

**TOWN OF CHATHAM
SOUTH COASTAL HARBOR MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR
STAGE HARBOR, SOUTHWAY, AND NANTUCKET SOUND
2005**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Acknowledgements	i
List of Figures, Tables and Charts	v
Executive Summary and Recommendations	1
<u>SECTION I: FRAMEWORK OF THE PLAN</u>	
Chapter 1. Introduction	18
1.0 Overview	
1.1 Objectives of the Revised Plan	
1.2 Description of the Planning Area	
1.3 Benefits of Harbor Planning	
1.4 Vision and Goals	
1.5 Planning Process	
1.6 Organization of the Plan	
<u>SECTION II: STAGE HARBOR COMPLEX</u>	
Chapter 2A. Harbor Facilities and Activities: Management Issues and Recommendations	25
2A.0 Introduction	
2A.1 Town Landings and Access Points	
2A.2 Commercial Fishing Infrastructure	
2A.3 Marinas and Recreational Boating Facilities	
2A.4 Mooring Management	
2A.5 Regulation of Private Piers and Other Shoreline Structures	
2A.6 Dredging	
2A.7 Boating Safety & Navigation	
2A.8 Commercial and Recreational Shellfishing	
Chapter 2B. Natural and Cultural Resources: Management Issues and Recommendations	50
2B.0 Introduction	
2B.1 Wetlands and Eelgrass	
2B.2 Water Quality	
2B.3 Shellfish Resources	
2B.4 Land Use and Visual Character	

SECTION III: THE SOUTHWAY COMPLEX

Chapter 3. Harbor Facilities and Natural Resources: Management Issues and Recommendations	60
3.0 Introduction	
3.1 Harbor Facilities and Activities	
3.1.0 Town Landings and Access Points	
3.1.1 Boating Facilities and Activity	
3.1.2 Navigation	
3.2 Natural Resource Conditions	
3.2.0 Wetlands and Eelgrass	
3.2.1 Shellfish Resources and Commercial Shellfishing	
3.2.3 Wildlife	
3.2.4 Geomorphology of the Area	
3.3 Management Issues and Recommendations	
3.3.0 Continued Access	
3.3.1 Public Safety	
3.3.2 Habitat and Natural Resource Protection	

SECTION IV: THE NANTUCKET SOUND COMPLEX

Chapter 4. Harbor Facilities and Natural Resources: Management Issues and Recommendations	71
4.0 Introduction	
4.1 Harbor Facilities and Activities	
4.1.0 Public Beaches	
4.1.1 Town Landings and Moorings	
4.2 Natural Resources	
4.2.0 Water Quality and Wetlands	
4.2.1 Shoreline Processes	
4.2.3 Shellfish Resources	
4.3 Management Issues and Recommendations	
4.3.0 Shoreline Protection	
4.3.1 Maintenance of Public Beaches	
4.3.2 Protection of Habitat	
4.3.3 Boating and Navigation	

SECTION V: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Chapter 5. Implementation Plan	84
5.0 Implementation Oversight	
5.1 Matrix: Involved Parties, Resources, Priorities	

SOURCES

APPENDIX A: MAPS OF THE SOUTH COASTAL HARBOR MANAGEMENT AREA

Index of Figures

Figures 1 through 13

APPENDICES B-D

- B. Members of the Stage Harbor Management Plan Implementation Committee
- C. Secretarial Approval of the Stage Harbor Comprehensive Harbor Management Plan
- D. Public Comments on the Draft Plan and Responses

LIST OF FIGURES, TABLES AND CHARTS

Figures

The following maps were prepared for the South Coastal Harbor Management Plan by the Cape Cod Commission GIS Department. The maps are referred to throughout the plan, and are centrally located in Appendix A for ease of access.

- Figure 1. Harbor Planning Areas
- Figure 2. Regulatory Jurisdictions
- Figure 3. Public and Private Access Facilities
- Figure 4. Waterways Designations
- Figure 5. Fish Weir Permit Sites
- Figure 6. Shoreline Structures
- Figure 7. Shellfish Propagation Areas and Closed Areas
- Figure 8. Shellfish Habitat
- Figure 9. Shellfish Habitat
- Figure 10. Shellfish Habitat
- Figure 11. Coastal Submerged Rooted Vascular Plant Habitat
- Figure 12. Coastal Wetlands
- Figure 13. NHESP Habitats for Rare and Endangered Species

Tables

- Table 1. Public Access Points, Stage Harbor Complex
- Table 2. Marinas in the Stage Harbor Complex
- Table 3. Private Mooring Permits in the Stage Harbor Complex
- Table 4. Total Mooring Permits in the Stage Harbor Complex, 2002
- Table 5. Private Piers and Erosion Control Structures, Stage Harbor Complex
- Table 6. Change in Eelgrass Coverage, 1994 and 2000
- Table 7. Public Access Points, Southway
- Table 8. Boat Moorings and Slips, Southway
- Table 9. Public Beaches, Nantucket Sound
- Table 10. Town Landings, Nantucket Sound Complex
- Table 11. Mooring Permits, Nantucket Sound Complex

Charts

- Chart 1. Maintenance Dredging Volume, Stage Harbor Entrance Channel
- Chart 2. Shellfishing Permits Issued
- Chart 3. Quahog Harvest, Stage Harbor Complex
- Chart 4. Softshell Clam Harvest, Monomoy and Southway
- Chart 5. Quahog Harvest, Monomoy and Southway
- Chart 6. Quahog Harvest, South Chatham