



New York - New Jersey  
Harbor Estuary  
Program

**New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program  
Management Committee Meeting of September 25, 2006  
(October 30, 2006)**

1. The Management Committee meeting was convened at 290 Broadway, NYC. Bob Nyman chaired the meeting.
2. The minutes of the June 22, 2006 MC meeting were approved as written.
3. Cathy Yuhas gave an update on the Key Species document and said that it would be finalized by the end of the calendar year.
4. Yigal Gelb provided a PowerPoint presentation on the status of the Harbor Herons Conservation Plan. He noted that the sub-committee was working on it and expects to finalize it in early 2007. One of their aims is to demonstrate the importance of not only the breeding islands, but also the connection with foraging areas. Bill Sheehan commented that there were additional nesting sites in the Meadowlands that did not appear on the maps that were displayed. Mr. Sheehan will provide information to Mr. Gelb.
5. Laura Bartovics and Cortney Worrall gave an update on the Stewardship Grants. They are in the process of getting input from all the committees and work groups and plan to release an RFP in January 2007 based on the input. A review committee will be formed; keeping in mind that conflict of interest needs to be avoided. The MC felt that the process could easily become too labor intensive and that to the extent possible, the MC should act as the steering committee for the grants. Carter Craft suggested that additional outside grant making expertise should be sought and agreed to supply names of recommended people. The MC agreed that other experts should be consulted and asked to review the grant work plan and provide input. The MC agreed that the grants should support projects, not programs. The MC will determine the priorities for the RFP based on materials presented to them by Bartovics and Worrall.
6. Kerry Kirk Pflugh gave a status on the implementation review response. Several PC members have signed off on the MC recommended actions. Two of the PC members have requested a conference call to discuss it, which is now being set up.
7. The formation of the Public Access work group was discussed. It was noted that the two state coastal zone management programs, as well as other local, state and federal programs need to be engaged in the work group and should be invited to the next meeting. Nancy Welsh pointed out that there is a need for two-way communication between the government programs and the non-profit/advocacy

- groups to ensure that efforts are coordinated. The MC agreed that the Public Access Work Group was now an official work group on par with the other technical work groups.
8. Mr. Nyman noted that funding had been set aside in the last budget for administrative support of work groups/advisory committees. So far, the CAC is the only group that has expressed an interest in this. Mr. Sheehan said he would talk to the other CAC co-chair about their needs.
  9. The MC agreed that a four page brochure should be developed that discussed HEP. The brochure could be used for outreach purposes and for educating officials about the program.
  10. Cathy Yuhas presented three options that were developed by the Habitat Work Group for geographic areas that would be eligible for habitat site nominations. The MC selected a combination of two options, the core tidally-influenced area and the HRE Study Area. The MC also agreed that there was room for exceptions outside of this area in which the nominee can make a strong case for why their site should be approved
  11. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00.