



NARRAGANSETT BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM

Executive Committee Meeting
June 6, 2022

Agenda

Subject	Presenter(s)	Shared via Zoom	Formal Committee Action Requested Today	Time
Meeting Open	Caitlin Chaffee, Vice Chair	Agenda	Approve February notes.	10 min
Proposed Workplan Amendment to Add New Task	Mike Gerel, NBEP	PPT	Consider sending new task to Steering Committee—\$10,000 subaward to RISD to support the August Blackstone top-to-bottom paddle event.	10 min
Background on Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and Justice 40	Caitlyn Whittle, EPA	None.	None.	15 min
NBEP BIL Workplan & Budget	Mike Gerel, NBEP	PPT	Consider sending BIL workplan and budget to Steering Committee.	30 min
NBEP §320 and SNEP Workplan & Budget	Mike Gerel, NBEP	PPT	Consider sending §320/SNEP workplan and budget to Steering Committee.	30 min
Committee Member Updates	Committee members	None	None.	20 min
Meeting Close	Mike Gerel, NBEP	None	None.	5 min

Decision #1

Does the Executive Committee approve the February 2, 2022 meeting notes?

Proposed FY2021 Workplan Amendment

- Blackstone River Expedition 2022 will take place August 12-14th
- Paddle the 48 mile length of river from Worcester, MA to Pawtucket, RI
- Builds on the needs assessment to connect people to explore past, present, and future of the river
- RISD is partnering with locals to lead the event
- NBEP proposes to add a new task to our FY2021 Workplan that will be accomplished via a **subaward \$15K to RISD for the paddle** to support:
 - Pay speakers (up to \$650 federal limit/person)
 - Print fold-out posters
 - Transportation
 - Insurance
 - Paddling/portage gear
 - Publication costs

Discussion and Questions

Decision #2

Does the Executive Committee support sending the new Blackstone paddle task to the Steering Committee for approval?

**Brief Overview of
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Funds
and
Justice40 Initiative**

Caitlyn Whittle, EPA

NBEP FY2022 Workplaning Introduction

- Two workplans/budgets this year
 - BIL
 - §320 and SNEP
- Plans are written to respond to needs on the ground in the study area today and federal requirements for use of funds
- EPA BIL Guidance is still pending—so may need to make changes and come back to committees—but plans specifically written to hopefully avoid having do so
- Funding kicks in October 2022

NBEP BIL Workplan and Budget

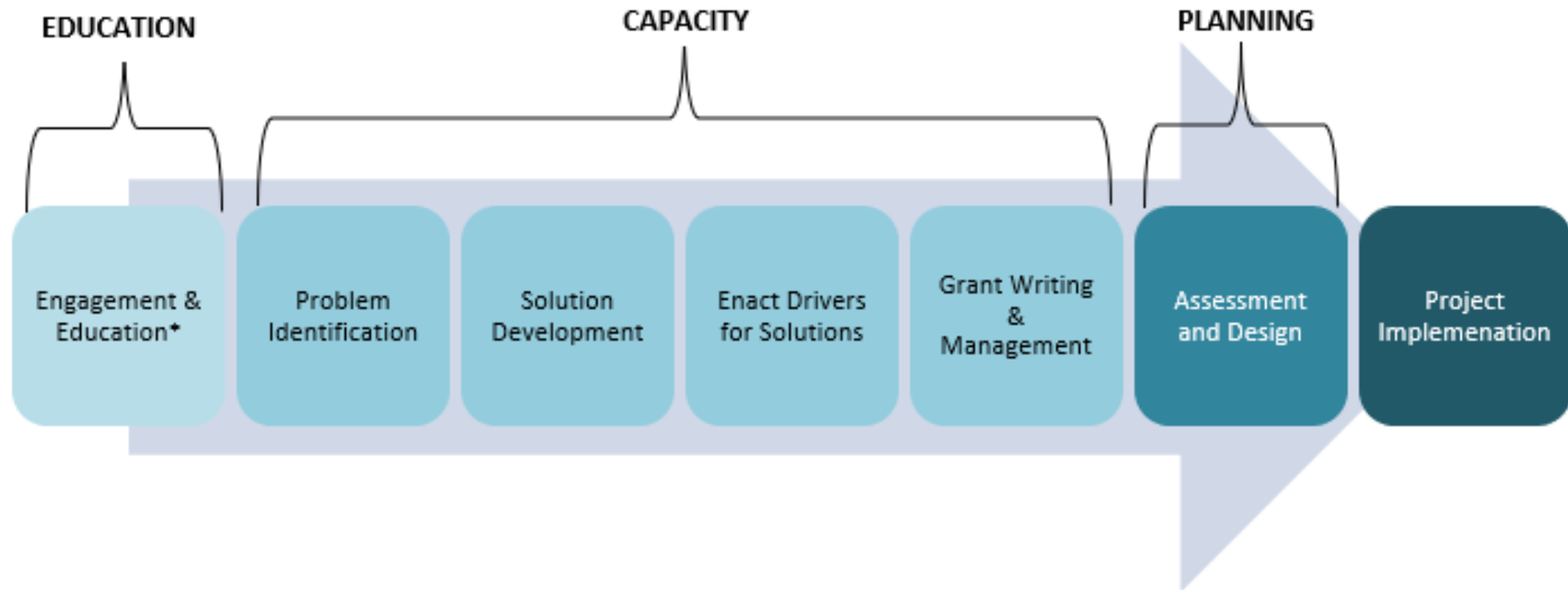
- \$909,857 available for FY2022
- **NO** non-federal match required as of now
- Propose to use **ALL** funds for 8 subawards to partners
- Pipeline of shovel-ready work is very limited
- **#1** barrier to more projects is lack of capacity at municipalities and community groups

NBEP BIL Workplan and Budget

- Will support new local capacity (5), plans (2), and education (1) that sets table for implementation of projects consistent with our CCMP
- Roughly 85% of subawards can benefit disadvantaged areas
- NBEP staff time to oversee subawards funded by \$320 million

Metrics

- “Projects advanced” will be the primary metrics for these subawards
 - **Projects** = improve pollution, habitat, climate resilience, environmental equity
 - **Advance** = move efforts closer to implementation through delivery of services below



- Completion of any of these activities constitutes a project advanced

5 Capacity Subawards

Objective 1	Recipients under Tasks 1-5	Projects Advanced	Location	Funding
Increase local capacity to advance projects.	1. Racial and Environmental Justice Committee —representatives of the BIPOC community that led development of the Providence Climate Justice Plan.	10	Lower South Providence, Washington Park, and Olneyville neighborhoods, Providence, RI	\$100,000
	2. SRPEDD —supports 22 municipalities in NBEP’s study area across the Taunton River Watershed.	12	Middle & Lower Taunton River Watershed, MA	\$100,000
	3. Old Colony Planning Council —supports 15 municipalities in our study area north and west of SRPEDD—from Brockton to Plymouth.	6	Upper Taunton River Watershed, MA	\$75,000
	4. Groundwork Southcoast —supports sustained improvement of the environment through community-based partnerships from New Bedford to Fall River, MA.	6	Fall River, MA	\$75,000
	5. Save The Bay —replicate work of Director of Habitat Restoration to support municipalities, state/federal agencies, and community groups.	15	Narragansett Bay Watershed, RI & MA	\$100,000

Capacity Outcomes

- A more secure network of local staff and expertise
- 50 qualify projects across the study area advanced closer to implementation
- Conditions in place to bring more federal funds and implement more projects in the region

2 Planning Subawards

Objective 2	Recipients under Tasks 6-7	Metrics	Location	Funding
<p>Advance planning for priority habitat connectivity projects.</p>	<p>Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association—support creation of more free-flowing cold-water streams in the watershed’s headwaters.</p>	<p>--A master planning document that prioritizes field-ground-trusted barriers ripe for removal --2 projects advanced</p>	<p>Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed, RI</p>	<p>\$134,857</p>
	<p>Nature Conservancy of Rhode Island—continue role as habitat connectivity contracting leader for RIDEM.</p>	<p>--60% designs, studies, permits, and construction bid materials for Main Street and Slaters Mill Dams --Feasibility alternatives for Elizabeth Webbing and Valley Falls Dams --4 projects advanced</p>	<p>Pawtucket to Lonsdale, RI</p>	<p>\$300,000</p>

Planning Outcomes

- More **shovel-ready** cold-water stream connectivity projects in the Upper Wood-Pawcatuck.
- Conceptual plans in place for the **largest fish passage effort** in Narragansett Bay watershed history.
- Conditions in place to bring more federal funds and implement more projects in the region

1 Education Subaward

Objective 3	Recipient for Task 8	Metrics	Location	Funding
Support targeted community engagement and education on the value of a healthy Blackstone River.	Blackstone River Watershed Council/Friends of the Blackstone—supports community stewardship, education programs, and advocacy for the river.	--25 contacts with community members --3 public events	Blackstone River Watershed, RI	\$15,000

Engagement Outcomes

- A more diverse mix of residents of the Blackstone River Watershed in RI are more knowledgeable about, connected to, and ready to speak to the value of the river for ecology, economics, and community.

Discussion and Questions

Decision #3

Does the Executive Committee support sending the BIL Workplan to the Steering Committee for approval?

§320 and SNEP Funds Workplan and Budget

- \$1,000,000 available for FY2022—\$750K §320 and \$250K SNEP
- 1:1 non-federal match required
- Propose 4 objectives and 15 tasks
- Very similar to last year—pulled 2 tasks required by bylaws and added new Tribal Land Acknowledgment task
- Contracts to support Tribal Land Acknowledgment, Vision 2032, outreach, and interns
- Two subawards
 - NBNERR to get a long-discussed sediment replacement project shovel-ready at Succotash Marsh in South Kingstown, RI
 - Clark University to continue support for Blackstone Watershed Manager in RI and MA

Objectives and Tasks

Objective	Task
1. Ensure Sound Program Management.	a. Program Leadership.
	b. Host Institution Program Support.
	c. EPA Work Plan and Budget Development and Tracking.
	d. Committee Support.
	e. Land Acknowledgment Development.
	f. Grant Writing.
2. Provide Watershed Analysis and Planning.	a. Science Working Group Facilitation.
	b. Status and Trends Updates.
	c. Vision 2032 Development.
	d. Blackstone River Initiative Implementation.
3. Award Project Funding.	a. Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Succotash Marsh Resilience Project Subaward.
4. Deliver Targeted Tech Transfer.	a. Annual Science Event.
	b. NEPORT Reporting.
	c. Southeast New England Program Support.
	d. Strategic Outreach.

Budget

Expense Category	Budget	Notes
Personnel and Fringe	\$528,822	4 staff and interns, FTE fringe of 39.26%.
Travel	\$12,700	Assume travel ramps up to normal this fall.
Supplies	\$3,700	
Contracts	\$100,350	Vision 2032 writing, outreach, website; land acknowledgement, community engagement; non-RWU interns.
Other		
Subawards	\$250,000	\$200K to Succotach Marsh, \$50K to Clark (\$91K last year).
Other Administrative	\$27,833	
Total Direct	\$923,405	
Total Indirect	\$76,595	20% on personnel only.
Total	\$1,000,000	

*Note that roughly \$550K of FY2021 funding is expected to be left at end of fiscal year. Propose to re-budget late summer to split between staff time and outside project contracts/subawards

Match

- TNC has committed \$191,380
- We need \$809,620 to match our \$1,000,000 award
- PLEASE complete and submit the Match Form to Mike ASAP
- Thanks!

NARRAGANSETT BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM

MATCH CERTIFICATION FORM

Certification of Use of Non-Federal Funds for Purposes of Providing Contribution of Services and Funds to the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program

EPA Cooperative Agreement: Roger Williams University for Narragansett Bay Estuary Program

Period of Performance: October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023

Organization: _____

Itemization of Services Contributed:

Salary:

<i>Staff Name</i>	<i>Salary Rate</i>	<i># Hours</i>	<i>Amount</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Fringe Benefits: (Fringe Benefit Rate: _____) _____

Travel: _____

Supplies: _____

Projects: _____

Total Direct Costs: _____

Indirect Costs: (Indirect Rate: _____) _____

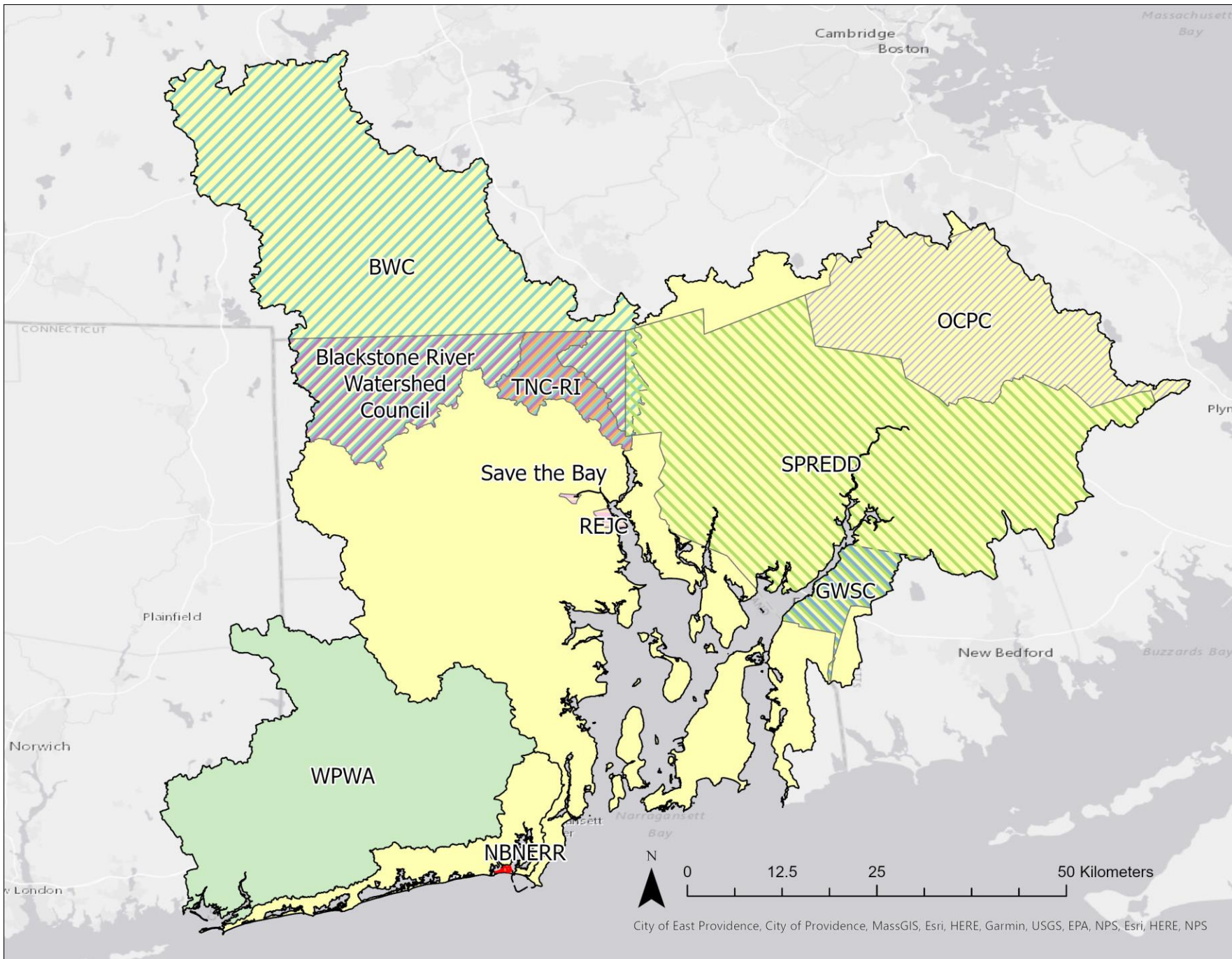
Total Costs: _____

Certification:
I certify that the costs for these services are provided as non-federal matching funds to the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program for the listed period of performance and are not used to match other federally funded project. Upon request, supporting documentation shall be available to Narragansett Bay Estuary Program by contacting the following person (name, phone, email): _____

Name _____ Title _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Revised: 5/16/2022



Subawards span:

- RI and MA
- All three sub-watersheds
- Upland and coast
- Urban and rural lands
- Large and small groups
- Established and new groups

Discussion and Questions

Decision #4

Does the Executive Committee support sending the §320/SNEP Workplan to the Steering Committee for approval?

Committee Round Robin Updates

Meeting Close

- Action Items
 - Match!
- Upcoming meetings
 - SC meeting June 16th 1-4pm
 - Vision 2032 meeting in July TBD

