

Program Report—Financials

Estimated NBEP Funds Budgeted, Remaining, and Projections (As of 06.30.2020)														
Expense Category	Active Job Cost Codes										Total Balance Remaining	Projection FY20 Spending (Q4)	Notes	
	FY15 (0318)		FY17 (0332)		FY18 (0338)		STB (0100-324)		FY19 (0349)					
	Budget	Balance	Budget	Balance	Budget	Balance	Budget	Balance	Budget	Balance				
Personnel and Fringe	\$ 390,260	\$ (1,299)	\$ 404,419	\$ 26,412	\$ 584,480	\$ 173,540	\$ 16,290	\$ 7,855	\$ 439,824	\$ 437,209	\$ 643,717	\$ 115,000	Expect ~15 months of funds remain @ 10/2020	
Travel	9,650	(1,273)	7,300	(3,570)	13,250	(1,900)	446	440	10,800	\$ 10,458	4,155	2,000	Adequate FY travel funds	
Supplies	6,057	4,245	4,592	(6,136)	7,089	5,777			500	\$ 500	4,386	4,000	Adequate FY supply funds	
Contracts	130,841	96,716	47,000	47,000	5,000	5,000					148,716	10,000		
Other (breakout below)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	All obligations covered. Note many agreements were extended due to COVID-19 schedule implications.
Subawards	815,192	67,923		(26,159)	316,500	311,360			35,000	35,000	388,124	125,000		
Other Administrative*	47,700	(18,883)	38,781	(5,026)	21,749	7,274			22,351	22,083	5,448	6,000	Adequate FY funds	
Total Direct	1,399,700	147,429	502,092	32,521	948,068	501,051	16,736	8,295	508,475	505,250	1,194,546	262,000		
Total Indirect	200,300	15,299	97,908	14,691	151,932	73,027	3,264	1,764	91,525	90,945	195,726	28,080		
Total	1,600,000	162,728	600,000	47,212	1,100,000	574,078	20,000	10,059	600,000	596,195	1,390,272	290,080		

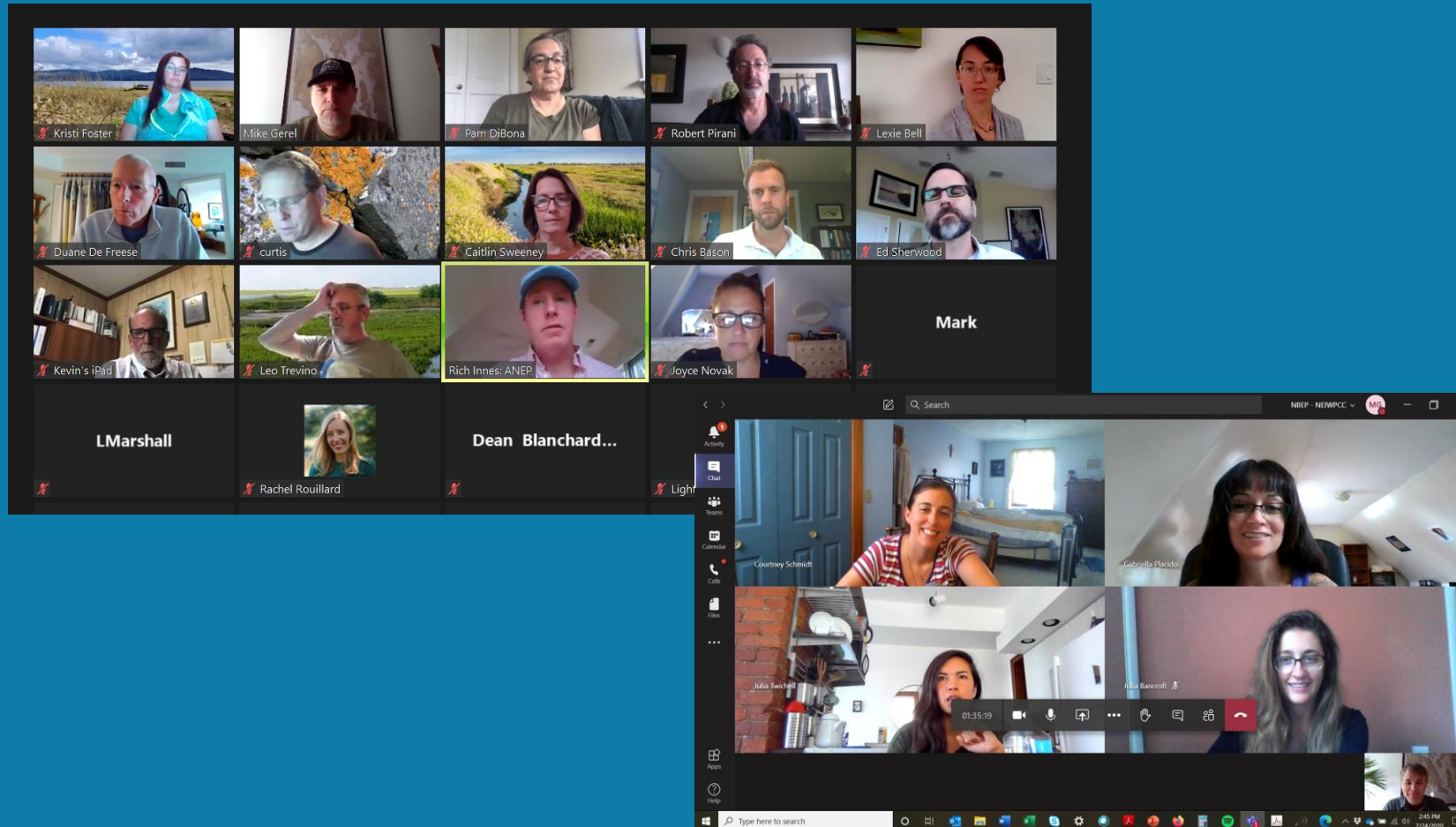
*Includes Rental Space, Equipment Rental, Printing, Website Services, Conferences and Meetings, Conferences and Meeting Registration, Telephone, Advertising, and Computer Support from our EPA approved budget. Note that Subawards are pulled out from the Other category.

Program Report—Financials

Contracts and Subawards Detail - Estimated (As of 09.03.2020)

JCC	Project Code	Expense Category	Project Description	Active Job Cost Codes								Total Balance
				FY15 (0318)		FY17 (0332)		FY18 (0338)		FY19 (0349)		
				Budget	Balance	Budget	Balance	Budget	Balance	Budget	Balance	
0318-002	S-2018-006	D. Codiga	Analysis of DO, Chl, Temp in the Bay	\$ 31,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
0318-002	S-2016-010	City of East Providence	Sabin Point Park stormwater	100,000	5,071							5,071
0318-002	S-2019-013	Mass Audubon	Broad Meadow Brook plan/design	28,760	28,760							28,760
0318-002	S-2019-028	Save the Bay	Salt marsh adaptation/restoration	25,000	17,903							17,903
0318-002	S-2019-027	Land Conservancy of N. Kingstown	Colonial causeway restoration	5,000	1,747							1,747
0318-002	S-2019-029	Town of Millbury	Stormwater/heat island in town ctr	75,000	75,000							75,000
0332-001	S-2019-019	URI	STORMTOOLS web app for hazard info			26,964	26,964					26,964
0332-001	TBD	TBD CCMP Support	For consultants etc.			2,000	2,000					2,000
0338/0332-001	2020-012	Work-Shop Design Studio	CCMP Website Support			4,500	-	5,000	-			-
0338-002	S-2019-024	Pawtuxet River Authority	Restoration fish pass @ Pontiac Dam					22,500	22,500			22,500
0338-002	S-2019-018	Town of Bristol, RI	Mt. Hope High School stormwater					25,000	25,000			25,000
0338-002	S-2019-017	Town of Richmond, RI	Restore planning study @ Beaver River					30,000	30,000			30,000
0338/0318-002	S-2019-030	Aquidnick Island Planning Comm	Stormwater upgrades to WVTS	5,500	5,500			94,500	94,500			100,000
0338-002	S-2020-007	Blackstone Capacity Grants	Blackstone Valley Tourism Council					4,000	4,000			4,000
0338-002	S-2020-008	Blackstone Capacity Grants	Mass Audubon					4,000	4,000			4,000
0338-002	S-2020-018	Blackstone Capacity Grants	Blackstone River Watershed Council					4,000	4,000			4,000
0338-002	TBD	Blackstone Capacity Grants	Blackstone River Coalition					8,000	8,000			8,000
0338-002	TBD	Blackstone Capacity Grants	Blackstone Headwaters Coalition					4,000	4,000			4,000
0338-002	TBD	Blackstone Capacity Grants	TBD					1,000	1,000			1,000
0338-002	TBD	Blackstone Project Support	TBD					70,000	70,000			70,000
0338-002	S-2019-016	MA DER	Mill Brook Bogs Restoration					30,000	24,860			24,860
0349-001	TBD	Research Grants/Contracts	Codiga Extended WQ Analysis							20,000	20,000	20,000
0349-001	TBD	Research Grants/Contracts	Shumann Fisherman Observations							10,000	10,000	10,000
0349-001	TBD	Research Grants/Contracts	TBD							5,000	5,000	5,000
Total				270,260	133,981	33,464	28,964	302,000	291,860	35,000	35,000	489,805

Program Report—Projects



- NBEP was exceptionally productive this summer
- Very proud of program
- Thank you!

Program Report—Projects

1. EPA Cooperative Agreement

- \$662,500 in NEP funds provided
- \$250,000 in SNEP funds expected soon
- Roughly 50% to go out the door

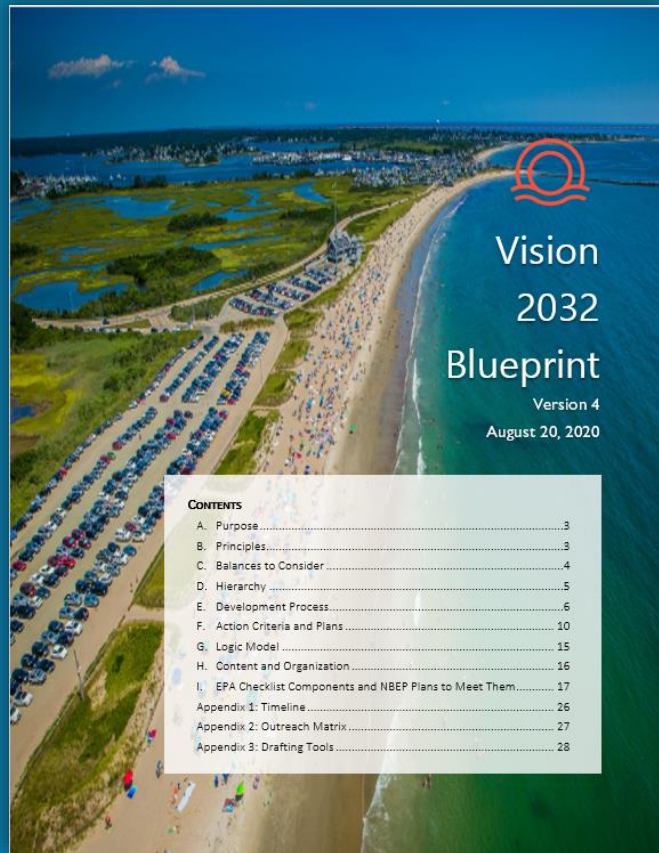
Program Report--Projects

2. Internship Program

- Partnership intern—Gaby Placido
 - URI MESM student for credit
 - New partner analysis, NEP-wide CCMP comparison
- GIS intern—Katherine Altamirano
 - Dickson College undergraduate for pay
 - Land use science update, environmental justice GIS work
- Remote from FL and CT, respectively
- All happy with outcomes—expands our capacity, provided unique learning opportunity despite COVID

Program Report—Projects

3. Vision 2032



Four workgroups building Action Plans to begin meeting in Oct/Nov

Program Report—Projects

4. Blackstone Watershed Needs Assessment

- Held 4th meeting in August
- 135 people on mailing list—attendance over 40 each meet
- Identified and prioritized needs
- Presentations on local successes related to needs—opened conversation on dams
- Draft needs assessment framework by end of year



Program Report—Projects

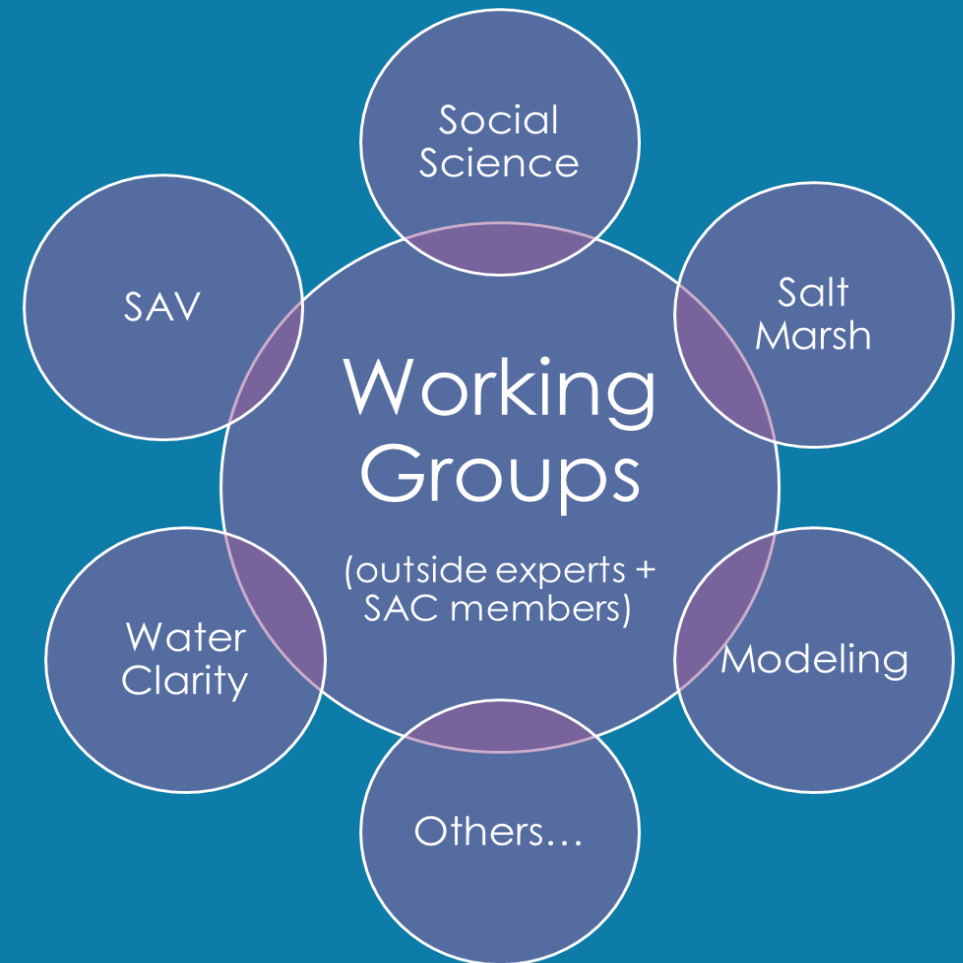
5. 2020 NBEP Quality Assurance Project Plan

- QAPP outlines procedures used to ensure collection, analysis, and management of data is high quality and meet project needs
- New NBEP QAPP complete and ready for submittal to NEIWPC and EPA
- Little change from 2019—emulates that plan by allowing discretion and flexibility to define form of deliverables to best meet needs
- Continues innovative and productive approach

Program Report—Projects

6. New Science Working Groups

- Independently convened, open forum
- Consensus on purpose, deliverables, and process
- Great niche for NBEP based on service gaps, Steering Committee feedback, and staff skillset
- Delivers better coordination and collaborative next step decision-making on tough issues until purpose met
- Exploring stage—will pursue SAV, social science, and others based on need/staff time



Program Report—Projects

7. Pursuing New Targeted Research Contracts

Further Analysis and Synthesis of Bay Oxygen, Chlorophyll, and Temperature

Daniel L. Codiga, Sole Proprietor

Academic Affiliation: University of Rhode Island,
Graduate School of Oceanography

DRAFT FINAL REPORT

May 31, 2020

Narragansett Bay Estuary Program

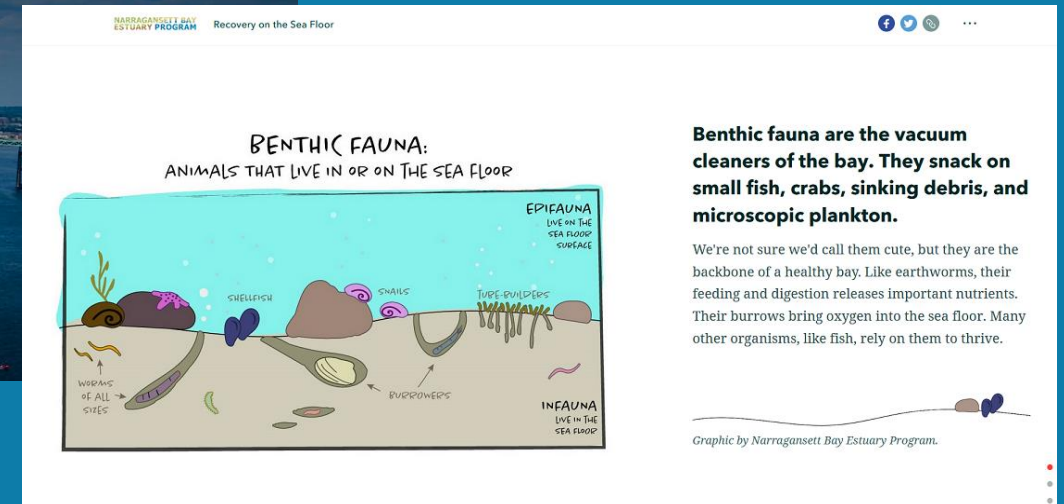
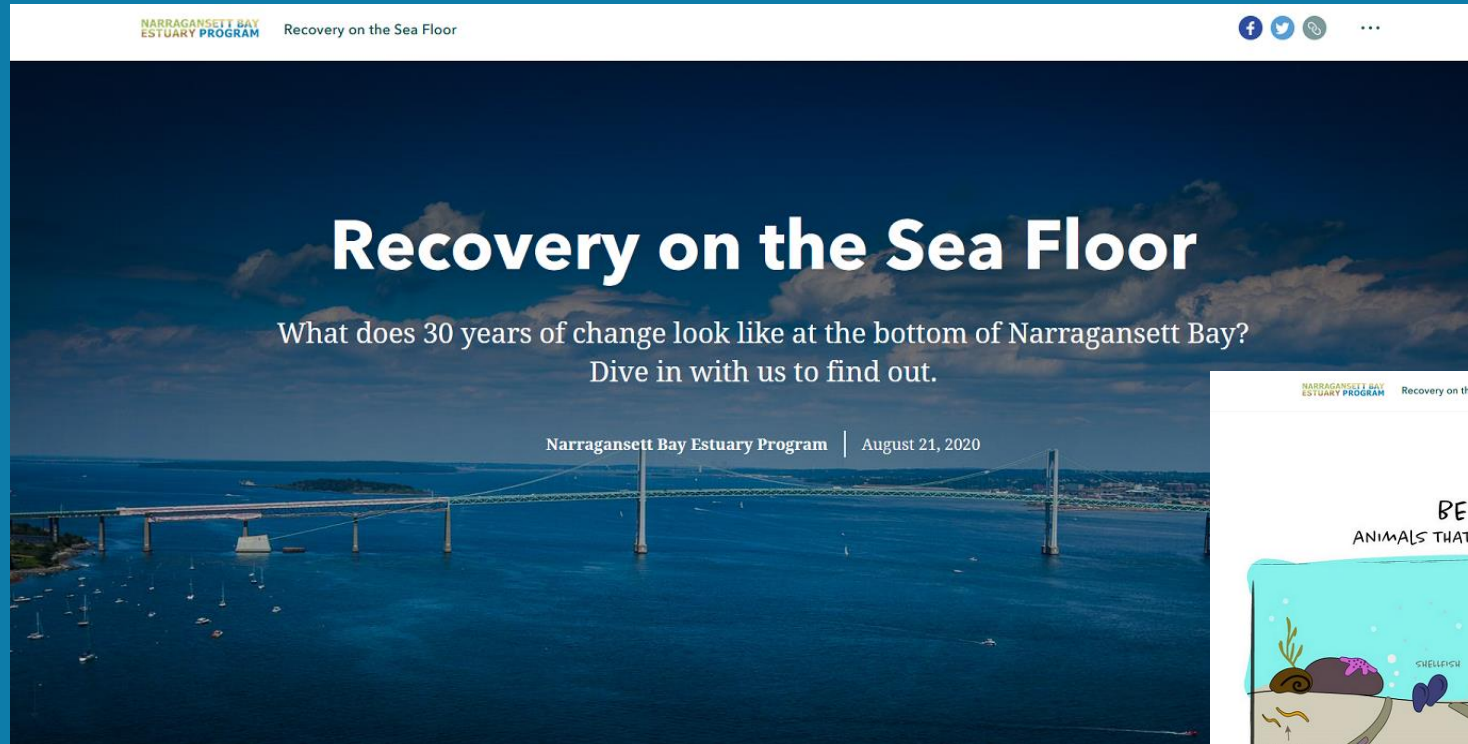
Funded by the Environmental Protection Administration
through
New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission

NEI Job Code 318-002
Project Code S-2018-006



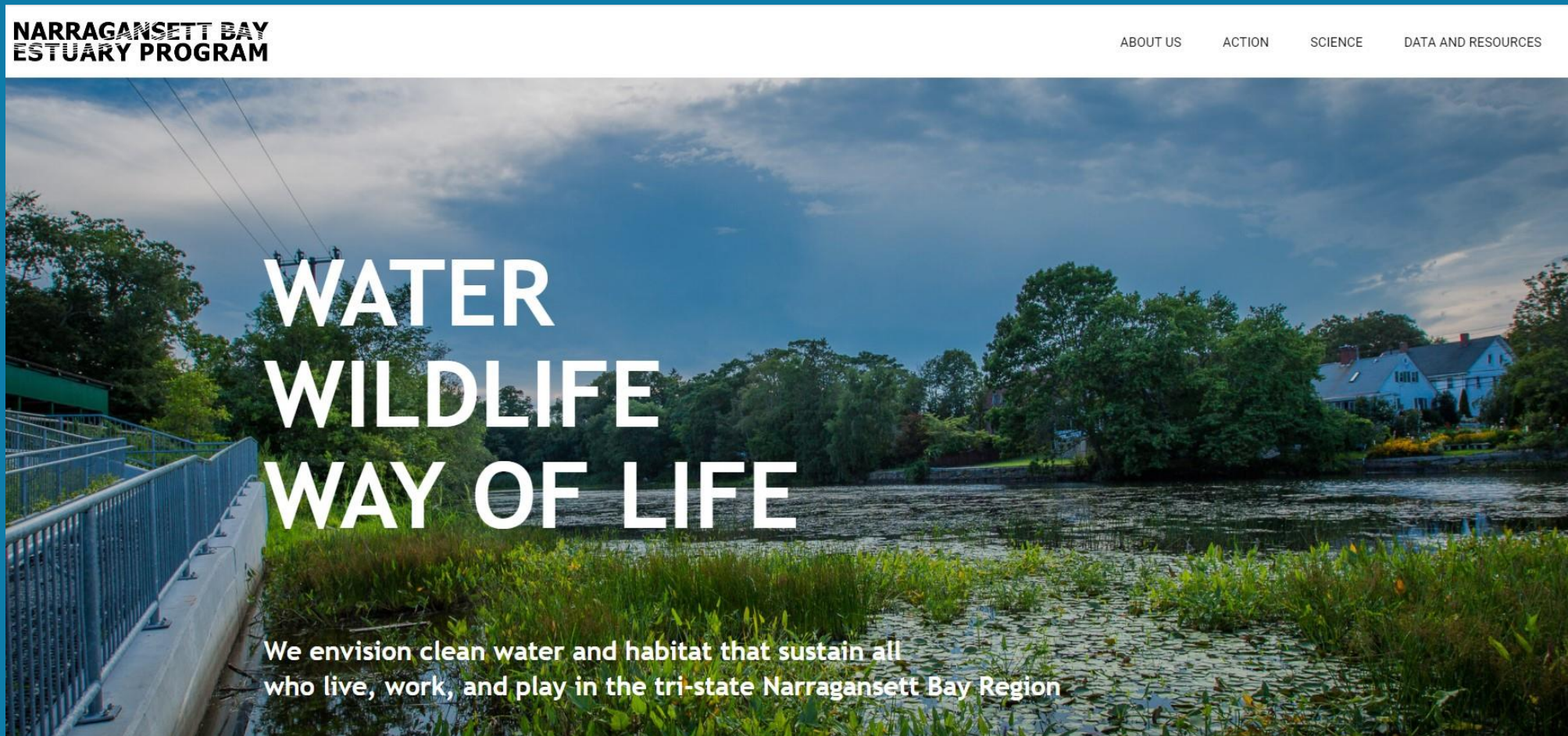
Program Report—Projects

8. Benthic Science Update—new Story Map



Program Report—Projects

9. New NBEP organizational website



Program Report—Projects

10. To be discussed in more detail next:

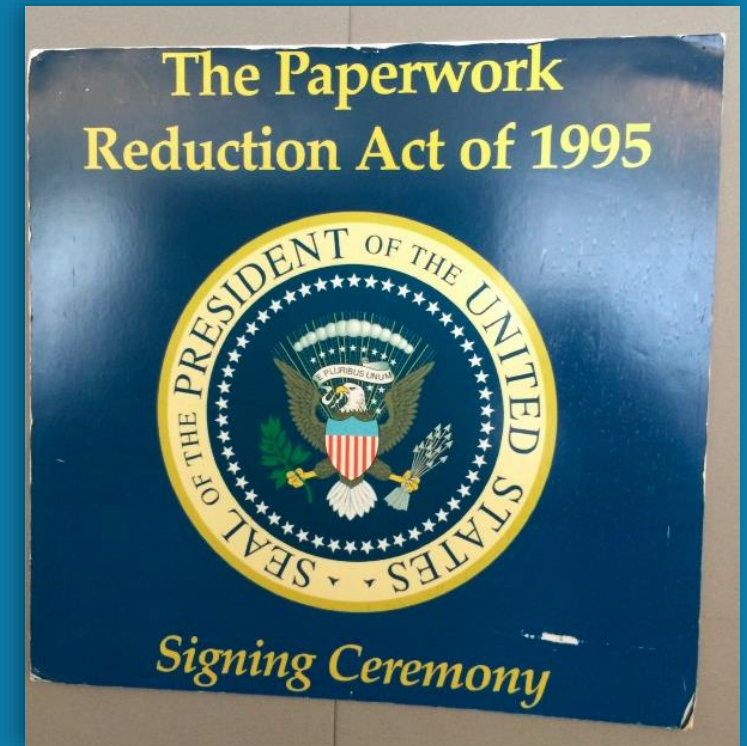
- Nominating Subcommittee meeting update
- Request to form Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Subcommittee
- Update on collecting stakeholder perspectives

Nominating Subcommittee

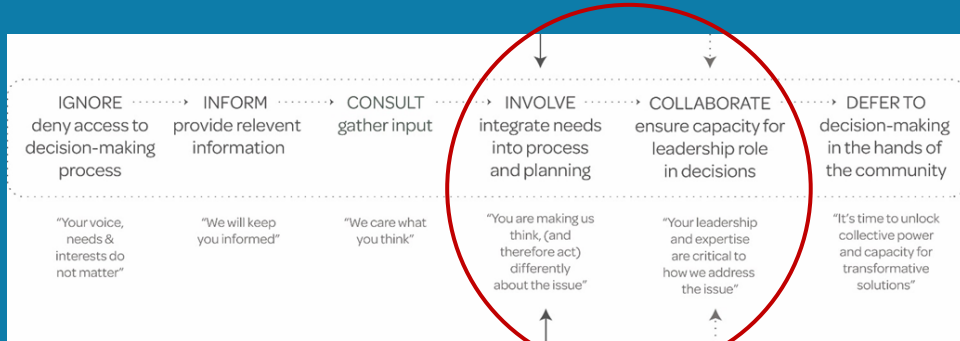
- Met for first time Aug 19th—Kate, Peter, Walt, Sue
- Steering Committee nominating process and nominee matrix discussed
- Want to fill gaps in wildlife science, fishing, cities, business, and EJ
- Have 25 members, can have 35
 - 5 members up for reappointment, 3 likely to stay
 - Reaching out to 18 top candidates, 5 great candidates are interested
 - Seeking up to 6 new members total?
- Send candidates to Mike or subcommittee members
- Subcommittee to meet in Oct, final slate for Nov EC/Dec SC

Collecting Stakeholder Perspectives

- NBEP currently only has (and can pursue) EPA funding
- The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) precludes those using federal funds from collecting the same information from ≥ 10 members of the public (constitutes a survey) unless an Information Collection Request is in place
- An ICR describes the survey or other information collection planned
- The PRA is challenging in practice, leaving a lot to the specific ask and the interpretations of individual staff as to what is exempt, what constitutes a survey, and how best to comply



Collecting Stakeholder Perspectives



- To meet its commitment to meaningfully involve and collaborate with diverse stakeholder perspectives for Vision 2032, NBEP and EPA exploring ways to collect information for nearly a year—specifics since May
- New Vision 2032 website includes a simple survey tool that is turned off pending approval of a PRA consistent path
- Survey execution would be “curated” by NBEP staff/partners or done independently by individuals or groups
- Especially useful due to COVID
- NBEP is seeking a decision from EPA on a workable path forward so we can launch

Option #1: Exempt from PRA

NBEP Discussion Framework

We would welcome your response to the 15 items below.

1. [WEB] Town or city where you live / visit.
2. [WEB] Things you like the most about the outdoor environment in your town or city.
3. [WEB] Things you like least.
4. [WEB] Positive changes to the outdoor environment in your town or city.
5. [WEB] Negative changes to the outdoor environment in your town or city.
6. [WEB] Share your experience with flooding, sewage, muddy areas, or other water-related problems.
7. [WEB] Your concerns for streams, ponds, beaches, or other wildlife habitats.
8. [WEB] Outdoor recreation spots you enjoy.
9. [WEB] Ways you stay cool in the summer.
10. [WEB] Aspects of your neighborhood and community environment that help keep you and/or your family healthy.
11. [WEB] Aspects of your neighborhood and community environment that could make you and/or your family sick.
12. [WEB] Past involvement in decisions that impact your area.
13. [WEB] Interest in being involved in our Vision 2032 planning.
14. [WEB] Changes you would like to see in your outdoor environment in the future.
15. [WEB] Actions or activities you would like to see from the government, local businesses, your neighbors, or others to bring desired changes.

- NBEP provided potential questions to EPA designed not to be a survey and thus trigger PRA
- EPA returned a version that largely reframed as broad statements
- NBEP made modest edits for clarity
- Language is still confusing, format not ideal, and may not generate useful information
- **COULD BE AN INTERIM SOLUTION**

Option #2: Using Existing NEP ICR

- All NEPs covered by an existing NEP for collecting data for
 - Annual work plans
 - Program Evaluations
 - NEPORT
- NBEP felt this ICR could apply because survey was for Vision 2032 that will directly inform annual work plans
- Region 1 disagreed and said surveys we envisioned would not be covered
- **THIS IS NOT AN OPTION PER Region 1**

GRPASUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR THE NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

A. JUSTIFICATION

1. Identification of the Information Collection

1(a) Title - National Estuary Program (Renewal)

1(b) Characterization/Abstract

Section 320 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) amendments of 1987 established the National Estuary Program (NEP) to promote long-term planning and management in nationally significant estuaries threatened by pollution, development, or overuse. The NEP's objectives are to protect, preserve, and restore estuaries. The strategy of the Program is to focus on estuaries that are nationally significant in recreational and commercial value and are of great importance for fish and wildlife resources. Another facet of national significance is whether lessons learned in working with the estuary can be applied to other coastal areas. Further, the NEP strategy emphasizes estuaries that are facing increasing environmental stressors and where there is a greater likelihood that NEP efforts will result in improvements in water and sediment quality, as well as in the abundance and variety of living resources.

Nationally significant estuaries are identified in one of two ways: 1) the estuary is nominated by the State in which it lies; or 2) the Administrator identifies an estuary and decides to convene a Management Conference (the local managing entity of an NEP). When the Governor of the State in which the estuary is located nominates the estuary for acceptance into the NEP, EPA then evaluates the Governor's nomination. If EPA approves the addition of an estuary to the NEP, a Management Conference is convened which involves community stakeholders including Federal, State, local, and interstate agencies with jurisdiction over the estuary, and other interested groups.

Estuaries have come into the NEP in five groups. The first two groups included 12 estuaries which Congress recommended for priority consideration. In 1987, Albemarle-Pamlico Sounds in North Carolina; Buzzards Bay in Massachusetts; Long Island Sound in New York and Connecticut; Narragansett Bay in Rhode Island; Puget Sound in Washington; and San Francisco Bay in California entered in to the NEP. In 1989, Delaware Inland Bays in Delaware; Delaware Bay in Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania; Galveston Bay in Texas; New York-New Jersey Harbor in New York and New Jersey; Santa Monica Bay in California; and Sarasota Bay in Florida entered in to the NEP. The nominations were evaluated using EPA Nomination Guidance. In 1991, the third group of estuaries was designated based on Governors' nominations. These estuaries were Indian River Lagoon in Florida; Tampa Bay in Florida; Barataria-Terrebonne Estuarine Complex in Louisiana; Casco Bay in Maine; and Massachusetts Bays in Massachusetts.

The first 17 estuaries were established on the basis of completing a Comprehensive

Option #3: Use Existing “Generic Citizen Science and Crowdsourcing ICR”

Citizen science and crowdsourcing are tools that engage, educate and empower the public to apply their curiosity and contribute their talents to a wide range of scientific and societal issues. Citizen Science is a form of open collaboration where the public can participate actively in the scientific process through methods that include asking research questions, collecting and analyzing data, interpreting results, or engaging in problem solving. Crowdsourcing is a process where individuals or organizations submit an open call for contributions of information from a large group of individuals (“the crowd”).

Citizen science and crowdsourcing projects under this generic ICR will include the following design principles:

1. Participants have a meaningful role in the research project, and can act as contributors or collaborators.
2. Projects have a genuine scientific question or goal.
3. Projects are low-burden for participants.
4. Projects include active management of data and data quality, including a data quality assurance plan and ongoing evaluation of data quality and data management.
5. Projects are opt-in and participants have full control over the extent that they participate.
6. The data gathered and/or analyzed are shared with participants and generally made publicly available, unless there are security or privacy concerns that prevent this.
7. Participants receive feedback on how their contribution adds to the project, e.g. how their data will be used and what the research findings are.
8. Project leads will evaluate scientific output, data quality, and the impact on participants.
9. Projects are designed to contribute to research and science, not to inform Agency regulations or policies.

Option #3: Use Existing “Generic Citizen Science and Crowdsourcing ICR”

where data collection occurs. EPA may, by virtue of collaborating with non-federal entities, sponsor the collection of this type of information in connection with citizen science projects. To the extent applicable,

crowdsourcing projects are self-selected. The method for soliciting participation will be described fully in each collection request, but participation may be advertised through targeted outreach and engagement methods like standard and social media outlets, collaborations with on-the-ground partners, public talks, and word-of-mouth.

phones, personal computers, tablets, etc.). The projects submitted under this generic clearance may collect information electronically through new and existing online collaboration tools, cell phone applications (apps) or SMS, web-based forms, online computer programs or forms, social media platforms, or sensors (personal, mobile, stationary or portable).

- Region 1 reviewing
- Viewed as great fit by outside experts
- NBEP to submit paperwork soon
- **BEST OPTION IN NBEP OPINION**

Option #4: NBEP-Specific Fast-Track ICR

- ICR approval process that is designed to offer faster approval
- Designed for specific information collections
- Not sure what “fast” means—EPA HQ didn’t respond to last request from Region 1
- NBEP to pursue after or in tandem with generic ICR
- **COULD BE A BACK-UP OPTION TO GENERIC**

Survey Next Steps

- Await word from Region 1 whether generic ICR approach would work for NBEP
- NBEP to prepare paperwork
- Mike to present to Steering Committee Sept 23rd
 - If EPA decision not in place, Mike to ask Steering Committee to formally request an EPA decision on this matter so NBEP can act in some manner by Nov 1st

WHAT DOES JEDI MEAN?

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JUSTICE

EQUITY

DIVERSITY

INCLUSION



- 78% of towns in NBEP study area include a census unit that is an environmental justice community
- If we are to meet our mission must serve all areas
- Committed to review actions in Vision 2032 through JEDI lens

WHAT DOES JEDI MEAN?

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Diversity: the differences between us based on which we experience systemic advantages or encounter systemic barriers to opportunities.

Inclusion: fostering a sense of belonging by centering, valuing, & amplifying the voices, perspectives & styles of those who experience more barriers based on their identities.



WHAT DOES JEDI MEAN?

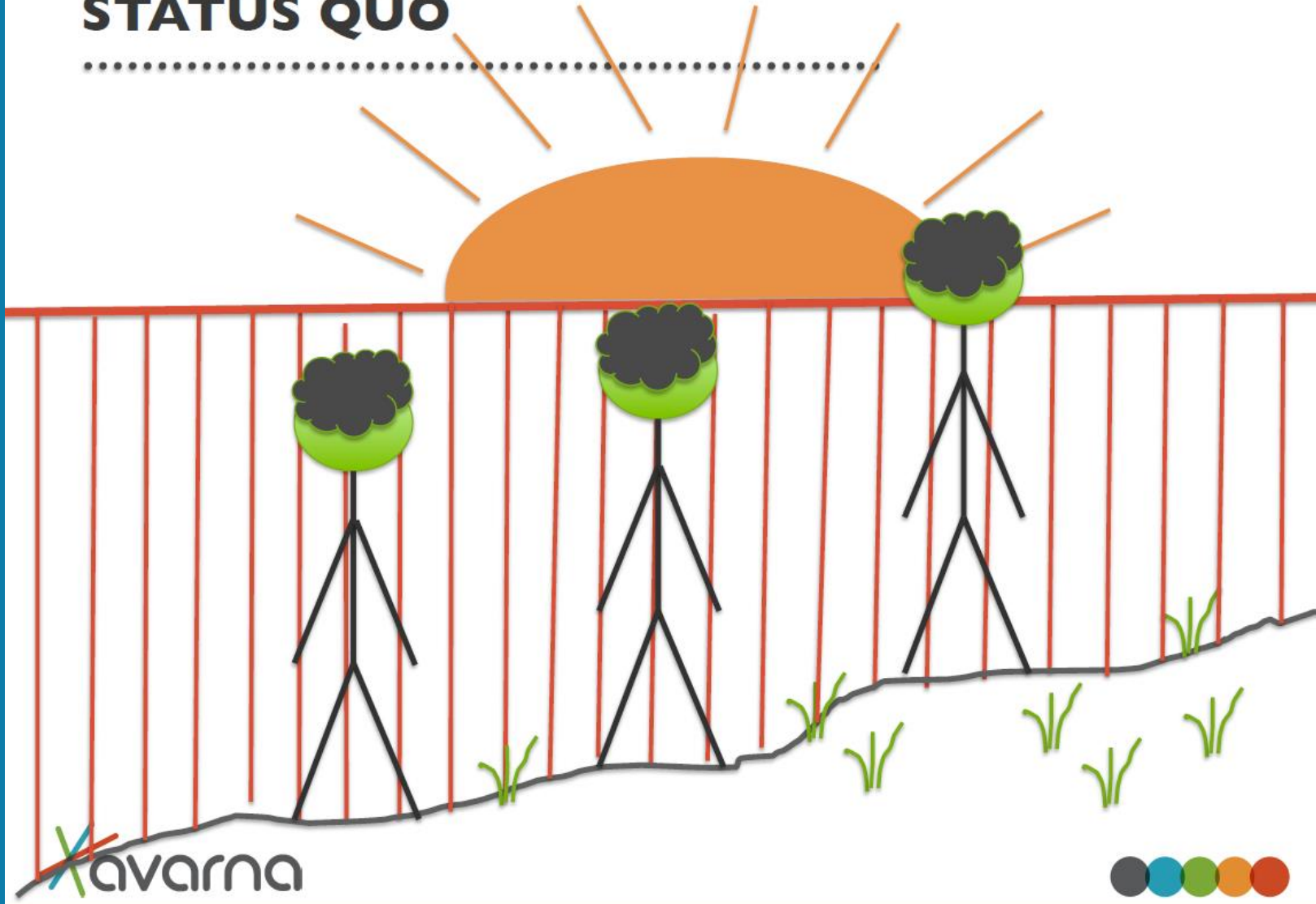
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Equity: allocating resources to ensure everyone has access to the same resources & opportunities. Equity recognizes that advantages and barriers—the ‘isms’—exist. Equity is the approach & equality is the outcome.

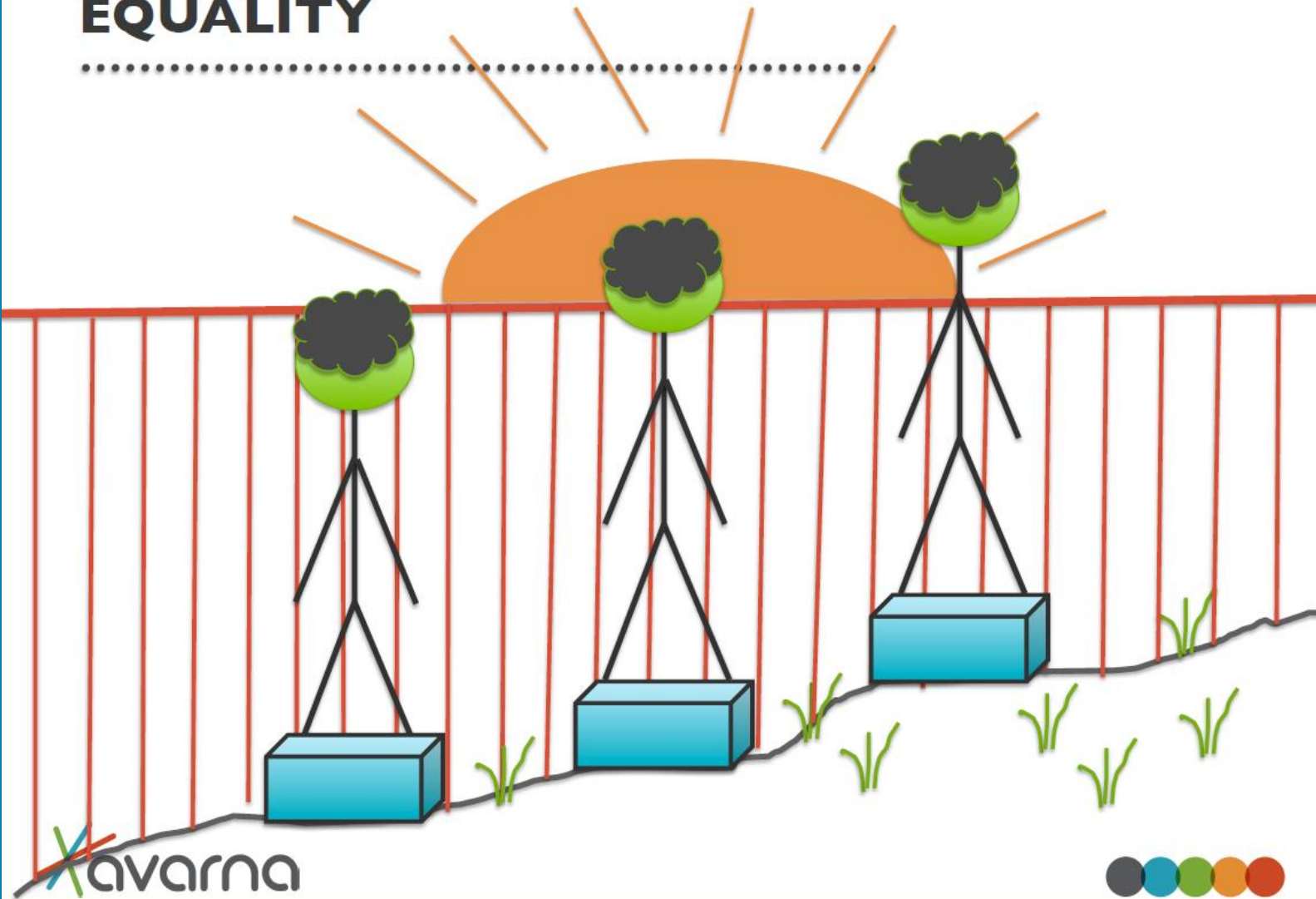
Justice: is about dismantling barriers to resources and opportunities in society so that all individuals & communities can live a full & dignified life. These barriers are essentially the “isms” in society: racism, classism, sexism, etc.



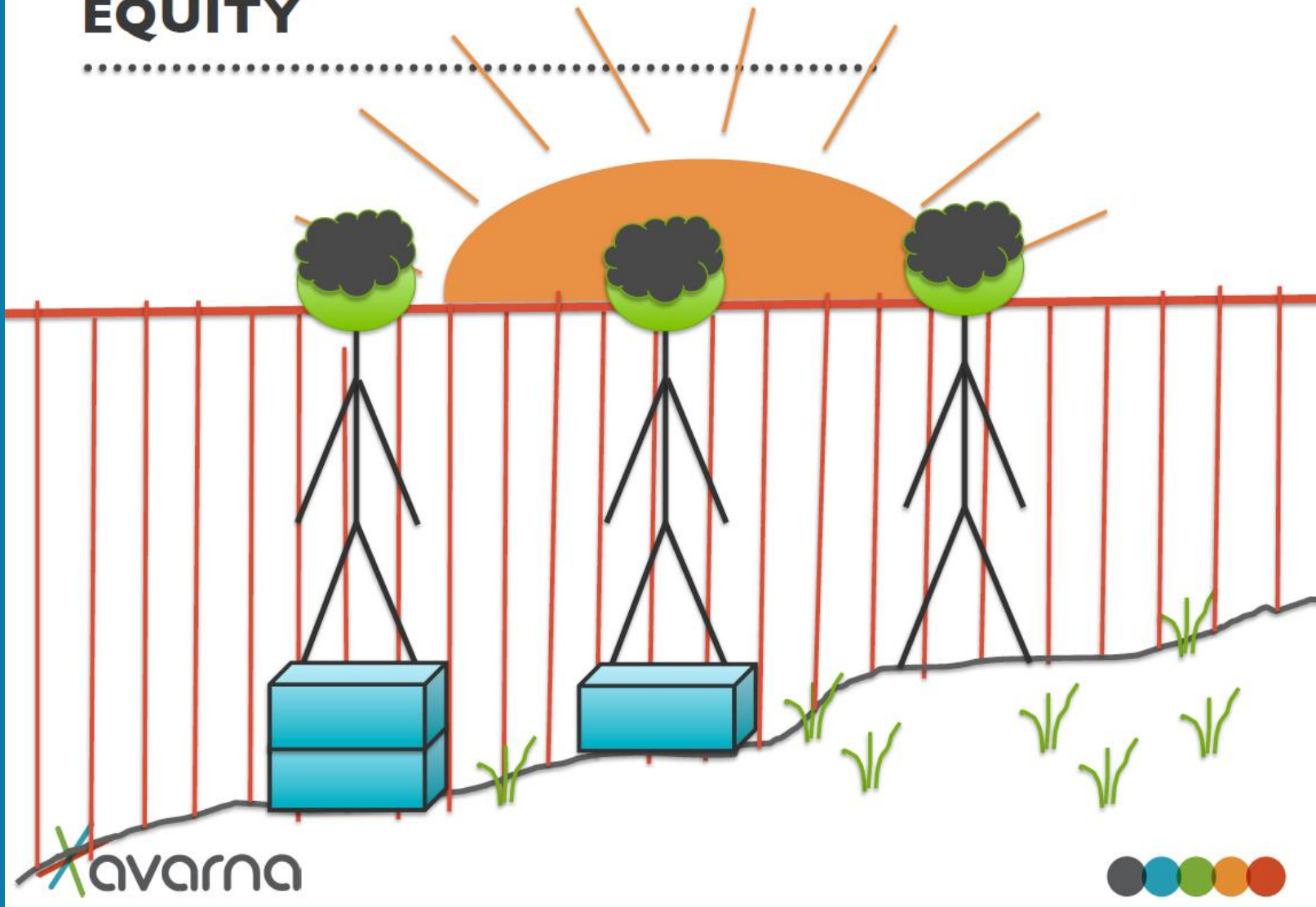
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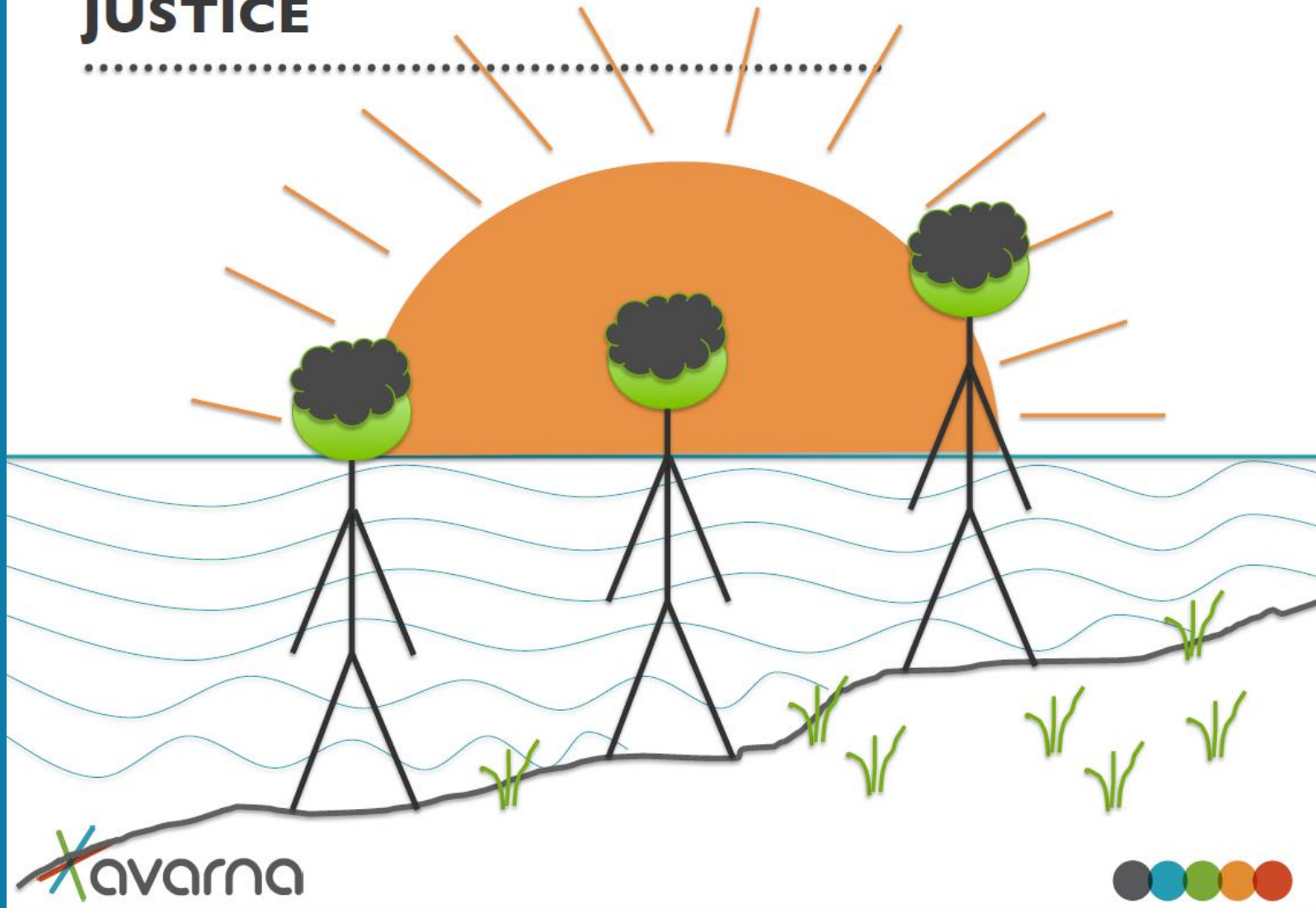
EQUALITY



EQUITY



JUSTICE



Form JEDI Subcommittee

- **Substance over gestures!**
- Staff continue to participate in workshops
- Next steps
 - Request approval today to form subcommittee
 - Hire consultant to guide—money in budget
 - Potential ways to build JEDI into NBEP
 - Staff and committee training
 - Vision 2032 planning
 - Request for proposals and contracting design
 - Hiring and committee make-up
 - Statement and formal plan
- Can Mike ask SC to approve new subcommittee at their 9/23 meeting?

Upcoming Meetings

- Steering Committee: September 23rd, 10am-12pm
- Vision 2032 Subcommittee Workgroups: TBD Oct-Nov
- Blackstone Needs Assessment: TBD late Oct
- Executive Committee: November 10th, 10am-12pm