

**Cumberland County Community Development Program
2013 CDBG Planning Program Application
Community Cover Page**

Project Title Update to "Protecting Harpswell's Marine Resources"

Lead Community Town of Harpswell

Additional Communities _____

Contact Information Name Carolyn Eyerman

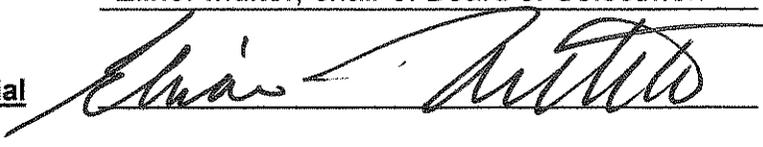
Address 263 Mountain Road, Harpswell. ME 04079

Email ceyerman@town.harpswell.me.us Tel 833-5771

Amount of CDBG Funds Requested \$36,000

Total Estimated Project Cost \$42,245

Name of Authorized Official Elinor Multer, chair of Board of Selectmen

Signature of Authorized Official 

2013 Planning Application Questions

1. Community need

According to the 2005 Comprehensive Plan, Harpswell and Portland are the two main centers for commercial fishing in Cumberland County. Relative to the rest of the state, Harpswell residents hold approximately 3.8% of commercial harvesting lobster licenses, and 3.2% of commercial shellfish. In 2012, Harpswell held 402 commercial fishing licenses, all of which are the reasons for the following request and update.

The goal is to update a 1995 study "Protecting Harpswell's Marine Resources." The purpose is to re-evaluate Harpswell's shellfish resources and recommend protection measures. Harpswell has approximately 216 miles of coastline, much of which is very productive or potentially very productive habitat for a wide variety of shellfish.

In 1995, it was determined that Harpswell's has 43 shellfish areas that are equally important to the Town. The original study recommended improving management techniques to those areas. They included the following areas of concern: public and private road construction and maintenance, constructions standards for all types of construction, changes in the intensity and types of land use, the ability of wetlands and vegetative buffers to function as "shock absorbers" and the impact of the Maine State Plumbing Code.

In the time since 1995, the Town has implemented a water quality and shellfish bed review program. It has updated its ordinances to provide for stricter standards within the shoreland zone as well as educating citizens about the issues with living so close to active waterfronts and fisheries.

However since 1995, the Town's marine resources specifically the clamming industry has suffered from a decline. State officials investigating why the clam population in Harpswell is declining think they have at least a partial answer.

David Nault of the State's Shellfish Management Division says testing on clams in flats around Harpswell have detected neoplasia, a known blood disease that can kill up to 90-percent of clams infected. However, other factors such as environmental changes are also having an effect. The state will continue studying the problem in hopes of boosting the clam population in Harpswell. The Town is actively pursuing several solutions; some of which are water quality sampling and seeding the clam flats. However, these are band aid "fixes" and a review of the entire system should be done again.

The Town is the process of considering some very large expenditures related to one of its properties and may need to bond in the coming year to pay for these large scale projects. With the assistance of the CDBG funds, the Town will be able to pursue this update. Without the CDBG funds, the Town will not have the money to update the study.

2. Strategy to complete project

a. Description of planning tasks to be undertaken

- Determine the focus with the consultant
- Review GIS data for land use, marine resources, wetlands, streams, etc
- Obtain the current shellfish data, water quality data, etc
- Review current ordinances and all other pertinent regulations
- Conduct site visits for selected sites and document current conditions
- Survey shellfish beds and/or review current data
- Review water quality data and/or test
- Write summary report

b. Outline of the project's schedule

The outlined components of a Work Plan are envisioned to unfold in a fairly intensive manner over the course of about six to eight months after receipt of the grant funding. The schedule will be:

- January, 2013 –Town requests 36,000 for consultant
- April, 2013 –Town to write RFP
- Apr/May, 2013 – Town Planner to send RFP out to consultants after BOS approval
- May, 2013 – receipt of CDBG grant funding
- June, 2013 –Town to receive proposals from consultants
- June, 2013 –Town to interview and recommend consultant to BOS
- July, 2013 – first meeting with consultant
- July - Oct, 2013 – document review and project implementation
- Dec, 2013 – summary report provided to Town

c. Community partnerships established and engaged

The Town has many volunteers on several groups including the Board of Selectmen, Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee, Marine Resources Committee and the Conservation Commission that are ready to begin work on this project and have called for an update for the past six months.

3. Readiness to proceed.

a. Conveyed to community residents:

- The discussion of the proposed update has been on the Community TV channel and at several Town meetings.

b. Matching funds:

- Matching funds exist in the form of volunteer and staff time as well as money to advertise any public meetings.

c. Staff and/or consultants:

- Town staff is available to complete the project and a consultant has offered the cost estimate that is provided with this application. The Town will need to "go out to bid" for the hiring of the consultant.

<u>Planning Grant – Program Budget</u>				
Cost Category	CDBG Funds	Municipal Funds	Other Funds	Total
Consultant Services	36,000			36,000
Advertising				
Public Meetings: 4 @ \$25/ad		100		100
Other				
1. Current conditions: 5 volunteers (4 days @ \$10.00/hr)			1,600	1,600
2. Survey shellfish beds: 12 volunteers (4 days @ \$10.00/hr)			3,840	3,840
3. Water quality testing: 1 volunteer			80	80
4. Staff time (25 hrs @ \$25/hr)		625		625
Total Costs	36,000	725	5,520	42,245
Provide the basis for determination of budget amounts: January 2013, Normandeau Associates, cost estimate provided to the Town for consultant as well as volunteer time is attached.				

Consultant Estimate Summary:

(Project admin/coordination - 1 person 32 hours)
 S4 time 85/hour for 350 hours \$ 29,750
 PS time 130/hr for 30 hour \$3,900
 Direct costs (travel etc.) \$2,500

Rough total estimate = \$36,150

Protecting Harpswell's Marine Resources - Heinig et. al 1995

Follow up on the findings of the 1995 report and provide current, relevant, and useful recommendations to the Town to protect the marine resources.

- Determine areas of focus through discussions with the Town, conservation commission, and marine resource committee. 4 meetings, 3 hours each, 1 person; write summary of each 4 hours. ~ 16 hours
- Obtain: GIS data layers for land use, marine resources, and wetlands, streams and waterways, soil maps. Compile data layers for selected focus areas; produce figures. 1 person - 1 ½ day ~ 12 hours
- Obtain most current shellfish survey data, MDMR water quality data, and other available data - 1 day ~ 8 hrs
- Review current regulations for setbacks buildings, wells, septic systems, density, road construction, paved areas, etc. Compare to current conditions in areas of focus -1 person 5 days ~ 40 hours
- Conduct site reviews for selected sites- map/confirm watershed type, extent; land use; natural resources, etc. - depending on the number of sites, assume 4.
- Document current conditions: land use, density, identify nutrient/pollution input, erosion issues, 2 NAI people (with 3-5 volunteers) - 4 days = 32 x 2 = ~64 hours
- Survey shellfish beds if not current 2 NAI (with 8-12 volunteers) write summary reports - 4 days 4x8 x2 ~64 hours
- Write summary reports - 1 person 2 day ~16 hours
- WQ testing at streams to shellfish beds, depends on number of streams, assume 8 - 1 NAI and 1 volunteer ~8 hrs
- Review federal, state, and Town regulations, Town ordinances, code enforcement regulations, road commission standards - 1 person 5 days ~40 hours
- Meet with Town to discuss various questions concerning enforcement, BMP's, Implementation, education, conservation, etc. - 1 person ~ 8 hours
- Summary report - 1 person 1 week ~40 hours