

New York—New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program

Strategic Plan
October 2014



Planning Framework

- Action Plan 2011 – 2015 provides guidance on program
- Strategic Plan covers FY 14, FY 15 and unspent NEIWPCC funds and Organizational Priorities
- Sets stage for revised Action Plan starting in 2016 to help mark 20th anniversary of HEP and meet NEP Guidance

- Context

- Achievable, Scalable, Balanced, Looking toward new Action Plan

- Programmatic Goals

- Clean Up Pollution in the Estuary
- Restore Habitat and Ecological Health
- Improve Public Access
- Support an Economically & Ecologically Viable Estuary and Port
- Enable Public Education and Community Involvement

- Organizational Goals

- Capacity to better engage decision-makers and the public;
- Financial and technical resources to support HEP and partners;
- Governance that fosters cooperation and decision making.



#	Action Title	Description	Activities
1.2 & 1.3	Complete and Implement CSO Plans/Support for the Green Technology Initiative.	Stewardship: Upon completion of pathogen load allocation effort, complete all CSO Long-Term Control Plans and set targets for implementation.	Provide planning and technical support for specific LTCP permits. Focus on designated drainages and specific uses promoting green infrastructure.



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#	Action Title	Description	Activities
1.13 & 1.14	Control Floatables at their Sources/Support Shoreline Clean-ups.	Stewardship: Reduce the amount of floatables originating from street litter/ Enhance floatables controls/Support efforts to remove debris from	Advance best practices for floatables relative to the LTCP and MS4 permit process as well as assess opportunities to reduce pollution using upstream controls.



SCAPE Landscape Architecture

#	Action Title	Description	Activities
2.4b & 2.4c	Advance the Shallows and Shorelines TEC goals outlined in the HRE CRP/Consider Climate Change in Planning Habitat Restorations	Science: Address Target Ecosystem Characteristic priorities and associated quantitative goals for restoration, including support for preservation and restoration projects	Advance Urban Shorelines Protocol for use in a variety of urban conditions. Assess opportunities for improving mapping and data availability for shoreline and near-shore benthic habitat. Assess feasibility / knowledge gaps for nature-based risk reduction



#	Action Title	Description	Activities
3.1	Recognize and Address Challenges to Public Access.	Stewardship: Identify areas within the region where public access is limited and opportunities to develop access should be explored.	Update public access inventory and stewardship map to identify needs and support small grant program. Establish standard for “quality” access. Showcase quality sites and support efforts in underserved

CARP



Contamination Assessment and Reduction Project

#	Action Title	Description	Activities
4.3	NY - NJ Harbor Sediment Transport / Sediment Budget model	Science: Improve understanding of the movement of sediment into and out of the Harbor system, and the mechanisms that drive those movements. Evaluate the existing results of the CARP Model and determine the need for	Launch CARP II to evaluate the current status of sediment contamination within the Estuary and help track source and fate of contaminated sediment in the harbor.



#	Action Title	Description	Activities
5.2 & 5.3	Communicate Environmental Status of the Estuary/Enhance Estuary Education and Stewardship	Science: Communicate the environmental status of the Estuary. Provide small grants to non-profit groups and academic institutions to enhance Estuary education and demonstrate	Continue and expand citizen science efforts. Host a Raritan Bay conference. Improve HEP Website and communications. Identify sources of funds for small stewardship grants.

Citizens Advisory Committee

- Public input on program priorities
 - *Public Access/Stewardship*
 - *Citizen Science*
 - *Floatables*
- Share information on other important issues across the estuary
 - *Creation and implementation of the LTCPs*
 - *Local monitoring of water quality / estuary health*
 - *Remediation of Superfund sites*
 - *Toxics/fish advisory issues*
 - *Oil shipments*
- Provide a collective voice for additional resources for the estuary