

Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body Webinar: Updates and Opportunity for Input

Webinar Chat Questions | August 1, 2013

Message	Participant Name
Welcome to the Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body's Webinar. Please submit your questions and/or comments. The RPB will respond to as many questions as possible during the specified Question and Comment sessions. Questions/comments not addressed today will be recorded for RPB consideration going forward. In addition, longer written comments may be submitted to MidAtlanticRPB@boem.gov. All questions and/or comments submitted to the RPB will be on the record.	Presenter
Has the Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body included the Sport diving community and sport diver fishery in it's ocean planning?	Jack Fullmer
Will the PowerPoint be posted online after the call?	Alison Chase
Thanks for having this meeting. It was mentioned that within 6 months a charter would be completed as well as draft goals. Is that 6 months from today? Once the draft goals and milestones, etc. are created, will there be regional, in-person meetings held for the public to comment?	Matt Gove
The Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing System (MARACOOS), is the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) in the Mid-Atlantic - the collaborative body among academic, government, and private sector entities to collect oceanographic and related data and to provide tailored information products that address the needs of decision makers and other stakeholders in the region from Cape Cod to Cape Hatteras. As the neutral provider of both static and dynamic data and information products, MARACOOS looks forward to support the efforts of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body and its members whether that is in support of the ad work groups (for example the Data and Information Ad hoc Work Group or the Stakeholder Engagement Ad hoc Work Group) or in direct discussions with the RPB and its members and is interested to engage in a dialogue to move ahead with the collaborative partnership between the Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body and MARACOOS.	Gerhard Kuska

Will the transcript of this presentation, a link to the slides, and a list of people who have called in/signed up for the webinar, be made publicly available?	Sean Dixon
How will the Mid-Atlantic process interface and share experience with RPBs in other parts of the U.S.?	Michael Jones
What final product do you expect will result from the planning efforts of the mid-Atlantic RPB. And when do you expect that will be completed?	Darlene Finch
In what way are commercial shipping interests represented - deep draft as well as tug & barge?	David White
I "Don Chapman" is facilitating information sharing of best practices with tribes in other RPB regions as other RPBs get stood up. I do this through my ECR/Udall tribal facilitation contract in conjunction with NOC GCC member Michael Bolt.	Don Chapman
How does the MidA RPB intend to manage, enhance, protect and restore ecosystem resiliency absent any new regulations on activities that may impact the marine environment?	Rick Marks
With regard to cross-RPB coordination. Recommend mentioning that there are some RPB members that are in multiple RPBs and routinely share concerns and experiences across these RPBs.	Joe Atangan
Will the transcript of this presentation, a link to the slides, and a list of people who have called in/signed up for the webinar, be made publicly available?	Sean Dixon
What about a list of all participants?	Sean Dixon
Since the mid-Atlantic extends south to Cape Hatteras, why doesn't NC have representation on the Mid-Atlantic RPB?	Wilson Laney
Would you please discuss the differences between the stakeholder options mentioned? For example, what's the difference between the stakeholder committee and the blue ribbon panel?	Alison Chase
I believe this was something raised before the Arlington, VA, meeting; the "transparency" issue here is directly relevant to what Tom's talking about here: how will we know who has been identified or not (in order to build a thorough stakeholder group "covering the full Mid-Atlantic" if we can't see the list?	Sean Dixon

How will you be responding to public comment that comes in between meetings? Will you be posting stakeholder comment letters on the web site?	Pam Lyons Gromen
To help us stakeholders understand who is engaging on our end, will you publish the list of people who participated on this call?	Sarah Winter Whelan
How will we learn what tools are being available and those being used? Is there a list available on-line? For example. UC Santa Barbara developed a software program called SeaSketch to allow an infinite number of stakeholders to provide input. It has been used by CA for its Marine Protected Areas, New Zealand and others.	Michael Jones
Is the RPB going to have a central webpage listing some of the opportunities to engage with other stakeholders? Or does it already exist?	Mary Fall Wade
Can you expand on the slide comments that resources preclude formation of a Stakeholder Advisory Committee at this time? Also, what is the timeline for establishment of a formal mechanism for engagement with user groups, and how does the RPB plan to incorporate local officials in the process (i.e. will they have a seat on the RPB)?	Brent Greenfield
A recommendation -- the NJ commercial fishing industry supports creation of a standing "resource use" AP to provide for meaningful industry participation and information exchange. We can provide the name of an industry representative to serve in this capacity if given the opportunity.	Rick Marks
Has the MidA RPB considered doing a training - like the one the Battelle Memorial Institute has put together - for the new PRB members. I attended one in May and it was so fantastic.	Sarah Winter Whelan
What has the MIDA RPB defined as stakeholders?	Sarah Winter Whelan
Will it be the purpose of the RPB to provide information or to act on an agenda? With no independent authority, in what ways will the RPB influence policy and regulatory actions?	David White
Earlier they were talking about divers/ dive fishermen. Here is the main community for Ocean City - info@ocdiveboat.com. They should be "on the list"	Arlo Hemphill

<p>Note to whom it may concern (use if you like)...the Draw feature available now to all registered users on the MARCO Portal offers the same functionality as SeaSketch. If crowd sourcing spatial management choices is desired by MARCO/the RPB, the MARCO Portal can easily be customized to provide that.</p>	Jay Odell
<p>I also attended Battelle's CMSP training and was very helpful. I work for Stockton College Coastal Research Center and we will be hosting an upcoming webinar regarding the flood maps, but after that we might be interested in hosting an event at Stockton or in partnership with other CTP Partners such as Monmouth, Stevens, or Rutgers. We will try to attend the meeting in September at Monmouth and perhaps discuss possibilities then.</p>	Michael Flynn
<p>Will the list of stakeholders calling in for today's webinar be made available?</p>	Alison Chase
<p>An early slide suggested the RPB will be addressing the current permitting activities. How will the RBP be addressing or getting involved in the current ocean permitting under consideration now: (seismic testing, offshore wind leases, deepwater port permit, energy right of ways)</p>	Sean Dixon
<p>Laurie Nolan of Montauk NY: Would like to echo Rick Marcs comments and would like the opportunity to supply industry reps.</p>	Laurie Nolan
<p>Comment: Uncertain if MA RPB had included sport divers. In NJ alone, there are over 3000 active sport divers that dive the artificial reefs, wrecks, and hard ocean habitat. There are about 20 commercial dive boats, many private dive boats, 30 sport diving shops and at least 15 sport diving clubs. Sport divers are in a unique position to monitor and observe the underwater ocean environment.</p>	Jack Fullmer
<p>Are state port authorities eligible for RPB membership? If so, they should be asked to join.</p>	David White
<p>Thank you for your questions and comments. They will all be on the record. There will be an hour long lunch break, please rejoin us at 1:00 pm.</p>	Presenter to All
<p>Will the presentation be made available on the website and, if so, do you know when that will be done?</p>	Michael Jones

Slide 45 leaves out Nonrenewable energy, LNG ports, and dumpsites, and also doesn't specify whether the federal agencies are "driven" by onshore habitat. Can Doug clarify if this means that the RPB officially doesn't think it can meaningfully affect decisions being made in these sectors?	Sean Dixon
The presentation including an audio and video recording, coupled with a transcript will be made available. Hopefully, they will be available within 1 to 2 weeks.	Presenter to All
You talked about visioning. Since visioning helps inform all the things you're talking about - goals, focus, data, operations, charter -- did or will the RPB go through the visioning process to help inform where we want the state of the Mid-Atlantic to look like into future?	Sarah Winter Whelan
I see the objectives but what are the goals of the planning effort? Do they match the National Ocean Policy goals? And what happened to offshore oil and gas development?	Joan Bondareff
another question: given that responsible renewable energy is a goal but LNG ports are not, how will the RPB deal with issues like the conflict between the New York State offshore wind plan and the Liberty LNG port - one issue is a target of the RPB, one issue is not...	Sean Dixon
Would you please discuss your plans for conducting the regional assessment? Is that part of this workgroup's work?	Alison Chase
I certainly respect that answer. My point is that visioning gets you TO those measureable outputs. It IS the what looks like success question. Thanks.	Sarah Winter Whelan
Slide 47 on initial goals includes "Ensure sufficient access to ports." We request consideration for changing that to "Ensure unrestricted access to ports."	David White
Can you please expand on what you mean by the term "resilience planning" as a broad goal? How will it be measured? Thank you. Rick Marks	Rick Marks
Comment on earlier Stakeholder section: the Surfrider Foundation can help provide outreach and promote engagement of non-consumptive recreational users such as divers, surfers, beach goers, etc.	Matt Gove
Regarding Slide 47 and the initial idea for a goal to "ensure access for existing and traditional uses," I would recommend that this be expanded to also account for future potential uses.	Brent Greenfield

On behalf of Gerard Smith (Tribal Co-Lead): The Shinnecock believes that inclusion of tribal Data will allow for a streamlined, efficient and effective method of marine planning while eliminating and preventing conflicting issues amongst stakeholders.	Salvatore Ruggiero
If NGO provides data - how will MARCO regulate the public use of data provided by NGO? Will data providers be able to limit data accessibility to the public? -Gwen Lockhart, Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center-	Gwen Lockhart
What is relationship of proposed RPB Charter to MARCO Agreement?	Jim McElfish
Will the draft charter address local government participation on the RPB? Have any initial decisions been made as to local government participation on the RPB?	Brent Greenfield
Clarification please: if the Charter will be available for comment "at" the September meeting, does that mean that it will be opened up before the September meeting for comments, or that the stakeholders will see the draft charter AT the September meeting (for the first time) and can only comment there, at the September meeting?	Sean Dixon
For Laura --Do you know what the data gaps are and how are you trying to fill them? Can there be a system for using leases and permits to acquire private sector data? (Sorry I have to leave before the answer.)	Joan Bondareff
Back to stakeholder engagement- I would like to revisit the question of how the RPB plans to engage and coordinate with local governments?	Jennifer Felt
The RPB represents federal, state and tribal representatives. Will the RPB meet the federal standards under the Information Quality Act, OMB peer review guidelines, etc? How will this be put into place into RPB procedures?	Bruce Tackett
Jennifer's question and the attending question goes to my earlier question about WHAT is a stakeholder. I feel like you've been talking about special interests and users, but it really is broader and should include governments that aren't sitting on the RPB. I hope the RPB takes some time to think about "What are stakeholders" before the full meeting in September. Thanks! This doesn't have to be asked, but wanted to provide follow-up from earlier.	Sarah Winter Whelan
Where you talking about federal data standards?	Presenter to Bruce Tackett

Yes. Federal standards for data quality.	Bruce Tackett
Thank you so much for your comments and questions; they will all be on the record. The Mid-Atlantic RPB looks forward to working with you in the future. Reminder: In-person RPB meeting on September 24-25, 2013 at Monmouth University in West Long Branch, New Jersey.	Presenter to All