



NFWF

Long Island Sound Futures Fund 2019 Grant Slate

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FUNDING PARTNERS

- Long Island Sound Study
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores our nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats. Created by Congress in 1984, NFWF directs public conservation dollars to the most pressing environmental needs and matches those investments with private funds. Learn more at www.nfwf.org

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Harp seal, Long Island Sound

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the Long Island Sound Study and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, announced a 2019 round of funding for Long Island Sound Futures Fund projects. Thirty-five new grants totaling \$2.6 million were awarded, leveraging \$3.8 million in grantee match and generating a total conservation impact of more than \$6.4 million.

The Long Island Sound is home to hundreds of species of fish, birds and other animals, and stretches across more than 110 miles, with 600 miles of coastline. Millions of people visit the sound each year to swim, boat and enjoy its beauty, enriching their own lives and stimulating the local economy. Despite improvements, Long Island Sound still suffers from oxygen-depleted zones, beach closures and other effects of pollution, as well as changes to its natural habitats. The coastal communities bordering the sound are among the most densely populated in the country and have a strong impact on water and habitat quality in the sound and its rivers and streams.

LISFF addresses such challenges by supporting regional and local projects in communities that aim to protect and restore the Long Island Sound. It unites federal and state agencies, foundations and corporations to achieve high-priority conservation objectives. Funded activities demonstrate a real, on-the-ground commitment to securing a healthy future for the Long Island Sound.

(continued)

CLEAN WATERS AND HEALTHY WATERSHEDS

New Strategies to Prevent Litter for a Trash Free Long Island Sound (CT)

Grantee: Yale University

Grant Amount:\$39,950

Matching Funds\$26,667

Total Amount:.....\$66,617

Install three types of litter traps and analyze the type and amount of litter in the traps in New Haven, Connecticut. Project will identify the best technology to trap litter and pinpoint sources of pollution from surrounding neighborhoods to inform management that better targets and prevents litter into New Haven Harbor and Long Island Sound.

Oyster Planting to Improve Water Quality (NY)

Grantee: Town of Brookhaven

Grant Amount:\$92,474

Matching Funds \$102,000

Total Amount:..... \$194,474

Plant 200,000 American oysters to assess their potential to remove nitrogen, phosphorus and carbon pollution from waters and repopulate a historic fishery in Port Jefferson Harbor, New York. Project will increase biofiltration by the oysters, which remove 130 pounds of nitrogen annually from a harbor of Long Island Sound.

Developing a Management Plan for a Subwatershed of Long Island Sound in Westchester County (NY)

Grantee: New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission

Grant Amount: \$100,000

Matching Funds\$67,000

Total Amount:..... \$167,000

Update the Pine, Stephenson and Burling brooks and Larchmont Harbor sub-watershed management plan in Westchester County, New York. Project will ensure that the causes and sources of nonpoint source pollution are identified, key stakeholders are involved in the planning, and restoration and protection strategies are identified that address local and Long Island Sound water quality problems.

Upgrading the South Hadley Wastewater Treatment Plant Decreasing Nitrogen into Long Island Sound (MA)

Grantee: Town of South Hadley

Grant Amount: \$132,600

Matching Funds\$88,400

Total Amount:..... \$221,000

Upgrade sensors and systems at the wastewater treatment plant, Chicopee, Massachusetts. Project will upgrade equipment that will provide the most up-to-date and accurate monitoring and management of dissolved oxygen and nitrogen



Blue heron and oysters

levels at the plant and decrease nitrogen discharge to Long Island Sound.

Advancing Deployment of the Nutrient Reclamation Project in the Long Island Sound Watershed-II (VT)

Grantee: Rich Earth Institute

Grant Amount:\$43,890

Matching Funds\$31,250

Total Amount:.....\$75,140

Identify new sites to install innovative nutrient reclamation and recycling technology in Windham County, Vermont. Project will expand the number of sites committing to install a technology designed to reduce nitrogen entering the Connecticut River and ultimately Long Island Sound.

Deploying a Nutrient Reclamation Project in the Long Island Sound Watershed-II (VT)

Grantee: Rich Earth Institute

Grant Amount:\$80,000

Matching Funds \$184,750

Total Amount:..... \$264,750

Install nutrient reclamation technology in Windham County and adjacent counties in Vermont. Project will divert 1,050 pounds of nitrogen annually from entering the Connecticut River and ultimately Long Island Sound

Delivery of the Septic Improvement Program in Long Island Sound Watershed Communities (CT, NY)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount: \$175,000

Matching Funds \$118,562

Total Amount:..... \$293,562

Support delivery of the Septic Improvement Program by engaging and assisting homeowners with all elements of the program to foster installation of modern on-site septic systems in Suffolk County, and share lessons learned with

Nassau and Westchester Counties in New York and with one local government in Connecticut. Project will expedite the installation of 40 advanced septic systems reducing nitrogen loads into Long Island Sound by 1,000 pounds annually.

Green Infrastructure at Webster Street Parking Lot to Improve Water Quality in Norwalk Harbor (CT)

Grantee: City of Norwalk, Connecticut
 Grant Amount: \$250,000
 Matching Funds \$400,000
Total Amount:..... \$650,000

Install green infrastructure as part of the repaving of a 5.4 acre public parking lot in the South Norwalk business district located near the Norwalk Harbor, which drains stormwater into Long Island Sound in Connecticut. Project will alleviate local flooding, increase tree canopy and prevent 6,700,000 gallons of stormwater and 12.20 pounds of nitrogen annually from flowing into the Sound.

Bioextraction of “Gold Coast” Kelp in the Oyster Bay Complex (NY)

Grantee: Adelphi University
 Grant Amount: \$103,917
 Matching Funds \$73,727
Total Amount:..... \$177,644

Analyze growth of and the potential for bioextraction of pollution by sugar kelp in Long Island’s Gold Coast in the Oyster Bay Complex, New York. Project will aim to maximize the growth of kelp as a natural systems approach to bioextract pollution and enhance the marine environment in Long Island Sound and its harbors and embayments.

Hempstead Harbor 2020 Water Quality Monitoring Program-XII (NY)

Grantee: Incorporated Village of Sea Cliff, New York
 Grant Amount: \$75,000
 Matching Funds \$58,572
Total Amount:..... \$133,572

Conduct water quality monitoring in Hempstead Harbor, Nassau County, New York. Project will inform management of Hempstead Harbor an embayment of Long Island Sound.

Deploying a Skimmer in Stamford Harbor for a Trash Free Long Island Sound (CT)

Grantee: SoundWaters
 Grant Amount: \$21,454
 Matching Funds \$19,400
Total Amount:..... \$40,854

Install a marine trash skimmer in Stamford Harbor, Stamford, Connecticut. Project will remove 3,190 pounds of floatable marine debris annually from Long Island Sound.



Beach in New Jersey

A Green New York City Playground for Public School 296Q and the Elmhurst Community (NY)

Grantee: The Trust for Public Land
 Grant Amount: \$191,755
 Matching Funds \$1,400,000
Total Amount: \$1,591,755

Deploy green infrastructure on a school playground at Public School 296Q in Elmhurst, Queens, New York. Project will enhance outdoor recreational green space and capture 1.5 million gallons of stormwater annually before it flows into Flushing Bay and Long Island Sound.

**THRIVING HABITATS AND ABUNDANT WILDLIFE
 Planning for Fish Passage at the Dana Dam (CT)**

Grantee: Connecticut Fund for the Environment
 Grant Amount: \$75,000
 Matching Funds \$75,000
Total Amount:..... \$150,000

Develop a plan to set the stage to remove one barrier to fish passage on the Norwalk River, Wilton, Connecticut. Project will set the stage to restore access to 6.5 miles of migratory riverine corridor for blueback herring, American shad, American eel and sea lamprey to Long Island Sound.

Bringing the Alewife Back to Alewife Cove (CT)

Grantee: Connecticut Fund for the Environment
 Grant Amount: \$187,282
 Matching Funds \$128,280
Total Amount:..... \$315,562

Remove a barrier to fish passage and educate and engage the community and students in project implementation and monitoring at Alewife Cove, New London, Connecticut. Project will restore three miles of riverine migratory corridor benefiting alewife, sea lamprey and American eel that migrate between rivers and Long Island Sound.

Planning for Fish Passage on Beaver Brook (CT)

Grantee: Town of Sprague

Grant Amount:\$48,900

Matching Funds\$48,499

Total Amount:.....\$97,399

Develop engineered plans to remove barriers to fish passage on Beaver Brook, Sprague, Connecticut. Project will address two barriers to fish migration at the mouth of the brook for alewife, blueback Herring, American eel, and sea lamprey along an important migratory riverine corridor of Long Island Sound.

Planning for Fish Passage at the Highland Pond Dam (CT)

Grantee: The Middlesex Land Trust

Grant Amount:\$51,390

Matching Funds\$51,000

Total Amount:..... \$102,390

Develop a design to remove one barrier to fish passage on the Sawmill Brook in Middletown, Connecticut. Project will set the stage to restore access to one mile of spawning and nursery habitat along a migratory riverine corridor for alewife, blueback herring, American eel and sea lamprey to Long Island Sound.

Planning for Fish Passage at Papermill Pond Dam (CT)

Grantee: Thames Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Grant Amount:\$53,500

Matching Funds\$63,280

Total Amount:..... \$116,780

Conduct an engineering alternatives analysis, prepare designs, and commence pre-application consultations with federal and state agencies to advance installation of a fishway on the Papermill Pond dam, Sprague, Connecticut. Project will set the stage for how to address a large barrier to fish migration to Long Island Sound inaccessible for over 150 years.

Planning for Fish-Friendly and Flood Resilient Road-Stream Crossings in the Naugatuck Valley (CT)

Grantee: Housatonic Valley Association

Grant Amount:\$67,097

Matching Funds\$45,750

Total Amount:..... \$112,847

Create road-stream crossing management plans for three towns with historic runs of diadromous fish in the Naugatuck Valley, Connecticut. Project will be officially adopted by each community as part of natural hazard mitigation planning, and serve as a tool for securing support and financing for future road-stream crossing replacement projects.



Alewives

Coastal Habitat Restoration Planning for Salt Marsh & Nesting Birds in Long Island Sound (CT, NY)

Grantee: National Audubon Society

Grant Amount:\$50,498

Matching Funds\$50,546

Total Amount:..... \$101,044

Assess and identify priority high salt marsh restoration sites along the coast of Long Island Sound in Connecticut and New York. Project will set the stage to restore salt marsh that buffers coastal communities from storms and provides habitat for nesting bird species such as salt marsh sparrow through effective coastal management planning.

Creating Thriving Habitats for the Shorebirds of Long Island Sound (CT)

Grantee: Connecticut Audubon Society

Grant Amount:\$75,000

Matching Funds\$50,010

Total Amount:..... \$125,010

Provide education and deliver targeted stewardship of American oystercatcher and other migratory shorebirds and habitat along the Long Island Sound coastline of Connecticut. Project will increase public awareness about the value of sharing the shore with birds among recreational users and reduce disturbance to the birds' breeding and roosting sites.

Restoring Native Plants to the Bronx River (NY)

Grantee: Bronx River Alliance, Inc.

Grant Amount:\$76,276

Matching Funds:\$191,678

Total Amount:..... \$267,954

Project Summary: Combat invasive plants and replant native plants engaging volunteers from a newly created Riparian Invasive Plant Patrol along the shoreline of the lower Bronx River, Bronx, New York. Project will restore healthy, functioning riparian habitat.

EDUCATING TO ENGAGE SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Green Infrastructure to Improve Water Quality and Coastal Resilience in Bridgeport (CT)

Grantee: State of Connecticut

Grant Amount: \$250,000

Matching Funds \$167,000

Total Amount: \$417,000

Install green infrastructure in the Seaside Park neighborhood of Bridgeport, Connecticut. Project will convey, infiltrate and filter stormwater from a pump station which is part of a coastal flood defense system, improve water quality in Bridgeport Harbor and Long Island Sound by reducing stormwater runoff, and address flooding in the South End of the city.

Coastal Resiliency Action Strategy and Hazard Planning (CT)

Grantee: City of Groton

Grant Amount: \$50,596

Matching Funds \$33,731

Total Amount: \$84,327

Identify tools for a strategic plan to address vulnerabilities and risks to coastal resilience in Connecticut. Project will provide actions to improve the City's response to future storms and sea level rise.

Sliver by the River: Planning for Greening the Pequonnock River on the Bridgeport Waterfront (CT)

Grantee: The Trust for Public Land

Grant Amount: \$85,113

Matching Funds \$170,000

Total Amount: \$255,113

Develop an alternatives analysis about the type of green infrastructure to add to the coastal hazard mitigation plan for a three-acre sliver of land along the Pequonnock River, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Project will set the stage for improving water quality and enhancing community resilience to storms and floods in an urban coastal community of Long Island Sound.

Healthy Lawns, Healthy Rivers for a Healthy Long Island Sound (CT)

Grantee: Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

Grant Amount: \$15,637

Matching Funds \$17,664

Total Amount: \$33,301

Conduct a social marketing program for residents aiming to reduce or eliminate the use of fertilizer on lawns in the Niantic River watershed of Long Island Sound in East Lyme and Waterford, Connecticut. Project will prevent 10,000 pounds of nitrogen from fertilizer flowing into the Niantic River and ultimately Long Island Sound.



Long Island Sound

Enhancing Community Education and Stewardship in Flushing Bay (NY)

Grantee: Guardians of Flushing Bay

Grant Amount: \$48,250

Matching Funds \$41,425

Total Amount: \$89,675

Construct a living dock and develop the Flushing Waterways Stewardship Kit in Flushing Bay and Creek, Queens, New York. Project will engage environmental stewardship of Flushing Bay, an urban tidal embayment of Long Island Sound

Engaging Communities in "RiverSmart" Stormwater Management in the Pequabuck River Watershed (CT)

Grantee: Farmington River Watershed Association

Grant Amount: \$34,560

Matching Funds \$29,172

Total Amount: \$63,732

Conduct the RiverSmart education program connecting the story of local storm drains to the problem of stormwater pollution into local waterways that feed Long Island Sound and install green infrastructure in Bristol Connecticut. Project will educate adults and youth groups about everyday actions people can take to reduce polluted stormwater from inland communities into the Sound.

Engaging Student Citizen Scientists (CT)

Grantee: Earthplace - The Nature Discovery Center

Grant Amount: \$50,000

Matching Funds \$45,011

Total Amount: \$95,011

Engage 56 student citizen scientists in five experiential learning programs about water quality and Long Island Sound ecology using rivers, harbors, and the Sound as outdoor classrooms, and make public presentations about their research at public events in Fairfield County, Connecticut. Project will train students in conservation science, and improve public knowledge and understanding of the Sound.

Green Infrastructure and Coastal Resilience Planning in Long Island Sound Coastal Communities (NY)

Grantee: Pace University

Grant Amount:\$46,521
 Matching Funds\$34,627
Total Amount:.....\$81,148

Deliver a leadership education program for municipal officials focused on local land use planning to encourage the use of a combination of green infrastructure and coastal resilience practices in Westchester County, New York. Project will integrate innovative planning that provides the co-benefit of improving local water quality and enhancing community resilience to storms, floods and sea level rise.

Delivery of the Long Island Sound Community Stewardship Fund Program-II (CT, NY)

Grantee: Long Island Community Foundation

Grant Amount: \$100,000
 Matching Funds \$100,000
Total Amount:..... \$200,000

Deliver the Long Island Sound Stewardship Fund of the Long Island Sound Funders Collaborative (LISFC) in the Long Island Sound Study boundaries of Connecticut and New York. Project will enhance the partnership between LISFC and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency around the common mission of restoring and protecting the health and living resources of the Sound based upon the Long Island Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

A “Sound” Long Island Sound Education and Field Studies Program for Urban Communities (CT)

Grantee: Friends of Outer Island

Grant Amount: \$5,000
 Matching Funds \$3,886
Total Amount:..... \$8,886

Deliver a ten event experiential education series to immerse 385 students, teachers, families, and the public primarily from urban New Haven about environmental challenges faced by Long Island Sound in the footprint of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuge island unit offshore of Branford, Connecticut. Project will foster knowledge about Long Island Sound water quality, sustainability and coastal resilience among urban audiences.

Long Island Sound – Stewards in Training (CT)

Grantee: Sea Research Foundation

Grant Amount: \$9,655
 Matching Funds \$8,936
Total Amount:.....\$18,591

Provide 16 educational programs for middle and high school students and their teachers to expose them to Long Island Sound and STEM career resources, engaging them in hands-on scientific activities and mentorship from working professionals

at Mystic Aquarium, Connecticut. Project will open pathways for youth to achieve a better understanding of their connection with Long Island Sound and to green careers in the watershed.

Analyzing How to Increase Use of Reusable Bags to Reduce Plastic Pollution into the Sound (CT)

Grantee: Citizens Campaign Fund for the Environment

Grant Amount:\$10,000
 Matching Funds \$7,000
Total Amount:.....\$17,000

Conduct an analysis in twelve towns to collect qualitative information about use of plastic, paper and reusable bags to determine the most effective ways to promote use of reusable bags in Fairfield and New Haven County, Connecticut. Project will provide information about how to reduce the use of plastic bags among consumers and businesses to decrease one source of plastic entering Long Island Sound.

Sound Effects: A Public Conservation Education Program –II (NY)

Grantee: The Whaling Museum Society

Grant Amount: \$9,865
 Matching Funds \$5,050
Total Amount:.....\$14,915

Design and host a public education series for 300 adults, families and elementary school students with hands-on learning and conservation activities in Cold Spring Harbor, New York. Project will foster appreciation of Long Island Sound among a diverse range of people who will gain a stronger understanding of their impact on and need for stewardship of the Sound.

Long Island Sound’s Fresh Pond Festival (NY)

Grantee: Salonga Wetland Advocates Network, Inc.

Grant Amount: \$5,700
 Matching Funds \$3,800
Total Amount:..... \$9,500

Conduct a festival and shoreline cleanup in Fort Salonga, New York. Project will increase public awareness of and commitment to restoration and protection of the environment of Long Island Sound.

Students Working On-the-Water to Restore Tidal Wetlands along the Bronx River (NY)

Grantee: Rocking the Boat, Inc.

Grant Amount:\$37,274.41
 Matching Funds:\$35,318.83
Total Amount:..... \$72,593.24

Engage students to enhance nearby tidal wetlands including activities on-the-water in wooden boats constructed at the Rocking the Boat facility and educate community members of all ages about the ecological value of this natural habitat to the Bronx River and Long Island Sound in Hunts Point, New York.