



Long Island Sound Futures Fund — CT, VT

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PARTNERS

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

ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 5,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$6.8 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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The Futures Fund supports habitat restoration along the Pequonnock River and other waterways.

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) in partnership with the Long Island Sound Study, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Long Island Sound Funders Collaborative, announced a 2021-year round of funding for Long Island Sound Futures Fund projects. Thirty-nine new grants totaling \$5.4 million were awarded. The 39 awards announced generated \$4.8 million in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of \$10.2 million.

Twenty-two grants included in the 2021 slate were awarded to projects in Connecticut and Vermont, representing a total NFWF investment of \$2.8 million. The awards in these portions of New England leveraged \$2.4 million in matching contributions to generate a total conservation impact of \$5.2 million.

Long Island Sound is the second largest estuary on the East Coast and one of North America's most biologically diverse — an amazing fact — considering that more than 23 million people live within 50 miles of the sound. Its watershed stretches 16,820 square miles across five states. Fresh water from 16,000 miles of rivers fuel the sound's productivity. Its waters and surrounding lands are busy and complex, playing a vital role in the environment and in the lives of residents.

The LISFF supports efforts to test innovative approaches to conservation, deliver transformative projects and support people and communities who value the sound and take a direct role in its future.

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CLEAN WATERS AND HEALTHY WATERSHEDS**Planning to Reduce Water Pollution in the North Branch Park River Watershed (CT)**

Grantee: North Central Conservation District

Grant Amount:.....\$307,154

Matching Funds:.....\$612,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$919,154

Enhance a watershed management plan by developing green infrastructure designs in the North Branch Park River watershed in Hartford, Connecticut. Project will advance the delivery of on-the-ground projects to improve water quality upstream in the river and downstream to Long Island Sound.

Planning for Greening the Yellow Mill Channel to Improve Water Quality in Bridgeport and Long Island Sound (CT)

Grantee: The Trust for Public Land

Grant Amount:.....\$120,509

Matching Funds:.....\$120,509

Total Project Amount:.....\$241,018

Develop a collaborative community-driven analysis to select the preferred types of green infrastructure to be used at a waterfront site, 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.

Improving Water Quality with Green Infrastructure and Multilingual Community Outreach (CT)

Grantee: Housatonic Valley Association

Grant Amount:.....\$86,640

Matching Funds:.....\$58,471

Total Project Amount:.....\$145,111

Install rain gardens at five Housatonic Habitat for Humanity homes and one community facility and conduct multilingual education about green infrastructure in western Connecticut. Project will showcase attractive landscaping that improves water quality and actions individuals can take to contribute to healthier local waters and the Long Island Sound.

From Rain Gardens to Riparian Buffers: Pollinator Pathways for a Healthy Long Island Sound (CT)

Grantee: Eastern Connecticut Conservation District

Grant Amount:.....\$136,160

Matching Funds:.....\$89,888

Total Project Amount:.....\$226,048

Install rain gardens and riparian waterway buffers along two pollinator pathways through Groton, Stonington, Ledyard and Preston, Connecticut. Project will engage 6,400 community members with educational workshops, create habitat for native pollinators, and improve the quality of waters flowing into Long Island Sound.

Community-driven Stormwater Green Infrastructure Design in Bridgeport (CT)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:.....\$174,363

Matching Funds:.....\$124,299

Total Project Amount:.....\$298,662

Develop a Green Stormwater Infrastructure Action Plan with community-driven design neighborhoods surrounding the West Side Water Pollution Control Facility Bridgeport, Connecticut. Project will identify a portfolio of projects in collaboration with Bridgeport youth and community members to improve the water quality of Long Island Sound.

Improving Water Quality through Green Infrastructure in Quanaaduck Cove and Long Island Sound (CT)

Grantee: Eastern Connecticut Conservation District

Grant Amount:.....\$59,493

Matching Funds:.....\$44,279

Total Project Amount:.....\$103,772

Install green infrastructure and apply other stormwater management tools at a coastal condominium complex in Quanaaduck Cove, Stonington, Connecticut. Project will prevent 43,560 gallons of stormwater pollution from entering Stonington Harbor and Long Island Sound annually.

Removing Derelict Oyster Gear to Reduce Marine Debris in Long Island Sound-II (CT, NY)

Grantee: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County

Grant Amount:.....\$115,841

Matching Funds:.....\$77,095

Total Project Amount:.....\$192,936

Remove derelict lobster fishing gear from 18 square miles of marine waters in Connecticut and New York. Project will collect 43.5 metric tons of marine debris, restoring the marine environment of Long Island Sound.

Wetland Mapping to Prevent Nitrogen Pollution from the Connecticut River to Long Island Sound (VT)

Grantee: Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Grant Amount:.....\$210,456

Matching Funds:.....\$140,164

Total Project Amount:.....\$350,620

Create water resource maps and provide education about the mapping tool in the Connecticut River Basin, Vermont. Project will inform development of targeted local nitrogen pollution prevention projects in wetlands at a watershed and site-scale that benefit the Connecticut River and Long Island Sound.

Pocket Wetland Restoration Planning to Prevent Nitrogen Pollution in Long Island Sound-II (VT)

Grantee: Vermont Association of Conservation Districts

Grant Amount:.....\$203,199

Matching Funds:.....\$134,112

Total Project Amount:.....\$337,310

Design wetland restoration projects in agricultural fields in Vermont's Connecticut River Basin. Project will result in designs to ultimately restore freshwater wetlands and reduce nitrogen pollution runoff from farms into the Connecticut River and downstream to Long Island Sound.

Engaging Vermont Communities to Develop Nitrogen Prevention Projects in Long Island Sound (VT)

Grantee: Connecticut River Watershed Council

Grant Amount:.....\$250,000

Matching Funds:.....\$168,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$418,000

Conduct outreach and deliver technical assistance to private landowners in the Connecticut River watershed, Vermont. Project will develop designs for projects to reduce nitrogen pollution into the Connecticut River and downstream to Long Island Sound.

THRIVING HABITATS AND ABUNDANT WILDLIFE

Renovate to Restore Fish Passage at the Jordan Millpond Dam Fishway (CT)

Grantee: Town of Waterford

Grant Amount:.....\$60,000

Matching Funds:.....\$44,999

Total Project Amount:.....\$104,999

Renovate a damaged fishway to restore fish passage at Jordan Millpond dam, Waterford, Connecticut. Project will reconnect 2.75 miles of river corridor benefiting alewives that migrate between rivers and Long Island Sound.

Restoring Fish Passage at the Upper Mill Pond Dam (CT)

Grantee: Town of Clinton

Grant Amount:.....\$58,850

Matching Funds:.....\$40,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$98,850

Develop a plan to install a fishway at the Upper Mill Pond Dam in Clinton, Connecticut. Project will set the stage to restore access to 5.2 miles of riverine corridor for river herring and American eel spawning and migration to Long Island Sound.

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

Grantee: Save the Sound

Grant Amount:.....\$109,618

Matching Funds:.....\$73,371

Total Project Amount:.....\$182,989

Create six Road-Stream Crossing Management Plans in the Naugatuck Valley watershed, Connecticut. Project will be developed in concert with each town and serve as a basis



Sandpiper fly in formation along the coast of Connecticut.

for securing financing for future projects to benefit these communities and fisheries of the watershed and Long Island Sound.

Shell Recycling Planning to Restore Long Island Sound Oyster Reefs and Shorelines (CT)

Grantee: University of Connecticut

Grant Amount:.....\$155,900

Matching Funds:.....\$106,293

Total Project Amount:.....\$262,193

Develop a local shell recycling program in Groton and Mystic, Connecticut. Project will engage local restaurants to generate shell for future habitat restoration projects around Long Island Sound.

Restoring the Headwaters of Sasco Brook to Improve the Health of Downstream Long Island Sound (CT)

Grantee: Connecticut Audubon Society

Grant Amount:.....\$147,388

Matching Funds:.....\$108,362

Total Project Amount:.....\$255,750

Restore 14.5 acres of coastal forest and meadow at the Roy and Margot Larsen Wildlife Sanctuary in Fairfield, Connecticut. Project improve the environment of coastal forest an important habitat of Long Island Sound.

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Creating Thriving Habitats for the Coastal Birds of Long Island Sound-VIII (CT)

Grantee: Connecticut Audubon Society

Grant Amount:.....\$105,809
Matching Funds:.....\$120,563
Total Project Amount:.....\$226,372

Deliver targeted stewardship and provide education on 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 these birds among recreational users and reduce disturbance to the birds' breeding and roosting sites on the Sound.

EDUCATING TO ENGAGE SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Coastal Resilience and Sustainability Plan for the Mystic Waterfront (CT)

Grantee: Town of Groton

Grant Amount:.....\$90,000
Matching Funds:.....\$60,000
Total Project Amount:.....\$150,000

Develop a resiliency and sustainability plan for Mystic, Connecticut. Project will produce a strategy to address sea-level rise and climate change in this coastal community of Long Island Sound.

Urban Youth Stewardship of Great Meadows Marsh on Long Island Sound (CT)

Grantee: National Audubon Society

Grant Amount:.....\$59,742
Matching Funds:.....\$60,369
Total Project Amount:.....\$120,111

Employ urban youth to restore habitat at Great Meadows Marsh at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge in Stratford, Connecticut. Project will result in stewardship activities that improve marshes, and increase both species diversity and the diversity of future conservation professionals for Long Island Sound.

Citizen Opportunities for Accessing Science Training on the Sound (COASTS) (CT)

Grantee: University of New Haven

Grant Amount:.....\$74,215
Matching Funds:.....\$49,428
Total Project Amount:.....\$123,643

Deliver community environmental training and education about the marine environment of Long Island Sound in New Haven and West Haven, Connecticut. Project will equip community members with knowledge to share about their "blue backyard" of local waters and Long Island Sound.

Partnering with Communities in Urban Waters to Enhance Stewardship of Long Island Sound (CT)

Grantee: Southwest Conservation District

Grant Amount:.....\$90,415
Matching Funds:.....\$60,000
Total Project Amount:.....\$150,415

Collaborate with four Conservation Districts in internal environmental justice training; and partner with environmental justice communities to identify five water quality projects of value locally and to Long Island Sound, Connecticut. Project will increase awareness and understanding of diversity, equity, and environmental justice issues, increase capacity for future water quality project work, and enhance stewardship of local waters.

Engaging Student Community Scientists for Long Island Sound-V (CT)

Grantee: Earthplace - The Nature Discovery Center

Grant Amount:.....\$52,614
Matching Funds:.....\$36,820
Total Project Amount:.....\$89,434

Engage 92 student citizen scientists in six experiential learning programs about water quality and Long Island Sound ecology using rivers, harbors, and the Sound as outdoor classrooms in Fairfield County, Connecticut. Project will expose students to careers in conservation science, and improve public knowledge and understanding of the Sound.

SOUND SCIENCE AND INCLUSIVE MANAGEMENT

Water Quality Monitoring to Improve Fairfield County Waterways and Long Island Sound-VII (CT)

Grantee: Earthplace - The Nature Discovery Center

Grant Amount:.....\$99,964
Matching Funds:.....\$98,943
Total Project Amount:.....\$198,907

Conduct water quality monitoring to help improve waters affected by pollution in Fairfield County, Connecticut. Project data will be used by local government to reduce sewage pollution in communities with waters that drain into Long Island Sound.