

Coastal Ecological Restoration and Adaptation Plan (CERAP)

GOAL: To improve coastal New Jersey's ecosystem health, community resilience, and carbon sequestration.



The CERAP will identify areas of New Jersey's coast for future restoration, enhancement, or preservation to meet the goal of improved ecosystem health, community resilience and carbon sequestration.

OBJECTIVES:

The CERAP will utilize a participatory GIS approach to develop a Data Explorer that:

- Represents statewide collaboration between NJDEP and federal, state, county and local partners;
- Incorporates existing and prospective projects based on local knowledge and priorities;
- Characterizes and assesses prospective projects based on Issues of Concern (IOCs);
- Meets the decision-support needs of a broad set of users, including State agencies and regional and local partners; and,
- Guides NJDEP restoration priorities and state resources including funding and grant match.

KEY PRINCIPLES used in developing CERAP:

- Extension of previous efforts and lessons learned;
- Utilization of best available science and data; and,
- Iterative development, with an initial focus on marshes, estuaries, and back-bays.

The CERAP will inform and/or integrate with the State's:

- Coastal Resilience Plan
- Wildlife Action Plan
- Forest Action Plan
- Wetland Program Development Plan
- Protecting Against Climate Threats
- NJ Wetland Program Plan
- Wildlife Management Area Plans
- Blue and Green Acres
- State Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory
- Regulatory policy
- Watershed Management Plans and Projects
- The Watershed Resources Registry

The CERAP can inform Local, Academic and Nonprofit's:

- Grant applications
- Open Space programs
- Management Plans
- County and Local Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Strategic planning

Future updates could include:

- Additional resource areas
- Preliminary designs & cost estimates for projects