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Financing Coastal Protection: Tools and Case Studies That Can Lead You to Success

Tim Jones* and Rakhi Kasat

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds

The success of any coastal management program depends on achieving environmental results. But these results require secure finances. Obtaining and using sustainable funding efficiently is critical. With unpredictable grants and an increased need for coastal watershed protection, a new strategy for financing watershed protection is critical. The National Estuary Programs (NEPs) have raised approximately \$16.5 for every \$1 dollar of base funding. Long-term finance plans, effective partnerships, innovative funding mechanisms, and community support have been the keys to their success. EPA's Sustainable Finance Team has built the capacity of watershed organization nationwide by offering training and tools to help groups think more strategically about long-term financing. This poster will feature free, web-based finance tools to help coastal organizations create a sustainable finance plan. These tools include a prioritization tool, a step-by-step finance planning module, and a website that serves as a portal for funding resources. This poster will also feature examples of successful finance mechanisms used by the NEPs. This poster is intended to complement the proposed funding panel entitled "Financing Coastal Protection: Tools and Ideas You Can Use to Fund Your Program." The panel focuses on NEP funding strategies while the poster focuses on take-home tools developed by the finance team.

Tim Jones
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (4504T)
Washington, D.C. 20460
Jones.tim@epa.gov