Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (SMBNEP)
Governance Review
eSurvey

Background

Under US EPA National Estuary Program Guidance, the structure of governance for the Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (SMBNEP), the "Management Conference," is required to be periodically reviewed. The SMBNEP management conference is comprised of the Governing Board, Executive Committee, Technical Advisory Committee, and Watershed Advisory Council. In June and December 2018, staff of US EPA and SMBNEP presented background on the structure of the SMBNEP. ~~and its component elements. This included the staff of US EPA, the staff of the Bay Foundation, and staff of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission.~~

In December 2018, the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission ~~-~~(SMBRC) Governing Board held a ~~board~~ workshop ~~in order~~ for the Governing Board to provide input on the current governance and any suggestions for changes and modifications to the overall governance structure, or to any of the specific elements of the governance structure, or any policies and practices. SMBRC's Executive Committee and Watershed Advisory Council held similar workshops in January 2019. Members of these entities were also encouraged to provide their input by completing a preliminary questionnaire.

~~The Bay Foundation, in cooperation with the Bay Commission, developed~~ ~~T~~this eSurvey was developed based on initial input received from the workshop and completed questionnaires, as an opportunity for all members of the Management Conference, interested stakeholders, and members of the public, ~~,~~ to provide more focused and qualified input on specific elements of ~~the governance of the~~ SMBNEP's governance. ~~s~~ S~~, and any suggestions for changes and modifications to the overall governance structure, or to any of the specific elements of the governance structure, or any policies and practices.~~

We are particularly interested to know your thoughts on what's working well, if and how current governance could be improved, and any specific suggested changes or modifications to any elements of the Management Conference ~~(which including the GB, EC, TAC, WAC, TBF, and SMBRA)~~ and the relationship of these committees to ~~TBF~~The Bay Foundation~~. S~~see attached table and chart for reference), or changes or modifications to any governance practices or policies of the SMBNEP that can contribute to improved

Commented [YE1]: Would it make more sense to say something like "For background information on the structure of the SMBNEP, please refer to these presentations given in June and December 2018." And hyperlink June and December with the presentations?

Commented [WG2]: Suggest to name all entities of the MCA here and attach the MC table and diagram from the last questionnaire to this survey. Because this survey is open to all interested stakeholders, we must anticipate that there are still people who do not know what the MC is composed of.

Commented [YE3R2]: I suggest defining these terms in the previous paragraph.

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performance and achievement of Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) objectives for protecting, conserving, enhancing, and restoring Santa Monica Bay and its watersheds.

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Q1. We would describe our organization~~agency~~'s attendance at SMBNEP public meetings as:

Always Attend	Regularly	Sometimes	Have in Past	Never have

Q2. We would describe our organization~~agency~~'s participation in the activities of the SMBNEP as:

Fully Active	Active	Sometimes	Inactive	Not Active

Q3. Our organization~~agency~~'s primary reasons for attending and participating in the SMBNEP are: *(Select all that apply).*

Availability of Technical, Policy, and Project Expertise	
Ability to Partner on Grant Funding and Projects	
Assistance in Delivery of Regional Projects/Initiatives	
Assistance with Individual project implementation	
Other:	

Q 4. How well informed are you regarding the structure and functions of the current SMBNEP Management Conference governance?

Fully	A Lot	More than a Little	A little	Not at all

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Q 5. Effectiveness of Management Conference
Please rate the effectiveness of current Management Conference governance structure in meeting SMBNEP/ CCMP priorities

Commented [YE4]: Do you need the'/'? Aren't SMBNEP and SMBNEP CCMP priorities the same?

	Fully Effective	Very Effective	Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Effective	Don't Know-Need More Information
Overall						
Developing and Managing Projects						
Making Policy						
Raising and Expending Funds						
Researching and Monitoring Bay Conditions						
Educating and Engaging Stakeholders						

Q 6. Effectiveness of Governing Board/Executive Committee
Please rate the effectiveness of current GB/EC governance structure in meeting SMBNEP/CCMP priorities.

	Fully Effective	Very Effective	Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Effective	Don't Know-Need More Information
Overall						

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Developing and Managing Projects						
Making Policy						
Raising and Expending Funds						
Researching and Monitoring Bay Conditions						
Educating and Engaging Stakeholders						

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Q 7. Effectiveness of the Watershed Advisory Committee (WAC)
Please rate the effectiveness of current WAC governance structure in meeting SMBNEP/CCMP priorities.

	Fully Effective	Very Effective	Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Effective	Don't Know-Need More Information
Overall						
Informing and Affecting Projects						
Informing and Affecting Policy						
Informing and Affecting Program and Project Funding						
Understanding Research on and Monitoring of Bay Conditions						
Educating and Engaging Stakeholders						

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Q 8. Effectiveness of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Please rate the effectiveness of current TAC governance structure in meeting SMBNEP/CCMP priorities.

	Fully Effective	Very Effective	Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Effective	Don't Know-Need More Information
Overall						
Informing and Affecting Projects						
Informing and Affecting Policy						
Researching and Monitoring Bay Conditions						
Informing and Educating Stakeholders						

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Q 9. Effectiveness of The Bay Foundation
Please rate the effectiveness of the Bay Foundation governance structure in meeting SMBNEP/CCMP priorities.

	Fully Effective	Very Effective	Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Effective	Don't Know-Need More Information
Overall						
Developing and Managing Projects						
Informing and Affecting Policy						
Raising and Expending Funds						
Supporting, Funding, and Managing Research and Monitoring of Bay Conditions						
Educating and Engaging Stakeholders						

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Q 10. Effectiveness of Bay Restoration Authority (SMBRA)
Please rate the effectiveness of the Bay Restoration Authority structure in meeting SMBNEP/CCMP priorities.

	Fully Effective	Very Effective	Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Effective	Don't Know-Need More Information
Overall						
Managing Projects						
Raising and Expending Funds						

Q 11. How effective is the current governance relationship of the USEPA NEP Program with The Bay Foundation and SMBRC?

Fully	A Lot	More than a Little	A little	Not at all

Commented [YE5]: These options don't match the question. Maybe start with scale of "Excellent." This applies to Q 11 – Q 13.

Commented [WG6]: Suggest also adding a "Don't Know" column

Q 12. How effective is the current governance relationship of the State Water Resources Control Board with the SMBRC?

Fully	A Lot	More than a Little	A little	Not at all

Commented [WG7]: Save as above. Adding a "Don't Know" Column.

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Q 13. How effective is the current governance relationship between the SMBRC and The Bay Foundation?

Fully	A Lot	More than a Little	A little	Not at all

Commented [WG8]: Save as above. Adding a "Don't Know" Column.

Q 14. What do you see as the unique strengths and attributes of the SMBNEP Management Conference governance structure?

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_____
_____
_____
_____

Q 15. Are there governance policies and practices that best contribute to achieving the SMBNEP's goals and objectives?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Q 16. Are there elements of the current governance structure that could be modified for improved performance?

	Keep as Is	Modify Structure	Modify Policies	Modify Practices
Governing Board-Executive Committee				
WAC				

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TAC				
The Bay Foundation				
The Bay Restoration Authority, (SMBRA)				

Please explain:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Q 17. Do you feel there are major governance obstacles/challenges to achieving program success?

Please explain:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Q 18. Are there new or modified governance policies and practices that could be implemented that could lead to better achievement of the SMBNEP's goals and objectives?

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_____
_____
_____
_____

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Q 19. How well suited is the current governance structure to address Key Management Issues and Challenges looking forward?

Fully	A Lot	More than a Little	A little	Not at all

Commented [WG9]: This question seems to duplicative of Q5 and redundant after asking other questions above (especially Q17). Suggest to delete.

Commented [TF10R9]: Getting rid of Q17 works for me

Comments:

Q 20. Could you suggest any other changes to the current governance structure or suggestions for future governance?

Q 21. ~~Financing/Implementation/Community Private/Public Partnerships~~

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What new or expanded governance, financing, and implementation partnerships should the Management Conference be exploring and developing?

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_____
_____
_____
_____

Q 22. How active would you like to be in the SMBNEP going forward?

Very _____
Moderately _____
Slightly _____
Very Little _____
None at all _____

Q 23. How could you become better engaged with the SMBNEP? (What factors would increase your interest in and engagement with the SMBNEP?)

_____
_____
_____
_____

Q 24. Other Comments:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

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_____

_____

Optional:

Name: _____

Commented [YE11]: People might miss this given that it's on the very last page

Organization: _____