Planning and Development,
Department of State, New York
Email: gregory.capobianco@dos.ny.gov
Tel: 518-474-6000

Alternate B:

Michael Snyder
Policy Analyst, Department of State,
New York
Email: michael.snyder@dos.ny.gov
Tel: 518-486-4644

Gwynne Schultz (State Co-Lead)

Senior Coastal and Ocean Policy Advisor,
Department of Natural Resources,
Maryland
Email: gwynne.schultz@maryland.gov
Tel: 410-260-8735

Andrew Zemba

Director, Interstate Waters Office,
Department of Environmental Protection,
Pennsylvania
Email: azemba@state.pa.us
Tel: 717-772-4785

Tribal Representatives

Chief Bob Gray

Pamunkey Indian Tribe
Email: rgray58@hughes.net
Tel: 804-843-4792

Alternate:

Katie MacCormick
Pamunkey Indian Tribe
Email: kmaccorm@gmail.com

Kelsey Leonard (Tribal Co-Lead)

Shinnecock Indian Nation
Email: kelseyleonard@shinnecock.org
Tel: 631-294-0671

Alternate:

Gerrod Smith
Chief Financial Officer/Natural Resource
Advisor, Shinnecock Indian Nation
Email: wabush1@aol.com
Tel: 631-283-6143

Brian Patterson

Oneida Indian Nation
Email: bpatterson@oneida-nation.org

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Representative

Michael Luisi

Member, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management
Council
Director of the Estuarine and
Marine Fisheries Division,
Maryland DNR Fisheries Service
Email: michael.luisi@maryland.gov
Tel: 410-260-8341

Ex-Officio Member

Brian Thompson

Director, Office of Long Island Sound
Programs, Department of Environmental
Protection, State of Connecticut
Email: Brian.Thompson@ct.gov
Tel: 860-424-3650

Updated Mid-Atlantic RPB Timeline for Ocean Action Plan Development (September 2015)

Notes: Timing subject to change; best current assessment. Light blue indicates stakeholder engagement. Red lines indicate deadlines, some of which are mid-month. Coordination across workgroups will be continuous throughout. Quarters displayed represent calendar year. After NOC concurrence at the end of 2016, focus will shift to plan implementation.

	2015												2016											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
RPB BUSINESS MEETINGS	[Dark Blue Bar: Jan, Sep]												[Dark Blue Bar: Mar, Sep]											
Public comment at RPB meetings	[Light Blue Bar: Jan, Sep]												[Light Blue Bar: Mar, Sep]											
Approve OAP Approach	[Grey Bar: Jan]												[Grey Bar: Mar]											
Proceed with workgroup activities	[Grey Bar: Feb-Dec]												[Grey Bar: Jan-Sep]											
MidA RPB public webinars	[Light Blue Bar: May]												[Light Blue Bar: Jun]											
Stakeholder engagement events	[Light Blue Bar: Jul, Sep]												[Light Blue Bar: Mar]											
Prepare draft OAP	[Grey Bar: Oct-Dec]												[Grey Bar: Jan-May]											
Make final edits and release draft OAP (mid-June)	[Grey Bar: Jun]												[Grey Bar: Jun]											
Public comment on draft OAP (45 days)	[Light Blue Bar: Jun-Jul]												[Light Blue Bar: Jun-Jul]											
Public listening sessions/roundtables	[Light Blue Bar: Jun]												[Light Blue Bar: Jun]											
Integrate comments into final OAP	[Grey Bar: Jul-Sep]												[Grey Bar: Jul-Sep]											
Deliver final MidA OAP to NOC (mid-Sept.)	[Red Line: Sep]												[Red Line: Sep]											
NOC concurrence process	[Grey Bar: Oct-Dec]												[Grey Bar: Oct-Dec]											
Final concurrence received on OAP	[Red Line: Dec]												[Red Line: Dec]											

Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Action Plan (OAP) Draft Outline

(1) Introduction

- History (MARCO, NOP, RPB)
 - NOC context (NOC guidance and process)
 - Planning process (summary of process and key steps; link to Charter, other)
 - Regional overview (drawing from ROA white paper)
 - Summary discussion of goals and objectives (link to Framework)
 - Brief description of Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal (and link to the portal)
 - Overview of OAP (description of how OAP is organized)
-

(2) Mid-Atlantic Ocean Conditions and Key Issues

This chapter would include regional characterization of conditions and key issues, using information from the Human Uses Synthesis, Ecological Data Synthesis, and Regional Ocean Assessment (ROA), and other sources. This chapter would be comprised of sections organized by the goals and objectives (as articulated in the [Framework](#)), that: 1) generally characterize conditions and issues related to each objective; 2) present a relevant map(s); and 3) identify key issues for interjurisdictional coordination (IJC).

Note: The intent is to maximize use of data synthesis and assessment products by providing very concise summary information here and then link to relevant full documents in the Appendix or elsewhere as appropriate.

Goal 1: Healthy ocean ecosystem

- Objective 1: Discovering, understanding, protecting, and restoring the ocean ecosystem AND Objective 2: Accounting for ocean ecosystem changes and increased risks.
 - Marine life distribution and abundance
 - Other marine ecosystem components
 - Ecologically rich areas
 - Other discussion/products related to ecosystem-based management and/or ecosystem change
- Objective 3: Valuing traditional knowledge

Goal 2: Sustainable ocean uses

Objectives:

1. National security

2. Ocean energy
3. Commercial and recreational fishing
4. Ocean aquaculture
5. Maritime commerce and navigation
6. Offshore sand management
7. Recreation
8. Tribal uses
9. Undersea infrastructure

(3) Interjurisdictional coordination actions

In this chapter, the OAP describes collaborative actions that will be taken to address the goals and objectives (as articulated in the [Framework](#)). It describes how the RPB (through internal agency discussion, workgroup and full RPB discussion, and application of working criteria) has identified certain interjurisdictional coordination (IJC) actions to include in this first OAP, and then details those IJC actions. The specific IJC actions typically will have multiple components that have immediate, near-, and longer-term implementation schedules. Some of these will be addressed through procedural actions (e.g., project review coordination) and the use of data and information (e.g., use of data portal to inform regulatory or other actions that could affect stakeholders). Since ocean planning is intended to be an iterative process, actions may be refined and new ones developed over time.

For each Framework objective, the RPB will define actions and sub-actions in varying levels of detail as determined appropriate by the RPB and its member entities. Where deemed appropriate by the RPB, actions could be described in the OAP under the following categories:

- Description of the action¹
- Output/outcome
- Responsible entities and key partners
- Sub-actions/steps and milestones (including immediate, near-, and longer-term components)
- Stakeholder input
- Geographic dimension
- Resources
- Research and science needs related to this action

Topics that would be addressed in this section of the OAP in varying levels of detail that link directly to specific Framework objectives:

- Valuing traditional knowledge and Tribal uses

¹ Commitments to undertake actions will reflect a determination that it is feasible to do so, based on consideration by RPB champions of that action and collaborating RPB entities.

- Healthy ocean ecosystems
- Wind energy
- Offshore sand management
- Commercial and recreational fishing
- National security
- Navigation and commerce
- Ocean aquaculture
- Non-consumptive recreation
- Critical undersea infrastructure

In addition, the OAP would identify IJC actions on the following cross-cutting topics²:

- Ongoing intergovernmental communication and coordination³
- Maintaining a data repository (the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal)⁴

At the end of this chapter would be a reference to the following documents, which would appear in appendices to the OAP and are intended to help the reader find/navigate the actions:

- Summary of actions organized by immediate, near-, and longer-term components
- Comprehensive matrix of goals, objectives, and actions

(4) Plan implementation

This chapter would have descriptions of how entities will engage with the OAP and use it to guide and inform their actions under existing authorities, including implementation mechanisms and processes (in detail or summary form) with reference to further content in Appendices. This may include:

- Best practices for agency coordination and use of data
- Agency guidance, including:
 - Technical guidance (on use of specific data)⁵
 - Implementation guidance (how agencies will use the OAP)⁶
- Administration (technical revisions, scheduled review and updating, other)
- Performance monitoring/metrics
- Data Portal-specific information (including how it should be used in implementation)

² The RPB may decide to add IJC actions related to the Coastal Zone Management Act as well.

³ This action is not related to a specific objective, but it fundamentally supports the achievement of all objectives.

⁴ This action is not related to a specific objective, but it fundamentally supports the achievement of all objectives.

⁵ Under development by NMFS and USFWS for marine animals in association with development of MDAT products.

⁶ Under development at NOC/agency general counsel; both MidA and NE RPBs have provided comments to the NOC draft guidance that touches on this. The RPB will engage in review of guidance documents as the NOC and agency GCs develop drafts and provide for comment.

(5) Science and Research Plan

A compilation of data, research, and science needs identified under Chapter 3 and as determined necessary/appropriate to update and advance the OAP broadly (per ROA, other), including needs associated with:

- On-going updates to OAP data synthesis products
- Studies and research
- Continuing evaluation or and engagement around ecosystem-based management

Description of relevant federal agency programs and processes for coordination/integration on science and research.

Appendices

- Charter
- Framework
- Full technical materials as appropriate
 - ROA
 - Human Use
 - Ecological Synthesis
 - Other
- Implementation Guidance
- Agency commitments (“decision document” formal mechanisms that commit entities to specific actions)⁷
- Stakeholder engagement report/continuing engagement plan
- Summaries of actions (organized by timeframe and/or in matrix format)
- Other

⁷ Agency commitment will be developed in a process parallel to, but on a somewhat later schedule than, the implementation guidance, as the commitment will be keyed to specific actions and planning processes currently being developed by the RPB. We anticipate that additional guidance on the nature and detail for agency commitments will be developed through the NOC and agency general counsel and provided to the RPB for review and discussion.

Scopes and Objectives for Information Synthesis to Support Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning

In support of Mid-Atlantic regional ocean planning efforts, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean (MARCO) continues to manage three projects for data and information synthesis. Scopes and objectives for information synthesis projects are meant to complement each other, and there is coordination across projects and with stakeholders. Summary information for these projects is provided below:

Ecological Data Synthesis Project:

Objectives/Outcomes: The Ecological Data Synthesis project is being conducted by the Marine Life Data & Analysis Team (MDAT), led by Duke University Marine Geospatial Ecology Lab, NOAA National Center for Coastal Ocean Science, NOAA Northeast Fisheries Science Center, and Loyola University. The project seeks to *develop the Mid-Atlantic regional marine life database and web services* by hosting marine mammal, sea turtle, avian, and fish data products, as well as other synthesized ecological data (including corals, canyons and other benthic habitats) for use in desktop GIS systems and data portals, in particular the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal. As part of this objective, the MDAT will produce maps of distribution and abundance for diverse species. Spatial data products will include models based on observations and environmental co-variables, observation based density maps for fishes and a suite of maps that characterize uncertainty for model based products. MDAT will also provide technical support at MARCO and Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body (MidA RPB)-sponsored meetings with state, federal, and tribal entities to ensure the utility of the information for decision-making. MDAT will develop synthetic data products and overlays to identify preliminary areas of ecological richness across multiple taxonomic groups, including additional habitat considerations. The final product set will be completed in December 2015.

Human Use Data Synthesis Project:

Objectives/Outcomes: The Human Use Data Synthesis (HUDS) project, led by RPS ASA and SeaPlan, seeks to *compile spatial data on human uses and develop synthesized data products and tools* to advance ocean planning priorities in the Mid-Atlantic region. Work products will support decision-makers' consideration of human use data. The team will characterize the strengths and caveats associated with the project's available human use data and develop synthesis methods and new spatial data products in consultation with MARCO and the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal Team. A new data summary tool will be developed to reveal and highlight locations where multiple uses occur, identify patterns of use intensity, provide summary information for user selected ocean areas, and help illustrate where improved Inter-jurisdictional Coordination (IJC) will benefit ocean health and promote sustainable use. The project team will produce a final report to include:

- Summary of human use data prioritization criteria,
- Evaluation of available human use data,
- Documentation of data gaps,
- Summary of identified potential future human use data, and
- Data synthesis methods and guidance for use of an interactive summary tool.

The project team will also develop clear user-friendly fact sheets for all synthesis products that describe the human use data sets and explain caveats, collection methods, interpretability, and any classification or scaling techniques that were applied. The HUDS final product will be completed in December 2015.

Regional Ocean Assessment Project:

Objectives/Outcomes: The Regional Ocean Assessment (ROA) project, led by Waterview Consulting and E&C Enviroscope, seeks to *characterize ocean uses and resources in the Mid-Atlantic* with a priority focus on two broad ocean planning goals: Healthy Ocean Ecosystems and Sustainable Ocean Uses. The project will also develop an innovative, dynamic, and easily updated web-based system to deliver the final ROA product. The project team will gather, integrate, and distill the best available information from publications, data sources, subject-matter experts, and related MARCO projects to characterize biological, chemical, ecological, physical, cultural, economic, and historical conditions of the Mid-Atlantic Ocean.

The project will:

- Highlight relationships and potential linkages between and among ecosystem features and human uses;
- Highlight knowledge/data gaps by assessing data using a common framework and metrics;
- Suggest appropriate scales of interpretation, analysis, and application of data for decision-making; and
- Provide information needed to jumpstart potential new data products that address ecosystem services valuation, definition of ecologically rich areas, cumulative impact analysis and/or vulnerability, and resilience assessments.

The project will produce a dynamic digital information resource that conveys the best available scientific information in an engaging and useful way. It will also serve as a quick reference and summary to MidA RPB members, agencies and the public on the best available information for decision-making. The ROA final product will be completed in January 2016.

Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Assessment: Outline (DRAFT)

1. Introduction

- a. Need for Ocean Planning
- b. Overview of Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning Process
 - i. Use of Traditional Knowledge in Ocean Planning
- c. Overarching Goals for Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning
- d. Purpose and Structure of the Regional Ocean Assessment

2. Ocean Ecosystem and Resources

- a. Characterizing the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Ecosystem
 - i. Oceanographic Setting and Processes
 - ii. Important Biological, Chemical and Physical Attributes
 - iii. Living Marine Resources
 1. Overview
 2. Important or Sensitive Species, Guilds, and Habitats
 - iv. Human Settlements Relative to the Ocean
 - v. Ecosystem Services
 - vi. Ecosystem Responses to Climate Change
- b. Toward Ocean Planning Objectives: Status and Trends
 - i. Key Ocean Characteristics and Indicators

3. Ocean Uses

- a. Characterizing Mid-Atlantic Ocean Uses and Values
 - i. Overview of Human Uses and Values
 - ii. Overview of the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Economy
- b. Toward Ocean Planning Objectives: Status and Trends
 - i. Tribal Uses
 - ii. Commercial and Recreational Fishing
 - iii. Critical Undersea Infrastructure
 - iv. Maritime Commerce and Navigation
 - v. National Security and Military Uses
 - vi. Non-consumptive Recreation (e.g., boating, sailing, wildlife watching, diving)
 - vii. Ocean Aquaculture
 - viii. Ocean Energy
 - ix. Offshore Sand Management for Resilience Planning
 - x. Scientific Research

4. Strategic Objectives for Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning

- a. Adapt to Climate Change
- b. Build a Stronger Network of Monitoring and Science
- c. Maintain and Improve Sustainable Fisheries in a Changing Environment
- d. Manage Offshore Sediment for Coastal Resiliency
- e. Prepare for Expanded Shipping and Port Activities
- f. Site Ocean Renewable Energy Facilities
- g. Support Maritime Heritage
- h. Sustain Ecologically Rich Areas and Linkages

Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body Draft Interjurisdictional Coordination Actions

September 2015

Introduction

A key purpose of the ocean planning process in the Mid-Atlantic region is to help member entities work better together to achieve the Healthy Ocean Ecosystem and Sustainable Ocean Uses goals and objectives identified in the [Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning Framework](#) (Framework):¹

1. Promote ocean ecosystem health, functionality, and integrity through conservation, protection, enhancement, and restoration.
2. Plan and provide for existing and emerging ocean uses in a sustainable manner that minimizes conflicts, improves effectiveness and regulatory predictability, and supports economic growth.

Interjurisdictional coordination (IJC) is a critical component of the regional ocean planning process and addresses specific processes and mechanisms that will allow the Federal, State, and Tribal member institutions of the RPB to enhance coordination, leverage resources, and improve decision-making to benefit ocean users and ecosystem health through the implementation of their existing mandates and authorities. The agreements and products resulting from IJC actions will serve as the cornerstone of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Action Plan (OAP).

Throughout the spring and summer of 2015, RPB member entities generated ideas about specific draft IJC actions to foster improved information exchange, data sharing, and coordination in the region. At the September 23-24 2015 in-person RPB meeting, the RPB will agree to further develop a set of IJC actions for inclusion in the OAP. RPB discussion will be informed by stakeholder input during the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean Stakeholder Workshop on September 22.

Draft actions for consideration

For each Framework objective, the RPB will define actions and sub-actions in varying levels of detail as determined appropriate by the RPB and its member entities. As a result of RPB discussions to date, a draft suite of actions have been developed for consideration and discussion in September 2015.

¹ <http://www.boem.gov/Mid-Atlantic-Regional-Ocean-Planning-Framework/>

Draft actions are being developed that link directly to specific Framework objectives, related to the following topics:

- Valuing traditional knowledge and Tribal uses
- Healthy ocean ecosystems
- Wind energy
- Offshore sand management
- Commercial and recreational fishing
- National security
- Navigation and commerce
- Ocean aquaculture
- Non-consumptive recreation
- Critical undersea infrastructure

Draft actions on cross-cutting topics:

- Ongoing intergovernmental communication and coordination
- Maintaining a data repository (the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal)

These draft IJC actions are detailed further in the slides below.

Please note that these draft IJC actions are initial working ideas at different stages of development. They are designed to spark discussion and deliberation at the September 22 MARCO stakeholder workshop and September 23-24 RPB meeting and do not represent RPB decisions on OAP content at this time.

Tribal Uses

Kelsey Leonard, Tribal Co-Lead, Shinnecock Indian Nation
Kevin Chu, NMFS/NOAA

Tribal Uses Goal and Objectives from the “Framework”

- Goal: Recognize and respect the right of Tribal Nations to free, prior, and informed consent while taking into account important Tribal uses and submerged cultural resources in the planning process.
- Objectives:
 1. Increased coordination among Tribes, states, and federal entities for integrated management efforts.
 2. Document and foster shared understanding of ocean and coastal sites important to Tribal use, beliefs, and values related to the Mid-Atlantic ocean.
 3. Consider climate change effects on tribal uses, emergency management, and territorial erosion/degradation.

Overview of Proposed IJC Actions

1. Identify data gaps pertaining to tribal uses and develop research agenda to address the need
2. Improve ability of RPB entities to use traditional knowledge for planning, management and decision-making purposes
3. Identify best-practices for increased coordination among tribes, states, and federal entities for marine planning
4. Assess opportunities for marine planning to consider and where appropriate support of tribal economic self-sufficiency
5. Assess and plan for climate change impacts

1. Data and Research

- Building on the ROA, identify areas for research such as:
 - Submerged Cultural Resources (e.g. Clovis Point Concentration on Delmarva Peninsula of Mid-Atlantic)
 - Timeline of treaties with tribes in the region and history of laws affecting use of ocean by tribes
 - Beach Access laws, Current restrictions; Private Beaches; Parking Permitting
- Identify and recommend to appropriate agency(ies) actions that could increase tribal participation in data collection and analysis.
 - Incorporate tribal review
 - Enhance tribal engagement through access to and participation in management, environmental, and regulatory review
- **Desired Outcome:** Increased Tribal participation in data collection and analysis and prioritized list of research needs to be shared with funding entities.



2. Traditional Knowledge

- Develop best practices for identifying and incorporating or accessing traditional knowledge, as appropriate, in current and future planning products (e.g., Data Portal, OAP, protocols for sensitive information, other) and decision-making processes.
- Develop database for Mid-Atlantic Marine Traditional Knowledge
- **Desired Outcome:** Tribal Nations, States, and Federal entities have tools necessary to access and incorporate TK, as appropriate, in planning and decision-making.



3. Increase Coordination & Management

- Incorporate existing and/or develop best practices for government-to-government consultation and tribal participation in planning, management, and environmental and regulatory review processes
- Develop Tribal Ocean Planning Network (TOPN) facilitating coordination between Mid-Atlantic Tribes in the ocean planning process.
- Develop best practices to work with tribes to concurrently define jurisdiction (if appropriate), create co-management programs, and coordinate applicable regulations including sharing of state and tribal management plans.

3. Increase Coordination & Management

- Increased coordination with tribal historic preservation officers when burial sites and other funerary/cultural objects may be desecrated by a proposed use
 - MARCO Portal: Zones of Notification
- Identify mechanism(s) and process(es) to support tribal engagement in coastal bays and estuaries programs as tribal ocean uses flow into those areas of geographic scope.
- **Desired Outcome:** Tribal Nations, states, and federal entities have foundation for sustained coordination for ocean planning in Mid-Atlantic.



4. Tribal Economic Self-Sufficiency

- Undertake measures to encourage tribal economic self-sufficiency
 - Commercial fishing/aquaculture
 - Renewable energy
 - Commercial eco-tourism, etc.
- **Desired Outcome:** Increased tribal economic development in Mid-Atlantic Ocean supported by diverse entities.



5. Assess and plan for Climate Change impacts

- Increased awareness on Tribal Climate Change Adaptation planning
 - Identify funding system
 - Emergency Management and Preparedness
- Coastal Resiliency
- Identify Species of Concern for Cultural Preservation
- Increased tribal climate change data (e.g. composite map overlay tribal territories, floodplains, shoreline erosion)
- **Desired Outcome:** Tribal Nations prepared for climate change impacts on ocean uses and resources



Member Entities and Stakeholder Involvement

- RPB Tribal Uses members
 - Tribes: Shinnecock, Pamunkey, Oneida
 - Federal Agencies
 - States
 - MARCO
- Tribal Nation input Opportunities
 - MARCO Tribal Listening Sessions
 - RPB written comment period

Healthy Ocean Ecosystems

Laura McKay, Virginia CZM Program
Kevin Chu, NMFS/NOAA

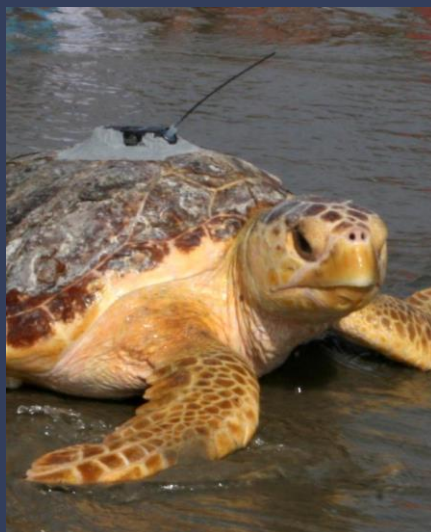
Healthy Ocean Ecosystem Goal and Objectives from the “Framework”

- Goal: Promote ocean ecosystem health, functionality, and integrity through conservation, protection, enhancement, and restoration.
- Objectives:
 1. Discover, understand, protect, and restore the ocean ecosystem
 2. Account for ocean ecosystem changes and increased risks



Overview of Proposed IJC Actions

1. Select ecologically rich areas (ERAs) for in-depth review
2. Select region-wide features for in-depth review
3. Identify Mid-Atlantic Ocean health indicators/metrics
4. Develop a management research agenda
5. Assess and plan for climate change impacts



1. Select ecologically rich areas (ERAs) for in-depth review

- Based on relative ecological richness and/or immediacy of risk of negative impacts, select initial set of ERAs from MDAT's analysis for review
- Overlay human use data to identify managing agencies
- Review Traditional Knowledge habitat stewardship practices and current management practices affecting ERAs
- Identify and recommend to appropriate agency(ies) actions to reduce or eliminate risk of degradation for each ERA
- As new data are collected, update & re-run ERA model
- **Desired outcome:** Maintenance and or restoration of health of ERAs



2. Select region-wide features for in depth review

- Building on the ROA, identify region-wide features, e.g.
 - migration corridors
 - linkages between ERAs
- Overlay human use data to identify managing agencies
- Review current management affecting region-wide features
- Identify and recommend to appropriate agency(ies) actions that could reduce or eliminate risk of degradation for region-wide features
- **Desired outcome:** Maintenance and or restoration of health of region-wide ecological features



3. Identify Mid-Atlantic Ocean indicators/metrics

- Building on ROA, identify easily measured parameters to measure ocean health and/or effectiveness of actions
- Determine time intervals and appropriate agencies to measure indicators
- **Desired outcome:** A sustainable program for monitoring ocean ecosystem health



4. Develop a management research forum and agenda

- Establish a forum for sharing current and planned Mid-Atlantic Ocean research
- Identify management research needs
- Review and build upon existing research agendas
- Pool resources to study cumulative impacts of human uses
- **Desired outcome:** Prioritized list of research needs to be shared with potential funding entities



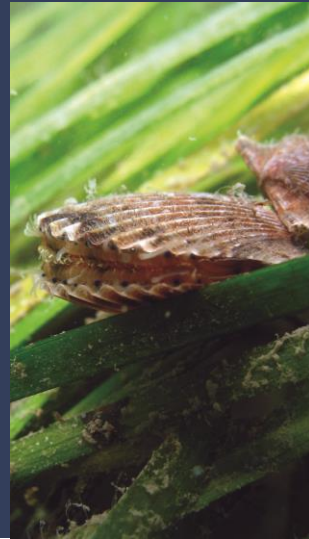
5. Assess and plan for climate change impacts

- Enhance the region's ability to address **ocean acidification** impacts
 - Review existing efforts/identify gaps
 - Identify funding stream
 - Ensure a robust, integrated Mid-Atlantic OA monitoring network is in place
- Enhance the region's ability to address expected **shifts in species and habitats**
 - Review existing efforts/identify gaps
 - Map expected species/habitat shifts
 - Assess need for and develop recommendations for actions
- **Desired outcome:** Management agencies prepared for climate change impacts



Member Entities and Stakeholder Involvement

- RPB Healthy Ocean Ecosystem members
 - Federal Agencies: NOAA, BOEM
 - States: VA, MD, DE, NY
 - Tribes: Shinnecock
- Stakeholder input opportunities (Sep –Dec)
 - MARCO SLC meeting
 - RPB written comment period



Offshore Wind Energy

*Dept. of the Interior, BOEM
New York Department of State*

Overview of Offshore Wind Energy

- **RPB objective:** Facilitate greater collaboration around ocean energy issues with states, tribes, and federal partners
 - **Example action:** Coordinate data collection for environmental assessment to inform development of new Mid-Atlantic offshore renewable energy projects
- **Desired outcome:** More efficient, predictable and informed process that supports effective coordination; provides more meaningful participation for affected states in a shorter timeframe; enhances agency management and environmental and regulatory review processes; and advances state and federal wind energy development objectives

Proposed Interjurisdictional Actions

- **Coordination and management:** Identify intersections among federal programs; develop clearly defined coordination mechanisms to inform site assessment and project construction plans; and ensure activities are mutually reinforcing and provide the necessary information for decision-making where statutes intersect
 - BOEM consults with tribes to better understand impacts to economics and the environment, marine mammals, sacred ceremonial sites, and cultural resources
- **Data:** Develop agency guidance that addresses how data will be used in management, environmental, and regulatory reviews; agree on what data is sufficient for responsible entities to use for their reviews
- **Research:** Partner in on-going and planned studies; identify knowledge gaps
- **Issue Areas:** Focus on siting issues beyond project-specific scales, collaborate on shared data sets, and outline where and when relevant authorities play a role in decisions

Member Entity and Stakeholder Involvement

- RPB member entities working together to further develop the details of the proposed actions
 - BOEM, New York DOS, Virginia, Delaware, Maryland, DoD, DOE, NOAA, USCG, DOT, EPA
- Anticipated stakeholder engagement to further develop the actions from now to December 2015
 - Seek input from BOEM's state intergovernmental renewable energy task forces and from targeted stakeholders on BOEM's offshore wind energy program

Offshore Sand Management

*Dept. of the Interior, BOEM
New York Department of State
Virginia Dept. of Environmental Quality*

Overview: Offshore Sand Management

- **RPB objective:** Enhance participation among coastal jurisdictions, federal (USACE) and state regulatory agencies, and tribal entities to identify and prioritize the use of Mid-Atlantic sand and gravel resources for coastal adaptation, resilience planning, and implementation
 - **Example action:** Coordinate regional identification and prioritization of sand borrow sites in federal and state waters and link to RPB's regional sediment management initiatives
- **Desired outcome:** Enhanced coordination among local coastal jurisdictions, federal and state regulatory agencies, and tribal entities to share data and help identify short and long-term sand resource projects

Proposed Interjurisdictional Actions

- **Coordination and management:** Identify and improve existing state / federal interactions and cooperative agreements in the Mid-Atlantic
 - BOEM and USACE coordinate with tribes for sand re-nourishment projects during the planning and analysis phase (NEPA & consultations)
- **Data:** Inform decision making by sharing BOEM geospatial database that will contain data from over 20 years of cooperative agreements, nearly 13 leases and agreements, and new data being collected from the Hurricane Sandy funded Atlantic Sand Assessment Project
- **Research:** Numerous BOEM studies; for ex., FY 2015 study planned in collaboration with USACE examining dredging best management practices and multiple uses of borrow sites
- **Issue Areas:** Existing sand projects may be used as pilot demonstrations on how RPB efforts might be of assistance

Member Entity and Stakeholder Involvement

- RPB member entities working together to further develop the details of the proposed actions
 - BOEM, New York DOS, Virginia, Delaware, Maryland, DoD, DOE, NOAA, USCG, DOT, EPA
- Anticipated stakeholder engagement to further develop the actions
 - BOEM working now to establish a Mid-Atlantic Regional Sand Management Working Group to meet in early 2016 to discuss needs for offshore federal sand, data, and future environmental study needs; and address local government and near-shore issues

National Security

Joe Atangan, Joint Staff, U.S. Fleet Forces

Mike Jones, Dept. of Defense, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic

Overview of National Security

- **RPB objective:** To ensure National Security interests in the Mid-Atlantic are accounted for through enhanced coordination, increased transparency, and sharing of information across agencies
- **Desired outcome:** An established, efficient, and informed process that supports effective coordination; leverages existing processes, practices, and programs; and facilitates addressing National Security impacts/concerns throughout the agency management and environmental and regulatory review processes

Proposed Interjurisdictional Actions

- **Coordination and management:** Leverage existing processes, practices, programs, and groups to assess potential National Security impacts of proposed actions, identify potential mitigations, facilitate decision making
- **Data:** Identify authoritative, publically releasable data for use in management, environmental, and regulatory reviews.
- **Research:** Partner in on-going and planned studies; identify knowledge gaps
- **Issue Areas:** Focus on use compatibility issues and potential impacts on National Security

Member Entity and Stakeholder Involvement

- RPB member entities working together to further develop the details of the proposed actions
 - DoD, USCG
- Anticipated stakeholder engagement to further develop the actions from now to December 2015
 - Seek input from DoD Regional Environmental Coordinators, OSD Clearinghouse, intergovernmental task forces and targeted stakeholders

Marine Commerce & Navigation

Doug Simpson, DHS, USCG

John Kennedy, DOT, MARAD

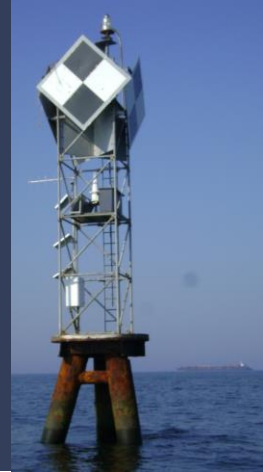
Greg Capobianco, New York Department of State

Overview of Marine Commerce and Navigation

RPB objective: Generate greater awareness and participation by states, tribes, and the public in offshore marine commerce and navigation issues.

Desired maritime transportation system:

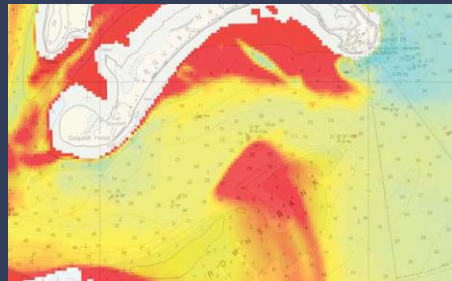
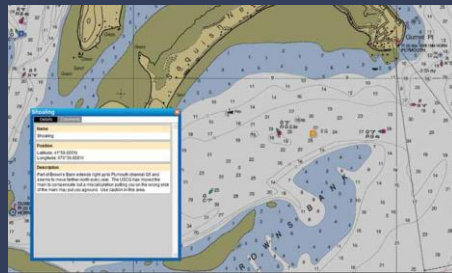
- Safe for increased, multifaceted use
- Meets national, regional, & local needs
- Resilient to market & use changes
- Values environmental stewardship



Proposed Interjurisdictional Actions: Coordination & Management

Incorporate stakeholder review: Identify and continue to leverage existing navigation safety committees.

Coordinate data product development: Catalogue intersections between federal agencies and between federal and state agencies, identifying opportunities for improving service to stakeholders.



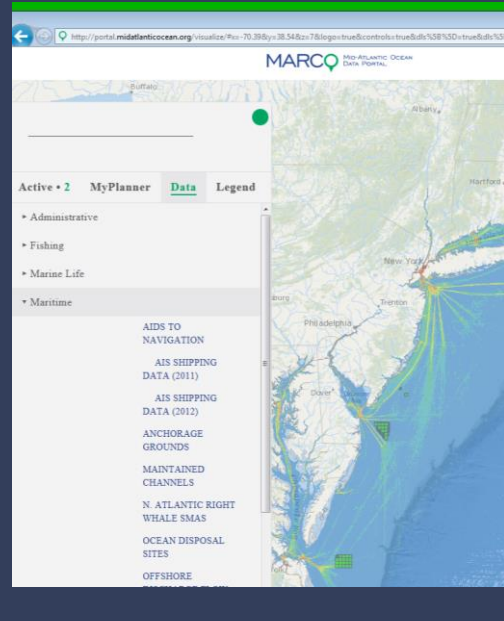
Proposed Interjurisdictional Actions: Data

Coordinate on data acquisition to leverage/share costs and expand utility of data

Incorporate releasable USCG data into MARCO data portal:

- Search and Rescue
- Marine Casualty
- Pollution

Develop navigation data that represents sub-sectors of vessel traffic

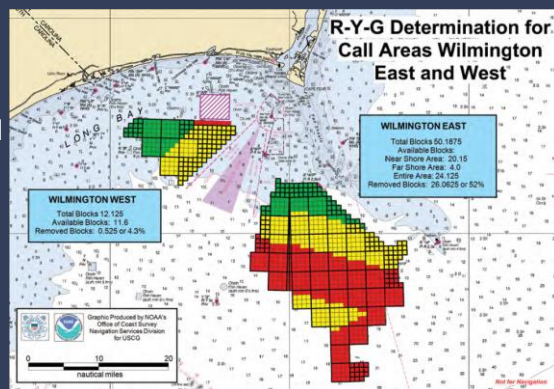


Proposed Interjurisdictional Actions: Research

Identify navigation trends to understand traffic patterns over time

Identify impacts to navigation and port infrastructure stemming from the Panama Canal expansion

Develop data layers that represent activities and structures in nearshore and estuarine waters



Member Entity and Stakeholder Involvement

- RPB member entities working together to further develop the details of the proposed actions
 - BOEM, New York DOS, Virginia, Delaware, DoD, NOAA, USCG, DOT
- Anticipated stakeholder engagement to further develop the actions from now to December 2015
 - Seek input from targeted stakeholders
 - Seek input from regional navigation safety committees

Fisheries Science and Management

Michael Luisi, Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council

Kevin Chu, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Goals and Objectives

- RPB Framework Goal: Sustainable Ocean Uses
 - *Plan and provide for existing and emerging ocean uses in a sustainable manner that minimizes conflicts, improves effectiveness and regulatory predictability, and supports economic growth*
- Objective: Commercial and Recreational Fishing
 - *Foster greater understanding of the needs of the Mid-Atlantic fishers and fishing communities in the context of the full range of ocean uses and conservation efforts*

Proposed Actions

1. Support dialogue between NOAA and State Fisheries Managers
 2. Collaborate on climate change studies (Science / Managers / Planners)
 3. Work with the MAFMC Ecosystems and Ocean Planning Committee
 4. Improve collaboration with Tribes
 5. Improve understanding of recreational fishing
- **Outcome: Improved fisheries science and better management decisions**

Background

- Current collaboration:
 - *Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council*
 - *Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission*
 - *Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program*



Proposed Actions

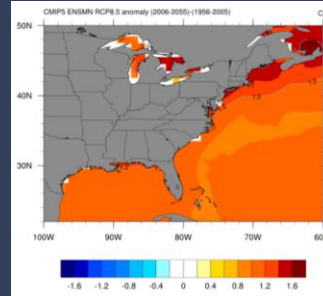
Support Dialogue Between NOAA and States

- State Fisheries Directors and NOAA/NMFS
 - *Face to face*
 - *At least once per year*
 - *Coordinated with a meeting of ASMFC*
 - *Discuss positions and develop ideas for collaboration*



Proposed Actions *Climate Change & Fisheries*

- Workshop for scientists and managers
 - *Predictions about the movement of fish stocks*
 - *Discussions of management implications of shifting populations*
 - *Develop collaborative research projects*
 - *Establish an ongoing forum*
- NOAA climate strategy
 - *Regional Action Plans*



Proposed Actions *RPB Collaboration with MAFMC*

- MAFMC Ecosystems and Ocean Planning Committee
 - *Impacts of other activities on fishing*
 - *Impacts of fishing on the environment*
- ACTION: RPB members to participate on Committee



Proposed Actions

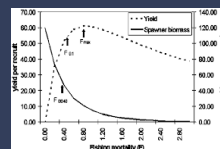
Improve Collaboration with Tribes

- In states that have Federally recognized Tribes, NOAA will meet jointly with all interested Tribes (state and Federally recognized) to share perspectives on fishery management.
 - Face to face meetings should occur at least once per year at a time convenient for the Tribes.
 - RPB members will be invited to participate.

Proposed Actions

Improved Understanding of Recreational Fishing

- Workshops for leaders in recreational fishing organizations
 - Topics to include fishery science and management
 - Discussions allow sharing of stakeholder, state and Federal perspectives



Member Entity and Stakeholder Involvement

- Member Entities
 - NOAA
 - *Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council*
- Stakeholder comments:
 - *Now*
 - *At Mid-Atlantic Council meeting in October*
 - *Email to:*
 - *kevin.chu@noaa.gov*
 - *michael.luisi@maryland.gov*

Sustain and Enhance Intergovernmental Coordination

Sarah Cooksey, Delaware
Supported by Darlene Finch (NOAA alternate)

Overview

- Cross-cutting objective: *Maintain forum(s) for intergovernmental coordination and communication in support of ocean planning in the Mid-Atlantic.*
- After MidA Ocean Action Plan (OAP) completion, need to:
 - monitor and track progress of actions in Plan
 - evaluate and update the Plan
 - incorporate updated scientific research and data in MidA ocean planning
 - identify and address emerging issues
 - engage governmental entities (both RPB and non-RPB members) on Mid-Atlantic ocean issues.
- Major guidance documents are mostly silent on this, although clear that ongoing coordination and communication are extremely important.

Framing the Issues

- No clarity about status of the MidA RPB after 2016.
- Three options to advance the discussion:
 - MidA RPB operation is modified to provide more opportunities for communication and informal coordination.
 - MidA RPB focuses on OAP implementation and another forum focuses on intergovernmental communication about ocean activities.
 - MidA RPB goes away but intergovernmental communication forum continues.
- Each option has positive and negative attributes. Discussion will help us consider how we organize ourselves to support future ocean planning efforts in the MidA.
- Based upon the outcomes of this discussion, we can further develop options for the OAP.

Discussion and Stakeholder Engagement

- **Questions for Discussion:**
 - Do you agree with the articulation of the need?
 - What are the benefits of continuing the MidA RPB?
 - What would be the benefits of having two forums – one that focuses on RPB business and the other that focuses on increased communication?
 - How could a separate forum be established without detracting from the efforts of the MidA RPB?
 - Are there specific topics that a separate coordination and communication forum could address?
- **Stakeholder Input**
 - During this MidA RPB meeting.
 - Offer white paper to stakeholders for comment and input.

Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal: Data to Support Ocean Action Plan Development & Implementation

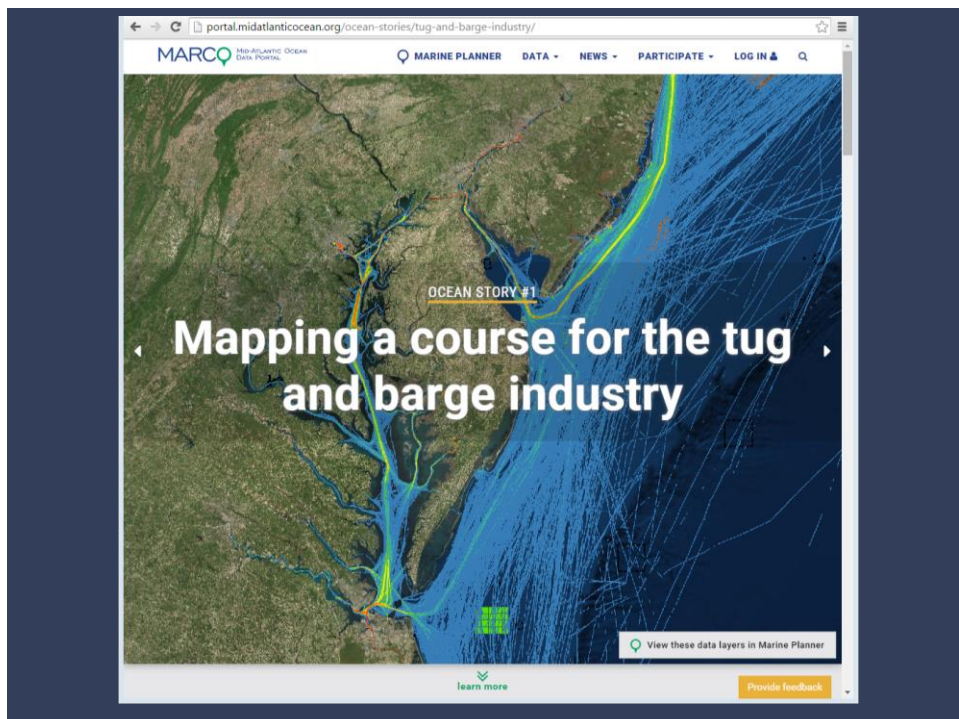
Laura McKay, Virginia CZM Program
Kevin Chu, NOAA/NMFS

Shared Data, Information and Mapping Platform

Key Objectives:

- Provide data to inform IJC actions, and advance Healthy Ecosystem and Sustainable Use goals.
- Federal – state collaboration to provide ongoing access to best available, regionally relevant ocean data

Outcome: An authoritative repository for regional data and visualization tools to reduce conflicts, and to support implementation actions and efficient ocean management decisions



Proposed Actions

- Maintain operational components including data development, management, and web maintenance
- Expand public engagement in collaboration with RPB and MARCO to enhance data, and functionality, as needed.
- Add new data and mapping products to support RPB ocean actions as they evolve



Ongoing Data Development and Public Engagement

- Work with RPB and IJC actions member entities / agency leads to focus and enhance portal data to support proposed actions
- Incorporate relevant data and information developed through ROA and DSWG, including ecological (MDAT) and human use (HUDS) synthesis products.
- Ongoing portal public/stakeholder engagement including but not limited to webinars, vetting human use data products (e.g. Communities at Sea maps), tribal data development, group briefings and meetings of opportunity (e.g. AWEA).

Ocean aquaculture Non-consumptive recreation Critical undersea infrastructure

Regional Planning Body

Ocean aquaculture

- *Inform ocean aquaculture siting and permitting through greater coordination among stakeholders and management authorities to address compatibility issues.*
- Address through:
 - Updates of the ROA
 - Use of data portal to characterize potential siting issues
 - Creation of agency guidance on data use
 - Ongoing evaluation of regional need for additional agency actions (pre-application coordination, policy, guidance, data)



Non-consumptive recreation

- *Account for importance and economic contributions of such uses, and in management of other uses and resources consider impacts to such activities.*
- Address through:
 - Updates of the ROA
 - Use of data portal to characterize potential siting issues
 - Ongoing coordination to develop/enhance data products and use in project planning



Critical undersea infrastructure

- *Facilitate greater understanding of the current and potential future location of submerged infrastructure such as submarine cables and pipelines.*
- Address through:
 - Updates of ROA
 - Use of data portal to characterize potential siting issues
 - Ongoing coordination to develop/enhance data products and use in project planning

