Science Advisory Board Research Coordination Committee



September 9, 2019 11:30-1:00 EDT Phone: 877-413-4781

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Conference Call

Attendees:

Debbie Lee, Gavin Christie, Erich Emery, Kathy McKague, Michael Twiss, Sandy Eberts, Tom Speth, Val Klump, Yves Michaud

Lizhu Wang, Matthew Child, Rob Phillip, Victor Service

Call Summary:

- 1. Roll call and approval of draft agenda
 - No change to the draft agenda.

2. Projects update

- Connecting channel
 - Had a workgroup call two days ago; received a draft report that has all the major components; workgroup will provide comments by September 13.
 - Had an interest discussion on shipping accidents on the connecting channels, which have not been heard very often. This may be included in the report where appropriate in addition to the planned report items.
 - Plan to apply a no-cost extension for the contract due to the delay resulted from the U.S. government shut-down.
 - Does not plan to provide a final report by the October Semi-Annual Meeting.
- Great Lakes nutrient adaptive management
 - The final report has been submitted the September IJC Executive Meeting to be approved by the Commissioners.
 - There is a communication plan to be followed.
 - RCC supports to have a webinar with Commissioners after the Semi-Annual Meeting.
- Great Lakes early warning system
 - The core team of workgroup is working on the workgroup report, with a deadline of September 30th. After that, the report will be sent to the large workgroup for input.
 - The target to have a complete draft report is by the Semi-Annual Meeting to be distributed for SAB review.
 - The workgroup is planning to have a 2nd phase study for this project.
 - The report will not be ready for requesting approval of Commissioners until early 2020.

- Great Lakes science plan
 - The work plan was approved during the July IJC Executive Meeting.
 - SOW was developed and submitted to the IJC U.S. Section office at the end of July.
 - Presently, the SOW is sitting in the Department of State for processing and announcement. The plan is to complete the contract by the end of September.
 - There are two separate requests from the U.S. Congressional Budget office. One asks the USGS to identify the need for an Integrated Great Lakes Science Plan. The other one asks the Office of Science and Technology Policy to evaluate current large lake fleet capabilities.
 - Val and Debbie were asked to provide information to both.
 - To distinguish from these efforts, it is suggested that SAB's work may need to focus on funding sources.
 - Li will resend the list of potential bidders to the RCC.
 - If anyone who is not on and would like to be on the workgroup, please let Li know.
- 3. Review of June 2019 advisory board priority setting
 - Reaction and future priorities
 - Gavin provided a summary of the Study Board workshop and the report.
 - The report has been provided to the commissioners.
 - Future priorities will be from boards themselves, public comments, and Commissioners. Hopefully, we will know more about this by the Semi-Annual Meeting.

4. RCC and SAB meeting

- Agenda items (RCC meeting and Joint RCC/SPC meeting)
 - Great Lakes science priorities needs to take into account of the RCC's projects, the USGS' identification of the need for an Integrated Great Lakes Science Plan effort, and the effort of the Office of Science and Technology Policy in evaluation of current large lake fleet capabilities.
 - Update on current projects.
 - Provide more details at joint meeting on GLEWS and Connecting Channel projects.
 - Discussion on communication plan.
- Board appearance
 - Introduction on board members.
 - Introduction on projects.
 - Spend more time on priorities.
- 5. Comment on Parties' draft Priorities for Science and Action
 - The Parties sent request of public comments on the draft Priorities for Science and Action on August 1st with a deadline of September 30th.

- Dave Burden has asked the GLEC Co-chairs to extend the deadline to October after IJC Executive Meeting and GLEC Co-chairs have agreed to extend the deadline to late October.
- RCC agreed to provide input jointly with SPC with a deadline of October 2nd.
 - Kathy signed up for all Annexes, except 6, 7, and 8
 - Sandy signed up for Annexes 4 and 8
 - Debbie signed up for Annexes 4 and 9
 - Val signed up for Annexes 4 and 10
 - Li will send the table and request more members to sign up (Done on Sep 24th).

6. Other business

- RCC and SAB in-person meetings are on October 23 (RCC am & SAB pm) and RCC Board appearance is on October 24 (am). Make hotel reservation (The Cartier Suites Hotel) at 1-800-236-8399 and mention IJC (no electronic link and only can be done by phone). Hotel reservations deadline September 20, 2019.
- Li will send the IJC board communication training workshop information in case anyone is interested.
- Next call December (no date is selected).