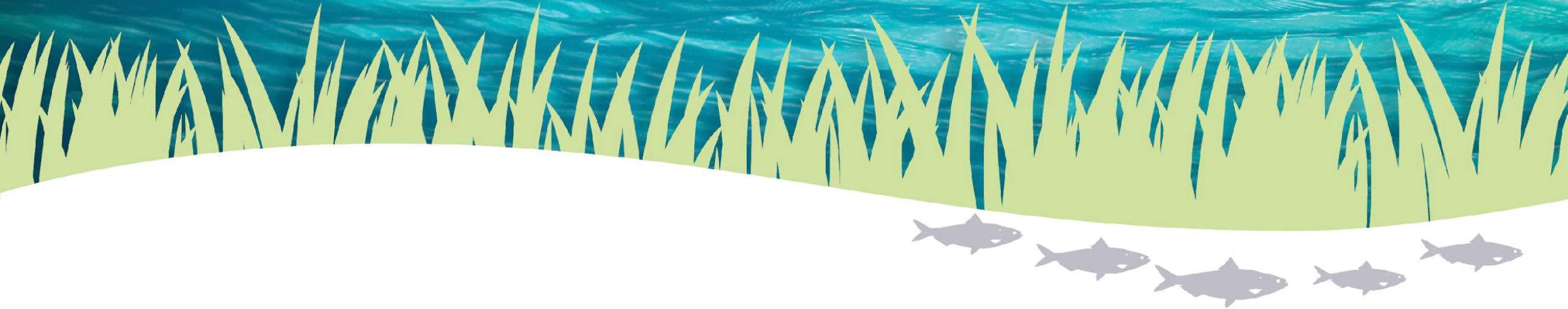


# Southeast New England Program

RI Flood Mitigation Association  
May 25, 2023, Session 2; Track D



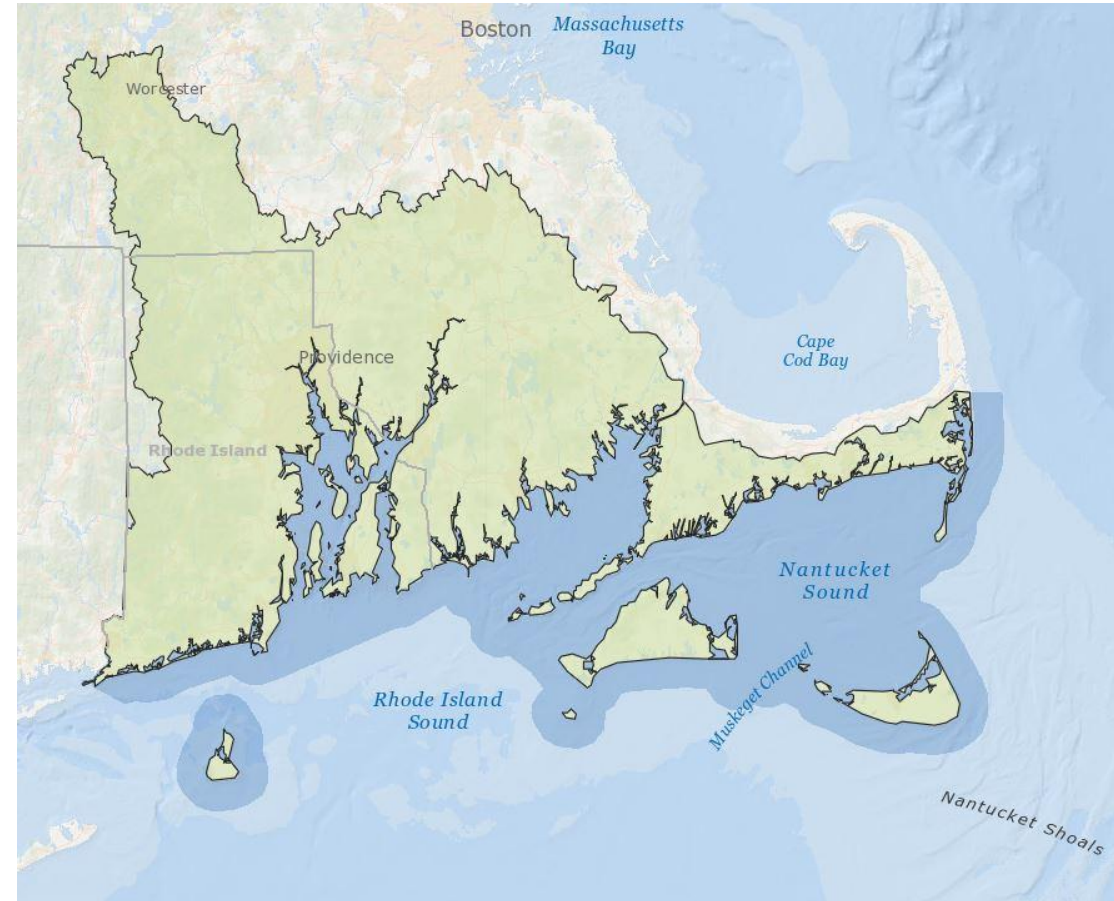
**Ian Dombroski, U.S EPA Region 1**



# Program 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
  - Climate Resilience
  - Innovation
  - Collaboration
  - Transferability
  - Holistic Approaches
  - Environmental Justice





## 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



# Overall Funding Breakdown Through FY22



## Massachusetts

- 80 Awards
- \$17.3M in Federal Funds
- \$21.2M in Total Project Value

## Rhode Island

- 55 Awards
- \$12.1M in Federal Funds
- \$15.6M in Total Project Value

## Interstate

- 4 Awards
- \$16.0M in Federal Funds
- \$19.8M in Total Project Value

## FY2014-FY2022

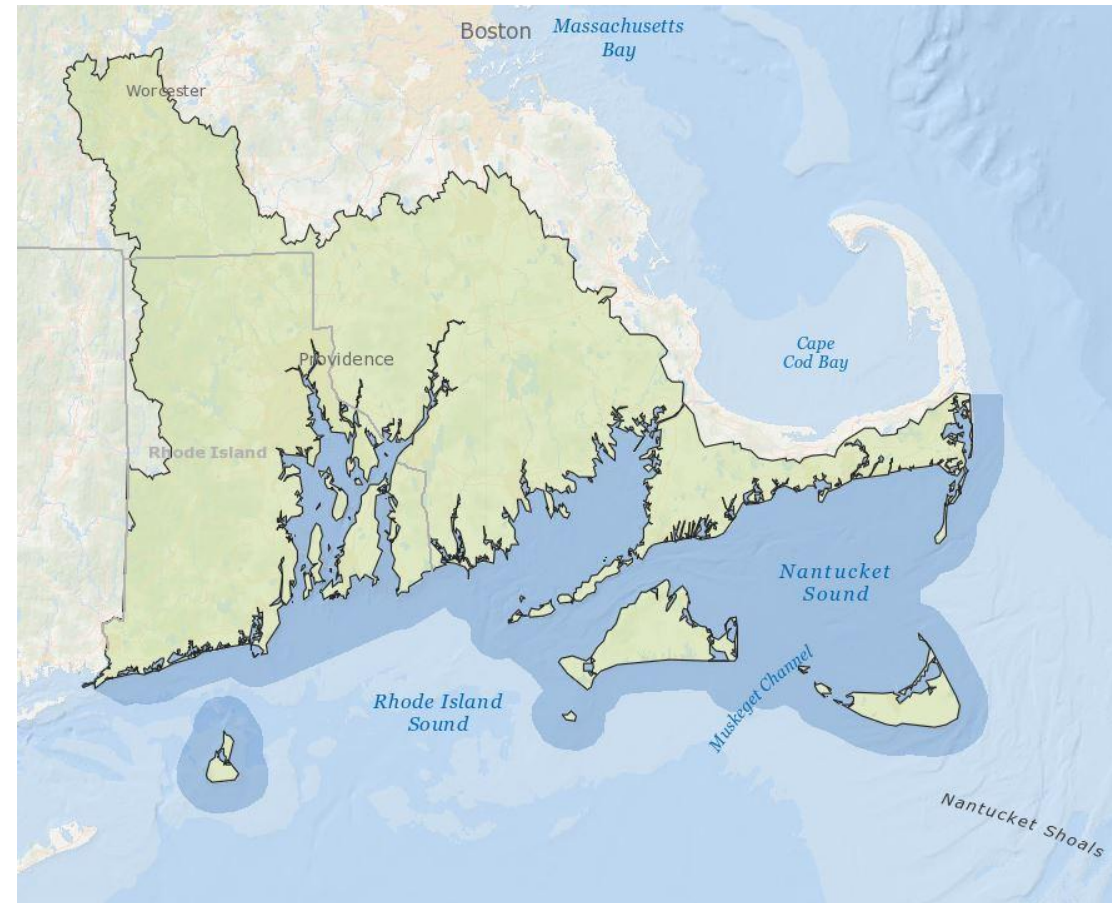
\$45.5M in Federal Funds Awarded

\$56.6M in Total Project Value

# Funding/Assistance Routes



- SNEP Watershed Implementation Grants
- SNEP Network
- National Estuary Program (Narraganset Bay Estuary Program for RI)
- EPA Direct Assistance (Pilot Watersheds, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grants, Contracts, Interagency Agreements)



# Stormwater and Natural Infrastructure Grant

- Up to 6 awards, \$400k-\$600k (\$2.3M total)
- Up to 5 year projects
- Applications Due: June 30
- Informational Webinar: June 1
- Topics:
  - Stormwater Infrastructure & Roadway Runoff
  - Salt Marsh
  - Riparian Areas, Floodplain, Inland Wetlands
  - Habitat Connectivity and Aquatic Organism Passage
  - Urban Area Resilience and Habitat Restoration
  - Monitoring
  - Municipal and Tribal Planning

# Priority Topics



- Design and/or implementation of riparian or floodplain restoration adjacent to major rivers that discharge to coastal waters.
- Design and/or implementation of riparian, floodplain or wetland habitat restoration along estuaries and coastal rivers and ponds.
- Analysis of gaps in riparian buffer areas around major river corridors, estuaries and coastal waterbodies for potential acquisition or easement (the actual acquisition of land *cannot* be funded under this solicitation).

# Priority Topics



- Green infrastructure/stormwater improvement projects that specifically address water pollution and flooding while also promoting access to open space, green space, and/or habitat improvement.
- Green roadway planning, design, and stormwater mitigation. Emphasis on including these elements in broader infrastructure projects, especially those pertaining to the redevelopment of low-lying roads subject to flooding.



# Priority Topics



- Assessment, prioritization, and/or design of culvert enhancement or removal projects to reduce flooding, build climate resilience, and improve water quality, habitat connectivity and aquatic organism passage.
- Removal or replacement of culverts to reduce flooding, building climate resilience, and improve water quality, habitat connectivity and aquatic organism passage.
- Assessment, prioritization, and design for dam removal or aquatic passage (such as fish ladders). This can include the development of strategies to address and/or incentivize removal of small dams on private land with landowner permission.
- Parcel acquisition planning in support of dam removal or aquatic fish passage (the actual acquisition of land *cannot* be funded under this solicitation).

# Priority Topics



- Urban stream and habitat protection bylaw, regulation, or policy development.
- Resilience to flooding and anticipated impacts of climate change on waters and habitat in urban areas.
- Land acquisition planning to support habitat or floodplain restoration and water quality improvement in urban areas (the actual acquisition of land *cannot* be funded under this solicitation).
- Watershed or town wide comprehensive infrastructure planning and management for stormwater, habitat, water quality improvement, natural open space and/or climate resilience.

# Summer 2023 Upcoming Opportunities



- Research
- Resilience in Disadvantaged Communities





## Contact Information:

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OR

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# SNEP WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

*Floodplain restoration & coastal resilience opportunities*

**TOM ARDITO**  
**RESTORE AMERICA'S ESTUARIES**

SWIG Program Director  
[tardito@estuaries.org](mailto:tardito@estuaries.org)



# SWIG 2018 - 2022

- RAE/EPA Cooperative Agreement since 2017
- Awards 2018 -- 2022
  - 60 Grants
  - 100+ Grantees
    - \$ 12M awards
    - \$ 7M match
    - \$ 19M total
  - Grants \$10k - \$500k, most in the \$100k - \$400k range
- See [www.snepgrants.org](http://www.snepgrants.org) for program reports and project information

# SWIG23: \$2.9 M available

## Restore Ecosystems, Improve Communities

### *2023 Funding Themes:*

- Restore Small Cities & Urban Environments;
- Conserve and Restore Rural and Natural Landscapes;
- Innovate to Improve Water Quality;
- Promote Environmental Justice and Equity;
- Address Environmental Change;
- Build & Sustain Local and Regional Partnerships; and
- Foster Regional Learning.

# Examples of Projects Funded

- Watershed-scale Estuarine Restoration
- Green Streets & Neighborhoods – Urban Restoration & Community Engagement
- Environmental justice, green job training, etc.
- Stormwater Demonstration & Training
- Innovative Wetland & River Restoration, other habitats
- Coastal resilience, shorelines, flooding
- Pilot Projects: PRBs, bioreactors, innovative septic, etc.
- Watershed & Regional Plans
- Marine pollution, solid waste
- Conferences & Tech Transfer (smaller \$\$\$)



# Types of Organizations Funded

- Municipalities
- State Agencies
- Tribes
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Regional Planning Organizations
- Universities & Other Academic Institutions
- Partnerships:  
Multi-community, regional & public/private

## Grantees include:

- Town of Bristol, RI
- RI Dept. of Environmental Management
- CT Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection
- City of Pawtucket, RI
- Save The Bay, RI
- University of Rhode Island
- Assn. to Preserve Cape Cod
- Buzzards Bay Coalition
- Cape Cod Commission
- Falmouth Rod & Gun Club
- Martha's Vineyard Comm.
- Pleasant Bay Alliance
- New Eng. Interstate Water Poll. Control Comm.
- Southeast Regional Planning & Econ. Dev. Dist.
- Audubon Society of RI
- City of Cranston, RI
- Groundwork RI
- City of Newport, RI
- Northern RI Conservation Dist.
- Town of Warren, RI
- Woonasquatucket River Watershed Assn.
- Mass. Maritime Academy
- Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
- City of Providence, RI
- RI Div. of Marine Fisheries
- Town of South Kingstown, RI
- Friends of Bass River
- Mt. Holyoke College
- Center for Coastal Studies
- Mass. Audubon Soc.

# Coastal & Watershed Resilience

- Shoreline migration / relocation studies
- Coastal resilience planning & implementation
- Stormwater / flooding management in urban areas
- Green streets
- Dam removal
- Barrier beach restoration
- SWIG funding often used in concert with RI Infrastructure Bank and RIDOT funding
- Any phase: planning, design, permitting, construction
- 2 year grants

# Questions?

For more information about  
SNEP Watershed Implementation Grants:

[www.snepgrants.org](http://www.snepgrants.org)

Contact Tom Ardito for assistance

[tardito@estuaries.org](mailto:tardito@estuaries.org)

More about SNEP:

Google “SNEP Strategic Plan” or link from  
snepgnants page



## Resources:

[snepnetwork.org](http://snepnetwork.org)

[snepgrants.org](http://snepgrants.org)

[epa.gov](http://epa.gov)

[buzzardsbay.org](http://buzzardsbay.org)

[nbep.org](http://nbep.org)





**Thank You For Your Time and Attention!  
Questions?**

