THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS

SAVE THE BAY®
NARRAGANSETT BAY

LightHawk
Four primary regions:
- Atlantic/Midwest
- Rockies
- Pacific
- Central-America

Flight Types:
- Scientific
- Management
- Media
- Policy/Advocacy
- Foundation and Donor

Over 200 volunteer conservation pilots and growing.

How we do our work
- Strategic conservation planning (OSCP).
- Outcome based.
Our Tools:
Mapping and Flight Planning
Staff from Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies assessing *Zostera marina* bed health.
Pilots Donating Expertise, Time and Fuel for Conservation
International Crane Foundation nest surveys 2011-13
Wildlife surveys in remote locations.
Landscape-level conservation easement monitoring with TNC Vermont. 5,000 acres monitored in 1.5 hrs instead of one full week of field time.
Eelgrass monitoring for the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
Habitat monitoring for the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana.
Assessing development impacts for the Assateague Coastal Trust in Maryland
Assessing mangrove health – Mexico
Assessing king tides in Washington
Assessing impacts of sea level rise in the Everglades.
Manatee surveys in Belize.
Pipeline Assessment - Portland-Montreal Pipeline.
Assessing and monitoring remote areas with TNC Maine.
Strategic Planning for 2015-18

Strategic Conservation Project emphasis will focus efforts on near – shore habitat monitoring/assessment/management.

• LightHawk Goals
  • Engage with conservation partners (Save the Bay, etc.) from the beginning of the planning process.
  • Strengthen existing partnerships and build new relationships.
  • Focus conservation planning and aviation assets in areas where conservation success has the greatest measurable impact.
Save The Bay – LightHawk Partnership

• Began partnership in 2007
• Broad range of flight goals, habitat, advocacy, emergency response
• Two flights highlighted
  • 2012 post-Sandy flight
  • 2009 Taunton River flight
Post Hurricane Sandy Flight
November 2012

Passengers: STB South County Coast Keeper, RI State Coastal Geologist, Providence Journal Reporter

Flight goals:
• Document damage
• Observe coastal processes following a major storm
• Highlight vulnerable infrastructure
Superstorm Sandy – October 29, 2012
Misquamicut – Westerly, RI

- 5-ft storm surge, 3-5 ft of sand in road
- Historic Andrea Hotel, heavily damaged and torn down
- New temporary facility on site of Hotel, can be removed in emergencies
- Hotel is considering not rebuilding, and maintaining temporary facility
Matunuck Beach Road, South Kingstown, RI

- Much controversy over last few years about proposed seawall
- Town was approved to build 200 ft long sheet-pile seawall to protect road, not homes and businesses
Roy Carpenter’s Beach Association
– Matunuck, RI

- Historic beach community.
- Several homes knocked off their foundation and destroyed.
- Association is located on large expanse.
- Association is dealing with issue of shoreline erosion and elevated sea levels through managed retreat.
- Vulnerable homes are moved to back of property and placed on pilings.
Quonochontaug Pond

- Undeveloped coastal barrier
- No impediments to barrier migration
- Shows how back barrier marshes gain elevation
Flight goals:
• Provide “before and after” photos for dam removal and salt marsh restoration sites
• Document priority parcels for protection
• Highlight newly designated “Wild and Scenic” Taunton River corridor
• Show large areas of forest bisected by rail lines
• Highlight upper Mount Hope Bay where an LNG facility was proposed.
River Restoration:
Documenting dams before removal.

This the West Brittania Dam before it is removed. Channel modification pre- and post-dam removal will be monitored.

Salt Marsh Restoration:
Gooseneck Cove restoration post dam removal
**Land Conservation:**
- Documenting large areas of contiguous forested wetland.
- MBTA South Coast Rail line (Boston commuter train) bisects the largest forested wetland in Massachusetts.

**Land Protection:**
- TNC land protection specialist wanted to document both preserved properties and those that are a conservation priority.
Advocacy: Using photos to tell the story of potential impacts from industrial projects.
Fall River – Site of a potential LNG terminal in the foreground. This photo was used on the cover of our newsletter to show the locations of bridges and neighborhoods that would be impacted by an LNG import terminal.
Benefits of LightHawk Partnership

• Provides unique perspective on conservation issues
• Novel way to involve and engage policy makers, media and donors
• Ability to respond rapidly to requests

Thank you LightHawk!!