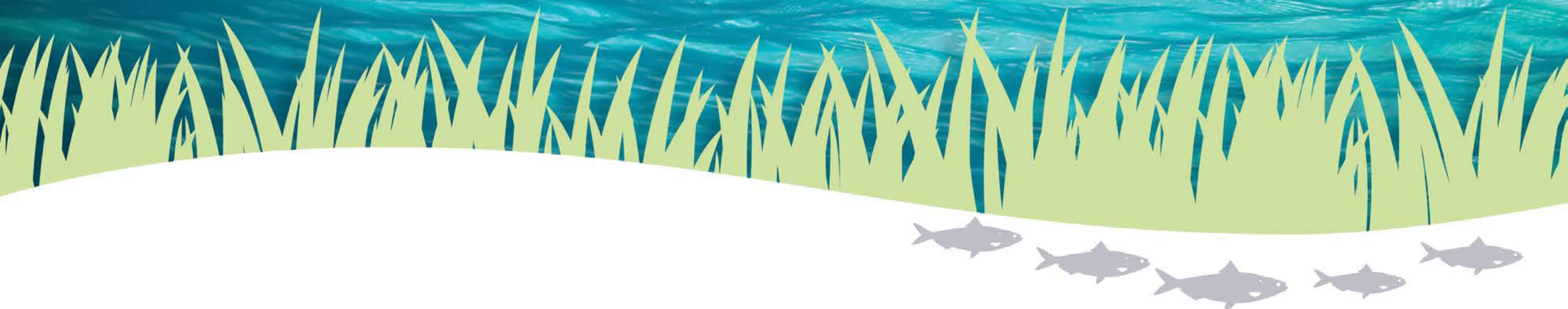


NEWEA Innovation Webinar – I/A Septic System Funding & Financing

Ian Dombroski, EPA Region 1



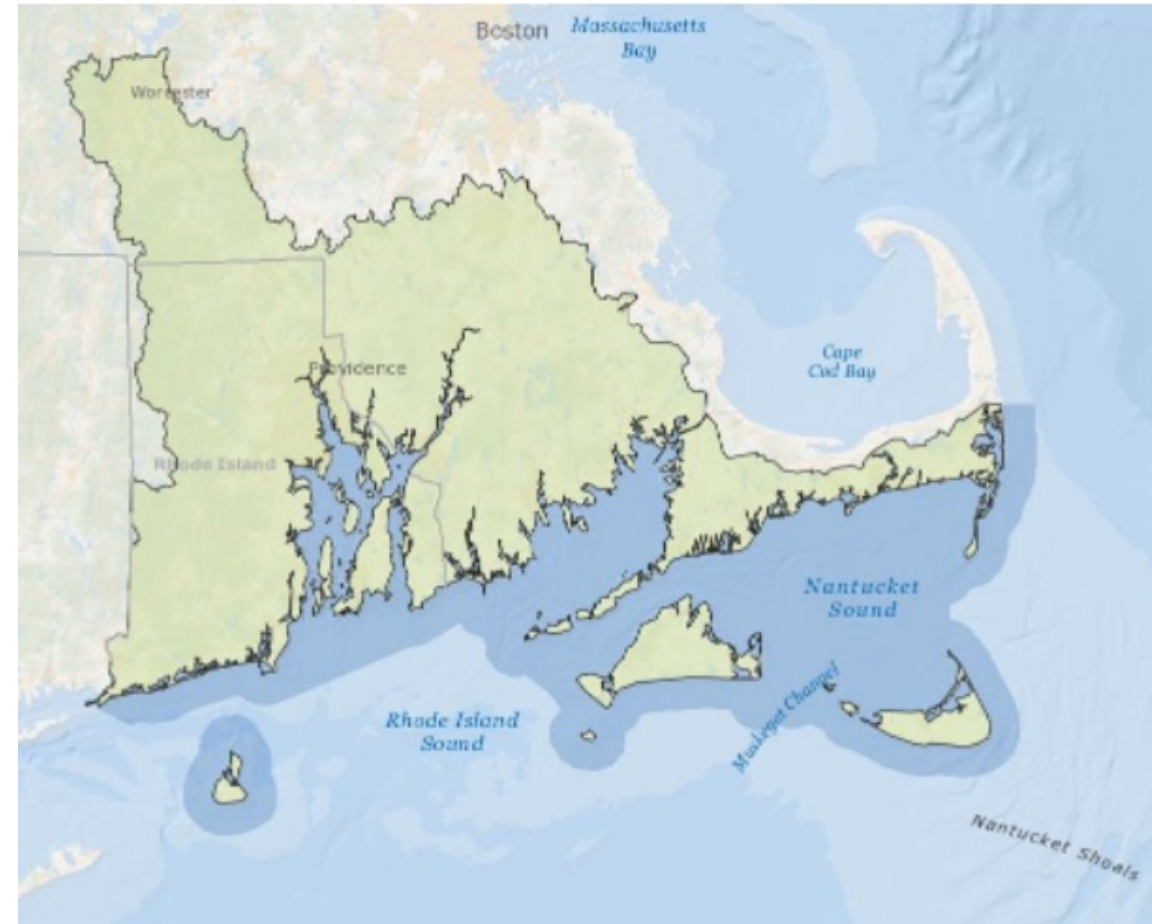


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SNEP Overview



- Southeast New England Program (SNEP)
- EPA Led (Region 1)
- Established in 2012, funded since 2014
- Rhode Island and S.E Massachusetts
- Foci:
 - Water Quality
 - Habitat
 - Resilience
 - Collaboration
 - Transferability
 - Innovation
 - Holistic Approaches





Program Vision 2050

A resilient ecosystem of safe and healthy waters, thriving watersheds and natural lands, and sustainable communities in the SNEP coastal watershed region

Resilient Ecosystem of Safe and Healthy Waters

- Waters support native seagrasses and aquatic life, plentiful native fish and shellfish, and a variety of water-based recreation opportunities

Thriving Watersheds and Natural Lands

- Watersheds provide essential ecological functions, species diversity, and protection from both human-based and naturally occurring environmental stressors, and healthy, connected natural lands support a variety and range of native plant and wildlife communities

Sustainable Communities

- Communities share robust water-based economics, protect and provide access to natural lands, open spaces and parks, encourage local food sources, and are adapting for resilience to expected impacts of climate change

Current Foci



- Reducing nutrients from septic systems, stormwater, and fertilizer
- Addressing and monitoring harmful algal blooms
- Testing innovative solutions such as permeable reactive barriers and aquaculture
- Restoring saltmarsh, eelgrass, and riparian buffers
- Evaluating and quantifying ecosystem service benefits



SNEP Network



- Run by the New England Environmental Finance Center @ University of Southern Maine (Grantee)
- Focused on technical assistance and capacity building
- Webinars/Workshop/Training
- Currently working on septic adjacent project near Santuit Pond
- Yearly “Call for Participants”

Environmental Finance Center(s)

- Smart management for small water systems
- Funding resources
- EFCNetwork.org



SNEP Watershed Implementation Grants



- Run by Restore America's Estuaries (Grantee)
- Current Request for Proposals (RFP) closed 4/26/22
- Next RFP anticipated in early 2023 (yearly)
 - Receive updated at www.snepgrants.org
- Potential project types for I/As:
 - Planning and assessment projects looking at adoption of I/As, wastewater management districts, alternative funding mechanisms, etc.



SNEP Watershed Implementation Grants



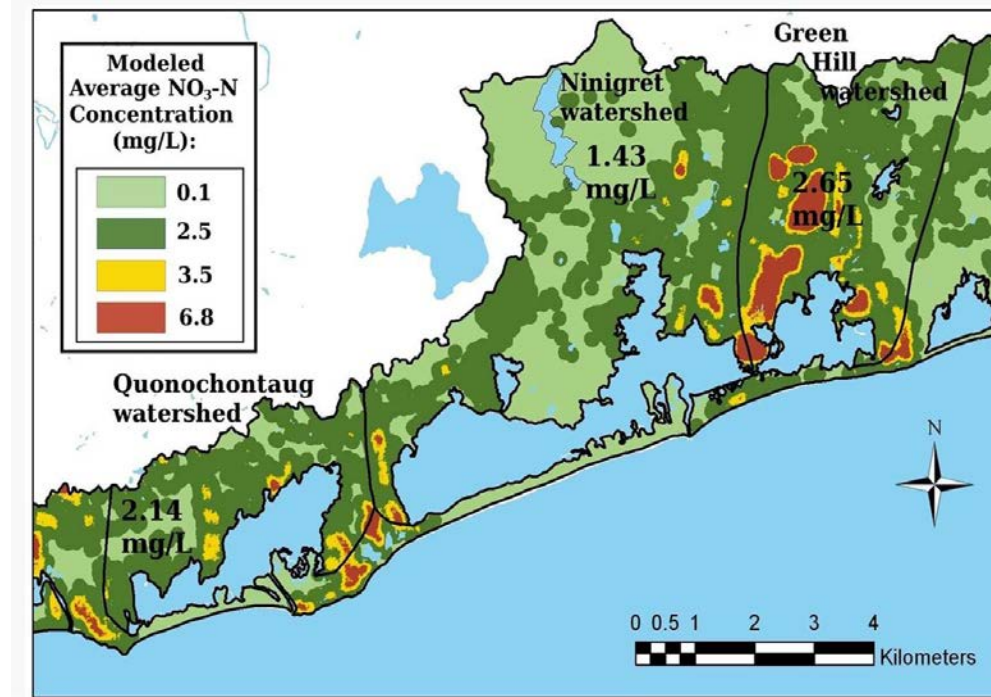
- Estimates for FY22:
 - Total \$1.8M in grants
 - Typical award: \$100,000- \$350,000
 - Full range: \$20,000 - \$500,000
- Letter of Intent (LOI) before full proposal
- Up to 24-month project period
- Eligibility:
 - State, county, local governments
 - Tribes
 - Regional planning organizations
 - Non-profit organizations
 - Academic institutions



SNEP Pilot Watersheds



- Five years of funding; seven-year project
- Holistic, collaborative, transferable
- Foci:
 - Nutrient pollution leading to impairment of surface water;
 - Harmful algal blooms and nuisance blooms
 - Restoration of impaired urban waterways
 - Restoration or protection of natural system function
- Current Pilot with Charlestown, RI is septic related



A portion of the South Coastal drainage basin in southern RI divided into individual watersheds for each salt pond depicted. Estimates of average groundwater nitrate-N concentrations based on a housing density GIS-based model are shown, along with the overall housing-density weighted average groundwater nitrate-N (mg/L) concentrations for each salt pond watershed. (Base maps from RIGIS) J. Donohue, 2013, URI Unpublished Data

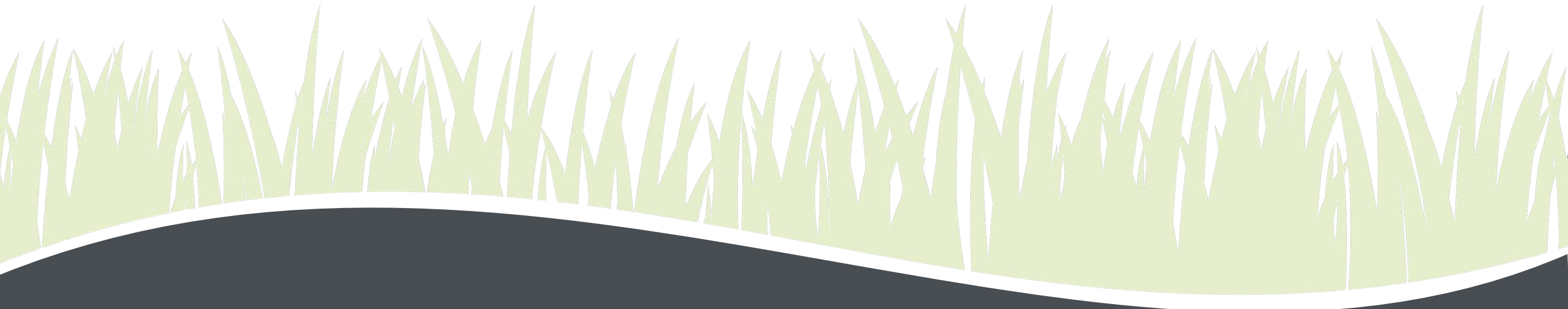


SNEP Model Responsible Management Entity Project (Request for Applications)





**Please direct formal questions to
SECoastalNE@epa.gov**



SNEP RME RFA Overview



Funding:

- \$2.3 million total
- Up to \$1.15 million per grant
- Up to 2 grants total
- No match requirement

Project Period:

- Up to 5-year project period

Other Details:

- Preference for one RME in RI and one in MA
- Applications completed through [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) (CFDA 66.129)



SNEP RME RFA Overview



Important Dates:

- Opened 4/20/2022
- Informational Webinar 5/26/2022 12:30-2:00PM (EDT)
- Last Day to Ask Questions: 6/1/2022
- Application Deadline: 6/17/2022 11:59PM (EDT)
- Notifications of Selection/Rejection: July 2022
- Public Announcement: September/October 2022



SNEP RME RFA Eligibility



- All applicants must substantially comply with eligibility requirements (Section III & IV of RFA)
- Eligible Entities
 - State, local, tribal governments/departments
 - Institutions of higher education
 - Nonprofit institutions and organizations
 - Interstate agencies
- Ineligible Entities
 - Private business*
 - Federal agencies*
 - Individuals*

*these entities are encouraged to partner with eligible entities



SNEP RME RFA Overview



Key Aspects:

- Installation of Enhanced I/A systems and/or retrofits (below 12 mg/l-nitrogen in effluent)
- Consideration of local regulations/ local support
- Type 4 or Type 5 RME
- Site selection and justification
- Must become sustainable beyond life of grant
- Partnership & leveraging
- Operations, maintenance and monitoring
- Transferability



SNEP RME RFA Overview



Evaluation Criteria (Total 190 points)

- Site selection and justification (35 points)
- Proposed RME design, installation, management, and longevity (20 points)
- Proposed EIA design, installation, and management (25 points)
- Partnerships & leveraging (15 points)
- Programmatic capabilities (35 points)
- Cost effectiveness (5 points)
- Monitoring, tracking, and measuring of environmental and programmatic results (35 points)
- Transferability of results (15 points)
- Timely expenditure of funds (5 points)





SECoastalNE@epa.gov

<https://www.epa.gov/snep>

<https://estuaries.org/snepgrantprogram/>

<https://snepnetwork.org/>

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=339637>