

NECAN PWG meeting, 3/13/17

Attending: Sarah Cooley, Susie Arnold, Beth Turner, Ralph Johnson, Seth Tuler, Chris Williams, Matt Liebman

NECAN update:

- The NECAN steering committee has been working on its Implementation Plan, which is mostly for internal planning purposes. Annual work plans will be developed from the Implementation Plan. Beth is drafting some Terms of Reference for the steering committee. Any input on how the overall steering committee should function w.r.t. the working groups should be sent to Beth.
- We previously discussed a workshop on monitoring OA and nutrients in concert. Beth presented this idea to the Northeast Regional Ocean Council on 2/15. NROC had generally favorable reaction, Beth will reach out to NROC to identify a few people to form a steering committee. Aaron and Sarah volunteered from PWG. Others who are interested should let Beth know.
- Beth will be meeting with the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe on Cape Cod next week (Mar 22) along with Ru Morrison and Bill Mook. This is part of NOAA's North Atlantic Regional Team outreach. The tribe was interested in HABs and OA, probably because they run their own shellfish operations.
- NECAN has developed a proposal to the NOAA IOOS program that seeks to add OA to the Northeast Coastal Ocean Forecasting System. If successful, Beth will be on the project team to help guide the model output to give information useful to state policy efforts.

ME update:

- Bond issue for monitoring \$\$ was slated for ballot in June, maybe pushed beyond? Mick Devin is working on this. MOCA is developing ideas for a comprehensive monitoring plan for ME, engaging stakeholders and creating an inventory of monitoring going on.
- OA session at Maine Sustainability and Water Conference, Thurs. Mar 30 in Augusta. "*Advancing solutions to ocean and coastal acidification in Maine*"
 1. *Can growing sugar kelp locally remediate ocean acidification?*
 2. Nichole Price, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Science
 3. *Linking genotype to phenotype in a changing ocean: estimating standing genetic variation in a blue mussel stress response with genome wide association*
 4. David B. Carlon, Department of Biology and Coastal Studies Center, Bowdoin College
 5. *Northeast Coastal Acidification Network: communication and education efforts*
 6. Esperanza Stancioff, Associate Extension Professor, University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Maine Sea Grant
 7. *Disseminating OCA Citizen Science Monitoring Guidelines and Resources*
 8. Parker Gassett (student), University of Maine, School of Marine Sciences

NH update:

- Commission has not met since Jan meeting, Next mtg scheduled for Mon. Mar 20.

MA update:

- No feedback yet from Todd's message to shellfish growers.

- Sarah and Ryan spoke to Priscilla about legislative efforts. Staffers for Fernandez said bill introduced, but it hasn't been assigned to committee yet. Priscilla finding out who would be good to contact. MA stakeholders identified, need to provide the right people to contact. Might be some resistance from Dept. of Marine Fisheries? David Pierce from Fisheries spoke at New Bedford meeting, seemed to be dismissive of OA. Is this still the case? Hope to identify the most strategic way to engage with the most impact.

RI update:

- did Ru send the message last month? Beth will check with Ru and Jackie. Ralph can send to others if given a cc on the message.
- Beth spoke to Jason Grear at the EPA Narragansett lab, who mentioned that Conor McManus and Jim Hare, RI Dept Env Mgmt. might be involved. Beth will send these contacts to Ralph for him to reach out.

NY update:

- Lisa Suatoni (NRDC) may be involved with NY commission, Beth will reach out to Lisa to see what the status is.

CT update:

- Juliana reports no specific action concerning OA, but a Long Island Sound Blue Plan is being developed. Juliana hopes to be able to work in climate issues, including OA.

Other discussion: HAB species *Pseudo-nitzschia* is affecting shellfish growers in RI, also an issue for ME closures – connection to OA? Both have a relation to nutrient input, but hard to draw any hard and fast conclusions. Two studies show an increase in domoic acid with OA on west coast (see e-mail from Sarah for references). Beth will send out any *Pseudo-nitzschia* info from Mar 22 Mashpee meeting. (In the meantime, see <http://www.whoi.edu/redtide/page.do?pid=14275> and <https://coastalscience.noaa.gov/news/habs/nccos-helps-new-england-respond-unprecedented-harmful-algal-bloom/>)

Next meeting: Thurs, April 6 at 10 AM