



Northeast Regional Planning Body Spring 2017 Meeting

Wednesday, May 24, 2017, 9:00 to 5:00
NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service
Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office
55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA

Important Parking Information:

Meeting participants should park in front and on the side of the NMFS building where there are open spaces. If additional parking is needed, please park along 55 Great Republic Drive, avoiding the cul-de-sac area.

Meeting Objectives

- Hear from RPB members about how their organization is using the Northeast Ocean Plan and the Northeast Ocean Data Portal.
- Review progress implementing the Northeast Ocean Plan.
- Obtain public input and decide on next steps for implementing the Plan through the end of 2017.

Agenda

- 8:30am Registration**
Light breakfast and coffee will be available. Meeting participants will also be able sign up to purchase a bagged lunch that will be delivered to the meeting room at noon.
- 9:00 Welcome and introductions**
- 9:20 Opening remarks, including recent timeline, milestones, and an overview of implementation activities**
Mel Coté, (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Co-lead) and Ted Diers (NH Department of Environmental Services, State Co-Lead)
- 9:45 Use of the Northeast Ocean Plan and the Northeast Ocean Data Portal**
Regional Planning Body (RPB) Members
- Updates from each RPB member about how their organization is using the Plan and the Portal followed by discussion about ways to track and communicate agency implementation. This will inform subsequent agenda topics related to the Portal and evaluating plan performance.
- 10:45 Break**



NORTHEAST OCEAN PLAN

- 11:00** **Northeast Ocean Data Portal: Progress and proposed next steps for updating ocean activity data and outreach to related stakeholders and experts**
Nick Napoli (contract staff to the Northeast RPB)
- Summary presentation about progress updating ocean activity data on the Northeast Ocean Data Portal and potential next steps, including input received during the Stakeholder Forum. Brief discussion to follow the presentation.
- 11:30** **Northeast Ocean Data Portal: Progress and proposed next steps for updating marine life, habitat, and important ecological area (IEA) data products**
Emily Shumchenia (contract staff to the Northeast RPB)
- Summary presentation about progress updating marine life and habitat data on the Northeast Ocean Data Portal and potential next steps, including input received during the Stakeholder Forum. The presentation will also include potential next steps for obtaining input on draft data products and methods for each component of the IEA framework. Brief discussion to follow the presentation.
- 12:00** **Lunch**
For those participants staying in the room, there will be an opportunity to review the Portal and draft data products discussed throughout the morning.
- 1:00** **Public comment on morning agenda topics**
- 1:45** **Plan Performance: Progress and proposed next steps to develop an approach for evaluating the RPB's implementation of the Plan**
Nick Napoli
- Summary presentation providing an overview of the draft approach for evaluating plan performance and potential next steps, including input received during the Stakeholder Forum. Brief discussion to follow the presentation.
- 2:15** **Monitoring Ecosystem Change: Proposed next steps for developing an Ocean Health Index (OHI) for the Northeast**
Ben Halpern (OHI Team Lead)
- Overview of the work plan to develop a Northeast OHI, including potential immediate next steps for obtaining detailed feedback from the RPB and stakeholders about near-term priorities. Brief discussion to follow the presentation.
- 3:00** **Break**
- 3:15** **Public comment on afternoon agenda topics**
- 3:45** **RPB discussion and decisions about the work plan through 2017**
- 5:00** **Adjourn**