

Sustainable Fisheries GIT Executive Committee

Meeting Agenda

July 20, 2020 1:00 - 3:00pm

➤ Oyster Gear Comparison Report

- Materials: share report “Evaluating hydraulic patent tong efficiency to estimate oyster density on restored oyster reefs” and briefing for Ex Comm members to review in advance
- Presentation: Ward Slacum (ORP) and Mike Wilberg (UMCES) will share results from the study
- Discussion Questions:
 - We’ve previously discussed some practical (availability and cost) and science (restoration performance) based rationale for use of stone. What do the report findings and implications mean for use of alternative substrate (stone) going forward? What is the connection to MD statute on oyster sanctuaries that references substrate requirements SB448? Does the report inform Virginia’s position on alternative substrate?
 - FOR REEF CONSTRUCTION, REQUIRE THE USE OF 2 SUBSTRATE THAT HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED IN PREVIOUS TRIBUTARY–SCALE OYSTER RESTORATION PROJECTS TO MAXIMIZE OYSTER DENSITY;
 - Are there implications for restoration practices?
 - What are the implications for assessing and monitoring oyster populations bay wide?
 - What application do the report findings have on quantifying harvest thresholds and targets for the oyster fishery in MD and VA?
 - Do we want to respond in any way to the findings? How should the report be made publicly available (CBT website and other rollout considerations)?
- Decisional options:
 - No formal response; accept report and post along with meeting minutes to make it available to public
 - Request oyster workgroups in MD and VA review and recommend a response to the excomm.
 - Excomm draft formal statement responding to the report findings

➤ Invasive Catfish Management Strategy Status Update

- Progress on the matrix
- Advisory Commission/group update

➤ Member Updates

➤ Next Meeting

- August 24 1:00-3:00pm