

**Habitat Restoration & Stewardship Work Group  
Virtual Meeting  
Tuesday, February 28, 2023 – Meeting Summary**



A recording of the meeting can be found here:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dqppwpgMm4hmJeGHCyWwzZpjA\\_koIaOJ/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dqppwpgMm4hmJeGHCyWwzZpjA_koIaOJ/view?usp=sharing)

Time stamps for the individual presentations and discussions will be noted below.

Meeting transcript can be found here: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1S2O2NhsSztCz\\_UdwxSZEf5nuv0Kixgc-/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1S2O2NhsSztCz_UdwxSZEf5nuv0Kixgc-/view?usp=sharing)

**Meeting Attendees** – A total of 66 people attended the meeting (a new record!!)

Deb Abibou, CT Sea Grant / LISS  
Beth Amendola, Audubon Connecticut  
Jim Ammerman, LISS Science Coordinator  
Juliana Barrett, CT Sea Grant  
Zosia Baumann, UConn  
Jordan Bishop, NEIWPC  
Todd Bobowick, USDA-NRCS  
Naiyiri Brooker, NYC Parks  
Robert Burg, NEIWPC  
Jessica Cañizares, The Nature Conservancy  
Alexis Canney, NYC Parks  
David Carey, CT Dept of Ag - Aquaculture  
Timothy Clark, The Nature Conservancy  
Emma Coffey, CTDEEP  
Patrick Comins, Connecticut Audubon  
Brendan Connors, The Sound School  
Sarah Crosby, The Maritime Aquarium  
Emma DeLoughry, Save the Sound  
Holly Drinkuth, The Nature Conservancy  
Maureen Dunn, Seatuck  
Corrie Folsom-O'Keefe, Audubon Connecticut  
Katie Friedman, Save the Sound  
Richard Friesner, NEIWPC  
Heather Gierloff, NYSDEC  
Megan Granato, Town of Groton  
Emily Hadzopulos, The Nature Conservancy  
Elizabeth Hornstein, NYSG/LISS  
Gavin Jackson, CTDEEP  
Heather Johnson, Friends of the Bay  
Shauna Kamath, NYSDEC  
Alex Krofta, Save the Sound  
DeAva Lambert, CTDEEP  
Yuriy Litvinenko, NYS Parks

Bill Lucey, Save the Sound  
Katie Lund, CT NERR  
Megan Lung, Save the Sound  
Trish Manzi, NYS Parks  
Jack Matthias, Audubon Connecticut  
Kaitlin Morris, Cornell Coop Ext  
Esther Nelson, EPA  
Anja Nikkel, The Sound School  
Kevin O'Brien, CTDEEP  
Steve Papa, US Fish & Wildlife Service  
Suzanne Paton, US Fish & Wildlife Service  
Jimena Perez-Viscasillas, NY Sea Grant  
Danielle Perry, NOAA  
Richard Potvin, US Fish & Wildlife Service  
Todd Randall, USACE  
Maria Rosa, Connecticut College  
Ron Rozsa, Plant Community Ecologist  
Samarra Scantlebury, NYSDEC  
Sarah Schaefer-Brown, NY Sea Grant  
Angela Schimizzi, NYSDEC  
Laura Schwanof, GEI Consultants  
Peter Solomon, The Sound School  
Paul Stacey, Footprints in the Water  
Cayla Sullivan, EPA  
Mark Tedesco, EPA  
Jim Turek, NOAA-Restoration Center  
Kris Vagos, US Fish & Wildlife Service  
Robert Vasiluth, SAVE Environmental  
Tim Visel, The Sound School (retired)  
Laura Wildman, Save the Sound  
Terra Willi, US Fish & Wildlife Service  
Paul Woodworth, Save the Sound  
Harry Yamalis, CTDEEP

Time stamps for the individual presentations and discussions:

- 29:30 Quick updates on Habitat Connectivity & NY Marsh Conservation work plan projects  
[Jordan Bishop](#), NEIWPCC
- 34:30 LISS Environmental Justice in Habitat Restoration and Protection Work Discussion Follow-up  
(Breakout Session results)  
[DeAva Lambert](#), CTDEEP – Land & Water Resources Division
- 40:10 Long Island Sound Study Naming Project Survey Results  
[Robert Burg](#), LISS / NEIWPCC
- 57:20 The Result of Four Years of Ecological Succession on a Restored Habitat in an Urban Harbor  
Utilizing Lab Cultured Oyster and Reef Balls  
Anja Nikkel & Brendan Connors with [Peter Solomon](#), The Sound School
- 1:30:30 Long Island Sound Eelgrass Management and Restoration Strategy Highlights  
[Cayla Sullivan](#), EPA - Long Island Sound Office
- 2:30:00 Long Island Sound Eelgrass Restoration Project Update, Smithtown Bay, NY  
[Bill Lucey](#), Save the Sound and [Rob Vasiluth](#), SAVE Environmental
- NOPE! (sorry, recording ends during the transition between these 2 discussions) Status of Restoration  
Project Proposals Submitted for FY23 LISS Supplemental Funding  
[Harry Yamalis](#), CTDEEP – Land & Water Resources Division

You can use the time stamps to quickly locate each presentation / discussion. Email links are there so that you can quickly contact the presenters to ask any additional questions that you may have.

Next HRSWG meeting is planned for Tuesday, May 16, 2023. If things go as initially planned, this will be an in-person meeting including a site visit in southeastern CT. There may or may not be a hybrid “meeting” ahead of the site visit(s). That’s still to be determined. Stay tuned...