

SPAC Habitat Monitoring and Long-Term Maintenance Subcommittee
March 21, 2024
Meeting Minutes
via Microsoft Teams 10 AM

In Attendance:

John O'Meara, Chair, Detroit/Rouge River AOCs
Mikela Dean, Clinton River AOC
Tricia Blicharski, Detroit River AOC
McKenzi Waliczek, Detroit River AOC
Doug McLaughlin, Kalamazoo River AOC
Bill Craig, Rouge River AOC
Sally Petrella, Rouge River AOC
Paulette Duhaime, St. Clair River AOC
Lynnea McFadden, St. Clair River AOC
Jen Tewkesbury, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)
Kimberly Passick, EGLE

New Chair for Subcommittee

Bill Craig stepped down as chair of the subcommittee in 2023. John O'Meara will now be serving as the chair. He has worked in restoration for the past 35 years mainly in southeast Michigan.

Depository of Habitat Project Maintenance Information

This was proposed at a previous meeting and there had been some discussion, but no decision was made. There was agreement to check into ways to accomplish this. Jen will look into the possibility of placing them on the SPAC site or other resources. John will look into having it be hosted by one of the PACs.

The depository would consist of information relating to the performance of restoration sites after completion.

Post-Completion Projects

Once a project is completed and the site has been turned back over to the property owner, what happens next? Projects are to be monitored for five years after completion but there seems to be a gap from construction completion to that five year mark. Now that implementation grants are five years in length, some amount of monitoring and maintenance could be covered which would assist landowners and contribute to long-term success of the site.

John shared an example of some of the information that could be placed into the depository. It was a maintenance and monitoring plan for a vegetative project.

After seeing the example shared, there was some positive response to the prospect of

sharing information and have ready access to it.

Follow-up Items

- John and Jen will look into solutions for the depository and keep group apprised.
- Participants should consider what, if any, items they have that would be good additions to this depository.

Meeting ended at 10:36 AM

Next meeting will be set by Doodle poll, likely on a quarterly basis.