



Peconic Estuary Program Policy Committee Meeting Summary
SCCC Culinary Arts and Hospitality Center
20 East Main Street, Riverhead
May 10, 2017 1:00pm

Welcome and Introductions (Rick Balla, US EPA)

See sign-in sheet (attached)

- Seth Ausubel retired as USEPA Chief, New York Watershed Management Branch on March 31st 2017. His interim replacement is Aisha Sexton-Sims.

Discussion and approval of April 2016 Meeting Summary (Rick Balla, US EPA)

No comments, approved

Roundtable Updates from Members (US EPA, NYS DEC, Suffolk County, Local Governments, TAC, CAC)

1. US EPA (Rick Balla):

- Long Island Sound Study (LISS) is starting a contract with Tetra Tech to develop loading and endpoints for Long Island Sound. LISS is holding a Management Committee meeting tomorrow, 5/11/17.
- EPA's Nitrogen Sensor Challenge- Phase I of EPA's Advanced Septic System Nitrogen Sensor Challenge. Teams were asked to develop sensors for use in Innovative/Alternative Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (I/A OWTS) to monitor their long-term performance in reducing nitrogen discharged to groundwater. The challenge is designed to demonstrate the effective use of low-cost nutrient sensors, encourage motivate partnerships to pilot sensors and show how the resulting data and information can be used to inform state and local decisions about nutrient pollution management. Total of \$55,000 available for prize. On June 26th, 2017 the finalists and honorable mention lists will be announced. The Nature Conservancy is offering prototype support for top 3 winners.

2. NYS DEC (Carrie Meek Gallagher):

- NYS DEC Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Round 14 funding is now available. \$87 million is available for this program. Eligible activities include: Wastewater Treatment Improvement, General Wastewater Treatment Improvement, Non-agricultural Nonpoint Source, Land Acquisition for source water protection, Salt storage, Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4).
- Several Long Island Nitrogen Action Plan (LINAP) workgroups have been developed for technical experts and key partners to advise the project management team. A Bio-



Extraction workgroup has been developed to explore the feasibility and efficacy of bio-extraction in the waters of Long Island, NYC and Westchester.

- LINAP Nassau and Suffolk County Subwatershed Planning Workgroups are developed and have held meetings. Workgroups are discussing how hydrodynamic modeling is being used to estimate nitrogen loading and flushing rates. The models will determine the priority subwatersheds within the Counties and inform nitrogen load reduction strategies.
3. Suffolk County (SC) (Peter Scully)
 - Suffolk County Executive, Steven Bellone, designated Peter Scully, Deputy County Executive for Administration, as his representative to the Peconic Estuary Program Policy Committee. Dorian Dale, Director of Sustainability and Chief Recovery Officer, will continue to serve as the Suffolk County representative to the PEP MC.
 - Bridgehampton National Bank is funding Sanitary Improvement Program.
 - Suffolk County Septic Demonstration Program updates.
 4. TAC (Matthew Sclafani- Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, TAC Chair)
 - The Peconic Estuary Solute Transport Model will be developed by USGS, this was recommended by the PEP Technical Advisory Committee Nitrogen Workgroup.
 - The PEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan is going to be updated within the next few years. The Environmental Monitoring Plan for the program will need to be updated and a workgroup is being developed as a subset of the TAC to advise and guide this process.
 - PEP TAC voted to approve adding pH sensor to Riverhead USGS Continuous Monitoring station at the November 16th 2016 TAC meeting.
 5. CAC (Christie Pfoertner- PEP Education and Outreach Coordinator)
 - Review of Citizens' Advisory Committee Meetings held in 2016 and review of the CCMP Public Input Survey results. The biggest concern of the CAC meeting attendees was septic system waste pollution.
 - On August 22nd the PEP's special topic CAC meeting titled: Nitrogen and our Impacts on the Estuary had over 60 attendees come to listen to presentations by representatives from Stony Brook's Center for Clean Water Technology, The Nature Conservancy, Concerned Citizens of Montauk, The Peconic Estuary Program and Suffolk County Department of Health Services. We would like to thank all of our presenters and attendees for showing their dedication to the health of the Peconic Estuary despite the beautiful summer weather.



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- In 2017, PEP will continue to focus on gathering CCMP input at CAC meetings and schedule lectures for the CAC meetings based on CCMP priority topics. Zoom is a video conferencing program that Cornell Cooperative Extension uses, this will be used at future CAC meetings to make the meeting available to those who cannot attend in-person.

Approval of addition of New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC) as a voting member of the PEP Management Committee

- Management Committee voting members approved the addition of NEIWPCC via email on May 5th, 2017.
- Policy Committee voting members approved.

PEP 2016 Highlights and 2017 Program Evaluation Review (Alison Branco- PEP Director)

- PEP is working with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to develop a Peconic Estuary Solute Transport Model to provide information for future policy and management tools to reduce nitrogen in the Peconic Estuary.
- The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 2017 Program Evaluation of the Peconic Estuary Program will be completed soon. The Program Evaluation will review PEP's actions and accomplishments between July 1, 2011- June 30, 2016. The EPA will be reviewing the Program Evaluation Package submitted by the PEP on March 15th, 2017 and participate in a Program Evaluation Site Visit on June 6th and 7th and a PEP MC meeting.
- Link to Presentation on PE Program Evaluation and 2016-2017 PEP Highlights : <https://www.peconicestuary.org/policy-committee-2017-pe-presentation-2/>

Community Preservation Fund Updates (Alison Branco, Kevin McDonald – CAC Chair)

- Refer to attached Peconic Estuary CPF Funding Proposal document. Discussed during the meeting.

2017 Budget Approval and Federal Budget Update (Alison Branco)

- Refer to attached PEP Proposed FFY 2017 Budget.
- Good news is that PEP is anticipated to get funded at \$600,000 through September, 2017. Sheri Jewhurst has not received official notice that the FFY2017 §320 funding will be available at \$600,000. Once we get that confirmation from the congressional vote on the Federal budget, we can be sure the FFY2017 budget total for each NEP is \$600,000.



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- Peter Scully motioned the approval of the PEP Proposed FFY 2017 Budget and Carrie Gallagher seconded the motion contingent on the final approval of the FFY 2017 Federal budget. If there are changes in the total available \$320 Funds, the Management Committee we have to approve the final PEP FFY 2017 budget.

Previous Grant Spending Status (Sarah Schaefer- PEP Program Coordinator/Sheri Jewhurst EPA)

- Refer to attached PEP Grant Spending Analysis document.

CCMP Revision Update (Alison Branco, William Wise- NY Sea Grant)

- Peconic Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan (CCMP) Revision, Facilitation Support Services contractor and Writing Support Services contractor were selected. NY Sea Grant is in the process of developing the contracts for these services.

New Business

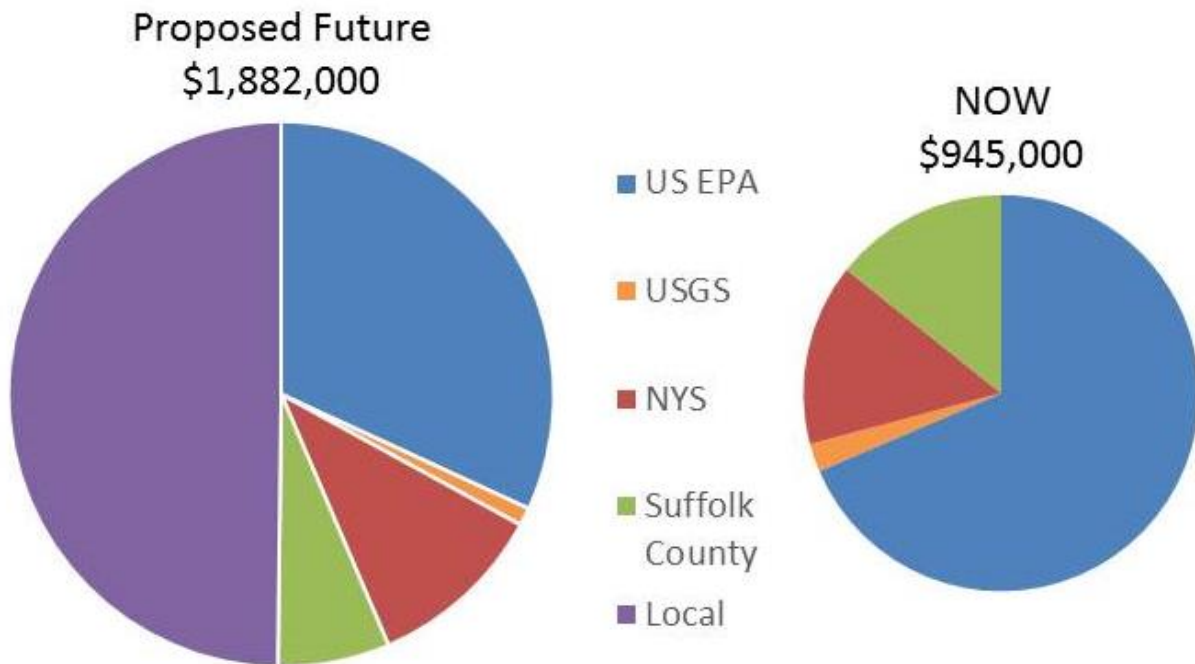
Adjourn

Peconic Estuary CPF Funding Proposal – FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

Local Government Contributions:

	East Hampton	Riverhead	Shelter Island	Southampton	Southold	Total
2016 CPF Revenue (Millions)	\$26.89	\$3.38	\$2.02	\$54.76	\$6.67	\$93.72
% by town	29%	4%	2%	58%	7%	100%
Allowable WQ (20% of total)	\$5,378,000	\$676,000	\$404,000	\$10,952,000	\$1,334,000	\$18,744,000
Allowable Peconic (10% of WQ)	\$537,800	\$67,600	\$40,400	\$1,095,200	\$133,400	\$1,874,400
Proposed Peconic						
Year 1	\$72,500	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$145,000	\$17,500	\$250,000
Year 2	\$217,500	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$435,000	\$52,500	\$750,000
Year 3	\$217,500	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$435,000	\$52,500	\$750,000
Year 4	\$274,050	\$37,800	\$18,900	\$548,100	\$66,150	\$945,000
Year 5	\$274,050	\$37,800	\$18,900	\$548,100	\$66,150	\$945,000

Note: Total of \$945,000 approximately matches current total of federal, state, and county contributions



Proposed funding mechanism:

- Use existing Inter-municipal agreement as model
- Towns pool funds in dedicated account administered at town level
- Contribution would be % based upon CPF revenues (e.g. as above)
- PEP staff would work with town staff to administer funding and projects

Peconic Estuary CPF Funding Proposal – FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

Work To Do:

With additional funding, **PEP could work with towns in enhanced ways:**

- **Write regional infrastructure proposals to obtain outside funding to augment CPF water quality programs - For Example NYS Bond Act and Capital programs, and planned federal infrastructure funds**
 - **Re-vamped \$100M proposal for septic rebate program**
 - **Regional Wetland Restoration Strategy to address rising sea level, inland wetland migration, and work to remove systematic roadblocks to restoration (e.g. solid waste management rules)**
 - **Regional Strategy for shellfish closure remediation**
 - **Comprehensive subwatershed restoration strategies for priority areas – designed and shovel ready projects**
- Facilitate coordination & administration of like elements of septic upgrade programs such as inspection, monitoring, site evaluation, administration, etc.
- Integrate regulatory, professional industry to build system for permit coordination with county
- Joint monitoring before and after projects for effectiveness evaluations & future site selection
- Conduct expert workshops and design charrettes on technical topics to train town staff & contractors
- Develop concept designs and conduct feasibility studies for potential projects
- Implement pilot projects, develop design templates, provide best practices guidance for project types with multiple applications
- Facilitate joint bidding and contracting for similar project types
- Administer and project manage grants (e.g. state or federal) for CPF projects
- Aid municipalities in administration of CPF water quality funds (e.g. administer competitive grant program with Peconic portion of funding) – potential to incorporate private sources

CPF funding is also essential to **preserve the current program**, including:

- Dedicated Federal funding matched by State and County funds
- Substantial long-term monitoring program, estimated at \$650,000 annually
- Public Education and Outreach Program that creates buy-in from the public
- Regional planning that integrates multiple levels of government, coordinates among towns, and involves all stakeholders
- Dedicated staff who
 - Secure grant funding for local projects on the ground
 - Assist town and village staff with project planning and implementation, regulatory compliance, & permitting, and seeking outside funding
 - Provide Technical Assistance to Towns and Villages on matters of water quality and habitat protection and restoration
 - Represent East End interests in Regional, State, and Federal initiatives
 - Serve as Liaison between State and County agencies and East End communities

PEP FFY 2017 Budget Proposal
Policy Committee Meeting May 10th, 2017

BALANCE	COST	US EPA \$320 funds	NYS DEC (OGL)	Suffolk County	NYS Budget Line Item	USGS Cost Share	NYS Other	CPF	TOTAL
Desc.									
Program Office	\$375,000	\$375,000							\$375,000
Staff	Program Director	\$142,000	\$142,000						\$142,000
	State Coordinator	\$102,000	\$102,000						\$102,000
	Program Coordinator	\$108,000	*\$108,000						\$108,000
Supplies	\$5,000	\$5,000							\$5,000
Travel	\$9,000	\$9,000							\$9,000
NEIWPC Prog. Man.	\$9,000	\$9,000							\$9,000
Monitoring	\$407,000	\$125,000	** \$200,000	\$125,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	???	\$407,000
Monitoring - County	\$205,000	\$80,000		\$125,000					\$205,000
Monitoring - USGS	\$157,000	\$0	** \$200,000			\$20,000			\$157,000
Seagrass Monitoring	\$30,000	***\$30,000							\$30,000
NADP Monitoring	\$15,000	***\$15,000							\$15,000
Education & Outreach	\$100,000	\$100,000							\$100,000
Mini-grants	\$0	\$0							\$0
Implementation	\$0	\$0							\$0
TOTAL	\$882,000	\$600,000	**\$200,000	\$125,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	???	\$882,000

PEP FFY 2017 Budget Proposal

Balance	2017 US EPA \$320 Funds	2016 US EPA \$320 Funds	2015 US EPA \$320 Funds
Desc.			
Program Office	\$375,000	\$380,000	\$358,000
Monitoring	\$125,000	\$120,000	\$110,000
			\$45,000 (due to forward funding)
Education & Outreach	\$100,000	\$100,000	
Mini-grants	\$0	\$0	\$0
Implementation	\$0	\$0	\$87,000
Total	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000

*Continues Program Coordinator position for another year.

** NYS DEC funding will provide USGS Water Quality Monitoring funding for multiple years and full amount is not reflected in 2017 budget total.

***Annual seagrass & atmospheric deposition monitoring have been an ongoing part of the PEP's base program for many years. It was not included in the 2013 and 2014 budget tables because this monitoring had been forward-funded for those years.

PEP FFY 2017 Budget Proposal
Tentatively Approved by Management Committee March 8th, 2017

BALANCE	COST	US EPA \$320 funds	NYS DEC (OGL)	Suffolk County	NYS Budget Line Item	USGS Cost Share	NYS Other	CPF	TOTAL
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	State Coordinator	\$101,000	\$101,000						\$101,000
	Program Coordinator	\$107,000	*\$107,000						\$107,000
Supplies	\$5,000	\$5,000							\$5,000
Travel	\$11,000	\$11,000							\$11,000
NEIWPCC Prog. Man.	\$9,000	\$9,000							\$9,000
Monitoring	\$407,000	\$125,000	** \$200,000	\$125,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	???	\$407,000
Monitoring - County	\$205,000	\$80,000		\$125,000					\$205,000
Monitoring - USGS	\$157,000	\$0	** \$200,000			\$20,000			\$157,000
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Education & Outreach	\$100,000	\$100,000							\$100,000
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TOTAL	\$882,000	\$600,000	**\$200,000	\$125,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	???	\$882,000

PEP FFY 2017 Budget Proposal			
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Mini-grants	\$0	\$0	\$0
Implementation	\$0	\$0	\$87,000
Total	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000

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2017 PEP Grant Spending Analysis

PEP PROGRAM	EXPIRES SEPT. 2019				EXPIRES SEPT. 2019			PROGRESS NOTES		
	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	RFP	Contract	Final
PROGRAM OFFICE	\$192,000	\$135,966	\$184,689	\$0	\$196,066	\$43,550	\$140,000			
unspent	\$0	\$0	\$1,915		\$4,019	\$3,500	\$73,870			
MONITORING	\$118,000	\$332,034	\$50,000	\$0	\$150,000	\$254,941	\$110,000			
unspent	\$0	\$4,962	\$3,550		\$0	\$34,066	\$25,000	rebudgeted, see Climate Ready Assessment project		
EDUCATION & OUTREACH	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			
unspent	\$20,878	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	rebudgeted, see Climate Ready Assessment project		
IMPLEMENTATION	\$80,000	\$182,000	\$314,111	\$81,689	\$55,000	\$54,711	\$87,000			
Conceptual Habitat & Land Use	\$135							rebudgeted, see Climate Ready Assessment project		
Living Resources CCMP Tasks (4 new conceptual designs)		\$100,000						X	Contract being finalized	
Habitat Restoration Implementation			\$150,000					X	Signing	
Nitrogen Assessment			\$100,000					rebudgeted, see Nitrogen Source Loading Assessment		
PEP Talk Newsletter			\$8,800					rebudgeted, see Climate Ready Assessment project		
Mini-grants			\$6,800					X	X	3 complete, 1 near completion
Eelgrass bio-optical Study			\$35,311	\$46,689				X	X	Underway
Climate Ready Critical Lands Protection Strategy (CLPS)				\$35,000				X	Contract being finalized	
Nitrogen Source Loading Assessment					\$55,000			RFP drafted		
Climate Vulnerability Assessment						\$30,000		X	Contract being finalized	
Subwatershed Management						\$24,711				
Nitrogen Load Reduction Cost Assessment							\$87,000			
TOTAL 320	\$490,000	\$650,000	\$548,800	\$81,689	\$401,066	\$353,202	\$337,000			
Unspent	\$21,013	\$104,962	\$306,376	\$81,689	\$59,019	\$92,277	\$185,870			

							PROGRESS NOTES		
MATCH PROJECTS							RFP	Contract	Final
Subwatershed Management Plans Phase II							X	X	X
Subwatershed Management Plans Phase III							X	X	X
Reeves Bay Stormwater Implementation WQPRP							X	X	Underway
SC Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan							X	X	X
USGS WQPRP							X	X	X
Suffolk County MS4 program							X	X	X
Bay Scallop (WQPRP)							X	X	X
Sag Harbor (WQPRP)							N/A	X	
On-site Cluster Pilot (WQPRP)							X	X	X
Woodhull Dam (SC Capital)							X	X	Near completion
Wastewater Plan (WQPRP)							X	Signing	
Mosquito Control Monitoring (WQPRP)							X	X	
CCE Ag Stewardship (WQPRP)							X	X	X
Subwatershed Management Implementation (SC Capital)							X	X	Underway
HAB Action Plan (WQPRP)							X	X	Underway
Diadromous Fish Passage Design (SC Capital)							X	Signing	
Fertilizer Reduction (WQPRP)							N/A	N/A	X
Orient Decentralized Wastewater (WQPRP)							X	X	Cancelled
Indian Island Tidal Wetlands Restoration (NYS)							X	X	Underway
Upper Mills Dam (NYS)									
OTHER PROJECTS							PROGRESS NOTES		
Agricultural Stewardship Strategy (SC DEDP)							Complete		
Tidal Wetlands Status and Trends (DEC/WPDG)							Complete		
Suffolk County Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan							Complete		
Inter-municipal Agreement (municipalities)							Ongoing		
EPA 3VS Project							Underway		
EPA HIA							Underway		
LINAP							Underway		



SIGN-IN SHEET:
 PEP PC Meeting
 SCCC Culinary Arts and Hospitality Center
 20 East Main St.
 Riverhead, NY 11901
 May 10, 2017
 1PM

NAME	AFFILIATION	PHONE	E-MAIL
Sarah Schaefer	PEP	631-852-5866	sarah.schaefer@folkcounty.gov
Al Krupski	S.C. Leg	852-3200	
Parvaz Darye	SC EDP	853-4232	
Cory Humphrey	SC SWCD	852-3285	cory.humphrey@suffolkcounty.ny.gov
Kevin McDonald	CAC/TMC	631-829-3081 ext 86	kmcdonald@tmc.org
Sean O'Neil	Peconic Baykeeper	631-653-4804	seano@peconicbaykeeper.org
Kim Lato	Peconic Baykeeper	631-653-4804	info@peconicbaykeeper.org
Matt Scheleni	CCE	631-727-7850, 1377	ms332@cornell.edu
Gywnu Scuddeker	OFFICE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY C&G #2 LOWERY	631-852-3200	gywnu.scuddeker@suffolkcountyny.gov
Aisha M. Sexton	US EPA	212-637-3608	sexton-am5@aishae@epa.gov
Rick Balla	USEPA	212-637-3788	balla.richard@epa.gov
Sheri Jewhurst	USEPA	212-637-3035	Jewhurst.sheri@epa.gov
Dawn McLeagelas	MSDCE	631-444-2452	dawn.mcleagelas@dec.ny.gov
Christie Petherer	PEP CCE	631-327-7550	cp496@cornell.edu
Cornie Gallagher	NYSDEC	631-444-2445	Cornie.gallagher@dec.ny.gov

