

Report on the Responsibilities and Work Plan of the SRSF Research Coordinator

As decided at the SRSF Steering Committee meeting of October 24, 2000, the Research Coordinator would meet with the community partners to develop a work plan that would meet their needs and those of the project in general within the 20% time availability of the Coordinator. It was also decided that Chris Milley would take the lead on the Steering Committee in working out the details.

Between October 25 and November 23, 2000, the Research Coordinator met with Chris Milley and Kerry Prosper (MFWC), Kay Wallace (GNSBFA), Ginny Boudreau and Pat Rhynold (GCIFA), and Terry Farnsworth, Hubert Saulnier, and Arthur Bull (FFGC). In addition to discussing work in progress, the meetings focused on developing a work plan for the Research Coordinator that could meet the needs of each group. Based on these discussions, it is proposed that the Research Coordinator would take a primary role in assisting the community partners in the following ways:

1. Assist in the development of research objectives, priorities, and design,
2. Participate as a resource person in association/community meetings related to SRSF research activities,
3. Monitor research activities,
4. Review and edit research documents and research proposals,
5. Identify, in cooperation with the Project Director, other university researchers who could assist or enter into collaboration with the community partners, and
6. Facilitate information sharing between community partners by means of the listserv, meetings, and the exchange of documents.

The Research Coordinator would work closely with the Project Officer in the conduct of these responsibilities and would remain in close contact with community partners through:

1. A weekly telephone call to each Community Research Coordinator (CRC) to discuss current progress, issues, and questions,
2. Exchange of emails to review documents and follow-up on telephone calls, and
3. A minimum of one on-site visit with the CRC per month or more frequently as determined through the weekly telephone conversation.

The Research Coordinator would prepare a weekly report of activities and forward these to the Research Director and Project Officer at the end of each week. The reports would also be forwarded to the members of the Steering Committee several days before each Steering Committee meeting or more frequently upon request.

The Project Director, Research Coordinator, and Project Officer would meet to plan and coordinate SRSF activities at least once per month or more frequently as required.

In the short term, the work of the Research Coordinator will focus on assisting:

1. The Fundy Fixed Gear Council to clarify research priorities and to provide advice in the hiring and training of a CRC,
2. Kay Wallace, CRC for the Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association, to prepare a background document on the history, accomplishments, and current efforts of their organization,
3. Ginny Boudreau, CRC for the Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association, in the assembly and organization of documents and data collected to date, data entry, and data analysis related to lobster, groundfish, and snow crab fisheries,
4. Kerry Prosper, CRC for the Mi'kmaq Fish and Wildlife Commission, in the completion of a background paper on the historical importance and cultural dimensions of the eel fishery and their implications for current management approaches.

At the same time, the Research Coordinator will work with each of the partner organizations in further developing and clarify research objectives, priorities, and needs in preparation for the workshop to be held in January 2001.