

Northeast Regional Planning Body Natural Resources Workshop

Draft Agenda

Meeting Objectives

- Inform options for characterizing marine mammal, sea turtle, bird, and fish distribution and abundance for use in ocean planning. (See Action 1-1 under the Healthy Ocean and Coastal Ecosystems Goal in the “Framework for Ocean Planning in the Northeast United States”)
- Discuss a review of existing regional efforts to identify areas of ecological importance or measure the health of the marine system and consider the applicability of such assessments for ocean planning. (See Action 1-2 under the Healthy Ocean and Coastal Ecosystems Goal in the “Framework for Ocean Planning in the Northeast United States”)

Location: The Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett Street, Kennedy Room
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

9:30 am Registration

10:00 am Welcome, introductions, objectives and agenda review

10:30 am Ocean planning timeline and ongoing natural resources characterization work
Overview of related ocean planning activities and the near term process for developing products characterizing marine life – *Nick Napoli, Staff*

11:00 am Action 1-1: Distribution and abundance data, methods and options

- Presentation of the data sources and options for developing distribution and abundance products – *Emily Shumchenia, Contractor*
- Large group discussion

12:00pm Lunch

1:00 pm Introduction to the Duke NOAA Research Team

Overview of the research team’s planned activities and examples of their work – *Corrie Curtice, Duke University*

- 1:40 pm** **Action 1-1: Discuss initial options for marine life products**
Participant discussion about potential data sources, geographic areas and species covered by marine mammal, sea turtle, bird, and fish products
- 3:00 pm** **Break**
- 3:15 pm** **Action 1-2: Overview of regional efforts to identify ecological areas or measure ecosystem health**
Presentation of regional assessments and their management applications – *Emily Shumchenia, Contractor*
- 3:45 pm** **Group Discussion**
Participant discussion of key questions such as:
- How might these assessments be used in Northeast ocean planning? Do they meet the goals of the RPB? How/why/why not?
 - What are the technical, methodological, data, and policy challenges?
 - What else does the RPB need to know in order to make a decision in November?
- 5:00 pm** **Wrap up and next steps**
- 5:30 pm** **Adjourn**
- 6:00 pm-** **Reception**
7:30 pm