



# Minutes of Meeting

**DATE:** August 31, 2015  
**MMI #:** 2733-14  
**PROJECT:** Regional Framework for Coastal Resilience in Southern Connecticut

**SUBJECT:** Minutes of Project Update Meeting

**LOCATION:** SCRCOG Offices, 127 Washington Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor West, North Haven CT

**ATTENDEES:**

David Anderson, Town of Madison	Steve Johnson, City of Milford	MaryRose Palumbo, City of Milford
John Casey, Town of Stratford	Maryellen Lemay, GBRC CTAC	Janice Plaziak, Town of Branford
Kevin Deneault, TNC	Eugene Livshits, SCRCOG	Kristen Ponak, GEI
Peter Francis, DEEP OLISP	Meg McGaffin, City of Milford	Laura Pulie, Town of Fairfield
Rebecca French, CIRCA	David Murphy, Milone & MacBroom	Chris Saley, City of Milford
Matt Fulda, GBRC	Marty McHugh, NFWF	Abdul Quadir, City of West Haven
Donna Hall, City of New Haven	Carly Myers, Milone & MacBroom	Donald Watson
		Adam Whelchel, TNC

Eugene Livshits welcomed the attendees to the project update meeting. David Murphy reviewed the scope, schedule, and initial findings of the project, utilizing a power point slide show as the basis for the presentation. Kevin Deneault described the non-tidal/inland resilience project compilation that he was undertaking. Carly Myers briefly presented the GIS of resilience projects and Kristen Ponak briefly presented the ArcGIS Online tool that was being developed. Ultimately, the two GIS products will be merged or transferred over to the Sea Sketch application.

After the consultant presentation, Marty McHugh from NFWF provided the organization's perspective and experience with other projects they have funded. He explained the importance of ecosystem benefits, social benefits, and economic benefits when evaluating project benefits and costs. These will be key considerations over the next 12 months of planning.

Discussion topics were raised by attendees and included the following:

- Don Watson inquired whether sea level rise and future conditions were going to be incorporated into the GIS database and decision support system. He noted that the federal flood risk standards would require a higher level of thinking relative to projects that are being funded by the government. Agency policies such as those of the Army Corps of Engineers and Connecticut DEEP could also be incorporated. Attendees noted, however, that this project is an example of an effort that will help guide new policies. Don Watson also recommended that threats to water quality from nearby land uses and activities should be incorporated into the decision support system being developed.
- Janice Plaziak recommended that 100-year and 500-year flood levels could also be helpful in the GIS. Meghan McGaffin noted that flood depths could be calculated via GIS and incorporated, as well. David



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Murphy noted that there were many types of data that could be added and the GIS was a work in progress with opportunities to add to the database.

At the end of the meeting, Adam Welchel described the process of moving from Component #1 to Component #2. David Murphy reminded attendees to send additional inland green infrastructure and resilience ideas to Kevin, and informed attendees that meeting notes and field reconnaissance notes would be circulated again to provide municipalities a chance to offer edits. Subsequent to the circulation of meeting notes, images from the GIS will be circulated for municipal comments. Finally, the opportunity assessment memos for each municipality will be circulated for comments.