



THE PECONIC ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP

C.H.A.N.G.E.S SHORELINE PROTECTION PROJECT

PEP is allocating \$600,000 of Investments in Infrastructure and Jobs Act Funds towards the CHANGES project to improve ecological resilience.



C.H.A.N.G.E.S, Peconic East

Creating Habitat, Acidification reduction, Nitrogen bio-extraction, Guarding our shorelines from Erosion and storm surge, Sequestering of carbon

Long Island's coastal communities have unique vulnerabilities. Within The Peconic Estuary there are ecological challenges such as coastal resilience to storm events, sea level rise, excess nutrients leading to harmful algal blooms, acidification, and loss of habitat. This project is working to address and offset these issues through nature based solutions.

Methods

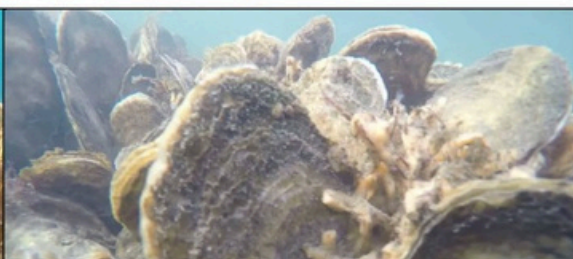
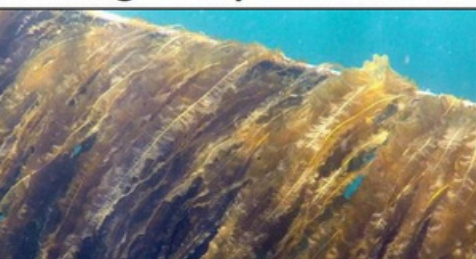
- Creating coastal blue carbon ecosystems
- Growing kelp, oysters, and seagrasses in areas we identified as most suitable.
- Ongoing research assessments, mapping, monitoring, and measuring outcomes.
- Strengthen our understanding and serve future applications of blue carbon in conservation efforts and environmental management activities.



Sugar kelp

Oysters

Eelgrass



Project Outreach

At PEP we understand the value of citizen involvement and inclusion. Outreach and education are key to these projects' longevity and to our environment's general success. We do this by educating the public on the importance of protecting our coastal habitats, informing on what blue carbon is and its relevance, and increasing awareness of our projects and involvement.



Status

In progress

Kelp, Oysters, Eel Grass Continually Monitored along with water quality, wave act and more.

Site Suitability Phase Complete

Secured Funding:

PEP Investments in Infrastructure and Jobs Act Y2 & Y3 Funds:
\$600,000 over two years

Partners

- The Goble Lab
- The Peterson Lab
- Stony Brook School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences
- East Hampton Town Board
- East Hampton Trustees
- Southampton Town Board
- Southampton Trustees
- Shelter Island Town Board
- Village of North Haven
- Village of Sag Harbor
- Community Partners

CCMP Actions

ACTION 13: COLLABORATE ON COASTAL AND OCEAN ACIDIFICATION MONITORING AND RESEARCH.

ACTION 17: PLAN SCIENCE-BASED APPROACHES FOR MONITORING AND REDUCING NUTRIENT POLLUTION.

ACTION 18: IMPLEMENT SCIENCE-BASED APPROACHES FOR MONITORING AND REDUCING NUTRIENT POLLUTION.

ACTION 23: CONDUCT SCIENTIFIC STUDIES TO EXPAND UNDERSTANDING OF THE PECONIC ESTUARY ECOSYSTEM AND SUPPORT ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT.

ACTION 30: MONITOR AND PROTECT EXISTING EELGRASS BEDS; WHERE APPROPRIATE, RESTORE AND EXPAND EELGRASS BEDS.

ACTION 33: IMPLEMENT LIVING SHORELINE PROJECTS, MONITOR FOR ECOLOGICAL AND FINANCIAL BENEFITS, AND USE MODEL PROJECTS TO EDUCATE PLANNERS AND HOMEOWNERS ON THE BENEFITS OF LIVING SHORELINES OVER HARDENED SHORELINES

