



Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund's

**PEOPLE
OF THE
SOUND:
CONNECTICUT
STATE-WIDE
LEARNING EXCHANGE**

March 17, 2026

Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center



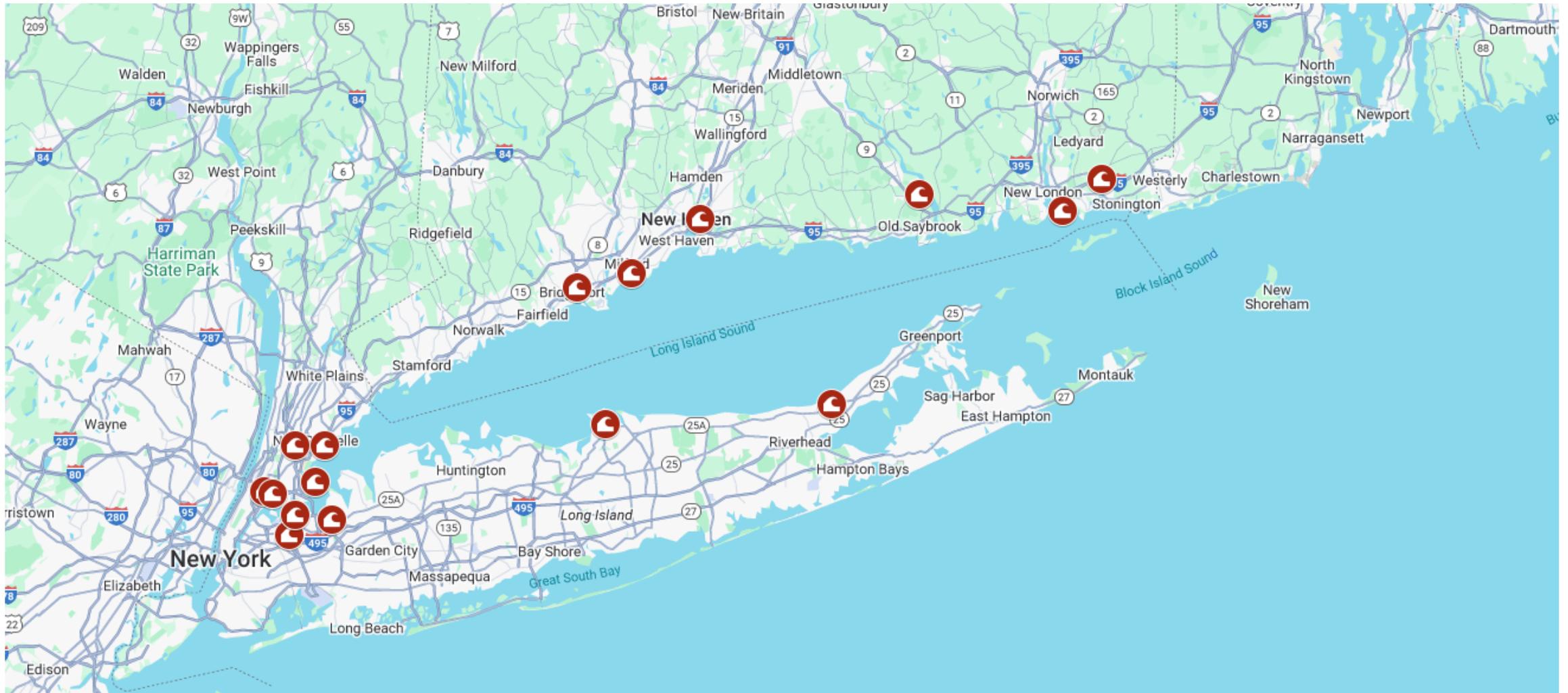
The Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund (LISCIF) is a partnership among:

- Restore America's Estuaries
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Long Island Sound Partnership

Purpose: The purpose of LISCIF is to provide technical and financial assistance to communities for addressing environmental issues and to improve the quality and accessibility of the Long Island Sound.

Technical assistance will be provided through LISCIF and is available to communities/organizations even if one does not submit a proposal for funding.

Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund (LISCIF) 2025 Grant Recipients

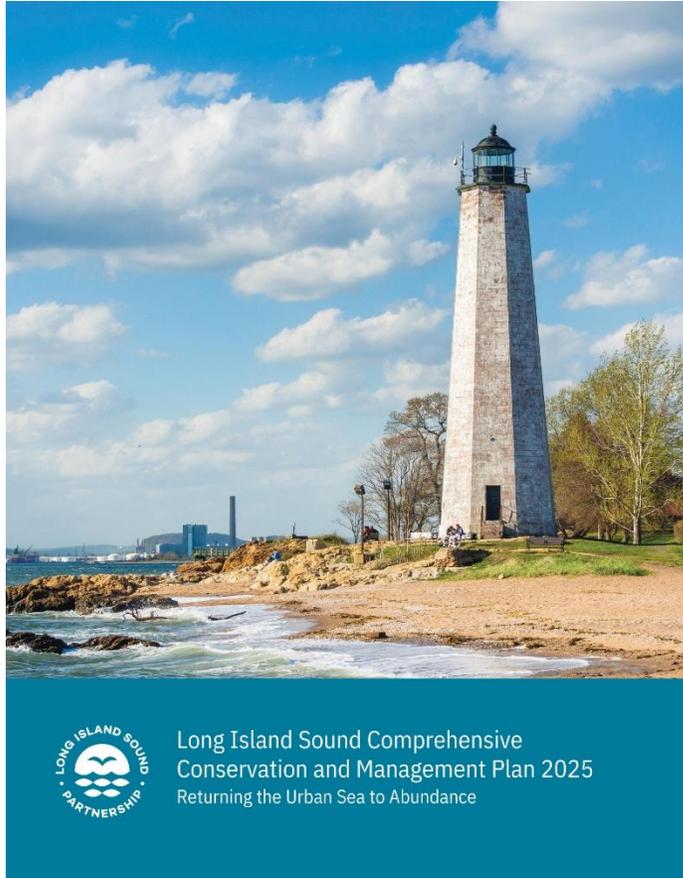


Find the full LISCIF 2025 Grant Sheet here:

<https://estuaries.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/LISCIF25-Awardee-Fact-Sheet-1.pdf>

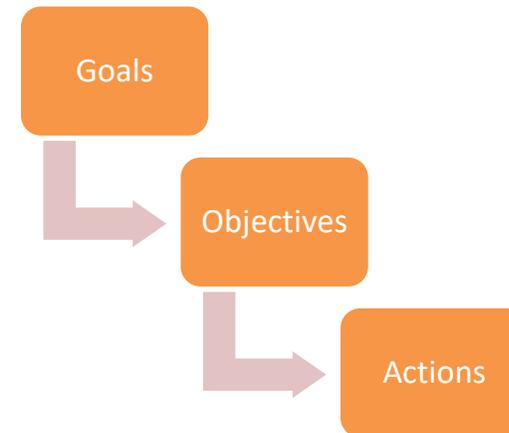


Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)



4 Themes:

- Clean Waters and Healthy Watersheds
- Thriving Habitats and Abundant Wildlife
- Sustainable and Resilient Communities
- Informed and Engaged Public



[Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan](#)

[CCMP Actions](#)



Photo Credit: Argenis Apolinario, Annual Learning Exchange 2024, CUNY Graduate Center

Restore America's Estuaries



Vision

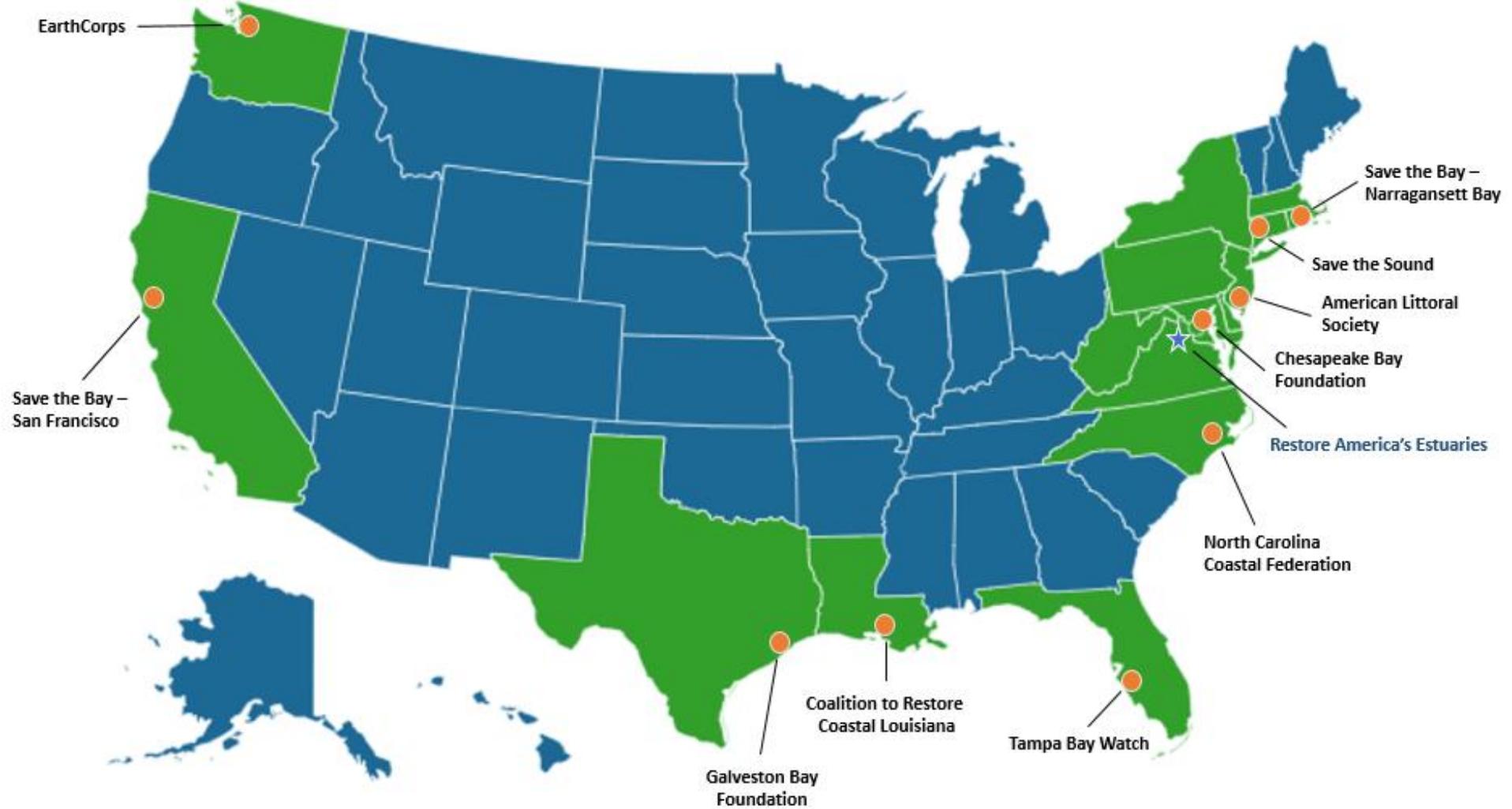
We envision a future in which bays and estuaries are healthy, thriving, accessible and resilient ecosystems and managed for the benefit of all people and nature.

Mission

Restore America's Estuaries is committed to protecting and restoring bays and estuaries as essential resources for our nation.



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RAE's Major Areas of Work



Education and Policy

- Biennial RAE Coastal & Estuarine Summit
- Workshops, working groups, webinars
- Engaging Administration and Congress; leader in Congressional Estuary Caucus
- National Estuaries Week

Science & Community

- Living Shorelines
- Blue Carbon
- Inclusive Coasts Initiative

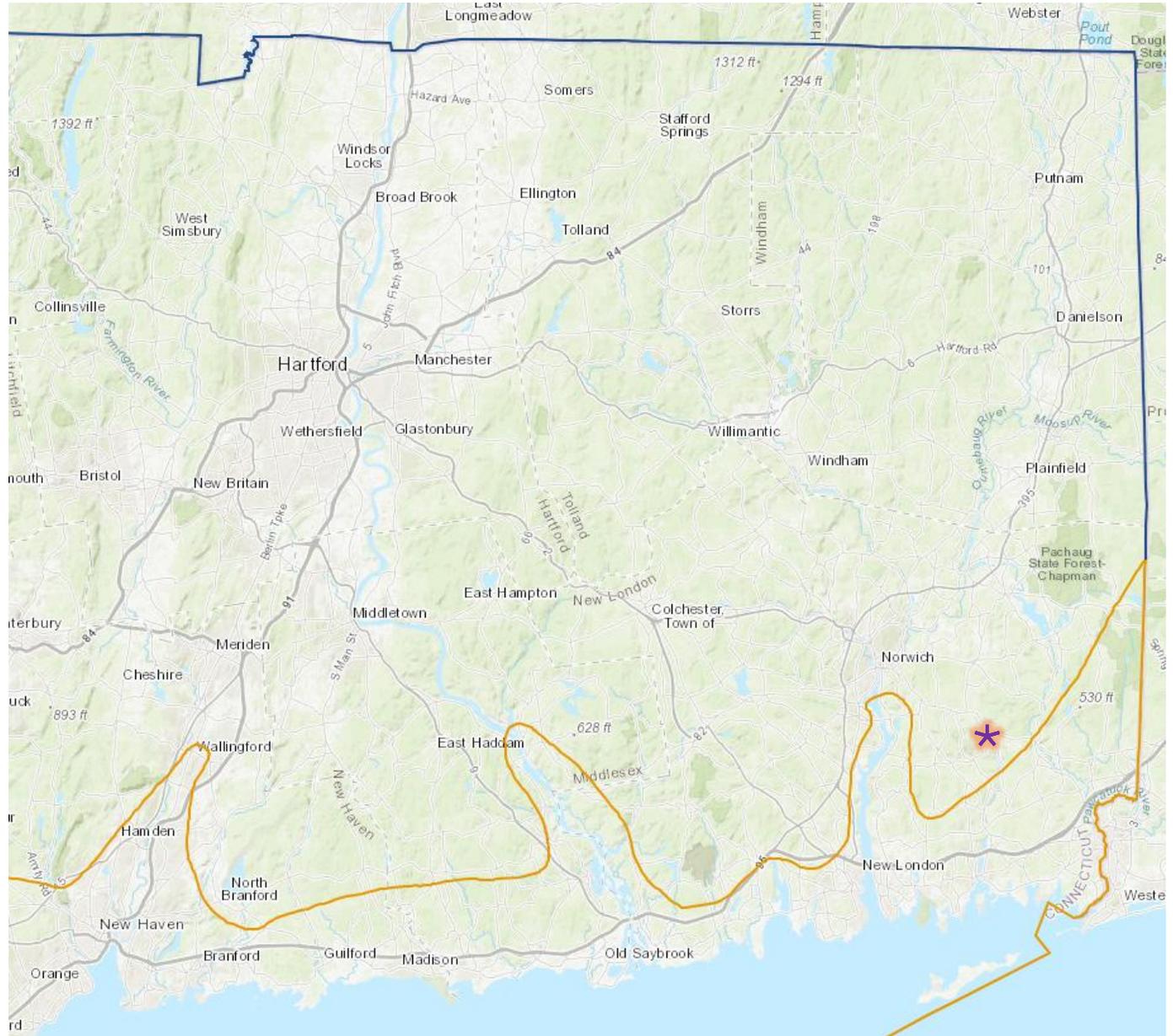
Restoration

- Community-based Restoration Program
- National and Regional Subgrants Programs
- Blue Carbon credit program with VERRA



An Overview of Long Island Sound Partnership







Long Island Sound Partnership

- ...is a cooperative effort involving agencies, states, researchers, regulators, user groups and other concerned organizations and individuals.
- These groups are working together to protect and improve the health of the Sound.

Policy Committee

EPA Region 1 & 2 Administrators, NY/CT Environmental Commissioners

Executive Steering Committee

EPA Water Division Directors, NYDEC Assistant Commissioners, CTDEEP Bureau Chief

Management Committee

Federal, state, interstate, & local partners

Science & Technical Advisory Committee

Academia, scientific, technical organizations that counsels on scientific and technical issues

Citizens Advisory Committee

Cross-section of stakeholder groups
Transmits stakeholder concerns
Provides advice on public education activities
Communicates with constituencies

LIS Program Office & Implementation Team

Program Coordination
Project Management
Committee & Workgroup Support

Technical Work Groups

<i>Clean Waters and Healthy Watersheds</i>	<i>Informed and Engaged Public</i>
<i>Thriving Habitats and Abundant Wildlife</i>	<i>Federal Partners Coordination</i>
<i>Sustainable & Resilient Communities</i>	

2025 Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)

Vision Statement: Long Island Sound and its watershed have clean waters, healthy habitats, thriving wildlife, resilient coasts, and an engaged public.

Mission Statement: The Long Island Sound Partnership leads a collective effort to restore and care for the Sound and its watershed.

Values: Actionable Science, Adaptive Management, Respect and Trust



Long Island Sound Comprehensive
Conservation and Management Plan 2025
Returning the Urban Sea to Abundance

Overarching Goals of Long Island Sound CCMP

**Clean Waters and
Healthy
Watersheds**

**Thriving Habitats and
Abundant Wildlife**

**Sustainable and
Resilient
Communities**

**Informed and
Engaged Public**



Funding the LIS Partnership

- Funds for LIS Partnership come through annual appropriations authorized by the Clean Water Act (§119 and 320)
- EPA staff direct the Long Island Sound Office, work with partnership to administer program funds each year to implement the CCMP
- The LIS Partnership provides funds through direct grants and competitive grant programs, including Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund; Long Island Sound Futures Fund; among others





Thank you for being here!



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SOUND:
CONNECTICUT
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RESTORE
AMERICA'S
ESTUARIES



12:00 – 1:00 pm

Networking Lunch

Café

Breakout Sessions:

**Visual Storytelling through a Place-based Lens
– Kellie Marty, Restore America's Estuaries**

Overlook

1:00 – 2:30 pm

**Destigmatizing Nature & the Role of Watershed
Stewardship
– Reginald Saint Fortcolin, Sovereign Land Trust**

Fleet Room

2:30 – 2:50 pm

Closing Remarks

**War
Theater 1**



REGISTER HERE:



Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund's
THIRD
ANNUAL
LEARNING
EXCHANGE



June 25, 2026 – CUNY Graduate Center



RESTORE AMERICA'S ESTUARIES

September 22 - 25

San Francisco, CA



RESTORE
AMERICA'S
ESTUARIES



**Thank you for attending the
Connecticut State Learning Exchange!**

**Please take a few minutes to answer anonymous survey
questions on this Learning Exchange and how future Learning
Exchanges can better meet your needs:**



**Sign Up for the Long Island Sound
Community Impact Fund Newsletter:**

**Stay up to date on future announcements and events by
signing up for our newsletter:**





RESTORE
AMERICA'S
ESTUARIES



Thank You!

