



CT DEEP Long Island Sound Ecosystems Grant

Mindy Gosselin
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse, Land and Water Resources Division
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Outline

- Funding Source
- Grant Categories
- Grant Overview
- Habitat Restoration Project Category
- Green Stormwater Infrastructure Project Category
- Sample Project
- Timeline

Funding Source

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) - signed in 2021

Provided additional federal funding to the EPA



EPA allocated money to the Long Island Sound Partnership



Long Island Sound Partnership directed funds to CT DEEP



CT DEEP created a grant program to administer the funds



Grant Categories

Coastal
Habitat
Restoration

Green
Stormwater
Infrastructure

Grant Overview

- ~\$7 million available
- No match required
- Reimbursement grant
- Planning/Engineering/Design and Construction
 - Prioritizing Construction ready projects
- Eligible Applicants:
 - Municipal entities, state agencies, councils of government, non-profits, academic institutions, federally recognized tribes, state recognized tribes

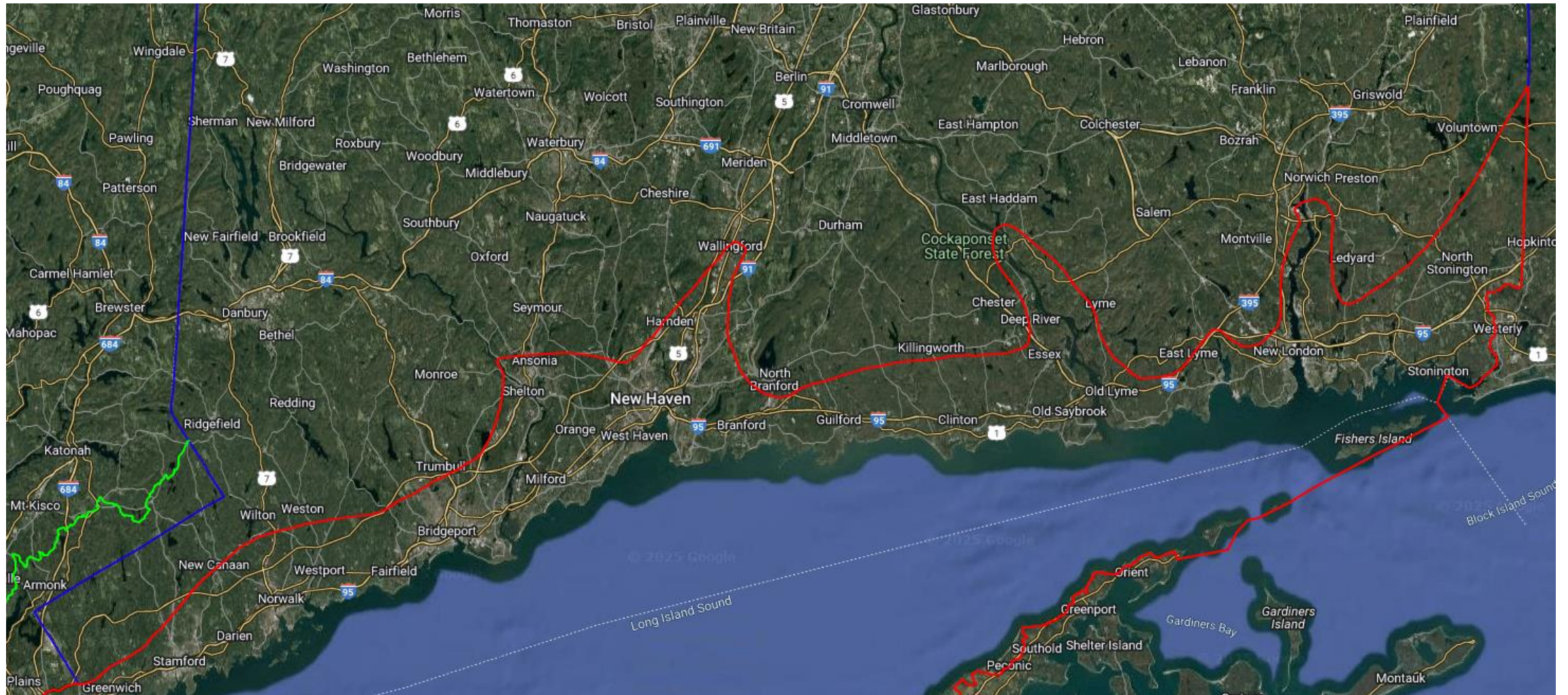


Project Category - Habitat Restoration

- Habitat Restoration
 - Planning, Engineering, Design OR Construction
 - Planning/engineering/design expected funding range: \$100,000 to \$500,000
 - Construction expected funding range: \$200,000 to \$1,500,000
 - Project Examples:
 - Replacing under-sized culverts and removing dams to improve fish passage
 - Restoring or enhancing habitat to improve ecological resilience such as restoration of coastal marshes and wetlands, living shorelines
 - Projects must be located within the [LISP Coastal Boundary](#) in Connecticut, except fish passage projects which must be located with the [LIS Watershed](#)



Long Island Sound Coastal Boundary

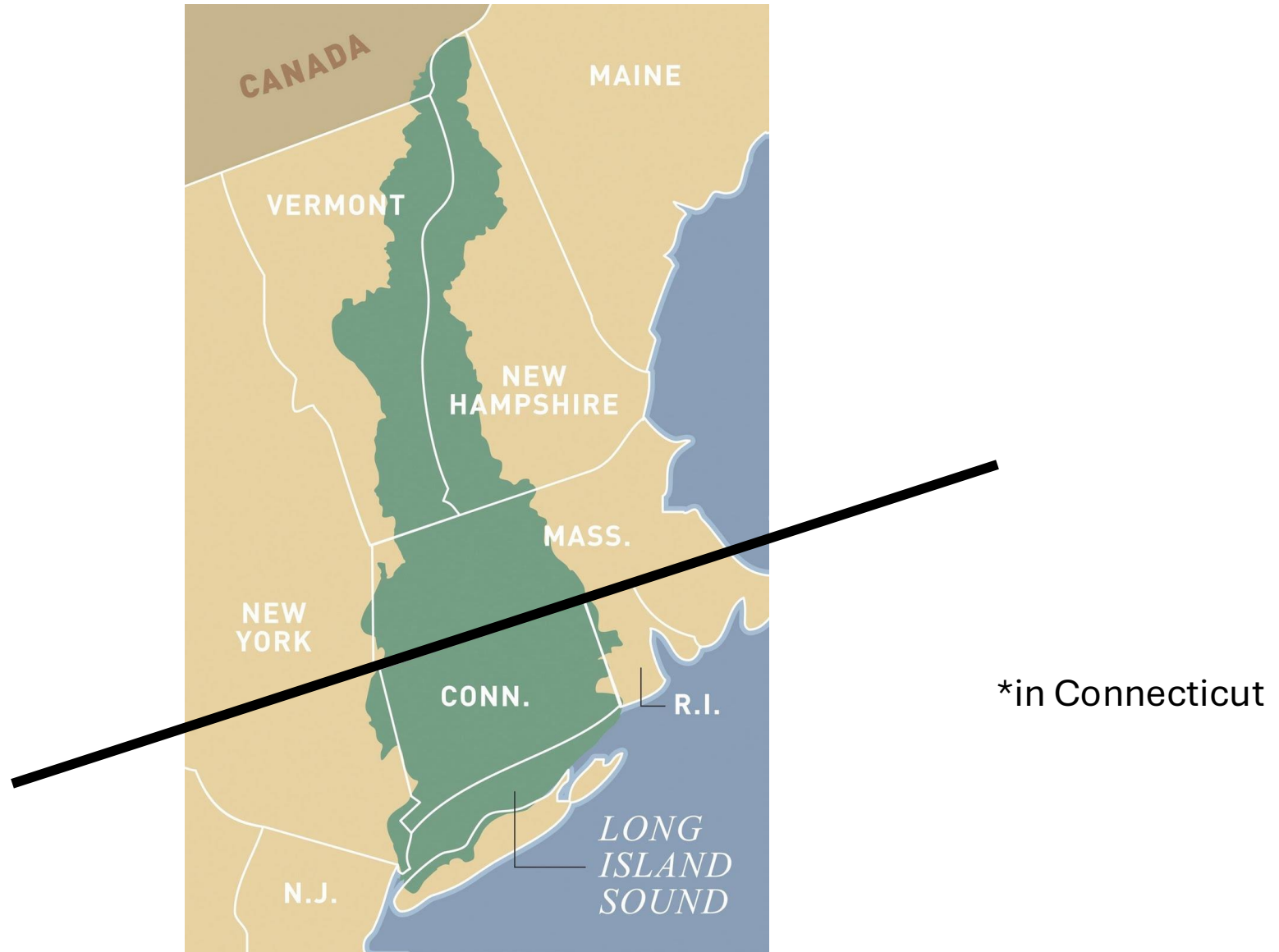


Project Category – Green Stormwater Infrastructure

- Green Stormwater Infrastructure
 - Planning, Engineering, Design AND/OR Construction
 - Planning/engineering/design expected funding range: \$75,000 to \$200,000
 - Construction expected funding range: \$200,000 to \$900,000
 - Projects must focus on any of the following:
 - Reducing stormwater runoff, reducing flooding, replenishing groundwater through infiltration, reducing urban heat island effects, enhancing riparian buffers
 - Project Examples:
 - Green roofs, rain gardens, bioswales, bioretention practices, permeable pavements, green streets, and rainwater harvesting
 - Projects must be located within the [LIS Watershed Boundary](#) in Connecticut



Long Island Sound Watershed Boundary



Evaluation Criteria

- Requirements tied to funding source:
 - Long Island Sound Coastal Boundary/Long Island Sound Watershed
 - Support and Implement the [LISP 2025 Comprehensive Conservation and Mangement Plan \(CCMP\)](#)
 - Build adaptive capacity of ecosystems and communities
 - Willing landowners
 - Quality Assurance Project Plans ([QAPP](#))
 - Build America, Buy America
- Prioritization Criteria:
 - Ecological Value
 - Community Impact
 - Project Details and Readiness
 - Bonus Points: % of municipality developed



Sample Project – Hammonasset State Park

- Design Phase: Protection and Restoration of Intertidal Marsh Habitat
- Project Lead: National Audubon Society-Audubon Connecticut (Audubon)
- History: Shoreline has been rapidly eroding for the past 20 years, migrating landward more than 300 feet and resulting in the loss of over 13 acres of tidal marsh habitat
- Goal: Protect and restore the shoreline in this area
- Community Impact: Educational and community outreach component
- Partnerships: Park staff, town officials, grassroots organizations, the public
- Intended Result: Provide recommendations for increasing the resilience of the Park's infrastructure, both natural and man-made
 - 100% design for culvert replacement
 - 30% project design



Timeline

- NOFO released October 1, 2025
- Q&A Session October 16, 1-2pm
- Q&A Session November 18, 10-11am
- Office Hours December 9, 2-4pm – Register on [website](#)
- NOFO Closes December 16, 2025 at 11:59pm
- Award notification early 2026
- Project completion within 2 years of contract execution
- Submitted via email to DEEP.EcosystemsGrant@ct.gov



CONTACT

Mindy Gosselin

DEEP.EcosystemsGrant@ct.gov

<https://portal.ct.gov/deep/coastal-resources/ct-long-island-sound-ecosystems-grant>

