



## Structure and Governance for NEP's

Reference:

US EPA FAQ's on NEP Governance 2-19-15



“National Estuary Programs are Composed of a Management Conference”



# Who are the members of a NEP Management Conference: (1 of 2)

“The MC typically establishes several core committees to carry out implementation of the CCMP. The roles of the various committees should be explicitly identified and documented by the MC. Although not standardized across all NEPs, in general, MCs usually include a policy committee that sets the overall direction for the NEP, a management committee that informs and approves projects and activities to implement the CCMP, and advisory committees that provide technical and citizen input.”

# Who are the members of a NEP Management Conference: (2 of 2)

“Membership of the MC generally includes EPA Regional representatives, state and local government representatives, and other diverse stakeholders such as: (1) elected and appointed policymaking officials from all governmental levels; (2) environmental managers from federal, state, regional, and local agencies; (3) local scientific and academic communities; (4) private citizens; and (5) representatives from public and user interest groups—business, industry, community, and environmental.”

A wide-angle photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sky is filled with vibrant orange and yellow hues, transitioning to a darker orange near the horizon. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow. In the foreground, the beach is dark, and several people are silhouetted against the bright light of the sunset. They appear to be walking or standing, some looking towards the ocean. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

“National Estuary Programs develop, update and implement a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, (CCMP).”

# The Role of a NEP Management Conference

“The MC is the local stakeholder-driven partnership that develops, updates, and implements an NEP Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP) as authorized by Clean Water Act (CWA) §320. The partnership is a forum for open discussion, cooperation, consensus building, and collaborative decision making. The CCMP reflects a scientific characterization of, and stakeholder concerns about, the NEP study area, including water quality, habitat, and living resource challenges.”

# The NEP Director and Staff

“The NEP Director and staff serve many functions, including day-to-day management of NEP activities, providing administrative and technical support to NEP committees, conducting public outreach and education activities, coordinating and integrating NEP activities with existing water quality and natural resource protection and restoration efforts in the watershed, and identifying partners that will advance CCMP implementation.”

# NEP Director

“In addition, the Director solicits local support for the program, identifies additional sources of funding, and facilitates partner actions to help ensure there is no duplication of effort among partners. Finally, the Director reports NEP results to EPA.”



# Role of the NEP host entity (1 of 2)

“An NEP host entity, such as a state agency, university, or nonprofit organization administers the EPA assistance agreement that supports the activities and projects of the NEP.”

“The host entity generally: (1) provides a physical location in the NEP study area for the Director and staff; (2) oversees compliance with terms and conditions of the assistance agreement made with EPA; (3) maintains financial records; (4) submits progress reports and other required paperwork; and (5) adheres to eligible cost requirements, which include a non-Federal 50 percent match.”

## Role of the NEP host entity (2 of 2)

“The host entity is usually a member of the MC. Each NEP is governed by its MC rather than solely by its host entity, or in the case of a nonprofit organization or independent agency by its Board. Any §320 funding awarded to the host entity (or the NEP if it is an independent entity) is required by the CWA to be used for the purposes and activities developed and approved by the MC and consistent with an NEP’s CCMP.”

# Role of EPA Regional Office in the NEP (1 of 2)

“Regional Offices have substantial responsibility for both the award of an annual assistance agreement between EPA and an NEP and for the administration of those agreements, including the oversight of an NEP’s performance of tasks included in annual assistance agreement work plans. The Regional Office reviews and approves each NEP work plan, provides day-to-day assistance to each NEP, and is a member of the MC.”

# Role of EPA Regional Office in the NEP (2 of 2)

“The Regional Office also connects the NEP to EPA programs that are relevant to the NEP’s efforts, provides advice on reporting and status updates as needed to EPA HQ contacts, and helps an NEP prepare for its upcoming PE review.”

“The Regional Office thus ensures that NEP activities are carried out in a manner consistent with CWA §320, EPA assistance agreement authorities, and the NEP’s CCMP. (See the June 16, 2011, HQ and Regional Coordinator Roles and Responsibilities for more information.)”



## SANTA MONICA BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM TRANSLATOR

Reference:

US EPA FAQ's on NEP Governance 2-19-15

The following slides reflect our current structure



Translation from EPA National Estuary Program guidance and terminology to our program's idiosyncratic nomenclature

The Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan is....

The Bay Restoration Plan



# The SMBNEP Management Conference is comprised of:

The SMBRC Governing Board

The SMBRC Executive Committee

The SMBRC Technical Advisory Committee

The SMBRC Watershed Advisory Council

The Bay Foundation



# The SMBRC Governing Board

Translation:

Is the SMBNEP Management Committee

“...management committee that informs and approves projects and activities to implement the CCMP.”

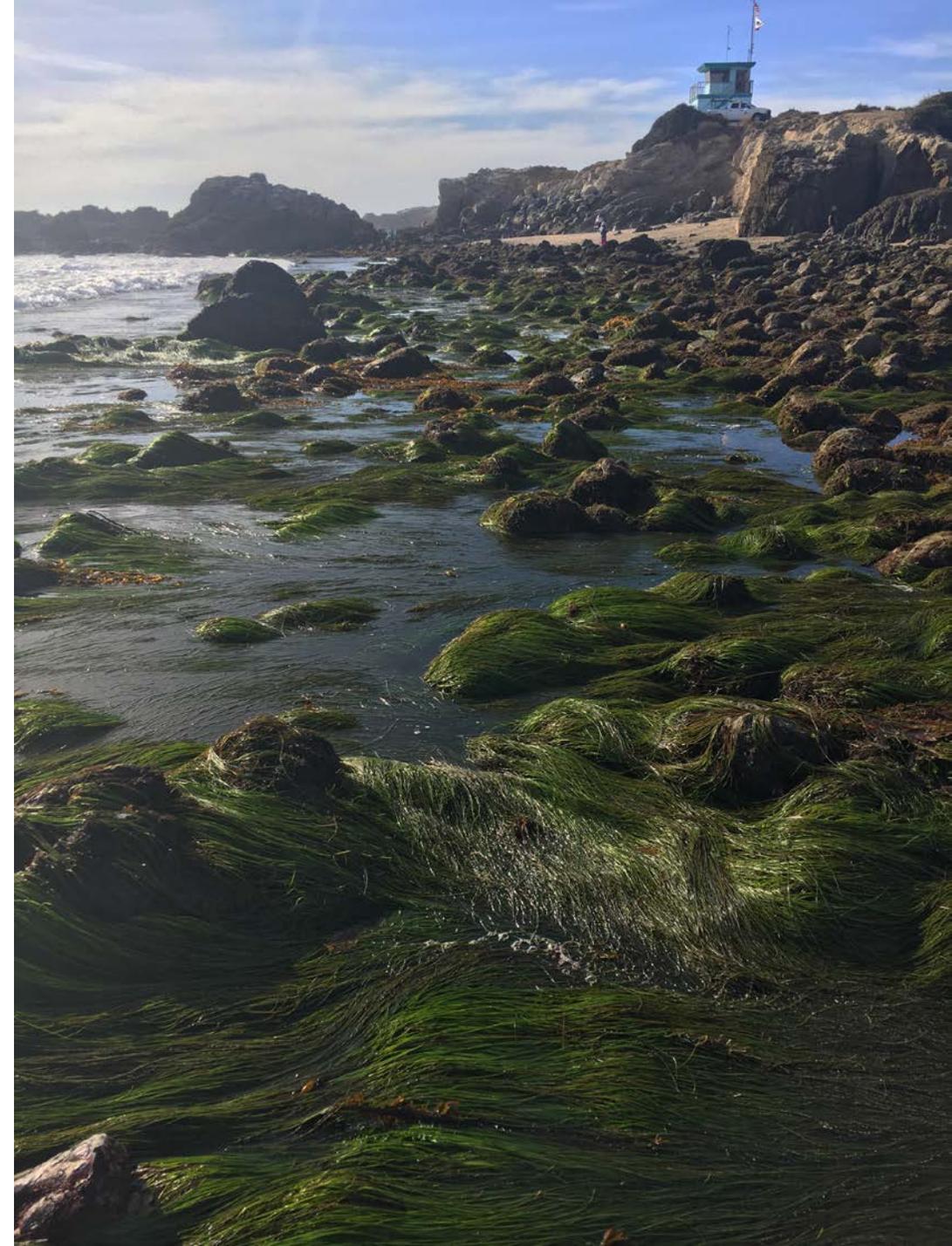


# The SMBRC Executive Committee

Translation:

Is the SMBNEP Policy Committee

“...policy committee that sets the overall direction for the NEP.”



# The SMBRC Technical Advisory Committee

Translation:

Is the SMBNEP Technical Advisory Committee

“...advisory committees that provide technical and citizen input.”

# The SMBRC Watershed Advisory Council

Translation:

Is the SMBNEP Citizen Advisory Committee (also referred to as the Public Advisory Committee)

“...advisory committees that provide technical and citizen input.”

# The Bay Foundation

Translation:

Is the Host Entity

“An NEP host entity, such as a state agency, university, or nonprofit organization administers the EPA assistance agreement that supports the activities and projects of the NEP.”

# The SMBNEP Staff include:

the State Water Board employees  
assigned to support the SMBRC.

the employees of The Bay Foundation.



# The NEP Director

Translation:

“The Director is hired by and is an employee of the host or independent entity. The MC, Policy Committee, or Board of Directors (if the NEP is a nonprofit organization) generally selects or concurs on the selection of the Director.”

The Executive Director of The Bay Foundation is the Director of the SMBNEP.