

Pribilof Islands Collaborative Steering Committee Meeting

July 21, 2005 9:00 AM AK teleconference

Planning and Steering Committee meeting

Agenda and meeting summary

NOTE: Action items/ homework are highlighted in yellow

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be Thursday August 4th at 9:00am Alaska time (10:00am Seattle, 1:00pm D.C.)

Present: Denise Woods, Heather McCarty, Larry Cotter, Astrid Scholz, Lisa Butzner

Agenda for the Steering Committee Conference Call

- 1. Homework report back: constituent groups' statements on priority topics and desired outcomes fro the September meeting**
- 2. Ecotrust's socioeconomic baseline study of the Pribilof Islands: report from Astrid Scholz**
- 3. Work on draft agenda for September halibut and crab meeting**

1. Homework report back:

- CDQ group (Larry and Heather) have drafted their list of desired outcomes for the September meeting; Denise has forwarded to the steering committee. The statements (below) still need approval by Philip Lestenkof.

September Meeting Desired Outcomes from CDQ Groups:

1. A better and more complete understanding of the life history and associated needs for halibut and crab. Commensurate with this, identification of research projects that will enhance known knowledge and address areas of uncertainty.
 2. Understanding of the fishery management system as it applies to halibut and crab. This includes resource assessments, bycatch management, rationalization program, and catch monitoring, and anticipated changes in the near future relative to the impact upon the resource as a result of current and soon to be implemented management programs.
 3. Understanding of the economic and social significance of crab and halibut to the communities of St. George and St. Paul, and a commitment by the PIC to actively support and engage in efforts designed to develop and strengthen the economies of both islands based, in part, on the utilization of these species.
- The steering committee is awaiting homework from both St. Paul and St. George, as well as from industry.
 - Brock, as facilitator, will email industry and island leaders to get their input on desired outcomes for September
 - Heather and Brock will compile the completed CDQ and Environmental constituent groups' statements into one list and Brock will include it in the email described above

2. Ecotrust's socioeconomic baseline study of the Pribilof Islands

- Astrid reports that Ecotrust’s NPRB-funded (\$95,000) socioeconomics baseline data collection project will be getting underway and she outlined for the steering committee how the PIC can be involved. Suggestions and comments included:
 - In these discussions, she wants to formalize the interaction between the PIC and Ecotrust, so that both groups are not replicating work being done by the other and so the PIC can take advantage of this well-funded project;
 - Ecotrust and PIC should and can combine their data requests of NOAA, to reduce redundancy and lighten the burden on NOAA;
 - Uniquely, as stipulated in Ecotrust’s original proposal, the islands’ entities will retain ownership of the data resulting from this study; they will not belong to NPRB and could therefore be used by PIC, in part, to answer the main questions identified by participants at the August 2004 PIC meeting.
- Astrid posed the following questions to the PIC steering committee:
 - How should Ecotrust interact with the PIC? Through a subcommittee or the steering committee?
 - Members on this call suggest the steering committee, plus whomever else is interested. Separate subcommittee not necessary
 - Logistically, what is a good time to work on island?
 - Members on the call suggest October and April, but more advice is needed from those working on island
 - How and when would results be reported through the PIC?
 - No results expected by the September meeting, but possible by the November meeting. More work needed to match the PIC and Ecotrust timelines.
 - Other questions will be posed by Astrid in an email to follow this call. **Astrid will email the requests/ questions to the steering committee** for a response ASAP.

3. Work on draft agenda for September halibut and crab meeting

- **Heather and Brock will draft a strawman “Meeting Purpose” for inclusion on the agenda. They will circulate it to the steering committee for comments.**
- Speaker updates:
 - Max Malavansky Sr. has agreed to speak for the St. George government during the first morning session, 9:00am.
 - Braxton Dew declined to speak- he needs 40 minutes plus Q and A for his presentation
 - Jie Zheng speaks little English; Anne Hollowed was suggested as an alternate speaker.
 - **Heather will invite Anne**
 - It was also suggested Anne provide an overview of the competing hypotheses to explain crab declines (e.g. temperature change, trawling, overfishing, bycatch mortality...).
- **Denise will make all suggested changes to the draft agenda and circulate the “July 21” draft to the steering committee and the larger group for comments.**

NEXT MEETING: Thursday July 21 at 9:00am Alaska time