

**Mid-Atlantic Region Ecological Observatory (MAREO)
A NEON Implementation**

Announcement: September 2004 Scientific Community Meeting

September 28–29, 2004

National Zoological Park Conservation Research Center
The Smithsonian Institution
Front Royal, Virginia

Organizers

Robert Gardner, University of Maryland, Appalachian Laboratory
Francisco Dallmeier, Smithsonian Institution, NZP-CRC
Eric Nagy, University of Virginia, Mountain Lake Biological Station

This is a first call to interested parties of the mid-Atlantic scientific community for a MAREO-NEON planning and implementation meeting. The meeting will be held September 28-29th at the Conservation Research Center (CRC) of the Smithsonian Institution at Front Royal, the same site of our January 2004 meeting.

Schedule and Registration

The meeting will start on Tuesday (September 28th) at 1:00 p.m. and will adjourn by Wednesday 5 p.m. An Executive Committee meeting will precede this general meeting. A draft agenda is attached below.

Arrival: 1:00 p.m. Tuesday September 28

Departure: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday September 29

We are requesting a registration fee of \$35. This fee will cover all meals, coffee breaks, duplication needs, and other miscellaneous expenses.

CRC will provide a comfortable informal atmosphere intended to facilitate working in small groups. CRC will have shared rooms for 33 people available at cost (\$15/person/night) or you can choose your own accommodations at local establishments. To register and reserve accommodation at CRC please contact Hilda Mauck, (540 635-6572, hmauck@si.edu). Please check the MAREO web site <http://www.mareo.org> for directions to CRC, information on local lodging, and meeting updates. As a bonus you might get to see some of the endangered species at the Conservation Center.

Fees: \$35 registration and board

\$15 lodging (if you wish to stay on site)

Contact Information

Registration and Lodging: Hilda Mauck 540-635-6572, hmauck@si.edu
Meeting Organizers: Robert Gardner gardner@al.umces.edu
Francisco Dallmeier fdallmeier@simab.si.edu
Eric Nagy enagy@virginia.edu

MAREO web site: <http://www.mareo.org>

Call for New Participants

In order for MAREO to be effective and inclusive we will need to fairly represent appropriate facilities in our region. We therefore ask you as a potentially interested MAREO participant to help identify other potentially interested facilities. Please take a few minutes to review the current facilities list at MAREO.org (look in the September Meeting menu box in upper left). If you can think of any facilities in the mid-Atlantic region we should invite to join MAREO please email your suggestion to one of us (Eric, Francisco or Robert). We will contact them. Thanks very much.

The Interim MAREO Leadership

As you probably know, Margaret Palmer and Bruce Hayden are leading the AIBS NEON consortium and therefore cannot also lead the MAREO initiative. Bruce and Pat will continue to participate in MAREO activities as loyal members and they will advise on national issues where needed. Bruce has recruited an interim MAREO Leadership group that has agreed to serve for the next year until an election can be held. Bruce selected this group from among those individuals who were nominated during the January 2004 MAREO organizing meeting, and others were added to balance representation by geography, institution size and type, youth, and other diversity components valued by NSF. The Interim MAREO Leadership group is as follows:

Leaders:

Bob Gardner, Univ. of Maryland, Appalachian Laboratory
Francisco Dallmeier, The Smithsonian Institution, NZP-CRC
Eric Nagy (alternate), Univ. of Virginia, Mountain Lake Biological Station

Executive Committee:

Mary Beth Adams, US Forest Service
Mike Bass, Mary Washington University
Mike Bowers, University of Virginia (Blandy Farm & State Arboretum)
R. C. Jones, George Mason University
Mark Lukenbach, VIMS (Eastern Shore Lab)
Anthony S. Overton, East Carolina University
Mike Reiter, Delaware State University
Jack Webster, Virginia Tech
Brent Yarnal, Penn State University

Webmaster:

John Porter, University of Virginia

Upcoming MAREO/NEON events and responsibilities

In October two leaders from each of the 14 regional NEON planning communities will convene a congress in Bonneville Washington (Wind River Crane) to develop a plan for organizing and implementing NEON. This congress will play a key role in making nominations for observatory locations and will meet at least four more times between now and next summer. Our September MAREO meeting is planned in large part to prepare for this NEON congress, and will be very important for strategic planning for the next year.

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Draft Agenda: September 2004 Scientific Community Meeting

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Visit www.mareo.org for meeting updates!
Draft Agenda (081604)

Tuesday September 28, 2004

1:00-2:00 p.m. Arrival and Registration for General Attendees

2:00 6:00 p.m.

- Welcome – Overview of Workshop Goals & Format Review agenda
- Review status and progress
- Vision update for MAREO
- Present Interim Executive Board decisions and issues to be agreed to by MAREO community
- Agree on issues to decide on
- What are the expectations, process and timelines for NEON, and how does this impact MAREO?
- How many regional NEON groups will 'start up' in the first two years, and will there be competition among these groups?
- Identification of working group membership & leadership
- Evening work in small groups

6:00-7:30 p.m. Social

7:30-9:00 p.m. Evening Meal

Wednesday September 29, 2004

7:00–8:00 a.m. Breakfast

8:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m.

All MAREO meeting, Formalize leadership

- MAREO Geography
- Executive Committee, Advisory Board
- Discussions with leaders from other NEON communities

- MAREO Consortium of Universities, Field Research Stations, Field Research Sites, MAREO Consortium of Research Scientists, and Core Site -- Candidate: CRC Front Royal

12:00 -1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00-5:00 p.m. All MAREO meeting (continued)

- Working groups and plenary reports
- Plan for next meetings
- Assignments of interim leaders of various working groups

5:00 p.m. Adjourn Meeting