

NECAN Policy Working Group meeting minutes
11/3/2015

In attendance: Beth Turner, Todd Capson, Sarah Cooley, Juliana Barrett, Dan Peckham, Steve Couture, Julie Simpson, Theresa Torrent

We began with discussion around the room on points of contact in different states:

- NH: meeting hosted by Steve Couture included 4 NH state legislators (2 senators, 2 reps). Also should reach out to National Estuary Program's Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership and Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. Steve C volunteered to be point of contact for NH issues.
- NY: Dan P made some calls, found that there was not a point person for OA issues. However, the call prompted designation of Karen Chytala in the Dept of Environmental Conservation, who will now be the POC. Dan will touch base with Bill Wise on other NY contacts
- ME: the ME commission provides a good source for outreach. Susie A and Nick should be able to provide a short list
- CT: Long Island Sound is a focal areas, but OA not really on the radar yet. NECAN workshop in Jan may help to identify particular people for contact. Juliana involved in workshop planning and can update us as it matures. Possible contacts: David Carey from Bureau of Aquaculture and Katie O-Brian-Clayton from Dept of Energy and Env. Protection.
- MA: next week there is a meeting with state and local managers, Julie will update us.

Dan P volunteered to reach out to his contacts in all states and check on potential POCs.

We turned to the summary document prepared by Todd from the NECAN stakeholder outreach meetings and Sarah's upcoming publication.

Sarah walked us through the genesis of the publication and the table excerpted by Todd. The actions fall into 2 broad categories: non-legislative and legislative. The non-legislative actions are somewhat easier to implement, since many can be done by individuals or small groups, whereas legislative action requires consensus of larger groups and competing interests. The table lays out some possible actions that could be taken on both sides re. education and outreach, assessing and addressing knowledge gaps, supporting industry, managing for resilience, and direct actions to reduce acidification. Most actions to date have been in education/outreach, and knowledge gaps, less on managing for resilience and decreasing acidification. However, an important point is that action can be taken, no matter what the political landscape may be (WA and ME examples of widely different political views, but successful actions in both states).

Discussion turned to what we wanted to be able to provide from the PWG. Several different types of materials are probably needed: targeted materials by state and audience, as well as regional materials that provide overviews of this as a larger problem than one state alone. Perhaps modular information products could be developed that can be customized for each audience.

It will be important to highlight efforts from states that have been successful, so that they can be spread to other states.

There is significant overlap with NECAN outreach and education team, Beth and Todd will coordinate with Cassie and Esperanza on developing common materials.

Action items:

- Members will continue to identify POCs in their states
- Beth will circulate notes, members will correct/amend
- Doodle poll for early Dec will be set up and circulated