Distribute benefits equitably among communities by increasing the access to opportunities for underserved communities.

Facilitator: Suzanne Russell Notetaker: Emily Sellinger (don’t forget to grab chats)

**Examples of what we’re already doing:**

* Reviewing proposals for funding restoration projects (CZM / NERS)
  + RFP includes underserved communities
* Take data collections back to communities that participated to ground-truth data iteratively
* Participating as mentors in summer internships for underserved communities
  + Mentoring students as part of the Hollings Prep program (overlap with Outreach team)
* Working with tribes
* Who we contract with (ships)
* Reaching out to schools that are not traditionally “marine research” schools to get them involved as volunteers for trawl surveys, making more effort to connect with underserved communities

**Examples of what we’d like to be doing:**

* Better understanding of other perspectives - by spending time building relationships and connecting
* Developing relationships with tribes by meeting with them on their terms

**Potential barriers:**

* Capacity / workload
* Training
* Travel (meeting collaborators in their “space”)
* Credit for time spent in this area
* Awareness of who needs benefits and is not receiving them