

# ***Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program National Estuary Program***

**Implementation Activities  
FY 06 Workplan and Budget**  
Pursuant to Section 320 funding under a  
Cooperative Agreement with the US EPA  
Beginning July 1, 2006  
last modified: April 24, 2006

## **Introduction**

Since the completion of the watershed management plan titled the *Buzzards Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)* in 1991, the ongoing focus of the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program has been to facilitate implementation of the recommendations contained in this CCMP. This year, the US EPA has made available to the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program \$492,600 in Clean Water Act Section 320 funds. This award is approximately 4% smaller than the previous year. This grant will be initiated under an amended Cooperative Agreement with EPA.

When reviewing this workplan, it is important to recognize that not all tasks described here are funded by this US EPA Cooperative Agreement to the Commonwealth. For example, of this total award, \$472,600 is being directly awarded to the Commonwealth under this grant application and workplan. For the balance of the funding, the US EPA, at the request of the Buzzards Bay Project, will directly award \$20,000 of US EPA section 320 funds to the citizen group the Coalition for Buzzards Bay for specific tasks in the Buzzards Bay citizen water quality-monitoring program. The match to these latter funds is being directly provided by the Coalition for Buzzards Bay under their separate cooperative agreement.

Some initiatives, like the USDA NRCS cost share of personnel detailed to the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program for technical assistance are not considered match or a financial contribution under the terms of this Cooperative Agreement. Any grants or assistance from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) or Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management are not considered match to this award unless expressly identified in the "Match to Cooperative Agreement" section in the final Cooperative Agreement. Inclusion of any non-match efforts by other agencies in this workplan are meant to demonstrate the collaborative or coordinating role of the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program in achieving specific recommendations contained in the watershed plan, the Buzzards Bay CCMP.

## **FY05 Budget Overview**

Federal FY 06 Funding	\$492,600
Base Funding (less Coalition Funding)	\$472,600
Coalition Water Quality monitoring*	\$20,000
Actual Match * (\$472,600 minimum required, actual=)	\$474,700
* match to Coalition funding provided through that organization	

## Highlights and Accomplishments During the Past Year

The Buzzards Bay Project's (BBNEP) primary mission is to provide technical support, and where possible, financial support to Buzzards Bay municipalities, and others, to help implement the recommendations in the Buzzards Bay Comprehensive Management Plan. Much of the day to day work of Buzzards Bay staff revolves around specific projects, like helping a town develop stormwater treatment designs to treat a stormwater discharge contributing to shellfish bed closures, helping towns secure funding for environmental projects like herring ladder repair, or helping a town evaluate environmental impacts or determine compliance with local regulations of proposed development. Some of the BBNEP's bay-wide initiatives and successes through our work during the FY 2004 workplan include:

- Printing and distribution of the second installment of our third watershed atlas, *Selected Inventory of Potential Wetland Restoration Sites in the Buzzards Bay Watershed*. This atlas shows potential wetland restoration sites (principally filled freshwater wetlands) in the Buzzards Bay watershed. It was developed to help government officials and local nongovernmental organizations identify sites for wetland restoration, or sites where wetland mitigation requirements can be fulfilled. It joins two other BBNEP atlases: tidally restricted salt marshes, and stormwater discharges to Buzzards Bay.
- The BBNEP awarded \$75,000 in municipal grants for environmental projects in January 2006. These grants helped fund wetlands habitat restoration, protect open space, and design stormwater treatment. The grants are reported at <http://www.buzzardsbay.org/download/press-release-2005-minigrants.pdf>.
- The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program support to the completion of a grant in partnership with the BBAC and New Bedford Voc Tech High School in the Stormwater Collaborative Mapping Program. This work, mapping every know discharge and catch basin in seven towns in the Buzzards bay watershed is nearly complete, and will result in the release of an updated stormwater atlas for the Buzzards Bay watershed.
- Oil Spill Damage Assessment review. The BBNEP continues to work with state and federal agencies reviewing and evaluating the environmental impacts of the 2003 Bouchard No. 120 oil spill in Buzzards Bay as part of the state-federal Natural Resources Damage Assessment. The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program is representing the state on evaluating oil injuries on aquatic organisms and populations in the intertidal and near subtidal zone.
- The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program provided key support for the development of a North America Wildlife Conservation Acquisition grant by the non-profit organization Ducks Unlimited to develop an application requesting \$500,000 to restore more than 90 acres of wetlands at four sites to utilize Buzzards Bay oil spill fine moneys. The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program also produced maps and conducted GIS evaluations in support of the application by the citizen group The Coalition for Buzzards Bay. Our past support contributed to past successes in the award of \$2.3 million in NAWCA funds. The BBNEP will continue to support the Coalition and other partners secure the balance of the oil spill fine funds.
- The BBNEP is continuing to work with state, federal, and local officials to update the Buzzards Bay management plan. In the spring of 2006, the BBNEP hired a firm, Horsley

Witten Group to assist in the management plan development and began posting drafts of the CCMP on our website.

- In the fall of 2005 and Spring of 2006, the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program awarded assisted the Town of Mattapoisett develop permit applications for the restoration of tidal flushing in Eel Pond Mattapoisett. The funds for the designs originated from a special earmark from the state legislature last year which helped match the BBNEP cooperative agreement.
- At the request of Town of Carver officials, the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program prepared a Community Preservation Act brochure. The Town of Rochester liked this brochure, and we are now working on a similar one for that community. In the spring of 2006, at the request of the Carver Conservation Commission, we printed 4000 copies of their wetland protection brochure for a general mailing in that community.
- The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program produced over 100 new or revised maps and fulfilled dozens of requests for data, calculations, or graphics to be used for newsletters, grants, etc.
- BBNEP staff will continue to participate in the EOEALID and Stormwater workgroups, and the EOEALID “Coastal WEB” task force to help direct EOEALID policies and funding on these CCMP relevant issues.
- We continue to implemented major revisions and streamlining of the Buzzards Bay website, including pages on the new CCMP, including review comment submission pages, LID conference information and registration pages, and a new page to track municipal actions to implement low impact development. Currently there is a total of 385 main pages, with an additional 390 downloadable pdf files and reports, as well as numerous graphic files and maps, for a total space use of 380 MB.

### **Leveraged Funding**

Each October, the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program submits to EPA, as part of our GPRA report, a summary of state, federal and local dollars and in-kind services leveraged by the Buzzards Bay Project, or leveraged by our partners with technical support by the Buzzards Bay Project, in support of the implementation of the Buzzards Bay CCMP. For the period October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006, the Buzzards Bay, these leveraged funds totaled \$6.4 million. For the current reporting year, considerably more funds have been leveraged to more than \$8 million. Our final estimates will be reported to EPA in the Fall.

### **Ongoing work on FY2005 Workplan (July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006)**

The FY2005 workplan represents the last year amendment of Cooperative Agreement CE98164501. Most of the FY2005 workplan and Cooperative Agreement tasks were completed, but some of these tasks are still ongoing including final expenditures under the municipal grant program which had been delayed for many reasons. Some of these delays were anticipated, and all work will be complete by the end date of the Cooperative Agreement on July 30, 2007.

### **Travel to National Meetings during past Fiscal Year.**

The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program fulfilled its travel requirements under the federal grant through its participation in both national EPA-ANEP meetings, and other national and regional meetings as reported below. Although EPA provides \$10,000 for this task, EPA requires

that only a minimum of \$7,000 need be spent on actual out of state travel.

Director Oct ANEP meeting, RI	\$718
Director Oct ANEP RI Meeting Registration	\$300
Director January ANEP Meeting, Florida	\$752
Director March NEP Meeting, Washington DC	\$1,590
Director March NEP Registration	\$300
Admin Assistant: October ANEP Regis, Rhode Island	\$200
Admin Assistant: Director October ANEP Travel, RI	\$144
Admin Assistant: March ANEP Regis, Washington DC	\$300
Admin Assistant: March ANEP Travel, Washington DC	\$1,353
Wetlands Specialist: New Urbanism RI 6/06 Reg. Fee	\$420
Wetlands Specialist: Hotel & Travel	\$200
Natural Resource Planner GIS Conference-ME 3/06	\$394
GIS Conference-VT 4/06	\$289
Total	\$6,960

The BBNEP out of state national meeting travel was slightly low this year because the Regional Planner was unable to attend the APA conference and other meetings this year due to maternity leave and care for her newborn. The balance of the funds is being used Bay Project staff on in-state travel to meetings, conferences, and other responsibilities associated with the workplan.

## **Federal FY 2006 funds Workplan Tasks (July 1, 2006- to June 30, 2007)**

### **1) Specialized Technical Assistance**

The Buzzards Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) is largely a non-regulatory document, with most recommendations directed toward municipalities because they have the greatest authority and capacity to address the growth related and non-point source pollution problems facing the bay and watershed. As a result, since completion of the CCMP, the focus of the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program has been to provide technical assistance, and where feasible, financial assistance to towns in their efforts to implement the Plan.

Because municipalities often lack adequate technical staff to develop or implement many of the recommendations contained in the CCMP, since 1992, the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program has been providing essential and much needed specialized technical assistance to municipal boards. This technical assistance not only focuses on specific initiatives funded with Project, state and federal funds, but a wide range of CCMP issues as well.

This year, the major areas of concentration of the Project's technical assistance program will again be:

- Promote Low Impact Development strategies and stormwater management in Buzzards Bay communities
- Remediate stormwater discharges to reopen shellfish beds,
- Assist towns in adopting stormwater management strategies,
- Promote better management of on-site systems and use of innovative systems,

- Help municipalities improve local wetlands and habitat protection,
- Help establish comprehensive nitrogen management strategies for sensitive embayments,
- Help towns adopt open space plans, and develop a regional open space plan that emphasizes protection of water quality, habitat, and living resources (this objective is detailed in Task 2 below),
- Assist the Commonwealth to characterize and evaluate *Bouchard No. 120* oil spill environmental and economic impacts and damages to natural resources, help towns and NRDA trustees identify appropriate restoration projects for the Natural Resource Damages Assessment effort, and to assist area municipal oil spill first responders better prepare for future oil spills (this objective is detailed in Task 13 below), and
- Assist the Buzzards Bay Action Committee and Buzzards Bay municipalities map stormwater drainage networks and implement other tasks required under municipal Phase II NPDES stormwater management plans (this objective is detailed in Task 4 below).
- Continue to maintain the Buzzards Bay website to keep the public and municipal officials informed about pressing environmental needs in the Buzzards Bay watershed.
- Complete an impaired anadromous fish run atlas for the Buzzards Bay watershed (this objective is detailed in Task 3 below).

## **2) Regional Open Space Plan Finalization**

For the past ten years, a major focus of the **Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program** has been assisting watershed municipalities develop Open Space Plans, especially with a focus on protecting wetlands, water quality, and important wildlife habitat.

In the summer of 2006 we will have completed the draft Regional Open Space Plan and meet with towns during a public comment period. This input is important because the plan will help guide state and federal agencies in targeting environmentally sensitive areas for acquisition in a way that looks beyond individual municipal boundaries.

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Regional Planner will work on Regional Open Space plan together with the **Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program** Executive Director, as well as with input from the Coalition Executive Director and the Coalition Lands Center.*

*CCMP Actions: Wetlands and Habitat, Land Use.*

## **3) Buzzards Bay watershed atlas development**

In spring 2006, the Massachusetts DEP released the 2005 eelgrass distribution GIS coverage. This new coverage will complement the earlier DEP 1996 study, and the Costa 1980s mapping. This year, the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program will continue the process of incorporating its historical archives of older aerial photographs to document historical changes in eelgrass abundance in Buzzards Bay based on interpretation of historical photographs on file, and incorporate this new data.

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Executive Director and Wetlands Specialist.*

*CCMP Actions: Land Use, wetlands and habitat.*

#### **4) Stormwater Remediation and Management**

There are four ways the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program provides assistance to towns on stormwater issues. First, we review stormwater designs proposed by towns for remediation projects, or at the request of a town board as part of local permitting or site plan review. Second, we help towns prepare grant applications for state and federal monies to help fund remediation of priority sites. Third, we assist towns to develop and implement stormwater management plans, like the Phase II MS4 NPDES municipal plans. Finally, we work with town boards to adopt local stormwater regulations.

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Stormwater Specialist will conduct the stormwater design reviews, the Wetlands Specialist will assist in the implementation of stormwater regulations, and the Stormwater Specialist and Executive Director will develop grant applications and attend meetings.*

*CCMP Actions: Stormwater, Shellfish, Wetlands and Habitat, Land Use, On-Site Septic Systems.*

#### **5) Stormwater Drainage System Mapping**

A special focus identified in the list above will be the continued effort to support to the Buzzards Bay Action Committee's grant to efforts to help towns use the Buzzards Bay NEP's maps of stormwater discharges in the Buzzards Bay watershed. The town of Acushnet received a grant from the Buzzards bay NEP to purchase a tablet PC and GPS unit for each town, and to provide training on the use of the Buzzards Bay data. The training and guidance for this effort will continue throughout the next year.

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Executive Director, Wetlands Specialist, Stormwater Specialist, Regional Planner, and Administrative Assistant.*

*CCMP Actions: Stormwater, Nitrogen, Shellfish, Wetlands and Habitat, Land Use, On-Site Septic Systems, Sewage Treatment Facilities.*

#### **6) Municipal Minigrant Program (\$28,000)**

A major task this year will be the dissemination, management and facilitation of grants awarded through the municipal minigrant program. Administration of the grants will be by the Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, and a technical lead by the staff member most closely specializing in the area of the grant. Thus, all staff members will be involved to some degree in the minigrant program. The funds will be directed to tasks identified after consultation with the Buzzards Bay Action Committee.

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Executive Director, Stormwater Specialist, Regional Planner, and Administrative Assistant, and other staff as needed.*

*CCMP Actions: May address Stormwater, Nitrogen, Shellfish, Wetlands and Habitat, Land Use, On-Site Septic Systems, Sewage Treatment Facilities.*

### **7) Program Oversight and Administration**

The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program Executive Director and Administrative Assistant ensure administration of the EPA and other grants and ISAs awarded to the Buzzards Bay Project.

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Executive Director and Administrative Assistant.*

### **8) Impaired Wetlands Inventory Outreach**

Two years ago, with funding from Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management, the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program began Phase I of the Selected Inventory of Potential Wetland Restoration Sites in the Buzzards Bay Watershed. Phase I and Phase II have now been completed. In this workplan, we will continue outreach for the atlases through meetings with state, local, and federal personnel on project specific cases, and through dissemination on the Buzzards Bay website.

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Executive Director, Wetlands Specialist, Regional Planner.*

*CCMP Actions: Wetlands and Habitat, Land Use.*

### **9) Environmental Indicators and Environmental Outcomes**

The US EPA requires an assessment of environmental “outputs” and “outcomes”, and a method to measure achievement of outputs and outcomes in our efforts to implement the CCMP, and to meet our overarching goal to protect and restore water quality, wetlands, and habitat in Buzzards Bay and its surrounding watershed. The **Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program** defined environmental outcomes and preliminary indicators through its annual GPRA and leveraging reports.

The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program submitted its first report to EPA in October 2003, and continues to submit this information annually. To a large degree, the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program will measure this workplan's outputs and outcomes based on annual reporting of workplan tasks completed, CCMP recommendations implemented, remediation projects completed, and our GPRA/environmental indicators reporting. Each workplan will contain a summary of tasks accomplished and tasks ongoing through program extensions.

To meet the need for environmental indicators reporting, the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program has set up a Buzzards Bay “status and trends” webpage at [www.buzzardsbay.org/trends.htm](http://www.buzzardsbay.org/trends.htm). This page summarizes information tracked by the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program and the Coalition for Buzzards Bay that is needed to evaluate the long-term progress on key environmental indicators for Buzzards Bay, and builds upon work

developed for the Coalition's 2003 State of the Bay conference. To more readily transmit information collected through the citizen water quality monitoring program (see Task 11), the Coalition for Buzzards Bay plans to enhance its website to include annual updates of its water quality testing program to show individual trends for Buzzards Bay embayments. The BBNEP believes this is an important endeavor to enable citizens and managers to see trends in embayments they are most concerned with.

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Executive Director and Administrative Assistant.*

*CCMP Actions: All Action Plans.*

### **10) Outreach and education.**

The Coalition for Buzzards Bay will continue to undertake outreach and education activities highlighting CCMP progress, Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program activities, and Coalition collaboration. These activities include the July 2005 Swim Buzzards Bay, their annual meeting, press events, and various publications, including the annual report to their members. The annual swim, part of an event titled "Celebrate Buzzards Bay 2005," consists of a 1.2-mile open water swim across outer New Bedford Harbor and an evening celebration of food and music on the shores of Buzzards Bay. It highlights the role a clean and healthy Buzzards Bay plays in the lives of watershed residents.

The Coalition will continue to maintain their website, and undertake open space acquisition initiatives with technical support from the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program to reach out to landowners to conserve and protect valuable wetlands. The Coalition will also continue its advocacy efforts through their Buzzards Baykeeper Program (a boat providing pump-out service, monitoring, and other needs.)

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Executive Director will coordinate with Coalition Executive Director.*

*CCMP Actions: Will address Stormwater, Nitrogen, Shellfish, Wetlands and Habitat, Land Use, On-Site Septic Systems, Sewage Treatment Facilities.*

### **11) Buzzards Bay Citizen's Water Quality Monitoring**

With its support from citizens, dues, and other sources, the Coalition for Buzzards Bay will continue its nationally recognized water-quality monitoring program, which costs \$150,000 annually. The **Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program** provides technical support to the program, and the **Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program** Executive Director is on the overseeing Research Committee of the Coalition.

In 2004, the CBB Research Committee has adopted the goal of "To expand CBB's water quality and habitat long-term monitoring program to include new parameters related to the impacts of sprawl development, nitrogen pollution and habitat loss on the Buzzards Bay Ecosystem." The **Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program** will work with the Coalition to help ensure this effort is successful.

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Executive Director will coordinate with Coalition Executive Director.*

*CCMP Actions: Will address Stormwater, Nitrogen, Shellfish, Wetlands and Habitat, Land Use, On-Site Septic Systems, Sewage Treatment Facilities.*

### **12) Technology Transfer to Other Estuaries**

The US EPA is not providing \$10,000 to each NEP this year for the purpose of providing travel to out-of-state conferences of National and regional significance for the purposes of technology transfer. Consequently attendance of out-of state conferences by program staff will be eliminated, except for two required EPA NEP meetings by the Executive Director.

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Executive Director*

*CCMP Actions: All CCMP actions to some degree.*

### **13) Oil spill Damage assessment**

The Natural Resource Damage assessment for the *Bouchard No. 120* oil spill of 2003 is expected to be finalized in 2007. The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program Director is continuing to participate in the aquatic injuries workgroup, representing the Commonwealth.

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Executive Director.*

*CCMP Actions: Oil Pollution and Toxics Action Plan*

### **14) CCMP rewrite**

The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program continues review and update of the recommendations of the Buzzards Bay CCMP. During this workplan period, a draft final of the new CCMP will be made available to the public in September 2006. The EOEA Watershed initiative is continuing to participate and support of one its staff time to assist the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program to ensure the revised CCMP meets the goals of EOEA's Watershed Action Plans.

*Principal Staff involved in these tasks: Executive Director, Administrative Assistant.*

*CCMP Actions: all.*

### **Match to the Cooperative Agreement.**

Below is a summary of the \$482,600 match that is being provided to meet the match requirement under this Cooperative Agreement to the Commonwealth. A large portion of the match is provided by the Coalition for Buzzards Bay, which last year had an operational budget of \$2.1 million. The coalitions close partnership with the Buzzards Bay NEP, along with in kind and

cash contributions from the Buzzards Bay Action Committee and member communities, continues to represent the core of the match to our cooperative agreement.

**1) Coalition for Buzzards Bay Water Quality Monitoring Program (\$175,000).** For the past decade, the Coalition has continued to secure nonfederal funds through grants, members dues, state ear marks, and donations to support its water quality monitoring program and related outreach. The cost of this program exceeds \$175,000 per year, not including thousands of hours of volunteer time annually.

**2) Municipal support to BBAC (\$10,000).** The municipalities of Buzzards Bay pay \$10,000 per year to the Buzzards Bay Action Committee to support projects to implement the Buzzards Bay CCMP.

**3) BBAC and other meetings (\$33,000).** The BBAC is composed of high level municipal officials, generally Selectmen, Town Administrators, or Department heads that meet monthly (11 municipalities, about 20 officials typically attend, at 11 meetings per year for 2 hours per meeting. The average hourly rate assigned to these municipal officials value assigned is estimated to be \$50 per hour (including fringe and indirect). In addition, special meetings with the executive director, Buzzards Bay oil spill coordinators, and town hall staff at special BBAC meetings with presentations, or attendance at BBNEP workshops are estimated to amount to an additional \$11,000.

The purpose of these meetings is to discuss CCMP implementation, specific progress on projects, and coordination with the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program and Coalition for Buzzards Bay. In the coming year, time will be set aside at each BBAC meeting to discuss an action plan topic as part of the planned re-write of the CCMP.

**4) Coalition for Buzzards Bay's The Lands Center (\$150,200).** The Coalition has a Foundation and donor-supported program with several staff members and outreach costs. Expenditures under this program by The Coalition, especially donations for land acquisition, continues to represent a large portion of this non-profits expenditures. The activities of the Lands Center supports a key goal of the Buzzards Bay CCMP, the protection of wetlands, habitat, and open space to protect water quality, and living resources. Publicly accessible open space also helps build support for other environmental initiatives of both our programs. The Bay Lands Center is simply an initiative aimed at increasing the rate of land protection and the amount of protected shoreline, forestlands, and critical habitats in the Buzzards Bay watershed. The Coalition's Bay Lands Center works with landowners, land trusts and town officials to encourage Bay-focused watershed land protection, empower local land trusts, and educate private landowners about land conservation options.

The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program is a key partner with the Coalition's Land Center, preparing hundreds of maps and conducting GIS land use evaluations for targeted acquisitions. Our support is integral in the Coalition's outreach for their program, and has helped the passage of municipal town meeting legislative articles in support of conservation land acquisitions.

**5) Municipal Match to BBNEP grant (\$14,000).** The \$28,000 in the **BBNEP** mini-grant

program will generate a minimum of \$9,300 in required municipal match because the project requires a 25% match of total project cost (=33% of award). However, many grants are overmatched, and we expect to achieve a 50% match overall.

**6) Other Coalition support (\$80,000).** The Coalition for Buzzards Bay outreach, planning, stream monitoring program, oil spill area plan and events includes cost of Director, outreach staff, and communication costs.

**7) Coastal Web funding A: \$15,000.** The Executive Office of Environmental Affairs has set aside \$15,000 for contractual services to fund a USDA-NRCS employee to assist the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program in developing stormwater remediation and habitat restoration services for Buzzards Bay municipalities.

**8) EOEA watershed support \$5,400.** The Executive Office of Environmental Affairs has set aside 1/10 time of a FTE to work with the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program to help guide and develop an updated CCMP that meets the goals of the EOEA Watershed Action Plans.

### **Other commitments**

The implementation of this program and conformance with EPA Water Quality goals will be overseen by the Buzzards Bay Project's Steering Committee.

The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program will submit complete Government Performance Results Act (GPRA) reporting information to EPA as specified in the EPA Funding Guidance. As a requirement of this agreement, the BBNEP will provide information on the GPRA performance measures to EPA by their required date.

The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program continues to track and monitor key environmental indicators to document the success of the CCMP. Besides the ongoing water quality monitoring program of the Coalition, the new DEP eelgrass data, together with new historical eelgrass information collated by the Buzzards Bay Project, will help create a new eelgrass area tracking system for Buzzards Bay embayments. This information will be posted on the Buzzards Bay Status and Trends webpage. Other data tracked by the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program will be the percentage of stormwater discharges with some form of stormwater remediation implemented, tracking of CCMP accomplishments, ongoing monitoring of two key Buzzards Bay herring runs, and the ongoing tracking of protected open space and new land acquisitions.

### **Current Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program Staff**

Dr. Joe Costa, is Executive Director of the Buzzards Bay Project. Besides overseeing and administering the Project, he provides technical assistance on nitrogen loading assessment and management, water quality analysis, watershed planning, build-out analysis, data analysis, and software support. His research in Marine Ecology, particularly nitrogen loading effects on eelgrass beds and coastal ecosystems has been put to use in the Project-Coalition citizen monitoring program and the Project's nitrogen management approach.

John Rockwell did a Master's thesis on wetlands delineation techniques, and as a former

conservation agent, conservation commission chair, and MACC board member, he brings with him a wealth of experience on wetland protection. John conducts workshops, drafts bylaws, and conducts wetland delineations for towns.

Bernadette Taber is an employee of the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service and has been detailed to the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program office since 1991. She evaluates and develops engineering solutions for stormwater remediation in both agricultural and urban environments. She has reviewed many engineering plans at the request of Buzzards Bay municipalities, and has also developed the preliminary designs identified in many Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program and town grant proposals.

Tracy Warncke, is the Buzzards Bay Project's Administrative Assistant (2/3 time). She not only handles administrative duties at the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program office, but has designed many reports, brochures, and fact sheets for the Project and municipalities alike. Tracy spent four years with the Bourne Board of Health testing water for fecal coliform bacteria, experience she has put to work at the Project.

Sarah Williams, is the Project's Regional Planner. She provides assistance to municipalities on land use and watershed planning, land conservation, buildout analysis, habitat restoration, and mapping. She is a coordinator between the towns and the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program on our Municipal Grant Program, and is preparing the project's regional open space plan. Sarah was also a member of the Fairhaven-Acushnet Land preservation Trust and Fairhaven Conservation Commission, and brings this valuable experience to bear on her activities.

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## BUDGET DETAIL

Award: \$472,600 (note: an additional \$20,000 to the Coalition for Buzzards Bay for Water Quality monitoring under a separate Cooperative Agreement)

Personnel: \$225,384

(**BBNEP** Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, Wetlands Specialist, Regional Planner)

Travel: \$4,000

Mostly in state travel, two required national meetings for executive director.

Fringe: \$69,869

31% charge on all personnel

Contractual: \$53,000

1) Funds for stormwater specialist from NRDA: \$25,000

Due to Massachusetts EOE budgeting procedures, this position must be shown as contractual because they will not involve official state positions, but rather "contractual employees."

2) A Municipal Minigrant of \$28,000 will be awarded in categories based on discussions with the Buzzards Bay Action.

Supplies: \$9,631

Postage, phone, communication, printing, paper, office supplies etc.

Other: \$34,757

Rent and Utilities, Cleaning, Medicaid, state audit, MassGIS, and other charge backs

Indirect costs: \$75,960

30% charge on "Personnel", contractual staff in the "Contractual" category (\$0 in this workplan), selected expenditures in the "Other."

Match:

\$482,600 (see detail in workplan)

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