



RESTORE
AMERICA'S
ESTUARIES

2025

Annual Report



Celebrating 30 Years of Coastal Protection and Restoration

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RESTORE
AMERICA'S
ESTUARIES

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

In 1995, Restore America's Estuaries was formed out of the desire to bring together voices from all coastal regions together as one – to share in successes and solve challenges. Over the last 30 years, RAE has evolved both in membership and mission but never lost sight of the goal that brought everyone together – to protect and preserve our bays and estuaries as essential resources for our nation.

As we look back on 2025, we are proud to celebrate the tremendous progress of our efforts to protect our coasts including our first round of funding for our Great Lakes Community Restoration Grant program, a renewed partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to continue the work of the Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund, and the largest ever gathering of living shorelines professionals at this year's Living Shoreline Tech Transfer Workshop.

These accomplishments represent far more than dollars distributed or workshops held. They reflect thousands of people working in concert - our network of members, nonprofit partners, funders, students, tribal and community leaders, agencies, advocates, and residents - advancing coastal resilience in real and measurable ways.

I want to extend a special thank you to RAE's incredible staff for their unwavering commitment to improving estuaries for all. Across the country, our team consistently goes above and beyond - not only because they believe in our mission, but because many of them live in the very watersheds they are working to restore. They are deeply connected to the bays, sounds, and estuaries they call home, and their passion and expertise are at the heart of RAE's success.

However, this year was not without its challenges. From uncertain federal funding to devastating natural disasters, our natural resources were under greater threat this year than ever before. Yet every time uncertainty or threats arose, our community responded with collaboration, creativity, and resolve. We were reminded that when we come together, we not only endure, we thrive.

As we celebrate 30 years of impact, we also look forward with optimism and ambition. The United States will mark the America 250 celebration in 2026, offering a moment to reflect on our maritime and coastal history and envision a sustainable coastal future. And next September, we will welcome the nation to our 2026 Coastal & Estuarine Summit – taking place September 22 - 25 in San Francisco - a gathering we expect to be our most forward-looking yet. We will focus on the tools, technologies, financing strategies, and community leadership that will define the next generation of restoration.

Thirty years ago, RAE began with an ambitious mission: restore and protect America's estuaries. Today, we stand on a foundation built by countless hands, shared knowledge, and unwavering belief in what is possible. The next 30 years will demand innovation, investment, and courage - but if we continue to work together, we will also deliver healthier estuaries, stronger coastal economies, and more resilient communities.

Thank you to our Board, member organizations, partners, funders, members, volunteers, and staff. Your commitment inspires our work every day.

Together, we look to the future - and to the next 30 years of coastal innovation.

Sincerely,



Restore America's Estuaries

STAFF

Thomas Ardito

SNEP Watershed Implementation Grant
Program Director

Shahela Begum

Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund
Program Director

Justus Davis

Grants Administrator

Daniel Hayden

President and CEO

Kellie Marty

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Great Lakes Restoration Community Grant
Program Associate

Undria Polley

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Great Lakes Restoration Community Grant
Program Director

Suzanne Simon

NEP Coastal Watersheds Grant Program Director

Karen Estella Smith

Program Associate

Lance Speidell

Senior Director of Development

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Coastal Resilience Senior Manager

Brad Williamson

Government Affairs and Communications
Manager



VISION

We envision a future in which bays and estuaries are healthy, thriving, accessible and resilient ecosystems and managed for the benefit of all people and nature.

MISSION

Restore America's Estuaries is dedicated to the protection and restoration of bays and estuaries as essential resources for our nation.

MEMBERS



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION
Saving a National Treasure



STRATEGIC PILLARS

To achieve our vision and mission over the next three years, we will focus on executing six essential strategies:

01

Advocacy

Advocate for coastal restoration policy and funding at the federal level by leveraging the impact of RAE members, partners and communities

02

Nature Based-Solutions

Advance nature-based practices to protect, restore and build resilience of our coasts and coastal communities through funding, events, education and research

03

Support

Support a diverse and inclusive coastal restoration community

04

Funding

Diversify and balance our funding sources to maintain financial stability, particularly during times of political and/or economic transition

05

Staff Culture

Foster an engaged organizational culture and strong internal systems for RAE staff which is connected through a thriving RAE membership

06

Membership

Cultivate, invest and support a thriving RAE membership through collaborative actions



CONVENING FOR OUR COASTS

From October 29 - 30, almost 300 coastal practitioners, stakeholders, scientists, engineers, and advocates gathered in New Haven, Connecticut, for the 2025 Living Shorelines Tech Transfer Workshop hosted by Restore America's Estuaries and the Doherty Climate and Resilience Institute at Save the Sound.

The 2025 Living Shoreline Tech Transfer Workshop brought together restoration practitioners from across the country to share real-world lessons and emerging strategies in coastal resilience. Across two days of sessions, field excursions, panels, and networking, attendees explored a central message: building living shorelines at scale requires equal parts innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and flexibility to adapt in the face of uncertainty.

Adaptation is not optional — it's integral.

From permitting challenges to unexpected site challenges, experts underscored that all restoration is adaptive. Attendees heard again and again that project success often comes from testing ideas, learning from mistakes, and embracing adaptive management rather than searching for a "perfect" design on day one.



Engineering and ecology must be designed together.

Technical sessions focused on aligning ecological function with structural performance, blending traditional engineering with nature-based solutions. Speakers highlighted the importance of designing projects that work WITH natural systems as opposed to against them - relying on shaping their designs to mimic natural shorelines.



Collaboration is critical — especially beyond the shoreline.

Practitioners stressed the importance of cross-disciplinary design teams, early engagement with regulators, coordination among landowners, and sustained partnerships with universities, conservation groups, and community organizations.



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF COASTAL PROTECTIONS

Founded in 1995 in partnership with the Pew Charitable Trusts, RAE started as a collection of 7 regional organizations, all dedicated to the protection and restoration of America's estuaries. Since Restore America's Estuaries was founded, our coasts, bays, and estuaries have undergone tremendous change. Many regions have seen inspiring success stories thanks to strong local partnerships, community volunteers, and sustained investment in restoration.

The story of our estuaries is one of hope and innovation. Across the country, restoration practitioners are finding new ways to merge traditional ecological knowledge with cutting-edge science. Indigenous leadership is guiding more holistic approaches to stewardship. States are working collaboratively across boundaries to share data and align priorities. And the private sector is increasingly investing in nature-based solutions that deliver economic and environmental benefits alike. As we look to the decades ahead, it's clear that protecting our estuaries means investing in innovation, collaboration, and resilience.

To help mark Restore America's Estuaries' 30th Anniversary, we convened a panel discussion on Capitol Hill. Leaders in coastal restoration from a variety of backgrounds - state and tribal leadership to nonprofit advocacy and on-the-ground restoration - were asked what must be done over the next 30 years to safeguard our coasts. Their answers varied – from restoring oyster reefs to reducing pollution and sediment runoff – but one theme remained constant: we must allow natural systems to function as they were meant to.

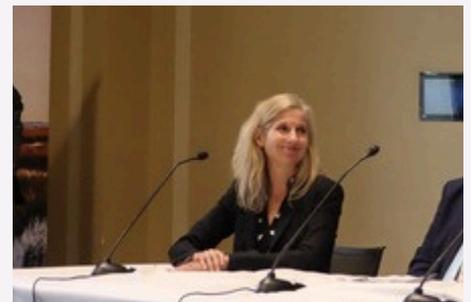
Joe Rieger
ANCHOR QEA, Inc.



Amy Hutzel
California State Coastal Conservancy



Sylvia Troost
Pew Charitable Trusts



Daniel Hayden
Restore America's Estuaries



Todd Woodard
Samish Indian Nation



Ben Grumbles
Environmental Council of the States



30TH ANNIVERSARY TIMELINE



1972

Clean Water Act Passes



1987

National Estuary Program Established

1995

RAE Founded



2002

First Summit in Baltimore, MD



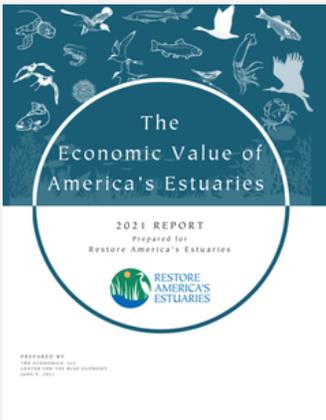
2013

First Living Shorelines Workshop

2017

First Federal Grant Awarded

Congressional Estuaries Caucus Established



2021

Economics of Estuaries Report Released

2021

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Passes



2025

30th Anniversary



PROTECTING ESTUARIES CREATES OPPORTUNITY

The Jobs and Dollars Report from Restore America's Estuaries sheds light on the critical role coastal restoration plays in supporting our nation's economy. From job creation and housing to national defense and recreation, healthy estuaries are foundational to vitality and community resilience.



Coastal Economies

More than 189 million Americans visit the coast annually, supporting small businesses and local economies.

Outdoor Recreation

The recreation economy topped a record \$1.2 trillion in gross output in 2024, employing 5 million people. Boating and fishing were the largest activities, with a combined value of \$36.8 billion.

Estuaries: Economic Engines

In 2022, there were 53 million jobs in coastal counties, 37% of the total U.S. employment.

Estuaries Protect Communities

Estuaries and their surrounding wetlands are buffer zones. They stabilize shorelines and protect coastal areas from floods.

Coasts are Under Threat

As more people move to our coasts, development has resulted in the loss of 250,000+ acres of estuarine surface area during the last 35 years.

Development comes with a cost

Every 2.5 football fields of wetland lost between 2001 and 2016 led to \$8000 in damages annually in developed areas.

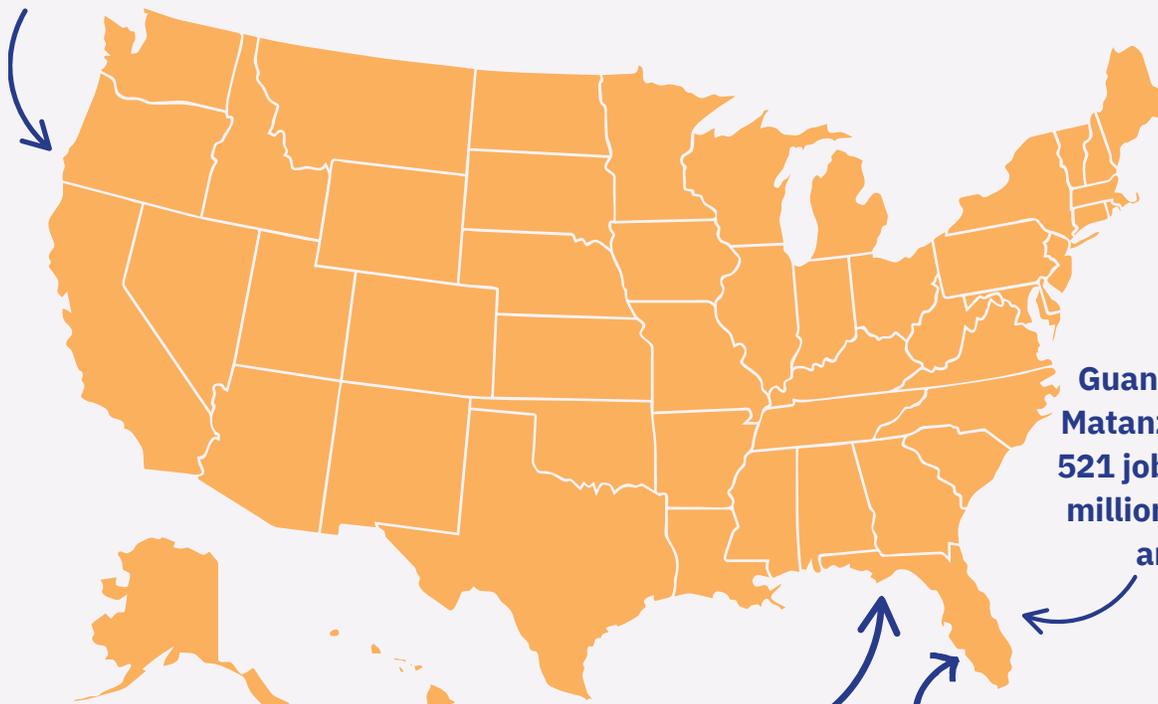
ESTUARIES SUPPORT ECONOMIES

Coastal counties of the U.S. are home to 131 million people, almost 40 percent of the nation's total population. Within this narrow band are estuaries—vibrant coastal areas where two bodies of water merge to create some of the most productive ecosystems on the planet. Estuaries provide food and refuge for diverse fish, birds, and mammals. They are environmental treasures, and their productivity is vital to our nation's economy, supplying important natural resources and millions of jobs.

<p>Estuaries supply habitat for</p> <p>80-90%</p> <p>of recreational fish caught.</p>	<p>Annually, coasts support and protect</p> <p>\$2T</p> <p>in trade through ports.</p>	<p>Coastal regions support</p> <p>69M</p> <p>jobs in countless industries.</p>
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The National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS), a partnership program between coastal states and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), is a network of 30 protected coastal sites across the United States designated for long-term research, education, stewardship, and coastal management. In 2021, a report was published on the economic impact of just four reserves, representing a fraction of the overall reserves' impact.

South Slough, Oregon:
65 jobs and \$6.1 million
in annual revenue



Guana Tolomato Matanzas, Florida:
521 jobs and \$57.6 million
in revenue annually

Apalachicola, Florida:
664 jobs and \$46.4 million
in annual revenue

Rookery Bay, Florida:
512 jobs and \$55 million
in annual revenue

BRINGING ESTUARIES TO CAPITOL HILL

RAE continues to be a vocal advocate in our nation's capital for estuaries by working with champions in Congress and the Administration to secure victories and educate decision-makers on the importance of estuaries.

EPA Geographic Program Working Group

RAE helps bring together more than 30 groups to advocate for the continued funding of the EPA Geographic Programs, which cover some of the largest ecosystems in the country - including the Gulf, Chesapeake Bay, Puget Sound, San Francisco Bay, and the Long Island Sound.

Congressional Estuaries Caucus

Led by Representatives Mast, Bonamici, Larsen, and Posey, the Congressional Estuaries Caucus represents coastal communities nationwide on Capitol Hill. Together, these lawmakers champion solutions to coastal issues through bipartisan consensus.

National Estuaries Week

Federal lawmakers continue to demonstrate a strong commitment to preserving estuaries by officially designating September 20-27, 2025 as National Estuaries Week through resolutions passed in both the Senate and the House of Representatives



To support the Estuaries Caucus mission, RAE and our partners arranged for coastal leaders representing a National Estuary Program, a National Estuarine Research Reserve, and the American Littoral Society for a panel to educate key staff about the work of the caucus and the importance of the federal government as a partner for restoration efforts.

BUILDING A NATIONWIDE COMMUNITY

In 2019, Restore America's Estuaries updated its strategic plan to include a new core pillar explicitly focused on the need to change and expand how estuary and coastal conservation is practiced. We aim to engage a broader, more inclusive community to increase the scale of our efforts and achieve big wins that lead to healthy and resilient bays and estuaries. To achieve this vision, RAE launched the Inclusive Coasts Initiative with the help of the National Science Foundation. To foster connection, we support two communities of practice:

Environmental Action & Engagement Professionals Network (EAEP)

The Environmental Action & Engagement Professionals Network (EAEP) CoP explored strategies for strengthening community engagement, navigating uncertainty and organizational change, and adapting in challenging times. Conversations emphasized collaboration, peer support, hope, and optimism, while also building practical skills such as community engagement planning, toolkit development, visual storytelling, and flexible grant writing.



Black, Indigenous, and People of Color Environmental Professionals Network

The Black, Indigenous, and People of Color Environmental Professionals Network (BIPOC) CoP focused on building connection and belonging, creating supportive spaces, and navigating workplace dynamics as BIPOC professionals. Topics included sustaining one another through peer support, professional development challenges, and strengthening networks through outreach and storytelling.



CREATING LASTING CHANGE THROUGH FUNDING

Working with public and private sector partners, RAE funds on-the-ground restoration to better protect communities from flooding, improve water quality by mitigating pollution, protect blue carbon ecosystems, and construct living shorelines. We also support innovative research and community-led programs that engage diverse audiences with the goal of improving our knowledge and understanding of the valuable ecosystem, economic, and cultural services healthy estuaries provide. RAE is leading initiatives to break down barriers to entry for traditionally underserved communities.

Great Lakes Restoration Community Grant Program



National Estuary Program Watershed Grant



Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund



SNEP Watershed Protection Grants



Gulf Regional Oyster Network



Caring for Our Coast & Scotts Miracle-Gro



NEWEST GREAT LAKES PROGRAM STARTS WITH A SPLASH

Advancing the GLRCGP Through the 2025 RFA Release

The release of the 2025 Request for Applications (RFA) in November 2025 marked a key milestone for the Great Lakes Restoration Community Grant Program, positioning the upcoming grant cycle for meaningful community impact. This milestone strengthens opportunities for restoration, supports organizational capacity building, and continues the program's commitment to expanding community-led environmental progress across the Great Lakes basin.

Expanding Basin-Wide Engagement and Collaboration

More than 70 participants representing community-based organizations, regional partners, and federal and state agencies joined the Great Lakes Regional Learning Exchange on September 24, 2025, in Rochester, New York. This strong turnout reflects growing regional collaboration and shared interest in supporting environmental restoration efforts across the Great Lakes.



Strengthening Capacity Through Targeted Training

During the Great Lakes Regional Learning Exchange six concurrent breakout sessions equipped participants with practical tools to increase their readiness for federal funding. Sessions focused on designing fundable programs, evaluating organizational capacity, ensuring compliance, and improving reporting practices.



EPA Continued Support & Engagement

The Learning Exchange opened with an engaging dialogue featuring EPA Region 5 Administrator Anne Vogel, underscoring EPA's continued commitment to the success of the Great Lakes Restoration Community Grant Program (GLRCGP). EPA Region 5's active participation throughout the event strengthened alignment on GLRI priorities and reinforced our shared vision for expanding community-led restoration across the basin.

NATIONWIDE PROGRAM ADDRESSES URGENT CHALLENGES



National Estuary Program Watersheds Grants

- 23 ongoing projects
- \$3.7M granted in 2025
- \$1.3M non-federal match pledged
- 127 LOIs submitted
- \$43.7M amount requested

Restore America's Estuaries, in close coordination and with financial support from EPA, administers this nationally competitive grants program to support projects that address urgent, emerging, and challenging issues threatening the well-being of estuaries within the 28 NEP boundary areas. Projects range in size, variety, and geography and include invasive species eradication, urban living shorelines installation, shellfish reef restoration, marsh restoration, coastal forest restoration, bluff stabilization...and much more!

National Estuary Program Coastal Watersheds Grants

- 10 ongoing projects
- \$3.1M budgeted for grants
- \$65.8M requested over the life cycle of the grant program

Restore America's Estuaries, in close coordination and with financial support from EPA, administers this grants program to address urgent, emerging, and challenging issues in and around the 28 NEP sites. Projects occur all around the coasts and vary widely in type, including shellfish restoration, nutrient reduction, marsh restoration, planning and design projects, and much more!

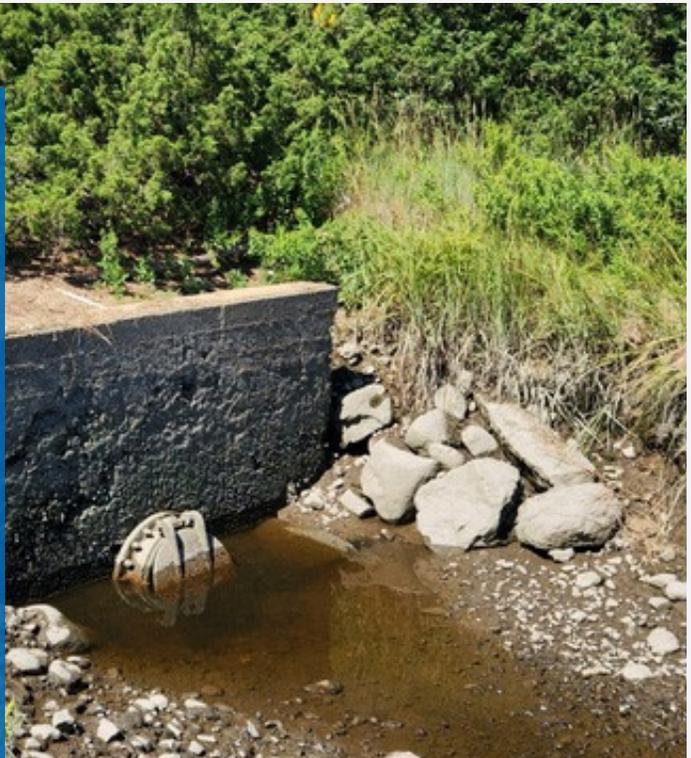


NEP FUNDING HELPS PRESERVE COASTAL MA

Every estuary faces unique challenges that require a combination of local knowledge, on-the-ground restoration advocates, and national funding to get the job done. In Massachusetts, two groups are taking advantage of this funding to protect their bays and preserve the coastal heritage of the state.

Tide Gates Protect Vulnerable Wetlands

Tide gates are important elements of coastal infrastructure that are often overlooked or even forgotten, and yet are critical to keeping communities safe and habitats healthy. The **Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Partnership** is collaborating with local municipalities and partners to update a regional tide gate inventory and design tide gates that strike a balance between flood risk and tidal exchanges, promoting marsh restoration. They are also developing an app that will allow entities responsible for the upkeep of the tide gates to better manage and operate them.



Reclaiming Abandoned Cranberry Bogs

Harwich Conservation Trust (MA) restored 30 acres of retired cranberry bog back to native wetlands, including restoration of 500 feet of pond shoreline along Hinckleys Pond. This community-centered project improves water quality, enhances river herring spawning habitat, creates wildlife habitat for a broad swath of species, increases publicly accessible trails, and provides learning opportunities for nearby technical high school students.



CONNECTING COMMUNITIES TO THEIR LONG ISLAND SOUND

The Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund (LISCIF) is a partnership among the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Long Island Sound Partnership, and Restore America's Estuaries. The purpose of LISCIF is to provide technical and financial assistance for addressing environmental issues and to improve the quality and accessibility of the Long Island Sound.

EXPANDING IMPACT

The LISCIF program was extended in early 2025 with support from EPA and the Long Island Sound Partnership. Funding for an additional three rounds of grant funding was added, for \$1.2 million each round. In the Fall of 2025, LISCIF rolled out its RFA for the third round of funding for 2026, receiving a total of 57 LOI applications with a total request of \$4,807,421.24.



2025 FUNDING

In the Spring of 2025, LISCIF received 20 Full Proposals with a total request of \$1,864,103. LISCIF awarded 16 applicants \$1.5 million.

Project Spotlight: The Coastal Eco Ambassadors Program



Supported by the Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund, the Coastal Eco-Ambassadors Program is empowering New Rochelle youth to become environmental stewards through immersive, hands-on marine science education. Led by local educators in partnership with the City of New Rochelle and EJLPC, the program combines paid internships, field research, and community engagement to connect students with the ecosystems of the Long Island Sound.

COMING TOGETHER FOR A HEALTHIER SOUND

One of the core goals of the Long Island Sound Program is to enhance and expand organizational capacity. Our Long Island Sound-based team provides multiple in-person and virtual opportunities to those in the region who received grants, as well as those interested in learning more.

On June 30, 2025, LISCIF held the 2nd Annual Learning Exchange at the CUNY Graduate Center, which hosted a panel discussion and breakout sessions. Some of the breakout session topics included Strategic Grant Writing, Aquaculture Permitting, Quickdrops: Expanding Access to Data, and The Long Island Sound Partnership's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

The Learning Exchanges are open to the public, welcoming over 100 attendees in 2025 - bringing together environmental practitioners and regional community members.

**Training Attendees
Across LISCIF Events**

266

**Individual Meetings
to Advise on Grants**

56

**Events Hosted
in 2025**

10



PROMOTING CLEAN & HEALTHY WATER IN SOUTHEAST NEW ENGLAND

SNEP Watershed Implementation Grants (SWIG) is a partnership between RAE and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 1, to fund work that restores clean water, healthy ecosystems and robust communities throughout Southeast New England. Since its inception in 2018, SWIG has awarded more than \$20 million to community-based partnerships in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts.

These investments have resulted in the conservation or restoration of more than 30,000 acres of land and more than 20 river miles, and have had a beneficial impact on 400 square miles of estuarine waters.

38 Ongoing Projects

\$3.2 Million in New Awards

69 Awards in 2025

98 Requests in 2025

\$12.4 Million in 2025 Requests

\$1.3 Million in New Non-Federal Match



MINI-GRANTS CLOSE GAPS

RAE recognized a critical need among municipalities, land trusts, and other stewardship organizations for smaller grants with which to purchase supplies, materials and equipment for use in carrying out restoration work. In early 2025, RAE created SNEP Restoration Capital Mini-Grants, offering grants up to \$10,000 for these purchases. The launch of the program received a tremendous response, resulting in the award of 55 Mini-Grants totaling more than \$430,000. Organizations purchased water quality monitoring equipment, mowers, hand tools, plant material, and other items essential to their work.

Staff of the Assoc. to Preserve Cape Cod deploy a turbidity sensor funded by SNEP Restoration Capital Mini-Grants in a salt marsh. Photo courtesy of APCC.

RESTORING CONNECTION TO THE SEA

The Kickemuit River flows from Massachusetts into Rhode Island, entering Narragansett Bay in the town of Warren, RI. Early in the 20th century, this tidal river was developed as a drinking water supply. Two dams were constructed to convert tidal wetlands and shallow estuarine habitat into drinking water reservoirs.

By the late 20th century, sea level rise had rendered the water supply unusable and the dams obsolete. The Bristol County Water Authority (BCWA), working with RAE member organization Save The Bay, developed a project to remove the dams.

An \$80,000 SWIG grant in 2021 allowed BCWA to permit the project and raise the remainder of the \$3.9 million cost for the entire project from a variety of state and federal sources. In 2024 and 2025, the dams were demolished and tidal waters returned to the Kickemuit River for the first time in more 100 years.



The project restored more than 50 acres of estuarine and intertidal habitat for hundreds of species – from oysters and blue crabs to striped bass and wading birds. It improved water quality by restoring river flow; increased resistance to coastal flooding; and enhanced coastal recreation by providing a new area of access for kayakers, birders, fishers and other recreational users.

Removing Kickemuit Lower Dam

PUTTING OYSTER SHELLS TO WORK

Restore America's Estuaries received a \$4.9M NOAA transformational habitat grant in July 2023 to accelerate recycling and restoration in the Gulf. As a part of the grant, we partnered with leading groups in the region to invest in core operations and infrastructure.

In year two of this three-year grant, the partnership has had immediate impacts:

40+ acres of reefs restored in first two years providing 2400 additional feet of shoreline protection

Over 14 billion gallons of water filtered annually

Over 10.9 million pounds of avoided waste in landfills

Support tourism related jobs at 125 restaurants



Program Partners - We are proud to collaborate with five outstanding organizations with decades of experience and a deep understanding of oyster recycling and habitat restoration across the Gulf Coast.



ALABAMA COASTAL FOUNDATION



GALVESTON BAY FOUNDATION



PENSACOLA AND PERDIDO BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM



COALITION TO RESTORE COASTAL LOUISIANA



TAMPA BAY WATCH

CARING FOR OUR COAST

With the continued support of CITGO Petroleum Corporation, Restore America's Estuaries successfully implemented the Caring for Our Coast program across the Gulf region for the 2024–2025 cycle. This year's program funded eleven community-based coastal restoration and conservation projects across all five Gulf states. Each grantee led hands-on, volunteer-driven restoration events addressing local environmental priorities such as shoreline stabilization, debris removal, habitat restoration, and environmental education. Highlights included:

- Alabama Coastal Foundation restored native vegetation at two coastal boat launches, benefiting over 2,000 community users.
- South Alabama Land Trust and Bayou Preservation Association engaged volunteers to restore wetlands and riverbanks impacted by erosion.
- IDEAS For Us led the Tampa Bay Community-Led Mangrove Restoration Project, planting 100 white mangroves and removing 200 pounds of debris along the Tarpon Tract shoreline.
- Coalition for Coastal Louisiana potted 6,000 bare root bald cypress and water tupelo trees while helping to educate community members about Louisiana's coastal land loss crisis.



Across these efforts, **1,063** volunteers contributed **5,247** service hours, planting **8,100** native plants, restoring **6.75** acres of coastal habitat, cleaning **3** miles of shoreline, and removing **42,200** pounds of debris from waterways and shorelines.

SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO PARTNERSHIP

Restore America's Estuaries continued its longstanding partnership with The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation, extending more than a decade of shared commitment to protecting water resources and engaging communities in stewardship. The Foundation's support is central to National Estuaries Week, helping RAE mobilize volunteers for cleanups, habitat projects, and community education events across the country.



This year's National Estuary Week was the biggest yet - with over 4,500 volunteers representing dozens of partner organizations at 55 restoration and cleanup projects across the East Coast, Gulf Coast, West Coast, Great Lakes, and Puerto Rico. The thousands of individuals were all united by one goal – protecting and restoring our coasts.



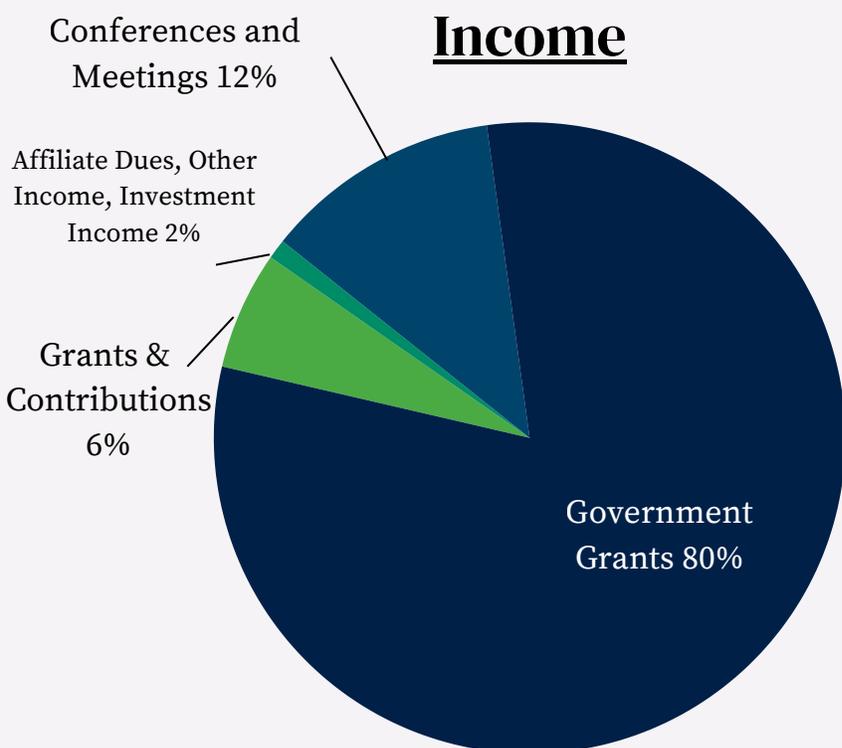
As we look to 2026, our partnership with The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation will continue to grow as we join forces to advance our shared goal of cleaner, healthier estuaries for all as part of the America 250 celebration!

Be on the lookout for volunteer opportunities throughout 2026 to celebrate our nation's natural heritage and to give back to your community!

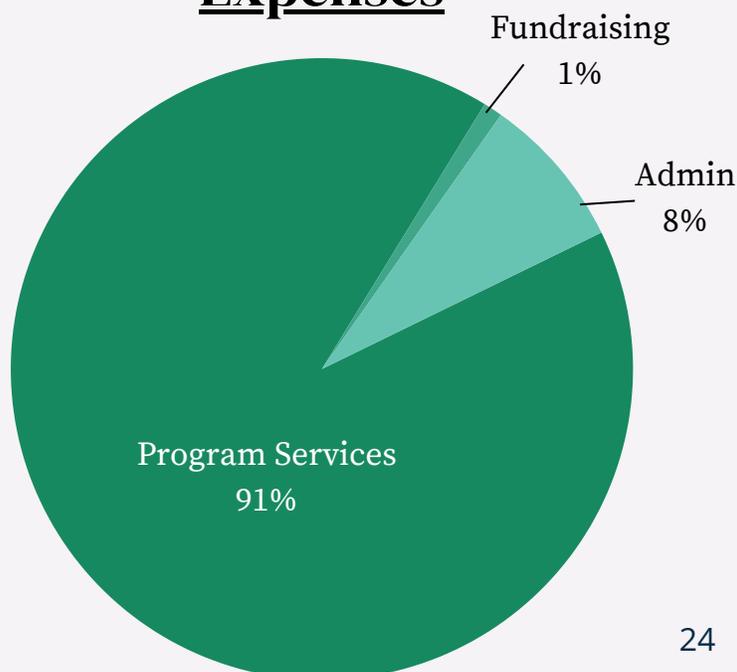
2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

Year Ended December 31	2024	2023
Revenue		
Government Grants	6,544,977	3,491,965
Grants and Contributions	496,637	423,690
Conferences and Meetings	971,508	86,169
Affiliate Dues	45,000	45,300
Investment Income	12,731	14,071
Other Income	37,334	149,972
Total Revenue	\$8,108,187	\$4,211,167
Expenses		
Program Services	7,230,376	4,012,538
General and Administrative	642,032	187,096
Fundraising	60,651	138,515
Total Expenses	7,933,059	\$4,338,149
Net Income	\$175,128	-\$126,982

Income



Expenses



| 2025 SUPPORTERS

\$100,000+

- Environmental Protection Agency
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

\$4,999 - \$1,000

- American Littoral Society -
- Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana
- Coastal States Organization
- Davey Resource Group
- EA Engineering, Science and Technology
- EarthBalance
- EarthCorps
- Fuss & O'Neill
- Galveston Bay Foundation
- GZA
- HDR, Inc.
- LI-COR Environmental
- North Carolina Coastal Federation
- Princeton Hydro
- RACE Coastal Engineering
- Reef Innovations
- Safe Harbor Marinas
- Save the Bay - Narragansett Bay
- Save the Bay - San Francisco
- Save the Sound
- Tampa Bay Watch

< \$999

- Alexander A. Bershard
- Barbara Oelke
- Brooke Roff
- Curt Johnson & Nancy Dittes
- Dan Silver
- Diane Kuykendall
- ESP Advisors
- GIVE LIVELY FOUNDATION, INC
- Janis Martin
- Judith Shaw
- Kevin Woodsinger
- Kimberly Davis
- Mark Curran
- Mary Dealing
- Melissa Bridgman
- NERRA
- Robert Stokes
- Selma Al-Salam
- United Way
- United Way of Central Massachusetts
- Wildlife Conservation Society
- Wolfgang Oesterreich

\$99,999- \$50,000

- CITGO
- The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company
- MOSAIC

\$49,999 - \$10,000

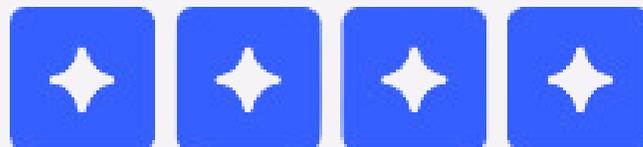
- Clayton Fund
- Cheniere Energy
- Dudley Foundation
- The Nature Conservancy
- Pew Charitable Trusts
- San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority
- Spurlino Foundation
- Stantec
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Guidestar

\$9,999 - \$5,000

- Safe Harbor Marinas
- California State Coastal Conservancy



Charity Navigator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Alison Prost (Chair).....VP for Environmental Protection & Restoration, CBF
- Bob Stokes (Vice Chair).....President, Galveston Bay Foundation
- David Lewis (Treasurer).....Executive Director, Save The Bay – San Francisco
- Leah Lopez Schmalz (Secretary).....President, Save the Sound
- Christine Tang.....Executive Director, EarthCorps
- Peter Clark.....President, Tampa Bay Watch
- Danielle McCulloch.....Executive Director, American Littoral Society
- Dr. Braxton Davis.....Executive Director, North Carolina Coastal Federation
- Topher Hamblett.....Executive Director, Save The Bay – Narragansett Bay
- Kimberly Reyher.....Executive Director, Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana

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DANIELLE MCCULLOCH
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY

Danielle McCulloch is the Executive Director of the American Littoral Society, bringing nearly 20 years of experience in coastal conservation. She has led large-scale restoration projects and built multi-sector partnerships that benefit coastal ecosystems and communities. Danielle began her career at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, advancing research on oyster reefs, living shorelines, and fisheries management, and earned a Master of Science in Environmental Studies from Virginia Commonwealth University.



CHRISTINE TANG
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EARTH CORPS

Christine Tang is the Executive Director of EarthCorps, a nonprofit that develops environmental leaders through hands-on restoration and community partnerships in the Puget Sound region. With more than 20 years of experience in sustainability, environmental policy, and cross-sector collaboration, she is dedicated to advancing environmental justice and community engagement. Previously, Christine served as New Haven, CT, Director of Sustainability, led environmental policy initiatives at the Environmental Council of the States, and advised Fortune 200 companies on ESG practices as a Vice President at McGuireWoods. She holds an LL.M. in Environmental Law from George Washington University and a Financial Success for Nonprofits certificate from Cornell University.

2026 COASTAL & ESTUARINE SUMMIT

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Restore America's Estuaries (RAE) is a national leader in coastal restoration and protection, practitioner education and advocacy. Our local projects restore coastal wetlands, open fish passages, remove invasive species, engage communities, and build organizational capacity. We advance the science and practice of habitat restoration through high-level meetings, technical exchanges and our biennial RAE Coastal & Estuarine Summit. As a leader in coastal issues, we advocate for coastal communities through engagement with Congress and the federal administration.