

12/8/15 NECAN PWG meeting

Present for meeting: Matt Liebman, Cassie Stymiest, Esperanza Stancioff, Todd Capson, Dan Peckham, Beth Turner, Bill Wise, Nick Battista

PWG is looking to develop materials that would be helpful for policy development. We need feedback from policy makers themselves, what policy could be feasible in their state, what they need from NECAN.

Dan Peckham presented the contact spreadsheet that he developed, some confirmed that they are expecting a call, others haven't confirmed yet, but could be contacted. Next steps: reach out to the names on the spreadsheet (early next year) with questions.

Don't need to wait for all NECAN workshops, could start w. states that have had meetings already.

Draft Questions:

1. What do you think is the current level of understanding re. OCA in your state?
 - a. Are there questions that you need to be answered to help spread awareness?
2. What (if any) policy efforts are going on in your state?
 - a. Include legislative efforts, mitigation efforts, etc.
 - b. Are there recognized connections between nutrient management and OCA in your state?
 - c. Are there ongoing regulatory efforts that could address drivers of OCA?
3. Have you been involved in developing policy related to OA?
4. Are there informational materials that you think would help in policy efforts?
 - a. Scientific?
 - b. Best management practices re. OA?
 - c. Etc.
5. Are there any resources in your state that might be useful for other states?
6. Are there other people to contact in your state?
7. Do you think a regional approach is viable, or a state-by-state approach?

It could be helpful to present potential policy actions, both legislative and non-legislative – giving them these to react to.

Todd will work out with Sarah how to circulate these ideas. Present as list of ideas for action, but not to ask for them to identify top 5 or anything like that. Just share that this info is out there and people are thinking about this. Present materials as options rather than seem as prodding them or pressuring them.

Bill W will contact NY Dept of State coastal management group for potential contacts.

Cassie could put something in NECAN update as direct call to action. NECAN listserv could be resource for sending out questions or identifying future contacts. Cassie will sort the listserv by state to look for potential contacts.

Are there efforts on a regional basis?

- NEIWPC Commissioners include state environmental agency Commissioners, usually represented by chiefs from water branches of agencies, plus other stakeholders. Jan meeting (1/14-1/15) will include presentation about OA, Dan will need materials for that.
 - Others may have the same needs, making materials available would be good goal for PWG. From Oceanography article and other presentations, NECAN could create these materials. More than one fact sheet, depending on what the audience is.
- Develop relationship with NROC. Writing NE Regional Ocean Plan, that takes up most of time and attention. Several NROC members may already be on the contact list.
- Sentinel monitoring network is regional, connecting to NROC re. monitoring. OCA is part of that network.
- Maine Water Environment Association (storm water subcommittee) has had OCA come up in several conversations – New England Water Environment Association focus on OA? Presentation or panel re. OA at NEWEA, Dan will look for specifics on this.
- Include NEPs – Matt will provide contacts from NEPs.