

# Barnegat Bay Estuary Program

Fall 1998

## Fast Facts

Consists of Barnegat Bay and Little Egg Harbor in southern NJ.

660 square mile watershed located largely in Ocean County.

Total year round population in county is 466,500 but can double in summer. Fastest growing county in state.

Tourism brings in an estimated \$1.65 billion annually.

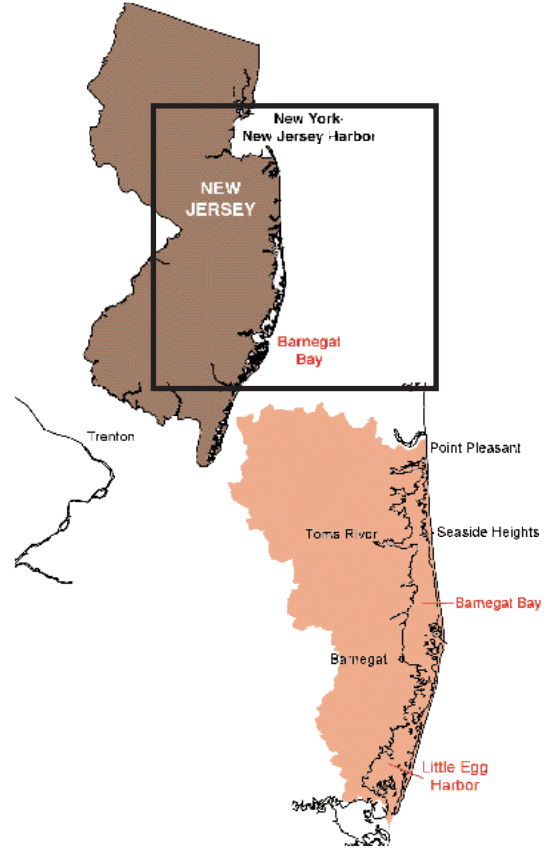
Supports a \$2.7 million commercial fishery and playground for tens of thousands of recreational boaters and anglers.

## Status Update & Next Steps

The primary environmental concern is nonpoint source pollution, particularly pathogens, nutrients, and sediments. The potential impact of these pollutants is significant as the residence time for water moving through the bay is 50 days.

Activities include a Nonpoint Source Pollution Partnership to coordinate demonstration projects, the NJ Clean Vessel Program which has identified the Bay as a priority area for the installation of marine sewage pumpouts, and progress on a No Discharge Zone application for portions of the estuary.

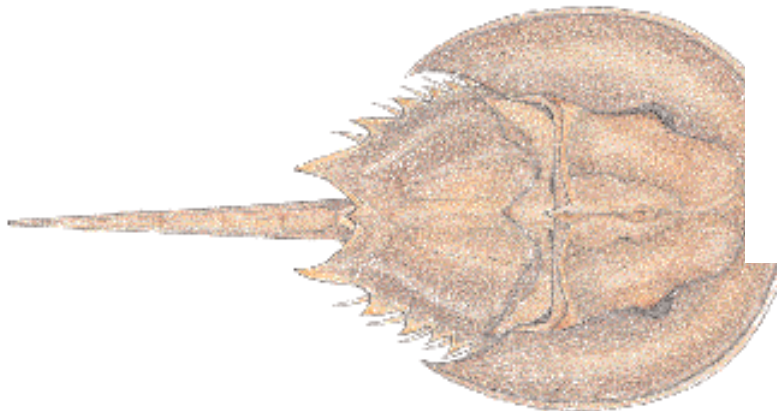
Habitat loss and alteration is also an environmental concern because of land development. There is a growing network of organizations and agencies working on open space and habitat acquisition



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# Association of National Estuary Programs

The Association of National Estuary Program (ANEP) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting responsible stewardship and a common vision for the preservation of our nation's bays and estuaries.

## ANEP's Mission

Bring consistency to estuarine data collection and management, and turn data into useful information that is consolidated into meaningful status and trends at the national scale. Ensure that data are reliable, objective, and goal-directed. Achieve recognition of the critical roles for continued monitoring and assessment.

Educate the public on the meaning and practical application of "responsible stewardship." Ensure that the public understands the long-term nature of solutions to the environmental problems now facing bays and estuaries.

Achieve mutual support and coordination among all coastal programs. Enhance communication among NEPs and between NEPs and other coastal programs. Report both successes and failures to Congress and the American public, while understanding that through 'adaptive management' we can achieve effective management of our nation's bays and estuaries.

Seek explicit congressional support and commitment to implement Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans (CCMPs). Capitalize on the hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours invested thus far, nationwide, and recognize the important role that Management Conferences play as a continuing forum for all stakeholders.

Achieve sufficient federal funding to strengthen the federal/state/local and public/private partnerships that have been fledged across the nation. Achieve stable funding for core program operations, project implementation, and local government pass-through dollars as incentive for regional, multi-jurisdictional cooperation.

