



Massachusetts Bays Program

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The Massachusetts Bays Program Announces Availability of Funding through its Research and Planning Grant Program

October 20, 2010

The Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Program (MBP) is pleased to announce the availability of up to \$200,000 in total funding through the MBP Research and Planning Grant Program. Through this program, MBP will provide individual grants of up to \$40,000 for estuarine protection and restoration initiatives located within the 50 coastal communities that comprise the MBP planning area.

Hosted by the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM), MBP is a partnership of citizens, communities, and government that strives to protect the coastal heritage and health of Massachusetts and Cape Cod Bays. Eligible projects funded by this grant program include applied research, planning, or capacity building initiatives that assist MBP in implementing priority action items identified in its 2009-2012 Strategic Plan (see instruction on downloading the RFR and supporting documents below). Priority Action Items include: (1) protecting and enhancing coastal habitat, (2) reducing and preventing stormwater pollution, (3) protecting and enhancing shellfish resources, (4) managing local land use and growth, (5) managing municipal wastewater, (6) managing marine invasive species, (7) monitoring marine and estuarine waters, and (8) adapting for the projected impacts of climate changes.

Eligible applicants include Massachusetts cities, towns, and other public entities, academic institutions, and certified 501(c) (3) non-profit organizations. Project proponents must provide a minimum of 25% match of the total project cost (cash or in-kind).

Applications are due on Friday, December 3, 2010. All projects must be completed by June 30, 2011. However, with approval of MBP and CZM, contracts may be written or extended to December 31, 2011, pending funding availability. To view the Request for Responses (RFR), visit www.comm-pass.com and search for solicitation number **ENV 11 CZM 02**.

For more information on the MBP program, and its partner communities and organizations, visit www.massbays.org. For specific questions about the MBP RFR, please contact:

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