How is your organization including MCCC (activities, materials) and climate change topics in outreach with your stakeholders?

Since the DNR Secretary chairs the ARWG, and since the ARWG is coordinated by DNR-CCS staff, DNR-Chesapeake & Coastal Service consistently makes efforts to integrate MCCC activities and materials into conversations with our stakeholders. For example, the 2018 updated sea level rise projections are already being used in discussions with local communities grappling with how best to deal with coastal hazard impacts of climate change.

Presentations to various business group meetings

We regularly brief our grantees and other partners on the work of the Climate Commission.

How can the Commission and work groups more effectively increase visibility and communication around its mission and activities?

Members of the ECO WG should engage more directly with agency work. It may just be a lack of active/effective DNR participation in ECO, but I find myself constantly wondering what ECO is up to.

Preparation of materials to be included in presentations

Commissioners could be encouraged and supported in reporting about the work of the Commission in relevant venues. Commissioners could be recruited to function as 'ambassadors' that can be called upon to provide presentations to the public and to targeted constituencies.

How do you envision ECO increasing its value to the work of the commission?

Assign ECO members clear liaison responsibilities to other MCCC work groups. Challenge and empower those people to attend ARWG/MWG/STWG meetings on behalf of ECO, and report back to ECO ways they perceive ECO can help those work groups.

Outreach to business groups and conservative outlets

I am aware of little evidence that the Commission's Annual Reports have significant reach or impact. Developing an effective outreach program (including evaluative components) to insure the reach and impact of the Annual Report would be a valuable contribution.

If you have any other thoughts or comments on the work of ECO, please share below.

ARWG is considering a similar approach I suggested above -- challenging and empowering certain members to become liaisons to ECO/MWG/STWG and providing report outs at each ARWG meeting on the relevant happenings in those other work groups and identify overlaps with ARWG work. I think if all work groups took this approach, the MCCC as a whole could become a more cohesive entity.