

**AMT conference call
June 4, 2008**

Participants

Louis Buatt

Phil Bass

Bill Walker

Margaret Davidson

Bruce Molten

Philip Hinsley

Lee Yokel

Seth Blitch

Brent Ache

Dugan Sabins

Jess Weaver

Nancy Wallace

Richard Ingram

PIT Membership roles and responsibilities

The AMT received a draft summary of the PIT membership roles and responsibilities. This was an attempt to better define the roles and allow for capacity building as the Alliance continues to grow.

The AMT thought this was a good idea and did not have any comments on the draft.

Follow up discussion on inclusion of new issues for second Action Plan

- Living Marine Resources
- Energy

Louis Buatt updated the AMT on this issue. He has been working with Texas to put together a white paper on energy and economics in the Gulf. A draft for the entire AMT to review should be available soon. The AMT is looking forward to reviewing the draft and will have a discussion on it then. The paper includes energy issues, but focuses on the gulf economy and has several components.

Buck Sutter with the National Marine Fisheries Service will serve as the interface between the Gulf Council and Commission and the Alliance. This will increase the connections regarding living marine resources. The new action plan probably will not include a specific section on living marine resources, but can be incorporated into the economy section.

Discussion State's Position on Public Input How best to get public feedback

The AMT discussed how to best get public input on the next action plan. They decided that public input should happen after the August All Hands meeting when there is a draft of the plan that the public can review. Lee Yokel relayed discussions from the Environmental Education Steering Committee. They felt it would be difficult to host public meetings in all the states for a variety of reasons. Another option is to utilize the existing networks and ask for public comment through the internet. This way the public would still have the opportunity to provide feedback on the plan, but would not be required to attend public meetings.

The AMT decided that public input is very important and should be part of the process for developing action plan II. However, how public input is gathered should be up to the states and the priority issue teams. It could be done in public meetings or through electronic methods. If certain states want to do it electronically, a standard method can be applied.

The AMT also reiterated that a formal charge should go through the ACT to the PITs to increase the breadth of participants on the PITs, to include NGOs, business, industry and other partners and poll them for actions to include in the next action plan. The PITs should go outside their usual participants for input.

The PITs should also go back to the original community workshops held in 2005 for input into the next plan.

Action Plan II first draft from PITs- due June 30th- Expectations on what the PITs should provide by June 30th

All the PITs are on track to get documents in hand by June 30th. PITs should send their drafts to Bill Walker, and Phil Bass. NOAA has volunteered to take a first cut at synthesizing the information and to put it into one format. Once the AMT has reviewed the first draft they can have discussions with each PIT to provide comments.

DOI is working with their agencies to see what activities will well within the current structure of the Alliance. Jess Weaver will send an initial list of actions to Phil and Bill to mesh with the appropriate issue teams.

July 8 & 9 AMT/GMPO Management Committee Meeting in New Orleans

The Gulf of Mexico Management Committee is meeting in New Orleans July 8th and 9th. Since there is a large overlap between membership of the AMT and this committee it is a good time to have an AMT meeting. All AMT members were open to the idea and were going to check their schedules.

Discussion of Agenda for All Hands Meeting

The All Hands Meeting will be in Corpus Christi, TX in August. This meeting will be to roll out the new plan as well as check in on the status of the current plan. The PITs have asked for additional meeting time because of the dual nature of the meeting. The AMT asked that the ACT develop the agenda and the AMT will review it.