



Long Island Sound Futures Fund — NY

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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

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Hempstead Harbor citizen-scientists have been monitoring local water quality since 1992.

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.

Eighteen grants included in the 2021 slate were awarded to projects in the state of New York, representing a total NFWF investment of \$2.8 million. The awards in New York 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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Community stewards protect 9,500 pairs of nesting common terns on Great Gull Island in New York.

CLEAN WATERS AND HEALTHY WATERSHEDS

Reducing Marine Debris in Long Island Sound Deploying Innovative Floating Litter Traps (NY)

Grantee: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County
Grant Amount:..... \$81,341
Matching Funds:..... \$54,295
Total Project Amount:..... \$135,636
Deploy “Seabin” floating litter traps in Oyster Bay and Hempstead Harbor, New York. Project will remove 1,800 pounds of marine debris and pilot innovative technology to address litter and other forms of floatable pollution in marinas and ports around Long Island Sound.

Oyster Planting to Improve Water Quality in Long Island Sound-II (NY)

Grantee: Town of Brookhaven
Grant Amount:..... \$79,640
Matching Funds:..... \$87,500
Total Project Amount:..... \$167,140
Plant 200,000 American oysters and assess their potential to both remove or “bioextract” pollution and repopulate a historic fishery in Port Jefferson Harbor, New York. Project will remove 130 pounds of nitrogen pollution annually from a harbor of Long Island Sound.

Green Infrastructure to Improve Water Quality in Northport Harbor and Long Island Sound (NY)

Grantee: Citizens Campaign Fund for the Environment
Grant Amount:..... \$60,001
Matching Funds:..... \$45,000
Total Project Amount:..... \$105,001
Install 27,334 square feet of green infrastructure in Northport, New York. Project will install a bioretention rain garden to capture, store, and filter contaminants and 17,040 gallons of stormwater from Northport Harbor and Long Island Sound.

Innovative Green Infrastructure and Coastal Resilience Design for Flushing Creek (NY)

Grantee: Guardians of Flushing Bay
Grant Amount:..... \$203,934
Matching Funds:..... \$136,517
Total Project Amount:..... \$340,451
Develop a green infrastructure and living shoreline design in collaboration with the community for a project along Flushing Creek, Queens, New York. Project will integrate innovative nature-based techniques that can be applied along urban waterfronts to improve water quality, filter stormwater, enhance shoreline resilience, and connect communities to local waterways and Long Island Sound.

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Preventing Pollution with Green Infrastructure in Wells Brook and Long Island Sound (NY)

Grantee: Housatonic Valley Association

Grant Amount:..... \$51,313
Matching Funds:..... \$34,500
Total Project Amount:..... \$85,813

Construct green infrastructure in a paved area at two commercial locations near Wells Brook, Town of Dover, New York. Project will prevent 17.28 pounds of nitrogen annually from entering the Wells Brook, a tributary of two rivers that flow downstream to Long Island Sound.

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.

THRIVING HABITATS AND ABUNDANT WILDLIFE

Expanding Oyster Spawning Sanctuaries in Oyster Bay and Cold Spring Harbor (NY)

Grantee: Friends of the Bay

Grant Amount:..... \$86,815
Matching Funds:..... \$65,318
Total Project Amount:..... \$152,134

Expand and monitor oyster spawning sanctuaries in the Oyster Bay-Cold Spring Harbor Complex, New York. Project will contribute to the restoration of these native shellfish and their habitat in Long Island Sound.

Restoring Big Rock Wetland for Marsh and Community Resilience, Phase I (NY)

Grantee: Save the Sound

Grant Amount:..... \$604,461
Matching Funds:..... \$403,025
Total Project Amount:..... \$1,007,486

Establish a natural shoreline along Memorial Field in Udalls Cove, Little Neck Bay, Queens, New York. Project will restore the shoreline to reduce erosion from storms and engage the local community, public schools, and university students in environmental stewardship.

Designing Oyster Reef Restoration Sites on City Island and Long Island Sound (NY)

Grantee: City Island Oyster Reef

Grant Amount:..... \$263,750
Matching Funds:..... \$176,913
Total Project Amount:..... \$440,663

Complete design and permitting for two oyster reefs and conduct public environmental education and stewardship activities in City Island, Bronx, New York. Project will set the



A citizen-scientist prepares to monitor water quality.

stage to restore wild oysters and an important coastal habitat of Long Island Sound.

Marshes and Mussels: New Tools to Enhance Coastal Restoration and Resilience (NY)

Grantee: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County

Grant Amount:..... \$249,046
Matching Funds:..... \$480,561
Total Project Amount:..... \$729,606

Deploy new methods combining ribbed mussels and cordgrass to restore degraded shoreline marshes in Centerport Harbor, New York. Project will provide an innovative tool for natural living shoreline restoration to enhance community coastal resilience around Long Island Sound.

Developing a Conservation and Climate Adaptation Plan for Great Gull Island (NY)

Grantee: University of Connecticut

Grant Amount:..... \$399,997
Matching Funds:..... \$289,633
Total Project Amount:..... \$689,630

Develop a climate and shoreline adaptation, monitoring, and management plan for common and roseate terns at Great Gull Island, New York. Project will establish a roadmap for conservation of rare species of Long Island Sound.

Restoring Coastal Grassland at the William Cullen Bryant Preserve (NY)

Grantee: Nassau County Museum of Art

Grant Amount:..... \$80,374
Matching Funds:..... \$64,530
Total Project Amount:..... \$144,904

Restore coastal grassland and use the restored grassland to educate visitors about the environment at the William Cullen Bryant Preserve, Roslyn Harbor, New York. Project will restore an important coastal habitat of Long Island Sound.

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Engaging Community Stewards to Manage Coastal Forest in Seton Falls Park (NY)

Grantee: Natural Areas Conservancy

Grant Amount:..... \$62,277

Matching Funds:..... \$66,600

Total Project Amount:..... \$128,877

Train and educate local stewards to enhance 32 acres of coastal forest, Seton Falls Park, Bronx, New York. Project will enhance long-term stewardship and refine strategies for community natural resources management of this forest, an important coastal habitat of Long Island Sound.

EDUCATING TO ENGAGE SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Engaging Local Youth Through Seaweed Farming to Improve Water Quality in the Long Island Sound (NY)

Grantee: Rocking the Boat

Grant Amount:..... \$72,163

Matching Funds:..... \$48,459

Total Project Amount:..... \$120,622

Install a seaweed farm engaging 120 young people in growing, harvesting, and producing nitrogen-rich fertilizer for community gardens and other organizations on the Bronx River, New York. Project will demonstrate a model to reduce nitrogen pollution by seaweed “bioextraction” and create an alternative to synthetic fertilizers to improve water quality in the Bronx River and Long Island Sound.

Bronx River Environmental Enrichment and Leadership for Students (EELS) (NY)

Grantee: Bronx River Alliance

Grant Amount:..... \$77,556

Matching Funds:..... \$170,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$247,556

Connect students with learning and professional development opportunities and college credit through the Bronx River Environmental Enrichment and Leadership for Students (EELS) program in the Bronx, New York. Project will introduce a more diverse community of young people to conservation education and career experiences focused on the Bronx River and Long Island Sound.

Developing a Long Island Sound Student Action Plan-II (NY)

Grantee: Citizens Campaign Fund for the Environment

Grant Amount:..... \$100,000

Matching Funds:..... \$70,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$170,000

Deliver hands-on environmental education and stewardship activities focused on addressing challenges to restoration and protection of the health and living resources of Long Island Sound, New York. Project will develop the next generation of environmental leaders.



A participant of the “Be a Good Egg” program displays her work.

Be a Good Egg: Share the Shore with Shorebirds around Long Island Sound-V (NY)

Grantee: National Audubon Society

Grant Amount:..... \$62,562

Matching Funds:..... \$50,455

Total Project Amount:..... \$113,017

Deliver “Be a Good Egg,” an environmental education program in the Long Island Sound watershed of New York. The project will increase support for coastal conservation and engage people in actions that help shorebirds thrive in important coastal habitats of the Sound.

SOUND SCIENCE AND INCLUSIVE MANAGEMENT

Hempstead Harbor Water Quality Monitoring Program-XIV (NY)

Grantee: Incorporated Village of Sea Cliff, New York

Grant Amount:..... \$100,000

Matching Funds:..... \$93,496

Total Project Amount:..... \$193,496

Conduct water quality monitoring in Hempstead Harbor, Nassau County, New York. Project will inform management of Hempstead Harbor, a waterbody that feeds Long Island Sound.