

# *Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program*

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

Federal BIL FFY22 Funds Work Plan and Budget

Pursuant to Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

A Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. EPA

For work beginning July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2024

August 3, 2022



Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program and Massachusetts Maritime Academy conduct a training workshop for municipal officials on stormwater network illicit discharge investigations at a March 2022 training session.

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## Section 1: Introduction and Overview

Since the completion of the *Buzzards Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan* (CCMP) in 1991, the ongoing focus of the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program (NEP) has been to facilitate implementation of the recommendations contained in the CCMP. This mission was affirmed when the NEP Steering Committee approved the *CCMP 2013 Update* on November 26, 2013.

On November 6, 2021, Congress passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law -- BIL). This legislation represented a significant investment in the nation's infrastructure and resilience, and specifically identified National Estuary Programs as key partners for implementation. Under this legislation, each NEP is slated to receive from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) \$909,800 annually for five years (Federal fiscal year funding FY22 to FY26).

The BIL references EPA's underlying authority under CWA §320 to fund the implementation of the NEP CCMPs with annual appropriations distributed to implement the management conference and EPA-approved CCMP and workplan. According to EPA's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding Implementation Guidance<sup>1</sup>, for funds distributed under the BIL, NEP projects funded through BIL should seek to:

- Accelerate and more extensively implement CCMPs
- Ensure that benefits reach disadvantaged communities
- Build the adaptive capacity of ecosystems and communities
- Leverage additional resources

The guidance also specifies that NEPs ensure that benefits reach disadvantaged communities, and that expenditures comply with the Build America Buy America (BABA) Act passed by Congress in 2021. This work plan and budget complies with these goals and requirements.

EPA has required that expenditures under BIL help meet the goals of the Justice40 initiative<sup>2</sup>, which is supported by the online [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#). Similarly, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), maintains a policy of Environmental Justice to better serve the environmental needs of the Commonwealth's most vulnerable residents. This policy, supported by an [online interactive map](#), includes the statutorily required definition of an 'Environmental Justice Population' adopted in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Acts of 2021: "An Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy," and the provision of a process by which some neighborhoods may be included or excluded from such definition. Most Buzzards Bay watershed municipalities include an Environmental Justice population (Fig. 1).

As provided under the BIL and to expedite project implementation and promote equity, EPA has waived the match/cost-share requirements for BIL funds. In addition, EPA expects NEPs to recognize and properly identify those areas where investments can be delivered to the places that need them the most. EPA has encouraged NEPs to leverage BIL funds toward their best value, including aligning

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<sup>1</sup> National Estuary Program Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding Implementation Memorandum for Fiscal Years 2022-2026, July 26, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Per Executive Order 12898 Revisions Interim Final Recommendations.

them with projects being implemented under BIL funding for other partner programs, or other funding sources. NEPs are also required to track and report any leveraged funds or activities.

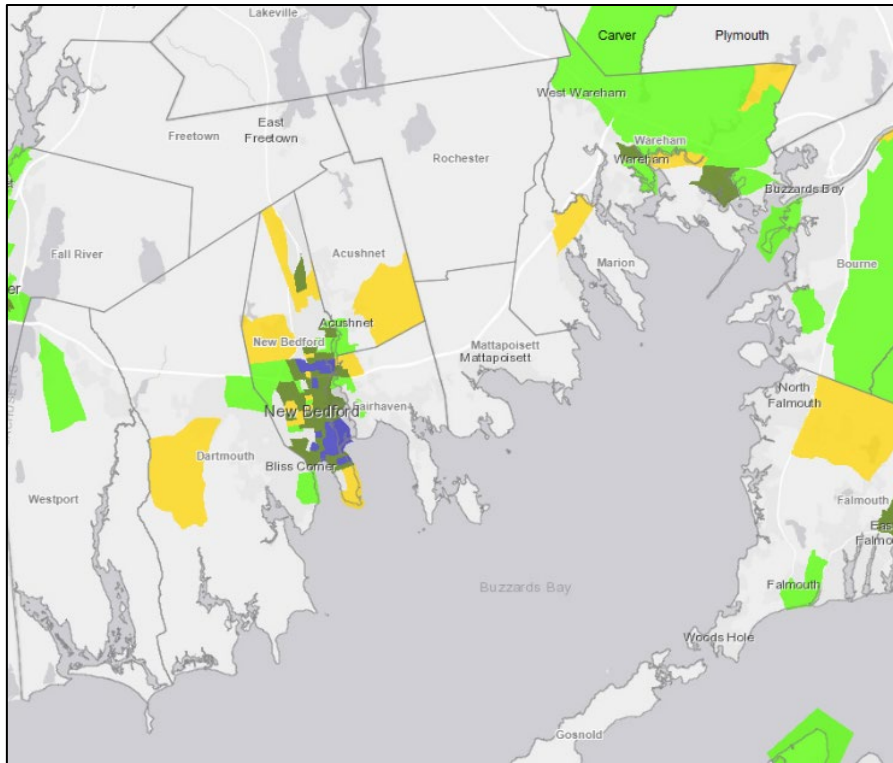


Fig. 1 Massachusetts 2020 Environmental Justice populations in the Buzzards Bay watershed

While the EPA guidance identifies a potential wide range of eligible uses for the BIL funding, as a practical matter, in any given fiscal year the NEP will only be able to act on a subset of pressing issues. This FY22 Work Plan and budget identifies specific tasks that are both consistent with the BIL Legislation, immediate municipal needs, and goals of the Buzzards Bay CCMP, federal Justice40, and the Commonwealth's Environmental Justice policies.

### **Organization of this Work Plan**

Section II (below) will summarize the outcomes of activities of previous tasks funded by BIL. Since this is the first year of the program, section II is reserved for future use. Section III describes the tasks to be undertaken with this year's (Federal Fiscal Year 2022 or FFY22) BIL funding. The target start date of this workplan is July 1, 2022, which is the start of the state FY23 fiscal year. The effective start date of this work plan depends on when EPA approves the federal Cooperative Agreement and establishes the appropriate federal accounts. This work plan covers the period through June 30, 2024, to accommodate the time needed to award grants and provide sufficient time for activities to be completed under the grant program and subawards.

Sections II and III's narrative summary of the BIL work plan utilizes EPA's recommended logic model to the greatest extent possible. In this effort, we have conformed to EPA's terminology defined as follows:

- Activities: NEP work plan projects.
- Partnerships: involvement of local community partner agencies, organizations and/or individuals.
- Outputs: products and services resulting from the work plan (i.e., deliverables).
- Short-term outcomes: changes in knowledge, learning, attitude, and skills; raising awareness amongst targeted NEP partners and stakeholder groups.
- Intermediate outcomes: changes in behavior, practice, decisions, and involvement among targeted NEP partners and stakeholder groups.
- Pressures: changes, positive and/or negative, related to specific quantitative targets (e.g., percent of nitrogen reduction); and
- Long-term outcomes: changes in condition of the state, when possible.

In addition, the NEP identifies how the proposed activities support EPA core programs. We define these core programs here as: 1) strengthening water quality standards, 2) improving water quality monitoring, 3) developing total maximum daily loads, 4) controlling non-point source pollution, 5) strengthening NPDES permits (including Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)), 6) supporting sustainable wastewater infrastructure, 7) supporting CWA and state wetland protection efforts, and 8) protecting coastal waters and large aquatic ecosystems throughout the National Estuary Program.

Specific action items identified in the Buzzards Bay CCMP Action Plan (2013 update) support EPAs core program activities. These action plans are:

- Action Plan 1: Managing Nitrogen Sensitive Embayments
- Action Plan 2: Protecting and Enhancing Shellfish Resources
- Action Plan 3: Managing Stormwater Runoff and Promoting LID
- Action Plan 4: Improving Land Use Management and Promoting Smart Growth
- Action Plan 5: Managing Onsite Wastewater Disposal Systems
- Action Plan 6: Managing Impacts from Boating, Marinas, and Moorings
- Action Plan 7: Protecting and Restoring Wetlands
- Action Plan 8: Restoring Migratory Fish Passage and Populations
- Action Plan 9: Protecting Biodiversity and Rare and Endangered Species Habitat
- Action Plan 10: Managing Water Withdrawals to Protect Wetlands, Habitat, and Public Water Supplies
- Action Plan 11: Managing Invasive and Nuisance Species
- Action Plan 12: Protecting Open Space
- Action Plan 13: Protecting and Restoring Ponds and Streams
- Action Plan 14: Reducing Beach Debris, Marine Floatables, and Litter in Wetlands
- Action Plan 15: Managing Coastal Watersheds and the Waterfront
- Action Plan 16: Reducing Toxic Pollution
- Action Plan 17: Preventing Oil Pollution
- Action Plan 18: Planning for a Shifting Shoreline and Coastal Storms
- Action Plan 19: Protecting Public Health at Swimming Beaches
- Action Plan 20: Monitoring Management Action, Status, and Trends
- Action Plan 21: Enhancing Public Education and Participation

**Section 2: BIL FFY22 Outcomes: Highlights and Accomplishments of FY22 funding**

*[As this is the first year of BIL funding, this section on outcomes of the previous year's funded tasks is reserved for future use.]*

**BIL FFY22 Work Plan Task 1**

**BIL FFY22 Work Plan Task 2**

**BIL FFY22 Work Plan Task 3**

**BIL FFY22 Leverage Local and State Resources and Action**

### **Section 3: BIL FFY22 Funds: Proposed Work Plan Activities July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023.**

In the sections below, details are provided for the specific tasks and actions expected in the coming year. In this year's workplan we undertake three tasks: 1) support and expand the role of the Buzzards Bay Stormwater Collaborative, supporting municipal efforts to map stormwater infrastructure and monitor discharges to prioritize sites for remediation, 2) disperse most of the BIL funds through a municipal grant program to support municipal infrastructure projects, and 3) as part of the NEP's administrative support for the program, hire a part-time contractor to assist municipalities to develop infrastructure proposals to secure BIL funds, particularly municipalities with Environmental Justice populations.

For discretionary subawards utilizing BIL funds, the NEP has adopted a policy with a goal to limit indirect costs for discretionary subawards by encouraging recipients to waive costs above program goals. This policy is established to maximize the cost-effectiveness of federal funds and to help justify the subaward process. For discretionary subawards, the following policies will apply pursuant to the federal cooperative agreement for this workplan.:

- **Entities without a federally-negotiated indirect cost rate agreement:** Indirect costs of sub-awardee recipients are limited to 10% of the total direct costs. Any unreimbursed indirect expenditures, if from a non-federal source, may be reported by the sub-awardee as match in their close-out report to the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program.
- **Entities with a federally-negotiated indirect cost rate agreement:** Under 2 CFR 200.306(c), sub-awardee recipients with approved federally negotiated indirect cost rates may use unrecovered, unreimbursed, or waived indirect costs that exceed the NEP's goal of limiting indirect costs to 26% of Modified Total Direct Costs, as defined by 2 CFR 200.68, as match in their close-out report to the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program.

#### **BIL FFY22 Work Plan Task 1 - Buzzards Bay Municipal Stormwater Collaborative Support**

##### ***Project/Activity Purpose and Description (expansion of an ongoing program; subaward to MMA):***

Maintenance, upgrades, and improvements to stormwater infrastructure are among the highest environmental priorities in Buzzards Bay municipalities. Climate impacts, including rising sea level and more intense storms has compromised the viability and effectiveness of stormwater management and treatment infrastructure. Compliance with federally mandated MS4 permits remains a financial and staffing challenge to Buzzards Bay municipalities. To share resources and exchange ideas, eight municipalities are collaborating in the Buzzards Bay Stormwater Collaborative, including using a shared Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination (IDDE) investigations trailer and supporting trained college co-op students to conduct mapping and monitoring in their town. The Stormwater Collaborative is managed and administered by the Massachusetts Maritime Academy under the Environmental Science program.

Last year the Buzzards Bay Stormwater Collaborative was funded by a state MS4 grant (\$41,000; state funded program), \$60,000 in contracts from Buzzards Bay municipalities, and a small grant by the NEP (\$25,000), and residual funding from an earlier SNEP grant. This level of funding maintains a full-time coordinator at Massachusetts Maritime Academy (MMA), provides a salary to a small number of co-op Students during both the summer and spring and fall semesters, and funds the administration of the program at MMA. NEP staff provide additional training and oversight in the program. The MMA coordinator oversees student activities and manages past and current grant programs, and actively pursues any potential future grants.

Although demand for Stormwater Collaborative services and training is increasing, the responsibilities of the sole project manager limit the number of MMA co-op students participating in the program (at most 5 or 6 students per semester). An additional need of municipalities is that many do not have the staff or time to develop projects and proposals for BIL or other state and federal grant programs to address stormwater. With BIL funding, the NEP will increase its support to the Buzzards Bay Stormwater Collaborative to enable MMA to hire a second full time staff person (assistant program coordinator) and bring on additional co-op students. An important task of the assistant coordinator will be to develop stormwater infrastructure projects and proposals in municipalities with Environmental Justice populations. This task depends upon the Stormwater Collaborative successfully securing funding for the core program through municipal contribution, DEP MS4 grant funds, and SNEP funding.

#### ***How the Project Supports the CCMP and Workplan Goals:***

This task either directly or indirectly advances selected goals and objectives of Action Plan 1: Managing Nitrogen Sensitive Embayments, Action Plan 2: Protecting and Enhancing Shellfish Resources, Action Plan 3: Managing Stormwater Runoff and Promoting LID, Action Plan 4: Improving Land Use Management and Promoting Smart Growth, and Action Plan 19: Protecting Public Health at Swimming Beaches. Selected projects may also advance selected goals and objectives of Action Plan 7: Protecting and Restoring Wetlands, Action Plan 8: Restoring Migratory Fish Passage and Populations, Action Plan 9: Protecting Biodiversity and Rare and Endangered Species Habitat, Action Plan 13: Protecting and Restoring Ponds and Streams, Action Plan 14: Reducing Beach Debris, Marine Floatables, and Litter in Wetlands, Action Plan 20: Monitoring Management Action, Status, and Trends, Action Plan 21: Enhancing Public Education and Participation.

#### ***How the Project Supports the CWA***

This task will principally support these CWA core programs: 2) improving water quality monitoring, 4) controlling non-point source pollution, 5) strengthening NPDES permits (including MS4), and 8) protecting coastal waters and large aquatic ecosystems through the National Estuary Program. This task may also indirectly support these CWA core programs: 1) strengthening water quality standards, 3) developing total maximum daily loads, 6) supporting sustainable wastewater infrastructure, and 7) supporting CWA and state wetland protection efforts.

#### ***How the Project Supports the BIL***

This task supports or helps advance these BIL goals:

- Invest public dollars efficiently, avoid waste, and focus on measurable outcomes for the American people.
- Build resilient infrastructure that can withstand the impacts of climate change and help combat the climate crisis.
- Invest public dollars equitably, including through the Justice40 Initiative, which is a government-wide effort toward a goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits from Federal investments in climate and clean energy flow to disadvantaged communities.

#### ***Responsible Partners and Their Role(s):***

The principal partners of the Stormwater Collaborative are the Buzzards Bay watershed municipalities led by their public works departments, NEP staff, and Stormwater Collaborative staff of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy.



**NEP Staff:**

About 80% of the full-time and part-time Buzzards Bay Stormwater Specialists' time are dedicated to supporting and advancing the Buzzards Bay Stormwater Collaborative. This work is covered under the NEP's Section 320 Cooperative Agreement.

**Outputs, Products, or Deliverables:**

1. Oversee and guide the Stormwater Collaborative stormwater network mapping and discharge monitoring program (NEP and MMA).
2. Maintenance of the stormwater collaborative water quality database (NEP).
3. Maintenance of the stormwater collaborative GIS database (NEP).
4. Coordination of stormwater collaborative activities (MMA and NEP).
5. Develop stormwater infrastructure projects and proposals, including in Environmental Justice communities (MMA and NEP).

**Milestones:**

Summer: Hire the assistant coordinator and additional co-op students.

Fall: Hire additional co-op students. Assist in aiding municipalities to develop stormwater projects and proposals.

Spring 2023: Assist in a new round in IDDE and stormwater monitoring training.

**Estimated Budget:**

The costs for this task include a \$97,486 subaward to MMA, and \$7,000 for contracts to test stormwater discharges to help municipalities prioritize stormwater infrastructure treatment systems for construction or reconstruction.

MMA Budget Cost Item or Category	Cost Basis	Request
<b>Personnel</b>		
MMA Administrator	10 hrs @ \$85/hr	\$850
MMA Science Supervisor	60 hrs @ \$85/hr	\$5,100
MMA Stormwater Coordinator	0 hrs @ \$35/hr	\$0
MMA Asst Stormwater Coordinator	2080 hrs @ \$23/hr	\$47,840
MMA Coop Student Interns	1400 hrs @ \$15/hr	\$21,000
<b>Total Personnel</b>		<b>\$74,790</b>
<b>Travel</b>		
Mileage for Field work	1000 miles @ \$0.58/mile	\$580
<b>Total Travel</b>		<b>\$580</b>
<b>Supplies</b>		
Misc. Supplies - sampling, trailer		\$2,000
<b>Total Supplies</b>		<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>Other</b>		
<b>Total Other</b>		<b>\$0</b>
<b>TOTAL DIRECT</b>		<b>\$77,370</b>
Indirect 26%		\$20,116
<b>TOTAL (Total Direct + Indirect)</b>		<b>\$97,486</b>

**Leveraged Funding and Support:**

The MMA provides space, services, and waived indirect fees in support of the program. Last year, Buzzards Bay municipalities contributed \$55,000 to MMA to support Stormwater Collaborative activities and DPW staff contributed hundreds of hours of staff time. The Stormwater Collaborative also leveraged state funded MS4 support grants. These leveraged funds will be reported excluding any required to match other programs.

## ***Outcomes:***

### Short-term:

Maintain and upgrade the stormwater infrastructure database structure and water quality data to meet municipal needs and establish priorities for stormwater infrastructure repair and retrofit. Collect samples, implement management oversight and program control measures to ensure program success. Expand the content of the online [stormwater interactive map](#).to support these efforts. Assist towns in the development of projects and proposals for improved and resilient stormwater infrastructure.

### Intermediate:

Expansion of capacity of the Stormwater Collaborative. Making municipal staff more self-sufficient in implementing stormwater infrastructure monitoring and mapping programs. Increased application rate of municipalities serving Environmental Justice communities to secure infrastructure improvement grants. Increased leveraging of resources committed to the Stormwater Collaborative implementation of CCMP goals and recommended actions.

### Long-term:

Eventual independence of the Stormwater Collaborative from federal funding with increased reliance on local funding. A reduction in NEP management and oversight or stormwater monitoring and mapping obligations.

### Pressures affecting outcomes:

If the Stormwater Collaborative fails to receive continued state MS4 support grants or fails to secure other sustenance and special initiative grants (like those funded under SNEP), or if municipal revenues cannot meet shortfalls, the funding in this task will revert to maintaining core functionality of the Stormwater Collaborative until financial obstacles can be overcome.

The ability of MMA to expand the program and hire additional staff and student participants will depend on when BIL funding becomes available, and how quickly the Commonwealth can enact an Interagency Service Agreement (ISA). If necessary, the work will instead begin in the fall of 2022, and the summer work will be postponed to 2023.

The efforts described here are also dependent on local interest and municipal staff having time to commit to specific projects. Municipal public works departments have been impaired by budget shortfalls and insufficient staff for core tasks and taking on additional tasks is challenging.

## **BIL FFY22 Work Plan Task 2 - Municipal Infrastructure Support Grant Program**

### ***Project/Activity Purpose and Description: (new activity)***

The NEP has set aside \$759,666 of add-in BIL funds to support a Buzzards Bay Watershed Infrastructure Support Grant Program. Eligible projects include:

- 1) Stormwater remediation designs for discharges affecting marine waters.
- 2) Implementation and construction of existing stormwater designs for discharges affecting marine waters.
- 3) Support for tasks to achieve MS4 compliance.
- 4) Feasibility studies and conceptual plans to enhance nitrogen removal from municipal wastewater treatment facilities using innovative or unconventional approaches.
- 5) Wetland, habitat, and migratory fish passage restoration.
- 6) Construction of a boat pump-out facility in a municipality or harbor when none exists.

- 7) Creation of online reporting systems for tracking of operation, maintenance, and monitoring of innovative and alternative septic systems.
- 8) Projects that, through direct action, mitigate for or restore coastal waters, coastal resources, freshwaters, or freshwater resources adversely affected by nutrient loading (nitrogen or phosphorus pollution), and
- 9) Other activities in support of the Buzzards Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan compatible with BIL funding.

All projects must be located within the Buzzards Bay watershed. Grants will be reviewed based on quality, cost-effectiveness, and to the degree they meet CCMP and BIL goals, and EPA and Commonwealth Environmental Justice policies.

***How the Project Supports the CCMP and Workplan Goals:***

Depending upon the specific municipal project funded, this task has the potential to address numerous CCMP goals, an particularly Action Plan 1: Managing Nitrogen Sensitive Embayments, Action Plan 2: Protecting and Enhancing Shellfish Resources, Action Plan 3: Managing Stormwater Runoff and Promoting LID, Action Plan 4: Improving Land Use Management and Promoting Smart Growth, Action Plan 5: Managing Onsite Wastewater Disposal Systems, Action Plan 6: Managing Impacts from Boating, Marinas, and Moorings, 8: Restoring Migratory Fish Passage and Populations, Action Plan 15: Managing Coastal Watersheets and the Waterfront, Action Plan 16: Reducing Toxic Pollution, Action Plan 17: Preventing Oil Pollution, and Action Plan 18: Planning for a Shifting Shoreline and Coastal Storms, Action Plan 19: Protecting Public Health at Swimming Beaches.

***How the Project Supports the CWA***

Depending upon the specific municipal project funded, this task has the potential to address several Clean Water Act core programs directly or indirectly, including 1) strengthening water quality standards, 2) improving water quality monitoring, 3) developing total maximum daily loads, 4) controlling non-point source pollution, 5) strengthening NPDES permits (including MS4), 6) supporting sustainable wastewater infrastructure, 7) supporting CWA and state wetland protection efforts, and 8) protecting coastal waters and large aquatic ecosystems through the National Estuary Program.

***How the Project Supports the BIL***

This task has the potential to support any or all BIL goals depending upon the grant awarded.

***Responsible Partners and Their Role(s):***

Buzzards Bay municipalities are responsible for preparing grant applications, but the groundwork for these efforts will be supported by NEP staff, the Buzzards Bay Stormwater Collaborative through Massachusetts Maritime Academy, and non-profit partners like the Buzzards Bay Coalition (Coalition). The CZM South Coast Regional Coordinator, housed in the NEP offices, will also support project development by Buzzards Bay municipalities.

***NEP Staff:***

Principal Staff involved in these tasks includes the Regional Planner who oversees grants and contracts, the Executive Director, CZM, and the stormwater specialists, who help guide the Buzzards Bay Stormwater Collaborative efforts.

***Outputs, Products, or Deliverables:***

Scopes developed, contracts awarded, press releases prepared, website updated with projects, projects overseen, projects completed, match documents received, and contracts closed.

***Milestones:***

1. Develop RFR in June 2022, and issue RFR by July 2022
2. Grants awarded fall of 2022
3. All projects completed by June 30, 2024

***Estimated Budget:***

The BIL Infrastructure Support municipal grant program has been allotted \$750,000. Administration of the grants is covered by staff time in the NEP's Section 320 base funding Cooperative Agreement.

***Leveraged Funding and Support:***

Buzzards Bay municipal grants have a history of leveraging considerable resources and funds. These will be tracked as part of the NEPs grant contract process. These leveraged funds will be reported excluding any required to match other programs.

***Outcomes:***

Short-term:

Implementation of stormwater infrastructure designs, and other beneficial infrastructure projects, including those within Environmental Justice Communities.

Intermediate:

Continued collaborations and partnerships sustained to ensure the development of new projects and designs for future BIL funds, as well as those funded by other state and federal grant programs and local sources.

Long-term:

Sustained commitment to continued implementation of projects that will protect and restore water quality and living resources in Buzzards Bay and its surrounding watershed through the implementation of the CCMP and serving all populations within municipalities.

Pressures affecting outcomes:

There are pressures that can delay the start or completion of this task. First, EPA may not award BIL funds before September 2022. Second, the state may delay the award or release of funds . Third, municipalities may have problems meeting grant schedules for various reasons and request extensions in their grant agreements.

This task may support many of the CWA core programs including: 1) strengthening water quality standards, 2) improving water quality monitoring, 3) developing total maximum daily loads, 4) controlling non-point source pollution on a watershed basis, 5) strengthening NPDES permits, 6) supporting sustainable wastewater infrastructure and CWA and state wetland protection efforts.

**BIL FFY22 Work Plan Task 3 - Technical Assistance to Municipalities to develop BIL projects and pursue grant opportunities.**

***Project/Activity Purpose and Description (new activity):***

The CCMP is a non-regulatory document therefore, most recommendations are directed toward municipalities because they have the greatest authority. Whether certain activities are initiated depends upon our partners' capacity to address specific growth-related and non-point source pollution problems facing the bay and watershed. Consequently, the NEP provides this assistance on an ad hoc basis. To meet this need, and to fulfil this task, the NEP will hire a half-time contractual employee to support BIL project development and facilitate project development applications by municipalities to other BIL and

state and federal grant programs. A particular focus will be to provide support to municipalities with Environmental Justice populations.

This task will be supported by other NEP staff who will also reach out to non-profits, other agencies, and the public to help develop future projects that meet the goals of the CCMP and BIL funding goals. This technical assistance primarily focuses on specific initiatives funded or managed by the NEP but can include a wide range of CCMP issues and management topics. This task is considered part of the administrative costs needed to ensure the success this work plan.

***How the Project Supports the CCMP and Workplan Goals:***

Depending upon which projects are facilitated and grant funding secured under this task, the goals of many action plans may be individually met.

***How the Project Supports the CWA***

Depending upon which projects are facilitated and grant funding secured under this task, this effort may support many CWA core programs, particularly 4) controlling non-point source pollution on a watershed basis but may also indirectly support 1) strengthening water quality standards, 2) improving water quality monitoring, 3) developing total maximum daily loads, 5) strengthening NPDES permits, 6) supporting sustainable wastewater infrastructure and CWA and state wetland protection efforts.

***How the Project Supports the BIL***

Depending upon which projects are facilitated and grant funding secured under this task, this effort may support many BIL program goals.

***Responsible Partners and Their Role(s):***

Key partners in this effort include the Stormwater Collaborative, the Coalition, the Buzzards Bay Action Committee (BBAC), Buzzards Bay municipalities, and state and federal agencies. The CZM South Coast Regional Coordinator, housed in the NEP offices, will also support project development by Buzzards Bay municipalities.

***NEP Staff:***

Besides the part-time individual hired under this task, all NEP staff will contribute support as needed or required.

***Outputs, Products, or Deliverables:***

1. Provide specialized technical assistance to municipalities to promote green infrastructure/Low Impact Development (LID), remediate stormwater discharges, and adopt stormwater management strategies, promote better management of on-site septic systems and innovative wastewater systems; improve local wetlands and habitat protection, manage nitrogen loadings, prepare, and adopt open space plans.
2. Identify new local actions needed to support the development of the updated CCMP.
3. Encourage towns to take actions that support the updated CCMP.
4. Promote LID and Smart Growth strategies and stormwater management in Buzzards Bay communities.
5. Help towns develop concepts, remediation strategies and help prepare grant applications to implement programs and projects to implement CCMP recommendations.
6. Promote better management of on-site wastewater systems and use of innovative technologies.

***Milestones:***

Summer 2022: Hire the part time staff person. Immediately thereafter begin assistance to municipalities.

***Estimated Budget:***

The only costs are the costs of a half-time person, and any ancillary NEP staff time covered under the program's base funding.

***Leveraged Funding and Support:***

This task will principally leverage municipal staff time by municipalities, and state and federal agencies, as well as the time of non-profits where projects require partnerships.

***Outcomes:***

Short-term:

Increased information availability for use by Buzzards Bay community leaders, to develop new project ideas, and build partnerships to develop new proposals for infrastructure projects that meet CCMP and BIL goals, including projects within Environmental Justice communities.

Intermediate:

Grant applications securing BIL funds and grant funds from other agencies and local sources, and implementation of those projects.

Long-term:

Development and cultivation of municipal leads that have the capacity to develop project ideas independently, and secure or leverage support for new initiatives, including those serving EJ communities.

Pressures affecting outcomes:

We provide technical assistance on a first come first serve basis and as allowed by available staff time. Given that this is a part-time position, not all requests for assistance may be addressed, so technical assistance will be directed to where they best meet the goals of the CCMP and needs of the municipalities.

## Section 4: Budget Summary and Explanation

This work plan is a new Cooperative Agreement. The new budget is summarized according to EPA grant categories and tasks in Table 1 and the pie chart in Fig. 2. Details of the indirect calculation are contained in Table 2 (note that indirect is not charged on grants or subawards). Beginning with this work plan, EEA has assumed the costs of phone and data/internet services to the NEP.

Table 1. Expenses Category	subtotal	Category Total
PERSONEL	\$0	\$0
TRAVEL (in state + out of state)	\$750	\$750
CONTRACTUAL		\$33,500
Municipal Technical Assistance Coordinator (RPIV, part-time)	\$27,500	
Laboratory contracts for stormwater testing	\$6,000	
OTHER (includes sub-awards)		\$870,199
Municipal Infra Structure Grants	\$769,339	
MMA Stormwater Collaborative Support	\$97,000	
MMARS IT, BCS, single Audit chargebacks and fees**	\$3,860	
FRINGE (rate= 0.4189 combined)	\$0	\$0
SUPPLIES		\$0
TOTAL DIRECT		\$904,449
INDIRECT (Comm. of MA= 0.1404, see cost table)	14.04%	\$5,351
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$909,800</b>

Table 2. Indirect Cost Table

PERSONEL	\$0
CONTRACTUAL	\$33,500
TRAVEL	\$750
Selected chargebacks (MMARS IT & Core Tech)	\$3,860
Indirect Base total	\$38,110
Indirect rate 14.04% (0.1404)	
<b>Federal Indirect share</b>	<b>\$5,351</b>

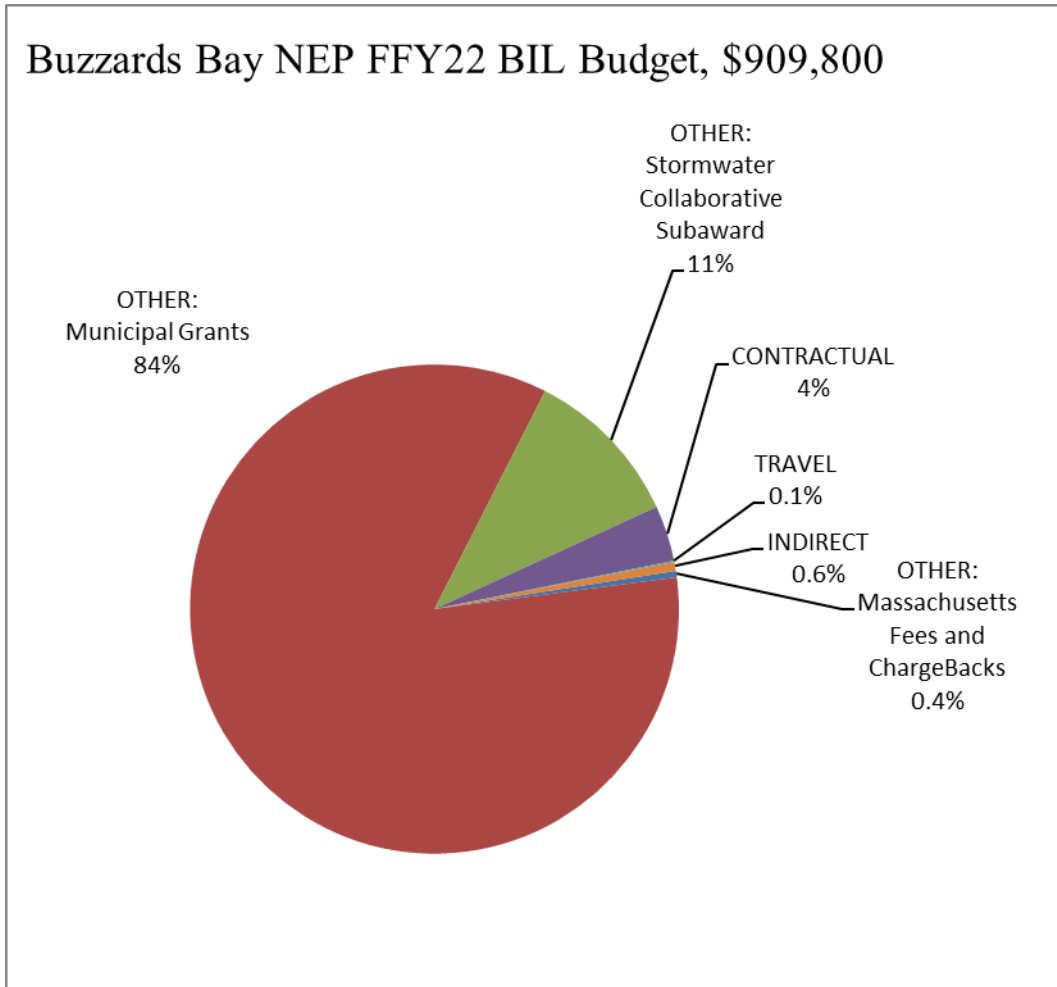


Fig. 2 Pie chart of expenditures under the FFY22 BIL funding.

**Section 5: Funds Leveraged in Support of the Cooperative Agreement**

As noted earlier, EPA has waived the match/cost-share requirements for BIL funds. However, EPA requires that NEPs track and report any leveraged funds or activities. To meet this requirement, the NEP will require the submission of leveraged fund reports for all grants and sub-awards (these will be like the match reports now required for Section 320 funds), and the NEP will prepare close-out leveraged fund reports, like the close-out match reports now prepared by the NEP for Section 320 funds.