

Draft CCMP Finance Plan Instructions

The Finance Plan for the Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (SMBNEP) is a component of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). The Finance Plan is inherently a strategic planning document that will assist SMBNEP and its partners in effectively implementing the Action Plan over the course of the next five years and beyond. The intent of this exercise is for SMBNEP to identify funds to execute the Action Plan, which was approved in October 2018. It is recognized and accepted that not every action will have currently identified funding, nor that the identification and sources of funds within this document implies any type of commitment. Additionally, the document is not intended to quantitatively track costs. Rather, the document will help strategically assess funding opportunities and needs to implement the CCMP Action Plan. The format provided for the Finance Plan is based upon the Environmental Protection Agency's funding guidance for National Estuary Programs (NEP) and modeled after other NEP finance plans.

The framework for the draft Finance Plan replicates actions and next steps in the CCMP Action Plan in the form of a large table. SMBNEP is requesting assistance from the Management Conference to populate the table to the best of your knowledge. SMBNEP is seeking input on currently allocated funding, additional funding required, and possible or secured funding sources. The first sets of columns (blue header) are the actions, next steps, lead entity(ies), and partner(s) derived from the CCMP Action Plan. Additional information or corrections are welcomed to help identify funding or partnerships. Subsequent columns (green header) identify currently secured funding by SMBNEP and their partners to implement various next steps. The last set of columns (orange header) identify the remaining need for funding to implement the next steps over the course of the five years of the CCMP Action Plan.

In the case of many of the next steps, these "need" sets of columns (orange header) are rough estimates for up to five years, when exact cost to implement the next step is uncertain or unknown. Occasionally, in the case of a project being well along the planning stages or in implementation phases, the projected cost estimates for future funding may be more certain, and are identified as such in the column based on the color allocation of the cells. In the "5-Year Funding" column, there should be a numeric cost projection to implement the next step up through (if needed) the five year time frame. A 'green' color categorization means that either funding has been applied for or is likely to be received in the near future or there is high confidence in securing those funds. 'Yellow' indicates that funding has not been applied for, but opportunities may have been identified. 'Red' indicates that opportunities are either unknown or there are too many variables to have confidence in identifying sources at this time.

Some projects have sources of funding secured and others may not have any identified. Any help that can be provided in filling in gaps would be appreciated. The completed document will assist staff in identifying, securing, managing, matching, and leveraging funds developed by our broad partnership to implement the Action Plan. We recommend referencing any comments or suggested additions by Action number (first column) and next step for ease of inclusion.

The following examples contain types of information needed:

- Action 1, second 'next step': add \$350,000 to secured funding from Coastal Conservancy.
- Action 2, fourth 'next step': we estimate that the total needed funding would be upwards of \$100,000 and a likely source might be the National Science Foundation.

To submit comments, email them as an attachment in a word or excel file to Dr. Guangyu Wang, Guangyu.Wang@waterboards.ca.gov. For each comment, reference the appropriate action number from the CCMP (also the first column in the attached spreadsheet).