



New York - New Jersey  
Harbor Estuary  
Program

**New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program**  
**Management Committee Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2004**  
(Approved Nov 18, 2004)

1. The meeting was convened at the Hudson River Foundation at 10:00 and chaired by Bob Nyman.
2. The minutes from the February 19, 2004 Management Committee meeting were reviewed and approved, with the addition of comments from Boris Rukovets. The minutes from April 4, 2004 were approved as written.
3. Porter-Ann Gaines and Joe Monaco provided an update on the river crossing sign project. They reported that there was a meeting with the PA bridge people and that they were supportive of the idea of placing signs at their crossings. Additional designs are being developed and should be submitted to the PA in September. Bob Nyman requested that copies of the designs also be provided to the HEP Office. Kerry Kirk-Pflugh asked about the previous discussion about putting more information on the signs about why estuaries are important. The group recalled that they decided not to add too much text at this time as these signs were intended more to familiarize people with the resources. More in depth educational signs can be planned in the future for other locations.
4. Bob Nyman provided an update on the Nutrient Work Group. He stated that a new draft approach to nutrient management was being prepared for the discussion by the NWG, including a draft proposal for management zones prepared by HydroQual, at EPA's request.
5. Pete Sattler gave an update on the Pathogens Work Group activities. He said that IEC had completed the requested methods comparative analysis. He also said that the QAPP for the stormwater work was at the EPA Edison office for review. Jim Olander is soliciting names for consideration as member of a model evaluation group.
6. Dennis Suszkowski lead a Powerpoint presentation on the CARP effort. He said that 99.9% of the field and analytical work was completed. He noted that while the data will be available, there would be no simple access without additional funding. A vision statement for CARP has been drafted and refers to coordination, creation of an ombudsman position, data maintenance, financial resources, and future monitoring needs.

Existing funds will basically be used up by the end of 2004. There is a 2005 shortfall for data management and coordination, but ESDC may have some additional funds to assist in the short term. He added that a roadmap for funding is needed for 2006 and beyond. It was noted that a recent Harbor Roundtable meeting was held at the request of Jim Tripp and that a 2006 legislative and environmental agenda was to be developed. Boris Rukovits asked who the target audience was for the Roundtable. Dr. Suszkowski said that he felt it was partly an effort to reinvigorate the DMMIWG and was thus targeted at previous members of that group.

CARP information would be presented at an upcoming St. Sinai contaminants meeting.

7. Laura Bartovics provided an update and handout on the outreach work. She said that the RFP for 2005 minigrants would be released in December 2004. She said that a joint press release was done for the 2004 minigrant awards and that at least four articles resulted. HEP is sponsoring 18 National Estuaries Day events between Sept 17<sup>th</sup> and October 3<sup>rd</sup>. She said that work would begin on the Stewardship targets after the NED events. Kerry Kirk-Pflugh said that NJDEP would like to coordinate and assist with future press releases.

8. Bob Nyman provided a handout and gave a brief update of the habitat mapping work that was performed by the HEP intern at NYC Parks. The GIS polygons that were produced that represent the sites on the HEP acquisition and restoration list will be added to the OASIS website that is currently linked to the HEP website.

9. Joel Bansleben is the lead on developing the Stewardship database utilizing the information that had been collected from an earlier survey. He said that in working with the contractor to develop the database, it is important to understand how people will use it. The purpose of the database is to facilitate the interaction of groups and to assist individuals find groups to get involved with. John Tavolaro suggested that it might be good to have an additional tier for agencies that manage properties that are looking for volunteers or are acting as stewards. Joel responded that the original intention was to use the database primarily for non-agency groups.

10. Cathy Yuhas handed out the latest draft of the CCMP Tracking Report and requested that comments be submitted by September 24<sup>th</sup>. The report will be used for HEP's triennial implementation review, as well as a resource for those interested in what HEP has accomplished.

11. Ms. Yuhas then handed out the draft reporting format for the Targets and Goals. This is the format that would be released on an annual basis showing, where data exists, where we are with respect to achieving the targets. Input is needed from a number of agencies and individuals to complete the report.

12. Pete Sattler gave an overview of the upcoming October ANEP meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas.

13. Carter Craft and Debbie Mans were not able to attend the meeting. Porter-Ann Gaines provided the CAC report. She said that the CAC is refining their priorities. There is an interest in focusing on public access, ensuring that there is a tie in between the HEP and LISS TMDLs, and finding a way for small groups to house their monitoring data within larger efforts. She noted that some steering committee seats still need to be filled people who are committed to being active on the committee.

14. During the public comment period, Mr. Bernie Blum expressed concern that the Arverne parcel is being segmented and that it should be preserved. He noted that the mosquito problem at Dubos Point continues to exist and that strip mining of topsoil from vacant lots by the Sanitation Department is ongoing.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.