

*Appendix G*

# Hancock County Planning Commission

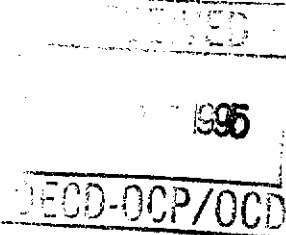
R.F.D. #4, Box 22, Ellsworth, Me. 04605

(207) 667-7131



February 24, 1995

National Estuary Program  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Washington, D.C.



To whom it may concern:

This is a letter of support for the State of Maine's application to establish a National Estuary Project for Penobscot Bay. This application represents an important step in efforts to improve the health and productivity of the Bay. The marine resources of Penobscot Bay have always played an important role in Hancock County's economy.

It is particularly important to support efforts to restore areas that have been closed to shellfishing since they represent a vital source of local jobs and income. Hancock County's median income is lower than the state average. Further erosion of our fragile marine resources would mean even more limited economic opportunities in the future.

We hope that you will fund this important application. I would be more than happy to discuss its merits with you at greater length. Feel free to call me at 207-667-7131 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Martin, AICP  
Executive Director

Amherst  
Aurora  
Bar Harbor  
Blue Hill  
Brooklin  
Brooksville  
Bucksport  
Castine  
Cranberry Isles  
Dedham  
Deer Isle  
Eastbrook  
Ellsworth  
Franklin  
Frenchboro  
Gouldsboro  
Great Pond  
Hancock  
Isle au Haut  
Lamoine  
Lucerne-in-Maine  
Mariaville  
Mount Desert  
Orland  
Osborn  
Otis  
Penobscot  
Sedgwick  
Sorrento  
Southwest Harbor  
Stonington  
Sullivan  
Surry  
Swan's Island  
Tremont  
Trenton  
Verona  
Waltham  
Winter Harbor

A Voluntary Association of Governments Formed to Help  
Local Communities and the Hancock County Region.



# CASTINE CONSERVATION TRUST

BROOKSVILLE • CASTINE • PENOBSCOT

Box 421 • Castine, Maine 04421

February 28, 1995

Environmental Protection Agency  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

As the coordinator for the Bagaduce Water Watch, a citizen volunteer group performing water quality monitoring, I strongly support the proposal to establish a National Estuary Program in Penobscot Bay.

Our group has completed the second year of a five-year project to gather baseline data on temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen and fecal coliform bacteria in marine waters of the Castine shoreline.

Water quality monitoring at additional sites in Penobscot Bay needs to become a reality to make possible the opening of new and old shellfishing areas.

I believe a National Estuary Program in the bay area will assist community action on a variety of environmental problems including shellfish closure due to pollution.

Sincerely,

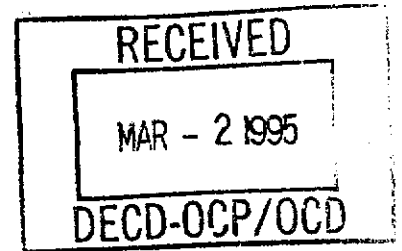
*Donald E. Blomquist*  
Donald E. Blomquist

TOWN OF ISLESBORO  
PLANNING BOARD

P.O. Box 76  
Islesboro, ME 04848

MEMBERS:

Marc V. Schnur, Chairman  
Rebecca F. Noake, Vice Chairman  
David E. Pendleton, Secretary  
D. Allen Mirk  
Maxine Nelson  
Craig Leach, Associate



March 1, 1995

National Estuary Program  
U. S. Department of Environmental Protection  
Washington, DC

RE: National Estuary Program in  
Penobscot Bay, (NEP)

To Whom it May Concern:

In 1980 approximately 4,640 bushels of clams were harvested from Islesboro's clam flats. In previous years those flats sustained a number of clam diggers, both resident islanders and non-residents. During the 1960s and early 1970s the shellfish harvest was large enough to sustain a clam processing plant. Since the early 1980s the clam population has all but died out. Re-seeding the clam flats has had limited success. There are many theories regarding the reasons for the loss of the clam population and its resulting economic loss to the community. What is clear is that the cause for this loss is not local, but rather a result of factors which affect the entire estuary system that nourishes Penobscot Bay.

Islesboro's 1994 Comprehensive Plan recommends development and adoption of a Marine Management Plan. Any plan of this type will be of limited use unless there is regional management of the estuarine system. The Comprehensive Plan also supports regional cooperation to this end.

For this reason alone, the NEP is worthy of support. However, with new pressures affecting the health of Penobscot Bay, not the least of which will be the proposed cargo port at Sears Island, regional cooperation to balance economic and environmental concerns is vital for a healthy and productive Penobscot Bay.

Therefore, we support the Penobscot Bay Network's goal to establish a National Estuary Program in Penobscot Bay.

Very truly yours,  
TOWN OF ISLESBORO  
PLANNING BOARD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc V. Schnur".

Marc V. Schnur, Chairman

MVS:mm  
c. SMILLER

# Town Of Castine

Municipal Offices

P.O. Box 204 • Castine, Maine 04421  
Telephone: (207) 326-4502 • FAX: (207) 326-9465

March 1, 1995

Steve Cole  
Department of Economic & Community Development  
Coastal Program  
State House Station 130  
Augusta, ME 04333-0130

REF: National Estuary Program Support

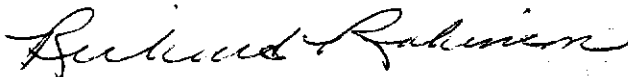
Dear Steve,

The Town of Castine supports the efforts of the State Department of Economic & Community Development's efforts to improve the Penobscot Bay area. We applaud your pursuit of a Federal grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to explore methods of increasing the shellfish harvesting industry in the Bay area.

We stand ready to assist your efforts in this endeavor and solicit the approval of your grant request.

For the Board of Selectmen

Respectfully,



Richard E. Robinson  
Town Manager

CITY OF

*Bangor*

MAINE



73 HARLOW STREET  
BANGOR, MAINE 04401

DEPARTMENT of COMMUNITY and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
Kenneth R. Gibb, Director

TEL. 207/945-4400

Planning Division

February 28, 1995

The National Estuary Program  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Washington, DC

Dear Sir or Madam:

It has come to our attention that the Penobscot Bay Network is filing an application for a multi-year water quality study of the Penobscot Bay Region Watershed. As a major urban center on tidal waters of the Penobscot River, we share a number of common concerns with others on the lower river and in Penobscot Bay itself as to the future of the estuary and its resources.

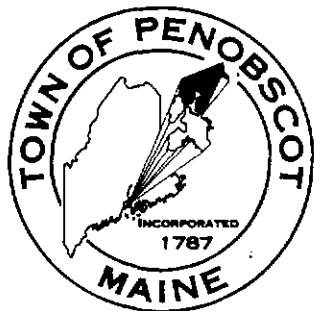
We would like to note our interest in and support of the proposed project which may shed light on some of the major current environmental issues in the Penobscot Bay area and which may provide for an opportunity to deal with these conditions at a meaningful, watershed level.

The City has actively pursued the reuse and upgrading of the Penobscot River and supported extensive efforts to improve water quality in the river. We would be very interested in such a project, if it furthered those goals.

Sincerely,

Kenneth R. Gibb  
Director of Community and  
Economic Development

KRG/j



# Town of Penobscot

TOWN OFFICE  
PENOBSCOT, MAINE 04476

National Estuary Program  
Environmental Protection Agency  
% Steven Cole  
DECD Station #130  
Augusta, Me. 04333

Dear Mr. Cole:

The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Penobscot on the eastern shore of Penobscot Bay declares by this letter its support of The Penobscot Bay Network in its request to the National Estuary Program for a grant to be used to initiate a program that will have the effect of eventually restoring both the public and commercial harvesting of shellfish in this area.

Sincerely,

*Thomas C. Shroy*  
*Paul J. Down*  
*Arnold J. Grass*

March 3, 1995

Mr. Steve Cole  
Maine Coastal Program  
Office of Community Development  
State House Station #130  
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Penobscot Bay Network's National Estuary Project  
Application

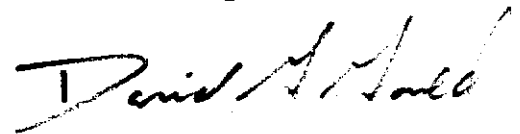
Dear Steve,

As a planner, in a coastal community, having seen several studies and reports on the Penobscot River and coastal Maine; it is excellent to see someone propose a comprehensive review of the entire system. The goals outlined by the Penobscot Bay Network will help define a long term, sound management plan for Penobscot Bay which balances the interests of the waterway as an industrial/recreational transportation link as well as an sensitive ecological system. I would support the Penobscot Bay Network's application for funding from the National Estuary Program.

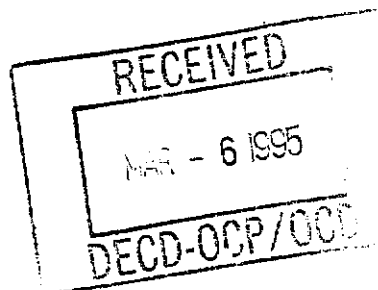
I wish all those involved good luck through the selection process, and hopefully the Town of Hampden will be involved in the project once it's up and running.

If I can be of any further assistance, please feel free to call me at 862-6527.

Sincerely,



David G. Gould, AICP  
Town Planner





DAMARIS A. DIFFIN  
Town Manager

TOWN OF ISLESBORO  
P.O. BOX 76  
ISLESBORO, MAINE 04848  
(207) 734-2253  
FAX NO. 207-734-8394

February 28, 1995

To: The Environmental Protection Agency

From: Earnest Batchelor  
Chairman of the Islesboro Shellfish Association

Re: Support for a National Estuary Program In Penobscot Bay.

The Islesboro Shellfish Association ardently supports the formation of a National Estuary Program in Penobscot Bay. The bay environment surrounding our island once supported a flourishing population of shellfish and other economically valuable marine organisms. Over the past ten years we have watched the demise of these once prolific populations, particularly the soft-shell clam.

In an effort to bring back the soft-shell clam, the Shellfish Association has conducted a number of conservation practices. These include;

1. Seeding of three areas with over 1.5 million seed clams.
2. Closure of potential sites to the harvesting of all marine organisms.
3. Analysis of Clams for viral infections by the Woods Hole Marine Laboratory.
4. The elimination of all commercial town licenses.
5. Collaboration with the Islesboro Water Quality Group in monitoring the local marine environments.

We are extremely disappointed that the seeding projects have failed. There are no indications that the closed flats are making a natural comeback. What is happening to the marine environment of Penobscot Bay?

Our island link in Penobscot Bay is substantially affected by the decisions of all who are associated with this irreplaceable resource. We disparately need a regional management program ensuring the posterity of the bay for all future generations. Again, without hesitation, the Islesboro Shellfish Association strongly supports the National Estuary Program.

Sincerely,

*Ernest Batchelor*

Ernest Batchelor  
Islesboro Shellfish Association Chairman


State of Maine County of Knox

We, the undersigned Municipal Officials  
of the Town/City of

Matinicus Isle PIT.

hereby state our support and  
endorsement of the  
Penobscot Bay Network  
application to the  
Environmental Protection Agency  
for Penobscot Bay to be considered for a  
National Estuary Project.

Signed on the 22 day of Feb., 1995.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor or Chairman of the Board of Selectmen

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor or Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor or Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor or Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor or Selectman

State of Maine County of Knox

We, the undersigned Municipal Officials  
of the Town/City of

Owl's Head

hereby state our support and  
endorsement of the  
Penobscot Bay Network  
application to the  
Environmental Protection Agency  
for Penobscot Bay to be considered for a  
National Estuary Project.

Signed on the 22 day of February, 1995.

Carol M. Phillips  
~~Mayor~~ or Chairman of the Board of Selectmen

J. W. Christie  
Councillor or Selectman

Kay R. Dodge  
~~Councillor~~ or Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor or Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor or Selectman

State of Maine County of WALDO

We, the undersigned Municipal Officials  
of the Town/City of  
LINCOLNVILLE

hereby state our support and  
endorsement of the  
Penobscot Bay Network  
application to the  
Environmental Protection Agency  
for Penobscot Bay to be considered for a  
National Estuary Project.

Signed on the 27 day of FEBRUARY, 1995.

*Ernest Sullivan*

Mayor or Chairman of the Board of Selectmen

*Charles Boetsch*

Councilor or Selectman

*John T. ...*

Councilor or Selectman

*D. Tracy Colby*

Councilor or Selectman

Councilor or Selectman

State of Maine County of Knox

We, the undersigned Municipal Officials

of the Town/~~City~~ of

Rockport

hereby state our support and  
endorsement of the

Penobscot Bay Network


application to the

Environmental Protection Agency

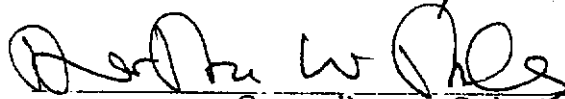
for Penobscot Bay to be considered for a

National Estuary Project.

Signed on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1995.



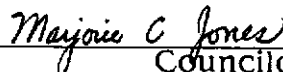
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor or Chairman of the Board of Selectmen



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Councilor or Selectman



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Councilor or Selectman



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Councilor or Selectman

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Councilor or Selectman