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October 9, 2008

Dear Core Team Member,

We are looking forward to the first Core Team meeting for the Sandy Creeks Ecosystem-based Management Initiative. Thank you for agreeing to participate on behalf of your constituents. The Sandy Creeks Steering Committee has structured the upcoming three meetings to be interactive and productive with a goal of developing a list of specific projects and an implementation strategy by the end of December.

The first meeting will be held at the Sandy Creek town hall on October 22nd, please find the agenda attached. To keep everyone's energy level high, hearty snacks/light dinner will be provided beginning at 5:45 pm.

As a Core Team member representing a larger constituency there are responsibilities expected of you. Please confer with at least two or three constituents that you are representing (for example, other agricultural producers, colleagues in your agency, representatives of other environmental organizations, etc.) and, using the attached questionnaire, ask them about their issues and priorities for the Sandy Creeks watershed. As you see on the agenda, much of the meeting is dedicated to discussing stakeholder perspectives.

We have compiled an annotated bibliography of relevant reports to give members a common knowledge base about the Sandy Creeks region. It is included in this mailing, and is also posted on the Sandy Creeks web page www.ecologicllc.com/scebm.html. Please review this document. If there are reports listed there that you would like to read in depth and you do not have access to them on the internet, please contact the Tug Hill Commission for a copy.

Finally, please prepare a three- sentence biography introducing yourself and describing your interest in the Sandy Creeks watershed to share with the other team members on the 22nd.

Please RSVP to Katie Malinowski at the Tug Hill Commission, (315) 785-2380, katie@tughill.org. She can also answer any questions you might have about the structure of the meeting or what we would like you to prepare prior. Also, if you are unable to travel to the meeting but could call in from a remote location, a conference call-in number can be provided.

Best regards,

Sandy Creeks EBM Demonstration Project Steering Committee

*NYS Department of State
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
The Nature Conservancy
Tug Hill Commission*

Enc (4): agenda with directions, constituent survey form, annotated bibliography, watershed map