

R&D and Environmental Advisory Committee

Meeting notes from January 27, 2017

Meeting started at 9am

1) Attendees

Mike Stekoll – chair

Cynthia Pring-Ham

Bob Foy

Eric Wyatt

Kate Sullivan

Jeff Hetrick

Absent

Ginny Eckert

Keith Criddle

Carter Newell

2) Agenda was not altered too much.

3) Next Meeting was set to be February 10, 9-10 AM AST.

4) Review of progress

Mike: Do we want to finish these documents?

Eric: All of these issues still exist. In addition, we need to know why progress was not made on most of them. How do we move forward on these issues?

Cynthia: can we prioritize the list?

Mike: will try to run herd on getting these documents completed.

Eric: with respect to priorities, can one person even do this? There is the issue of overlaps or intersections of these issues. For example, the need for seed security overlaps with ocean acidification so how can one have priority over the other? The big issue is availability of funding and the sources of those funds.

Bob: Favors moving forward with the spreadsheet and create a list of short term and long term goals. Then come up with a recommendation how to get there. Perhaps a shotgun approach to address the goals or maybe a more focused approach.

Jeff: We need to identify research priorities for some research.

Cynthia: Create a word doc for brainstorming ideas for outcomes of our committee that we would each like to see done. All of our own ideas, that is, the priorities each of us would like to see.

Mike: will set that up, starting with his idea for a mariculture research center (MRC).

Eric: how will we group the R&D ideas?

Jeff: the Alutiiq hatchery has a research component to do what an MRC should do. They have been doing research with a board to determine research priorities. Or at least it was set up that way, but the oversight board has never functioned as envisioned. Originally ADF&G was supposed to run the hatchery, but backed away. He still thinks the hatchery could carry out many of the functions of an MRC, and also other entities in the state. He sees no need for a brick and mortar MRC, since there are lots of labs in the state.

What is needed is to expand the customer base that would help to direct the research.

Eric: Oceans Alaska was modeled after a research center, with an advisory board. Thought maybe an over-arching group that is not so regional could do the advising.

Jeff: The state should be running the mariculture technical center.

Kate: Something keeps us from checking things off the list. Her experience was that the University was not that interested in being involved with mariculture with some actively opposed to it.

Maine has applied research centers, some affiliated with NOAA and/or universities. Stable funding is needed to keep something like this going. Need a neutral guiding groups that is stable.

With respect to what should go on the MTF website.

Cynthia: put it all out there

Mike: meeting agenda and notes for now

Eric: what will be our products? How to get to the 1 billion dollar goal? We need to set up some way to get to the goals and priorities. Define the product.

Meeting adjourned at 10 am.

-Mike Stekoll