Narragansett Bay Estuary Program Executive Committee Meeting

January 14, 2020 River Bend Farm Uxbridge, MA

### 1. Chair's Report

2. Program Highlights

3. Logistics and Administrative Issues

4. Upcoming Meetings

5. Action Items

## Program Report Highlights

- 1. Financials
- 2. Steering Committee Members & Officers
- 3. Internship Program
- 4. Revenue Diversification
- 5. CCMP Revision
- 6. Blackstone Needs Assessment kick-off
- 7. Manuscripts
- 8. Metadata Progress

#### NBEP Budgeted Direct Funds Remaining (December 31, 2019)

Disset Continue	EP	<b>T.</b> 1						
Direct Cost Item	FY15 (318)	FY17 (332)	FY18 (338)	STB (324)	FY19 (349)	Totals		
Personnel and Fringe	<b>\$</b> 0	<b>\$</b> 0	\$379,698	\$14,759	\$439,824	\$834,281		
Travel	<b>\$</b> 0	<b>\$</b> 0	<b>\$</b> 0	\$440	\$10,800	\$11,240		
Equipment	<b>\$</b> 0	<b>\$</b> 0	<b>\$</b> 0	<b>\$</b> 0	\$0	<b>\$</b> 0		
Supplies	<b>\$</b> 0	<b>\$</b> 0	<b>\$</b> 5,862	<b>\$</b> 0	\$500	\$6,362		
Contracts	<b>\$</b> 0	\$39,437	\$70,000	<b>\$</b> 0	<b>\$</b> 0	\$109,437		
URI STORMTOOLS		\$26,964				\$26,964		
CoastWise Partners		\$0				\$0		
CCMP Support TBD		\$12,473				\$12,473		
Blackstone Project Support TBD			\$70,000	\$0		\$70,000		
Synthesis Manuscript			\$5,000			\$5,000		
Other	\$188,171	<b>\$</b> 0	<b>\$</b> 165,148	<b>\$</b> 0	<b>\$</b> 57,351	\$410,670		
<u>Subawards</u>	\$188,171		\$153,000	\$0	\$35,000	\$376,171		
Clean Ocean Access	\$0					\$0		
Codiga	\$21,840					\$21,840		
August	\$0					\$0		
King	\$0					\$0		
East Providence	\$5,071					\$5,071		
Mass Audubon	\$28,760					\$28,760		
Pawtuxet River Authority	\$22,500					\$22,500		
MA DER	\$30,000					\$30,000		
City of Bristol	\$25,000					\$25,000		
City of Richmond	\$30,000					\$30,000		
Save the Bay	\$25,000					\$25,000		
Land Conservancy of N.Kingstown			\$5,000			\$5,000		
Town of Milbury			\$23,000			\$23,000		
Aquidnick Island Planning Comm			\$100,000			\$100,000		
Blackstone Capcity Grants TBD			\$25,000			\$25,000		
Research Grants TBD					\$35,000	\$35,000		
Other Administrative*	\$0	\$0	\$12,148	\$0	\$22,351	\$34,499		
TOTAL DIRECT BALANCE	\$188,171	\$39,437	\$620,708	\$15,199	\$508,475	\$1,371,990		
			TOTAL DIRECT BALANCE: ** \$1,371,990					
cludes Bental Space, Equipment Bental, Printing, Website Services, Conferences and Meetings, Conferences and Meeting Begistration								

<sup>\*</sup>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 Subwards are pulled out from the Other category.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Does not include indirect costs applied by NEIWPCC to all direct costs except subawards≥\$100K.

# Steering Committee Members & Officers

All 6 members with expiring terms reappointed—all accepted

All 7 nominees approved to receive an invite—all accepted

Invite letters to nominees going out this week

New SAC Co-Chairs approved—both accepted

Approval to use rotating EC Chairs until new chair—Sue K. today

Plan is for new members to debut at March SC meeting

## Formal Internship Program

More ideas/tasks than NBEP and partners can complete

Designed to enable school credit or payment

Connect with all: public, private, and community colleges

Program document very well received so far

Seeking two interns this year, with plans for growth

## Revenue Diversification

Present options: 1. EPA grants, 2. Partners (joint grant or fee-for-service), and 3. Workshop fees

Memo expected on outcome of December 18<sup>th</sup> NEIWPCC and EPA meeting

New EPA Funding Guidance expected this spring that may open new avenues

Creation of Finance Plan delayed until FY21

NBEP will do its best to pursue 2 grants per work plan



#### Goal #1: Water

- Objective #1: Reduce point source pollution to the Narragansett Bay Region.
  - Action #1: Upgrade x Taunton River wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs).
  - Action #2: Complete Phase 3 Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) project in Providence.
  - Action #3: Identify and reduce separate sewer overflows (SSO) in the region.
  - Action #4: Accelerate completion of activities consistent with local municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4s) permits.
  - Action #5: Implement hazard mitigation and adaptation activities.
- Objective #2 Reduce nonpoint source pollution (NPS) from the landscapes of the Narragansett Bay Region.
  - Action #1: Install and maintain stormwater management (SWM) BMPs on new development.
  - Action #2: Prioritize retrofit and maintenance of unregulated existing SWM practices.
  - Action #3: Repair, replace, and/or maintain outdated septic systems.
  - Action #4: Support smart growth that encourages development in accordance with local com, transportation, and hazard plans.
- (3) Objective #3: Improve the availability of the right quantity of clean water at the right time at the right place.
  - Action #1: Install and maintain practices/infrastructure that reduce coastal/upland flooding.
  - Action #2: Support water management that enables all beneficial uses.

#### Goal #2: Wildlife

- Objective #1: Permanently protect native ecosystems.
  - Action #1: Purchase or place an easement on prioritized lands that prevent habitat fragmentation and/or harbor drinking water source watersheds, wetlands, sensitive species, or cultural/heritage sites.
- (2) Objective #2: Restore ecosystem health and resilience.
  - Action #1: Install practices that help propagate native saltwater fish and wildlife species in the estuarine ecosystem.
  - Action #2: Install and maintain practices that help form more resilient coastal habitats (e.g., reefs, salt marsh, beaches).
  - Action #3: Install and maintain practices that create healthy floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas.
  - Action #4: Install and maintain practices that improve stream connectivity and species passage.
  - Action #5: Install and maintain practices in and around lakes that improve their ability to support wildlife and reduce/prevent algal blooms.
  - Action #6: Install and maintain practices that create healthy native upland vegetative communities that support native terrestrial wildlife, pollinators, and are free of invasives.
- (3) Objective #3: Management plans in place to support healthy/harvestable wildlife.
  - Action #1: Develop and execute species and ecosystem-specific management plans.



#### Goal #3: Quality of Life

- Objective #1: Create conditions that empower local stewardship and fair access to the benefits of healthy and resilient natural resources.
  - Action #1: Generate job opportunities in the "green economy" for all (interns, volunteers, FTE).
  - Action #2: Create and sustain fair and equitable public access to healthy natural resources.
  - Action #3: Ensure chances for citizens to meaningfully participate and have a voice in decisions that impact the water, wildlife, and quality of life in their community.
  - Action #4: Nurture conditions that support local "champions" in communities across the region.
- (2) Objective #2: Improve human wellbeing in local places across the region.
  - Action #1: Intentionally develop and maintain multi-purpose greens spaces that nurture water quality, wildlife, public health, and safety.
  - Action #2: Pursue outreach and education on the value of local natural resources and actions people can take to preserve them.
  - Action #3: Improve water quality safety monitoring, timeliness of advisories, and utility of signage.
- (3) Objective #3: Preserve local culture.
  - Action #1: Enhance and preserve locally important cultural, heritage, and related activities.

#### Outcomes

- (1) Enhanced public health.
- (2) Access to opportunities in green economy.
- Greater knowledge to drive selfdetermination.
- (4) Create and/or preserve sense of place.
- (5) Better quality of life for all residents.

#### Goal #4: Human Capacity to Implement the CCMP

- Objective #1: Gather, organize and share information necessary to inform CCMP actions.
  - Action #1: Pursue scientific investigations to answer outstanding questions and inform actions (e.g., identified data gaps, other).
  - Action #2: Support creation of new monitoring methods where needed to measure conditions.
  - Action #3: Create systems to compile, synthesize, organize, and share information.
  - Action 84: Develop models to inform actions and reactions in the Narragansett Bay Region.
  - Action 85: Pursue more coordinated, comparable, and useful monitoring data to track progress against short and long-term metrics and indicators.
- (2) Objective #2: Develop and sustain sound governance structure among those implementing the CCMP.
  - Action #1: Adequate staff expertise in place to carry out commitments in CCMP.
  - Action #2: Evaluate and integrate existing plans into CCMP and pursue new cross-boundary planning as necessary.
  - Action #3: Ensure laws, programs, and guidelines are in place for NBEP and partner organizations to meet obligations in CCMP.
- (3) Objective #3: Acquire funding to sustain NBEP and its partners implementing the CCMP.
  - Action #1: Develop adequate funding to support NBEP and partner actions under CCMP.
  - Action #2: Explore long-term financing options for executing the current and future CCMPs.
- (4) Objective #4: Provide technical assistance to those executing CCMP actions.
  - Action #3: Fill gaps by providing targeted technical assistance to hyper-local entities (municipalities, land trusts, small groups).

#### Outcomes

 Achievement of outcomes listed under Goals #1-#3.

#### Notes

Criteria for Inclusion of CCMP Actions:

- Mission
- 10-years
- Commitment

Goals, objectives, actions are grouped by primary impact of action. All goals overlap/interact via the system diagram below:



Where to capture cumulative impacts?

Where to capture development of and response to metrics?

How to best articulate and capture project maintenance?

Drinking water course water under Goal #1.3 or 2.1?

Where should outreach go?

Best use and placement of repeated terms like install, create, maintain, sustain, improve, enhance, etc.?

For wildlife, identifying ESA species/habitats, biodiversity hotspots, and iconic species will be useful.

CCMP Subcommittee will add detail and prioritization to likely create more specific actions (with metrics) under Goals #2 and #4.

#### Outcomes

- (1) Water quality standards are met in region.
- (2) Enough water in the right place at time.
- (3) More water and wildlife friendly developed lands.
- (4) Water at the right place at the right time.
- (5) Better quality of life for all human residents.
- (6) Greater connection to place.

#### Outcomes

- (1) Improved ecosystem health and resilience.
- (2) More secure and connected landscapes that support healthy watersheds and beneficial use.
- (3) Better quality of life for all human residents.
- (4) Greater connection to place.

## Blackstone Needs Assessment

Core group of 8 people attended productive first meeting

Brainstormed on site, community, and basin-level needs and key additional participants for further meetings

Some top needs so far: 1. greater watershed coordination, 2. more funding for local groups, 3. prioritize certain project types (SW, septic, passage, trash, access), and 4. better coordination and expansion of monitoring

Process for providing modest capacity funding to NGOs that assist NBEP with the needs assessment ready to roll out

Next meeting in February with expanded group



## Manuscripts

Technical Report manuscript declined by Environmental Management because piece was not international in scope

Now plan to submit to *Regional Studies in Marine Sciences* 

Julia T.'s environmental justice/public access paper in EPA review; plan to submit to *Marine Policy* in the Spring



## Metadata

Phase	GIS Layers Finalized	Metadata Drafted (Word)	Full Metadata Prepped (Excel)	Metadata Entered (ArcCatalog)	Data Tables Finalized	Data Table Metadata
Phase 1 (8)						
Openspace	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE
Population	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE
Shellfish	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE
Geoscales	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE
WQ – Aq. Life	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE
WQ - Rec	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE
Impervious	DONE	DONE	JB	JB	DONE	DONE
Land Use	DONE	YES!	JB	JB	JT	JT
Phase 2 (7)						
WWTF						
OWTS						
LEGACY CONTAM.						
SEAGRASS						
SALT MARSH						
BENTHIC						
BEACHES						
Phase 3 (6)						
SEA LEVEL RISE						
ESTUARINE FISH						
FRESHWATER FISH						
DO						
CHL						
STREAM INVERTS						



## Upcoming Meetings

CCMP Subcommittee—February 20<sup>th</sup> 10am-3pm Hopefully at Warwick Sewer Authority

Blackstone River Needs Assessment—Late Feb TBD

Executive Committee—March 10th 10am-12pm RIDEM, Room 200C1

Steering Committee—March 25<sup>th</sup>
10am-2pm
Narragansett Bay Commission, Training Room

