

OUR PLAN
AT A GLANCE



Long Island Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan 2025

Returning the Urban Sea to Abundance



Vision, Mission, Values, and Goals

“Our Plan at a Glance” summarizes the Long Island Sound 2025 Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan. Also known as the CCMP, the Plan guides the work of the LIS Partnership to restore the health of the Sound.

VISION

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

MISSION

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

VALUES

- 1. Actionable Science:** Support innovative and high-quality science to understand and care for the health of the Sound and its watershed. Make science accessible by a) respecting, valuing, and incorporating where appropriate local and Indigenous Knowledge and b) advancing the principles and practices of Open Science.
- 2. Respect and Trust:** Operate in a way that fosters respect and trust among collaborators, communities, and individuals in decision-making and program implementation. Justly treat and meaningfully involve people regardless of income, race, color, national origin, Tribal affiliation, or disability in decision-making and other activities that affect human health and the environment.
- 3. Adaptive Management:** Use science-informed processes and learning from collective experiences, including local and Indigenous Knowledge, to make implementation and management decisions. Include everyone in caring for the Sound and work to make resources accessible to all.

GOALS

- 1. Clean Waters and Healthy Watersheds:** Restore and maintain water quality in Long Island Sound and its watershed.
- 2. Thriving Habitats and Abundant Wildlife:** Restore and protect the health and resilience of habitats and wildlife in Long Island Sound and its ecosystems.
- 3. Sustainable and Resilient Communities:** Empower Long Island Sound communities to plan for and respond to environmental challenges in ways that prioritize well-being for all.
- 4. Informed and Engaged Public:** Inspire and empower the public to appreciate, value, and protect Long Island Sound and the waters that flow into the Sound.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

The 2025 CCMP identifies objectives and actions to support the attainment of each goal. The objectives listed here are aspirational outcomes to be achieved by 2035. Actions are broad, strategic activities to be taken in the next five years (2025-2029) to help achieve the objectives. The actions can be found in the CCMP, which is available at [LISPartnership.org](https://lispartnership.org).

Cover photo: Lighthouse Pt. Park, New Haven. Photo by Jon Bilous/Alamy Stock photo. P2 photos (l-r) by Jerry Monkman, Nancy Balcom, Mill River Park Collaborative, and Cynthia Carris Alonso.

1 CLEAN WATERS AND HEALTHY WATERSHEDS

Nutrients: Reduce nutrients across the watershed to restore and protect water quality and mitigate impacts on ecosystem health in Long Island Sound and its embayments.

Watershed Health: Improve the ecosystem health of Long Island Sound and its watershed through protection and positive land use practices.

Pathogens: Reduce pathogens and increase monitoring to protect water quality and human health, ensuring safe recreational and commercial use.

Toxic Contaminants: Research, monitor, assess, and support mitigation efforts on emerging and legacy toxic contaminants to reduce impacts on water and habitat quality in Long Island Sound.

Marine Debris: Achieve trash free waters by increasing clean-up efforts and preventing marine debris from entering Long Island Sound.

2 THRIVING HABITATS AND ABUNDANT WILDLIFE

Coastal Habitat: Protect, enhance, and assess the extent and health of coastal habitats and their associated wildlife through restorative measures and monitoring to combat deterioration and loss.

Offshore Habitat: Protect and enhance the health of offshore habitats and their associated species.

Habitat Connectivity: Increase connectivity of coastal habitat to enhance biodiversity and support migratory pathways.

Open Space: Conserve open space through land acquisition while maintaining and enhancing the total area of protected land.

3 SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Informed Decision Makers: Increase the number of government officials, practitioners, and community leaders receiving training and support to increase their capacity to adapt to environmental challenges.

Community-Driven Resilience Planning: Increase the number of municipalities that identify key resilience priorities through local or regional community-driven planning processes.

Resilience Initiative Implementation: Implement initiatives to improve community resilience to flooding and other environmental challenges.

4 INFORMED AND ENGAGED PUBLIC

Public Access and Sense of Belonging: Increase and improve opportunities for everyone to access and appreciate Long Island Sound and the waters that flow into the Sound.

Education and Environmental Literacy: Improve and expand the public's environmental knowledge of Long Island Sound and its watershed.

Fostering Stewardship and Sustainable Behaviors: Increase public engagement in environmental practices that protect and conserve Long Island Sound and its watershed.



To read the full CCMP, and learn about the Long Island Sound Partnership, visit:
LISPartnership.org

This product has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under Assistance Agreement #00A01523 to NEIWPCC. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, nor does the U.S. EPA endorse trade names or recommend the use of any products, services or enterprises mentioned in this document.