



Southeast New England Program

# SOUTHEAST NEW ENGLAND PROGRAM

Last updated: February 2021

## BUILDING RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS AND CONNECTING COMMUNITIES THROUGH ACTION, COLLABORATION, AND INNOVATION

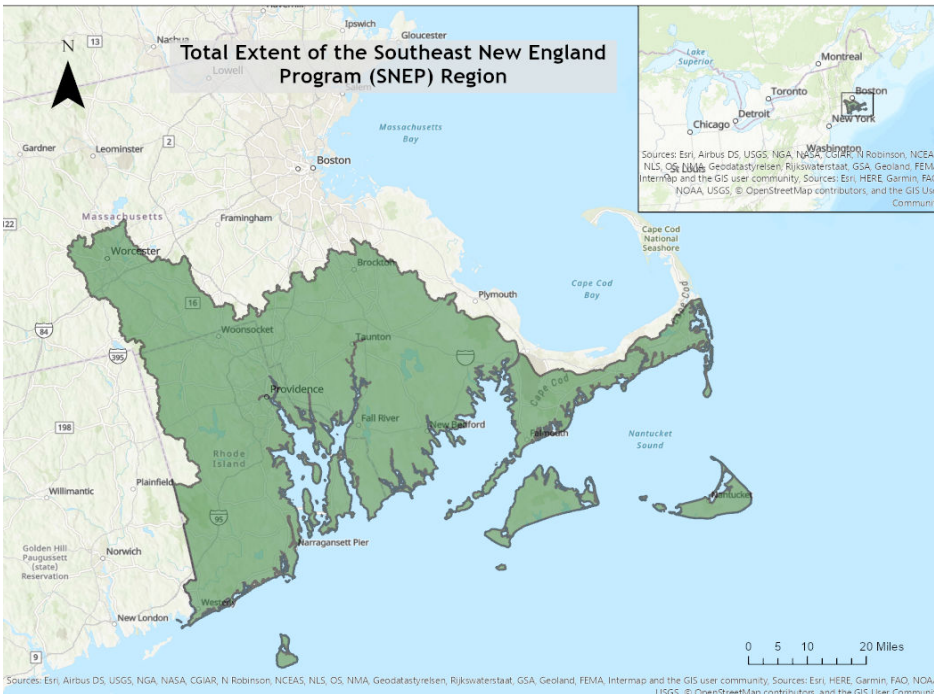
The environmental stressors that challenge the coastal watersheds of southeast New England are systemic and require a multi-disciplinary approach. In 2012, EPA launched a new collaboration effort, now called the Southeast New England Program for coastal watershed restoration (SNEP), designed to find, test, and adopt a variety of new and innovative approaches to build resilient ecosystems and connect communities through action, collaboration, innovation, and seed funding.

SNEP aims to ensure that restoration strategies are comprehensive and sustainable, that they are informed by input from key stakeholders, and that they are connected to local economies and enhance the ecosystem services that support coastal watershed communities throughout Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts. Our hope is that solutions identified by SNEP partners will not only help those within the SNEP region, but will be transferrable to similar communities and ecosystems throughout the nation.

*We envision a resilient ecosystem of clean water, healthy diverse habitats, and sustainable communities in southeast New England's coastal watersheds.*

### PROGRAM MISSION

Foster **collaboration** among regional partners across southeast New England's coastal watersheds to **support a resilient ecosystem of safe and healthy water, thriving watersheds and natural lands, and sustainable communities** by sharing knowledge and resources, promoting innovative approaches, and leveraging economic and environmental investments to meet the needs of current and future generations.



**Program Contact:**  
Adam Reilly,  
SNEP Communications Coordinator  
(617) 918-1712



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



SECoastalNE@epa.gov

## PROGRAM VISION 2050



RESILIENT ECOSYSTEM OF  
SAFE, 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 that support a variety and range of native plant and wildlife communities.



SUSTAINABLE  
COMMUNITIES

Communities share robust water-based economies, protect and provide access to natural lands, open spaces and parks, encourage local food sources, and are adapting for resilience against expected impacts of climate change.

## 2021 - 2025 PRIORITY ACTIONS

SNEP Goals  
Resilient Ecosystem of Safe and Healthy Waters; Thriving Watersheds and Natural Lands; Sustainable Communities

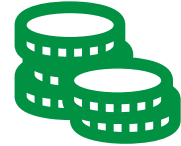
Increase Local Capacity to Complete Projects and Adopt New Policies

Increase Available Solutions

Demonstrate Ways to Address Common Challenges

Increase Community Leaders' Understanding of the Benefits of Restoration Projects

Ensure Diverse Representation



**\$38 MILLION**

As of FY21, Congress has allocated nearly \$38 million to SNEP since 2014. To date, \$33 million has been distributed to fund technical assistance contracts and cooperative agreements.



**119**

# of technical assistance projects, cooperative agreements, and subawards funded since 2014



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