

**PECONIC ESTUARY PROGRAM  
FY 06 WORKPLAN**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

The Peconic Estuary System consists of over 100 distinct bays, harbors, embayments and tributaries, which cover an area of over 158,000 acres. The population of the East End towns surrounding the Peconic Estuary System more than doubles during the summer. These residents and visitors use the system and its resources extensively for beach-going, swimming, boating, fishing, shellfishing, and water-dependent industries, contributing significantly to the local economy. However, there are problems in the system ranging from increased nutrient loading to declines in habitat quality and quantity, and reduction in catch of commercially and recreationally important finfish and shellfish. Other issues of concern include closure of shellfish beds due to contamination by coliform (used as an indicator for pathogens), potential contamination with toxic substances, the relationship of land use to water quality and the health of the living resources, and the occurrence of Brown Tide. The effects of these problems are a significant threat to the health of the Peconic Estuary System and its resources.

The public summary of the *Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)* is included as Appendix B.

**II. OVERALL FUNDING SOURCES**

The core FY06 budget (see Appendix A) reflects the following sources of funding:

EPA FY06 Base Funding	\$ 412,600
Non-Federal Match	<u>\$ 412,600</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 825,200</b>

The non-Federal match is provided by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). Match is itemized in detail in Section 9. Administrative and Financial Components, subsections “d” and “e”. The actual match for the FY06 period is expected to exceed the commitment reflected in the budget table.

**III. ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND TOP PRIORITIES**

The Management Conference believes that the PEP has effectively administered the funding it has received to support appropriate and necessary efforts, which has resulted in a truly comprehensive, meaningful, and site-specific CCMP. Especially significant are the following factors that, individually and collectively, have made the PEP unique:

- \* the focus on early action, which resulted in a firm "no net increase of point source nitrogen" commitment for the western bays system, as well as a commitment to establish a progressive water quality preservation policy for the eastern portions of the Peconics
  
- \* the level of detail (e.g., parcel-specific land use information for the entire study area)

- \* the extent of monitoring and data collection (*e.g.*, thousands of groundwater and surface water samples)
- \* the powerful management tools which are being utilized (*e.g.*, state-of-the-art hydrodynamic and water quality modelling for the entire estuary and the Critical Lands Protection Strategy)
- \* the goals of site-specificity for management, with focus not only on the main bays system, but also on subwatersheds for creeks and embayments
- \* state-of-the-art technical characterization techniques which will be essential to PEP management (*e.g.*, sediment flux and accretion measurement; sophisticated groundwater underflow measurement techniques)
- \* the early focus on finance and implementation, with a state-of-the-art, full valuation of market and non-market resources completed
- \* emphasis on water quality and habitat preservation, and interaction of living resources with water quality management

#### A. Program Accomplishments from the Past Year

The Peconic Estuary Program has had many accomplishments in 2005 and the beginning of 2006. The highlights are listed below:

- *Non-Federal Implementation Funding* – Implementation funding continues to made available through the following mechanisms:
  - *New York State Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act* (estimated cumulative total towards Peconic Watershed projects since 1997: \$15.6 million) Four Peconic projects totaling over \$2.5 million were announced in 2005. Projects include stormwater mitigation, reuse of sewage treatment plant effluent to irrigate a golf course, and diadromous fish passage restoration.
  - *New York State Environmental Protection Fund (EPF)* \$200,000 was appropriated in FY05 for projects specifically in the watershed. The PEP Management Committee recently approved using these funds to further the Peconic benthic mapping initiative.
  - *Suffolk County Water Quality Protection and Restoration Program* (1/4% Sales Tax Program). Over \$524,000 was appropriated to projects in the Peconic Watershed in 2005. Projects include bay scallop reseeding, stormwater mitigation, and supplemental funds for a sewage treatment plant effluent reuse project.
  - *Town Community Preservation Fund* (aka 2% Transfer Tax) From 1999 through 2005, over \$327.6 million has been raised for land acquisition and the purchase of development rights. While the 2% Transfer Tax is estimated to generate an additional \$556 million over its lifetime, it is estimated that the these funds will protect less than 10% of the vacant acreage in the Peconic Watershed identified as critical by the PEP.
- *Brown Tide Research* - The last major Brown Tide that devastated the Peconics occurred in 1995. Since 1985 when Brown Tide first appeared, researchers have been working to understand what causes Brown Tide blooms. The decade-long Brown Tide Research Initiative (BTRI) recently concluded with a scientific workshop in November 2005 and a

public meeting in March 2006. A major finding of the \$3 million research program is that the ratio of available types of nitrogen in the Peconics may play a role in triggering or sustaining Brown Tide blooms (DON vs. DIN). Other dynamics may also be at work, including the effects of shellfish grazing pressure on phytoplankton populations and the presence of viruses.

- *Environmental Indicators Report* – In March 2005 the Peconic Estuary Program Environmental Indicators Report was finalized and is available for download at [www.peconicestuary.org](http://www.peconicestuary.org). A public-friendly summary was inserted into all the local papers (57,000 copies) in July 2005.
- *Nitrogen TMDL for the Western Estuary* - The PEP is developing a Nitrogen Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the following water segments in the western estuary because of frequent and extreme dissolved oxygen violations:
  - Western Flanders Bay and Lower Sawmill Creek (1701-0254);
  - Meetinghouse Creek and Terrys Creek including tributaries (1701-0256); and,
  - Lower Peconic River including tidal tributaries (1701-0259)The TMDL will specify the total amount of nitrogen that can enter the Peconics without exceeding the State's dissolved oxygen water quality standard and apportions the allowable load to point and nonpoint sources, taking into consideration loads that may occur in the future and a margin of safety. A draft Nitrogen TMDL is expected this year.
- *Agricultural Nitrogen Reduction* – Agriculture is a significant underpinning of eastern Suffolk County's tourism-based economy. The PEP continues to play a strong role in ensuring the implementation of Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) on Long Island. Several PEP representatives serve on the Agricultural Stewardship Committee, which began in Spring 2005.
- *Non- Agricultural Nitrogen Reduction* - The Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Nitrogen Workgroup continues to support the development and implementation of efforts to better manage residential, institutional, and commercial (other than agriculture) sources of nitrogen. Recently, PEP was awarded a \$40,000 grant from EPA Region 2's Conservation Challenge Grant Program to implement a homeowner education campaign about reducing pesticide and nutrient pollution in the Peconic watershed. As part of this initiative, the PEP has developed a shed guide which helps homeowners who choose to fertilize their lawns determine the proper amount of fertilizer to use as well as offering other landscaping tips that will help protect Peconic Estuary. It is envisioned that this guide will be distributed with fertilizer sales beginning in early September. Model ordinances for native vegetation protection are also being developed.
- *Sewage Treatment Plant Effluent Reuse* – In 2004, the Town of Riverhead demonstrated the effectiveness of reusing STP effluent to irrigate a pilot putting green created on the grounds of the STP. Grant funding from New York State and Suffolk County awarded in 2005 will enable the Riverhead STP to irrigate the adjacent Indian Island County Golf Course. It is anticipated that 350,000 gallons of treated wastewater (approx. 40% of the STP's daily effluent) will be used to irrigate the golf course each night. Partially diverting the STP effluent will help alleviate the low dissolved oxygen levels experienced in this water segment

during the warm summer months.

- *Invasive Species* - The PEP joined Habitattitude™, a nationwide campaign to educate the public about what to do with unwanted pets and aquarium plants. A pet shop placard was distributed to nearly 100 pet stores in Suffolk County to educate consumers on the topic. In addition, the PEP has formed a partnership to eradicate *Ludwigia peploides*, a particularly pernicious invasive plant, from the Peconic River. The first volunteer hand-pulling event is scheduled for June 10, 2006. Together, the initiatives have attracted considerable media attention over the last few weeks, with articles in the News-Review, Suffolk Times, and Suffolk Life, and a segment on News 12.
- *Habitat Restoration* - Current projects include wetlands restoration at Cassidy Preserve in Southold and an initiative to restore fish passage at each dam on the Peconic River to re-open over 300 acres of critical habitat. Design for a rock ramp to be installed in Grangebel Park, Riverhead was completed in May 2006, and construction will begin once the necessary permits are secured.
- *Eelgrass Restoration and Management* - At least 82% of the Peconic's eelgrass meadows have disappeared since the 1930s - only 1,550 acres of eelgrass remain. Since 1997, Cornell Cooperative Extension has intensively monitored six eelgrass beds in the Peconic Estuary. In 2006, one acre of eelgrass will be restored in the waters off Cornelius Point, Shelter Island. Also this year, work began to develop an Eelgrass Management Plan for the Peconics.
- *Benthic Mapping for Habitat Classification in the Peconic Estuary* - Until recently, a large data gap existed regarding the natural resources of the Peconic underwater lands. Maps of the underwater lands for the entire Peconic Estuary are being developed to document bathymetry and the distribution of natural resources. The results of the survey will be used to identify potential best sites for commercial aquaculture operations, clarify Essential Fish Habitat designations, and aid in protecting biodiversity. Over \$710,000 has been leveraged by the Peconic Estuary Program (\$171,000), The Nature Conservancy (\$172,577), Suffolk County (\$320,000), and New York State (\$50,000) to contract the State University of New York – Marine Sciences Research Center. We expect to receive the Phase I report in June, which will contain mapping and natural resource information for the Robins Island, Flanders, Orient, Gardiners, and Northwest Harbor Study Areas.
- *Peconic Pathogen TMDL* – A pathogen TMDL is under development for 25 different Peconic water bodies listed on New York's Priority Water Bodies List that are either uncertified/conditionally certified or seasonally certified for shellfish harvesting. The goal is to re-open these waters to shellfishing once again. Among other actions, the pathogen TMDL will likely underscore the need for more stormwater mitigation in these areas. The Program Office has provided data and comments on numerous occasions.
- *Vessel Waste No Discharge Area* - In May 2002, the USEPA Regional Administrator approved State designation of the entire Peconic Estuary System as a Vessel Waste No Discharge Zone. Taking advantage of both State and County reimbursement programs, Town of Southold anticipates two pump-out boats this year – one in Southold proper and one in Fishers Island. Currently, there are nine municipal pump-out boats and five pump-out

stations servicing the Peconic Estuary (all of which are free except for the \$5 fee charged by the Village of Greenport boat). Pump-out facilities are located at a majority of the private marinas, too. Our outreach campaign on the NDZ continues; 900 NDZ packs were distributed to tackle shops, marine supply stores, and marinas in Spring 2006. The Bay Constables are also distributing the packets. The Peconic NDZ is also spotlighted in the annual Boater's Guide published by Association of Marine Industries.

- *Critical Lands Protection Plan* – The Peconic Region is experiencing rapid development, posing a substantial threat to nutrient loading, water quality, and habitat. The parcels prioritized in the Critical Lands Protection Plan (2004) for full-fee acquisition and other protection mechanisms have been integrated into each town's Community Protection Fund list. Implementation and enforcement of native vegetation protection ordinances in all the East End towns would result in the protection of thousands of additional acres – draft ordinances are currently being developed by The Nature Conservancy for review and consideration by the towns that do not have laws in place.
- *Aquaculture* – As a result of the report *Survey Plan for Shellfish Cultivation Leasing in Peconic and Gardiners Bays* (April 2003), Suffolk County issued an RFP in Spring 2006 (\$500,000) to develop an aquaculture leasing program in the Peconics. PEP representatives participate in the Advisory Committee.
- *National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)* - The NADP monitoring station, located at Cedar Beach in Southold, has been collecting wet atmospheric deposition data since Winter 2004. The Suffolk County Department of Health Services – Office of Ecology maintains the site. In 2006, the site will be modified to monitor for Mercury, in addition to the existing parameters.
- *PEP Talk* and [www.peconicestuary.org](http://www.peconicestuary.org) – Our quarterly newsletter *PEP Talk* and website, [www.peconicestuary.org](http://www.peconicestuary.org), continue to provide a wealth of information to PEP Stakeholders and the interested public.
- *PEP State of the Bays Science Conference* – The PEP State of the Bays Science Conference held in April 2005 was a huge success. Each of the eighteen presentations gave a glimpse into the environmental state of the estuary and highlighted related management recommendations and initiatives.
- *Healthy Bodies, Healthy Bays 5k Race*- On April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005 more than 50 runners participated in the first annual Healthy Bodies, Healthy Bays 5k Race to benefit marine education in the Estuary. The event was held at Long Beach in Sag Harbor.

## B. Top Priorities

### *Brown Tide*

- Maintain and increase brown tide research funding levels.

### *Nutrients*

- Adopt a nitrogen load allocation program by a) funding and implementing the Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Program; b) developing and implementing a residential

fertilizer use reduction program (e.g., comprehensive education/media program, use restrictions, public relation endorsements of “good” products, investigate the feasibility of a selective sales tax on fertilizer and pesticide products); c) developing and adopting an on-site disposal system strategy (e.g., incentive-based programs, upgrade programs, maintenance programs); and, d) ensuring that all STPs discharging to the Peconic Estuary are upgraded and operating properly.

#### *Habitat and Living Resources*

- Protect existing eelgrass with aggressive public outreach coupled with a long-term management strategy.
- Develop a strategy to minimize shoreline hardening structures that results in no net increase of such structures and protects natural shorelines.
- Develop a strategy to protect the Critical Natural Resource Areas in each town and institute a pilot program.
- Implement the habitat restoration plan; continue shellfish enhancement and other resource restoration programs.
- Fund priority ecosystem investigations identified in the Living Resources Research, Monitoring and Assessment Plan through the National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS) or by State legislative equivalent.
- Sponsor a Dredging Summit.

#### *Pathogens*

- Investigate Open Marsh Water Management as a method of stormwater pollution control
- Implement stormwater mitigation recommendations including those from the Regional Stormwater Runoff Management Study and anticipated subwatershed management plans (e.g., model ordinances, abatement projects, etc.).
- Continue to implement the Vessel Waste No Discharge Area in the Peconics.

#### *Toxics*

- Reduce loadings of pesticides and herbicides by a) pursuing continued development/establishment of the LI Pesticide Management Plan; b) planning and carrying out “Clean Sweep” programs; c) developing and implementing a comprehensive agricultural pesticide management strategy; d) funding and initiating aggressive public outreach and education.
- Reduce the use of insecticides used for mosquito control to the maximum extent practicable, while adequately protecting human health and without detriment to the environment.
- Continue remedial efforts at sites of concern in Peconic Estuary, including overseeing the implementation of environmental clean-up remedies under Superfund for Operable Unit V at Brookhaven National Lab.

#### *Critical Lands Protection*

- Continue to implement the Critical Lands Protection Plan.
- Accelerate land protection in the Peconic Estuary by a) monitoring success of acquisition programs; b) securing 0% financing of county and town CPF monies for the Peconics from the State by executive order or legislation; and, c) securing long-term 10 to 15 year land acquisition funds from county, state and federal sources.

#### *Financing*

- Ensure that funding reserved for the PEP in the New York State Clean Air/Clean Water Bond Act and the Suffolk County General ¼% Sales Tax Program is used effectively for the highest priority eligible projects.

C. Top Priority (Goals) Accomplishments

Of the PEP's Top Priorities, the Peconic Estuary Program accomplished the following:

*Brown Tide Workplan* – Suffolk County, through Peconic Estuary Program efforts, updated to the Brown Tide Workplan in January 2005. The updated workplan provides information regarding research to date, and makes suggestions for future research.

*Brown Tide Research Funding Levels* - Since 1991, Suffolk County has appropriated over \$1.69 million dollars for Brown Tide research. Of this total, \$450,000 was appropriated between 2004 and 2006. Because of the strong need to continue Brown Tide research, the County continues to authorize \$150,000 of Capital Program funds each year for the next three years (2007-2009) for Brown Tide research.

*Nitrogen Load Allocation Program* - As mentioned above, a nitrogen TMDL is being developed for select segments in the western estuary. A draft for public comment should be released in 2006.

*Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Program* – Implementation of the Suffolk County Agricultural Stewardship Program continues. The Ag Stewardship Program is envisioned as a comprehensive initiative for maintaining and strengthening farming in Suffolk County while improving groundwater and surface water quality.

*Residential Fertilizer Use Reduction Program* – The Peconic Estuary Program Non-Agricultural Nitrogen Work Group continues to develop this program. Specific recommendations have been made to guide homeowners to eliminate or reduce nitrogen losses, and have been included in the program's newsletter and website.

*Sewage Treatment Plants* – The two major sewage treatment plants that discharge to the Peconic Estuary -Riverhead and Sag Harbor- completed their upgrades to tertiary treatment and ultraviolet light disinfection in 2001. As mentioned above, the Riverhead Sewage Treatment Plant was awarded grant funds in 2005 to divert 350,000 gallons of effluent (May – September) to irrigate the adjacent County golf course at night. The Riverhead STP outfall discharges to the surface waters of the Tidal Peconic River, one of three water segments for which a nitrogen TMDL is being developed.

*Eelgrass Management* – The Peconic Estuary Program continues to fund the Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Long Term Monitoring Program; an Eelgrass Management Plan is being drafted; an acre of eelgrass will be restored off Cornelius Point, Shelter Island in 2006.

*Shoreline Hardening* – With the use of Base Program funds, the PEP contracted the USFWS to analyze aerials flown in the Fall of 2000 for submerged aquatic vegetation and shoreline hardening. The maps of the hardened shoreline serve as a basis to develop a strategy to minimize shoreline hardening structures. This information was showcased in the PEP Environmental Indicators report and the GIS layers are available through the PEP Program Office.

*Critical Natural Resource Areas* – Critical Natural Resource Areas are areas of particular ecological significance designated by the Peconic Estuary Program. Steps have been made to protect the marine CNRAs by targeting these areas in the first phase of the Benthic Mapping

Project. The upland CNRAs are an overlay criterion in the Critical Lands Protection Strategy for identifying land protection priorities.

*PEP Habitat Restoration Plan* – Select projects identified in the Habitat Restoration Plan have been initiated, including diadromous fish passage restoration along the Peconic River, bay scallop restoration in the eastern Peconics, eelgrass bed restoration in the eastern Peconics and wetlands restoration at Cassidy Preserve.

*Living Resources Research, Monitoring, and Assessment Plan* – The Benthic Mapping Project is one of the priorities in the PEP Living Resources Research, Monitoring, and Assessment Plan. As mentioned above, this project is ongoing. Nine shellfish spawner sanctuaries, another priority in the Plan, have been established by The Nature Conservancy and other partners in the Peconics and will be investigated as a natural resources management tool as well as a possible control for Brown Tide populations.

*Dredging Windows Workshop* - The PEP anticipates holding a Dredging Windows Conference in 2006. Agenda items will include: existing dredging windows for the Peconic Estuary and specific reasons for their development, industry & fisher concerns, and identification of the critical life stage(s) of the species of concern.

*Vessel Waste No Discharge Zone* – The USEPA Regional Administrator approved New York State's designation of the entire Peconic Estuary as a Vessel Waste No Discharge Zone in June 2002. Efforts to educate the public and help municipalities with grant funding for pump-out boats continue.

*SC Vector Control and Wetlands Mgmt Long Term Plan & EIS* - Suffolk County is overseeing the development and implementation of a Suffolk County-wide vector control and wetlands management plan, which will address numerous issues of Federal and state jurisdiction, including pesticide fate and transport; effect of pesticides on fish populations, birds and other wildlife; and wetland preservation. Through this effort Open Marsh Water Management is being investigated as a method of habitat restoration and mosquito control.

*Brookhaven National Laboratory* – The Peconic Estuary Program continues to remain involved through USEPA/NYSDEC/SCDHS oversight of the Superfund clean-up at Brookhaven National Laboratory.

*Critical Lands Protection Plan* – The Peconic Estuary Program Critical Lands Protection Plan (2004) prioritizes land protection (including acquisition) priorities with respect to estuarine management concerns. Efforts continue to protect critical landscapes through full-fee acquisition, native vegetation ordinances and other measures.

#### **IV. PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

The objective of this project is to support the Peconic Estuary Program Management Conference in carrying out the EPA Administrator-approved Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). Specific activities in the workplan address: aquatic vegetation monitoring and management, marine conservation planning, water quality monitoring and modeling, travel, public participation activities, a technical outreach position, webpage support and program office coordination. Funding under Section 320 of the Clean Water Act is made available to support activities necessary for the development and implementation of a comprehensive conservation and

management plan prepared under Section 320 of the Act. The project therefore carries out Section 320 of the Clean Water Act.

## V. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES AND EPA'S STRATEGIC PLAN/GPRA ARCHITECTURE

This National Estuary Program cooperative agreement supports Subobjective 4.3.1 of the 2003-2008 EPA Strategic Plan (see page 94) which is to restore and protect ecosystems and facilitate the ecosystem-scale protection and restoration of natural areas. The Strategic targets under this subobjective specifically cite improving the overall aquatic system health of the 28 estuaries that are part of the National Estuary Program and working with National Estuary Program (NEP) partners to protect and restore habitats. The objective of this project is to support the Peconic Estuary Program Management Conference in carrying out the EPA Administrator approved Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). Specifically, the recipient will support implementation of the CCMP to restore and protect the Peconic ecosystem and facilitate the ecosystem-scale protection and restoration of natural areas. The PRC assigned to the funding for this project is consistent with the strategic goal/objective/sub-objective.

Note: The EPA Region 2 Division of Environmental Planning and Protection has reviewed the work plan for this National Estuary Program Cooperative Agreement and determined that it contains well-defined outputs, and to the maximum extent practicable, well-defined outcomes.

### *Outcomes:*

- Improvements in the health and extent of eelgrass beds due to the development and implementation of pollution control programs and an eelgrass management plan, as measured by the eelgrass monitoring program.
- Enhanced protection of critical lands and better coordination among land acquisition programs, as recorded by critical lands protection reports.
- Advancement in knowledge for targeting aquatic habitat restoration projects and the siting of aquaculture projects due to benthic mapping and as described in accompanying reports.
- Knowledge of water quality conditions for conventional water quality parameters to better manage water pollution control programs, as reported in summary reports.
- Planned and realized reductions in pathogen loadings and improvements in water quality for swimming and shellfishing uses, due to the preparation of a Total Maximum Daily Load and the development and implementation of Stormwater Runoff Management Strategies, as measured by water quality monitoring. Planned and realized reductions in nitrogen loadings and improvements in dissolved oxygen conditions due to the preparation of a Total Maximum Daily Load, as measured by water quality monitoring and estimated by modeling.
- Successful outreach and participation to citizens and elected officials resulting in reduced pollution loads, increased participation in projects, and improved governmental management, as measured by: participation in programs, meetings, and events; increases in subscriptions to newsletters and web page hits; and projects pursued/undertaken.

## VI. STATUS OF ONGOING PROJECTS FROM LAST YEAR

*Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Management and Long Term Monitoring funds (FY05; \$40,000*

Federal funding) to support ongoing Peconic eelgrass monitoring including vegetative sampling at six sites (Gardiners Bay, Orient Harbor, Southold Bay, Northwest Harbor, Three Mile Harbor, and Bullhead Bay) as well as other SAV-related activities. Responsible entities are the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS) and Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE). Milestone/Completion Date: Ongoing.

*Marine Conservation Planner Activity funds* (FY05; \$61,000 Federal funding) to support the Marine Conservation Planner Activities. In the process of being contracted to The Nature Conservancy. The Marine Conservation Planner and team continues to assist in Peconic CCMP implementation, including managing the benthic mapping project, serving as co-chairperson of the Natural Resources Subcommittee, overseeing the implementation of existing and future shellfish spawner sanctuaries, and implementing the findings of the Critical Lands Protection Plan. The Nature Conservancy also helps implement select recommendations from the Non-Agricultural Nitrogen Work Group. Responsible entities are the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS) and The Nature Conservancy. Milestone/Completion Date: Ongoing.

*Benthic Mapping Survey* (FY05; \$36,000 Federal funding) will be contracted to the State University of New York (SUNY) to partially fund Phase III of the benthic mapping effort (86 square miles). With the completion of this phase, about 60% of the estuary will be characterized. Responsible entities are SCDHS and SUNY – Marine Sciences. Milestone/Completion Date: 2008.

*Water Quality Monitoring Program/Long Term Monitoring funds* (FY05; \$50,000 Federal funding) were used to support the Suffolk County Department of Health Services' Marine Monitoring Program (monthly monitoring at 32 Peconic surface water quality stations throughout the year for a suite of parameters; periodic monitoring of point source stations; weekly monitoring at the NADP rain gauge; and four YSI continuous monitoring stations). Specifically, the funds were used to purchase sampling and lab equipment, as well as overtime for personnel. The responsible entity is the SCDHS – Office of Ecology. Milestone/Completion Date: Ongoing.

*Report preparation/reproduction* (FY05 - \$966 Federal funding) – These funds are in the process of being used for publishing PEP newsletters, among other PEP reports. Of these funds \$500 was retained by the USEPA – Region 2, Estuaries and Oceans Section for report reproduction (*e.g.*, toner, paper, etc). Responsible entities are SCDHS and USEPA – Region 2. Milestone/Completion Date: 2007.

*Travel funds* (FY05; \$10,000 Federal funding) for staff to attend National Estuary Program meetings as well as technical workshops. Milestone/Completion Date: Ongoing.

*The NYSDEC staff funds* (FY05; \$80,000 Federal funding) to support the State Coordinator position. Vacant since November 2003, the PEP State Coordinator position was filled in February 2006. Residual funding from FY03 and the FY04 funds will fund the first year of the new employee's contract. The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation is the responsible entity. Milestone/Completion Date: Ongoing

*Program Office funds* (FY05; \$94,000 Federal funding) to support a PEP Suffolk County

Coordinator and lease a photocopier. The SCDHS is the responsible entity.  
Milestone/Completion Date: Ongoing.

*Technical Outreach Specialist* (FY05; \$80,000 Federal funding) to support the PEP Technical Outreach Specialist. The SCDHS is the responsible entity. Milestone/due date: Ongoing activity

*Webpage Development* (FY05; \$10,000 Federal funding) to support continued improvements to the Peconic Estuary Program website's complexity and functionality. The SCDHS has developed an RFP for these services. The SCDHS is the responsible entity. Milestone/due date: 2007.

*Public Participation funds* (FY05; \$50,000 Federal funding) are in the process of being contracted to Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County for the Citizens Advisory Committee's use. Anticipated projects include public service announcements and technical outreach for homeowners and small business owners, among other initiatives.  
Milestone/Completion Date: Ongoing.

## VII. OVERALL PROGRAM APPROACH

The Peconic Estuary Program follows the general approach outlined in the Management Conference Agreement. This approach has three key elements: 1) technical, 2) administrative/regulatory, and 3) public involvement. These elements are outlined in general here, and the specific tasks that fall under each element are described below.

The technical element includes research and monitoring activities, designed to synthesize our understanding and further our knowledge of the Peconic Estuary System. It can be further broken down into three categories: 1) systemwide and site-specific investigations and implementation, 2) performing detailed water quality and natural resource investigations, 3) conducting management efforts, additional research and pilot demonstration projects (including Brown Tide research).

The administrative/regulatory element includes, but is not limited to:

- 1) Communicating regularly with all PEP participants about activities and issues to ensure consensus and that all views are fairly represented in work products
- 2) Coordinating activities among Federal, state, county, and local agencies as well as the public sector to obtain program objectives.
- 3) Managing the preparation of annual workplans, the CCMP, and budgets, in cooperation with all PEP participants.
- 4) Managing the preparation of all PEP work products, including data summaries, annual reports, technical reports, CAC products, and modelling activities, for content and accuracy before publication.
- 5) Ensuring the transfer of all PEP materials (e.g., work products, annual reports, meeting minutes, etc.) to the appropriate persons and locations (e.g., Management Conference participants, the public, local libraries, etc.).
- 6) Receiving and responding to requests for technical information and assistance regarding the PEP from the public, elected officials, USEPA Headquarters, and others.

Public involvement is addressed through a Public Participation strategy developed by the Citizens Advisory Committee. The Public Participation and Outreach Program will include disseminating information to educate the public regarding the scope, goals, and progress of the Peconic Estuary Program. This information will be disseminated through pamphlets, booklets, public service announcements, conferences, workshops, and other methods.

#### VIII. WORKPLAN TASKS FOR FFY06 FUNDS

The following activities will directly support the Peconic Estuary Program Management Conference. Workplan tasks address priority management topics of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan: Brown Tide algal blooms; habitat and living resources conservation and restoration; critical lands protection; nutrient, pathogen, and toxics management; financing; public education/outreach; and program administration. Implementing the Plan will help to preserve, protect and restore this EPA-designated "Estuary of National Significance," an important ecologic and economic resource of eastern Long Island, New York.

The project descriptions include funding allocations, the anticipated efforts required to accomplish these tasks, information on milestones and due dates, and references to CCMP actions. Precise project details and requirements will be specified by the Management Conference as the PEP proceeds.

As a condition of this grant, it is understood that the Suffolk County Department of Health Services, as contract agency for the Peconic Estuary Program, will contract with the providers, if any, named in this workplan to carry out the workplan's tasks.

The program tasks are summarized as follows:

- i) Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Management and Long Term Monitoring (\$30,000 Federal funding; Cornell Cooperative Extension)

Milestone/due date: Ongoing activity, annual report

Related CCMP Action: HLR-6.2, CCMP Page 4-39; HLR 16.8, CCMP Page 4-65

Eelgrass was at one time abundant throughout the Peconic Estuary. At least 82% of the Peconic's eelgrass meadows have disappeared since the 1930's - only 1,550 acres of eelgrass remain. This submerged, marine plant is inextricably linked to the health of the estuary, providing an important shellfish and finfish habitat in nearshore waters and a food source for organisms ranging from bacteria to waterfowl. While Brown Tide has not occurred in almost a decade, eelgrass beds have not rebounded. Because of the importance of eelgrass habitat to the biodiversity and health of the Peconic Estuary, the Peconic Estuary Program will continue to contract Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) to track the health and extent of the eelgrass beds in the estuary. The Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Management and Long Term Monitoring Project includes vegetative sampling at six sites (Gardiners Bay, Orient Harbor, Southold Bay, Northwest Harbor, Three Mile Harbor, and Bullhead Bay) as well as other SAV-related activities. Responsible entities are the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS), and CCE.

- ii) Marine Conservation Planner Activities (\$60,000 Federal funding; The Nature Conservancy)

Milestone/due date: Ongoing activity

Related CCMP Action: M-2.2, CCMP Page 10-17

The PEP Marine Conservation Planner position, held by Dr. Marci Bortman, has been an asset to the Peconic Estuary Program. In FY06, the Marine Conservation Planner and her team of biologists, GIS technicians, and land preservation specialists will continue to assist in Peconic CCMP implementation, including managing the benthic mapping project, co-chairing the Natural Resources Subcommittee, overseeing the implementation of existing and future shellfish spawner sanctuaries, developing strategies to protect and create buffers, and implementing the findings of the Critical Lands Protection Plan. Critical Lands Protection Plan implementation includes developing model native vegetation protection code, continuing to work with stakeholders to acquire vacant high priority parcels, and mapping the open space protected each year within the watershed. Responsible entities are the SCDHS and The Nature Conservancy.

iii) Electronics Recycling (\$5,000 Federal funding; To Be Determined)

Milestone/due date: One time activity

Related CCMP Action: T-7, CCMP Page 6-48

Three electronics recycling events will be held in the Peconic Watershed. Used and obsolete electronics, such as computers, printers and cell phones, are part of the increasing and complex waste stream that poses challenging environmental management problems. Old PCs and TVs make up the fastest-growing portion of the waste stream. Recycling results in nearly 100% reuse of the metals and plastics found in electronics, keeping these hazardous materials (such as lead, mercury, and cadmium) out of the waste stream and the environment. New technology exists that shreds electronics into dust-sized particles that can then be sorted automatically by constituent, based on weight (copper would be outputted together, mercury would be outputted together, etc.). The raw metals and plastics are then sold to salvage companies. A total of 40 tons of electronics were collected in the Town of Hempstead's first "e-cycling" event – 40 tons that would have eventually ended up in a local landfill. The SCDHS-Office of Ecology is the responsible entity.

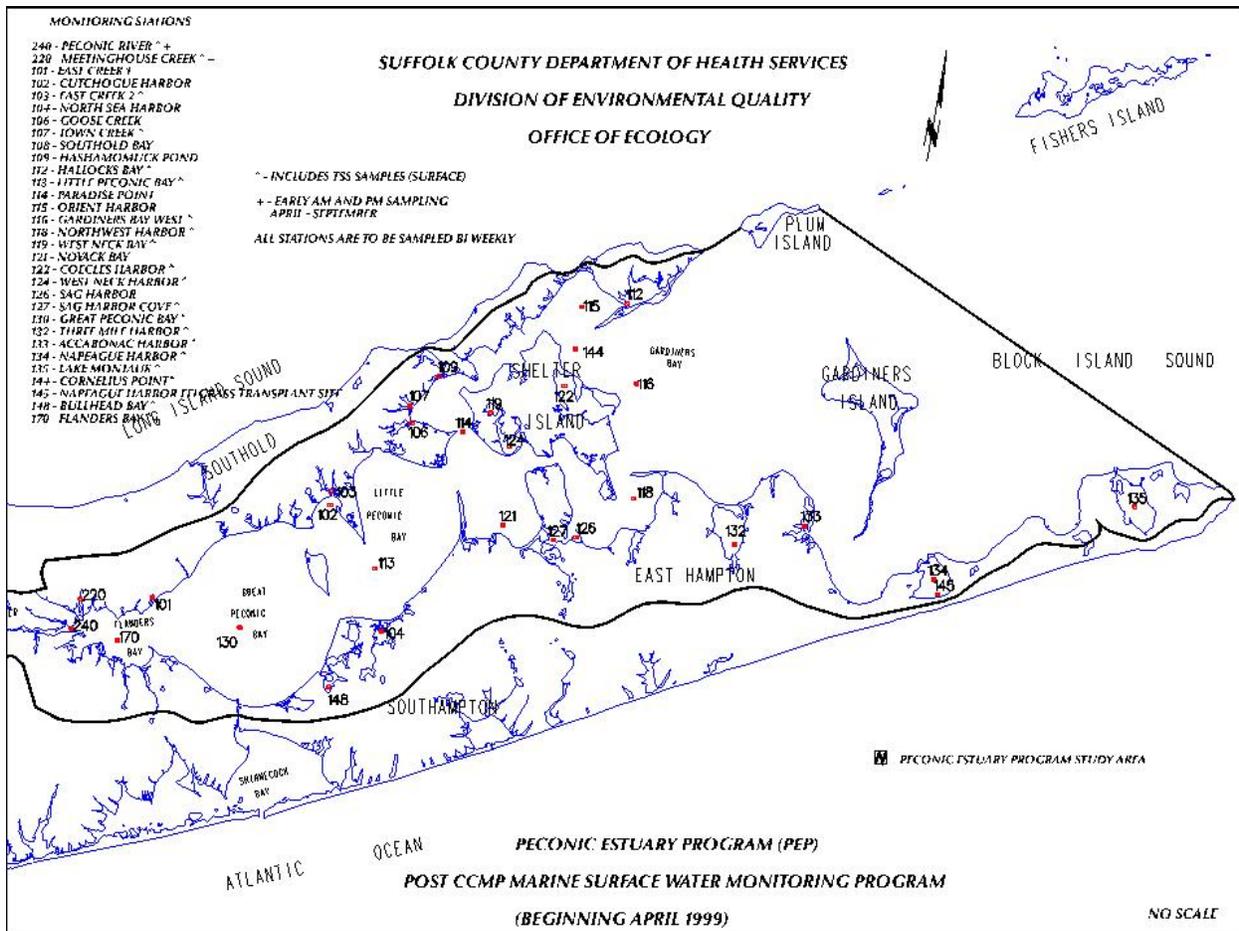
iv) Water Quality Monitoring Program/Long-Term Monitoring (\$61,300 Federal funding; Suffolk County Department of Health Services)

Milestone/due date: Ongoing activity

Related CCMP Action: M-2.1, CCMP Page 10-17

The water quality monitoring program conducted by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS) Office of Ecology includes monthly monitoring at 32 Peconic surface water quality stations throughout the year (see Figure 1 for map), periodic monitoring of point source stations, and weekly monitoring at the NADP rain gauge. Since 2002, SCDHS has also operated three continuous monitoring stations in the western estuary. An additional continuous monitoring device was deployed in West Neck Bay, Shelter Island in Summer 2005. Water quality monitoring is essential to assess the effect of implementation on the environment, to analyze the effectiveness of programs in relation to their intended goals, and to make corrections in the course of the post-CCMP process. The data collected from this monitoring program were critical in listing the water segments in the western estuary on the 303(d) list for dissolved oxygen violations and in developing the nitrogen TMDL for select segments in the western estuary. The SCDHS-Office of Ecology is the responsible entity.

Figure 1 – SCDHS Surface Water Quality Monitoring Stations



v) Travel (\$5,000 Federal funding)

Milestone/due date: Ongoing activity

Related CCMP Action: M-1.1, CCMP Page 10-16

\$5,000 will be set aside for travel to National Estuary Program (NEP) related-meetings including:

- National and regional conferences, workshops, or meetings;
- Peer-to-peer technical assistance to other National Estuary Programs or neighboring communities; and,
- Bringing in staff or stakeholders from other NEPs or watershed programs to assist an NEP

To date a total of \$125,000 has been awarded for employee travel (\$62,500) and non-employee travel (\$62,500). Over 75% percent of the total travel funding has already been used (see Appendix C).

The travel funds have been used for numerous travel purposes, including:

- ! Attendance of NEP Directors Meetings.
- ! Attendance at NEP-related technical, public education and outreach, local government-oriented meetings.
- ! Attendance at national and regional conferences to provide technology transfer (of PEP technologies).
- ! Travel support for peer reviewers and other professional and technical attendees at PEP

conferences to provide input to the PEP.

vi) NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Staff (\$80,000 Federal funding; New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission)

Milestone/due date: Ongoing activity

Related CCMP Action: M-2.3, CCMP Page 10-17

Vacant since November 2003, the PEP State Coordinator position was filled in February 2006. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) secured a sole source contract with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC) to carry out this task. In FFY06, the State Coordinator will co-chair the Peconic Estuary Program Natural Resources Subcommittee (NRS), coordinate the Dredging Windows Meeting, develop an Eelgrass Management Plan for the Peconic Estuary, and review proposals submitted to New York State for state funding. Priority actions of the NRS are consistent with actions identified in the CCMP and include habitat restoration projects (*i.e.*, Cassidy Preserve Salt Marsh Restoration Phase III), natural resource protection and threat abatement activities, and living resources research and monitoring. The NYSDEC – Marine Resources Division and NEIWPCC are the responsible entities.

vii) Program Office (\$102,300 Federal funding; Suffolk County Department of Health Services)

Milestone/due date: Ongoing activity

Related CCMP Action: M-1.2, CCMP Page 10-16

The SCDHS-Office of Ecology continues to serve as the PEP Program Office. The Program Office conducts program management on behalf of the Management Committee. Responsibilities include administering grants, managing activities of several committees, providing technical support to the PEP, including conducting technical projects and providing data management services, and offering public information and outreach services. The budget for the Program Office includes support for a PEP County Coordinator (\$96,242, including 39.53% fringe), the photocopier lease (\$6,000), and minor printing costs (\$58). Specific tasks of the PEP County Coordinator include initiating and overseeing PEP subcontracts, serving as a liaison between County Government and the PEP Management Conference, and helping to develop the nitrogen Total Maximum Daily Load for select segments in the western Peconic Estuary. The SCDHS-Office of Ecology is the responsible entity.

viii) Technical Outreach Specialist (\$72,000 Federal funding; Suffolk County Department of Health Services)

Milestone/due date: Ongoing activity

Related CCMP Action: M-4.1, M-3.1, CCMP Pages 10-18 and 10-19

These funds will be used to continue to the position of a full-time Technical Outreach Specialist (*i.e.*, Environmental Analyst). Ms. Shana Miller has held this position since January 2004. Workplan components include preparing the quarterly PEP newsletter *PEP Talk*, galvanizing support for diadromous fish habitat restoration projects, carrying out invasive species eradication projects (*e.g.*, *Ludwigia peploides*), preparing fact sheets, updating the PEP website ([www.peconicestuary.org](http://www.peconicestuary.org)) and conducting PEP programmatic activities with school and community groups, as time allows. The SCDHS-Office of Ecology is the responsible entity.

ix) National Atmospheric Deposition Program – NTN and Mercury Monitoring Costs

(\$19,000; Illinois State Water Survey and Frontier Geosciences, Inc.)

Milestone/due date: Ongoing activity

Related CCMP Action: N-9.4, CCMP Page 3-36

On behalf of the Peconic Estuary Program, the Suffolk County Department of Health Services – Office of Ecology has participated in the National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) since Winter 2004 by building and maintaining a rain collection site at Cedar Beach County Park in Southold. Every Tuesday morning, the site is maintained and a water sample from the rain gauge is sent to the Illinois State Water Survey for testing (pH, SO<sub>4</sub>, Cl, NO<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub>, and base cations). With funding from the USEPA, the Cedar Beach County Park site will soon be modified to monitor mercury deposition. Funding in the amount of approximately \$6,000/year is needed in order to continue the National Trends Network contract with the Illinois State Water Survey. Funding in the amount of approximately \$9,000/year is needed to contract Frontier Geosciences for one year of analyzing rain samples for total mercury. Both of these contracts are a requirement of the NADP. The SCDHS-Office of Ecology is the responsible entity.

x) Webpage (\$8,000 Federal funding; contractor to be determined)

Milestone/due date: Ongoing activity

Related CCMP Action: POE-1.2, POE-3.4, POE-4.1, POE-5.4, POE-5.5

The Peconic Estuary Program website, [www.peconicestuary.org](http://www.peconicestuary.org), went online in August 2004. The site has proved to be an invaluable resource for PEP partners and citizens alike. In addition to [www.peconicestuary.org](http://www.peconicestuary.org), the rights to [www.peconicestuary.com](http://www.peconicestuary.com) and [www.peconicestuary.net](http://www.peconicestuary.net) were purchased. Both of these urls forward to [www.peconicestuary.org](http://www.peconicestuary.org). The \$8,000 in funding will be set aside to contract future website development and improve the overall functionality and sophistication of the site. The SCDHS-Office of Ecology is the responsible entity.

xi) Citizens' Advisory Committee Program (\$50,000 Federal funding; Cornell Cooperative Extension)

Milestone/due date: Ongoing activity

Related CCMP Action: POE-8.3, CCMP Page 8-23

*"Informing and involving the public and getting its support can be the most difficult aspect of an estuary program, yet it is the cornerstone of a successful NEP program . . ."*

The proposed program recognizes the need for a positive approach to the East End business community, a segment of the public vital to CCMP implementation. It also recognizes the need to reach out to that segment of the general public, which has not been involved. These needs were emphasized by several CAC Focus Groups in their written reports to the CAC Chairman. A component of the program is to help people feel good about living, working, playing and visiting in the Peconic Watershed, one of the "last great places in the western hemisphere" (as designated by the Nature Conservancy) and that the Peconic Estuary is dear to their hearts - a commonly held treasure that they should care for. "People will protect what they love." (Jacques Cousteau)

The messages to the public will follow a watershed, ecological theme "It's all connected" and emphasize that everyone can do something to help the bays. The CAC strategy will also involve the Management Committee, Local Governmental Committee and Technical Advisory Committee and will help to support their efforts and help to build trust in government. For a fully effective public education strategy, all NEP committees will integrate their outreach efforts

with the CAC.

All education and promotion materials will be attractive, easy to read and developed to lead to action. In-kind services will be donated. All materials will be reviewed by the appropriate NEP committee for approval. All major budget item activities shall be individually awarded on a competitive Request for Proposals basis coordinated by the CAC.

## IX. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL COMPONENTS

### A. PEP Administration; Staff and Responsibilities

The Peconic Estuary Program is administered by a Management Conference, as outlined in the Management Conference Agreement. However, funding will be provided for support of most Management Conference activities, in the form of NYSDEC and SCDHS staff. State and County staff will provide many functions that are vital to the success of the Peconic Estuary Program. These tasks include planning and coordinating Management Conference activities, developing support documents for the Program, and providing State and County input into all levels of the Program. Staff support of the PEP is more fully discussed below.

The SCDHS Office of Ecology has been designated as the PEP Program Office. As such SCDHS, as the working arm of the Management Committee, is responsible for management and coordination of all routine aspects of the PEP.

#### *NEP Program and Core Staff*

Vito Minei, Program Manager (approx. 20% of time)

Walter Dawydiak, Deputy Program Manager (approx. 20% of time)

Sponsoring Institution: Suffolk County Department of Health Services

Location: Suffolk County Department of Health Services, County Center, Riverhead, NY 11901

#### Responsibilities and Funding Sources:

The SCDHS Division of Environmental Quality, directed by Mr. Vito Minei, stands at the national forefront as a progressive, pro-active County environmental agency. With approximately 170 employees, the division conducts comprehensive environmental programs through its offices of Pollution Control (*e.g.*, commercial and industrial pollution discharge monitoring, assessment, and management), Water (well drilling, groundwater quality monitoring, drinking water supply, etc.), Wastewater Management (including development and discharge permits), and Ecology. The Division also has a state-certified laboratory, which analyzes groundwater, surface water, and sediment samples for a broad array of organic and inorganic conventional parameters (nutrients, salinity, etc.), pesticides, metals, organics (*e.g.*, PAHs), Brown Tide, coliform bacteria, *enterococcus*, etc.

Mr. Vito Minei also serves as Program Manager of the Peconic Estuary Program and oversees the activities of the PEP Program Office, situated within the SCDHS Office of Ecology. Mr. Minei also marshals the multi-disciplinary resources of the Division to provide technical and administrative support for the PEP. Mr. Minei typically attends national NEP meetings, as well as Association of National Estuary Program functions.

Walter Dawydiak serves as the Chief Engineer for the SCDHS Division of Environmental Quality. With Mr. Minei, he oversees and works with many offices within the Division, including the Office of Ecology. The Office of Ecology oversees water quality-related planning studies for all of Suffolk's waters, including the Peconic Estuary Program, the Long Island Sound Study (LISS) Suffolk County Watershed Management Strategy, the South Shore Estuary Reserve (SSER) Suffolk County Monitoring Program, and the Source Water Assessment Program. The office also conducts an aggressive surface water monitoring program, having collected over 50,000 samples since 1988. Finally, the Office conducts State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) review for the SCDHS, and conducts and coordinates numerous other environmental review activities and programs.

As PEP Deputy Program Manager, Walter Dawydiak assists in overseeing activities of the Program Office (discussed below). He also manages the PEP County Coordinator (Laura Bavaro) and the Technical Outreach Specialist (Shana Miller), as well as other facets of the environmental management program.

Between them, Vito Minei and Walt Dawydiak bring over 52 years of professional environmental management experience to the PEP, with advanced degrees in engineering and law. They serve the program at no cost to the PEP, and are funded through the operating budget of the SCDHS. As such, their positions are not dependent on grant funds, and provide a great likelihood of continued local commitment and institutional longevity. Unique opportunities for interdisciplinary integration are also offered, by virtue of SCDHS commitment to the program.

Richard Balla, Federal Coordinator

Sponsoring Institution: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region II

Location: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 290 Broadway, New York, NY 10007

Responsibilities:

The regional coordinator is responsible for ensuring that the Peconic Estuary Program and the CCMP comply with the requirements of the Clean Water Act, Federal regulations and EPA issued guidance. This includes serving as project officer or work assignment manager for all funds awarded in support of the program, including grants, cooperative agreements, interagency agreements, contracts and procurements. The coordinator participates in and represents EPA at PEP meetings, and meetings with other stakeholders, elected officials and the public. The coordinator serves as the liaison with EPA-HQ on matters related to the National Estuary Program and ensures that all reporting requirements are satisfied and program requirements are met. Within the regional office, the coordinator works to secure funding or services of other programs to complete actions in the CCMP. The coordinator works to ensure PEP goals and actions are consistent and integrated with other EPA functions and programs, including but not limited to: water quality standards, total maximum daily loads, wetlands protection, vessel waste no discharge areas, Superfund, the national pollutant discharge elimination system, stormwater management, dredged material management, monitoring and assessment, quality assurance/quality control requirements, peer reviews, nonpoint source management, pollution prevention, sustainable development, state revolving loan funds, RCRA programs, Clean Air Act programs, and matters related to Brookhaven National Laboratory. The coordinator is also responsible for working with other Federal Agencies (including FWS, NRCS, NOAA).

Laura Stephenson, State Coordinator

Sponsoring Institution: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Location: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, 205 Belle Meade Road, East Setauket, NY 11733

Responsibilities:

The State Coordinator is responsible for assisting the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in providing support to the Peconic Estuary Program Management Conference. The State Coordinator co-chairs the Natural Resources Subcommittee and serves on the Non-Agricultural Nitrogen Work Group, the Habitat Restoration Work Group, and the Nitrogen Total Maximum Daily Load Work Group. The coordinator also reviews proposals submitted to New York State for NYS Clean Air/Clean Water Bond Act funding and other State funding opportunities.

Laura Bavaro, Suffolk County Coordinator

Sponsoring Institution: Suffolk County Department of Health Services

Location: Suffolk County Department of Health Services, Yaphank, NY 11980

Responsibilities:

The County Coordinator works within the Program Office and is responsible for assisting the departments of Suffolk County in providing support to the Peconic Estuary Program Management Conference. The Suffolk County Coordinator serves on the Non-Agricultural Nitrogen Work Group, Nitrogen Total Maximum Daily Load Work Group, and the Natural Resources Subcommittee. She also provides support for the Management Committee, Technical Advisory Committee, and Citizens Advisory Committee.

Dr. Marci L. Bortman, Marine Conservation Planner

Sponsoring Institution: The Nature Conservancy

Location: The Nature Conservancy, 250 Lawrence Hill Road, Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724

Responsibilities:

The Marine Conservation Planner was responsible for developing the living resources characterization report, a living resources threats analysis, and the Living Resources Research and Monitoring Framework. She also participated in formulating natural resource protection and management recommendations for the CCMP in collaboration with the PEP Natural Resources Subcommittee. Responsibilities include providing technical review of project proposals and PEP-funded studies, co-chairing the Natural Resources Subcommittee, implementing the Critical Lands Protection Plan, and overseeing the Benthic Mapping Project.

Shana Miller, Technical Outreach Specialist

Sponsoring Institution: Suffolk County Department of Health Services

Location: Suffolk County Department of Health Services, Yaphank, NY 11980

Responsibilities:

As Technical Outreach Specialist, Ms. Miller is integral part of the PEP Program Office and Program at large. Among other work objectives, Ms. Miller will continue to update the PEP CCMP tracking system, continue to produce the quarterly PEP newsletter, update and populate

the PEP website, champion diadromous fish habitat restoration projects in the watershed, and continue to run the mini-grants program.

#### B. Grants/Funding to Local Entities

Task	Local Entity	Amount
(i)	Cornell Cooperative Extension (SAV Management)	\$30,000
(ii)	The Nature Conservancy (Marine Conserv. Planner Activities)	\$60,000
(iii)	To Be Determined (Electronics Recycling)	\$5,000
(iv)	Suffolk County (Water Quality Monitoring)	\$61,300
(v)	Suffolk County (Program Office)	\$102,300
(vi)	Suffolk County (Technical Outreach Specialist)	\$72,000
(vii)	To Be Determined (Webpage Support)	\$8,000
(viii)	Cornell Cooperative Extension (PEP CAC)	\$50,000

#### C. Funds Leveraged for 2005

The Peconic Estuary Program has documented \$50,376,752 in leveraged funds for 2005 (see Appendix D). Leveraged dollar amounts were determined using a simplified accounting procedure based on three criteria provided by EPA-HQ specified by the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program (*i.e.*, (1) Resources supporting NEP operations (staff, offices) or direct implementation of CCMP actions; (2) NEP played key role in obtaining the resources; and (3) Resources committed between a specific timeframe). Actual leveraged dollar amounts are likely higher but such a calculation is not possible at this time due to a lack of record keeping by all program participants. The PEP is therefore presenting a highly documented, but also highly conservative figure for leveraged funds. The use of other measures for determining leveraged dollar amounts, such as the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership Assessment Criteria (developed for use in regularly assessing the Partnership's role and its success in implementing the Management Plan), would have identified significantly greater dollar amounts. The leveraged dollar amount using the Coastal Bend Bays method roughly corresponds to the Lower Columbia River Estuary criteria for "Level A" support. "Level B" or "Level C" support would include tens of millions dollars raised and expended through the Community Preservation Fund (for open space acquisition) and funds pledged, raised and expended by numerous other PEP stakeholders.

The attached accounting details the following:

- *Suffolk County Department of Health Services Marine Monitoring Program* - Laboratory, fuel, ice, equipment and supplies costs for water quality monitoring in the Peconic Estuary
- *Suffolk County Department of Health Services Personnel* - SCDHS personnel time dedicated to Peconic Estuary Program issues and monitoring
- *Suffolk County Water Quality Protection and Restoration Program (1/4% Sales Tax)* – The sales tax revenues from this County program are used for three distinct categories: open space acquisition, farmland easements, and water quality improvement projects. The funds appropriated in 2005 for water quality improvement projects in the Peconic Watershed are reported herein.
- *New York State Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act* – In November 1996, the voters of New

York proclaimed their commitment to a clean environment by passing the 1.75 billion Clean Water Clean Air Bond Act. The Bond Act provides \$495 million to municipalities and soil and water conservation districts for water quality improvement projects. This includes \$30 million for water quality improvement projects included in the CCMPs of the Peconic Estuary Program and the South Shore Estuary Reserve.

- *Community Preservation Fund (2% Real Estate Transfer Tax)* – In November 1998, the voters of the five East End Towns of Long Island approved a referendum that added a two-percent transfer tax to real estate transfers in their communities. Revenues generated by the tax go into a Community Preservation Fund in the Town in which the transaction occurred for the purpose of protection and acquisition of open space and historic properties. Revenues have exceeded expectations - over \$90.5 million was raised by the five eastern towns in 2005.

Approximately half of the Towns of Riverhead, Southold, Southampton and East Hampton and the entire town of Shelter Island are situated within the Peconic watershed.

#### D. Non-Federal Match for 2006

The non-Federal match is provided by Suffolk County (\$412,600) and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (\$80,000). The Suffolk County match is made up of Suffolk County personnel working on behalf of the PEP (PEP Program Office Line Item; \$110,000) and Peconic-related projects funded by the Suffolk County Capital and the Suffolk County Water Quality Protection and Restoration Programs (\$302,600). The NYSDEC match (\$80,000) consists of Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act project awards.

#### E. Cooperative Agreement Allocations for 2006

Object Class Category	Federal Contribution	Non-Federal Contribution	Total
1. Personnel	\$165,940	\$78,836	\$244,776
2. Fringe Benefits	\$63,602	\$31,164	\$94,766
3. Travel	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
4. Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
5. Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0
6. Contractual	\$172,000	\$302,600	\$474,600
7. Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0
8. Other	\$6,058	\$0	\$6,058
9. Total Direct Charges	\$412,600	\$412,600	\$825,200
10. Indirect Charges	\$0	\$0	\$0
11. Total (Share: Federal 50%)	\$825,200		
12. Total Assist. Amt.	\$412,600		
13. Program Income	\$0		

**Peconic Estuary Program - Leveraged Funds for 2005**

**SCDHS Marine Monitoring**

Laboratory Costs

Parameter	Samples Collected	Cost Each		Total Cost
Coliform Bacteria		880	\$20.48	\$18,022
Nutrients		2634	\$32.66	\$86,016
TOC/DOC		0	\$9.98	\$0
TSS		160	\$7.04	\$1,126
Metals		177	\$26.58	\$4,704
Salinity		162	\$16.00	\$2,592
Aureococcus		37	\$24.99	\$925
General Phytoplankton		24		\$0
Chlorophyll-a		774	\$5.46	\$4,223
VOCs		195	\$23.04	\$4,493
Carbamate Pesticides		170	\$6.24	\$1,061
Dacthal Metabolites		170	\$6.24	\$1,061
Chlorinated Pesticides		170	\$23.71	\$4,031
Herbicide Metabolites		170	\$82.32	\$13,994
Semi-volatile Organics		155	\$46.16	\$7,155

Fuel Costs

\$4,438.15

Ice Costs

\$1,658

Equipment and Supplies

\$15,368

**Total**

**\$170,867** Note: \$110,000 of these funds were used as match for the FY05 grant

**SCDHS Personnel**

	Grade/Step	Days	PEP-related Salary Fringe (* 1.3953)	
Vito Minei	40/10A	48	\$25,891	\$36,126
Walter Dawydiak	34/8	43	\$17,147	\$23,925
Martin Trent	34/11	21	\$9,266	\$12,928
Robert Nuzzi	29/12	119	\$42,925	\$59,893
Robert Waters	32/8	25	\$8,992	\$12,546
Mark Long	16/6	162	\$27,808	\$38,801
Gary Chmurzynski	21/12	89	\$22,976	\$32,058
John Bredemyer*	21/12	131	\$33,942	\$47,359
Mike Jensen	21/8	159	\$36,376	\$50,756
Nancy Panarese	21/3	152	\$29,951	\$41,791
Alicia Marin	21/2	20	\$3,620	\$5,051
Varughese George	19/3	91	\$16,273	\$22,706
Christopher Richmond	21/1	51	\$8,842	\$12,337
Andrew Seal	16/1	6	\$895	\$1,249

**Total**

**\$397,527** Note: \$120,000 of these funds were used as match in FY05 grant

\$10,000 Sanitarian overtime in budget  
368 Overtime\$/day  
27 Days

\* Corrected for \$10,000 sanitarian overtime budget of 27 days

**2005 Suffolk County Capital Program 8235 - Peconic Estuary Program**

**\$150,000**

Note: All of these funds were used as match in FY05 gr

- Dissolved Oxygen Meters (\$9,500)
- LiCor Meters (\$5,500)
- Benthic Mapping Survey (\$75,000)
- Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (Eelgrass) Restoration and Monitoring Strategy (\$25,000))
- Probes for Continuous Monitoring Sondes (\$13,700)
- Streaming Resistivity Equipment (\$21,300)

**2005 Suffolk County Capital Program 8228 - Brown Tide Research**

**\$150,000**

Note: \$51,966 of the funds were used as march in FY05 gr

- \$70,000 Impacts of Groundwater Underflow on the Occurrence of Brown Tide - Phase 2 (CCE)
- \$55,000 Groundwater Seepage Meters
- \$25,000 Boat Engine

**Suffolk County Water Quality Protection and Restoration Program (1/4% Sales Tax Program) Projects in the Peconic Watershed**

**Total**

**\$524,064**

<b>Resolution #</b>	<b>Intro. Resolution #</b>	<b>Amt Appropriated</b>	<b>Project</b>
Res 839-2004	IR 1550-2004	\$359,064	Restoration of Peconic Bay Scallop - 2005
Res 979-2005	IR 1705-2005	\$165,000	Sanitary Wastewater Reuse - Phase 1 STP Grounds & Phase

**New York State Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act - 2005 Announcements  
Projects in the Peconic Watershed**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,504,500 Note: \$80,000 of these funds were used as match in FY05 grant</b>
Stormwater Mitigation Measures (T. of Shelter Island)	\$16,750	
Stormwater Mitigation Measures (T. of Southampton)	\$117,500	
Fish Passage Restoration (T. of Riverhead)	\$275,000	
Riverhead Sewage Treatment Plant Effluent Reuse Project - Indian Isl. Golf (T. of Riverhead)	\$2,095,250	

**Community Preservation Fund (2% Real Estate Transfer Tax) - 2005**

<b>Town</b>	<b>Total Collected</b>	<b>Total Leveraged by the PEP</b>	
Riverhead	\$5,537,874	\$2,768,937	
Southold	\$6,928,467	\$3,464,233	
Southampton	\$50,619,156	\$25,309,578	
East Hampton	\$25,445,355	\$12,722,677	
Shelter Island	\$2,014,368	\$2,014,368	
	<b>\$90,545,219.63</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$46,279,794</b>

**Federal Transportation Bill - Stormwater Mitigation Projects in Peconic Watershed**  
(\$200,000 per year through 2009) **\$200,000**

**Grand Total** **\$50,376,752**