

MARI MONITORING Web/Phone CONFERENCE

*4 – 5 pm
July 17, 2013*

Why Monitor Artificial Reefs?

- To evaluate the performance of artificial reef projects.
- To improve future projects and target them to where they will provide the greatest benefit.
- To collect data that support permit renewal and funding requests.

Why Action is Needed

- Monitoring is required by the terms of the 2007 Artificial Reef Management Plan.
- DNR is the permit holder and is responsible for ensuring compliance with the plan for building artificial reefs in public waters.
- No scientific surveys have been done.
- It would be irresponsible for DNR and ARC to ignore the fact that there is no monitoring plan in place.

Suggested Action (2013-2014)

- DNR has the technical expertise to develop a monitoring plan in cooperation with ARC.
- DNR recommends the October 2013 ARC meeting include a discussion focused on identifying the elements of a monitoring plan.
- Design and development can begin following the October 2013 ARC meeting with a target for initiation in Summer 2014.

Suggested Action (2013)

- Conduct a pilot study to provide fishing success data.
- Enlist avid anglers to join in a well-defined study from September – October 2013.
- This pilot will test the volunteer angler concept for artificial reef monitoring.

2013 MARI Monitoring Survey

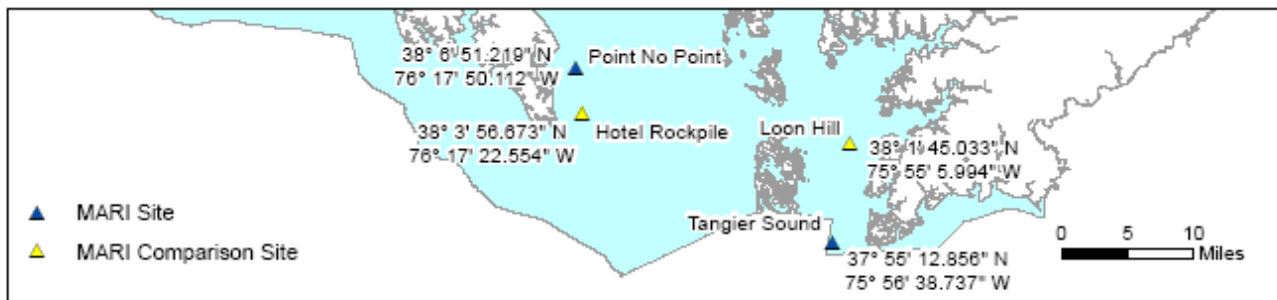
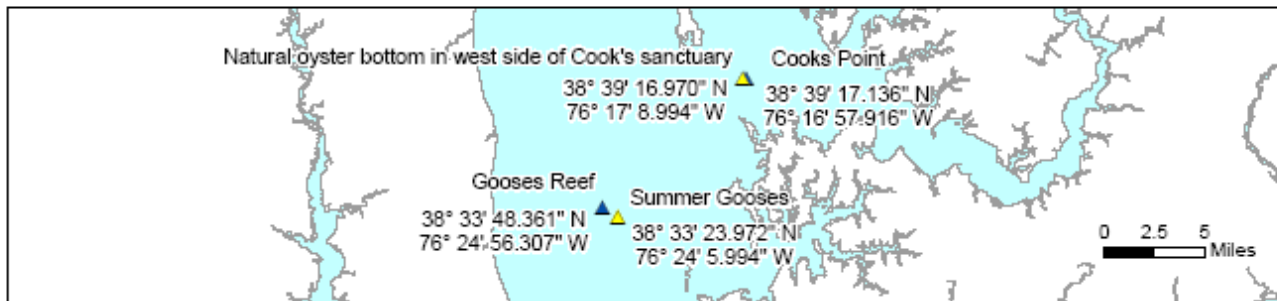
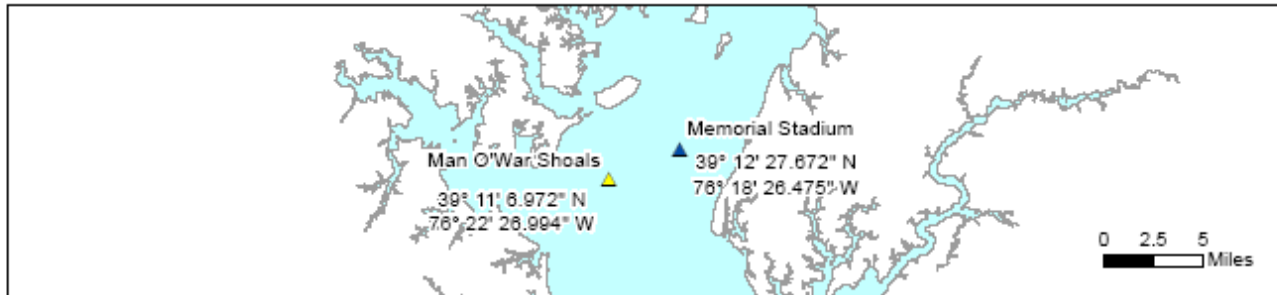
Collect data from 5 reefs and 5 companion sites
over September-October 2013 to assess:

Fishing Success
Species Diversity
Fish Lengths
Angler Participation
Data Validity
Survey Costs

Angler Log Page

| SITE | Tangier Sound | | | Cooks Point | | | Memorial Stadium | | | Gooses | | | Point No Point | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------|-------------|------------------|------------|----------|----------------------|------------------|------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|----------|-------------|
| | Loon Hill | | | Cook's Sanctuary | | | Man O' War Shoals | | | Summer Gooses | | | Hotel Rockpile | | |
| DATE | TIME AT SITE | | | | | | TOTAL SPECIES CAUGHT | | | | | | | | |
| TARGET SPECIES | BLACK SEA BASS | BLUEFISH | CHANNEL CAT | CROAKER | BLACK DRUM | RED DRUM | SHEEPS HEAD | SPANISH MACKEREL | SPOT | SPOTTED SEATRUT | STRIPED BASS | SUMMER FLOUNDER | TAUTOG | WEAKFISH | WHITE PERCH |
| LENGTH 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LENGTH 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LENGTH 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LENGTH 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LENGTH 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LENGTH 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LENGTH 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LENGTH 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LENGTH 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LENGTH 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL KEPT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL RELEASED | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Study Sites



This Survey Will Not Provide:

Habitat Information

Fish Production Data

Fish Aggregation Data

Timeline

| | |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| July | print logbooks, solicit volunteers |
| August | train volunteers |
| Sep/Oct | data collection |
| Nov | data entry |
| Dec | develop report |
| Jan | present results |

ARC Feedback Requested:

Move forward with the pilot study?

Reimburse DNR for printing costs?