

NY-NJ Harbor & Estuary Program Science and Action Conference Agenda

November 16, 2018

US Customs House

Bowling Green, New York City

9:00: Registration, Breakfast, and Networking

9:30: Welcome and Introduction to the Action Agenda

Robert Pirani, Director NY-NJ HEP

10:00: Moving Forward on Our Goals for Shared Waters

Peter Lopez, Administrator, USEPA Region 2

Thomas D. Asbery, Commander, NY District, USACE

Catherine McCabe, Commissioner, NJ DEP

Jim Tierney, Deputy Commissioner for Water Resources, NYS DEC

Christopher Daggett (moderator), Chair, NY-NJ HEP Policy Committee

11:00: Break

11:15: Introduction to the State of the Estuary Report

Isabelle Stinnette, Restoration Manager, NY-NJ HEP

11:30: State of the Estuary Panel Discussion

Eric Sanderson (moderator), Chief Ecologist, Wildlife Conservation Society

Brett Branco, Professor, Brooklyn College

Thomas Grothues, Associate Research Professor, Rutgers University

Jim Lodge, Senior Scientist, Hudson River Foundation

Erika Svendsen, Research Social Scientist, US Forest Service

12:30: Introduction to the Environmental Monitoring Plan

Rosana Da Silva, Water Quality Manager, NY-NJ HEP

12:45: Lunch

1:45: Science and Action focused panels and workshops: Session 1. (Chose one)

Current Challenges in Microplastic Research: Discuss the documented research of microplastics in the Harbor Estuary and explore what research and tools are needed to understand the impacts of microplastics.

Presenters:

Carrie Roble, Hudson River Park Trust

Nicole Fahrenfeld, Rutgers University

Kay Ho, USEPA Atlantic Ecology Division

Recruitment and Retention for Citizen Science: Engage in a discussion with experts from local organizations leading citizen science efforts in our region and examine best practices to increase community engagement and participation.

Presenters:

Lisa Bloodgood, Newtown Creek Alliance

Michelle Lubke, Bronx River Alliance

Chris Girgenti, Randall's Island Park Alliance

Addressing Climate Change Impacts in the Harbor Estuary: Learn about key climate impacts to the estuarine health, including sea level rise and contaminants, wetland migration, and the impacts of water temperature changes on fish and wildlife, and discuss how best to address these looming challenges.

Presenters:

Rob Freudenberg, Regional Plan Association

Nava Tabak, Scenic Hudson

Dave Yozzo, Glenford Environmental

Kristin Marcel, NYSDEC

Sacha Spector, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

3:00: Science and Action focused panels and workshops: Session 2. (Chose one)

Increasing Awareness of Habitat Quality Monitoring: Join us as we share the who, what, where, when and why of habitat quality monitoring in the Harbor Estuary including an overview by NYC Parks, lightning talks from monitoring practitioners working in various habitat types, followed by an interactive brainstorming session for participants to contribute to our collective knowledge.

Presenters:

Marit Larson, NYC Parks

Dan Millemann, NJDEP

James MacDonald, NYSDEC

Meredith Comi, NY-NJ Baykeeper

Helen Forgione, Natural Areas Conservancy

Steve Mars, USFWS

Advancing Public Notification Methods for CSO Events: Engage in identifying best practices for Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) notification systems to meet user expectations and learn about NYCDEP's efforts to improve their CSO advisory system.

Presenters:

Alan Cohn, NYCDEP

Beau Ranheim, NYCDEP

Engaging Community at Superfund Sites: Learn about the importance of stewardship and community representation in the cleanup and remediation process of superfund sites, and discuss best practices with active members of Community Advisory Groups in NY and NJ and an EPA moderator.

Presenters:

Elizabeth Butler, USEPA

Ana Baptista, The New School (Passaic River CAG)

Andrea Parker, Gowanus Canal Conservancy

Willis Elkins, Newtown Creek Alliance

4:00: Conference Concludes with Networking Reception