

MassBays Health Estuaries Grant Program

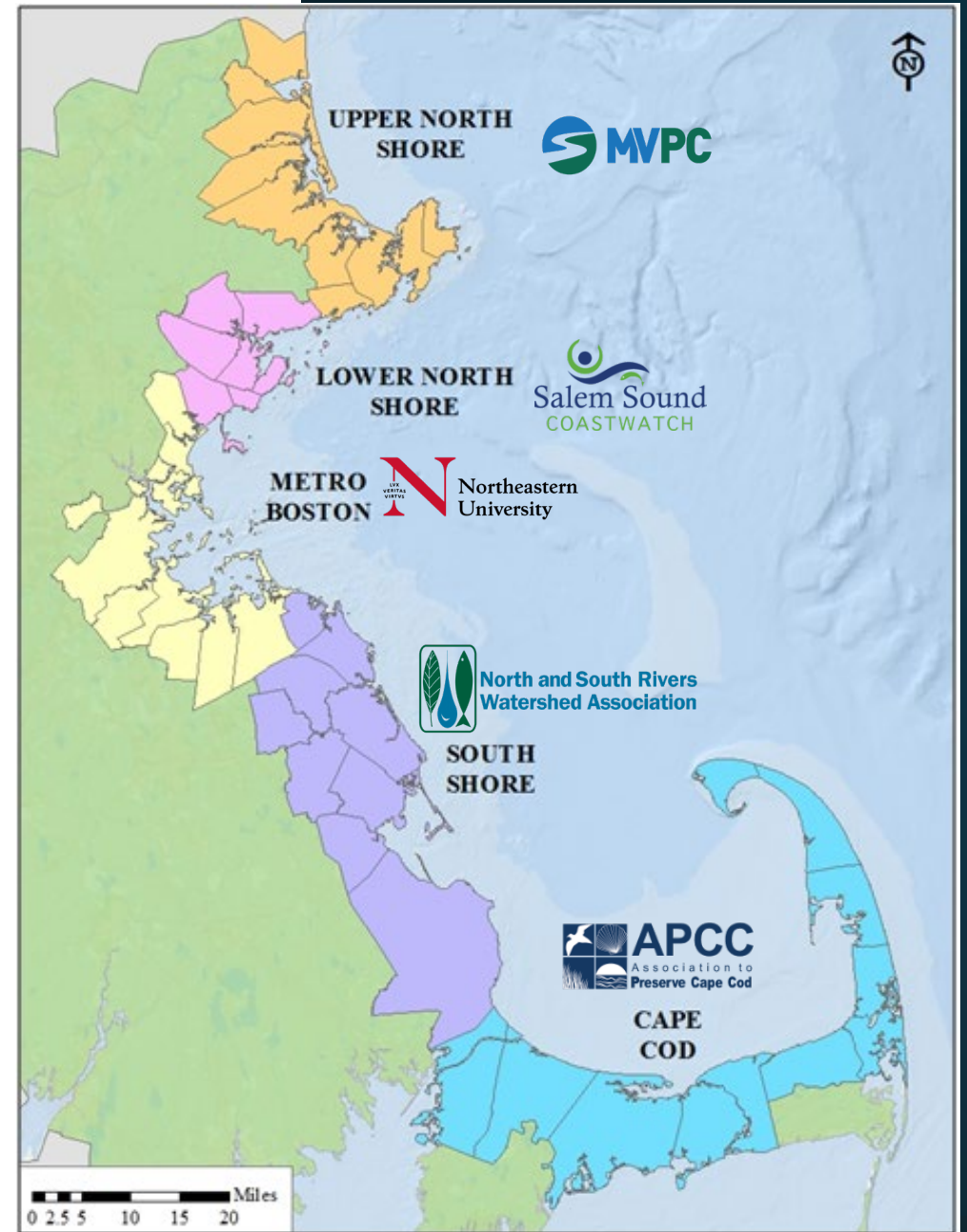


Prassede Vella

MassBays National Estuary Partnership



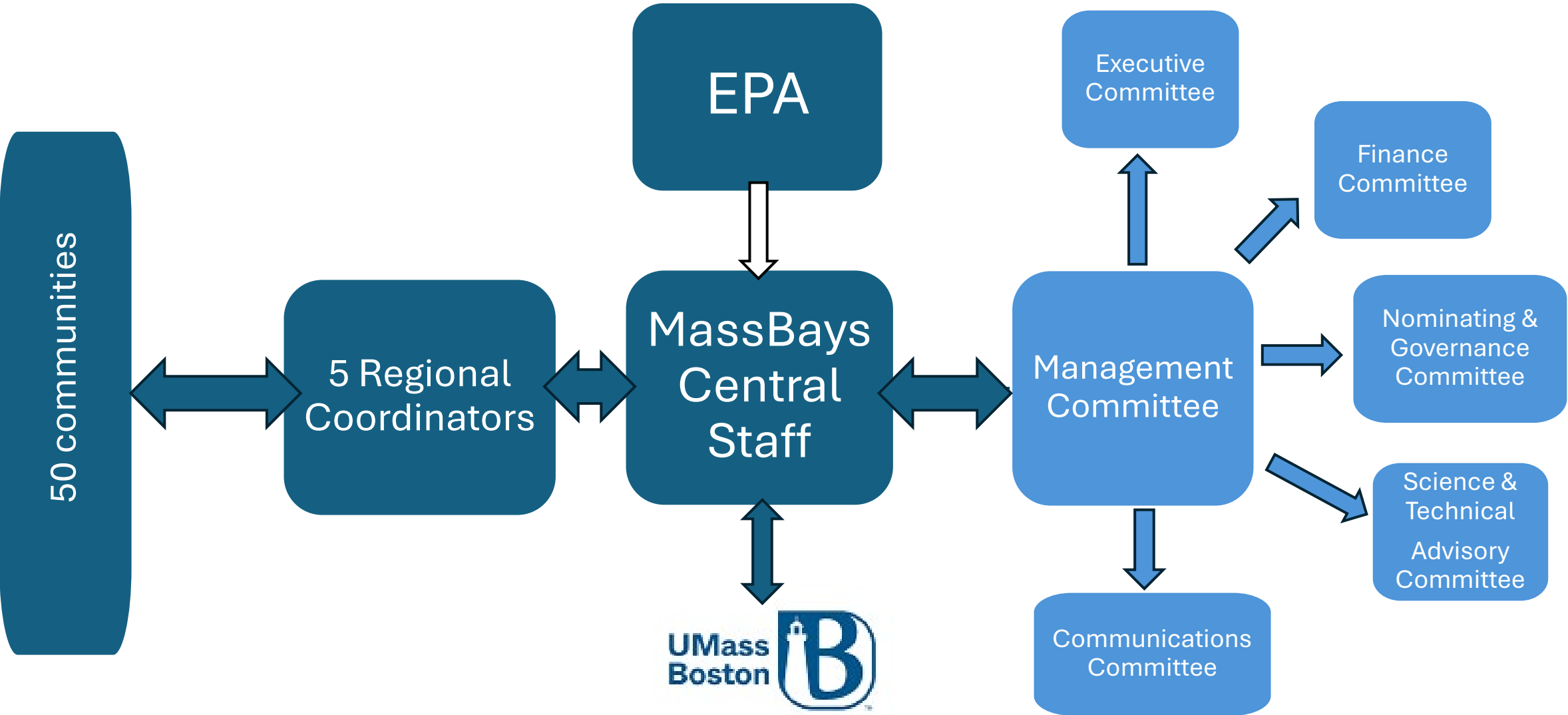
About MassBays: one of 28 National Estuary Programs



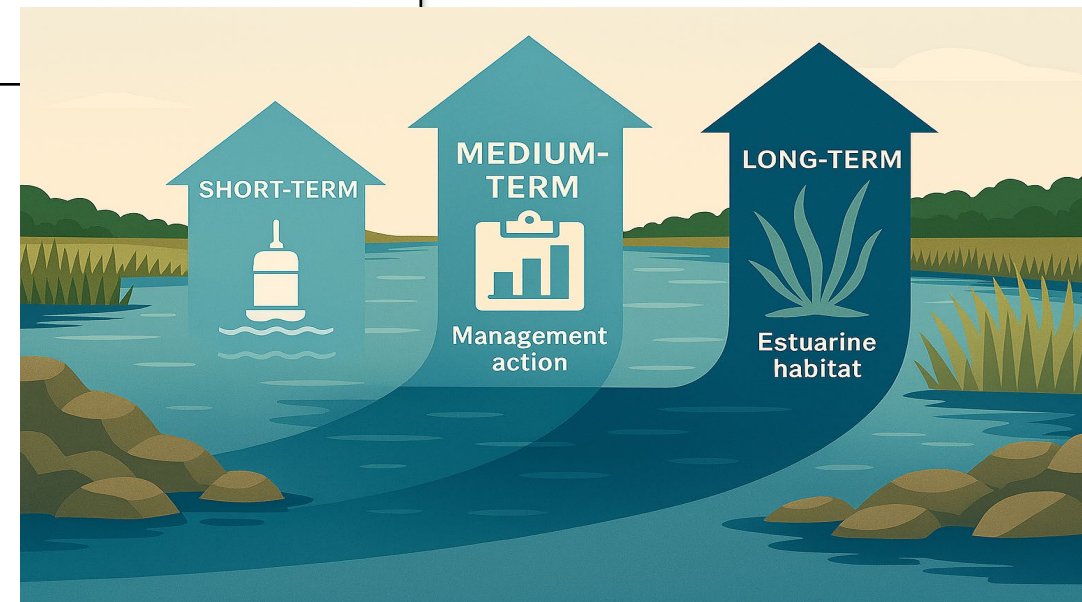
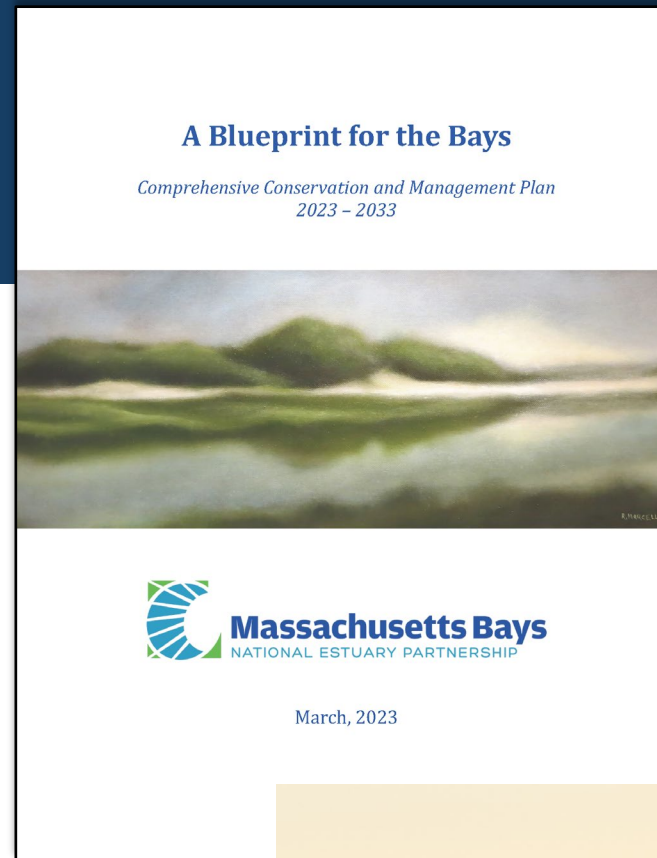
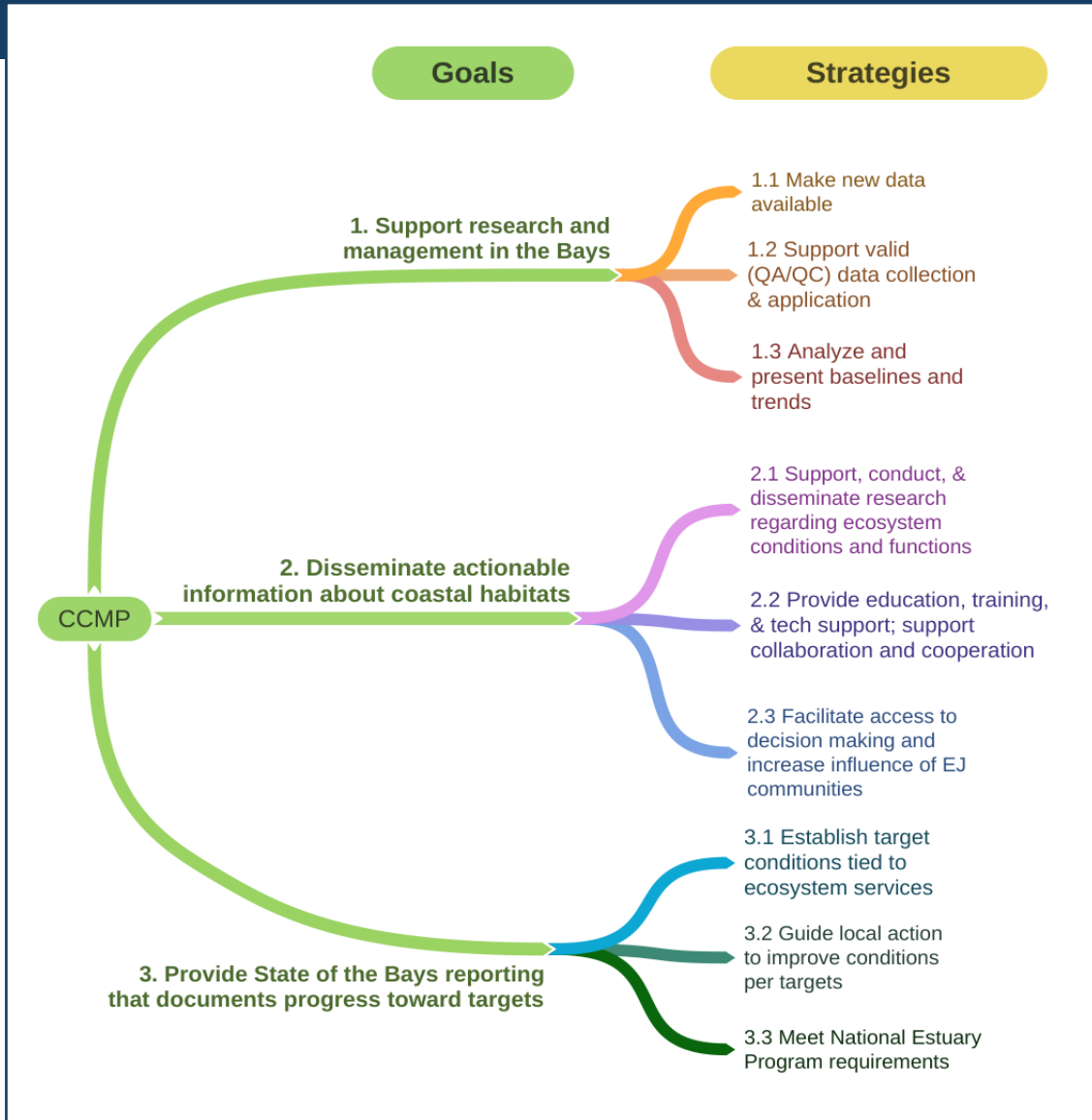
About MassBays

- Established as a NEP in 1990
- Funded by EPA (Section 320 of the Clean Water Act)
- Non-regulatory
- Close partnerships with federal and state agencies
- Develop tools that increase capacity among municipal and nonprofit partners.
- Regional Service Providers provide local technical assistance to communities with whom they have forged close relationships.
- Provides State of the Bays report

MassBays structure: staff and partners



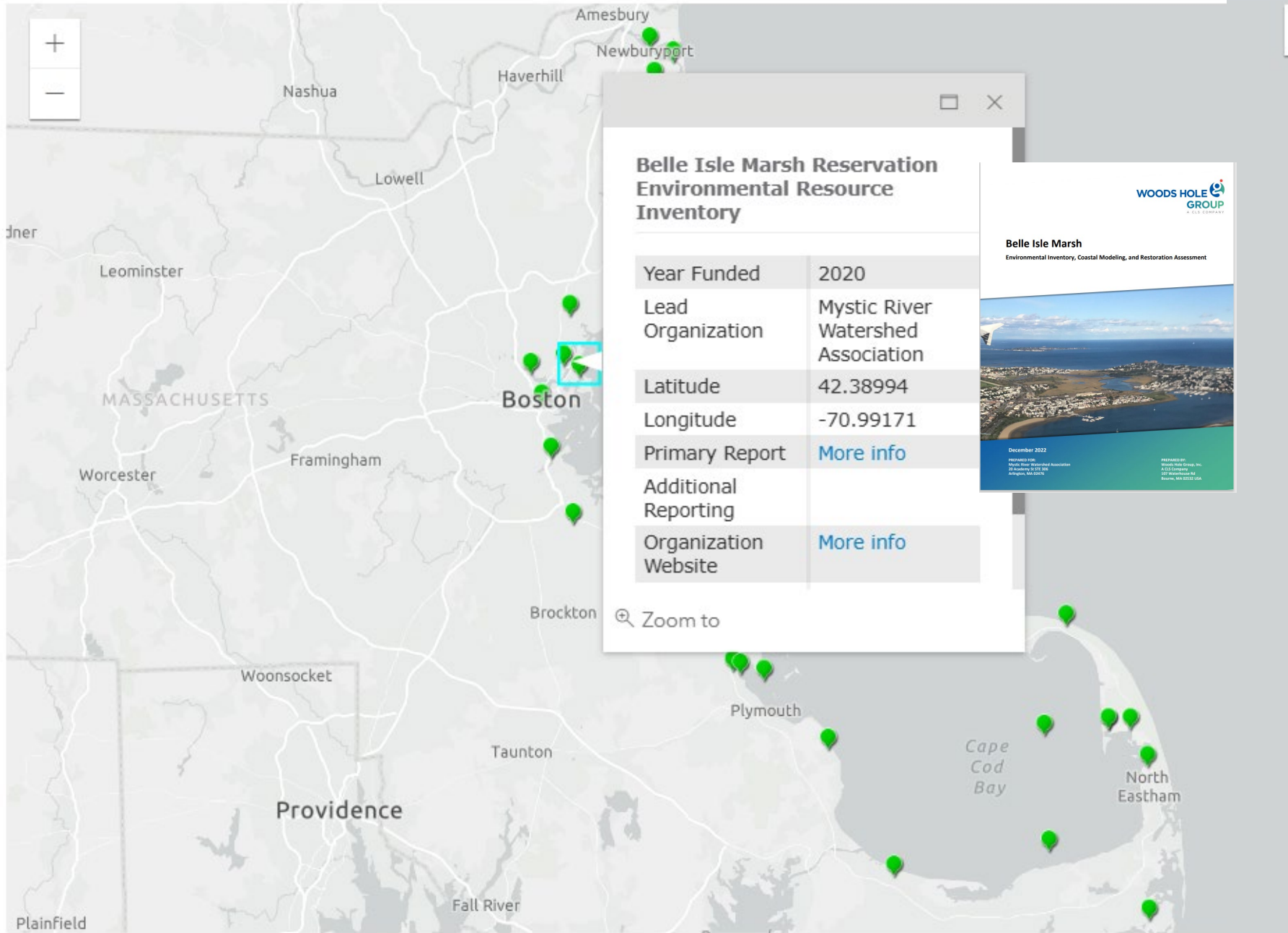
A Blueprint for the Bays



About the grant program

- Established in 2011
- Funding to grow capacity , conduct research to address knowledge gaps, monitoring to inform decision-making
- Address the goals of the CCMP (S. 320 of the CWA)
- Since 2011 MassBays' small grant program has:
 - granted \$877,564 to communities and groups.
 - funded 45 projects.
 - leveraged \$71,4728 (81.4%) in match.

Map of locations





**GEOPHYSICAL INVESTIGATION
ARMSTRONG DAM REMOVAL FEASIBILITY STUDY
BRAINTREE, MASSACHUSETTS**

August 25th, 2017
File 2017028

*Feasibility study funded by
MassBays provided
information for the project*



*First "bites" out of the
Armstrong Dam, 8/2023*



*Restored Channel of the Monaquot River
through the Project Site*



Armstrong Dam removal
funded by DFG based on
results of study funded by
MassBays Healthy
Estuaries Grant



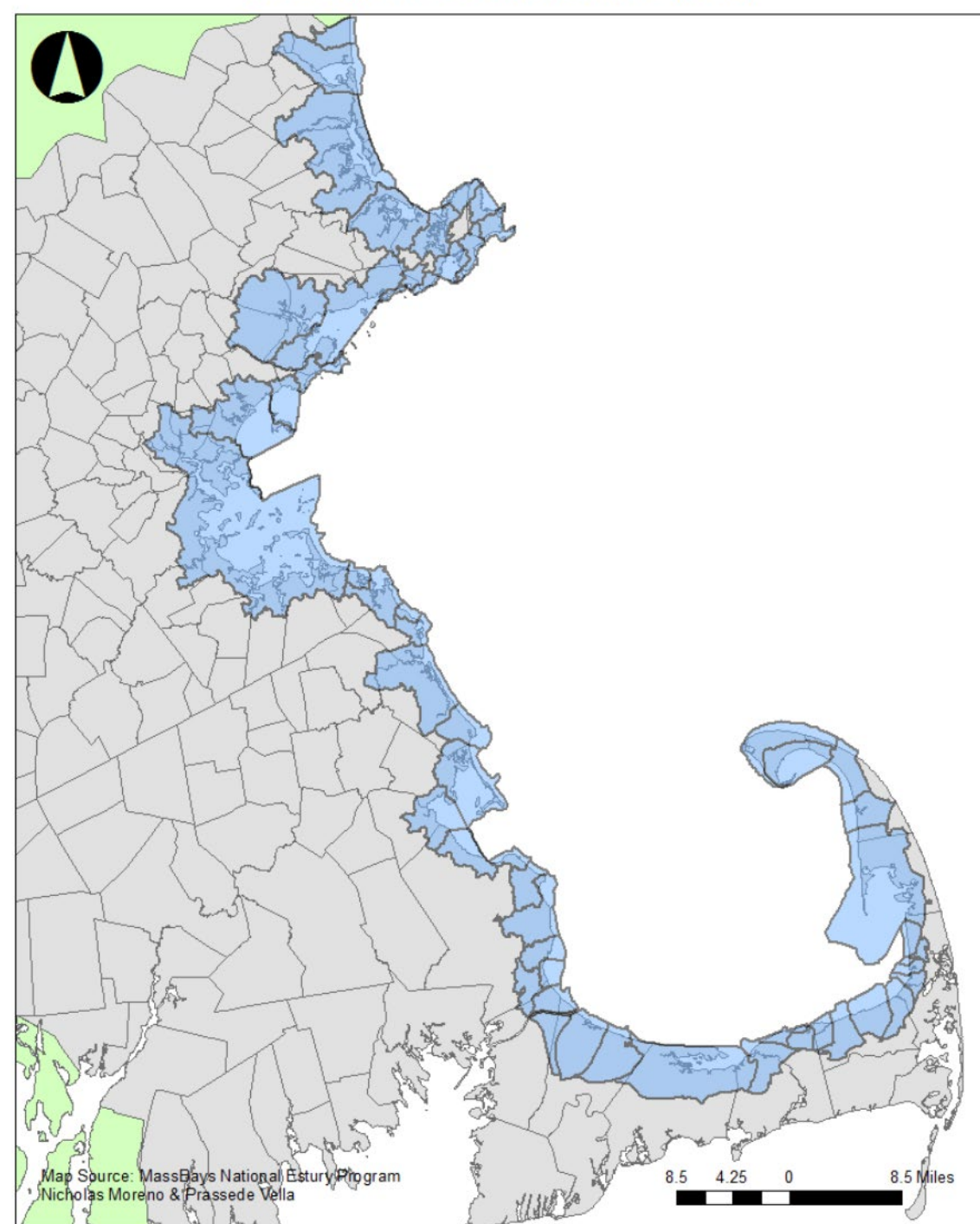
fish bypass and viewing platform

Grant application process

- RFP posted on BuyWays; Q&A period
- Reach out to RC in your area
- Letter of interest/pre-proposal + estimated total budget and match
- Full proposal and detailed budget by invitation only
- Comments from reviewers available on request
- Award notification

Project eligibility

- ✓ Research, monitoring and data analysis, and planning initiatives that advance MassBays' priorities
- ✓ Focus on protecting, restoring, and enhancing coastal habitats and the communities that these habitats support.
- ✓ Topics of specific interest include identifying and documenting impacts on coastal ecosystems and water quality.
- ✓ Applied research, proof-of-concept activities for restoration methods, efforts to address data gaps, and activities undertaken to support future larger investments (e.g., DEP S.319 grants, DFW In Lieu Fee).
- ✓ Projects must inform and advance near-term estuarine and coastal management initiatives consistent with the CCMP.
- ✓ Work must be conducted in the MassBays planning area



Not eligible

- X** Projects required as part of compensatory mitigation or enforcement action.
- X** Lobbying or political activities.

Eligible applicants

- MassBays municipalities
- MA 501(c)(3) organizations
- Regional planning agencies
- Nonprofit research institutions
- Academia

Only one grant per entity awarded

Collaboratives accepted but only one entity will be the recipient

State agencies, for-profit, etc. = subcontractors

Funding

- Minimum and maximum amounts \$\$\$\$
- Identify and incorporate efficiencies and cost-saving measures
- Non-federal match that $\geq 25\%$ of the total project cost is required
- Cash or in-kind

After the award...

- Notification of award
- Develop scope of work and timeline
- Deliverables schedule
- Subaward/contract
- Start after contract is executed
- Contract duration: 18-24 months (NCE available)
- Invoicing every quarter or as agreed; reimbursement

General requirements

- Data collection and analyses – requires a QAPP ([MassBays AquaQAPP tool](#))
- QAPPs must be approved by EPA prior to start of work.
- Quarterly progress reports (brief)
- Final report with management recommendations
- One page summary, photos, etc for massbays.org
- Present project findings to Management Committee
- Acknowledge funding from MassBays/EPA in posters, publications, talks, etc



AquaQapp

Next steps

- Current projects will wrap up by 12/31/2025
- New RFP posted early January 2026
- Posting: MassBays website, BuyWays, email, quarterly newsletter, FB/Instagram, partner newsletters



THANK YOU.



QUESTIONS?