**GOM 2050 Symposium, November 2019**

A Gulf of Maine 2050 International Symposium – Challenges and Opportunities for Regional Resilience - is being planned for November 4-8, 2019, to be held in Portland, ME. Attached is the poster presented at the recent RARGOM Marine Science meeting on this event. BoFEP (pgw) attended the planning meeting on October 25th, in Portland, ahead of the RARGOM meeting, as well as an earlier conference call, to see how we as a long standing Bay of Fundy organization could assist with the planning, content and deliverables of the conference.

There have been several conferences on the GOM/BofF in recent years (e.g., the Tides of Change conference of 2004, the 2009 symposium in St. Andrews, etc.), besides the 12 Bay of Fundy Biennial Science Workshops since 1997, and numerous RARGOM conferences and GOMC and BoFEP sponsored meetings targeting specific topics.

This symposium may be different. It is focused on understanding the primary drivers of climate change and the significance to the GOM/BofF ecosystem such as warming waters, sea level rise and ocean acidification. The gulf is one of the ocean areas undergoing rapid warming, with ramifications for ocean productivity, presence and migration of species, contribution to more intense storms, more severe toxic algal blooms, etc. There will be a planning workshop in St. Andrews in April, 2019, to develop strategic scenario papers for the conference itself; these are intended to “provide strategic insight about how potential changes related to climate and other factors could impact the Gulf of Maine environmental, community and economic conditions over the next 30 years” (Ref: the poster)..

This note is to bring people’s attention to this upcoming event and determine their interest in participating. ACTION: If BoFEP wishes to participate and help make this event a success, we need to identify one or more people from our Steering Committee to be the representatives to the planning committee. Also to be considered is whether we help as a paying sponsor or not. A decision is needed as soon as possible. The primary contact is Andrew Pershing at apershing@gmri.org.

Peter Wells, Nov. 10, 2018.

Attachment: the GOM 2050 International Symposium poster.