

SCIENCE IN SUPPORT OF MANGEMENT, MANAGEMENT IN SUPPORT OF SCIENCE – THE LONG ISLAND SOUND EXPERIENCE

J. Latimer, M. Tedesco, R. Lawrence Swanson, P. Stacey, C. Yarish, C. Garza

Since 1987 Long Island Sound (LIS) has been part of EPA's National Estuary Program, and since 1994 it has been governed by a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan that provided for a strategic relationship between science and management. The Management Conference constituted and has since utilized a Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to develop recommendations for research, monitoring, and assessment priorities to address management needs. In 2007 the STAC initiated a process to produce a book that would synthesize the main insights gained over the past 25 years of scientific exploration of LIS. The book provides a summary of the main drivers, pressures, status, impacts, and management responses that impinge on the ecosystem. It also provides a vantage point from which the next generation of science-management professionals can work to better preserve, restore, and protect this valuable estuary and its watershed. Future management of LIS will need to assimilate progressive concepts such as ecosystem-based management and coastal and marine spatial planning, with well-established regulatory frameworks such as the Clean Water and Clean Air Acts.