

SARASOTA BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

Description

The Sarasota Bay National Estuary Program (SBNEP) began in June 1989 and continues to receive annual contributions from participating organizations; the City of Sarasota sponsors the Program. In 1993, the program completed the most comprehensive technical assessment conducted on any estuarine system in the State of Florida with resources provided by US EPA, local governments, Water Management District and other federal and state agencies. In 1995, a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) was approved by the Governor and EPA Administrator with specific actions supported by the technical work. The CCMP contains six Action Plans: wastewater treatment and reclamation, stormwater treatment and prevention, freshwater and saltwater wetlands, fisheries and other living resources, recreational use, and governance. Since 1995, the mission of the program has been to financially support implementation of the CCMP and report on progress which has been achieved in implementing the plan and in restoring the Bay.

Today, Sarasota Bay is much different than it was a decade ago due to actions taken by the agencies and governments participating in restoration. Nitrogen pollution has been reduced by approximately 47%, primarily as a result of improved wastewater treatment and reuse of wastewater, and seagrass coverage (4260 acres enhanced) has improved as a result of reduced pollution. Thirty-two (32) wetland (174 acres enhanced) and twenty (20) artificial reef projects (1600 reef balls deployed) have been initiated to increase fish and wildlife habitat, and the Bay is estimated to support millions more fish, crabs and shrimp than it had in 1988. The Sarasota Bay Program continues to support community efforts to improve the Bay through research, environmental education and action projects. A Citizens Action Plan has been implemented to promote Bay stewardship and to increase community awareness of actions taken to restore Sarasota Bay.

Beginning Fund Balance \$489,614

Revenue Summary

Title	Total
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	787,685
INTEREST	10,000
ALL OTHER MICELLANEOUS REVENUE	1,200
Totals	798,885

Department Expenditure Summary

Title	Continuation	Issues	Total
SARASOTA BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM	832,403	0	832,403
SPECIAL EVENTS - NEP	1,200	0	1,200
Totals	833,603	0	833,603

Ending Fund Balance 454,896

CITY OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA
SARASOTA BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

	Actual 2001-02	Budget 2002-03	Amended Budget 2002-03	Estimated 2002-03	Budget 2003-04
Available Fund Balance	\$ 556,269	\$ 119,952	\$ 571,755	\$ 571,755	\$ 489,614
<u>Revenues</u>					
EPA Grant	344,280	510,000	510,000	510,000	506,685
State/Local Grants	-	-	70,000	70,000	-
SWFWMD Contribution	214,227	133,000	340,455	340,358	133,000
Manatee County Contribution	50,000	50,000	57,000	57,000	50,000
Sarasota County Contribution	50,000	50,000	139,265	139,265	50,000
City of Sarasota Contribution	33,000	33,000	33,000	33,000	33,000
City of Bradenton	-	-	-	15,000	15,000
Interest Income	9,538	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Transfer From Non-Federal Portion	-	-	-	-	-
Other Contributions	13,849	-	20,000	20,400	1,200
Total Revenues	714,894	786,000	1,179,720	1,195,023	798,885
Estimated Funds Available	1,271,163	905,952	1,751,475	1,766,778	1,288,499
<u>Expenditures</u>					
Administration					
Personnel Services	289,254	313,550	313,550	306,974	321,857
Other Operating Costs	81,137	103,804	109,139	106,274	101,746
Local Funding					
Projects	329,017	404,000	925,421	863,916	410,000
Total Expenditures	699,408	821,354	1,348,110	1,277,164	833,603
Projected Ending Balance	\$ 571,755	\$ 84,598	\$ 403,365	\$ 489,614	\$ 454,896

SARASOTA BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

Mission Statement

To improve and protect the area's greatest and most important natural asset - Sarasota Bay. The Sarasota Bay Program strives to improve water quality, increase habitat and enhance the natural resources of the area for user and enjoyment by the public.

Description of Operations

The Sarasota Bay National Estuary Program (SBNEP) was formally designated as a National Estuary Program by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1989. Between 1989 and 1993, the SBNEP conducted a series of studies characterizing the condition of the Bay and the sources of pollution. These studies were synthesized in the Framework for Action (FFA) report released in 1993. The FFA also included recommendations for improvement which were refined based on community review and placed in the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) approved by the Governor of Florida in 1995. The CCMP contained six Action Plans: wastewater, stormwater, wetlands, fisheries, recreation and Bay management.

Nitrogen is the principle pollutant of concern in Sarasota Bay. Since 1988, nitrogen pollution has been reduced 47% primarily as a result of enhanced wastewater treatment and the increased use of reclaimed water; additional reductions in nitrogen loading are anticipated as sewers are constructed in northern Sarasota County and more wastewater is reclaimed. Nitrogen pollution peaked at about 490% of pristine in 1988 and is about 250% above pristine today.

SBNEP research has indicated that atmospheric contributions of nitrogen are relatively small in relation to the other sources. Stormwater presently contributes 56% of the total nitrogen and this percentage will increase as wastewater nitrogen loading is reduced. The SBNEP is engaged in studies with the University of Florida addressing nitrogen removal efficiencies in landscapes since research conducted by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) has indicated that nitrogen removal efficiencies of wet detention systems are low.

Reduced nitrogen load has resulted in improved water clarity (about 1.5 feet) and an increase of sea grass habitat. The program is actively involved in twenty-three (23) wetland enhancement projects and the construction of twenty (20) artificial reefs in the bay to create habitat and recreation opportunities. The increases in sea grass, wetlands and reefs are increasing overall fishery productivity; next year the program will be pursuing canal reefs for habitat.

The SBNEP continues to support environmental education and the promotion of the Heritage Trail to develop environmental stewardship.

Goal - Healthy Neighborhoods and Businesses

The Sarasota Bay National Estuary Program is dedicated to improving and protecting the area's greatest natural asset - Sarasota Bay. The vitality of Sarasota Bay is critical to the economic vitality and visual appeal of the City of Sarasota.

Objectives

Improve water transparency by reducing nitrogen pollution through improved wastewater treatment, construction of reclaimed water systems and storm water management.

Increase the number of wetlands, reef and sea grass habitats to restore and sustain fish and other living resources.

Provide levels of increased managed access to the Bay.

Maintain an appropriate institutional structure for Bay activities.

Implement public outreach and educational programs.

SARASOTA BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

Performance Measures

Description	Unit	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
Output Measure					
Water clarity report	Number	1	1	1	1
Nitrogen loading report	Number	1	1	1	1
Wetland/reef projects	Number	6	6	6	5
Technical studies	Number	7	7	3	4
Bayfront park designs	Number	3	3	2	4
Policy Committee meetings	Number	2	2	3	3
Effectiveness Measure					
Available habitat in acres	Number	1,825	1,875	1,925	2,000
Efficiency Measure					
FTE's per 10,000 population	Number	.083	.082	.081	.080

Department Expenditures by Cost Center

	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Budget	FY 2004 Continuation	FY 2004 Issues	FY 2004 Totals
351000 SARASOTA BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY I	369,407	820,354	832,403	0	832,403
351001 EPA PROJECTS - 2001 (25% MATCH)	79,447	0	0	0	0
351002 ALL PROJECTS - 2002	119,171	0	0	0	0
351010 EPA PROJECTS - 2000 (25% MATCH)	0	0	0	0	0
352000 NON FEDERAL - NEP	0	0	0	0	0
352001 NON FEDERAL - 2001	117,723	0	0	0	0
352010 NON FEDERAL - 2000	2,316	0	0	0	0
353000 SPECIAL EVENTS - NEP	545	1,000	1,200	0	1,200
353001 SBNEP - SPECIAL EVENTS - 2001	439	0	0	0	0
353002 SBNEP - SPECIAL EVENTS - 2002	10,000	0	0	0	0
353003 SBNEP - SPECIAL EVENTS - 2003	0	0	0	0	0
354000 FEDERAL PROJECTS - EPA FUNDED 100%	0	0	0	0	0
354001 FEDERAL PROJECTS - EPA FUNDED 100%	360	0	0	0	0
Totals	\$699,408	\$821,354	\$833,603	\$0	\$833,603

Department Expenditures By Category

	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Budget	FY 2004 Continuation	FY 2004 Issues	FY 2004 Totals
Personal Expenditures	302,290	324,350	326,939	0	326,939
Non Personal Expenditures	374,950	462,023	478,427	0	478,427
Capital Expenditures	0	12,370	5,060	0	5,060
Transfer Expenditures	22,168	22,611	23,177	0	23,177
Totals	\$699,408	\$821,354	\$833,603	\$0	\$833,603

Personnel Summary

Actual Positions		5.00	5.00	0.00	5.00
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Revenue Summary

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SARASOTA BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

SUMMARY OF 2003-04 PROJECTS

Funded by SBNEP

Wetlands

Wetlands Coordination	\$ 70,000
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Fish and Other Living Resources

Artificial Reefs and Shoreline Enhancement	50,000
Seagrass Analysis	30,000

Monitoring and Research

Oyster Reef Creation	50,000
Non-point Source Pollution	50,000
Water Atlas	10,000

Public Outreach

Citizen Action Plan - PIER	110,000
Public Outreach and Education	20,000
Florida Yard & Neighborhood Outreach	<u>20,000</u>

Total	<u>\$ 410,000</u>
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Local in-kind match

Matching Funds

Wetlands - Restoration/ASR/land acquisition	<u>\$ 196,000</u>
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