

**Nitrogen Coordination Work Group
Online Meeting
Tuesday, April 6, 2021 – Meeting Summary**



Welcome and Roll Call

- Meeting began shortly after 10am. Attendees included:
 - Mark Parker, CTDEEP
 - Kathleen Knight, CTDEEP
 - Vicky O’Neill, NYSDEC/NEIWPC
 - Koon Tang, NYSDEC
 - Susan Van Patten, NYSDEC
 - Leah O’Neill, EPA
 - Jim Ammerman, LISS/NEIWPC
 - Richard Friesner, NEIWPC

Work Group Discussion Topics:

The Nitrogen Coordination Work Group is an opportunity for staff from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation with support from LISS partners to coordinate ongoing nitrogen reduction efforts in the Long Island Sound Study area.

Discussion topics:

- LISS Budget Process discussion.
 - Discussed the budget process and the proposed ad-hoc group to evaluate the budget process for future years.
 - Exploring other options for an improved process.
 - Consider using themes for each funding cycle.
 - Explore a more competitive process that can be fair and transparent.
 - Discussed making enhancement proposals consistent via formatting and comparing like project types.
 - Criteria development for review is tricky and should be done with care. For example, a small outreach project and a large restoration project.
- Reporting Process.
 - The new reporting process has been presented and outlined. The second training is now scheduled for April 13 @9am.
 - Reviewed the process and discussed a few specific questions.
- Enhancements
 - Discussed the sustainable communities’ proposal with 3 staff in NY and 2 in CT.
- CT River Initiative. Discussed the monitoring collaborative and CT River Conservancy. Potential here for additional monitoring and funding from LISS.

- Discussed the EPA Nitrogen Strategy. The effort is on pause to further support state efforts. Tetra Tech retrospective data analysis and trends overtime is the work currently being done.

Meeting Schedule:

At our last meeting we discussed a work group meeting preceding each management committee meeting.

- Proposed our next meeting to be in late June or early July.

The meeting adjourned at 11am.