

APPENDIX C

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP, MEETING SCHEDULE AND LETTER TO THE LWRC

**STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP, MEETING SCHEDULE,
AND LETTER TO THE LAND & WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL**

Steering Committee Membership

- **Paul Anderson**, Director, Maine Sea Grant Program
- **Kathleen Billings**, Chair, Maine Soft Shell Clam Advisory Council; and Town Clerk, Town of Stonington
- **Heather Deese**, Marine Science and Policy Consultant
- **Dewitt John**, Director of Environmental Studies Program, Bowdoin College
- **Evan Richert**, Associate Professor, Muskie School of Public Service
- **Jim Salisbury**, Retired CEO, Supreme Alaska Seafoods
- **David Schmanska**, Harbormaster, Town of St. George
- **Barbara Vickery**, Director of Conservation Programs, ME Chapter of the Nature Conservancy

Meeting Schedule

1. **September 21, 2004**, 12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Hutchinson Center, Belfast
Agenda items:
 1. Orientation for Steering Committee and Staff
 2. Facilitated Discussion – Developing a Draft Definition of Bay Management
 3. Final review of principles statement (principles for guiding the work of the study)
 4. Presentation of public participation survey
 5. Discussion of proposed public participation plan and schedule
 6. Discussion of project decision making
 7. Final comments on RFP to solicit proposals for pilot projects

2. **January 7, 2005**
Originally planned for Belfast, this meeting had to be changed due to dangerous driving conditions. It was conducted as a conference call.
Agenda items:
 1. Selection of Pilot Projects
 2. Refinement of Working Definition of Bay Management
 3. Decision Making with the Study
 4. Planning for the Community Meetings

3. **February 25, 2005**, 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
State Planning Office, 184 State St. Augusta
Agenda items:
 1. Presentations by representatives of pilot projects (Taunton Bay and Muscongus Bay)
 2. Overview of Maine’s marine governance structure
 3. Overview of Municipal authorities
 4. Model presentations:
 - a. Ocean zoning
 - b. Nearshore governance in Australia

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- c. Northwest Straits
 - d. British Columbia
 - 5. Report on Public Meetings
4. **June 13, 2005**, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Hutchinson Center, Belfast
Agenda items:
- 1. Overview of the Public Meeting Process
 - 2. Bay Management Issues of Concern by Region
 - 3. Governance Issues
 - 4. Ongoing compilation/analysis of issues and development of bay management models
 - 5. Update on pilot projects
5. **September 19, 2005**, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Portland
Agenda items:
- 1. Bay Management Scenario – Surface Water Use Conflicts and Navigation in Casco Bay
 - 2. Public Outreach Plan
 - 3. Study Workplan and Timeline
6. **November 9, 2005**, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Department of Marine Resources, 194 McKown Point Rd., West Boothbay Harbor
Agenda items:
- 1. Coast-wide Problems and Potential Improvements (Tiered Approach to Identifying Problems on the Maine Coast)
 - 2. Mid-course Study Check In – Gaps and Next Steps
 - 3. Accomplishments and Remaining Tasks – Milestones and Deliverables
 - 4. Public Participation Plan
7. **February 17, 2006**, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Belfast Armory, Rt 1, Belfast
Agenda items:
- 1. Stakeholder presentations
 - a. Panel 1: Large-scale, System-Change Approaches to Bay Management
 - b. Panel 2: Local or Place-Based Approaches to Bay Management
 - c. Panel 3: Resource Management Tools for Bay Management
 - 2. Small group discussions
 - 3. Report out of ideas generated during discussions
 - 4. Steering Committee work session
8. **June 2, 2006**, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Hutchinson Center, Belfast
Agenda items:
- 1. Presentation of Pilot Projects
 - a. Muscongus Bay Pilot Project – Recommendations

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- b. Taunton Bay Pilot Project – Recommendations
 - 2. Lessons Learned and Observations from Pilot Projects
 - 3. Options for Improved Nearshore Management
 - a. Existing Governance System with Suggested Improvements
 - b. New Regional Approaches
 - c. New Bay Planning Processes
 - d. Creation of a New State Board
9. **August 15, 2006**, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Bowdoin Coastal Studies Center, Orr's Island
Agenda items:
- 1. Review status of deliverables and review study schedule;
 - 2. Discussion of draft Problem Statement and draft Principles
 - 3. Discussion of Options for Nearshore Management
 - a. Supporting regional initiatives
 - b. Interlocal agreements
 - 4. Data and Information Needs Study Plan
10. **October 2, 2006**, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Darling Marine Center, Walpole
Agenda items:
- 1. Review Recommendations to date
 - a. Recommendation #1: Maine Coastal Policies Act
 - b. Recommendation #2: Supporting Regional Initiatives
 - c. Recommendation #3: Enhancement to the Existing Nearshore Governance Framework;
 - d. Recommendation #4: Interagency Coordination and Communication
 - e. Recommendation #6: Funding and Capacity Needs
11. **December 1, 2006**, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Pine Tree State, Arboretum, Augusta
Agenda items:
- 1. Review Draft Report

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December 12, 2006

To: The Commissioners of the State of Maine Land and Water Resources Council

From: The Bay Management Study Steering Committee

Members: Evan Richert, Kathleen Billings-Pezaris, Dewitt John, David Schmanska,
Barbara Vickery, Jim Salisbury, Heather Deese, Paul Anderson

We the members of the Bay Management Study Steering Committee are writing to the members of the Land and Water Resource Council (L&WRC) to lend our support to the study report, to add emphasis to particular points in the report, and to indicate the importance of the recommended actions.

First, we wish to compliment the staff members from the Department of Marine Resources and the Maine Coastal Program of the State Planning Office for their dedication and diligence over the past two years in conducting this study. The staff have conducted their work in a professional and transparent way and have done an admirable job engaging the public and the steering committee members throughout the study. The report you have before you, though quite lengthy, provides an accurate assessment of the situation in Maine and offers a series of reasonable recommendations for improving the management of coastal natural resources that allows for regional approaches and input from coastal communities.

The steering committee fully endorses the recommendations contained in the report, but would like to take the opportunity, as public sector advisors to the L&WRC to make the following points:

1. The recommendations in this Bay Management Study report represent an initial step towards building multi-agency approaches to the governance needs of the coast that should lead to inter-agency planning and coordination in order to implement innovative, regional and adaptive approaches. Although there are examples of inter-agency coordination, **there are many issues which would benefit from better coordination between agencies**. Further, State Government needs to improve its awareness that **portions of our coast have unique attributes which require consideration in making management decisions and that the application of single, centralized, policies may not result in the most effective management**. Indeed, some of the public comments indicated the need for clarity with regard to government agency roles, responsibilities and coordination, and the public also expressed the need for a regional stakeholder-based process for assessing a regions needs, strategic direction, and a mechanism for these perspectives to be considered by state regulatory agencies.
2. Although this study did not identify a single critical issue along Maine's coast that highlights the need for improved, regionally-relevant strategies for coastal resource management, there were many issues identified through the public scoping process that were peculiar to certain

regions of the state. The range of issues loosely fall into the themes of challenges associated with developmental changes along the coast, associated impacts on ecosystem health and the coastal habitats, and impacts on the livelihoods of those working along the coast. Our management of activities that effect coastal communities and our natural resources need to ensure that the marine based economy and the health of the ecosystems are sustained. The pressures are rapidly increasing and Maine is in a position to be able to preserve and protect the quality of our coastal ecosystems while balancing the opportunities that these areas have for economic activity. **We wish to express the urgency of the need for effective management of our coastal resources in a regional context and the need for our existing governance structures to think progressively about** how to be adaptive and innovative to address these challenges.

3. The long term need for effective management is to **build the capacity to predict and intercept environmental changes in the marine environment** related to issues such as: habitat change, harmful algal blooms, water quality, social pressures, changing and emerging uses, cumulative impacts and economic issues and others. This will require creativity in bringing both governmental and non-governmental assets to bear in providing the information-gathering and data management capacities. The state needs to commit to this principle and begin building a strategic direction that will realize this capacity and sustain it for generations to come.
4. The steering committee recognizes the challenges with government funding for these kinds of programs. It is obvious that our state, and indeed our nation, needs to invest more government funding in the agencies responsible for monitoring the quality of our coastal ecosystems and conducting the research needed to develop new approaches to management. However, growth in these areas should not take place at the expense of the existing critical programs and staffing levels in the related agencies. **Funding for the proposed recommendations and coastal natural resources management needs to be sustained and even increased to meet these needs. The cost to the people of Maine for not investing in these ideas will far exceed the modest funds suggested at this time.**
5. The steering committee understands that all of the agencies represented by the L&WRC have been apprised of this study and we assume that all of these agencies will accept some responsibility in the implementation of the recommendations of this report. Although it may seem that the majority of existing jurisdiction associated with these recommendations falls within the mission of the Department of Marine Resources, we urge the members of other agencies to realize that many of these issues will require some new paradigms in how governance takes place. A more holistic, inter-disciplinary, collaborative approach will result in better governance and ultimately more sustainable environmental quality and economic viability. Since there is no other formal body for implementing these kinds of inter-agency approaches, **we strongly urge that the L&WRC take an active role in the implementation of these recommendations and agency follow-through of this report's recommendations.** The State Planning Office, via the work of the Maine Coastal Program, has played a critical role in this study and they have offered to play an integral role in the

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implementation of many of the recommendations being proposed. The steering committee applauds the commitment of the Maine Coastal Program in this regard, but cautions the regulatory agencies of the L&WRC not to rely too heavily on the Coastal Program and to take appropriate responsibility in the implementation of these recommendations.

6. **The steering committee suggests that an Executive Order from the Office of the Governor may be an appropriate tactic for highlighting the importance of the issues and expediting the implementation of the report recommendations.** We would be glad to work with you to develop appropriate language for such an executive order if you agree with this approach.