



2021-2022 Grants Awarded

New York State

Department of Environmental Conservation

Hudson River Estuary Program

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RIVER ACCESS

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Friends of Hudson River Park, Inc.	New York	\$30,348	Hudson River Park recognizes the need to include stakeholders in the planning and implementation of best practices and safety on the Park’s floating docks. The Safe Access Community Project will consult the Park’s four non-motorized boathouses and boating groups associated with their operations as part of the development of signage and safe access protocols for the docks. By involving stakeholders in planning and development, improving dock stability to provide resilience against flooding, installing signage that will increase visitors’ awareness of the safety precautions to be taken when accessing boats and the estuary; and educating the general public about safe river access and boating safety, the Project will provide Park visitors with increased access to the Park’s boating opportunities and natural environment. Funds from DEC will be used to organize focus groups and planning sessions, purchase signage, ladders, railings and safety rings, and pay for assembly.
New York Outrigger, Inc.	New York	\$60,800	New York Outrigger will enhance equitable river access for paddlers of all abilities through NYC’s only free and low-cost education program for outrigger canoe and stand-up paddleboard. New York Outrigger is committed to ensuring a safe paddling experience for paddlers with disabilities including people who are blind or visually impaired and hopes to increase participation in the NYO/Makapo adaptive paddling program. This project will fund adaptive equipment including launching and docking assistive equipment, lightweight outrigger canoes, wide-base stand up paddleboards, custom paddles for adaptive athletes, water rescue equipment, and training for coaches and volunteers. Our public paddling programs will increase the number of individuals served and number of repeat engagements from 450 individuals and 3000 engagements in 2022, to 500 individuals and 3333 engagements in 2023, to 550 individuals and 3667 engagements in 2024, and to 600 individuals and 4000 engagements in 2025.
Waterfront Alliance, Inc.	Richmond and Bronx	\$65,241	To secure equitable waterfront access for all, unused publicly owned waterfronts need to be retrofitted for recreation through policies that prioritize direct water access, nature-based solutions and processes that ensure underserved communities have a voice in the decision-making process. Through previous research, Waterfront Alliance has identified two sites in underserved communities in the Hudson River Estuary boundaries that present substantial opportunities for quality open space and waterfront access. The first is in the North Shore of Staten Island and the second is the Lincoln Avenue Street End in the Bronx. Funding will support staff time and an engineer/architect, who will help envision capital improvements to each site, create concept drawings, and help to make a stronger case for investments with City agencies. The project will provide new waterfront access to 90,000 residents of the Port Morris section of the Bronx and 160,000 residents of North Shore of Staten Island.

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RIVER EDUCATION

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Billion Oyster Project, Inc.	New York City wide	\$75,000	Billion Oyster Project will design, equip and activate a newly renovated building on Governors Island as a premier facility to educate students, teachers, families, tourists and NYC residents about New York Harbor and the Hudson River estuary. We will take occupancy of the space in early 2023, and the facility will open in the spring. The 1st floor of the building will house the "Billion Oyster Project Harbor Education Center," a gallery space to display a public education exhibit; a classroom to educate visiting school and camp groups; a training center for NYC public school teachers and community scientists; and a gathering place to hold informative panel discussions and skill-building workshops. We expect the Harbor Education Center to serve at least 5,000 public visitors, 150 teachers, 950 students and campers, and 800 community scientists, volunteers and other community stakeholders in 2023, and that these numbers will grow over time as the programming develops and expands.
Randall's Island Park Alliance	NYC	\$75,000	Randall's Island Park Alliance (RIPA), a non-profit park steward in New York City, will enhance its current research and internship program, Park-as-Lab by providing stipends for students from local neighborhoods to conduct environmental research at Randall's Island. In New York City, environmental internships are rare and paid ones even more so, causing many students to settle for unpaid positions in order to gain experience in the field. However, the unpaid nature of these internships prevents many from entering the environmental field, especially in neighborhoods like those around RIPA, where over 50% of people are in or near poverty. As such, this funding will create stipends for interns from RIPA's local community to conduct environmental research of their own, from project design to data collection to presentation. This research will take place in Randall's Island's 22 acres of restored natural areas which include two salt marshes, seining beaches, and over 4 miles of shoreline.
Friends of Hudson River Park, Inc.	New York	\$45,791	The Estuary Learning Center will be a classroom and interactive high-tech gallery providing interactive estuary education programs to educate about the Park's 400-acre Sanctuary and inspire the next generation of River stewards. The Center will draw a diverse group of local residents and visitors from across the region and the nation and advance the Park's STEM science and public education programs. The Center will also be a vital resource for advancing and sharing original research and primary data collected within the park's waters, which is conducted by the Park's River Project staff. This program will also provide critical green-job training and access to careers in the environmental field to students from local universities, high schools and neighborhood community centers. Funding will be used to create an initial curriculum and interpretives that maximize available classroom space.
Arm of the Sea Productions Inc.	Ulster	\$54,467	For this project, Arm-of-the-Sea is partnering with Saugerties Lighthouse Conservancy to offer environmental education about the Hudson River Estuary at their locations in Saugerties, NY. In 2023, they will participate in "A Day in the Life of the Hudson River" and start offering workshop sessions using a newly built watershed model. In 2024, they will incorporate other environmental science activities into events and performances at Arm-of-the-Sea Tidewater Center. And in 2025, they will launch The Tidewater STEAM Experience Camp. Funds will be used for personnel costs, equipment, a storage shed and transportation. The project leverages Arm-of-the-Sea's 40 years of experience delivering Hudson River Estuary education through touring performances of masked theater, school residencies and community workshops.
Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies	Dutchess	\$75,000	MH-YES engages high school students with limited environmental science experience, from underserved communities, and groups traditionally underrepresented in STEM, to build their knowledge, skills, motivation, and confidence to pursue environmental science. This 3-week paid research experience lessens barriers to access to environmental science. Students show measurable gains in scientific skills such as performing field research, collaborative social skills, and analyzing data. In collaboration with mentors, students conduct research to understand the ecology of water and soil in the Hudson River Estuary - specifically at local creeks in Millbrook and Poughkeepsie. MH-YES partners with regional organizations, such as Scenic Hudson and the Hudson River Watershed Alliance, to develop professional networks for students and enhance science communication skills.

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RIVER EDUCATION

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Sarah Lawrence College	Westchester	\$70,000	Rising TIDES (Training Innovative and Diverse Environmental Scientists) – EELS Team (Evaluating Estuary Lateral Species) is an immersive Hudson River Ecology education and research program. Twenty Yonkers Public School High School students will complete a 1-credit summer intensive followed by paid afterschool education and research during the academic year. Their research projects will focus on Hudson River Ecology and include data from seining, migratory eel monitoring, eDNA analysis, and use of water chemistry data from HRECOS. With mentorship from staff and Sarah Lawrence students they will create presentations to be shared with the community. In addition to their science training lessons will include green career options, communications training, and resume assistance.
The Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York	Rockland	\$74,969	The 'Building A Pathway' project will expand on our existing summer Next Gen internship program by providing more extensive opportunities for students from Rockland PEJA communities to develop Hudson River science research projects. Working from our Field Station in Piermont students will work together in peer and near peer teams to develop research projects along a range of field-based topics that could include sampling for microplastic abundance and classification, the impact of the pier on local estuary processes, the role of oysters in this brackish stretch of the Hudson, eDNA sampling and project expansion, fish diversity and abundance, plankton studies, biodiversity assessments and more. Projects will be designed and developed collaboratively by the student teams. Data will be shared through community events, poster presentations at Lamont, with local partner programs, at their local schools, and through our Field Station informal science events.
Natural Areas Conservancy, Inc.	New York	\$73,923	The Natural Areas Conservancy (NAC) proposes developing an intensive environmental science research project for City University of New York (CUNY) students from diverse backgrounds. Paid student interns will work extensively in the field, alongside NAC staff scientists, to conduct research on the condition of natural area forests in Northern Manhattan. This project will advance students' understanding of the ecosystem of the HRE and data first collected by the NAC during its Citywide Ecological Assessment in 2013-2014, providing updated information on forest conditions in the lower Hudson River Estuary (HRE). Interns will summarize and present their findings to the local community and practitioners, focusing on the trends and trajectories of forest health and what's needed to protect the ecological health of the HRE.
Groundwork Hudson Valley	Westchester	\$74,500	In this project, Groundwork will expand and formalize its youth research initiatives at the Science Barge to provide up to 15+ high school students from Yonkers with a year-long highly structured, supportive, and flexible paid fellowship experience over a two-year implementation period. The main goal is to take advantage of the Barge's innovative environmental systems and its stunning location on the Hudson River to inspire students to design, manage, and lead their own scientifically rigorous research projects. The work will focus on ways to improve the environmental quality of the estuary and the communities around it in alignment with Fellows own academic interests. First year Fellows will mentor the second-year cohort with staff. Work will be presented annually on the Barge or at the Riverfront Library, and STEM careers will be fostered with local and federal partners. The budget covers staff and fellow salaries along with travel and research materials.

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LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Riverkeeper Inc	Westchester and Putnam	\$50,000	Riverkeeper is proposing to work with the City of Peekskill to monitor and assess water quality in Peekskill Hollow Creek, a regionally significant drinking water supply for more than 100,000 people, as called for in the City’s draft Drinking Water Source Protection Plan (DWSP2). The Creek’s assessment data is greater than 10 years old. The project would utilize a DEC-reviewed Quality Assurance Project Plan to gather ELAP lab-certified data in order to provide baseline data useful to DEC for updating its Priority Waterbody List / Waterbody Inventory, and useful for Peekskill in developing long-term monitoring strategies to protect this critical drinking water source.
Pace University	Dutchess and Putnam	\$37,085	The Land Use Law Center at Pace University’s School of Law seeks to implement a community-based LULA program for the Fishkill Creek watershed within Dutchess and Putnam 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. Local land use planning and regulation offer a significant opportunity to create more resilient communities. Therefore, in collaboration with the Hudson River Watershed Alliance, the Center will develop land use leadership capacity within the watershed areas to support community leaders and other stakeholders in assessing and amending their plans and zoning codes to increase community resiliency, natural resources, and open space protections for healthier watersheds.
Town of Stanford	Dutchess	\$20,406	The goal of this project is to develop a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) for the Town of Stanford. Stanford does not currently have a NRI, but it will soon adopt an updated Comprehensive Plan that proposes new conservation measures. These conservation actions require the basic information and maps of natural resources that a NRI would provide. The project will be led by the Stanford Conservation Advisory Commission, with assistance from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County and Hudsonia, Inc. The funds will primarily be used to support contracts to these partners to provide GIS analysis, mapping, and analysis of critical habitats in the Town. The NRI will also help Stanford achieve its goal of becoming a NY State Climate Smart Community.
City of Newburgh	Orange	\$50,000	Goal of the NRI is to collect, visualize, and interpret the city’s natural resources to provide a basis for sustainability and resiliency to be fully incorporated into Newburgh’s long-term Master Plan & local & regional project review process. NRI investigations will include identification of open spaces, unmarked wetlands, biomes, and biodiversity areas, former streams that have been rerouted or covered over & may be candidates for daylighting, community gardens, beehives, and identification of opportunities for protection, enhancement, and/or restoration. The funds will support consultation on technical writing, analyses of maps/data, public engagement, & production of the Draft NRI. We will engage a cultural resource specialist to assist with interpreting historical maps, identifying cultural resources, and creating demographic maps to provide context on the distribution of ethnic populations, neighborhood growth, and relations to the presence of brownfields and their creation.
Rensselaer Plateau Alliance, Inc.	Rensselaer	\$23,002	In 2019 the Rensselaer Plateau Alliance (RPA) completed a the Poesten Kill Watershed and Flood Mitigation Assessment (supported by an HREP grant) with the aim of identifying ways in which damage to infrastructure and personal property from future flooding events could be mitigated. The most cost effective and innovative idea developed, that will address the urgent need to make municipal stormwater infrastructure at risk of flooding more resilient, is to detain flood runoff from major precipitation events on existing wetlands in the upper watershed of the Poesten Kill. This pilot project will be completed on a 7-acre wetland in Poestenkill in preparation for construction. The performance of the pilot project will be used to implement the flood water detention concept throughout the watershed helping to protect downstream infrastructure. The purpose of the project is to demonstrate the feasibility of the wetland detention concept, and collect performance data for use in designing full scale installations in the wetlands of the upper watershed.
Village of Ossining	Westchester	\$50,000	The project will create a resiliency vision and strategies for environmental sustainability for the waterfront north of Louis Engel and Gourdine Parks, which is projected to be impacted by sea-level rise and increased flooding over the next three decades. Qualified consultants will work with Village officials, private property owners and other stakeholders to recommend targeted climate-adaptations. Public-private partnerships will be developed. Extension of the RiverWalk promenade will also be planned to enhance connectivity and public access to the Hudson River. The project will promote the protection of Ossining’s waterfront and advance environmental sustainability through resilience to inundation and increased flooding.

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LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Groundwork Hudson Valley	Westchester	\$49,900	<p>In this project, GWHV's Saw Mill River Coalition (SMRC) initiative will engage watershed stakeholders in a two-year process to proactively plan for future climate risks in the SMR. In the first phase, based on input from governmental agencies and community groups, sites in the SMR will be identified where flooding is pervasive and is likely to get worse over time due to a nexus with other small creeks and the built environment. The expertise of the Urban Systems Lab (USL) at the New School will be used to provide an overview of flooding issues in the watershed and to characterize the highest risk sites based on climate predictions. A pilot effort was completed last year by USL along the SMR in Southwest Yonkers and would be extended to upstream sites to proactively develop flood resilience plans. Partners include the watershed towns, Westchester County, stewardship groups, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.</p>
Hudson River Watershed Alliance	Watershed-Wide	\$50,000	<p>HRWA will create a regionally-applicable guidance document on developing a watershed characterization, the first step in developing a watershed management plan. The project will use the watershed planning framework established by the NYS DOS and NYS DEC, adding up-to-date information on data sources, the planning process, and best practices. The guidance document will accelerate the adoption of watershed characterizations in the Hudson River Estuary watershed, one of the goals of the Hudson River Estuary Action Agenda 2021–2025, by providing much needed structure and support for community-based watershed groups. HRWA will also provide outreach and technical assistance to watershed groups to support local planning and overcome barriers, helping groups to identify priorities for plans and projects.</p>

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TRIBUTARY RESTORATION & RESILIENCY

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Riverkeeper Inc	Rensselaer	\$150,000	Kenwood Mill Dam on Mill Creek (ID:226-1334) is a 6-ft high, 50-ft long Concrete Gravity, Low Hazard dam. It no longer serves any purpose and is blocking over 1 mile of critical habitat for river herring and American eel: 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Riverkeeper proposes to conduct preliminary engineering design and planning to remove this first barrier to the Hudson. We have already performed initial reconnaissance at the site. Due to the dam's urban location and adjacent infrastructure that adds to the complexity of the project, we are proposing a phased planning process. In this 1st phase, we will hire an engineering firm to conduct a site assessment, professional survey, and structural engineering evaluation, and produce preliminary engineering design plans.
Walter Hoving Home, Inc	Putnam	\$100,000	The project will remove a dam and restore an approximately 800-foot reach of the Philips Brook in Garrison, New York, a Class B stream that drains to the Hudson River Estuary. The project goals include removing a 10-foot-high concrete and masonry dam, three weirs, and portions of masonry walls for the purposes of a) restoring aquatic organism passage and stream habitat, b) improving flood resilience, and c) creating opportunities for community education and enjoyment. The structures, while historical, are falling under disrepair and greatly diminish the flood capacity and habitat quality of the stream. Grant funding will be applied toward design and permitting, resulting in stamped engineering plans, permits, and construction documents.
Riverkeeper Inc	Orange/Westchester	\$68,042	Riverkeeper will continue exploring the feasibility of removing other dams along streams where we have already removed dams - further opening up these tributaries for imperiled aquatic species. We will conduct reconnaissance activities on three priority dams on Furnace Brook in Westchester County and Quassaick Creek in Orange County, whose removals will restore natural flow regimes, improve ecological connectivity, and benefit river herring and American eel - 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Tasks will include: investigating the dams' history; identifying potential issues that may affect removal; researching dam owners; conducting ecological evaluations of the streams; identifying target species; creating partnerships and communicating with stakeholders; engaging the community to explain the benefits of dam removal; and hosting film screenings.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 26, 2021

RIVER ACCESS

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Yonkers Paddling & Rowing Club	Westchester	\$45,800	Working with community organizations, Yonkers Paddling & Rowing Club will continue its Hudson River Riders program that provides river access for the public, with a focus on underprivileged youth. The Hudson River Riders program recruits and trains young people to become the next generation of paddlers and environmental stewards, and this grant will allow for expansion of the program.
Town of Marlborough	Ulster	\$40,000	This project will plan and deploy an accessible kayak launch to serve regional residents and visitors in the Town of Marlborough. Project deliverables include the launch, access ramp, accessible pathway to designated handicapped parking, and signage.
Downtown Boathouse	New York	\$40,000	Downtown Boathouse will increase the type of equipment available at popular launch sites to expand the free kayaking programs and the population served to reach more underserved communities. This includes equipment and training suitable for youth and adaptive paddling programs, broadening the groups of people who are able to experience the estuary via free kayaking and making it more accessible to people of all ages and abilities.
City of Kingston	Ulster	\$50,000	The City of Kingston will remove the existing deteriorated and unsafe public kayak dock on the Rondout Creek, complete a plan and design of a new kayak launch system, and construct and install the new dock with full handicapped accessibility.
Village of Catskill	Greene	\$50,000	The Village of Catskill will repair and improve access at the existing boat launch at Dutchman’s Landing Park to make the boat ramp and docks safer, more secure, better accessible to persons with disabilities, and to protect against erosion and flooding. Funds will be used for planning and design, purchase of equipment, installation and construction costs, as well as site restoration.
Pratt Institute	Lower Estuary Wide	\$43,916	Pratt Institute will develop a single gateway to comprehensive, up-to-date information encouraging New Yorkers to get onto the Hudson River. The product will be a mobile-friendly, interactive website that will enable easier access to sites, programs and activities in Hudson Estuary waters south of the Mario Cuomo Bridge.

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RIVER EDUCATION

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Columbia Land Conservancy, Inc.	Columbia	\$37,655	The Columbia Land Conservancy will create virtual and place-based experiences highlighting the Hudson River Estuary and its watershed. Project deliverables include ten virtual tours in the TravelStories app, installing watershed-themed artwork on the Access for All trail, and retrofitting an aging gazebo overlooking the Hudson at the Greenport Conservation Area.
Rensselaer Land Trust, Inc.	Rensselaer	\$27,975	Rensselaer Land Trust will create new lesson plans about sustainable fishing methods, test their efficacy, and provide participants with a sense of stewardship of habitat and species restoration. The project will feature components of traditional fishing methods, habitats, and species restoration efforts on the Hudson River.
The Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York	Rockland	\$39,088	This project will support student experiences learning about the estuary. Students will engage the community, collect qualitative data from residents, that will be annotated and developed into stories and shared learning experiences (videos, events, etc.) to build unity and understanding across cultures and communities. These products will be used to develop supporting curriculum for MS/HS students to support duplicating this type of project in other communities.
Friends of Hudson River Park	New York	\$38,188	Friends of Hudson River Park will purchase and deploy a ROV (WasteShark) designed to collect floating debris in the water while simultaneously gathering geospatial and water quality information. The data will be used to help identify in-river plastic hot spots and improve the Park's efforts to remove plastic from the River. The WasteShark will also allow for a regular floatable removal program from the River, expanding the Park's shoreline cleanups by adding in-water plastic removal opportunities.
Radix Ecological Sustainability Center	Albany	\$40,000	Radix Ecological Sustainability Center will construct a solar-powered watercraft for education about the Hudson River in the vicinity of the South End of Albany, NY for Radix youth employees and local residents to learn about aquatic areas of frequent use and concern.
Arm of the Sea Productions Inc.	Ulster	\$31,639	This project will specify, permit, purchase and install a large awning structure for Hudson River programs at the Arm-of-the-Sea Tidewater Center in Saugerties, NY. It will also support the development of programming for the new program awning space.
Sarah Lawrence College	Westchester	\$40,000	The Sarah Lawrence College Center for the Urban River at Beczak and the Child Development Institute will develop, test, and publish curriculum for "Teaching the Environment: Discovering Urban Landscapes and Watersheds." This intensive one-week professional development program for K-12 teachers will cover topics in sustainability with an expressed and intentional lens on the river and watershed, from source to tap to outflow. The resulting curriculum will be published and made available at no charge on the college's web site.
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater Inc	Dutchess	\$40,000	Hudson River Sloop Clearwater will enhance the existing web-based Fish Key tool by adding new video resources related to Hudson River fish and adding links to other websites like the Hudson River Estuary Program's Virtual River website, making the Key a portal to a range of river education resources.
Media Alliance, Inc.	Rensselaer	\$40,000	This project will furnish a computer lab in Media Alliance's new NATURE Lab Urban Environmental Education Center, located in North Central Troy. The computer equipment will expand the scope of the work in the lab, supporting education and research of the estuary, and connecting youth and environmental organizations along the Hudson. The facility will also provide disadvantaged youth access to resources such as computers and internet for learning about the estuary and surrounding ecosystem.
Groundwork Hudson Valley	Westchester	\$32,997	Groundwork Hudson Valley will improve, deliver, and assess a new standards-based curriculum about the Saw Mill River daylighting projects in downtown Yonkers for K to 12th grade students across the river's watershed, with a specific emphasis on students from Southwest Yonkers.
River Pool at Beacon, Inc.	Dutchess	\$12,500	This project will make upgrades to the floating river pool structure at the River Pool at Beacon, including upgrades to pool seats, walkway and entry points, educational materials, and new signage. These improvements will ensure continuing opportunities for visitors to get into the Hudson River, and to learn about the currents, tides, and river life.
Waterfront Alliance, Inc.	New York, Richmond, Kings	\$39,341	Residency curriculum. The Residency will develop and add specific agendas, coordinating steps, and an implementation guide that will enable teachers to work together on estuary education and easily seek partnerships. Funding will also support a pilot residency program in the schools with four classes each over eight weeks, taking place in environmental justice communities in northern Manhattan, Brooklyn,

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LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Town of New Scotland	Albany	\$50,000	This project will comprehensively inventory, map, and describe natural resources in New Scotland, convey that information in both a written report and GIS StoryMap summary, and then use that information to create a town-wide open space plan. The information, along with public input, will help establish policies, programs, regulations, and other methods in the open space plan to protect those valuable resources.
City of Rensselaer	Rensselaer	\$50,000	An Open Space and Recreation Plan will be developed with the goal to create a more resilient community and a more sustainable City of Rensselaer. The project will examine existing open and recreational spaces to assess potential for conservation-centric improvements to each space and to also identify linkages between them. The plan will help identify future conservation projects and determine priorities for open spaces.
NYC Dept of Parks & Recreation	Richmond	\$50,000	NYC Department of Parks & Recreation will develop designs for a stormwater green infrastructure (a rain garden) within Snug Harbor Park on the north shore of Staten Island to manage untreated stormwater runoff that discharge directly into Harbor Brook. Once implemented, the rain garden would help reduce flooding, improve instream and riparian habitat along Harbor Brook, and filter sediment and contaminants, thereby reducing the pollutant load to the Kill Van Kull.
Town of New Castle	Westchester	\$36,033	The Town of New Castle will complete a high-level Natural Resources Inventory, which will include a detailed analysis and report of the current state of the Town's natural resources and any recommendations for conservation and/or mitigation due to human activity and/or climate change.
Natural Areas Conservancy, Inc.	New York	\$50,000	The Natural Areas Conservancy will develop a forest management and community stewardship plan for the 102 acres of natural forests in Highbridge Park in northern Manhattan. Existing data and inventories will be analyzed, priorities for conservation will be developed, and the community will be engaged in the process (including volunteer opportunities).
Town of Kent	Putnam	\$49,960	The Town of Kent will conduct a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) and prepare a Biodiversity Inventory, which will be included in the NRI. The NRI will detail the significance of the resources to the community as well as identify existing and potential threats and provide recommendations for sustainable uses and conservation. The inventory will augment the NRI and provide information on the region's range of species for future reference and scientific study.
Town of Milan	Dutchess	\$44,010	The Town of Milan will work with Hudsonia to create a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) for the Town. The NRI will be designed for use by the Milan Planning Board and other town agencies engaged in matters related to land use planning, policy-making, and environmental reviews, and will also be useful to landowners, residents, developers, and others seeking to understand the natural landscapes of Milan.
Town of Mount Pleasant	Westchester	\$17,440	This project will complete a Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) and wetland mapping project for the Town of Mt. Pleasant. The completed NRI will be a reference document for use by Town agencies, landowners and other seeking information about Mt. Pleasant's natural resources and landscapes and will provide guidance for land use planning, land development and conservation.
Town of Bedford	Westchester	\$30,981	The Town of Bedford will engage a contractor to produce a Conservation Overlay Ordinance and map, and draft Wildlife Corridors Overlay District legislation to be proposed for addition to existing zoning ordinances.
Pace University	Westchester	\$46,612	The current state of the Pocantico River Watershed will be assessed through the compilation of existing information and the collection of new data. The assessment will characterize the current knowledge base of the watershed, identify gaps, document impairments, and provide recommendations for its conservation. In addition to a final assessment report, the data will be presented on an ESRI Story Map.
City of Kingston	Ulster	\$50,000	A Community Preservation Plan will be created for the City of Kingston. The plan will be drawn from existing plans and inventories of natural and historic resources, as well as other sources of GIS data. The creation of the plan will serve as a necessary resource to establish a Community Protection Fund which would support the conservation of important City assets.
Town of Poughkeepsie	Dutchess	\$50,000	The Town of Poughkeepsie will conduct a study of flooding in New Hamburg, which is within Zone AE of the 100-year floodplain along the Hudson River. The project will include an analysis of the floodplain, in-field surveying, and work on the design of possible alternate solutions to mitigate the flooding.

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LOCAL STEWARDSHIP PLANNING

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	AWARD	DESCRIPTION
Ulster County	Ulster	\$46,554	Ulster County will develop a County-wide natural resources inventory and integrate it into a cloud-based mapping portal and accompanying municipal toolkit. Key community stakeholders will be engaged, and the resources created will enable decision-makers at every level to identify and prioritize natural resources, provide the opportunity to incorporate these into land-use planning, and create a framework to which maps, datasets, and other resources will be added in the future.
Village of Highland Falls	Orange	\$12,000	This project will develop a site master plan for lands owned by Scenic Hudson for the future development of the land for public use and education and the conservation of its natural resources. A Natural Resource Inventory and Assessment will be completed to inform the future site master plan. The plan will guide the responsible siting of appropriate infrastructure as determined by the need for parking areas and trails, and provide robust information for natural history interpretation.
New York Restoration Project	New York	\$49,984	This project will evaluate the impact of the Living Shoreline initiative at Sherman Creek Park by assessing improvement to ecosystem function and the extent to which the project is rebuilding habitat and the shoreline to strengthen the shoreline conditions against flooding. Specifically, the monitoring and evaluation study will examine how the living shoreline impacts biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and nitrogen cycling as well as improvements in sedimentation and the presence of wildlife.
Riverkeeper Inc	Estuary Wide	\$50,000	Riverkeeper will complete a regional-scale vulnerability assessment to better define climate-related vulnerabilities to waterbodies within municipal boundaries. Activities include conducting a scoping process to ensure stakeholder input; conducting a scientific literature review; convening experts to conduct an analysis; and creating a report with infographics. This assessment will help communities identify local waterways as assets, and identify risks to water quality, water quantity and aquatic species.
Hudson River Watershed Alliance	Greene, Sullivan, Ulster	\$39,183	implement a community-based Land Use Leadership Alliance training (LULA) program for the Rondout and Esopus Creek watersheds, 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
Consensus Building Institute, Inc	Estuary Wide	\$49,990	This project will deliver a strategic plan for the Hudson River Flood Resilience Network (FRN), along with regional guidance documents on flooding. Goals include sustaining operation of the Network into the future, expanding Network participation as a result of increased outreach and communications, and increasing community sharing and learning of approaches that will lead to action and increase waterfront resilience.
Dutchess County Dept of Planning & Development	Dutchess	\$49,496	Dutchess County will update its decade-old NRI to better describe the current state of the county's natural resources and the potential threats facing them. The project will: 1) update the NRI document itself, 2) develop a public-facing web-based platform to host a mapping application and data portal for use by the county's constituent municipalities, and 3) provide outreach to local decision-makers on how to use these tools.
Trout Unlimited, Inc.	Rensselaer	\$49,838	Trout Unlimited will develop the Town of Stephentown 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 and web-based application.
Village of Piermont	Rockland	\$15,000	The Plan will identify climate adaptation strategies and policies to decrease vulnerability and provide guidelines for promoting economic and cultural sustainability for the village, including relocation out of the flood zone. The project will focus on developing recommendations for code, zoning and land use revisions to mitigate the impact of climate change and sea level rise, protect historic and scenic resources and identify incentives for sustainable and renewable development.