



**EBC Ocean and Coastal Resources Program  
The Northeast Ocean Data Portal: Supporting Ocean Policy and Planning**

Friday, March 22, 2019

Pierce Atwood LLP | Boston, MA

**AGENDA**

- 8:00 a.m.**     **Welcome – Payson R. Whitney, III, P.E.,**  
                                Chair, EBC Ocean & Coastal Resources Committee  
                                Vice President, Water & Coastal Engineering, ESS Group, Inc.
- Welcome to Pierce Atwood, LLP – Michelle O'Brien, Partner**
- Program Purpose – What You Will Learn**
- Kelly Knee, Program Chair and Moderator  
    Executive Director, RPS Ocean Science
- 8:15 a.m.**     **Introduction to the Northeast Ocean Data Portal**
- Nick Napoli, Ocean Planning Director, Northeast Regional Ocean Council
- 8:30 a.m.**     **Overview of the Northeast Regional Ocean Council and the Northeast Ocean Plan**
- Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Management Bureau  
    New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
- 8:45 a.m.**     **Summary of Executive Order 13840 “Ocean Policy to Advance the Economic, Security, and Environmental Interests of the United States”**
- Deerin Babb-Brott, Principal Assistant Director  
    White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
- 9:15 a.m.**     **Portal Demonstration and Overview**
- Emily Shumchenia, Ph.D., Ocean Planning Support Scientist  
    Northeast Regional Ocean Council
- 10:00 a.m.**    **Networking Break**
- 10:30 a.m.**    **Case Study – Portal Use: Dredge Material Disposal Siting and Planning**
- Ivy Mlsna, Biologist, New England Ocean and Coastal Protection Unit, US EPA
- 10:45 a.m.**    **Case Study – Portal Use: Offshore Wind Siting and Planning**
- Nick Napoli, Northeast Regional Ocean Council
  - Emily Shumchenia, Northeast Regional Ocean Council

**11:00 a.m. Panel Discussion**

**Panel Moderator:** Kelly Knee, RPS Ocean Science

**Panel Members:**

- Deerin Babb-Brott, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
- Ted Diers, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
- Ivy Mlsna, New England Ocean and Coastal Protection Unit, US EPA
- Nick Napoli, Northeast Regional Ocean Council
- Emily Shumchenia, Northeast Regional Ocean Council

**11:30 a.m. Optional One-One Training for Participants on Particular Issues**

**12:00 p.m. Adjourn**

**PROGRAM CHAIR**

**Kelly Knee**, Executive Director, Ocean Science  
RPS Ocean Science  
Kelly.Knee@rpsgroup.com

Ms. Knee is an engineer and data management specialist with RPS ASA and currently serves as the technical director. She has a broad engineering and scientific background but has specialized in coastal flooding issues for almost 15 years. Over her 13 years at ASA she has completed numerous coastal flooding and vulnerability studies both nationally and internationally.

In addition to her focus on coastal issues, Ms. Knee has also has more than 13 years of experience in GIS, modeling, software development, ocean observing, and data management and communication. She currently manages numerous complex data management, distribution, and visualization projects for NOAA, the USACE, and NROC. Prior to joining ASA in 2004 she used a Fulbright Fellowship to study the impacts of sea level rise and storm surge flooding in the country of Mauritius by integrating GIS and systems engineering models.

**SPEAKERS**

**Deerin Babb-Brott**, Principal Assistant Director  
White House Office of Science and Technology Policy  
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Deerin Babb-Brott is the Principal Assistant Director for Oceans and Environment at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. He also serves as the Executive Director of the Ocean Policy Committee, established by Executive Order 13840 to coordinate Federal agency engagement in ocean policy matters. Deerin previously served as the first Director of the National Ocean Council and led development of the final U.S. National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan. Between terms at the White House, he was a senior partner at SeaPlan, where he provided technical and policy support for public and private sector ocean and coastal management initiatives. Previously, Deerin was Assistant Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Zone Management in Massachusetts, where he directed the state coastal program. He also served as Assistant Secretary for

Environmental Impact Review in Massachusetts, where he managed the review of development projects, including major marine infrastructure. Deerin received a B.A. in Government and Environmental Studies from Bowdoin College.

**Ted Diers**, Administrator, Watershed Management Bureau  
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services  
ted.diers@des.nh.gov

Ted Diers is the Administrator of the Watershed Management Bureau (WMB) of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. The WMB includes 20 programs dedicated to achieving Clean Water Act goals, integrating science, data, policy, land use and education to improve the condition of the state's lakes, rivers, wetlands and tidal waters. He previously served as manager of the NH Coastal Program, the state's coastal zone management program. Over the past 22 years, he has focused his work on state and federal ocean policy, salt marsh and river restoration projects, assisting in revisions of state regulations, managing controversial and diverse issues, and facilitating numerous planning efforts. He received his BA in Economics and Political Science from Ripon College. He also earned a Masters Degree from the Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

**Ivy Mlsna**, Biologist  
US Environmental Protection Agency, New England Ocean and Coastal Protection Unit  
Mlsna.Ivy@epa.gov

Ivy is an environmental scientist with a strong interest in coastal resilience. She has been with the agency for 5 years, working predominately in the ocean and coastal programs. Ivy was initially hired as a contractor to support ocean planning efforts, and has helped with meeting planning, internal Data Portal training, as well as the development of the Restoration theme in the Portal. She has since been hired by the agency into the water quality unit, where she works on water quality standards, TMDL review, and 303(d) list approvals – though she still gets to spend some time working on coastal resilience issues with the ocean and coastal protection unit. Ivy received a B.S. in marine biology from the University of Rhode Island, as well as an M.S. in environmental policy and planning from Tufts University.

**Nick Napoli**, Ocean Planning Director  
Northeast Regional Ocean Council  
nnapoli@northeastoceancouncil.org

Nick Napoli is a consultant that serves via contract as the Ocean Planning Director for the Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC). In this capacity, Nick manages the Northeast Ocean Data Portal, the advancement of northeast regional ocean planning and management priorities, and the engagement of related stakeholders. Nick also manages the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal on behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean (MARCO). Nick has over twenty years of diverse planning experience that ranges from producing development and management plans for communities, public lands, and National Park Service properties to advancing the development and implementation of coastal and marine plans.

**Emily Shumchenia**, Ph.D., Ocean Planning Support Scientist  
Northeast Regional Ocean Council  
emily.shumchenia@gmail.com

Emily Shumchenia is a marine scientist interested in how science is presented to the public and used in decision-making. She has been working with NROC since 2014, at first leading the development of marine life and habitat data and coordinating science outreach to support the Northeast Ocean Plan – the first regional ocean plan in the US. She now manages the Northeast Ocean Data Portal, which involves identifying data priorities, managing data development and review with agencies and other stakeholders, and conducting trainings and workshops. Emily is also an independent consultant and manages a portfolio of projects that all relate to synthesizing ocean data for decision-making purposes. She earned her PhD in oceanography from the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography.

## UPCOMING EBC PROGRAMS

### MARCH 2019

March 27 – Evening Program: Annual Review from MassDEP Commissioner Marty Suuberg

March 29 – Solid Waste Management Program: “Talking Trash” Northern New England

### APRIL 2019

April 4 – Rhode Island Program: Briefing from State Agency Leadership

April 9 – Energy Resources Program: States Procurement of Renewables

**April 11 – Ocean and Coastal Resources Program: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Coastal Construction Conference**

April 12 – Dam Management Program: Dam Removal & Sediment Management

April 17 – Ascending Professionals Committee Program Planning Meeting

April 18 – Dam Management for the Ascending Professional – An Advanced Introduction

April 24 – Connecticut Update from the CT DEEP Leadership

**April 25 – Coastal Resources Program: Municipal Vulnerability Assessments for Coastal Communities**

April 26 – Climate Change Program: Business and Facility Planning and Preparedness

April 29 – Solid Waste Management Program: “Talking Trash” Southern New England

### MAY 2019

May 1 – New Hampshire Ascending Professionals Regulatory Meet and Greet

May 2 – Emerging Contaminants Program: PFAS Overview

May 3 – Emerging Contaminants Program: PCB Air Sampling and Encapsulation

May 7 – New Hampshire Program: Update on NHDES Wetlands Rulemaking

May 9 – Rhode Island Program: ENVISION Briefing

May 9 – Spotlight on Success: The 2018 Ascending Leaders Award Recipients Panel

May 13 – New Hampshire Chapter Program Planning Meeting

May 15 – Offshore Wind Program: Workforce Development

May 16 – Connecticut Dam Management Program: Emergency Action Planning

May 16 – Connecticut Chapter Program Planning Luncheon

May 17 – Climate Change Program: Regional Flood Pathways

**May 20 – Ocean and Coastal Resources Committee Program Planning Meeting**

May 21 – Solid Waste Management Program: Alternative Diversion Strategies

May 23 – Evening Program: Climate Programs from the City of Boston and the Commonwealth

May 29 – Site Remediation and Redevelopment Program: Brownfields Tax Credits

**May 30 – Ocean and Coastal Resources Program: Coastal Contamination**

May 31 – Energy Resources Program: Carbon Capture & Sequestration