



Long Island Sound Study
Water Quality Monitoring Workgroup Phone Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2016

Participants:

Jim Ammerman (Chair)-LISS/NEIWPCC
Richard Friesner-NEIWPCC
Lorraine Holdridge-NYSDEC
Robin Jazxhi-IEC/NEIWPCC
Matt Lyman-CT DEEP
Jon Morrison-USGS
Jim O'Donnell-University of Connecticut

1. The meeting started with a discussion of an RFP for data analysis that IEC hopes to release by September 30. Robin Jazxhi of IEC described their goals in response to questions. IEC has collected 25 years of data in Western Long Island Sound and would like to have it synthesized for both technical and public outreach uses. Approximately \$50k-\$60k will be available for this RFP, which will be directed at academic institutions, engineering consulting firms, and perhaps other groups. There was considerable discussion about including related environmental data (winds, tides, etc.) in the analysis, as well as possibly assembling a workgroup panel to both review the RFP and applications to it. Robin will provide the workgroup with more details about the RFP as soon as they are available.
2. There was a brief update by Robin Jazxhi and Matt Lyman about the ongoing integration of IEC and CT DEEP monitoring data and reporting. They noted that during the summer monitoring season progress has been limited, but that the effort would increase in the fall.
3. Matt Lyman of CT DEEP described how the FIRE instrument, which measures phytoplankton photosynthetic efficiency, has been used on CT DEEP monitoring cruises for the last two years. Judy Li of the NOAA Milford lab presented a progress report on the project at the July 2016 LISS Management Committee meeting and a copy of her presentation was provided to the workgroup prior to this meeting. The information presented supports the idea that phytoplankton are nitrogen-limited in the Sound, particularly in the summer. Considerable additional effort would be required to generate productivity information from the instrument, and Jim Ammerman mentioned the concerns of one of his colleagues who has considerable experience with it. Jim O'Donnell stated that Senjie Lin at the University of Connecticut has an *in situ* version of the FIRE instrument which might be possible to use. Further scientific discussion of this instrument and its future use in the monitoring program is required.
4. The workgroup also discussed the definitions of the different Long Island Sound Basins as used for water quality and other reporting. Jim Ammerman described his efforts to come up with standard boundaries and prior to the meeting provided the workgroup with the definitions as used by Bill Dennison (University of Maryland) and Save the Sound in developing their Long Island Sound Report Card. Apparently he discussed these boundaries at a joint meet of the STAC and CAC in 2014. The boundaries used by CT DEEP and LISS are very similar except in the Narrows portion of the Western Sound. Matt Lyman noted that CT DEEP's boundaries reflect bathymetric features but do not have specific GIS lines in terms of latitude and longitude. Jim will discuss this further with CT DEEP when he visits Hartford in late September.
5. Robin Jazxhi noted that IEC was planning to add some additional measurements of nearshore pathogens and diurnal dissolved oxygen fluctuations next year once the QAPP is approved. These would be near the Whitestone and Throgs Neck bridges at current sampling Stations A1



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and A2M.