

WCMAC Technical Committee Update

July 9, 2014

The Technical Committee has met 2 times (via phone) since the April WCMAC meeting. The meetings focus on providing input on desired outcomes and deliverables on projects. The majority of the Technical Committee's time in the past quarter has focused on identifying desired information regarding coastal renewable energy.

Renewable Energy Information Needs

- The Technical Committee discussed the information they would like to obtain regarding marine renewable energy.
- As a first step, the Technical Committee decided to prepare a survey asking WCMAC members to identify their primary questions or information needs regarding renewable energy.
- Based on initial Technical Committee discussions at the May meeting, staff developed a draft survey. The Technical Committee reviewed the draft survey at the June meeting and suggested revisions.
- The final survey was distributed to WCMAC members in mid-June and will close on July 11.
- To address the priority information needs identified in the survey, staff will work with the Technical Committee to develop information on renewable energy.
- Survey respondents will provide input by prioritizing workshops, webinars, briefing reports/ fact sheets, WCMAC presentations or brochures as the desired mechanism for receiving information.

Coast-Wide Economic Assessment

- The RFP has been issued. Responses are due at the end of July.
- The RFP includes a two-part process: The first part will be a scoping process to determine the best approaches and methodologies. The Technical Committee will be involved in refining the scope and budget for the deliverables during the scoping process. The second part is completing the work that is agreed to during the scoping process.
- The RFP allocates \$30,000 to the scoping process; there are no budget caps on the actual economic assessment. The cost allocations and deliverables will be determined during the scoping process.
- Garrett is serving as a WCMAC representative on the consultant selection committee

Other Projects

The Technical Committee receives regular updates on the status of ongoing technical studies, including:

- Sector analyses
- Ecosystem Assessment and Indicators
- Seabird and Marine Mammal Ecosystem Modeling
- Seafloor Mapping