



Department of
Environmental
Conservation



2015-2020 Grants Awarded

New York State

Department of Environmental Conservation

Hudson River Estuary Program

CONTENTS

[2020 Tributary Restoration & Resiliency \(Round 31\)](#)

[2019 River Access \(Round 30\)](#)

[2019 River Education \(Round 29\)](#)

[2019 Local Stewardship Planning \(Round 28\)](#)

[2019 River Access \(Round 27 / Sleepy Hollow NRD\)](#)

[2018 River Access \(Round 26\)](#)

[2018 River Education \(Round 25\)](#)

[2018 Local Stewardship Planning \(Round 24\)](#)

[2018/19 Tributary Restoration & Resiliency \(Round 23\)](#)

[2017 Local Stewardship Planning \(Round 22\)](#)

[2017 River Access \(Round 21\)](#)

[2017 Tributary Restoration & Resiliency \(Round 20\)](#)

[2016 River Access and River Education \(Round 19\)](#)

[2016 Local Stewardship Planning \(Round 18\)](#)

[2016 River Access and River Education \(Round 17\)](#)

[2016 Local Stewardship Planning \(Round 16\)](#)

[2016 Tributary Restoration & Resiliency \(Round 15\)](#)

[2015 Local Stewardship Planning \(Round 14\)](#)

[2015 Tributary Restoration & Resiliency \(Round 13\)](#)

AWARDS ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 29, 2020

TRIBUTARY RESTORATION & RESILIENCY

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Riverkeeper Inc	Columbia, Orange, Rensselaer	\$200,778	Riverkeeper will conduct reconnaissance activities on six tributaries of the Hudson, targeting at least nine priority dams in Orange, Rensselaer and Columbia counties whose removal will restore natural flow regimes, improve ecological connectivity, and benefit aquatic species (river herring, American eel, and potentially freshwater mussels.) Riverkeeper will also advance new dam removal opportunities as they arise.
Hudson Valley Stream Conservancy	Westchester	\$110,840	Hudson Valley Stream Conservancy will conduct engineering, planning and permitting for the removal of a small, obsolete concrete dam on the Sprout Brook in the Town of Cortlandt. Removing the dam will open the stream for migration by river herring and the American eel by restoring the stream bed to natural conditions.
Open Space Institute	Putnam	\$113,800	The Open Space Institute will complete planning and permitting for the demolition of Sloan Dam and a succeeding spillway and culvert on Arden Brook. Removal of these barriers will improve access by native species and enable the establishment of a natural wetland where a dam-created pond currently exists.
Town of Esopus	Ulster	\$430,200	This project will replace two undersized culverts at Dashville Road and Hardenburg Road in the Town of Esopus. These culverts were deemed as having priority in the Town and County's Road-Stream Crossing Joint Municipal Management Plan. The replacements to the stream crossings will provide free-flowing conditions, restore aquatic connectivity, improve water quality, and reduce flooding hazards.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED DECEMBER 18, 2019

RIVER ACCESS

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Arm of the Sea Productions Inc.	Ulster	\$50,000	This funding will be used to reconstruct a wooden bulkhead and build an ADA-accessible bulkhead walkway on the tidal Esopus Creek at Arm-of-the-Sea Tidewater Center in Saugerties. The new walkway will provide public access to Esopus Creek for river education programs and enjoyment of nature.
Town of Esopus	Ulster	\$30,750	The survey and structural assessments at George H. Freer Memorial Beach and Lighthouse Park will help the town plan for universal access for canoeing, kayaking, and fishing, and for an accessible trail at Lighthouse Park. The improvements will enhance the park's long-term resiliency to sea-level rise and flooding.
Village of Hastings-on-Hudson	Westchester	\$50,000	The village will develop plans and designs for shoreline stabilization and stormwater management using nature-based shoreline principles and will create access to the Hudson River at MacEachron Park.

HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY PROGRAM GRANT AWARDS 2019 (ROUND 29)

TOTAL: \$364,165

AWARDS ANNOUNCED DECEMBER 18, 2019

RIVER EDUCATION

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Clarkson University	Dutchess	\$39,459	Clarkson will develop new and updated exhibits, curriculum and programs about the Hudson River estuary, its watershed, and its fish and wildlife for visitors and Beacon schools.
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.	Multiple	\$40,000	The Sloop Clearwater will research, develop, and construct a universally-designed educational exhibit to help youth and adults of all ages gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Hudson River and its biology. The traveling exhibit will be portable in order to reach multiple audiences at locations throughout the Hudson Valley.
Sarah Lawrence College	Westchester	\$39,639	The Center for the Urban River at Beczak (CURB) will create and pilot curriculum that includes eight units exploring the ecology, geography, biology, and history of the Hudson River. CURB will pilot the curriculum as a 4-week summer pre-college course for local high school students.
New York Harbor Foundation	5 boroughs	\$25,291	Billion Oyster Project (BOP) will create a comprehensive species identification distribution guide that is specific to organisms found in the New York Harbor Estuary. BOP will use and distribute printed copies of this guide at trainings and professional development workshops and will also publish it online.
The Children's Museum of Science and Technology	Rensselaer	\$38,242	The museum will repair and stock estuary aquarium tanks with Hudson River fish species, create accessible signage, and update teaching curriculum for in-house and outreach educational programs. The museum also will provide staff training for the new fish and exhibit improvements.
The Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York	Rockland	\$39,830	Columbia Lamont-Doherty educators will work with high school interns from populations underrepresented in the sciences to develop curriculum materials that support field-based and culturally relevant programs about the Hudson River.
Orange County Water Authority	Orange	\$27,166	Orange County Water Authority (OCWA) will develop a curriculum guide and lesson plans and conduct teacher training about the Hudson River estuary, its watershed, and source water protection. The lessons will be piloted through OCWA's conservation education programs.
The River Project, Inc.	New York	\$34,998	The River Project will outfit and set-up new scientific equipment that will allow staff and its partner Hudson River Park Trust to perform a broader range of participatory research projects, including eDNA (environmental DNA) collection and processing. Educators and students will participate through teacher trainings, internships, and field trips.
Waterfront Alliance, Inc.	New York & Richmond	\$39,540	The Waterfront Alliance will develop curriculum and classroom and field activities about the environmental conditions of climate change at its waterfront field lab for public school students, Estuary Explorers. The Waterfront Alliance also will host professional development opportunities for at least 90 middle and high school teachers, which will take place in environmental justice communities in northern Manhattan and Staten Island.
Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy Inc.	Kings	\$40,000	This funding will allow the Conservancy to continue free rod and reel catch and release fishing clinics and year-round environmental education programs through 2022. Winter workshops teach the public about fishing licenses and regulations, fisheries biology, types of rod-reels, knot tying, casting spinning and conventional rods, and using lures. Funding also will support curriculum on East River marine ecosystems in school-based classes.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED DECEMBER 18, 2019

LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Hudson Highlands Land Trust, Inc.	Putnam	\$50,000	Hudson Highlands Land Trust will partner with the towns of Philipstown and Putnam Valley to create an implementation plan for building green corridors between existing conserved lands that includes conservation and financing strategies. The plan will prioritize land parcels based on scientific data about at-risk wildlife species and habitats, natural resource maps and land use.
Town of Poughkeepsie	Dutchess	\$40,000	The Town of Poughkeepsie will create a natural resources inventory (NRI) and open space plan (OSP) covering about 31 square miles in the Town. The NRI and OSP will enable the Town to identify priorities for natural resource protection, select tools and techniques to conserve natural resources, and establish conservation goals and strategies
Town of Cortlandt	Westchester	\$50,000	This project will develop a multi-jurisdictional land use overlay zone to protect the Indian Brook/Croton Gorge watershed, which encompasses approximately 3,400 acres in five municipalities including Town of Cortlandt, Town and Village of Ossining, Village of Croton-on-Hudson, and Town of New Castle. The overlay zone is intended to bring the disparate environmental laws that currently exist in the five communities into conformity with each other, to help ensure that projects proposed in each individual community are subject to the same land use regulations to ensure the protection of the watershed.
Pace University	Columbia & Dutchess	\$37,588	This training will develop land use leadership capacity within the watershed areas to help community stakeholders assess and amend their land use plans and zoning codes to protect natural resources and open and increase community resiliency.
Columbia Land Conservancy, Inc.	Columbia	\$49,999	This plan will identify municipal and private actions that will help maintain unfragmented forests and streamside habitats in the headwaters of the Taghkanic, which provides drinking water for the city of Hudson. This rural forested area, valued for its scenery, recreational opportunities, and wildlife habitat, is part of a regional forest linkage that is critical for climate change resiliency.
Riverkeeper Inc	Rockland	\$50,000	Riverkeeper will assess water quality in the Sparkill Creek Watershed in coordination with DEC and the local community using DEC's Professional External Evaluation of Rivers and Streams protocols. This project will gather Environmental Laboratory Approval Program lab-certified data, conduct a thorough assessment, and if impairments are documented, will recommend updates to the state Priority Waterbodies List or 303(d) list of impaired waters.
Town of New Paltz	Ulster	\$35,000	The NRI project will update and expand on the Town's Open Space Plan to provide an online set of maps and information that identify the current natural resources throughout the town and village. The completed NRI will be a reference document for use by town agencies, landowners, and others seeking information about New Paltz's resources and landscapes, and will provide guidance for land-use planning, land development, and conservation.
The Nature Conservancy	Dutchess & Ulster	\$50,000	The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the Hudson River Watershed Alliance (HRWA) will engage four communities of the "Hudson 7", Town of Hyde Park, the City of Poughkeepsie, and the towns of Esopus and Lloyd, to implement climate-adaptation resiliency planning. The workshops will help these communities recognize, analyze, and map areas of vulnerability and identify activities to reduce risk.
Trout Unlimited, Inc.	Rensselaer	\$49,967	This plan will serve as a guide for future culvert replacements to reconnect high-quality aquatic habitat and improve community flood resiliency and road infrastructure condition within the town. The management plan will include an inventory and prioritized list of road-stream crossings and designs for two-three priority replacement structures. document.
Natural Areas Conservancy, Inc.	New York	\$49,919	The natural resources conservation plan will include a detailed description of potential restoration and management projects appropriate for volunteers, paid staff, and contractors. Local stewards, the Riverside Park Conservancy, and NYC Parks staff will be trained in monitoring in order to track future improvements to the site.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED JUNE 27, 2019

RIVER ACCESS (NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGES FUND)

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Village of Tarrytown	Westchester	\$271,000	The Village of Tarrytown will stabilize the Hudson River shoreline of Losee Park in Tarrytown to reduce erosion and the impacts of flooding. The project will improve public access to the existing kayak/canoe launch at the park. The Village also will work with local public schools, the senior center, and historically underserved residents to promote the enjoyment of nature and recreational opportunities.
Historic Hudson Valley	Westchester	\$104,000	Historic Hudson Valley will improve storm resiliency and river access for the public at Philipsburg Manor, a historic landmark in Sleepy Hollow contiguous to the former General Motors (GM) site. The project will eradicate invasive species on the shoreline to improve access and preserve the viewshed; stabilize the shoreline with native plantings using sustainable shoreline principles; upgrade the picnic area to meet universal access standards; and remove fallen trees from the river to facilitate recreational kayaking.
Village of Sleepy Hollow	Westchester	\$375,000	The Village of Sleepy Hollow will restore and enhance the riverside trail on the former GM site, which stretches from DeVries Park to Philipsburg Manor, along the southern shoreline of the Pocantico River, a tributary of the Hudson. The funding also will be used to stabilize the shoreline, remove invasive species, and construct a connected path network with a viewing platform and educational signage. The completed trail will connect Devries Park to inner village neighborhoods and to the Sleepy Hollow Commons project and its amenities.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED NOVEMBER 20, 2018

RIVER ACCESS

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Village of Castleton-on-Hudson	Rensselaer	\$50,000	This project will complete planning for public access to the Hudson River at Riverfront Park, a Village-owned parcel on the east bank of the Hudson in the Village of Castleton-on-Hudson. Since 1994, when the grade level crossing at Scott Avenue and Main Street was closed, there has been no public access to the Hudson River in the Village of Castleton-on-Hudson, despite the Hudson being "navigable-in-law," and that every other community on the Hudson River has public access to the shore. At present, a fence and locked gates block access across the railroad tracks to the park. This project will make Riverfront Park a shovel-ready project, including construction plans, preparation of permits, public engagement forums, and negotiation with Amtrak/CSX/NYS DOT to "Open the Gate."
Town of New Windsor	Orange	\$25,500	This project will complete planning, design and permitting of a fishing pier in Plum Point Park, a 6.8-acre town park located along the Hudson River. This will be the first fishing access owned by the Town of New Windsor, providing the public with a much sought after resource. By building a fishing pier in a public park, all residents of (and visitors to) New Windsor will have access to this experience, providing the basis for a new population to appreciate and treasure the Hudson Valley's ecology.
Arm of the Sea Productions Inc.	Ulster	\$39,580	This project will specify, plan for, permit and construct two structures needed to support public access, recreation, and programming at Arm-of-the-Sea's emerging Tidewater Center in Saugerties, NY. The first structure, a 14' x 24' Operational Support Center, will house central utilities, provide staff meeting area, and equipment storage. The second structure --- a large awning --- will be designed, fabricated and installed to cover a 45' X 40' Events Space. This space will host a variety of public presentations related to the Hudson River Estuary. Together, these facilities will enable Arm-of-the-Sea to open a brand new entry point for accessing and appreciating the Hudson River Estuary.
Town of Esopus	Ulster	\$50,000	The Town of Esopus and Scenic Hudson will prepare the Esopus Riverfront Access and Connections Study to evaluate opportunities for new and enhanced access to the Hudson River and Rondout Creek. A key focus of the study will be to reinforce connections along the Esopus shoreline to regional water-based networks, including the Hudson River Valley Greenway Water Trail and the John Burroughs Black Creek Trail, as well as land-based connections to inland recreational locations in the Town of Esopus. The Plan will also examine long-term resiliency to sea-level rise and flooding at existing and proposed public access sites. A robust public/community outreach process will confirm the need and desirability of amenities. Based upon the inventory/analysis; public and stakeholder input and project team coordination, priority projects will be identified, conceptualized, and analyzed for permitting requirements and approvals in preparation for the next stage of shovel-ready implementation.
Cortlandt Community Rowing Association	Westchester	\$50,000	The Cortlandt Community Rowing Association will outline the requirements for a properly functioning boathouse, and develop a plan to replace the existing interior supporting structures, and replace with a less intrusive structure. This project will provide adaptive reuse of existing structures, from former seaplane hangars, to a boathouse for rowing shells. Shells are up to 60 feet long, and must now be "threaded" carefully around interior steel rod supports, creating the possibility of damage to the boats and injury to the crew. By replacing the current interior supports, and providing doors to open on the end of the building, the project will make the existing structures more useful and safer to use with no alteration to their current footprint.

HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY PROGRAM GRANT AWARDS 2018 (ROUND 25)

TOTAL: \$342,764

AWARDS ANNOUNCED NOVEMBER 20, 2018

RIVER EDUCATION

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Hudson River Maritime Museum	Ulster	\$40,000	The Hudson River Maritime Museum will integrate information about climate change and its impacts on the Hudson River Estuary throughout the museum’s exhibits and its campus. The project will include (1) the integration of climate change information into the museum’s existing exhibits, (2) significant updates to the “Changing River” semi-permanent exhibit about Hudson River ecology and environmental history, shifting its focus to climate change and its impacts on the Hudson River Estuary, (3) the installation of outdoor interpretive signage throughout the museum campus and along Rondout Creek that focuses on the impacts of climate change, including past flooding, future sea level rise and flood projections, and (4) the creation of an audio tour to accompany the outdoor interpretive signage.
Sarah Lawrence College	Westchester	\$35,841	Sarah Lawrence College Center for the Urban River at Beczak (CURB) runs a robust field trip program for nearly 5,000 students every year, to experience hands-on education on the shores of the Hudson River in Yonkers. Only about 15% of these trips, however, are conducted with high school students. This project will address that gap by nearly doubling the number of high school students at CURB each year, as well as solidifying long-standing relationships with local high schools in Yonkers and NYC, and improving, refining, and disseminating curriculum and educational videos developed by CURB staff. CURB staff will also work with local high school students and teachers to develop realistic independent research projects revolving around the Hudson River estuary, and improve and create relevant curriculum products to support and promote estuarine literacy.
Columbia Land Conservancy, Inc.	Columbia	\$39,984	Columbia Land Conservancy (CLC) will enhance public awareness of the Hudson River Estuary by working with local partners to deliver place-based education programming about the estuary at the Greenport Conservation Area. The site will be used as a learning laboratory, offering lessons focused on riparian buffer zones, wetlands, and the species that live in these areas, as well as understanding activities that can have positive and negative impacts on these environments. Students will engage in hands-on activities such as invasive species removal, and “Estuary Explorer” backpack kits will be made available for free check-out at the Hudson Library. CLC will also install interpretive signage about the natural resources of the estuary at Greenport, expanding the potential audience served by this program
Outstanding Renewal Enterprises, Inc.	New York	\$10,000	The Lower East Side Ecology Center will conduct public, family-oriented fishing clinics, with a goal to reach an estimated 300 participants. This grant will provide funds for fishing gear, materials and supplies for the clinics, as well as signage, printing and interpretive educational materials.
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater	Ulster & Orange	\$37,700	The Hudson River Sloop Clearwater’s “River Climate Change Curriculum Project” will create a model curriculum and piloting programs for teachers and students in the cities of Newburgh and Kingston. The project will reach an estimated 100 teachers and 450 students, who will participate in pilot programs using a new climate change curriculum tied to specific community resiliency plans that can easily be adapted to river cities throughout the Hudson Valley. To enhance the climate change curriculum and encourage wider use, an interactive online toolkit will be created on Clearwater’s website that offers a Virtual Sail up the Hudson River to gather climate change data.
The River Project, Inc.	New York	\$39,295	The River Project will develop curriculum for its field trip, in-classroom, and professional development training programs to educate students and teachers within its growing network of NYC schools and organizations, and through existing partnerships with the NYC Department of Education. Lessons will utilize the marine science field station on Pier 40, and the surrounding estuarine ecosystem. Curriculum will be aligned to federal and state learning standards and will be accessible to a wide range of learners.
National Audubon Society Inc	Putnam	\$12,950	The National Audubon Society will improve or replace equipment and teaching tools necessary for safe and effective programs and experiences about the natural history and conservation of the Hudson River Estuary available to local schools, the visiting public, and undergraduate interns and researchers. The organization’s equipment and overall facility in Constitution Marsh are heavily used, and degrade over time. Updating these resources will contribute to the effort to expand and strengthen education work.
Seaport Museum New York	New York	\$30,000	South Street Seaport Museum will replace the centerboard trunk of the educational vessel "Pioneer" and continue to operate the vessel as a floating classroom in the 2019 sailing season. Pioneer is the Museum’s main floating classroom, providing estuary education programs for schools throughout the NY Metro Area, including The New York Institute for Special Education. The Pioneer’s current centerboard trunk is 50 years old, has run its useful course, and needs to be replaced. It is expected that this repair will allow the Pioneer to operate for many years to come.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED NOVEMBER 20, 2018

RIVER EDUCATION

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Downtown Boathouse	New York	\$30,000	This project will increase public recreational access to and understanding of the Hudson River Estuary by growing the capacity of the free kayaking programs operated by the Downtown Boathouse. The grant will secure additional equipment, expanding the amount and type of equipment that is available at popular launch sites, including adaptive kayaking equipment and training courses. The availability of this equipment will increase the number of people who are able to experience the estuary via free kayaking, and will make it more accessible to seniors and people of all abilities.
The Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York	Rockland	\$39,244	This project focuses on developing new interior displays, with accompanying educational content, to provide community outreach, teacher workshops and school programs at the Lamont Hudson River Field Station on Piermont Pier. Working with the community, a combination of physical and digital resources will be developed to support teaching some of the many 'stories' that created the Hudson of today. Centered around a 3D model of local terrain and river bottom, the stories will include a focus on the region, and will build on emerging Hudson stories like climate change, contaminants, invasives and microplastics. Each story will include science and social science and a 'what can you do' piece.
Poughkeepsie Highland Railroad Bridge Co. Inc.	Dutchess & Ulster	\$27,750	This project will update and enhance environmental and ecological information about the Hudson River Estuary, the Fall Kill Creek, and the surrounding region provided on the Walkway Over the Hudson, both virtually (mobile audio tours, TravelStorys) and physically (signage). The information will be provided in a highly accessible way, including translation into multiple languages, and will engage a wide-demographic of park visitors on an annual basis (590,000 in 2017).

AWARDS ANNOUNCED NOVEMBER 20, 2018

LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Riverkeeper Inc	Ulster; Orange	\$50,000	Riverkeeper will work with the Wallkill River Watershed Alliance to advance two elements of a nine-element (9E) watershed management plan for the Wallkill River: Identifying & Quantifying Pollution Sources and Outreach to Stakeholders. New water quality data from 2017 and 2018 will be summarized and reported, and a targeted outreach program will be conducted to educate and engage stakeholders, with an emphasis on MS4-regulated municipalities. The goal is to ultimately restore water quality in the Wallkill River, which is impacted by fecal contamination and excess nutrients, negatively impacting safe recreation and tourism, as well as farm irrigation and drinking source water protection.
The Research Foundation of CUNY obo Hunter College	Westchester	\$47,255	RFCUNY will partner with Westchester County, Westchester Land Trust, and Sustainable Westchester to develop the tools necessary to add canopy cover to enhance watershed resiliency for health and climate adaptation. The project will include (1) the development of high spatial resolution maps of current and recent changes in land use and land cover, (2) assessments of the success of community tree planting programs, (3) producing maps highlighting priority areas for forest conservation and afforestation efforts, and (4) producing guidance for others to replicate this for other areas.
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation	Richmond	\$50,000	NYC Parks will create conceptual designs and plans for green infrastructure on twelve high priority parkland sites located within the Harlem River Watershed and the North Shore of Staten Island. Locations for the concept plans will be representative of the diverse landscape conditions encountered in both watersheds, and specific sites will be selected based on land cover, terrain, and feasibility of implementation. The concept plans will focus on reducing CSOs and improving stormwater and flood management, while providing additional greenspace. Ultimately, the plans will be used to inform future green infrastructure design work and to secure construction funding.
Village of Piermont	Rockland; Ulster; Greene	\$49,285	The Village of Piermont, Village of Catskill, and the City of Kingston will lead this project to foster waterfront flood resilience actions along the Hudson River through expanding a collaborative network of leading waterfront communities. Three meetings will be held, each including a demonstrative site tour focusing on flood resilience implementation actions, and a workshop-style meeting addressing additional topics of particular relevance for planning to adapt land uses and decision-making in ways that increase waterfront resilience.
Pace University	Albany	\$36,649	The Land Use Law Center at Pace University will implement a community-based Land Use Leadership Alliance training (LULA) program for Albany County, with the aim of fostering the development of sustainable communities and providing targeted policy, planning, and regulatory tools for natural resource and open space protection, watershed planning and shoreline resiliency. This training will develop land use leadership capacity within the watershed areas to support community leaders and other stakeholders in assessing and amending their land use plans and zoning codes to increase community resiliency, natural resources, and open space protections to create healthier watersheds.
Orange County Water Authority	Orange	\$20,000	Orange County Water Authority, with partners Riverkeeper and Orange County Planning Department, will complete and implement a strategic plan building a sustainable and diverse coalition to support research, monitoring, education and long-term protection of the Newburgh Area source water watershed. Outreach and collaboration will provide a means for interested parties to become informed and active in protection of the water supply. Local government and agency representatives, business and property owners, and others will be invited to join the initiative with state, county and regional agencies serving as key advisors. This project will fill a gap in agency and organizational activities highlighted by the recent water supply crisis, and will implement the forthcoming Source Water Protection Plan.
City of Albany	Albany	\$42,000	This project will conduct a study along the Hudson River to identify shoreline stabilization opportunities and create potential projects that will allow for the riverfront to be better optimized and accessed by the community while protecting the unique habitat. Upon conclusion of the study, the contracted firm will develop a report that determines the condition of the shoreline, evaluates shoreline alternatives, recommends potential shoreline stabilization systems and the potential costs.
Trout Unlimited, Inc.	Columbia	\$49,855	Trout Unlimited will develop the Town of Taghkanic Road Stream Crossing Replacement Plan (RSCR), which will serve as a guide for future culvert replacements, reconnecting high quality aquatic habitat and improving community flood resiliency and road infrastructure condition within the Town. The outcome of the RSCR will be a prioritized list of road stream crossings, designs for 2-3 priority replacement structures and road stream crossing inventory document.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED JANUARY 23, 2019

TRIBUTARY RESTORATION & RESILIENCY

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Riverkeeper Inc	Westchester	\$319,805	The project proposes to mitigate the first and second barriers for fish movement upstream from the Hudson in Furnace Brook. Both dams are in decay, no longer serve any functional purpose, and pose ecological issues to the health of Furnace Brook, and to several species of fish in serious decline. The grant will support removal of the first barrier, and development of design plans for removal of the second barrier (Maiden Lane Dam). Removal of the first dam will restore almost one mile of stream habitat for river herring and American eel. When the second barrier is eventually removed, an additional half mile of habitat will be reconnected.
Bard College	Dutchess	\$312,057	The project will remove Bard's lowest dam on the Saw Kill, a first barrier for fish movement upstream from the Hudson River. The dam no longer generates hydropower, and remains an unnatural stream barrier to American Eel migration. The grant will support final project permitting, dam removal, restoration of the former stream shoreline, and a post-dam-removal eel count for comparative research with current data. Removing the dam will reconnect almost one mile of stream habitat.
The Scenic Hudson Land Trust, Inc.	Ulster	\$181,000	This project will remove an undersized culvert, and install a new open bottom culvert under Winding Brook Road at Scenic Hudson's Black Creek Preserve. Right-sizing the culvert will enhance fish passage for American eel and reduce flooding problems which now affect the road. The existing culvert is a first barrier for fish movement upstream from the Hudson River on a tributary of Black Creek. The new culvert will be designed to be fully passable for aquatic organisms and will accommodate a 500-yr storm flood conditions. Approximately 4820' of stream habitat will be enhanced.
Hudson Valley Regional Council	Orange	\$31,500	The project will investigate stakeholder issues related to the proposed removal of Browns Pond dam on the Otter Kill Creek in the Town of Hamptonburgh. The dam was initially constructed for mill power, and the pond was used for ice harvesting. The dam is now in a deteriorated condition and has been identified as a potential structural and flood hazard. If removed, downstream flood hazards would be mitigated, and at least 14.5 miles of stream habitat would be improved for American eel and other aquatic species. This grant will support public meetings with affected upstream and downstream stakeholders to explore the implications of potential dam removal as well as monitoring of fish habitat in the stream, focused on American eel.
Riverkeeper Inc	Orange	\$218,870	The project will remove the Strooks Felt Dam on the Quassaick Creek, a first barrier for fish movement upstream from the Hudson River. The dam is in decay, no longer serves any functional purpose, and poses ecological issues to the health of Quassaick Creek. Removing the 5.5-foot dam will restore over one mile of habitat for river herring and eel, improve fish passage and connectivity, restore river resiliency and natural functions, and enhance riverine stewardship of Quassaick Creek. The project also supports ongoing restoration efforts in the watershed.
Town of Stony Point	Rockland	\$53,100	Identified in the Town of Stony Point Road-Stream Crossing Management Plan, this project will complete planning and engineering for right-sizing a barrier culvert and removing a 6' obsolete dam on Cedar Pond Brook. Mitigating these barriers will restore fish and wildlife passage, and reduce flood risk. Restoring 13,000' of stream habitat continuity in this location will reconnect Cedar Pond Brook with a significant amount of permanently protected upstream stream corridor and associated uplands between Harriman State Park and other barriers in the stream network.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 12, 2017

LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
City Parks Foundation	Richmond	\$50,000	City Parks Foundation and the Natural Areas Conservancy (NAC) will create a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) to support conservation and data-driven resource management of Staten Island's North Shore. The NRI will include 132 acres of natural area, and will identify opportunities for conservation and stewardship of wetland and upland forest habitat. Given local development pressures and recent acquisitions, this data will be important for resource managers at the NAC and NYC Parks to better advocate for conservation of natural resources and healthy ecosystems, and work with landscape designers to design recreational spaces that are sensitive to and compatible with the condition of the natural areas.
Bard College	Dutchess	\$48,720	Bard College will work with the Saw Kill Watershed Community (SKWC) to capitalize on long-standing community involvement to improve awareness of the Saw Kill watershed's social and economic value, including connections between land use and stream/watershed conditions. This project will recommend and implement long-term planning that will help preserve the watershed and resolve issues that threaten it. To achieve the objective, the SKWC will strengthen its leadership and structure, expand its membership, and build a regional component by reaching out to neighboring watershed community groups.
Pace University	Ulster & Orange	\$27,541	Collaborating with Wallkill River Watershed Alliance, Pace University will implement a community-based Land Use Leadership Alliance (LULA) training program for communities within the NYS portion of the Wallkill Watershed. The LULA program will foster development of sustainable communities and provide targeted policy, planning, and regulatory tools for natural resource and shoreline resiliency by developing land use leadership capacity. Training combines lectures, case studies, and interactive sessions in which participants learn about local environmental laws, resiliency in planning, inter-municipal approaches to watershed protection, citizen engagement, consensus building in a community, and how to cultivate public participation.
Hudson Highlands Land Trust, Inc.	Orange	\$49,348	Hudson Highlands Land Trust will partner with Orange County Land Trust to assist the Towns of Blooming Grove and Cornwall and the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson in creating Open Space Inventories (OSIs) for each municipality. The OSIs will feature maps of open spaces important to each community for protection, including narratives explaining why each area is significant. The OSIs will help address development pressures and water source demands locally, as well as collaboratively across municipal borders.
Upper Hudson Northern Catskill Natural Resource Trust	Greene	\$35,080	Upper Hudson Northern Catskill Natural Resource Trust will work with Hudsonia and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties to complete a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) for Greene County to help guide conservation work county-wide. The NRI will provide useful data to inform and prioritize projects that will be most beneficial in terms of protecting sensitive habitats, increasing resiliency, and improving the overall health of the watershed within Greene County.
Town of Hillsdale	Columbia	\$24,160	The Town of Hillsdale will work with a consultant to create a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) for the Town. The NRI will be designed for use by the Planning Board, Town Board, Conservation Advisory Council, and other town entities engaged in matters related to land use planning, policy-making, environmental reviews, and decision-making, and will also be useful to landowners, residents, developers, and others seeking to understand the natural landscapes of Hillsdale.
Orange County Water Authority	Orange	\$29,079	Orange County Water Authority will renovate a stream monitoring network on the Moodna Creek, including installation of five (5) new monitoring locations and upgrades to one existing station. The network will build on data collected by prior stream bio-monitoring programs, and will measure electrical conductivity (salt), thermal stress (temperature), as well as water depth, to track suspected changes in specific conductance across the watershed. The data collected will help to better understand flow levels in the head water locations of the creek, and will be used to study flooding in the watershed.
Trout Unlimited, Inc.	Columbia	\$37,606	Trout Unlimited, Inc. will develop the Town of Ancram Road Stream Crossing Replacement Plan (RSCR), which will serve as a guide for future culvert replacements, reconnecting high quality aquatic habitat and improving community flood resiliency and road infrastructure condition with the Town. The project will produce a prioritization matrix that considers infrastructure and ecosystem vulnerability, a complete prioritized list of road stream crossings, designs for 2-3 priority replacement structures, and inclusion of the RSCR in the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 12, 2017

LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties	Columbia & Greene	\$23,063	Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties will develop a Watershed Management Plan for the Catskill Creek Watershed through engagement with and education of stakeholders, including municipalities, organizations and community members. The plan will provide guidelines for decision-making regarding future watershed projects, and will address protecting high quality streams, improving water quality, increasing flood resiliency, restoring habitat, prioritizing sites for riparian buffer protection or restoration, and understanding of quantities of water needed for stream habitat and water supplies.
Groundwork Hudson Valley	Westchester	\$48,768	Groundwork Hudson Valley and the Center for the Urban River at Beczak (CURB) will re-energize the Saw Mill River Coalition as a watershed alliance, promoting municipal and community partnerships and renewing restoration goals. The project will catalog current information about the Saw Mill River and compile it in a "state-of-the-watershed" report. Communities will be engaged to review the report, promote best practices, share knowledge, and set new goals that also incorporate climate resiliency, smart growth, and environmental justice. A 5-year Action Plan will be produced that will establish implementation steps for key partners going forward.
Village of Ravena	Albany	\$40,000	The Village of Ravena will investigate the use of green infrastructure to manage stormwater and relieve pressure on the undersized stormwater system, and reduce the occurrence of stormwater entering the sanitary system. A consultant will assess municipally-owned facilities and will identify strategic locations for opportunities for green infrastructure. Green infrastructure may provide relief to allow for storm flows to be handled through the storm system, alleviating flow into the system and reducing flooding events.
Hudson River Watershed Alliance	Multiple	\$50,000	The Hudson River Watershed Alliance will build the capacity, effectiveness and sustainability of watershed groups and regional watershed protection efforts in the Hudson River Watershed. Existing capacity building and educational efforts will be strengthened through conducting a needs assessment with strategic vision, preparing guidance materials with success stories, and launching a coordinated communications and marketing strategy. Existing and emerging watershed groups will be engaged, locally and at a regional level, which will result in a network of watershed groups and alliances that are more effective at protecting streams and tributaries, watersheds and water resources in the region.
City of Middletown	Orange	\$50,000	The City of Middletown will work with a consultant to produce a Source Water Protection Plan that will provide a framework to ensure delivery of safe drinking water to the City of Middletown. Management strategies will be developed through a risk/benefit assessment, which will identify areas of concern and a preliminary list of Best Management Practices (BMPs). An implementation plan will identify short-term and long-term projects for the City to consider for the protection of its source water.
The Nature Conservancy	Multiple	\$49,206	The Nature Conservancy will work closely with Hudson River Watershed Alliance, Estuary Program Staff and Scenic Hudson to engage up to ten communities along the Hudson River and/or its tributaries in community climate risk assessments. The Community Resilience Building framework will guide a structured dialogue with community-selected staff, volunteer committee members, and prominent community leaders to begin assessing the community's resilience to climate change. Customized, one-day workshops will be held to help communities recognize their areas of risk and vulnerabilities, and identify risk reduction activities.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 12, 2017

RIVER ACCESS FOR PEOPLE OF ALL ABILITIES

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
City of Kingston	Ulster	\$45,820	The City of Kingston will create accessible pathways to existing parking and improve amenities at Kingston Point Beach in Kingston Point Park. Plans for improvements include parking lot line painting, new signage and posts for accessible parking spaces, a removable beach access route to the water's edge, beach wheelchairs, upgrades for accessible toilet rooms, and retrofits to an existing changing room stall to make it fully accessible. These improvements will provide access to swimming, fishing, and environmental interpretation for people of all abilities.
Seaport Museum New York	New York	\$50,000	Seaport Museum New York will make improvements on Pier 16 and to the historic educational vessel, Pioneer, used as a floating classroom for programs about ecology, natural history and water quality. The proposed improvements will provide safer access to the pier and vessel by the blind and visually-impaired, including installing a railing at the boarding point of the Pioneer, and an apron piece at the end of the gangway. Learning about the Hudson River Estuary will be enhanced with tactile interpretive signage, maps and multi-language tactile guidebooks.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED AUGUST 18, 2017

TRIBUTARY RESTORATION AND RESILIENCY

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Riverkeeper, Inc.	Multiple	\$245,233	Riverkeeper will help restore natural stream habitat for fish such as American eel and river herring whose upstream migration is impacted by dams and artificial barriers that are no longer needed or are poorly maintained. Riverkeeper will partner with DEC to reach out to the owners of dams and other stream barriers and educate the public on the benefits of converting waterbodies back to natural states.
Orange County Soil & Water Conservation District	Orange	\$350,000	This grant supports community and stakeholder outreach meetings, final project permitting, and removal of the deteriorated Brown's Pond dam on the Otter Kill Creek in the town of Hamptonburgh. The grant also includes restoration of the former stream shoreline, a site information kiosk, and educational tours. Removing the dam will eliminate the hazard to road and residential property and will reconnect at least 14.5 miles of stream habitat for American eel and many other fish and wildlife species.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED NOVEMBER 3, 2016

RIVER ACCESS AND EDUCATION

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Rockland County Division of Environmental Resources	Rockland	\$106,250	Rockland County Division of Environmental Resources will replace all of the existing wooden floating docks in Haverstraw Bay Park with storm resilient, ADA compliant docks. The current docks, previously identified as being deficient in terms of accessibility, are in need of replacement. Further improvements include outfitting an accessible kayak launch in one of the boat slips. Existing gangways and piers will be used in the installation, which is part of a larger restoration project arising from Superstorm Sandy.
Town of Cortlandt	Westchester	\$50,000	The Town of Cortlandt will complete a feasibility study, conceptual design, and facility planning of a Hudson River Environmental Educational Center to be located in the center of Cortlandt Waterfront Park in the hamlet of Verplanck. The educational center will provide a location for visitors and school groups to learn about the river, specifically the role the Hudson River played in the development of the hamlet of Verplanck and the various industries that developed along the river including fishing, brick-making and ice-harvesting.
Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies	Dutchess & Ulster	\$158,549	Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies will engage secondary students and teachers in using data from the Hudson River Environmental Conditions Observing System (HRECOS) and the Hudson River watershed to improve environmental and data literacy. A web-based data portal will be built featuring new environmental and social science data sets ready for classroom use, along with resources for students, teachers and others. Cary staff will partner with Spark Media Project to support students in three environmental justice communities to participate successfully in the Hudson Data Jam.
Hudson River Maritime Museum	Ulster	\$120,263	Hudson River Maritime Museum will build a 21-foot, 8-person heritage wooden boat to provide “on the water” education and access to the Rondout creek and Hudson River. Built from locally-sourced wood, the Riverport boat construction will be documented and progress will be shared with the community. The project will also provide universal access to the museum’s docks, including an accessible entryway and ramp to the docks, as well as an ADA compliant kayak and small boat launch incorporating a transfer bench for wheelchair to craft access.
Manhattan College	Westchester & Bronx	\$74,628	Manhattan College will implement a project that will foster collaborative learning by enabling students to gather, share, and synthesize evidence-based observations of the Hudson River Estuary. Using their own smartphones, students will download blue-tooth enabled data of vital water parameters while walking through two tidal estuaries. The students will be able to determine, by collecting samples, the water quality of the adjacent tributary. Web applications and websites will be created to house and process the data, which will subsequently be used in classes and meetings for discussions and collaborative sessions.
Rensselaer Land Trust, Inc.	Rensselaer	\$26,500	Rensselaer Land Trust will create a Hudson River Access Plan for shoreline communities in Rensselaer County. The plan will provide an inventory of existing public access sites on the Rensselaer County Hudson River shoreline, outreach and research for additional potential sites with shoreline communities, and will make recommendations and design suggestions for improving access for people of all abilities, improved storm resiliency, and adequacy of facilities for user groups. The approach will take a comprehensive look at ways to “get people to the river” for recreation.
Hudson River Park Trust	New York	\$200,000	Hudson River Park Trust will complete design and marine engineering of a concrete floating dock at Hudson River Park Pier 26. The work will include analysis and incorporation of necessary utilities to the dock, including an ADA-accessible ramp and necessary modification to the existing Pier 26 marine infrastructure. Input will be solicited in developing programmatic elements for the dock, and assistance will be sought with oversight and permitting from regulatory agencies. Ultimately, the dock will accommodate large vessels and will serve as a river access point for education and research purposes.
Arm of the Sea Productions Inc.	Ulster	\$73,934	Arm of the Sea Productions will complete planning, design work and permitting needed to transform a former industrial site on the tidal Esopus Creek into an inspirational center for estuary education. Located in the Village of Saugerties adjacent to the Tina Chorvas Waterfront Park, the 1.5 acre property is currently inundated by ruins of a 19th century paper mill. Under this project, surveys and assessments will be completed, and a set of plans will be developed in preparation for securing necessary permits.
Seaport Museum New York	New York	\$195,000	Seaport Museum New York will repair two historic educational vessels (PIONEER AND LETTIE G. HOWARD) used as floating classrooms that provide an interactive education experience focused on ecology, natural history and water quality. The repairs are crucial to the operation of each vessel and include a new, more efficient engine and sails for PIONEER, and deck, hull, rig and engineering repairs to LETTIE G. HOWARD.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED NOVEMBER 3, 2016

RIVER ACCESS AND EDUCATION

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Clarkson University	New York	\$193,639	Clarkson University will lead a consortium of partners to further develop the conceptual plan for digital exhibits in the Hudson Park Pier 26 Estuarium. The execution of an RFP for design of the exhibit spaces, including selection and design will be conducted. Additionally, the project will develop the Estuarium website and its education portal. The Hudson Park Pier 26 Estuarium will be a public discovery center and destination for dynamic educational exhibits about the Hudson River Estuary and estuary science in the environment, history and society.
Marist College	Dutchess	\$54,674	Marist College will retrofit a 28-foot educational vessel to increase accessibility of two educational programs that provide river-based outdoor experiences on the Hudson River Estuary. The scope of the retrofit includes modifications to deck railing, a widened rail gate, and a hydraulic ramp equipped with railings. Equipment will also be installed to enhance the capabilities of vessel. The retrofit and equipment upgrades will expand opportunities for students of all ages and abilities to gain valuable hands-on experience and knowledge of the estuary.
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation	Bronx	\$58,350	NYC Department of Parks & Recreation will conduct a shoreline access planning project along the Hudson River Estuary in the Bronx between High Bridge and the Alexander Hamilton Bridge at a site known as Bridge Park South. Currently, the site contains over 215,000 square feet of unused waterfront, and was previously used as a construction staging area. The project will focus on access planning for environmental education and habitat enhancement, and will include a site survey and analysis, hydrodynamic assessment, community outreach, and a concept design.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Columbia Land Conservancy, Inc.	Columbia	\$43,067	Columbia Land Conservancy will assemble an advisory team to create the first NRI for Columbia County, encompassing 22 municipalities in the upper Hudson River estuary watershed. Existing data about the physical, biological, and cultural aspects of the landscape will be gathered, summarized, and analyzed, and lands important to community resiliency to climate change will be identified. Ultimately, the NRI will provide information and natural resource data for planning for Columbia County's ecological health and resilience.
Onondaga Environmental Institute, Inc.	Rensselaer	\$42,840	Onondaga Environmental Institute will develop a Watershed Plan for the Poesten Kill Watershed, based on water quality assessments and biological surveys. The development of a Watershed Plan will help identify areas of greatest conservation and restoration need in the watershed, as well as identify species of concern. In-situ water quality assessments and surface water sample collection will be used to isolate and potentially determine the source(s) of point-source discharges and/or nonpoint-source runoff.
Mohonk Preserve Inc.	Ulster	\$47,440	Mohonk Preserve will create a conservation plan for the Kleine Kill and Coxing Kill watersheds in Ulster County. Building on previous NRIs, the plan will identify and prioritize conservation needs. The stakeholder- and citizen science-driven planning and data collection process will evaluate water quality, identify vulnerable species, assess invasive threats, determine the need for riparian buffers and changes to current agricultural practices, and inform the siting of future trails or educational/interpretive infrastructure.
Rensselaer Land Trust, Inc.	Rensselaer	\$35,000	Rensselaer Land Trust will engage public and private stakeholders, including municipalities and residents, to develop a Rensselaer County Conservation Plan that will guide land conservation in Rensselaer County. The project will inventory and map natural resources, significant open spaces, and landscape features of the county. An assessment will be conducted to determine priority lands, resulting in a Conservation Plan that will help inform where land conservation projects will have the most impact.
Siena College	Albany, Dutchess, Westchester	\$48,244	Siena College will leverage the momentum that has built for the THuRST network and further its mission through the development of a new research plan that includes Hudson tributary research priorities and an action plan. Engaging with project partners and various stakeholders, the project will expand the organization's legitimacy, presence, and function in the Hudson River Watershed so it can plan for and carry out research to help the entire Hudson River Watershed community make science-based management decisions.
Rensselaer Land Trust, Inc.	Rensselaer	\$50,000	Rensselaer Land Trust will recruit and train citizen scientists to collect water samples from 18 sites on 5 tributaries for enterococcus levels. A sampling sub-set will determine levels of emergent compounds where high level enterococcus are found. Data will be analyzed and an assessment will be broadly communicated. The project will also promote an increased level of awareness and knowledge of residents and others on water quality conditions that can lead to a reduction of pollutants and improvement in water quality by introducing measures to reduce contamination sources and personal pledges.
Riverkeeper	Westchester and others	\$50,000	Riverkeeper will utilize the understanding gained from source tracking and nutrient/algal monitoring projects to advance community science efforts and improve water quality. The goals of the science-based action plan of the Wallkill River Watershed Alliance will evolve by applying the knowledge gained to expand sampling in other watersheds in the Hudson Estuary watershed. Overall, this project will support active community science water quality projects throughout the Hudson River Estuary that monitor fecal indicator bacteria.
Vassar College	Dutchess	\$50,000	Vassar College will produce a NRI for the City of Poughkeepsie that will provide baseline information on natural resources, including greenspace parks, tributaries to the Hudson, the Poughkeepsie waterfront and city trees. Community stakeholder meetings will be held to help identify other resources for inventory, such as historic and recreational resources. A habitat map and corresponding report will be generated. Students will map ash trees within city limits and propose management options for the mitigation of ash tree loss due to the invasive emerald ash borer.
City of Kingston	Ulster	\$24,500	The City of Kingston will complete a community-driven Open Space Plan (OSP), building on previous work to map the city's natural resources and creating a priority Open Space Index. The plan will serve as a roadmap to: (i) preserve, protect and enhance open space, (ii) identify and prioritize green space, (iii) protect water and biologically diverse resources, (iv) create and enhance access to parks, natural, historic and cultural resources, and (v) promote and ensure sustainable development.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation	Richmond	\$50,000	NYC Department of Parks & Recreation will develop a watershed plan for park land on the North Shore of Staten Island that focuses on opportunities for habitat, riparian and shoreline restoration, and green infrastructure for stormwater management. The project will also deliver conceptual designs for ecosystem restoration at the mouth of Harbor Brook in Snug Harbor to increase educational and stewardship opportunities for partner organizations, including the Snug Harbor Cultural Center and the Staten Island Museum.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED MAY 2, 2016

RIVER ACCESS AND RIVER EDUCATION

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater Inc	Multiple	\$32,557	Clearwater will create an interactive, responsive-design website of its Key to Common Hudson River Fishes that will augment the Key's content on the history, ecology and management of Hudson River fish. The website will include videos, maps, current research, natural history, status of fish species and health advisories.
Town of Marlborough	Ulster	\$40,000	The Town of Marlborough will complete an engineering study and plan to restore the larger southern pier at Milton Landing to operational use. A restored pier will provide deep-water mooring capabilities for larger craft and enhance opportunities for recreation, tourism, and education. The Milton Landing Committee will manage the project.
Yonkers Paddling & Rowing Club	Westchester	\$25,078	The Yonkers Paddling & Rowing Club will upgrade outdated equipment and purchase additional kayaks and paddles to increase the capacity of its free public kayaking and environmental awareness program located at the JFK Marina and Park in Northern Yonkers. The rowing and paddling club will also enhance its environmental education curriculum. The volunteer-run membership program serves youth and adults from the surrounding Environmental Justice areas.
Bard College	Dutchess	\$44,744	Bard College will conduct a feasibility study to develop a sustainable access plan for trail improvements to the Tivoli South Bay shoreline trail that will connect the Tivoli Bay Wildlife Management Area to Bard College trails. The project, if feasible, will improve public access to the Hudson River at Tivoli South Bay, create a direct connection to the south, and will include the repair of canoe and boat docks.
Seaport Museum New York	New York	\$53,153	The Seaport Museum will modify curriculum to provide access to materials for visually-impaired or blind students who participate in a marine ecology program. The Museum teaches principles of marine ecology to urban students in interactive classroom workshops as well as during sails aboard its educational vessel, the Pioneer. The Museum will also detail adaptations of approach and course content in a "Lessons Learned" document.
The River Project, Inc.	New York	\$46,792	The River Project will design, build, and install signage throughout The River Project's Wetlab to educate visitors about the ecosystem and involve them in stewardship and conservation of Harbor wildlife and the natural world. The new signage will be understandable to children and adults of all ages, simply explaining complicated scientific theories through images and graphs.
Orange County Water Authority	Orange	\$47,486	The Orange County Water Authority will lead the development of the Estuary Stewardship through Education (ESTE) project to educate residents of various ages about the estuary and its natural resources by designing and installing informational kiosks, offering kayak tours, and developing a website and social media applications. The project is a collaboration with Orange County Parks, the City of Newburgh, Village of Cornwall, Orange County Community College, Clearwater, Black Rock Forest Consortium and Storm King Adventure Tours.
Hudson River Park Trust	New York	\$100,000	Hudson River Park Trust will design and produce wheelchair-accessible educational signs that will be installed along the waterfront throughout the Park to explain estuary ecology and history to the public.
Waterfront Alliance, Inc.	Bronx & Kings	\$99,643	The Waterfront Alliance will develop designs for publicly-accessible boating infrastructure at six sites in northern Manhattan and Brooklyn along the Hudson River estuary, within or immediately adjacent to environmental justice communities. The sites include West Harlem Piers, East River Esplanade (Bobby Wagner Walk), Randall's Island, Transmitter Park, Bush Terminal Piers Park and Bushwick Inlet. The access sites will serve the general public and environmental education groups, local schools, and youth organizations.
Sarah Lawrence College	Westchester	\$64,990	The Center for the Urban River at Beczak (CURB) will plan and design nature-based (green) infrastructure demonstration projects to improve stormwater management on its two-acre outdoor site. CURB will also create signage, fact sheets, and web content to inform the public about stormwater, urban runoff, and combined sewer overflow (CSO) issues and will design a monitoring plan to provide opportunities for youth engagement and citizen science.
Harlem River Boat Club Inc.	Bronx	\$20,000	The Harlem River Community Rowing program will increase access to boating on the Harlem River for people with a range of physical abilities by purchasing a lighter, eight-seat rowing shell and a modular extension that increases seat capacity for the Learn-to-Row barge. The lighter shell will make introductory classes more appealing and accessible, and the expanded barge will increase capacity for the free, Learn-to-Row program that serves low-income residents in the surrounding neighborhood.
Media Alliance, Inc.	Rensselaer	\$73,660	Media Alliance will design a citizen-scientist biology education laboratory, the Troy Citizen Science Center, in the lower floor of the North Troy Art Technology and Urban Research in Ecology building (NATURE) that will include classroom and meeting space, a wet lab with an aquarium, and a dry lab with microscopes. The center will host workshops and labs to educate residents about the importance, value and role of the Hudson River estuary in the urban ecosystem. The Media Alliance will also develop a website, and design, build and install multi-media signage for a linked art trail.

HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY PROGRAM GRANT AWARDS 2016 (ROUND 17)

TOTAL: \$1,198,758

AWARDS ANNOUNCED MAY 2, 2016

RIVER ACCESS AND RIVER EDUCATION

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Outstanding Renewal Enterprises, Inc.	New York	\$26,000	The East River Park Environmental Learning Center will purchase new educational equipment and displays that will include a saltwater aquaponics system stocked with species from the estuary. The East River Park will also offer new educational workshops for the public and school groups, as well as expanded public fishing clinics.
NYC Department of Parks & Recreation	Richmond	\$100,000	The New York City Department of Parks & Recreation will develop an educational, stewardship and recreational outreach program for youth who live on the north shore of Staten Island that will include ecosystem education presentations, field activities, and recreational opportunities on New York City parklands on Hudson River South.
Downtown Boathouse	New York	\$90,375	This project will improve public recreational access to the Hudson River in Manhattan with the purchase of kayaks and other equipment to increase the capacity of the free kayaking programs at popular launch sites operated by the Downtown Boathouse and the Manhattan Community Boathouse. These volunteer-staffed programs offer recreation and kayaking instruction for people of all ages, fitness levels and physical abilities.
Beacon Sloop Club	Dutchess & Others	\$100,000	The Beacon Sloop Club will complete the restoration of the ferry sloop Woody Guthrie including planking and fairing of the hull, reinstallation of the cabin and cockpit, caulking, and replacement of decking. The Woody Guthrie provides free educational sails on the Hudson River to the general public, school groups, and other local organizations. Beacon Sloop Club programs also include a sail training program with classroom and on-board training, and a winter environmental education program for crews, which are free and open to the public.
Hudson Valley Arts and Science	Westchester	\$100,000	Hudson Valley Arts and Science will complete the design and permitting of an extension to a public pier in Ossining, NY that was modified during the rebuilding of the Metro North ferry terminal. The pier extension will provide adequate draft for visiting historic and tourist ships such as the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, the Half Moon, the Amistad replica, and the old Hudson River Day Line.
City of Hudson	Westchester	\$91,780	The City of Hudson will build and equip a riverfront information center, the Everett Nack Estuary Education Center (ENEEC) on an abandoned piece of land at the city's waterfront. The Center will be constructed from a recycled shipping container and will be developed and operated by The Hudson Sloop Club. Designed to be accessible to people of all abilities, the education center will offer hands-on and experiential displays and activities, and will host visiting environmental educators, scientists, community members and visitors to the City of Hudson.
Town of Saugerties	Ulster	\$42,500	The Town of Saugerties will conduct a shoreline improvement study to evaluate specific needs for creating safe and climate-resilient access to the Hudson River shoreline at Bristol Beach State Park. The study will also identify educational opportunities and establish a plan for linking trails.

HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY PROGRAM GRANT AWARDS 2016 (ROUND 16)

TOTAL: \$562,222

AWARDS ANNOUNCED MAY 2, 2016

LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Town of Pound Ridge	Westchester	\$24,501	The Town of Pound Ridge will update its natural resources inventory (NRI) to include an inventory of underground spill sites, a potential source of pollution, and a habitat study of the area of the town within the Hudson River Estuary. The project will include training, education and outreach activities.
Bard College	Dutchess	\$49,950	Bard College will conduct a study to assess the impacts of maintenance and/or repair, partial removal, or entire removal of the Lower Saw Kill dam. The dam is the closest artificial barrier located to the mouth of the Saw Kill Creek and is a known barrier to aquatic connectivity, including for American eel, a Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN).
Village of Rhinebeck	Dutchess	\$12,750	A Vulnerability Assessment and Local Adaptation Plan will be developed for Rhinebeck's water system to identify adaptation actions the village could implement in the future to increase the resiliency of its water intake system and treatment plant. The intake system, access road, lift station, and plant will be components of the study.
Riverkeeper Inc	Westchester	\$50,000	Riverkeeper will coordinate the activities of the Walkill River Watershed Alliance in Orange and Ulster counties, and will partner with the Alliance to develop protocols and best practices for measurements of fecal indicator bacteria, nutrients and algae in the Hudson River watershed. The project will improve water quality monitoring and ensure consistency of data.
Town of Orangetown	Rockland	\$50,000	Engineering and design plans will be prepared to replace an inadequately-sized culvert at 400 NYS Route 303, Orangeburg, which carries the Sparkill Creek and drainage from Route 303 and surrounding areas. The engineering plans will include the removal of an abandoned and deteriorated pump station in the creek which blocks stream flow to mitigate flooding that occurs during heavy rain.
Town of Red Hook	Dutchess	\$12,750	The Town of Red Hook will analyze the Saw Kill watershed culvert data collected by Cornell University, NYS Water Resources Institute and DEC to develop a list of ten priority culverts for replacement for inclusion in the Town's capital planning efforts. Conceptual design and cost estimates for upgrading and/or replacing the culverts will also be developed. The plans to improve hydraulics and remove aquatic barriers in the watershed will benefit American eel and other aquatic organism connectivity.
City of Hudson	Columbia	\$20,000	The City of Hudson will produce a natural resources inventory and conservation plan (NRI) to guide land-use decisions. The NRI will be used to revise the existing zoning ordinance to help conserve green space, reduce storm water, promote green (nature-based) infrastructure strategies, protect open space and historic resources, and to develop vacant lots and brownfield areas.
Vassar College	Dutchess	\$50,000	Vassar College will develop a shovel-ready pilot project at the Vassar dairy barns to demonstrate green infrastructure practices to the college community and visitors. The plan will focus on the renovated dairy barn of the Environmental Cooperative, the road leading into the site, the parking lot adjacent to the barns and the site of the Poughkeepsie Farm Project.
Riverkeeper Inc	New York & Bronx	\$50,000	Riverkeeper will map the drainage area of Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) along the length of the Harlem River in Manhattan and the Bronx to improve stormwater management and water quality in the Harlem River watershed. Riverkeeper will also identify locations where green infrastructure can be used to capture stormwater, and will make policy recommendations to the New York City Department of Environmental Protection to improve green infrastructure implementation.
Village of New Paltz	Ulster	\$45,000	The Village of New Paltz will evaluate the suitability of green infrastructure at public spaces where there are water-related problems and/or where infrastructure improvements are planned. The project also includes education and outreach to municipal and community stakeholders.
Hudson Valley Arts and Science	Westchester	\$25,752	Hudson Valley Arts and Science will characterize and map the water quality, fish ecology, flow characteristics and barriers to migration along the entire length of the Sing Sing Kill, to locate sources of sewage and identify barriers to aquatic migration. The organization also will install a stream gauge and create public signage.
Pace University	Westchester	\$10,047	Pace University will work with Teatown Lake Reservation to create a baseline habitat assessment of the Pocantico watershed to inform future management decisions and evaluate project proposals by the Pocantico River Watershed Alliance, Pocantico River Watershed Conservancy, and local municipalities in the watershed.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED MAY 2, 2016

LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Hudson River Watershed Alliance	Orange & Ulster	\$38,952	The Hudson River Watershed Alliance will produce a demonstration water budget and flow-mapping of the Quassaick Creek Watershed that can be replicated by other watershed groups and municipalities throughout the Hudson River Watershed to help manage and protect streams and other water resources, monitor water availability, in-stream flow, and water usage over the long-term.
Schoharie County Planning Department	Schoharie	\$40,000	The County Planning Department will study approximately 6.75 miles of an unnamed tributary that flows to the Franklinton Vlaie and identify solutions to stream flow and habitat impairment that occurs primarily in a 1,200 foot section of the stream where it crosses Woods Road and outflows to the Franklinton Vlaie. The County will develop plans that include cost estimates and steps for improving overall stream health and mitigating barriers. The project will benefit Species of Greater Conservation Need (SGCN) including American Eel and heritage Brook Trout.
Pace University	Westchester	\$48,520	Pace University will develop an adaptive-management plan to prioritize culvert maintenance needs in the Pocantico watershed to improve drainage and decrease flooding during rain storms. A "how-to" guide for culvert assessment and prioritization will also be developed for use by other subwatersheds. This project may also help reconnect the American eel habitat in the Pocantico watershed, as well as provide benefit to trout and amphibian habitat.
Town of Hyde Park	Dutchess	\$17,000	The Town of Hyde Park will update its zoning code by refining the areas included within the Scenic and Historic Overlay districts that were established during a comprehensive planning process conducted in the 1990s. The Town will create a precise map of the regulated areas which will clarify the restrictions that apply in important viewsheds.
Village of Voorheesville	Albany	\$17,000	Village of Voorheesville will complete a hydrologic analysis of the Vly Creek Watershed to provide data that will help mitigate flooding and erosion of the stream bank. The Vly Creek supports trout spawning and American Eel migration.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED JANUARY 27, 2016

TRIBUTARY RESTORATION AND RESILIENCY

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Village of New Paltz	Ulster	\$246,365	This project will improve intermittent stream flow and movement of fish and wildlife by replacing a deteriorated culvert system with adequately-sized drainage structures at a road and rail trail crossing adjacent to the Wallkill River. The new system also will improve the flow of floodwater, and maintain habitat connections for eel and other Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) such as wood turtle.
Dutchess County Soil and Water Conservation District	Dutchess	\$96,408	Dutchess County Soil and Water will remove the twelve-foot Shapp Pond Dam on the East Branch Wappinger Creek, which will result in greater connectivity throughout the creek by removing a large impediment to fish passage, and will enable eels to migrate farther upstream.
City of Troy, New York	Rensselaer	\$12,500	The City of Troy will disassemble and remove a tide gate located on the Wynants Kill in close proximity to the Hudson River. The gate's removal will improve upstream access on this tributary for herring and American eel, and will also help reduce flooding problems.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 13, 2015

LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Orange County Water Authority	Orange	\$50,000	This project will develop a watershed management plan for the Monhagen Brook Watershed, including planning for the restoration of the Brook's banks, and channel, protection of the Monhagen Lake drinking water reservoir.
The Nature Conservancy	Ulster	\$50,000	The Nature Conservancy will continue a project to assist local communities to participate in the Hudson River Comprehensive Restoration Plan (HRCRP) process in the Hudson River Restoration Study Area from the Troy dam to the Piermont Marsh.
Bard College	Dutchess	\$44,779	This project will support the development of a science-based community stewardship Saw Kill Watershed Community Group focused on the management of the SawKill Watershed.
Town of Rochester	Ulster	\$50,000	This grant will assist the Towns of Rochester and Wawarsing to connect ecological and recreational assets for an open space plan.
Siena College	Albany	\$25,277	Siena College will complete a green infrastructure planning report for the Patroon Creek Watershed.
Ulster County	Ulster	\$47,000	Ulster County will develop a comprehensive culvert assessment that includes a GIS/modeling analysis and a field assessment and prioritization report for the county. The assessment will be used to prioritize culverts for replacement, size replacement and identify areas or watershed for additional study.
City of Kingston	Ulster	\$22,000	The city will develop a natural resources inventory that will identify areas to protect, including water resources, habitats, wildlife and natural areas important for climate resilience.
New York Restoration Project	New York	\$50,000	A shoreline plan will be developed to guide the ongoing reclamation work at Sherman Creek Park.
Village of Catskill	Greene	\$42,500	This project will complete a Risk and Engineering Review of the village of Catskill Wastewater System, and to implement recommendations from "Resilient Catskill Report of the Catskill Waterfront Resilience Task Force."
Hudson Valley Regional Council	Orange	\$50,000	Hudson Valley Regional Council will develop regionally applicable educational materials, guidance documents and fact sheets about the legal, regulatory and policy issues pertaining to drinking water source protection, stormwater management, the maintenance and restoration of streams and riparian buffer protection and restoration.
City of Yonkers	Westchester	\$50,000	The City of Yonkers will conduct a comprehensive analysis of the storm water system and green infrastructure strategies to reduce the burden on the system.
Town of New Lebanon	Columbia	\$21,520	A Natural Resources Conservation Plan will be developed with information from the New Lebanon Comprehensive Plan, Open Space Inventory and Estuary Program Habitat Summary.
Albany Water Board (d/b/a City of Albany Department of Water and Sewer)	Albany/ Rensselaer	\$50,000	"Albany Pool Communities Feasibility Assessment for a Green Infrastructure Banking System" This project will create a tool box of options that one or more communities can rely on to encourage and promote the development of green infrastructure.
City of Kingston	Ulster	\$49,684	This project will convene a Sea Level Rise Implementation Learning Group to collaborate on implementing key actions of the Flooding Task Forces in the village of Piermont, village of Catskill, city of Kingston and the town of Stony Point.
Village of Catskill	Greene	\$25,500	A Hudson River Shoreline Flooding Plan will be developed including an analysis of potential changes to the village's local zoning code to address resiliency issues.
Riverkeeper Inc	Ulster/Orange	\$49,999	Riverkeeper will update two watershed management plans for the Wallkill River and the Rondout Creek.
Town of New Castle	Westchester	\$50,000	This project will produce the information needed to undertake removal of the Upper Minkel Pond Dam and restore the natural stream channel and surrounding wetland.
Village of Hastings-on-Hudson	Westchester	\$41,650	The village will implement a Hudson River Shoreline Stabilization Plan to address ongoing erosion issues at a site on the outer bend of the Hudson River.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED SEPTEMBER 10, 2015

TRIBUTARY RESTORATION AND RESILIENCY

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Town of Ancram	Columbia	\$220,000	The Town of Ancram will replace two or more culverts on the Roeliff Jansen Kill within the Punch Brook and Shekomeko subwatersheds that are too small to pass floodwaters under current and predicted rainfall events. The culverts also are barriers to the movement of American eel and brown trout. Stream crossings will be redesigned and resized to improve stream flow and capacity, and to maintain stream-bottom habitat for aquatic organisms. Perched culverts-outlets elevated above the downstream water surface-may also be restored to grade to improve habitat connection for aquatic life. The streams and related wetlands of the Roeliff Jansen Kill are recreational and cultural resources for residents and tourists.
Scenic Hudson	Ulster	\$97,500	Scenic Hudson will replace the remnants of a perched culvert and berm structure on the Klyne Esopus Kill. Replacement of the culvert/berm structure with a right-sized, bottomless culvert, and reconstruction of the Klyne Esopus Kill streambed will allow herring and eels to access at least an additional half-mile of upstream tributary habitat. The new culvert will be designed to function under 500-year storm conditions, allowing the crossing to remain open during high water and high precipitation events. The project will also re-establish emergency and maintenance access to the Esopus Meadow Preserve and a Hudson River Greenway Water Trail site landing. Since 2011, when the culvert and stream crossing failed during Hurricane Irene, access to the site has been limited. Scenic Hudson will also design interpretive signage at the Preserve about best practices for the design of stream crossings to maintain access and habitat connectivity for aquatic life.