

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND EDUCATION

VISION	<i>To establish and maintain a healthy and productive Harbor/Bight ecosystem with full beneficial uses.</i>
GOALS	<i>To provide for public input to program and policy decision-making on behalf of the diverse stakeholders in the Hudson/Raritan Estuary and the New York Bight. To maximize public involvement in the implementation of the CCMP.</i>
OBJECTIVES	<i>E-1 Provide for public input to ongoing program and policy decision-making for HEP. E-2 Build community awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the ecosystem and its importance; and encourage action at the community level. E-3 Promote understanding of and involvement in the implementation of the CCMP recommendations. E-4 Increase communication and foster cooperation among stakeholders and others involved with ecosystem management, protection, and stewardship activities. E-5 Promote individual and group involvement and sponsorship of education and stewardship activities to clean up and restore the ecosystem. E-6 Enhance educational opportunities for all education levels. E-7 Secure additional funding and raise awareness of funding sources to increase public involvement and education activities.</i>

WHY IS PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND EDUCATION IMPORTANT?

HEP has recognized, from the earliest days of the program, that an informed and active public is vital to HEP's success, and that the public is composed of various stakeholders, each with differing and often competing interests. Developing and implementing an effective plan requires the imagination, attention, and support of these stakeholders.

A public that understands the water quality, habitat protection, and related natural resource problems of the Harbor/Bight, and possible solutions, can make informed choices about its management. The Harbor/Bight region is fortunate to have such a public, including activists who have led efforts to adopt an ecosystem approach¹ to environmental protection.

¹The ecosystem approach keeps a comprehensive focus on the environment and living resources of the Harbor/Bight region, rather than looking narrowly at issues in a piece-meal fashion.

Actions included in this Plan recognize that each individual has an opportunity and an obligation to contribute to the solutions. A knowledgeable public is critical to the funding of improvement and restoration actions, and to the creation of a constituency for individual and corporate life-style changes that will be vital to the future integrity of the Harbor/Bight. Our rates may be raised to pay for expanded sewage treatment, and we have to change our habits by sorting our garbage or using less fertilizer on our lawns. Businesses must recycle waste byproducts and improve operating systems. As members of civic and environmental groups, we may be called on to participate in cleanup campaigns and to speak out on important local concerns.

The challenging tasks of developing public understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of the Estuary have been and should continue to be the primary objectives of the HEP public participation program.

WHAT IS THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION STRATEGY?

HEP has supported an active bi-state public involvement and education strategy since early 1989. This strategy includes tasks to increase public awareness of Harbor/Bight issues and encourage public participation in CCMP development, as well as foster public consensus for long-term support and implementation of the CCMP.

A Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) has provided a conduit for public involvement in the program, and public education has been promoted through 1) publication of fact sheets, newsletters, and posters; 2) award of mini-grants for community projects; and 3) sponsorship of public meetings and issues forums.

In developing the draft CCMP, HEP offered an unusual opportunity: ***the public was asked to help develop appropriate management actions for the resource, rather than the more traditional approach of merely commenting on a plan prepared by government agencies.***

HOW DOES THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATE?

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

Individuals may actively participate in HEP through the CAC, which was established as an official committee of the Management Conference at the initiation of the program. The CAC is formally organized as an open, proactive, membership group with a voting steering committee of 24 members, 12 from each state. Members represent geographical sectors of the region and five categories of stakeholders:

- ◆ corporate business, commercial, and port interests;
- ◆ recreational users - boaters, bathers, and fishing interests;
- ◆ environmental organizations;
- ◆ civic and local activist groups; and
- ◆ educators.

The two co-chairs and two additional designated representatives participate in the Conference Management Committee as well.

The purpose of the CAC, as described in formally adopted By-Laws, is to provide public input to program decision-making on behalf of the diverse stakeholders in the Hudson/Raritan Estuary and New York Bight. To accomplish this purpose, its members participate in formulating work programs, monitor progress of principal investigators, and assist in developing and implementing the CCMP.

The CAC works to promote awareness and understanding of program issues, goals, and recommendations, and to ensure two-way communication between the Management Committee and the public.

Education Mini-grants

One of the more important HEP activities has been the award of mini-grants (up to \$4,000 each) to environmental education or community action organizations to 1) expand or broaden their curricula to focus on the Harbor/Bight, or 2) to conduct projects that address specific problems or increase awareness and participation. Since the

inception of this program, 42 grants totaling \$153,000 have been competitively awarded. These grants have greatly increased the number of people educated about the Estuary and unified organizers and participants in efforts to enhance and protect regional resources.

Two libraries have been established which feature ecosystem research materials, one at the Hudson River Foundation, and the other at Liberty State Park Interpretive Center.

Through the mini-grant program, HEP has also extended the work of other groups. For example, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection developed public service announcements about the clean streets/clean beaches program. HEP supplemented this work with funds to place posters in the New York City transit system.

Other Public Outreach Activities

A dozen regional conferences and technical seminars have been sponsored at the American Museum of Natural History; Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey; Manhattan College in Riverdale, New York; the State University of New York at Stony Brook; Rutgers University; Mohonk House at New Paltz, New York; and the Marine Sciences Research Consortium at Sandy Hook, New Jersey.

The Hudson River Foundation organized a series of "First Tuesday" seminars to highlight scientific research related to the Harbor/Bight; these seminars are now co-sponsored by CAC and the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC). A newsletter, **The Tidal Exchange**, is distributed, as well as information sheets on pollution topics such as "Combined Sewer Overflows" and "Pollution in the Harbor".

A series of "tip strips" will be distributed with paychecks or advertisements, and at recreation sites. These are designed to encourage people at home, at work and outdoors, to make choices that can help reduce pollution and protect the Estuary.

Other outreach activities and products include a traveling exhibit, a half-hour television program,

Alive in an Urban Harbor, festivals and special events, and periodic distribution of literature to a regional mailing list of several thousand.

Attendance by HEP representatives at events and local government meetings has been effective in distributing HEP information and in networking with the interested public. A contact list is being compiled to reach out to local groups and schools participating in or sponsoring stewardship projects within the Harbor/Bight area.

WHAT HAS THE PUBLIC SAID?

During October and November, 1993, the CAC and STAC sponsored eight regional "Help the Harbor" public meetings to assess public concerns with regard to restoring the Harbor/Bight. These meetings were held prior to writing the draft CCMP so that the plan could reflect public priorities. The meetings were co-sponsored by 32 organizations and over 350 people participated.

The primary message from these meetings was "Think globally, act locally". Participants advised HEP that people must be reached where they live, work, and play -- to develop a stewardship for the natural resources they are using.

The Appendix to the proposed CCMP, dated February 1995, included a summary of the comments received at the "Help the Harbor" meetings, as well as responses to how those comments have been addressed.

In March and April, 1995, HEP sponsored an additional 10 regional public meetings, plus one public hearing, to announce, and to receive comments on, the proposed CCMP. The meetings were held at locations throughout the Harbor/Bight region and attracted 58 co-sponsors and a total of nearly 200 participants.

Many of the themes raised by the public at the CCMP meetings echoed and built upon comments made at the earlier "Help the Harbor" meetings. A summary of major comment themes is included in the Summary of Responses to the Public Comments received on the Proposed CCMP (Appendix 7). These themes are addressed

throughout the CCMP; however, several are specifically related to public participation, namely:

- Increase outreach and education for the general public.
- Better involve local governments.
- Make the Plan more locally relevant.
- Improve access and availability of information to the public and others.

Specific priorities of the public for increased involvement and education related to these themes included:

- Establishment of a HEP "800" telephone number.
- Improved waterfront access.
- Expanded environmental education for children.
- Outreach to municipal officials.
- A HEP "speakers bureau".
- An expanded mini-grants program.
- Participation of grassroots organizations in the dissemination of HEP printed material.
- Signage identifying rivers and waterways and protection of habitat.

Appendix 7 presents a summary of the public comments at both the "Help the Harbor" meetings and the CCMP public meetings and details how these comments have been addressed in the final CCMP or in the proceedings of the HEP Management Conference.

THE PLAN

The completion of the CCMP will move the program into the implementation phase. With continued funding, HEP proposes to carry out the public participation program as it has proceeded to date. The CAC will continue to be the voice of the public on committees representing the HEP Management Conference. Education mini-grants will continue to be a program priority for available public participation funding. Public outreach

activities will also be continued, informing the public and giving updates on program implementation. HEP will seek to maximize the awareness and involvement of all the program stakeholders, from the general public to the business and industrial interests affected by the Plan's commitments and recommendations.

Approach

HEP has identified the following specific objectives:

- Provide for public input to ongoing program and policy decision-making for HEP.
- ◆ Build community awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the ecosystem and its importance; and encourage action at the community level.
- ◆ Promote understanding of and involvement in the implementation of the CCMP recommendations.
- ◆ Increase communication and foster cooperation among stakeholders and others involved with ecosystem management, protection, and stewardship activities.
- ◆ Promote individual and group involvement and sponsorship of education and stewardship activities to clean up and restore the ecosystem.
- ◆ Enhance educational opportunities for all education levels.
- ◆ Secure additional funding and raise awareness of funding sources to increase public involvement and education activities.

Support of public involvement and education is the best long-term investment HEP can make to guarantee the successful restoration and protection of the Harbor/Bight. Public stewardship of the ecosystem is crucial to continued support and funding of improvement programs, and for the lifestyle changes that must occur to ensure a healthy ecosystem for future generations.

The States of New York and New Jersey are receiving HEP funds for public involvement and education and are conducting outreach activities and awarding mini-grants to support all of HEP's public involvement and education objectives.

Commitments and Recommendations

OBJECTIVE E-1 *Provide for public input to ongoing program and policy decision-making for HEP*

ACTION E-1.1

Public Participation Strategy

HEP's Public Participation Oversight Task Force will review and update the public participation strategy, including the targeted audiences, based on the CCMP.

ACTION E-1.2

Mechanisms for Formal Citizen Participation in HEP Decision-making

- STAC and CAC will continue to provide representatives to all HEP work groups and committees, including the Management Committee.
- STAC and CAC will meet regularly to update members on the progress of CCMP implementation and to solicit input for Management and Policy Committee meetings.
- STAC, CAC, and the states will sponsor activities to share progress with the targeted audiences in HEP's public participation strategy and may recommend amendments to the public participation strategy.

OBJECTIVE E-2 *Build community awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the ecosystem and its importance; and encourage action at the community level*

HEP will enhance its public involvement and education program and the state public outreach programs. Collectively, these programs will provide consistent public information and ensure

that the public receives current information on the implementation of HEP commitments and recommendations.

ACTION E-2.1

Information Development and Distribution

HEP, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC, and STAC will continue development and distribution of information, such as mini-bulletins, fact sheets, fish and seafood advisories (see Objective T-10), and other information addressing the ecosystem and lifestyle issues.

ACTION E-2.2

Traveling Exhibit

HEP's Public Participation Oversight Task Force will schedule use of the traveling exhibit at selected community events and public venues.

- NJDEP will provide for transportation of the traveling exhibit within a 25-mile radius of Liberty State Park for selected events for one year, June 1995 to June 1996.

ACTION E-2.3

Use of Media to Distribute Information

HEP, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, and CAC will encourage print and broadcast media to distribute information on Estuary issues.

ACTION E-2.4

Ongoing Outreach Activities

Where possible, HEP issues will be incorporated into ongoing outreach activities conducted by all members of the Management Conference, through personal contact, organizational newsletters, and press releases.

ACTION E-2.5

Public Access Opportunities

HEP will encourage waterfront events that feature conservation of the ecosystem and that provide physical and programmatic access to the Harbor's waters and to the water's edge.

OBJECTIVE E-3 *Promote understanding of and involvement in the implementation of the CCMP recommendations*

ACTION E-3.1

Information on CCMP Actions

USEPA, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, and CAC will provide information on CCMP recommendations and commitments to local government officials and other stakeholders, such as business, industry, and civic groups.

ACTION E-3.2

Cooperation on Plan Implementation

NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, and CAC will encourage cooperation among stakeholders to implement the Plan.

ACTION E-3.3

Meetings and Briefings

USEPA, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, and CAC will hold briefings, meetings, and workshops for local officials, user groups, and elected representatives to stimulate action. Meetings and briefings will be tailored to the needs of each audience, and an effort will be made to hold meetings in varying locations within the Harbor core and the Bight program areas.

OBJECTIVE E-4 *Increase communication and foster cooperation among stakeholders and others involved with ecosystem management, protection, and stewardship activities*

ACTION E-4.1

Citizens Advisory Group

HEP will continue a citizens advisory group within the post-CCMP Management Conference structure to:

- ◆ Provide input to the HEP Management and Policy Committees and serve as an organizational link between the community and the Management Conference;
- ◆ Encourage annual progress reports to the public on implementation activities; and
- ◆ Solicit feedback for enhancements or amendments to the CCMP.

ACTION E-4.2

Science and Technical Advisory Committee

HEP will continue a science and technical advisory committee within the post-CCMP Management Conference structure to:

- ◆ Provide input to the HEP Management and Policy Committees;
- ◆ Serve as a link between the broader scientific community and the HEP Management Conference; and
- ◆ Provide scientific seminars on HEP-related topics.

ACTION E-4.3

Cooperation with Grassroots Organizations

HEP and NJDEP will coordinate with grassroots organizations to develop and exchange data and information, e.g., American Littoral Society National Estuaries Initiative.

OBJECTIVE E-5 *Promote individual and group involvement and sponsorship of education and stewardship activities to clean up and restore the ecosystem*

ACTION E-5.1

Continuation of Mini-grant Program

NYSDEC and NJDEP will continue to implement a mini-grant program to support HEP education and stewardship initiatives.

- NJDEP will conduct a mini-grant program for public outreach to New Jersey county governments and other organizations.

ACTION E-5.2

Expansion of Mini-grant Program

NYSDEC and NJDEP will expand the mini-grant program to support a greater number and diversity of education and stewardship projects. Outreach efforts will be expanded to advertise availability of funds and locate eligible recipients.

ACTION E-5.3

Participation in Watershed Planning and Ecosystem Activities

HEP, USEPA, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC, and STAC will encourage groups to organize and participate in watershed planning and ecosystem restoration, protection, and monitoring activities, such as beach grass planting, water watch, and streambank, tributary, and beach cleanups. See Action H-1.2 for proposed resource center(s).

ACTION E-5.4

Support for Special Events and Exhibits

HEP, USEPA, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC, and STAC will encourage organizations and institutions to reach broad audiences through special events and exhibits that support HEP goals, such as storm drain stenciling projects.

ACTION E-5.5

Continuation of Public Stewardship Activities

HEP recommends that NYSDEC and NJDEP continue their public stewardship activities.

OBJECTIVE E-6 *Enhance educational opportunities for all education levels*

ACTION E-6.1

Estuary-wide Education Program

HEP's Public Participation Oversight Task Force will encourage development and implementation of an Estuary-wide education program for stakeholder organizations and others.

-- NJDEP will coordinate activities with "Environmental Education in New Jersey: A Plan of Action", 1994.

ACTION E-6.2

Integration of HEP Activities with Educational Programs

NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC, and STAC will integrate activities and outreach materials with educational programs for all age levels at both schools and non-formal education institutions, such as museums.

ACTION E-6.3

Use of Libraries and Computer Networks

HEP will make educational materials available through existing libraries and computer networks.

ACTION E-6.4

Phone Line for Public Requests

HEP will consider establishing an "800" number for public information requests. If funding is not available, HEP will seek an appropriate local sponsor.

ACTION E-6.5

Speakers Bureau

HEP will consider establishing a speakers bureau to serve the needs for public information and outreach (see Action E-3.3).

ACTION E-7.1

Outside Funding Sources

HEP's Public Participation Oversight Task Force will encourage all organizations involved in public involvement and education efforts, both

OBJECTIVE E-7 *Secure additional funding and raise awareness of funding sources to increase public involvement and education activities*

governmental and non-governmental, to seek outside funding sources and opportunities for the HEP program.

◆ Identify potential funding sources, such as USEPA educational grants, foundation funding, and corporate grants.

- ◆ Seek opportunities, as appropriate, to apply Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) funds and natural resources damages accounts to HEP recommendations. The State of New Jersey will consider funding the recommendations identified in the CCMP from appropriate funding sources that currently exist or may arise in the future. Funding such actions can only proceed in accordance with statutory and contractual obligations of the state.
- ◆ Publicize HEP and other grant opportunities through personal contacts, organizational newsletters, and press releases.

ACTION E-7.2

Increased Mini-grant Funding

HEP's Public Participation Oversight Task Force will seek additional ways to increase funding to the mini-grant program.

COSTS OF IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

Many of the commitments and recommendations in the Public Involvement and Education component of the CCMP can be accomplished through the effective use of base program resources. In fact, full implementation of the CCMP relies, in large part, on continued operation, and funding at current levels, of existing programs to meet public involvement and education needs. This component of the CCMP itemizes 11 new HEP-driven commitments; these actions, to be accomplished using base program resources, represent a major commitment to HEP implementation.

The CCMP also includes 16 significant commitments and recommendations for public involvement and education that are associated with enhanced program funding. One commitment of \$25,000, one recommendation for \$150,000, and additional commitments and recommendations, based on continued funding for HEP, are noted on the table.

Table 31(ec). Enhanced Program Costs for Public Involvement and Education

ACTION	COMMITMENTS		RECOMMENDATIONS	
	Cost	Cost/Year	Cost	Cost/Year
ACTION E-1.2: Share progress with targeted audiences and recommend amendments to public participation strategy.		+		
ACTION E-2.1: Continue development and distribution of information addressing the ecosystem and lifestyle issues.		+		
ACTION E-3.2: Encourage cooperation among stakeholders to implement the management plan.		+		
ACTION E-3.3: Hold briefings, meetings, and workshops for local officials, user groups, and elected representatives.		+		
ACTION E-4.1: Continue a citizens advisory group.		+		
ACTION E-4.2: Continue a science and technical advisory committee.		+		
ACTION E-4.3: Coordinate data development and exchange with grassroots organizations.		+		
ACTION E-5.1: Continue a mini-grant program.	\$25,000 (NJ)	+		
ACTION E-5.2: Expand the mini-grant program.		+		
ACTION E-5.3: Encourage groups to organize and participate in ecosystem restoration, protection, and monitoring activities.		+		
ACTION E-5.4: Encourage organizations to reach the public through activities that support HEP goals.		+		
ACTION E-5.5: Continue stewardship activities in NY and NJ.			\$150,000	
ACTION E-6.1: Encourage development and implementation of estuary-wide education program for stakeholder organizations and others.			*	
ACTION E-6.2: Integrate activities and materials with educational programs for all age levels.			*	
ACTION E-6.3: Make materials available through existing libraries and computer networks.		+		

BENEFITS OF IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

Full implementation of the commitments and recommendations in the Public Involvement and Education section of the Plan, including the development and implementation of a comprehensive regional strategy, would result in:

- ◆ Increased community involvement in and understanding of the ecosystem;
- ◆ Increased communication and cooperation between the public and the many groups involved with ecosystem protection; and
- ◆ Increased educational opportunities for all age groups.

As noted in the preliminary discussion, however, we are a long way from reaching these endpoints.

Nevertheless, through the implementation of the commitments and recommendations in this section of the CCMP, HEP will achieve incremental progress toward ecosystem goals on a system-wide basis.

This effort will foster the consideration of ecosystem needs at every level of government and among the public so that the economic progress of the region no longer comes at the expense of the natural ecosystem. Quantifiable benefits of the measures identified in this Plan must be identified on a case-by-case basis, and in consideration of past, present, and future impacts of human activity in the region. It is important to recognize that many of the benefits of ecosystem protection are non-quantifiable and range from aesthetic considerations to the maintenance of a healthful environment for the public.

Table 32(es). Summary – Public Involvement and Education

OBJECTIVE	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY ¹	TARGET DATE	ESTIMATED COST	STATUS ²
OBJECTIVE E-1: Provide for public input to ongoing program and policy decision-making for HEP.				
ACTION E-1.1: Review and update the public participation strategy, including the targeted audiences, based on the CCMP.	HEP Public Participation Oversight Task Force (PPTF) ^a	Mar 1996	Base program	C/N
ACTION E-1.2: Mechanisms for formal citizen participation in HEP decision-making.				
-- Continue to provide representatives to all HEP workgroups and committees.	STAC & CAC	Ongoing	Base program	C/N
-- Meet to update members on the progress of CCMP implementation and to solicit input for Management and Policy Committee meetings.	STAC & CAC	Ongoing	Base program	C/N
-- Sponsor activities to share progress with the targeted audiences in HEP's public participation strategy, and recommend amendments to the public participation strategy.	STAC, CAC, NYSDEC, NJDEP	Ongoing	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N

Note: It is HEP's goal that all the recommendations in the CCMP become commitments.

-- In some cases CCMP actions are recommendations, not commitments, because responsible entities require resources to implement the action. HEP will advocate making these resources available.

-- In other cases, CCMP actions are recommendations because HEP has not obtained the commitment of regulated entities and other responsible entities to implement the action. By issuance of this CCMP, HEP seeks the commitment of the responsible entities and requests that they step forward to voluntarily agree to implement the actions.

¹ Responsible entities may accomplish the actions directly or via contract or grant.

² C/O - An ongoing commitment, not driven by the HEP CCMP

C/N - A new commitment, driven by the HEP CCMP

R - Recommendation

^a PPTF includes USEPA, the States of NY and NJ, NYC and other NY and NJ local interests, CAC, STAC, and others as may be deemed appropriate for CCMP implementation.

+ Commitment based on continued funding of minimum core program of HEP at the recommended full amount of \$690,000/yr. At present, there is a commitment for only \$300,000 (see Objective S-1).

(Continued)
Table 32(es). Summary — Public Involvement and Education

OBJECTIVE	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY ¹	TARGET DATE	ESTIMATED COST	STATUS ²
OBJECTIVE E-2: Build community awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the ecosystem and its importance; and encourage action at the community level.				
ACTION E-2.1: Continue development and distribution of information addressing the ecosystem and lifestyle issues.	HEP, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC, STAC	Ongoing	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N
ACTION E-2.2: Use traveling exhibit at community events and public venues.	HEP PPTF	Ongoing	Base program	C/N
-- Provide for transportation of the exhibit within a 25-mile radius of Liberty State Park.	NJDEP	Jun 1995 - Jun 1996	Base program	C/N
ACTION E-2.3: Encourage print and broadcast media to distribute information on estuary issues.	USEPA, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC	Ongoing	Base program	C/N
ACTION E-2.4: Incorporate HEP issues into ongoing outreach activities by all members of the Management Conference.	HEP, USEPA, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC, STAC	Ongoing	Base program	C/N
ACTION E-2.5: Encourage events that provide physical and programmatic access to the Harbor's waters.	HEP, USEPA, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC	Post-CCMP	Base program	C/N
OBJECTIVE E-3: Promote understanding of and involvement in the implementation of the CCMP recommendations.				
ACTION E-3.1: Provide information on CCMP recommendations and commitments.	USEPA, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC	Post-CCMP	Base program	C/N
ACTION E-3.2: Encourage cooperation among stakeholders to implement the management plan.	NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC	Post-CCMP	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N
ACTION E-3.3: Hold briefings, meetings, and workshops for local officials, user groups, elected representatives.	USEPA, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC	Ongoing	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N

¹ Responsible entities may accomplish the actions directly or via contract + Commitment based on continued funding of minimum core program of or grant.
² C/O - An ongoing commitment, not driven by the HEP CCMP
 C/N - A new commitment, driven by the HEP CCMP
 R - Recommendation

(Continued)
Table 32(es). Summary – Public Involvement and Education

OBJECTIVE	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY ¹	TARGET DATE	ESTIMATED COST	STATUS ²
OBJECTIVE E-4: Increase communication and foster cooperation among stakeholders and others involved with ecosystem management, protection, and stewardship activities.				
ACTION E-4.1: Continue a citizens advisory group.	HEP	Ongoing	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N
ACTION E-4.2: Continue a science and technical advisory committee.	HEP	Ongoing	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N
ACTION E-4.3: Coordinate data development and exchange with grass roots organizations.	HEP & NJDEP	Ongoing	Enhance program cost - +	C/N
OBJECTIVE E-5: Promote individual and group involvement and sponsorship of education and stewardship activities to clean up and restore the ecosystem.				
ACTION E-5.1: Continue a mini-grant program.	NYSDEC & NJDEP	Ongoing	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N
-- Conduct a mini-grant program for public outreach to NJ County governments, and other organizations.	NJDEP	Through Dec 1996	Enhanced program cost - \$25,000	C/N
ACTION E-5.2: Expand mini-grant program.	NYSDEC & NJDEP	Post-CCMP	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N
ACTION E-5.3: Encourage groups to organize and participate in ecosystem restoration, protection, and monitoring activities.	HEP, USEPA, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC, STAC	Ongoing	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N
ACTION E-5.4: Encourage organizations to reach the public through activities that support HEP goals.	HEP, USEPA, NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC, STAC	Ongoing	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N
ACTION E-5.5: Continue state-sponsored stewardship activities.	NYSDEC & NJDEP	Post-CCMP	Enhanced program cost - \$150,000	R

¹ Responsible entities may accomplish the actions directly or via contract or grant.
R - Recommendation

² C/O - An ongoing commitment, not driven by the HEP CCMP
C/N - A new commitment, driven by the HEP CCMP

(Continued)
Table 32(es). Summary – Public Involvement and Education

OBJECTIVE	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY ¹	TARGET DATE	ESTIMATED COST	STATUS ²
OBJECTIVE E-6: Enhance educational opportunities for all education levels.				
ACTION E-6.1: Encourage development and implementation of an estuary-wide education program for stakeholder organizations and others.	HEP PPTF	By Dec 31, 1996	Enhanced program cost to be determined	R
ACTION E-6.2: Integrate activities and materials with educational programs for all age levels.	NYSDEC, NJDEP, NYCDEP, CAC, STAC	Post-CCMP	Enhanced program cost to be determined	R
ACTION E-6.3: Make materials available through existing libraries and computer networks.	HEP	Ongoing	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N
ACTION E-6.4: Consider establishing an "800" number for public information requests.	HEP PPTF or other appropriate sponsor	Post-CCMP	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N
ACTION E-6.5: Consider establishing a Speakers Bureau.	HEP PPTF	Post-CCMP	Enhanced program cost - +	C/N
OBJECTIVE E-7: Secure additional funding and raise awareness of funding sources to increase public involvement and education activities.				
ACTION E-7.1: Encourage all organizations involved in public involvement and education to seek outside funding for the HEP program.	HEP PPTF	Ongoing	Base program	C/N
ACTION E-7.2: Seek additional ways to increase funding to mini-grant program.	HEP PPTF	Ongoing	Base program	C/N

¹ Responsible entities may accomplish the actions directly or via contract or grant. + Commitment based on continued funding of minimum core program of HEP at the recommended full amount of \$690,000/yr. At present, there is a commitment for only \$300,000 (see Objective S-1).

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