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**Minutes for the Alliance Coordination Team (ACT) Teleconference  
Held 24 June 2009**

**Attendees:**

**Water Quality** – Steve Wolfe, Linda Sedlacek, Ellen McCarron

**Environmental Education** – Valerie Kleinschmidt

**Nutrients** –

**Coastal Community Resiliency** – John Bowie

**Habitat Conservation & Restoration (HCRT)** – Jim Paul

**Ecosystem Integration and Assessment (EIA)** – Seneca Holland, Russ Beard

**Other support** – Phil Bass, Nancy Wallace

**Minutes**

- **Report out from Capitol Hill Ocean Week (CHOW)**
  - Very successful
  - The booth PowerPoint looked great – will post of website
  - Handed out lots of copies of Governors' Action Plan II
    - If you need copies of it, let EPA GOMP office know
  - Representatives from each state attended the reception
  - AMT representatives talked to their congressmen and staff
    - Helped to provide the push to resubmit a bill (only in Senate, no companion House Bill yet) to authorize the Gulf of Mexico and increase funding to the EPA
      - The Gulf of Mexico Restoration and Protection Act – HB1311
      - Sponsored by: Senator Wicker (MS)
      - Co-sponsored by: Senators Cochran (MS) and Landrieu (LA)
      - Anything anyone can do to get their state behind this bill, please do
- **All-Hands Meeting**
  - Make sure you make your reservations soon!
  - PIT meetings will be all day Tuesday, Wednesday afternoon, and Thursday morning
  - PIT Breakout Groups to address:
    - Tier 2 document
      - Will contract with Laura Bowie to put all of the Team's documents into a similar format. Will just have an electronic version because it is a "living document"
    - Annual Work Plan
      - Will send out a template soon
      - Will help with documenting what we do, for report outs, and to help with funding
    - Performance Measures
      - How to know if we are successful at completing something; something that we can hold up
  - How should we track work on Action Plan II
    - The Water Quality Team is looking into something to meet their needs, but they don't want to duplicate efforts that the federal facilitators have to do. At this

- point, what the Team needs are sufficiently different, so the Water Quality Team will proceed with their search
- Report Outs:
  - Highlight what your Team wants to accomplish in the next 13 months with available funds
  - Hold up additional work that would be a priority if additional funds were available
  - Performance measures (possibly)
- Will be inviting some Mexican representatives. Working to secure adequate numbers of interpreters, let Phil know if you know someone who could act as an interpreter. Will let you know as soon as we can if a Mexican representative will attend your Team Breakout.
- The Gulf of Mexico NEP will have their meeting the same week. John Bowie is working with them to attend some of the Breakout Groups and Plenary Sessions.
- If you catch any errors in Action Plan II, let Phil know
- **Data Management Committee**
  - It would be good to have a data portal where someone can access all of the data that they GOMA has collected/identified
  - Please send out the white paper to your Team members and send comments to Russ Beard (copy Becky Allee and Diane Altsman)
    - Larry McKinney will present it to the AMT at the All-Hands Meeting
    - Will have proof of concept at the All-Hands Meeting
  - Don't want to be a hardship on the states
    - NCCDDC is willing to provide training to help the states create a list and definitions for metadata
  - Not suggesting that this committee make people do things a certain way, but just to make recommendations/suggestions for standards, protocols, and formats and then adhere to those as closely as possible
  - If you need to "rescue" old data, can help to a degree, but you should probably get a grant (expensive) to house the data and make sure that it is linked to REDM
  - Technical details
    - PHINS will morph into a visualization tool
    - REDM will be a data catalog for delivery of and access to metadata
    - Data will reside with data matter experts, not suggesting a centralized database
  - Questions:
    - When creating GOMA-specific RFP's should we require that recipients supply information to REDM?
  - Use the words data stewardship or data management, avoid IT coordination
- **Potential partnership with "What about Blue"**
  - Robyn Schoessel met Kevin Lily (founder of What about Blue)
  - Mission: To benefit the global water crisis on a local, national, and international level by raising awareness, uniting communities, and inspiring action for the love of water. Centered on three main water issues: conservation, preservation, and purification. To raise this awareness, they are kayaking the length of the Mississippi River (July 20 to October)
  - Benefit:

- Social networking website to get people involved
- Also have Facebook and Twitter
- Partnered with FOX News
- Could include some of the GOMA activities in their press releases
- Need to talk with the AMT
  - Anything controversial in what they are saying? No
  - Valerie Kleinschmidt will get information to Phil and Nancy
- **Next teleconference – July 29<sup>th</sup> at 9 am Central/10 am Eastern**