New York Ocean and Great Lakes Ecosystem Conservation Council

Staff Report to the Council:

APPENDICES

Mouth of the Salmon River, Lake Ontario, New York

Appendix A: New York Ocean and Great Lakes Ecosystem Conservation Act

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Appendix A:

NEW YORK
OCEAN AND GREAT LAKES
ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION ACT

Environmental Conservation Law

ARTICLE 14
NEW YORK OCEAN AND GREAT LAKES ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION ACT

14-0101 - Short title.
14-0103 - Legislative findings and declarations.
14-0105 - Definitions.
14-0107 - New York ocean and Great Lakes ecosystem conservation council.
14-0109 - Responsibilities of the council.
14-0111 - Report to the governor and legislature.
14-0113 - State agency assistance.

§ 14-0101. Short title.

This article shall be known and may be cited as the "New York ocean and Great Lakes ecosystem conservation act".

§ 14-0103. Legislative findings and declarations.

The legislature finds and declares that:

1. New York's coastal ecosystems are critical to the state's environmental and economic security, and integral to the state's high quality of life and culture. Healthy coastal ecosystems are part of the state's legacy, and are necessary to support the state's human and wildlife populations;
2. The policy of the state of New York shall be to conserve, maintain and restore coastal ecosystems so that they are healthy, productive and resilient and able to deliver the resources people want and need;
3. The governance of coastal ecosystems shall be guided by the following principles:
   a. activities in and uses of the coastal ecosystem are sustainable;
   b. ecological health and integrity is maintained;
   c. ecosystems' interconnections among land, air and water are recognized;
   d. understanding of coastal ecosystems is enhanced;
   e. decisions are informed by good science;
   f. when risks are uncertain, caution is applied; and
   g. broad public participation occurs in planning and decision making.

§ 14-0105. Definitions.

As used in this article:

1. "Coastal waters" means lakes Erie and Ontario, the St. Lawrence and Niagara rivers, the Hudson river south of the federal dam at Troy, the East river, the Harlem river, the Kill von Kull, and Arthur Kill, Long Island sound, and the Atlantic ocean, and their connecting water bodies, bays, harbors, shallows, and marshes.
2. "Coastal ecosystems" mean the resources of coastal waters and their watersheds.
3. "Council" means the New York ocean and Great Lakes ecosystem conservation council created by section 14-0107 of this article.
4. "Submerged aquatic vegetation" means native underwater plants found in coastal waters, including but not limited to, eelgrass (Zostera marina), widgeon grass (Ruppia maritima), wild celery (Vallisineria Americana), and pondweed (Potomageton crispus).
5. "Submerged aquatic vegetation meadows" means those habitats in coastal waters vegetated with one or more species of submerged aquatic vegetation.

§ 14-0107. New York ocean and Great Lakes ecosystem conservation council.

1. There is hereby created the New York ocean and Great Lakes ecosystem conservation council. The council shall consist of the following nine members: the commissioners of agriculture and markets, economic development, environmental conservation, general services, parks, recreation and historic preservation, and transportation; the secretary of state; the president of the energy research and development authority; and the chancellor of the state university of New York; or their respective designees.
2. The commissioner shall serve as chair of the council, and the deputy secretary of state for coastal resources shall serve as such council's executive director.
3. Members of the council shall receive no compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement for any necessary expenses incurred in connection with the performance of their duties.
4. The council shall meet at least quarterly.

§ 14-0109. Responsibilities of the council.

The New York ocean and Great Lakes ecosystem conservation council shall:

1. Promote the understanding, protection, restoration and enhancement of New York's ocean and Great Lakes ecosystems while promoting sustainable and competitive economic development and job creation;
2. Ensure that community needs and aspirations are accommodated, recognizing the interdependent goals of community well-being, environmental quality and economic viability;
3. Define and implement an adaptive approach building upon existing laws and programs to advance activities that affect coastal ecosystems in order to ensure the coexistence of healthy ecosystems with human activities;
4. Integrate and coordinate ecosystem-based management with existing laws and programs;
5. Develop guidelines for agency programs and activities that affect coastal ecosystems to advance the policy and principles delineated in section 14-0103 of this article;

6. Encourage scientific research and information sharing that will inform ecosystem-based management decisions and enhance ecosystem management capabilities;
7. Use New York's private and public academic, research and non-profit institutions more effectively in developing and advancing coastal ecosystem-based management;
8. Facilitate regional coordination and cooperation to address complex coastal resource issues which cross political and jurisdictional boundaries.

§ 14-0111. Report to the governor and legislature.

The New York ocean and Great Lakes ecosystem conservation council shall deliver a report to the governor and the legislature by November first, two thousand eight which shall:

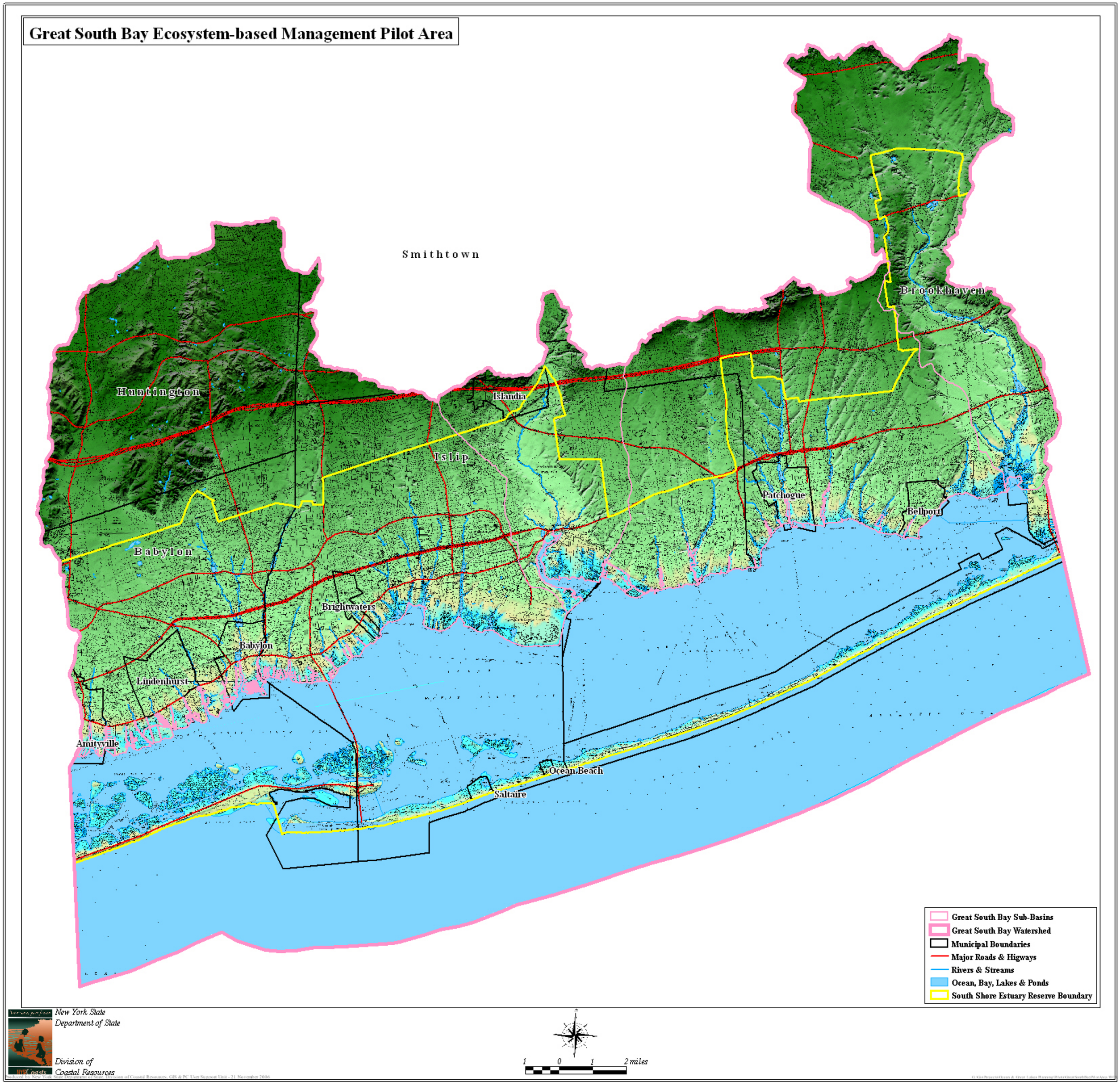
1. demonstrate improvements that can be accomplished in the eastern Lake Ontario and the Long Island great south bay coastal ecosystems through ecosystem-based management in cooperation with resource managers, local governments, industry, conservation and community-based organizations, and academic and research institutions;
2. define executive and legislative actions necessary to integrate ecosystem-based management with existing programs needed to advance the coastal ecosystem principles;
3. include a plan, schedule, and funding opportunities for implementation of executive actions necessary to advance the policy and principles in section 14-0103 of this article;
4. create an ocean and coastal resources atlas to make information available to the public and decision makers;
5. establish a research agenda that identifies priority issues in need of further research to enhance ecosystem-based management;
6. recommend actions to preserve, restore and protect submerged aquatic vegetation populations and meadows; and
7. identify opportunities for regional ecosystem-based management with neighboring states and the federal government.

§ 14-0113. State agency assistance.

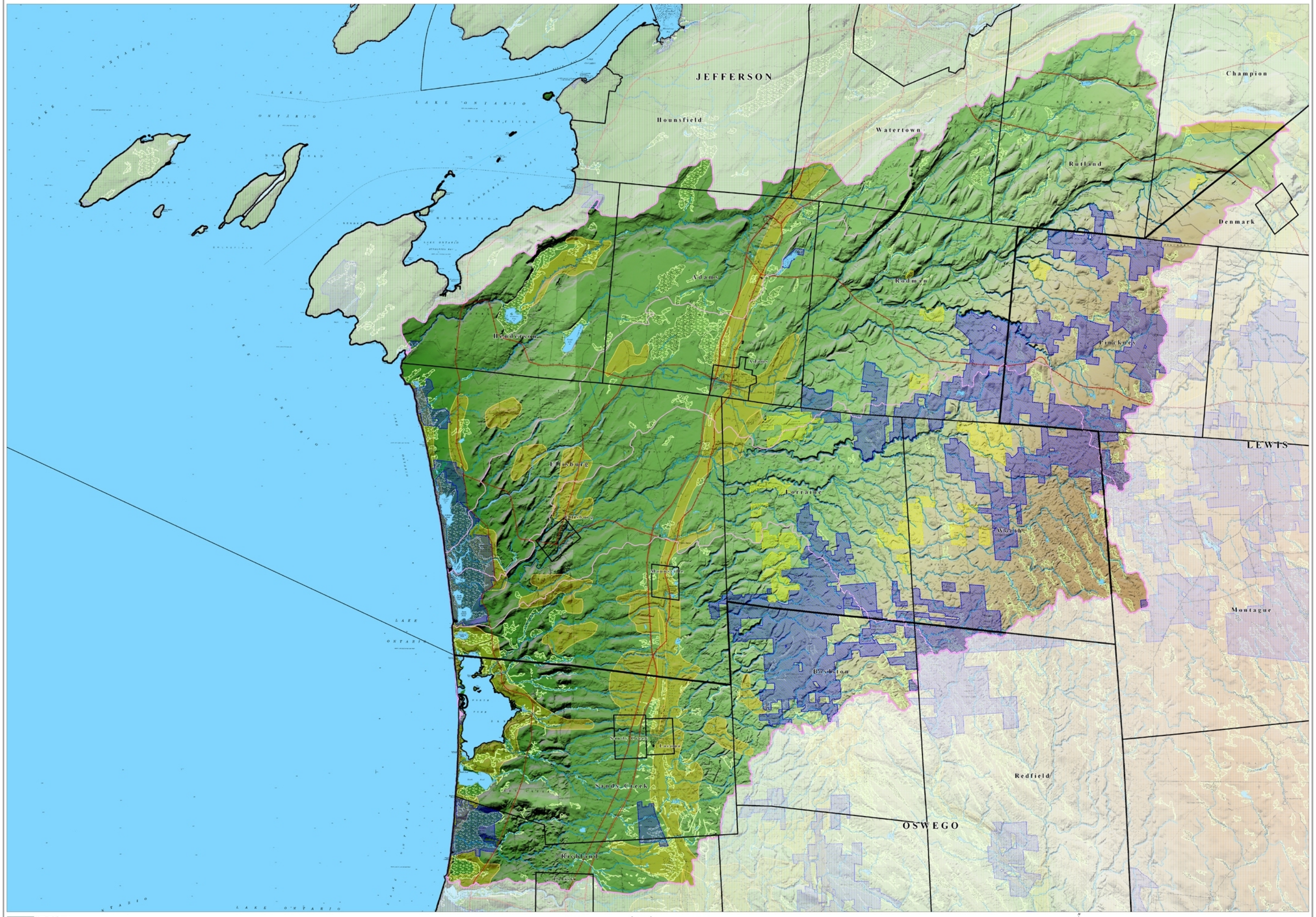
Any state agency, department, public benefit corporation or division, bureau or agency thereof may provide the council with the services of its agents, employees and facilities without charge to the council for the purpose of carrying out this article.

Appendix B:

MAPS OF
GREAT SOUTH BAY AND SANDY CREEKS
DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS


Great South Bay Ecosystem-based Management Pilot Area
Smithtown
Brookhaven
Huntington
Islandia
Islip
Patchogue
Bellport
Babylon
Brightwaters
Babylon
Lindenhurst
Amityville
Ocean Beach
Saltaire
Great South Bay Sub-Basins
Great South Bay Watershed
Municipal Boundaries
Major Roads & Higways
Rivers & Streams
Ocean, Bay, Lakes & Ponds
South Shore Estuary Reserve Boundary
New York State
Department of State
Division of
Coastal Resources
1 0 1 2 miles

Sandy Creeks Watersheds



Legend

- Sandy Creeks Watershed
- Sandy Creeks Sub-Basins
- Sandy Creeks Watershed Communities
- County Boundaries
- State Owned Lands
- State Campgrounds
- County Recreation Areas
- NYS Routes
- Lakes/Ponds
- Rivers/Creeks
- Freshwater Wetlands
- Aquifers

0 1 2 kilometers

New York State Department of State
Division of Coastal Resources

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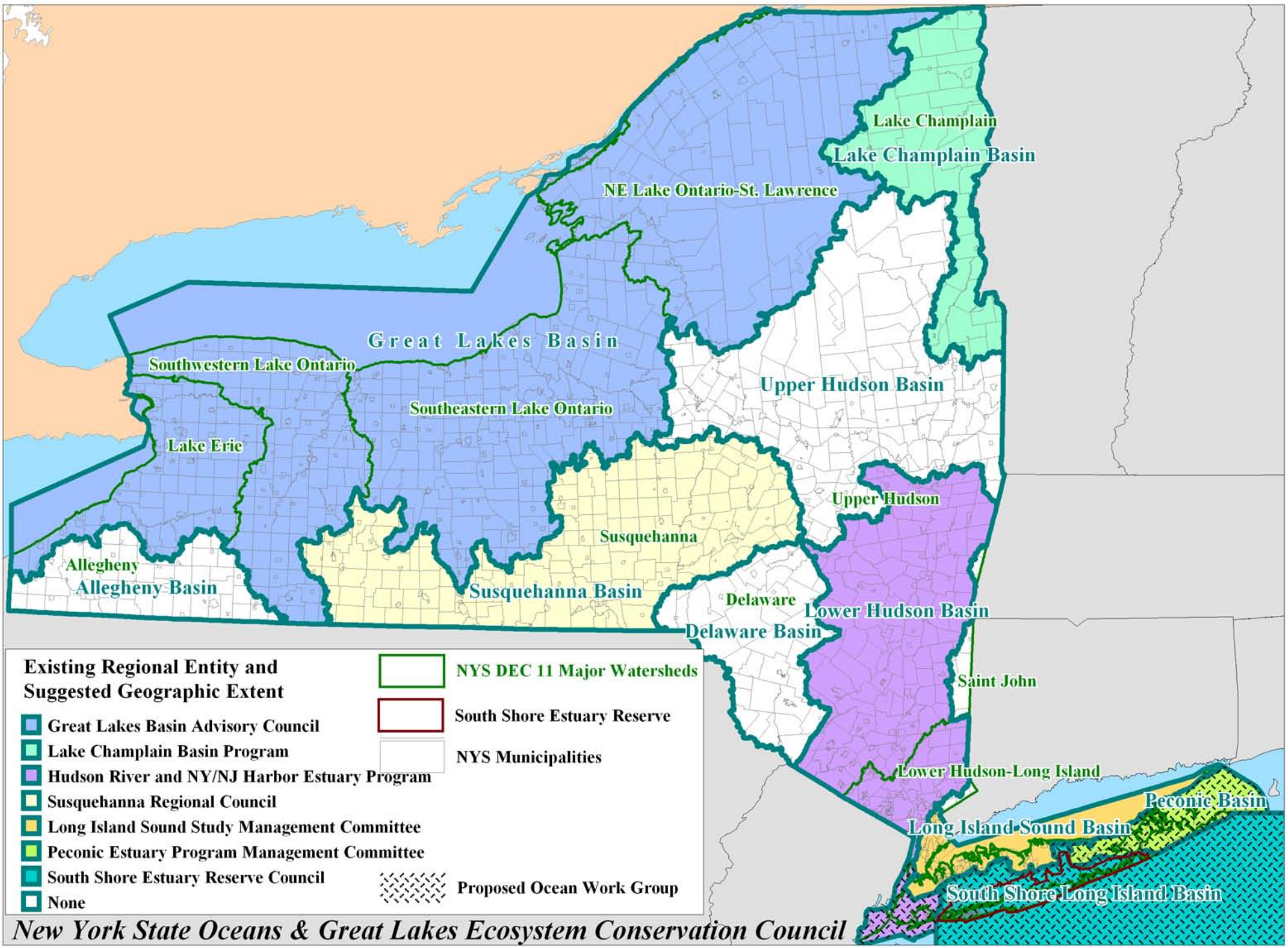
Appendix C:

MAP OF
NEW YORK STATE WATERSHED BASINS



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