Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
August 15th, 2024 10:00 AM
Location: Stony Brook University, Southampton Campus, Fine Arts Rm 134
39 Tuckahoe Rd
Southampton, NY 11968
Meeting Recording: https://youtu.be/sJc3NK2hiqo

10:00 AM: Welcome and Roll Call – *Marissa Velasquez-Rosante (PEP)*

Recap of Technical Advisory Committee relation to the management of the Peconic Estuary Partnership. In reference to the previous TAC joint meeting with the NRSC, please refer to previous minutes to refresh members on what was previously discussed last meeting. Recap of the list of the TAC core organization voting list. Each entity listed is entitled to one member vote in consensus with their representative organization.

10:10 AM: Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences' (VIMS) Shoreline Management Model (SMM) development, use, and adaptation to a Shoreline site suitability model for the Peconic Estuary. *Karinna Nunez, Pamela Mason, and Tamia Rudnicky (Virginia Institute of Marine Science)*

Background: The goal of this work is to apply the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences' Shoreline Management Model (SMM) to the Peconic Estuary to understand which areas are suitable for living shoreline construction and to facilitate efforts to improve shoreline management decision-making in New York.

10:25 AM Questions and Discussion

Discussion was had on the model's process and ability to determine that no action is needed or that the area is unsuitable for living shoreline installation. It was determined that this is part of the model's processing and sensitivity can be decided on in its development. Effort & strategy related to data input was discussed. Datasets need to be identified and adapted to match the input needed for the model.

PEP established a relationship with the Geospatial Center and VIMS team to develop inventory data of the shoreline in the Peconics to be in line exactly with the parameters required to utilize this model. The scope of work is in the works, and work should be approved to begin in October of 2024. discussion on validating the model and exploring its applications will be ongoing and a steering committee created.

It was noted that this model is a Python-based mode, and runs through ArcPro. Accessibility is available on standard computers.

The model looks at special considerations first (canal, channels, bulkheads, etc.), and looks at these within a certain distance of the shoreline. Examples like public boat ramps, marsh islands, narrow creeks (<8m wide), and marsh creeks advise that no action is needed. Decisions for whether or not, the outer edge of the marsh system, regulatory advice but no threshold developed yet. This model is based on parameters in Virginia, it would need to be and can be customized for the NY region. Want to ensure that even with the use of the model, there is a route for leaving natural shorelines natural. Marsh presence: protect and enhance immediately. Longer conversation needs to be had for specific adaptations and applications, especially when determining no action needed areas.

Discussion was had on soil texture differences in particular areas of the shoreline. In Virginia, this specificity of soil type is not accounted for, but this is something that can be added as a parameter within the model. Confirmation and validation of this model alongside regulators is an important factor. Current shoreline work and SAV data.

Shoreline variability can change quickly over short distances compared to other areas and due to the glacial formation of Long Island. Questions were raised on how much on-the-ground data has been collected regarding sediment composition. It was recognized that the model's output will be as good as the data input. Project teams will invest in this process with stakeholders.

Fetch models are points based on every 25m along the shoreline.—classification into low, moderate, and high. Use localized data to put in different points and ranges. PEP is planning to work with a team of stakeholders and developers to create opportunities to collect the desired data and the criteria for what is the most ideal to obtain to utilize this model in the most functional way for shoreline adaptations.

10:35 AM   Peconic Estuary Fish Pass: 2024 Diadromous Fish Run Review - Dr. *Kellie McCartin*
10:50 AM   Questions and Discussion

Question on an estimate of the variability of the LP Model or confidence interval. Simple models can estimate, no confidence intervals. Sampling involved one day of tagging and being able to get recaptures. Can utilize a more complicated model, but for the sake of data collection, a simple model works for this.

10:55 AM   C.H.A.N.G.E.S. Project Update - *Dr. Christopher Gobler (Gobler Lab, Stony Brook University, SOMAS)*
11:05 AM   Questions and Discussion

Comments about the Menantic Creek community wanting to see dredging in the creek, even with not many homes in this area, do these problems arise from cesspools? Are there ways to fix that with dredging or will silt/sediment come back?

Long Island was just sand 10,000 years ago. Filling in with mud has caused issues with eutrophication and tidal exchange. Getting mud out will help better tidal exchange, however cautious with dredging with more water volume added into the creek.

Mention of Shelter Island's aquifer system, with an upper glacial aquifer. High nitrogen presence.

Communities are advocating for the removal of sediment, but is this succession? Is this a place where we see the area of Menantic Creek where there's involvement or just see the creek respond naturally.

11:10 AM   PEP Program Office Updates - *Joyce Novak (Director, PEP)*

- State of the Estuary Report
  Completed! Will be up online in the next few weeks. Printed copies are available. TAC led this effort, looking at water quality, eelgrass, scallop die-off, etc. EPA requirements will be implemented every 3-5 years. Thank you to everyone in TAC who contributed.

- FY24 Project Funding (TBD)
  Broad Cove- Continued funding ($67,000 with state funds), for site master plans. Meeting with PLT to figure out the best course of action, CCMP to be designed, and partner with a facilitator; inclusion of a sensory garden was advocated by NRSC and will be built into master plans.

- General Program Office Updates
  CLPS Tool: reaching out for a steering committee; some roadblocks with the tool; need to review all of the data; review with Geospatial center for next steps
  TAC Co-Chair Review: any nominations or interest. Come to Chair Matt Scalfani or the program office if interested.
  PEP Project Mapper: Please continue to add to the mapping tool, looking to update habitat plans in November with NRSC.Streamline projects and assign funding accordingly. Member organizations need to go through the habitat plan and give status updates, whether completed or not, to vote for the adoption of updates in the spring.

12:20 PM   Public Comment
         Tom Iwanejko, Suffolk County, shared pictures of Indian Island Terry Creek Wetland Restoration Project. Broke ground in May. PEP/NYS grant funds and restore the wetland from decades-old dredge spoils. Construction should be done within the month and begin plantings. PEP to potentially organize a field trip to see the development of the site throughout the planting phase.

12:30 PM   Adjourn

Next NRSC Meeting: November 20th

<u>In Person Attendees:</u>

*Joyce Novak (PEP), *Marissa Valasquez (PEP), *Jade Blennau (PEP), *Shauna Kammath (NYSDEC), *Ann Welker (Suffolk County Leg), *Christopher Gobler (SBU), * Kellie McCartin (SCCC), * Caroline Appell (Hofstra University)

<u>Zoom Participants:</u>

C. Theresa Masin - PEP NRSC Chair & Town of Southampton Planning	Tom Iwanejko - Suffolk County Vector Control
Nicole Maher - TNC	Brian Frank - Town of East Hampton Planning
Patrice Dalton- EH Trustee	Valerie Virgona -PEP
Glenn Goldsmith - Southold Town Trustee	Jill Moretto - PEP
Rachel Friedman - PEP	Della Campbell - DEC
Phone: 16319263969	Gil Jang - SoMAS Geospatial Center
Karinna Nunez (she/her) - VIMS	Michele Golden - NYSDEC
	Cassie Bauer - NYSDEC

Nina Leonhardt- Long Island Pine Barrens Society
Corey Humphrey -SC Soil & Water
Jessie McSwane - Peconic Land Trust
Pete Topping - Peconic Baykeeper
Matthew Sclafani - PEP TAC Chair & CCE
Matt Richards - DEC-Shellfisheries
John Aldred - E. Hampton Trustee
Mary Ann Eddy - Sag Harbor
Deanna Sullivan - NYSDEC
Lauren Steinberg - NYSDEC

Mark Lowery - NYSDEC
Bob Nyman - EPA
Tamia Rudnicky - VIMS
Maureen Dunn - Seatuck
Alexa Fournier - NYSDEC
Sally Kellogg - SSER (she/her)
James Duryea - Southampton Trustees Enviro Analyst)
Esther Nelson