



Peconic Estuary Partnership

PROTECTING AND RESTORING LONG ISLAND'S PECONIC BAYS

C.H.A.N.G.E.S Shoreline Protection Project

PEP is allocating \$600,000 of BIL Funds towards the CHANGES project to improve ecological resilience

Background:

The Peconic Estuary faces ecological challenges such as coastal resilience to storm events, sea level rise, excess nutrients leading to harmful algal blooms, and loss of habitat.

Sites:

- Menatic Creek, Shelter Island
- South Ferry Site, Shelter Island
- Gannet Creek, North Haven
- Eastern Shore, North Haven
- South Of Barcelona Point, Sag Harbor
- Sag Harbor Cove, Sag Harbor

These locations will be key to scientific research, monitoring, education, and community engagement.



C.H.A.N.G.E.S Shoreline Protection Project:

We at the Peconic Estuary Partnership are addressing the C.H.A.N.G.E.S happening in the Peconic estuary with our multi-faceted approach:

- Create and restore coastal **H**abitats
- Reduce ocean **A**cidification
- Bio extract **N**itrogen
- **G**uard our shorelines from **E**rosion and storm surge
- **S**equester carbon
- Improve water quality

Methods include:

- Creating coastal blue carbon ecosystems
- Growing kelp, oysters, and seagrasses in areas we identified as most suitable.
- Ongoing research assessments, mapping, monitoring, and measuring outcomes.
- Strengthen our understanding and serve future applications of blue carbon in conservation efforts and environmental management activities.



Project Outreach:

At PEP we understand the value of citizen involvement and inclusion. Outreach and education are key to these projects' longevity and to our environment's general success. We do this by educating the public on the importance of protecting our coastal habitats, informing on what blue carbon is and its relevance, and increasing awareness of our projects and involvement.



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CCMP Actions:

Action 11: Provide tools and assistance to local governments to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Action 13: Collaborate on coastal and ocean acidification monitoring and research.

Action 17: Plan science-based approaches for monitoring and reducing nutrient pollution.

Action 18: Implement science-based approaches for monitoring and reducing nutrient pollution.

Action 23: Conduct scientific studies to expand understanding of the Peconic Estuary ecosystem and support ecosystem-based management.

Action 30: Monitor and protect existing eelgrass beds; where appropriate, restore and expand eelgrass beds.

Action 33: Implement living shoreline projects, monitor for ecological and financial benefits, and use model projects to educate planners and homeowners on the benefits of living shorelines over hardened shorelines

Status:

*In Process***



Secured Funding:

PEP Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Y2 & Y3 Funds: \$600,000 over two years

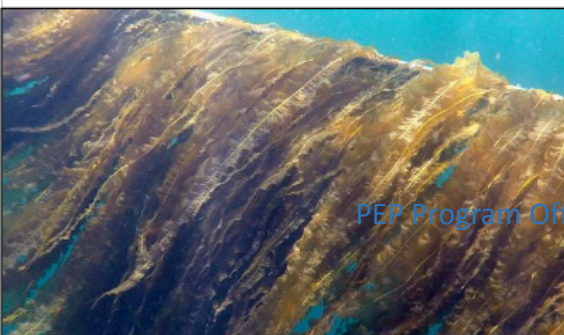
Partners:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| -The Gbler Lab | -Southampton Town Board |
| -The Peterson Lab | -Southampton Trustees |
| -Stony Brook School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences | -Shelter Island Town Board |
| -East Hampton Town Board | -Village of North Haven |
| -East Hampton Trustees | -Village of Sag Harbor |
| | -Community Partners |

Resources:

- PEP Website Page
 - <https://www.peconicestuary.org/projects/bil/changes/>
- QAPP
 -  Gobler PEP_QAPP_signed_final.pdf
 - https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QA0vgaKch6MtBbZL_4xmlMdk4AHKlr7h/view?usp=sharing
- Scope of Work
 -  Peconic East Blue Carbon scope of work.docx.pdf
 - https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vfhTzYRoMgMEhswKU339t2qE5i3bNYgS/view?usp=drive_link

Sugar kelp



Oysters



Eelgrass

