

Southeast New England Program Steering Committee Meeting December 6, 2021 1:00-4:00PM

Agenda:

- Welcome & Roll Call – 1:00-1:15 (Mel Coté)
- Summary of SNEP/ORD Innovative/Alternative Septic System Workshop – 1:15-1:25 (Ian Dombroski)
- Open Discussion on the Need for I/As and Responsible Management Entities – 1:25-2:45 (Steering Committee)
- Overview of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Funding Ideas – 1:45-2:00 (Ian Dombroski)
- Open Discussion on Bipartisan Infrastructure Law – 2:00-2:15 (Steering Committee)
- Proposed SNEP Watershed Implementation Grants FY22 Priorities – 2:15-2:30 (Tom Ardito)
- Proposed SNEP Network FY22 Priorities – 2:30-2:45 (Martha Sheils, Phaeng Southisombath)
- Open Discussion on SWIG and Network – 2:45-3:00 (Steering Committee)
- FY22 SNEP Budget and New Project Ideas – 3:00-3:15 (Ian Dombroski)
- Open Discussion on SNEP Budget and Projects – 3:15-3:30 (Steering Committee)
- Adjourn – 3:30
- **OPTIONAL** General Open Discussion and Committee Updates – 3:30-4:00 (Steering Committee)

NOTE: Please see following pages for some pre-meeting materials



Southeast New England Program FY21 Accomplishments

- Completed SNEP's first Five-Year Strategic Plan ([HERE](#))
- Submitted a report to Congress on the SNEP Network ([HERE](#))
- Selected Restore America's Estuaries (RAE) to administer the SNEP Watershed Implementation Grants Program for the next five years ([HERE](#))
- Select four SNEP Pilot Watersheds ([HERE](#))
 - **\$149,998 to the Buzzards Bay Coalition** to identify and prioritize sources of watershed impairments and develop solutions to address stream alteration and nutrient loading in an urbanized area of the Buttonwood Brook-Apponagansett Bay area of Massachusetts. Project partners include the City of New Bedford, the Town of Dartmouth, Buttonwood Zoo, the Friends of Buttonwood Park, and the Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust.
 - **\$149,995 to the University of New Hampshire Stormwater Center** to demonstrate the effectiveness of using distributed, small-scale stormwater control measures to restore hydrologic balance and address water quality and flooding issues in Tisbury, Massachusetts. Project partners include the Town of Tisbury, the Martha's Vineyard Commission, and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.
 - **\$150,000 to the Barnstable Clean Water Coalition** to apply an innovative nature-based solution to reduce nitrogen impacts from a retired cranberry bog in Marstons Mills, Massachusetts, while also restoring habitat. Project partners include the Town of Barnstable, The Nature Conservancy, and the Native Land Conservancy.
 - **\$150,000 to the Town of Charlestown, Rhode Island** to support an enhanced integrated effort to address the impacts of excess nutrients from septic systems and stormwater on Greater Allen's Cove and Ninigret Pond, Rhode Island through installation of nitrogen reducing septic systems and nature-based stormwater solutions. Project partners include the University of Rhode Island, the Salt Pond Coalition, and Save the Bay.
- Released six SNEP newsletters ([HERE](#))
- Held four SNEP public webinars ([HERE](#))
- On-going Work on the SNEP Monitoring Synthesis Framework (more information to follow in the new year)
- On-going ORISE Research (information to be posted to SNEP website shortly)
- On-going work on the Flow Duration Curve Project ([HERE](#))
- On-going USGS Research ([HERE](#))
- I/A Septic System Workshop ([HERE](#))



Southeast New England Program FY22 Look Ahead

- SNEP public symposium (~May 2022)
- SNEP workshops (~February & July 2022)
 - February topic: Harmful Algal Blooms
- Quarterly public webinars
- Continued newsletter publication
- Reinvigoration of Monitoring and Ecosystem Services Subcommittees
- Increased Federal Agency Coordination
- Increased incorporation of Environmental Justice and Climate Change into all SNEP activities
- Potential increase to SNEP staffing
- Continued work on SNEP Monitoring Synthesis Framework
- Continued USGS Research
- Continued ORISE Research on Harmful Algal Blooms
- Phase II of the Flow Duration Curve project
- Development of monitoring plans for SNEP Pilot Watersheds
- Continued partnerships with:
 - Restore America's Estuaries (Watershed Implementation Grants)
 - New England Environmental Finance Center (Network)
 - Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program
 - Narragansett Bay National Estuary Program



Southeast New England Program Possible FY22 Budget Scenarios

Potential FY22 Base Funding	% Increase from FY21
\$5,500,000 (Continuing Resolution)	0.0%
\$6,252,000	13.7%
\$7,500,000	36.4%

FY22 Including Bipartisan Infrastructure Law	% Increase from FY21
\$8,500,000 (Continuing Resolution)	54.5%
\$9,252,000	68.2%
\$10,500,000	90.1%

SNEP will receive an additional \$3M per year for five years (FY22-FY26) through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) on top of the base budget. EPA HQ will take some of this funding for administrative purposes. Funding through the BIL will have stipulations on its use.



Southeast New England Program FY21 Final Spending Breakdown

Total: \$5,500,000			
Interagency Agreements \$403,000	Contracts \$649,216	Grants \$4,433,588	Service Fees \$14,196
ORISE	Project Continuations	RAE SNEP Watershed Grant	ORISE Fees
USGS Nitrogen Loading to Cape Rivers	Pilot Monitoring	Grants to NEPs	EPA HQ Fees
USGS Maravista Monitoring	Flow Duration Curve	Pilot Watersheds	
USGS Wickford Sewering	Admin. Support	NE-EFC SNEP Network	

