

Group 2.
**Developing a responsive and
responsible consortium**

Peter Quinby, David Carr, Tom Wood,
Jack Webster, John Hom, Rick Webb,
Mary Beth Adams

- To help develop a more responsive and responsible consortium, people want to know why they are where they are. The boundaries are confusing – how were they drawn? What do they represent? Some of our group were unsure as to where they belonged, and saw that as a barrier to effective participation.

Characteristics of MAREO which could be important for NEON:

- Large river/water systems – Chesapeake Bay, Albermarle-Pimlico Sound, Delaware River Basin.
- Heavily forested
- High population density and rapid development
- High levels of air pollution
- Interesting outreach/education opportunities, including Congress
- Very data rich & dense
- Lots of gradients : deposition, population, elevation, land use, geologic, fertility, etc.
- In some ways MAREO may be the most diverse of the regional NEON groups....

Linkages should be exploited as a means of coordinating with our neighboring NEON regions:

- Climate patterns
- Shared issues (acidic deposition)
- Migratory organisms
- Social linkages/human ecology -- e.g. between northern and southern Apps.
- I-95 corridor

- Concentration of expertise in MAREO + take advantage of gradients =
- because MAREO covers so many landscape classifications, our results should have broad applications.

- It is important for MAREO to evaluate existing facilities and capabilities, to ensure efficiency. But we also want to look far in the future for new opportunities/technologies.