



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Seagrass Management Strategy

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Seagrass Management Strategy

New York State Seagrass Task Force (2006)

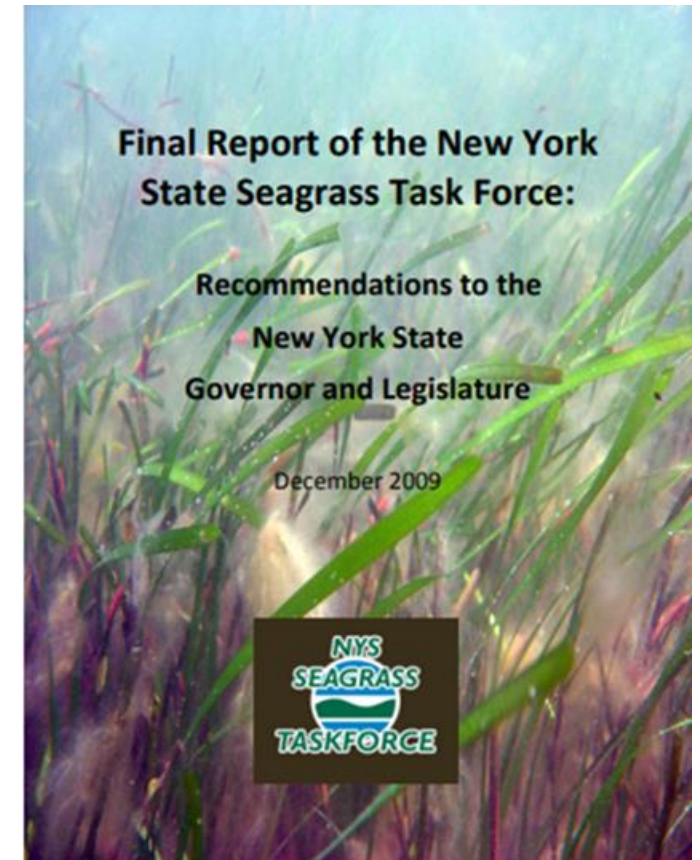
“To establish a task force that will examine and make recommendations on means of restoring, preserving, and properly managing seagrass.”

Final Report to Governor and Legislature (2009)

“Intended to serve as a management tool and planning guide for protecting and restoring seagrass habitats; it is a framework for the development of a statewide seagrass management initiative.”

Seagrass Protection Act (2012)

“The department shall designate seagrass management areas... For each designated seagrass management area, the department shall develop and adopt a seagrass management plan to guide the development of rules and regulations...Such plan shall be developed after consultation with local governments... and other stakeholders.”



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Form Seagrass Management Areas and Plans

- Collaborate with Estuary Programs, local municipalities, and other stakeholders
- Upcoming: Reconvening Seagrass Task Force Workgroup – Fall 2024



Seagrass Management Strategy

Establishing SMAs Process

1. Define the Legal Framework
 2. Engage Stakeholders
 3. Understand Resource Status
 4. Determine Boundaries of Area
5. Threat Identification & Prioritization
6. Develop Recommended Actions
7. Produce Management Strategies to Address Actions
 8. Finalize Management Plan
 9. Implement Management Plan



Seagrass Management Strategy

What can you do to help?

- Data - information to meet management needs
- Adaptive research to fill knowledge gaps
- Help define the relationship between Statewide Management Plan and site-specific management areas
- Provide connections to relevant stakeholders in your community

Thank You!!



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