BOFEP Tidal Barriers/Salt Marsh Working Group Inaugural Meeting, March 16, 2001, Sackville, NB Action Priorities for Next Meeting

ACTION PRIORITIES FOR NEXT MEETING

A list of 17 issues/action items (see below) was prioritized by the participants and the two items that received the most "votes" were selected for immediate action. Other activities that are in progress already were also identified. Remaining issues are still "on the table" to be considered by the working group as appropriate.

Top Two Priority Action Items

Committees are to be struck for each action item. The leaders are explicitly identified, as well as those who "voted" for these items. However, anyone interested in the topic is requested to participate in the committee. Announcements of committee meetings or other solicitation of input should be circulated to the entire working group.

1. Research and monitoring needs (see #14 in summary below). Leaders -Peter Wells and Danika van Proosdij. Other "voters" - Claude Robichaud, Jean-Guy Deveau, Pete Hicklin, Denis Hache, Andrea Locke, Steve Tinker. Related issues: #1, #4, #6, #7, #16.

2. How to "value" coastal/estuarine/wetland landscapes and ecosystems in building a case for protection/restoration (ie. economic valuation): Leader - Denis Haché. Other "voters" - Peter McLaughlin, Kim Hughes, Andrea Locke, Steve Tinker, Jon Percy, Janice Harvey, Claude Robichaud, Eric Hundert (Environment Canada, not present, volunteered by Peter Wells). Related issue: #17. Committee work plan for next meeting (early June):

ommittee work plan for next meeting (early June):

a) Develop terms of reference for the committee.

b) Write a description of the issue/problem the committee will address (a bit of substantive content).

c) Develop proposed direction or agenda for the BOFEP Working Group on this issue. (The committee could be the means by which the agenda is carried out, but not necessarily.) Other Actions Ongoing or In Progress

These are actions that are either necessary or ongoing, and relate to or compliment the interests of the Working Group. Numbers 4, 5, 6 and 9 will be completed by the next Working Group meeting.

d) Methodology and goals for 2001 tidal barriers audit in Nova Scotia (Hants County) and New Brunswick (Memramcook Estuary and Cumberland Basin): Kim Hughes, Helene Dupuis, Tony Bowron (leader), Jeff Ollerhead, Jean-Guy Deveau, Janice Harvey.

e) Scope and mandate of working group (consider the merger with salt marsh group); definitions; new name?: Peter Wells, Jon Percy

f) Gulf of Maine Council Five-Year Action Plan - window of opportunity?: Peter Wells, Kim Hughes, Lee Swanson (volunteered by Sue Bowes), Pete Hicklin, Andrew McGinnis, Al Hanson (these people are already involved in the Gulf of Maine Council process). Everyone was encouraged to visit the Council's website to comment on the draft action plan with respect to tidal barriers: www.gulfofmaine.org.

g) Dyke/aboiteaux repair and maintenance - restoration opportunities; attention to sea level rise and changing coastal conditions: This is the ongoing responsibility of the Dept. of Agriculture. We may have an opportunity to contribute to this process. Leader - Claude Robichaud.

h) Inner Bay of Fundy salmon decline: Is this being taken on by DFO under the auspices of the Species at Risk Act (SARA)?

i) Funding opportunities: Leader - Daniel LeBlanc. Daniel will bring something to the next meeting.

Summary of Issues/Actions and Interested People

3. Methodology and goals for 2001 tidal barriers audit in Nova Scotia (Hants County) and New Brunswick (Memramcook Estuary and Cumberland Basin): Kim Hughes, Helene Dupuis, Tony Bowron (leader), Jeff Ollerhead, Jean-Guy Deveau, Janice Harvey.

4. Wetland transformation; fresh to salt; dykeland to fresh or salt - values and trade-offs: Jon Percy, Peter McLaughlin, Jean-Guy Deveau, Al Hanson, Andrew McGinnis, Claude Robichaud.

5. Lessons of the Petitcodiac causeway for the Windsor causeway. (no takers)

6. How many reports are enough? - identify real science needs; issue of literature access: this issue will be rolled into the science/research action (#14).

7. Scope and mandate of working group (consider the merger with salt marsh group); definitions; new name?: Peter Wells, Jon Percy

8. Role of anecdotal information in understanding baseline conditions: (no takers; could be considered by science/research group #14)

9. "Predictability" - difficulty in establishing reliable predictions of success or problems with restoration projects: Tony Bowron, Jeff Ollerhead; could be considered by science/research group (#14)

10. Federal-Provincial Tidal Barriers Accord - useful, practical?: (no takers - could be considered in Policy Gaps, #12)

11. Gulf of Maine Council Five-Year Action Plan - window of opportunity?: Peter Wells, Kim Hughes, Lee Swanson (volunteered by Sue Bowes), Pete Hicklin, Andrew McGinnis, Al Hanson (these people are already involved in the Gulf of Maine Council process). Eeveryone was encouraged to visit the Council's website to comment on the draft action plan with respect to tidal barriers: www.gulfofmaine.org.

12. How to "value" coastal/estuarine/wetland landscapes and ecosystems in building a case for protection/restoration (ie. economic valuation): Peter McLaughlin, Denis Hache (leader), Kim Hughes, Andrea Locke, Steve Tinker, Jon Percy, Janice Harvey, Claude Robichaud, Eric Hundert (Environment Canada, not present, volunteered by Peter Wells).

13. Dyke/aboiteaux repair and maintenance - restoration opportunities; attention to sea level rise and changing coastal conditions: Claude Robichaud, Al Hanson, Danika van Proosdij, Daniel LeBlanc.

14. Policy gaps - "no flood tolerance " developments on dykelands; NB Coastal Lands policy; etc. (could also include Tidal Barriers Accord - see #8): Sue Bowes, Helene Dupuis, Andrew McGinnis, Janice Harvey.

15. Inner Bay of Fundy salmon decline: Is this being taken on by DFO under the auspices of the Species at Risk Act (SARA)?

16. Research and monitoring needs - case sites; increase predictability; see also #1, #6, #7, #14: Peter Wells, Steve Tinker, Danika van Proosdij, Claude Robichaud, Jean-Guy Deveau, Pete Hicklin, Denis Hache, Andrea Locke.

17. Funding opportunities: Daniel LeBlanc, Tony Bowron, Helene Dupuis. (Daniel will bring something to the next meeting.)

18. Baseline information: how good is it; access issues; data formats. Could be considered as part of #14: Danika van Proosdij, Claude Robichaud, Sue Bowes, Jeff Ollerhead, Al Hanson.

19. Communications: Peter Wells, Peter Hicklin, Peter McLaughlin, Steve Tinker, Daniel LeBlanc, Danika van Proosdij.