



The Long Island Sound Study (LISS) Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) Update Process

What is the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)?

The CCMP identifies commitments and recommendations for actions to manage Long Island Sound. The CCMP seeks to improve water quality, protect habitat and living resources, educate and involve the public, improve the long-term understanding of how to manage the Sound, monitor progress, and direct management efforts. The LISS uses the CCMP as a blueprint to develop strategies for short and long term goals.

Why update the 1994 CCMP?

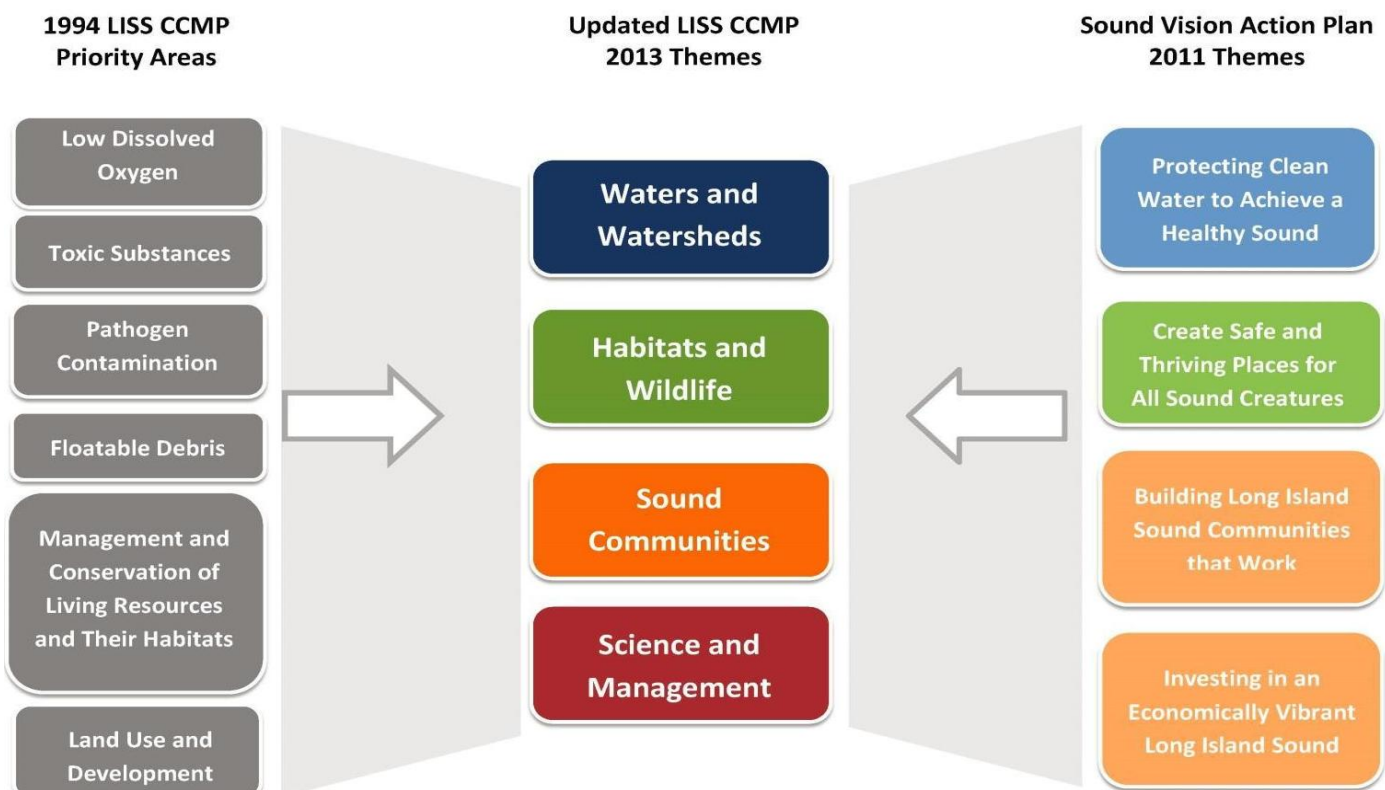
In 1988, an LISS Management Conference began work on a CCMP for protecting and improving the health of the Sound while ensuring compatible human uses with the Sound ecosystem. In 1994, the states of Connecticut and New York and the EPA approved the CCMP for LIS. Since then, our understanding of how the Sound functions has improved greatly, thanks to extensive citizen involvement, monitoring and scientific discoveries. Many emerging issues, including sea level rise, effects of Super Storm Sandy, planning for community and ecosystem resiliency, stormwater management, and aquaculture have come to the forefront of social and environmental issues in the Sound. Furthermore, the theory behind managing large ecosystems has evolved. Now the CCMP is being updated in order to incorporate this new knowledge and to make the CCMP effective over the next 20 years.

In 2011, the **Long Island Sound Study Action Agenda** was created to identify 2011-2013 priority actions to implement the 1994 CCMP and set the stage for a more comprehensive update to the CCMP planned for 2014.

Sound Vision: An Action Plan for Long Island Sound 2011-2020 was developed to provide a framework to focus the short and long term citizen's action agenda for the Long Island Sound Community. This document was created in a collaborative process with the LISS Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) as the main stakeholder group in the process.

What are the themes in the 2013 CCMP?

Taking into consideration the 1994 LISS priority areas and the Sound Vision Action Plan 2011 themes, four themes will guide the LISS CCMP 2013:





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What were some of the accomplishments of the 1994 CCMP Implementation?

| Milestone | Completion Dates |
|---|------------------|
| Adopted CCMP; began implementation of Actions | 1994 |
| Norwalk River Watershed Initiative | 1995-1996 |
| Nitrogen Reduction Plan; Habitat Restoration Goals | 1996-1998 |
| Listen to the Sound Hearings | 1998-2000 |
| Nitrogen Trading Program | 2000-2001 |
| Long Island Sound Mentor Teacher Program | 2001-2002 |
| Comprehensive Eelgrass Survey; LIS Futures Fund | 2002-2005 |
| Stewardship Act of 2006 | 2005-2006 |
| Sentinel Monitoring Work Group for Climate Change | 2006-2008 |
| Long Island Sound Mapping Program | 2008-2009 |
| Ribbed Mussel and Seaweed Pilot Projects; LISS Action Agenda; Sound Vision | 2009-2011 |
| Long Island Sound: Prospects for the Urban Sea | 2011-2013 |

What is involved in the CCMP update process?

In early 2013, LISS retained WaterVision LLC (WV) to assist in the update process. WV and a LISS Core Team synthesized background documents, solicited stakeholder and public input, and developed a framework for the CCMP update. After stakeholder and public input the Core Team began developing a revised CCMP document for public review.

What do we need from YOU?

Successful development and implementation of the CCMP update requires input and feedback from partner agencies, advocacy groups, and citizens within the Long Island Sound watershed. This is being accomplished through social media outlets, a page devoted to the update on the LISS website, online public surveys, and public meetings. Updates on opportunities to get involved or to comment on the plan, as well as progress made, can be found on the Long Island Sound Study website <http://longislandsoundstudy.net/about/our-mission/updating-the-comprehensive-conservation-and-management-plan/> and through:

Facebook at www.facebook.com/LISSplanupdate,
and Twitter @PlanUpdate.

We are planning public meetings in 2014 to get the word out and to get your feedback. The first draft of the revised CCMP should be ready for review in early Summer 2014. We look forward to your involvement!