

**COUNCIL CHAIRMEN AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS
MEETING AGENDA
May 22-25, 2006
Sheraton Society Hill, One Dock St., Philadelphia, PA 19106
Telephone 215-238-6000**

Monday, May 22

*******Travel Day*******

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Welcome Reception, Suite TBA

Tuesday, May 23

7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

COUNCIL SESSION

8:30 - 10:30 a.m. Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistical Survey (MRFSS) (Tab 1)
Implications and outcome of National Academy of Sciences' (NAS) / National Research Council's (NRC) draft report

- Discuss impact and effect of report's conclusions and recommendations regarding use of historical MRFSS data to establish recreational sector share in quota managed fisheries; state-by-state sub-allocations
- Discuss impact and effect of report's conclusions and recommendations regarding use of current MRFSS data to establish specifications for coming fishing year
- When using MRFSS data what is the appropriate resolution level, i.e., state, region, coastal, to satisfy National Standard 2 considerations
- Should for-hire operators be required to adopt mandatory logbook reporting

10:30 - 12:00 p.m. Stakeholder participation in developing quota-based programs (Tab 2)
Review highlights of General Accounting Office (GAO) report

- Discuss implications regarding need to better engage, inform, and solicit public feedback in Council process
- Are GAO's report findings more a function of outcome rather than process
- Review Councils' current outreach / public affairs programs / efforts

12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30 - 2:00 p.m. National Fish Habitat Initiative (Tab 10)
How does this fit with:

- Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) requirements
 - Identify and describe essential fish habitat (EFH)
 - Minimize adverse effect of fishing gear
 - Encourage conservation and management of EFH
- Ecosystem based approach to fishery management
 - Discuss current and future status of ecosystems approach to fisheries (EAF)

2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

General Discussion

- Status Update on MSA Reauthorization **(Tab 3)**
 - Highlights of Pombo (HR 5018) and Gilchrest (HR 5051) Bills ... what do we support / oppose

- Availability of fishery sociological resources and Council access thereto **(Tab 4)**
 - Review needs for sociology in Fishery Management Plan (FMP) process
 - Determine Council and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) capabilities to meet MSA requirements
 - What resources are available from NMFS that can be incorporated into Council products

- Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology (SBRM) **(Tab 5)**
 - Have you adopted such reporting methodologies
 - "Yes" - How were they developed and how do they operate
 - "No" - What are you doing to adopt such a reporting system

- Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) **(Tab 6)**
 - Status update on VMS program and associated funding

- Status Update of Councils budget **(Tab 7)**
 - FY 2007 status
 - Hearing schedule
 - FY 2008 status
 - Where are we in the NMFS / NOAA / DOC / OMB review of internal estimates
 - FY 2009 status
 - How do we more effectively communicate our needs to NMFS / NOAA

- NEPA (EIS and EA) and its role in development of Council documents **(Tab 9)**
 - FMPs
 - Amendments
 - Frameworks
 - Specifications
 - Grants

- Regulatory Streamlining **(Tab 9)**
 - Cooperative agreements amongst Regional Offices, Science Centers, and Councils
 - Who "owns" which documents (or parts thereof), and how are they provided to respective units

- Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Management - Atlantic Coast **(Tab 11)**
 - How do Councils introduce views on proposed Secretarial plans / amendments so as to engage in more meaningful dialogue

NMFS SESSION

8:30 - 5:00 p.m.

To Be Determined

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. New Jersey Aquarium Tour (light hors de oeuvres) - transportation provided

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

- 7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 - 8:45 a.m. Call to Order**
- Opening remarks, Regional Councils - Ron Smith
 - Opening remarks, NMFS - Dr. Bill Hogarth
- 8:45 - 10:00 a.m. National Academy of Sciences' National Research Council's Draft Report on Recreational Fisheries Survey Methods - Dr. Steve Murawski (Tab 1)**
- Discuss implications of report's conclusions and recommendations
 - Discuss report's impact regarding use of historical MRFSS data to establish recreational sector share of quota managed fisheries; state-by-state sub-allocations
 - Discuss policy regarding use of current MRFSS data to establish specifications for coming fishing year
 - Does MRFSS data pass the "red-face test" for meeting National Standard 2
 - Should for-hire operators be required to adopt mandatory logbook reporting
- 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Government Accountability Office (GAO) Report - Dan Morris (Tab 2)**
- Review GAO report on: "Core Principles and a Strategic Approach Would Enhance Stakeholder Participation in Developing Quota-Based Programs"
 - Are the GAO's report findings more a function of outcome rather than process
- 11:00 - 12:00 p.m. MSA Reauthorization Update - Dr. Bill Hogarth / Alan Risenhoover (Tab 3)**
- Status of House Bills . . . the good, the bad, the challenges
 - Dedicated Access Privileges / Limited Access Privileges . . . are we ready
 - Predictions
- 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch**
- 1:30 - 2:00 p.m. Economic and Sociological Resources for Fishery Management - Rita Curtis (Tab 4)**
- Review needs for sociology in FMP process
 - Determine Council and NMFS capabilities to meet MSA requirements
 - What resources are available from NMFS that can be incorporated into Council products
- 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology - Galen Tromble/Pat Kurkul (Tab 5)**
- Have you adopted such reporting methodologies
 - "Yes" - How were they developed and how do they operate
 - "No" - What are you doing to implement such a reporting system
- 3:00 - 3:45 p.m. Federal Law Enforcement Issues - Captain Scott Genovese, USCG / Dale Jones, NMFS (Tab 6)**
- US Coast Guard Annual Report on Fisheries Law Enforcement Activities
 - Status Update on Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) program and associated funding
 - Enforcement's role in public meetings
- 3:45 - 4:30 p.m. Status of Councils budget - Gary Reisner / Galen Tromble (Tab 7)**
- FY 2007 status
 - Hearing schedule
 - FY 2008 status
 - Where are we in the NMFS / NOAA / DOC / OMB review of internal estimates
 - FY 2009 status
 - How do we more effectively communicate our needs to NMFS / NOAA
- 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Cruise of the Philadelphia Waterfront (heavy hors de oeuvres) aboard the USCG Buoy Tender WILLIAM TATE - Commanding Officer LT Brian Huff (Tab 8)**

Thursday, May 25, 2006

- 7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. NEPA (EIS and EA) and Regulatory Streamlining - Galen Tromble / Pat Kurkul / Dan Furlong (Tab 9)**
- Who "owns" which documents (or parts thereof), and how are they developed and coordinated with respective units
 - FMPS
 - Amendments
 - Frameworks
 - Specifications
 - Grants
 - Discuss status of implementation of cooperative agreements amongst Regional Offices, Science Centers, and Councils
- 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. National Fish Habitat Initiative - Pat Montanio (Tab 10)**
- Discuss opportunity to build partnerships with non-government organizations (NGO)
- 11:00 - 12:00 p.m. Atlantic Coast HMS Management - Alan Risenhoover / Margo Schulze-Haugen (Tab 11)**
- How do East Coast Councils introduce views on proposed Secretarial plans / amendments so as to engage in more meaningful dialogue
- 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch**
- 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Open Discussion on any Outstanding Issues or Items**
- Future CCED Meetings - Ron Smith (Tab 12)**
- Closing comments - Dr. Bill Hogarth / Ron Smith**
- If Needed**-----
- 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Executive Directors Meeting**
- Review summary of meeting outcomes and determine appropriate follow-up actions

The above agenda items may not be taken in the order in which they appear and are subject to change as necessary. Other items may be added and listed items may be deleted. The meeting may be closed to discuss internal administrative matters.