

HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY  
Combined meeting of  
Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.,  
Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council,  
and  
Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV, Inc.  
September 12, 2018  
Kaplan Hall, SUNY Orange  
Newburgh, NY 12550  
Minutes

**Conservancy Members Present**

Brown, Kristin Cole, Conservancy Member  
Burke, Kevin, Conservancy Chairman  
Daniels, Jane, Conservancy Member  
Lanzetta, Cindy, Conservancy Member  
Jacks, Betsy, Conservancy Member  
McLaughlin, Jayne, Conservancy Treasurer  
Olson, Sarah, Conservancy Member  
Yarabek, Stefan, Conservancy Member

**Conservancy Members Present by Proxy**

Griffen, Sara, Conservancy Member  
Murray, Dennis, Conservancy Member

**Council Members Present**

Aldrich, J. Winthrop, Council Member  
Downey, Margaret (Meg), Dutchess County Council Member  
Elliott, Robert, Westchester County Council Member  
Mazzarella, Sally, Council Member  
Smith, Michelle, Putnam County Council Member  
Yaun, Johanna, Orange County Council Member

**Council Members Present by Proxy**

Ames, Edward, New York City Council Member  
Head, Betty, Albany County Council Member  
Saland, Stephen, Council Member

**Council Members Present by Phone**

von der Heide, Linda, Rensselaer County Council Member

**Delegates Present**

Dunwell, Fran, Joint Co-Delegate for Commissioner, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Ethier, Jaime, Joint Deputy Delegate for Secretary of State  
MacMillan, Lance, Joint Co-Delegate for Commissioner NYS Department of Transportation  
Wrafter, Eoin, Delegate for Conservancy Member Marcus Molinaro

**Delegates Present by Phone**

Davis, Bruce, Delegate for Commissioner, NYS Office of General Services  
Rooney, Frank, Delegate for Commissioner, NYS Agriculture and Markets

**Advisory Members Present**

Bicking, Andy, Scenic Hudson

**Greenway Staff Present**

Arana, Cody, Assistant Event Coordinator  
Beers, Andy, Empire State Trails Director  
Campochiaro, Beth, Trails and Community Outreach Director  
Day, Shannon, Administrative Assistant  
Jeanson, Daniel, Project Coordinator  
Keller, Scott, Acting Executive Director

**Call to Order**

Chairman Kevin Burke called the meeting to order at 9:59 a.m. Chairman Burke announced that Chairman McHenry was unable to attend the meeting, and so the Council Meeting Chair would be Wint Aldrich.

**Presentations**

Chairman Burke introduced Fran Dunwell and Ingrid Haeckel from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Hudson River Estuary Program. Their presentation, Conservation and Land Use in the Hudson Valley, is appended to and a part of these minutes.

Mr. Keller then presented on the appearance of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area on the PBS Program Success Files with Rob Lowe, airing September 24<sup>th</sup> on PBS. He was able to show the short form documentary, which features appearances by Board Members Betsy Jacks, Wint Aldrich as well as Mr. Keller and Military Historian Jim Johnson. The announcement of the program would be sent to up to 1 million email subscribers of Success Files. The show's producers also put together a short commercial featuring the Hudson River Valley Ramble, which will air in the Albany, Boston, Syracuse, New York City, and Washington DC viewing areas starting on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Keller showed this commercial as well. Mr. Keller noted that the videos are up on the Heritage Area website and on YouTube, and encouraged organizations present to share the videos.

**Agenda Review**

Chairman Burke called for changes and additions to the agenda. Mr. Keller noted one change, that the trail designation of the Skywalk portion is conditional.

**Minutes of June 6, 2018 Combined Meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council, Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc. and Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV, Inc.**

Chairman Burke noted one change to the minutes of June 6<sup>th</sup>, that his title was changed from Acting Chair to Chairman. Chairman Burke asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the June 6, 2018 Greenway Joint Meeting. On a motion from Jane Daniels (Kitty Brown second) the minutes of the June 6, 2018 Combined Meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council, Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc. and Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV, Inc. were unanimously approved.

Minutes of July 16, 2018 Meeting of the Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.

On a motion from Jayne McLaughlin (Jane Daniels second) the minutes of the July 16, 2018 meeting of the Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc. were unanimously approved.

Minutes of September 5, 2018 Meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Grants Committee

On a motion from Sally Mazzarella (Meg Downey second) the minutes of the September 5, 2018 meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Grants Committee were unanimously approved.

Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.

#### Call to Order

Chairman Burke called the Conservancy meeting to order.

#### Update on Empire State Trail

Chairman Burke introduced Andy Beers, Empire State Trail Director, for an update on the Empire State Trail (EST). Mr. Beers noted several milestones in the trail's development. He noted that the project consultants, Alta Planning and Design, had completed an estimate of the usage of the trail based on statistical research, and the report states that once complete, the trail will draw 8.6 million users a year. The report is available on the Empire State Trail website.

#### Accept FEIS as complete & authorize completion of SEQRA Findings

Mr. Beers noted that that Conservancy Board would now vote to accept the Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail as complete, and to authorize completion of the SEQRA findings. Chairman Burke read the text of the resolution and called for a vote. On a motion from Jane Daniels (Jayne McLaughlin second) the resolution passed unanimously.

#### Trail Designation and SEQR Resolution

Mr. Keller noted that there was a resolution to approve the conditional designation of the Thomas Cole House and Temple Israel portion of the Skywalk Trail as part of the Greenway Trail System. The Skywalk Trail will eventually connect the Thomas Cole House to Olana via the Rip Van Winkle Bridge, intersecting with the Empire State Trail on the Columbia County side of the river.

### Hudson River Ports and Waterways Safety Assessment and Hudson River Safety, Navigation, and Operations Committee

Mr. Keller reviewed the activities of the Hudson River Harbor Safety Committee and noted that on October 2, 2018 the first public meeting will be held. At this meeting, the committee would be seeking input from the public about what they should be focusing on for the next five years.

### Greenway Conservancy Trail Grants Awards

Acting Executive Director Scott Keller reviewed the Grant's Committee's recommendations for the 2018 Greenway Conservancy Trail Grants.

The City of Albany, Albany County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$75,000 for the development a 1.5 mile shared use path that will link the Albany County Rail Trail and the Mohawk Hudson Bike-Hike Trail. The Committee recommends \$75,000.

The Friends of Lindenwald, Columbia County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$4,936 for improvements to the Martin Van Buren Nature Trail, including replacement and updating of 4 existing culverts to reduce erosion, and removal of hazardous trees near the trail. The Committee recommends \$4,900.

The Columbia Land Conservancy, Columbia County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$20,000 to improve a section of the Yellow Trail at the Greenport Conservation Area by removing invasive species, improving the trail surface, and creating new interpretive signage. Hudson High School students will be involved in the trail maintenance. The Committee recommends \$17,500.

The Olana Partnership, Columbia County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$10,000 for the replacement of 5 gates for the restored carriage roads. The Committee recommends \$10,000.

The City of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$75,000 To construct a trail that leads from the Dutchess Rail Trail to Reservoir Walk at College Hill Park. The Committee recommends \$75,000.

The Winnakee Land Trust, Dutchess County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$75,000 for the Saw Kill Red Hook Trailhead project, to construct a parking area, trailhead, and approximately 1800' pedestrian and bicycle corridor. The Committee recommends \$75,000.

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust, Putnam County, is seeking grant funds in the amount of \$70,000 for the Granite Mountain Preserve Trails Phase 2 Project, including construction of a rerouted, sustainable loop trail with trail markers, signage, stonewalls at entrance, and waterbars. The Committee recommends \$70,000.

The Town of Moreau, Saratoga County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$7,500 to develop a Moreau Townwide Trails Concept Plan that would represent a continuous trail system along the Hudson River waterfront. The Committee recommends \$7,500.

The D&H Canal Historical Society, Ulster County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$25,000 to design the Gateway Center and expand the trail system. The Committee recommends \$10,000.

The Town of New Paltz, Ulster County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$75,000 for the Henry W. DuBois Road Improvements, which will allow travelers along the Empire State Trail within New Paltz to remain within designated lanes instead of being forced onto a shared roadway at this gap of the trail where road shoulders do not currently exist. The Committee recommends \$75,000.

Scenic Hudson, Inc., Westchester County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$40,000 to complete engineering of a Westchester County RiverWalk connection under the Mario Cuomo Memorial Bridge and then linking RiverWalk up to the new Shared-Use Path over the bridge. The Committee recommends \$40,000.

Chairman Burke called for a motion on the trail designation and the trail grants. On a motion from Stefan Yarabek (Jane Daniels second) the resolutions passed unanimously. Sarah Olson recused herself on the vote for the Winnakee grant. Andy Bicking noted that he is a non-voting Advisory Board Member.

## Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council

### Call to Order

Wint Aldrich called the Council meeting to order.

### Request for Designation as a Greenway Community

Mr. Keller announced that the Greenway had received requests for designation as a Greenway Community from the Village of Chester, Orange County; the Village of Stillwater, Saratoga County; and the Village of Whitehall, Washington County.

### Hudson River Valley Greenway Grant Awards

Mr. Keller reviewed the Greenway Grant applications recommended for funding by the Greenway Grants Committee.

#### *Greenway Planning Grants Program*

The Village of Greenwich in Washington County is seeking Planning grant funding in the amount of \$10,000 for their project "Showing Off the Battenkill" which includes signage, land and river access improvements and wayfaring along Main Street to highlight and directing the public to two access sites. The Committee recommends \$10,000.

The Village of Whitehall in Washington County is seeking grant funds in the amount of \$10,000 for a comprehensive plan, which has not been done since 1969. The Committee recommends \$10,000.

#### *Greenway Compact Grant Program*

The Town of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, is seeking Compact grant funding in the amount of \$20,000 to update its comprehensive plan, which dates to 2007. The Committee recommends \$20,000.

Wint Aldrich called for a vote on the Greenway Planning and Compact Grants and on the Greenway Community designations. On a motion from Bob Elliott (Meg Downey second) the grants and the designations were unanimously approved.

#### Dutchess County Compact Community Updates

Mr. Keller announced that the Towns of Wappinger and Milan in Dutchess County have adopted the updates to the Dutchess County Compact.

### Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

#### Call to Order

Chairman Burke called the National Heritage Area (NHA) meeting to order.

#### Hudson River Valley Ramble Updates

Beth Campochiaro noted that there were more than 200 events for the 2018 Hudson River Valley Ramble, with three weekends remaining to participate. She thanked agency partners the Hudson River Estuary Program, NYS Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and NYS Empire State Development, as well as the numerous historic sites, clubs, and organizations hosting events. She also thanked Cody Arana for his hard work on organizing the Ramble.

#### Hudson River Train Tour App

Mr. Keller gave an update on the most popular themes on the Train Tour App, and showed the promotional video made by the marketing consultants. Mr. Keller noted that eight new audio stories would be added by the end of the year, and that a new theme would be added.

### Acting Executive Director's Report

Mr. Keller thanked the staff for their hard work. His Acting Executive Director's Report is appended to and a part of these minutes.

### New Business/Public Comment

Colonel Jim Johnson of the Hudson River Valley Institute announced that reenactment day at Boscobel, sponsored by the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, had more than 300 participants. The latest issue of the Hudson River Valley Review features a cover story about Thomas Cole. In October the Institute will host a lecture on issues of diversity in Dutch New York.

Priscilla Brendler from Greater Hudson Heritage Network noted that they had held several successful Focus on Funding workshops with support from the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. On September 27<sup>th</sup> they would host a conference at Bear Mountain.

Johanna Yaun announced a soft opening of the Tower of Victory, with an opening to the public in about a month. The effort has raised \$1.7 million.

Kitty Brown noted that on November 5<sup>th</sup> Mohonk Consultations would hold an all-day conference on food and justice in the Hudson Valley.

## Future Meetings

There is a schedule change from previous years' Board Meetings. The two remaining Joint Greenway Board meetings will be:

Conservancy Only: October 11, 2018 (by phone)

November 14, 2018

## Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m. by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Campochiaro  
Meeting Secretary



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

# Engaging Hudson Valley Municipalities in Conservation Planning

September 12, 2018  
Hudson River Valley Greenway  
Joint Board Meeting

**Ingrid Haeckel**

Conservation and Land Use Specialist  
DEC Hudson River Estuary Program/ Cornell University



Photo by Laura Heady



# Conservation and Land Use Team

2

- **Identify important natural areas.**
- **Improve understanding** of the benefits they provide.
- **Provide technical assistance** for incorporating conservation principles into local planning.



Photo by Ingrid Haeckel

# 2015-2020 Action Agenda

3



Hudson River  
Estuary Program

## DRAFT HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY ACTION AGENDA 2015-2020

### Opportunities for Action

Helping people enjoy, protect and revitalize the Hudson River and its Valley



Photo Credit: Chris Bowser

identify what  
you have



prioritize



plan, protect,  
manage

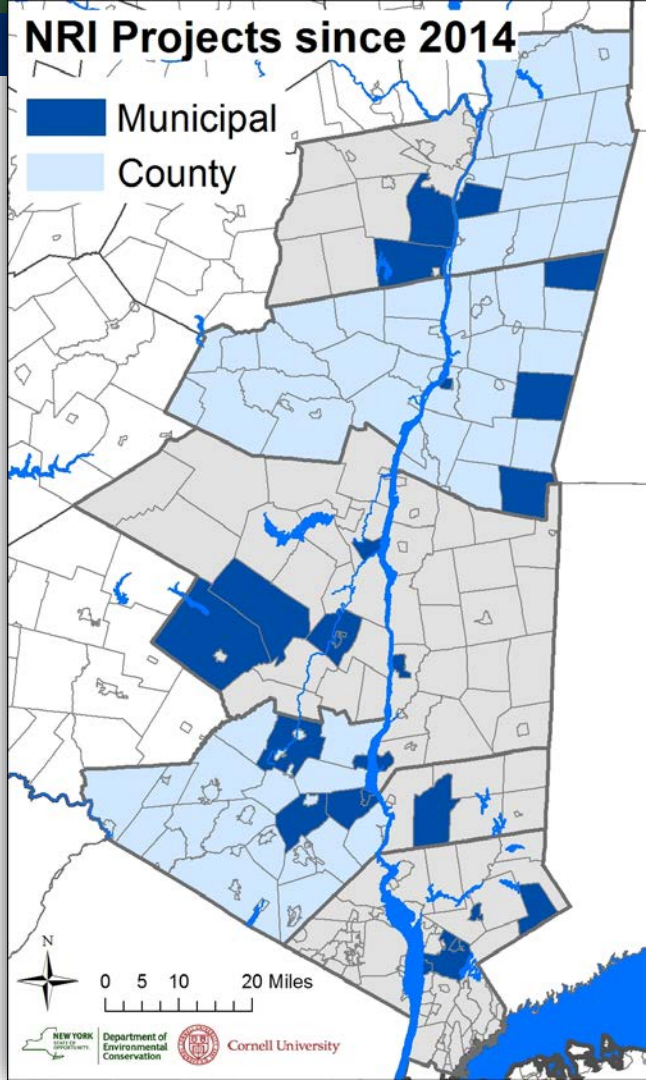
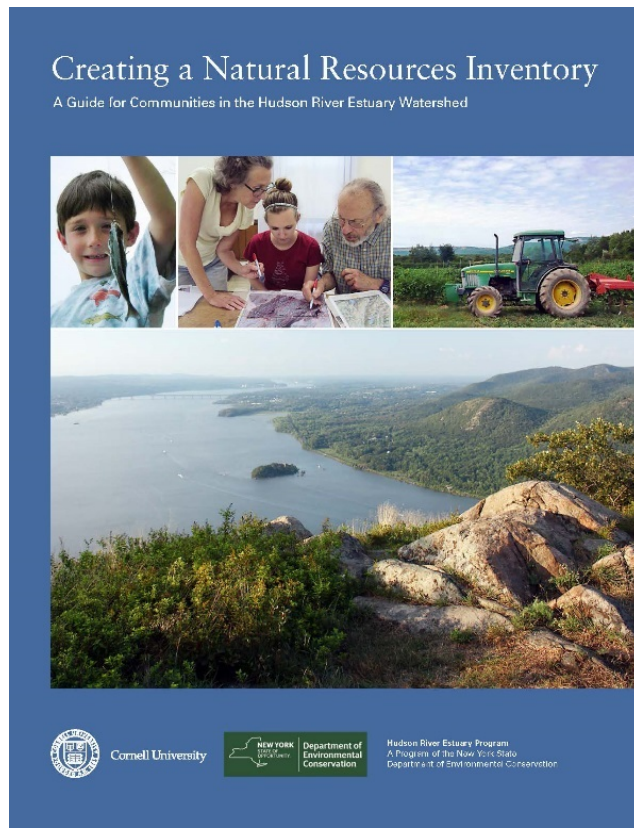
Photo by Air Nonken





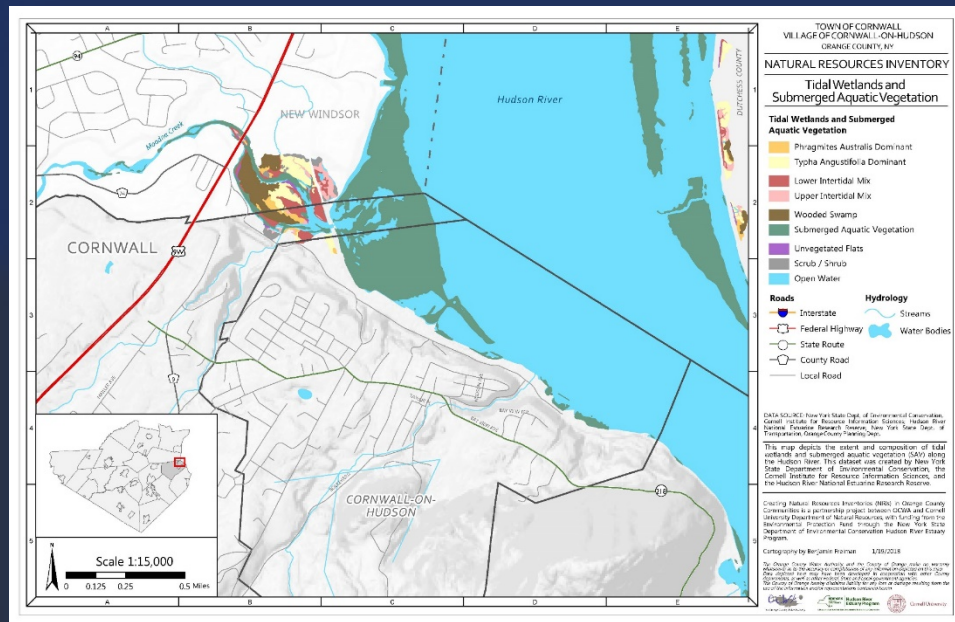
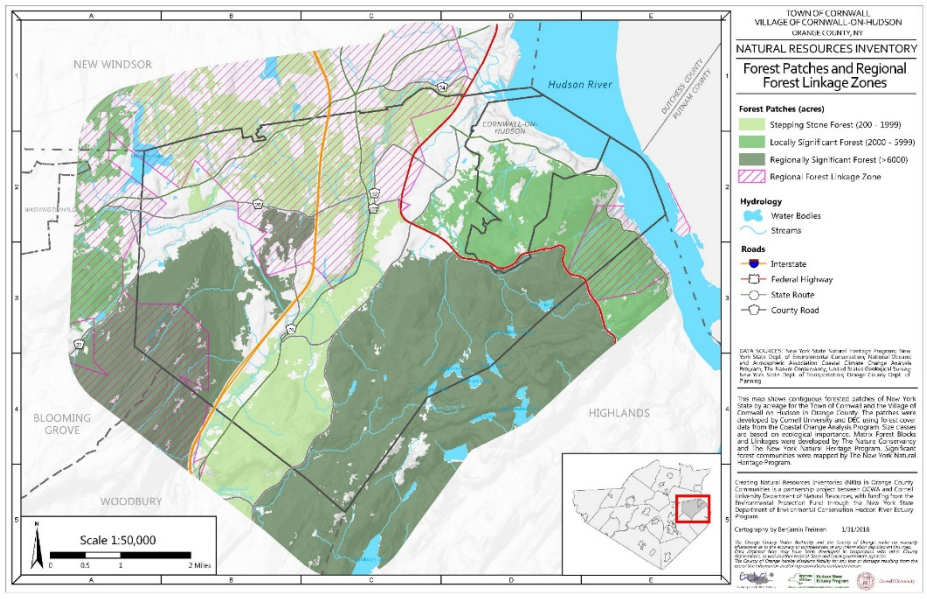
# ~25 Natural Resource Inventories

identify what  
you have



# NRIs map priority land and water resources.

## T&V of Cornwall Large forests



## Tidal Wetlands



# NRIs can also map recreation and scenic assets



## Putnam Valley scenic resource mapping



Photo by Karen Doyle

prioritize

**Next step:**  
**- set priorities**



Photo by Ingrid Haeckel

Rensselaer County public workshop



plan, protect,  
manage

## Examples:

- **comprehensive plan**  
(East Greenbush)
- **local law adoption** (Mount Kisco)
- **land acquisition**  
(Bethlehem)

## DAILY FREEMAN NEWS

News ▾ Sports ▾ Business ▾ Entertainment ▾ Lifestyle ▾ Obituaries ▾ Opinion ▾ Blotter ▾

Home ▾ News ▾

### Towns of Wawarsing, Rochester seek comments on heritage, open space plans



From sharepoint.com The Joseph Y. Resnick Airport in Wawarsing, as seen from a plane in this 2015 file photo

POSTED: 10/17/16, 2:40 PM EDT | UPDATED: ON 10/17/2016

3 COMMENTS

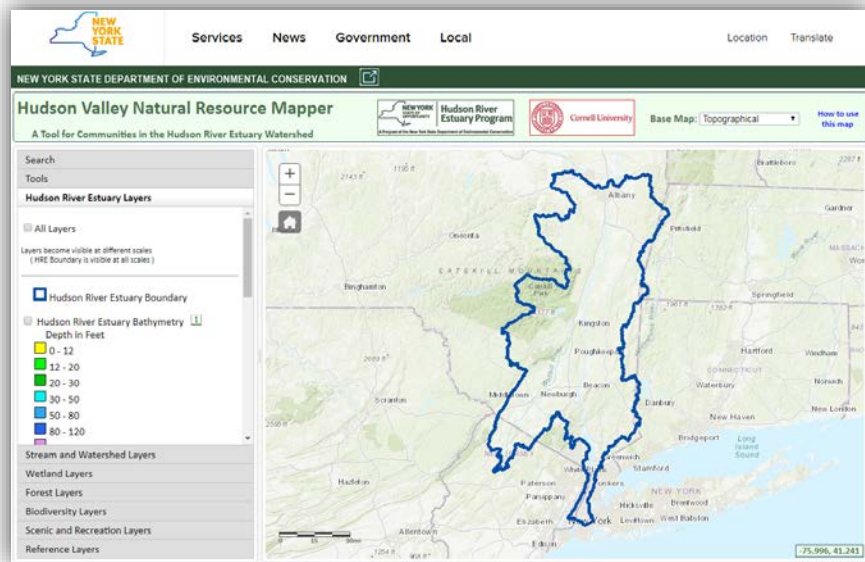
ELLEnVILLE >> The towns of Rochester and Wawarsing will hold public hearings this week on a plan to develop a shared set of natural heritage and open space plans.



identify what  
you have

prioritize

plan, protect,  
manage



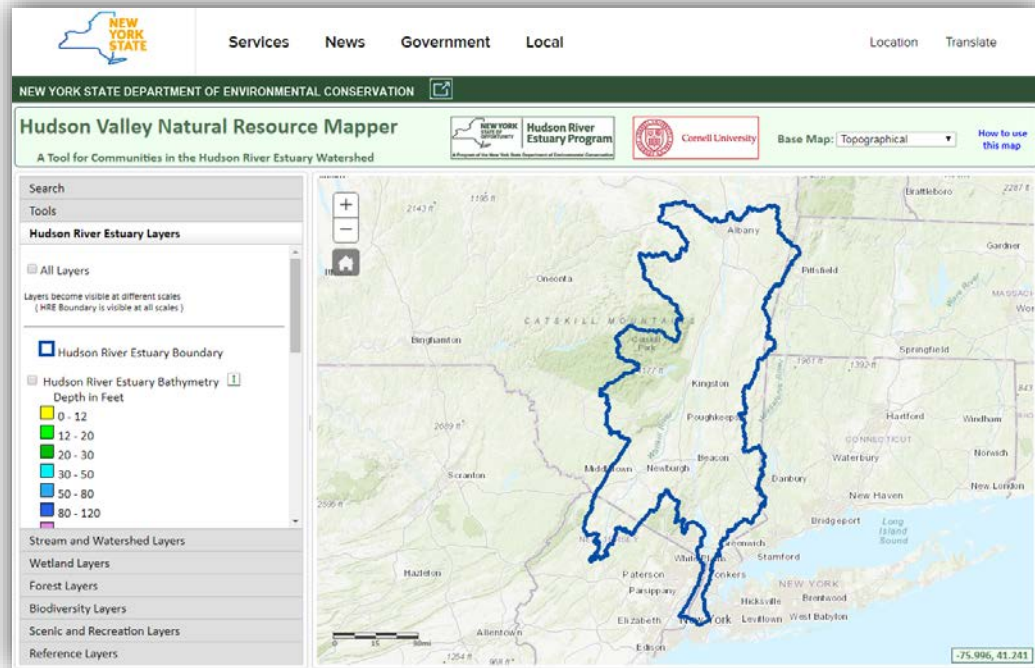
**Hudson Valley  
Natural Resource  
Mapper**

# What is in the Mapper?

11

## 30+ geographic data sets

- Estuary Habitats
- Streams and Watersheds
- Wetlands
- Forests
- Biodiversity
- Scenic and Recreation Areas



# Data Layers: Estuary Habitats



- tidal wetlands
- migratory fish
- NYSDOS Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitats



# Data Layers: Estuary

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



## Hudson Valley Natural Resource Mapper

A Tool for Communities in the Hudson River Estuary Watershed



Hudson River  
Estuary Program

A Program of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation



Cornell University

Base Map: Topographical

[How to use  
this map](#)

Search

Tools

### Hudson River Estuary Layers

50 - 80

80 - 120

120 - 180

☐ Migratory Fish Runs

☐ Hudson River Estuary and Tidal River  
Tributary Boundary

☒ Tidal Wetlands

Lower Intertidal Mix

Open Water

Phragmites australis (Common Reed)

Stream and Watershed Layers

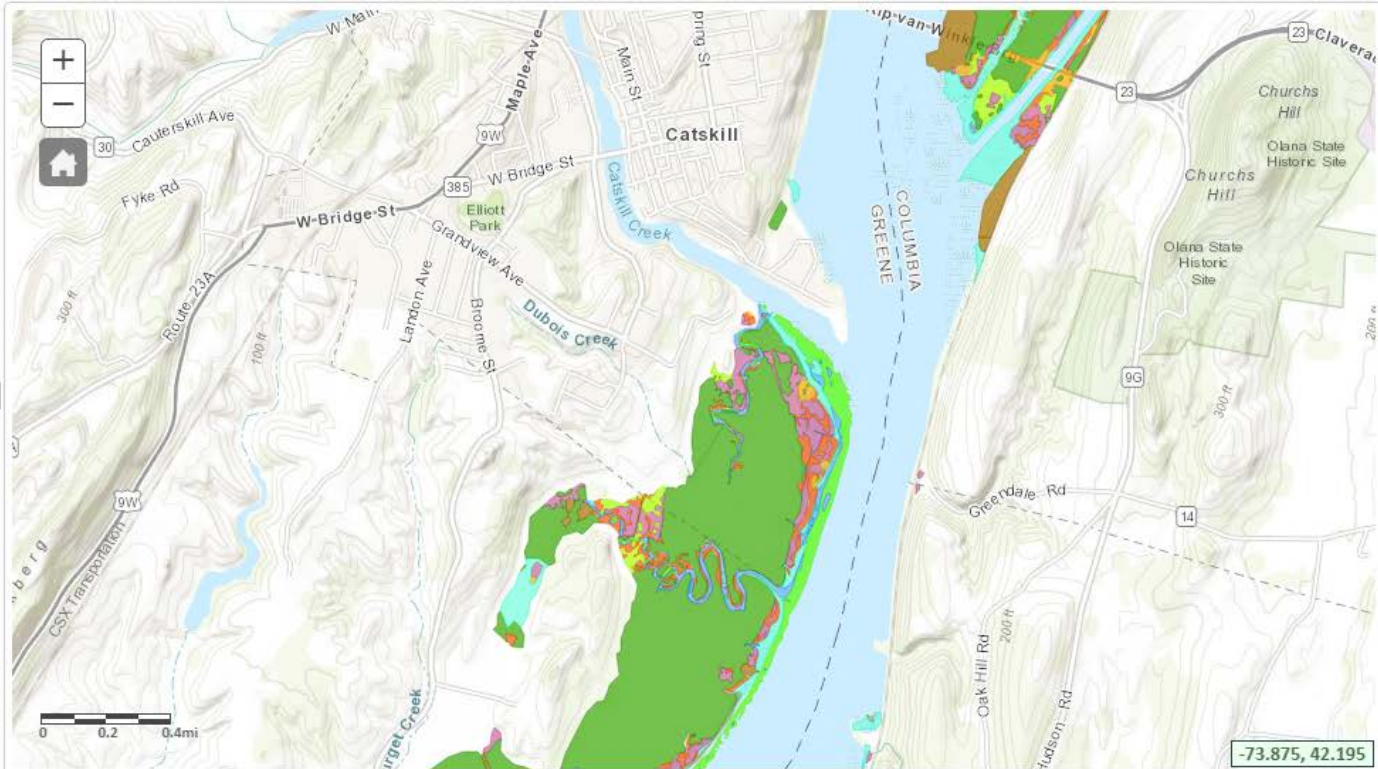
Wetland Layers

Forest Layers

Biodiversity Layers

Scenic and Recreation Layers

Reference Layers



# Data Layers: Estuary

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



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Cornell University

Base Map: Topographical

[How to use  
this map](#)

Search

Tools

### Hudson River Estuary Layers

- ☐ 50 - 80
- ☐ 80 - 120
- ☐ 120 - 180
- ☐ Migratory Fish Runs [I](#)
- ☐ Hudson River Estuary and Tidal River  
Tributary Boundary [I](#)
- ☒ Tidal Wetlands [I](#)
  - ☐ Lower Intertidal Mix
  - ☐ Open Water
  - ☐ Phragmites australis (Common Reed)

Stream and Watershed Layers

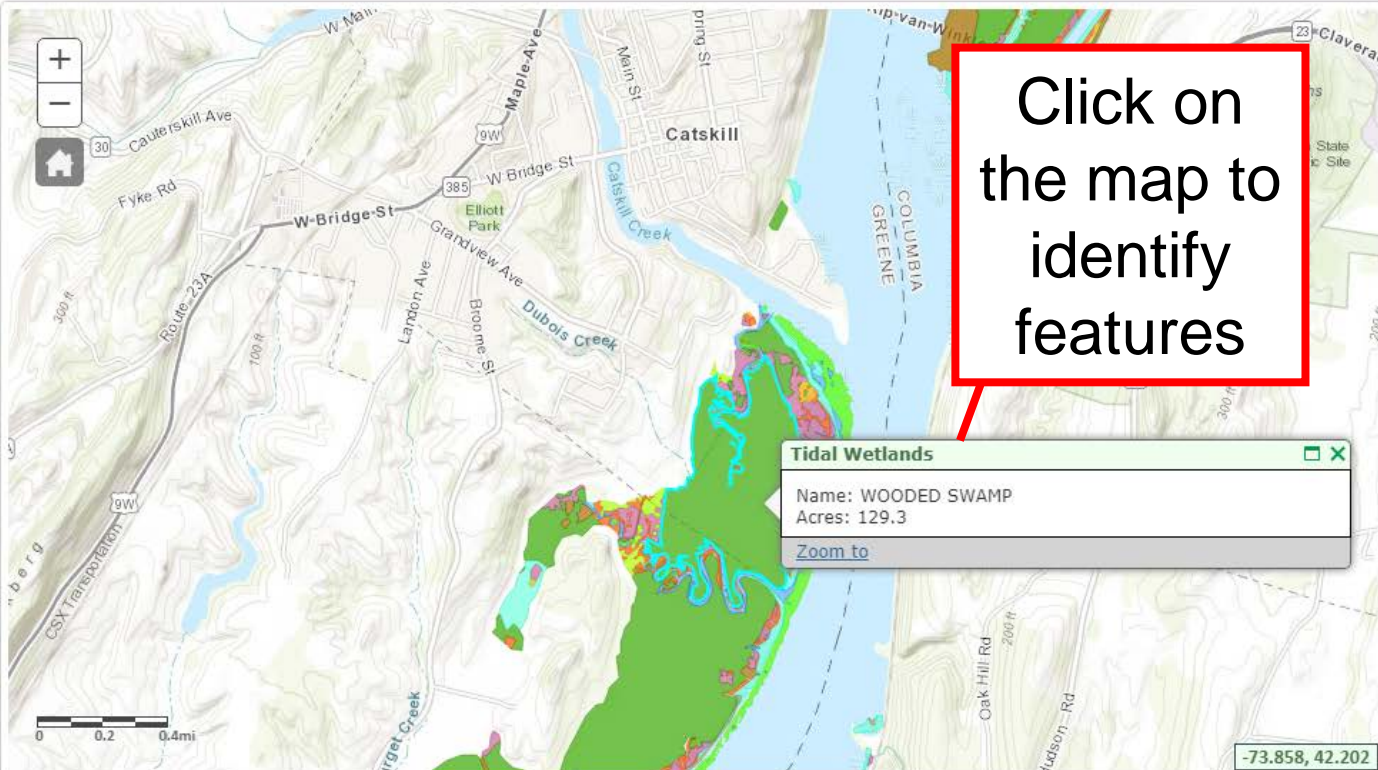
Wetland Layers

Forest Layers

Biodiversity Layers

Scenic and Recreation Layers

Reference Layers





# Data Layers: Estuary

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Cornell University

Base Map: Topographical

[How to use  
this map](#)

Search

Tools

### Hudson River Estuary Layers

- ☐ Trapa natans (Water Chestnut)
- ☐ Typha angustifolia (Narrowleaf Cattail)
- ☐ Unvegetated Flats
- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Upper Intertidal Mix
- ☐ Wooded Swamp

☐ Documented Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

☒ NYSDOS Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitats

Stream and Watershed Layers

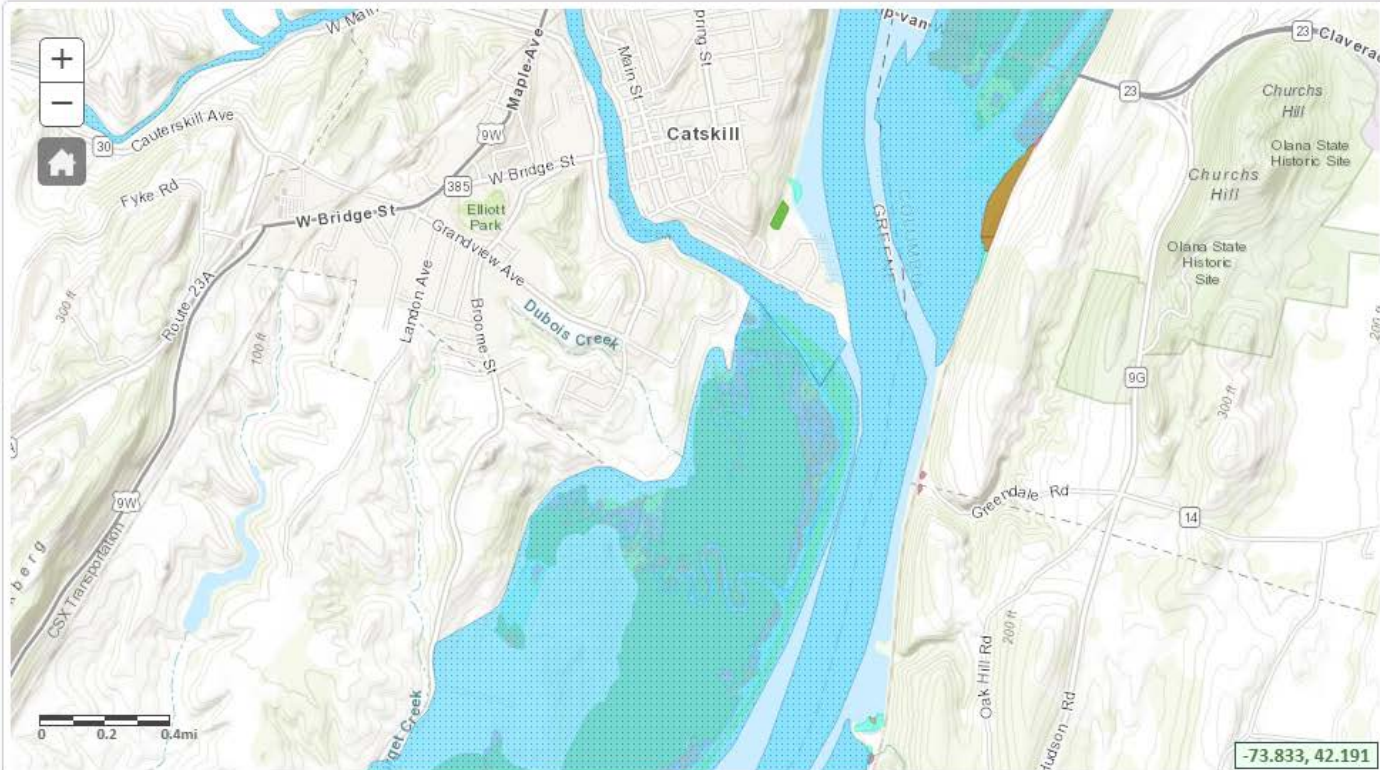
Wetland Layers

Forest Layers

Biodiversity Layers

Scenic and Recreation Layers

Reference Layers



# Data Layers: Estuary

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NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



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A Tool for Communities in the Hudson River Estuary Watershed



Hudson River  
Estuary Program



Cornell University

Base Map: Topographical

How to use  
this map

Search

Tools

### Hudson River Estuary Layers

- ☐ Trapa natans (Water Chestnut)
- ☐ Typha angustifolia (Narrowleaf Cattail)
- ☐ Unvegetated Flats
- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Upper Intertidal Mix
- ☐ Wooded Swamp

☐ Documented Submerged Aquatic  
Vegetation [I](#)

☒ ☐ NYSDOS Significant Coastal Fish and  
Wildlife Habitats [I](#)

Stream and Watershed Layers

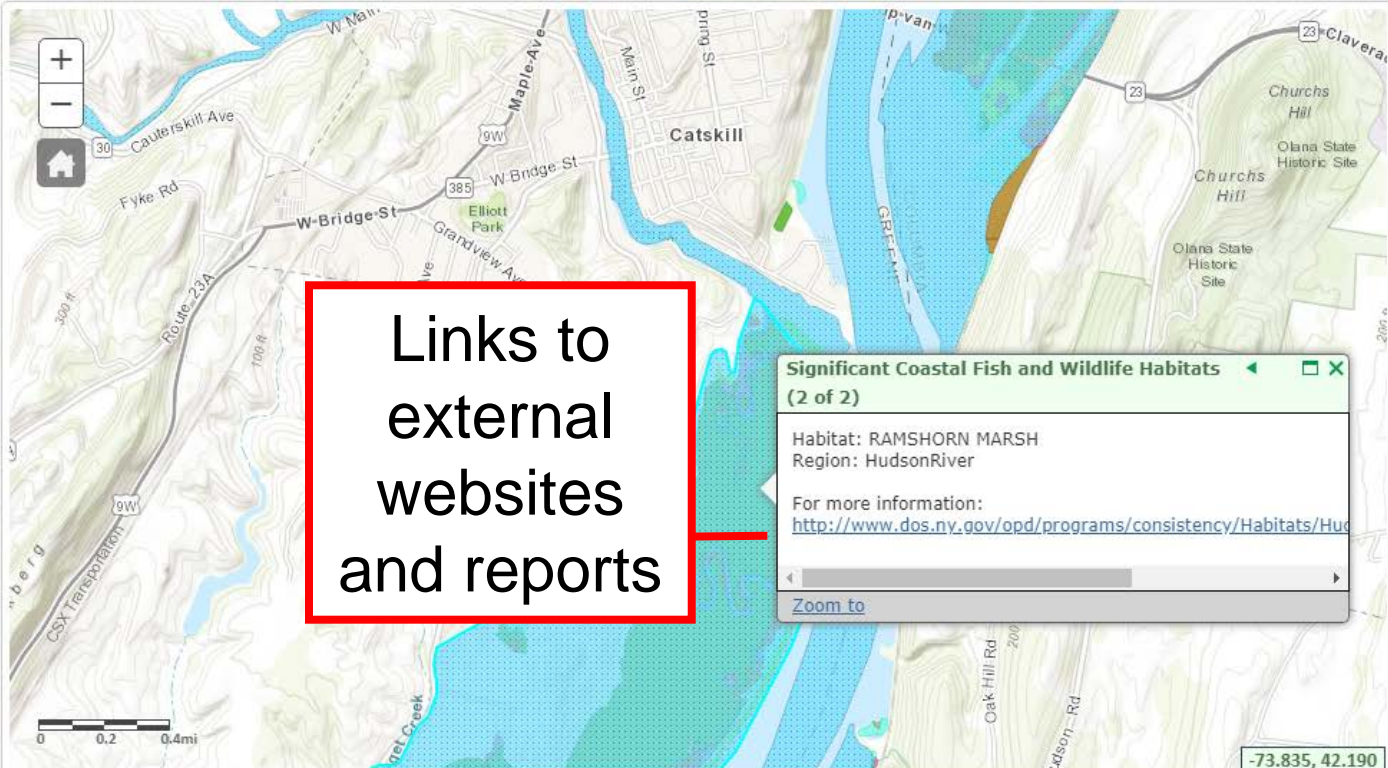
Wetland Layers

Forest Layers

Biodiversity Layers

Scenic and Recreation Layers

Reference Layers





# Data Layers: Scenic and Recreation

- Hudson River fishing access and boat launches
- NYSDEC Lands and State Parks
- NYSDOS Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance



# Data Layers: Scenic and Recreation

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



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A Tool for Communities in the Hudson River Estuary Watershed



Hudson River  
Estuary Program



Cornell University

Base Map: Topographical

How to use  
this map

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Hudson River Estuary Layers

Stream and Watershed Layers

Wetland Layers

Forest Layers

Biodiversity Layers

Scenic and Recreation Layers

☐ All Layers

Layers become visible at different scales

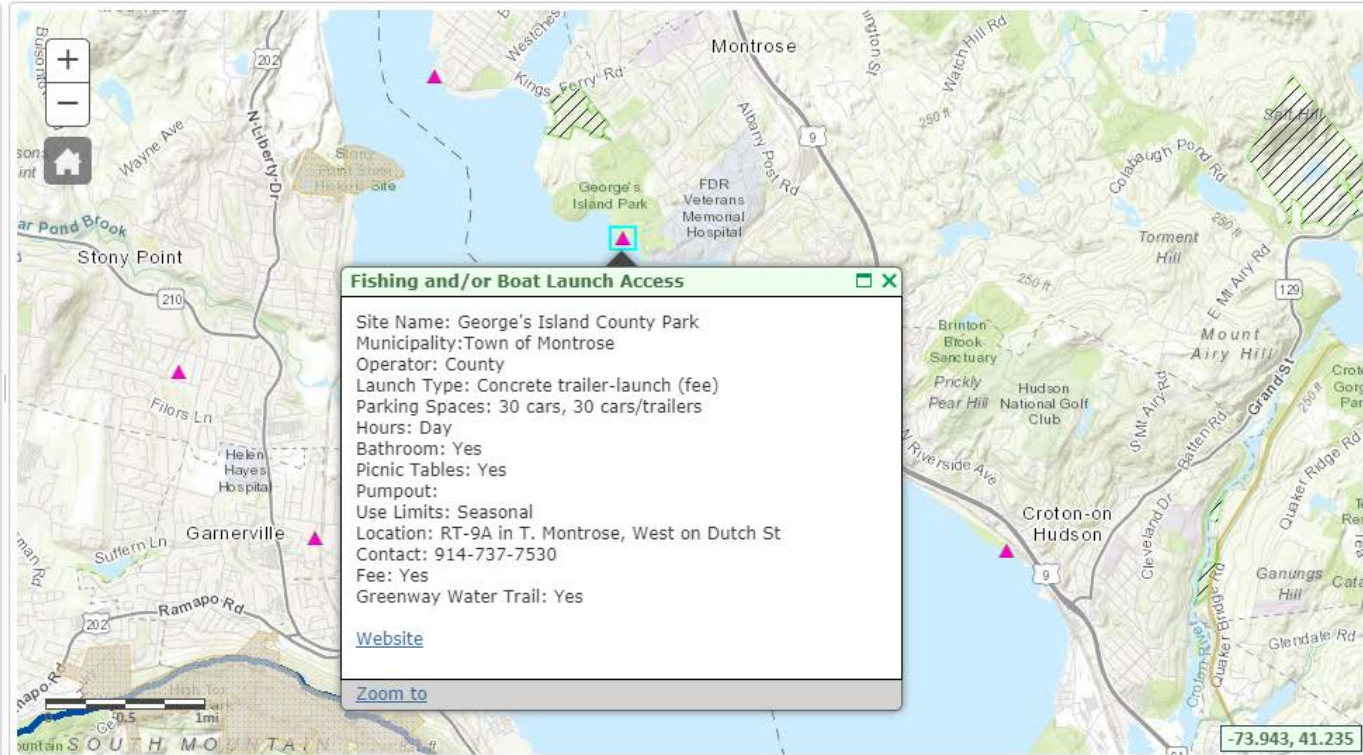
☒ Fishing and/or Boat Launch Access

☒ NYS Parks and Historic Sites

☒ DEC Lands

☐ Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance

Reference Layers



# Data Layers: Scenic and Recreation

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Hudson River  
Estuary Program

A Program of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation



Cornell University

Base Map: NYS Aerial

[How to use  
this map](#)

Search

Tools

Hudson River Estuary Layers

Stream and Watershed Layers

Wetland Layers

Forest Layers

Biodiversity Layers

**Scenic and Recreation Layers**

☐ All Layers

Layers become visible at different scales

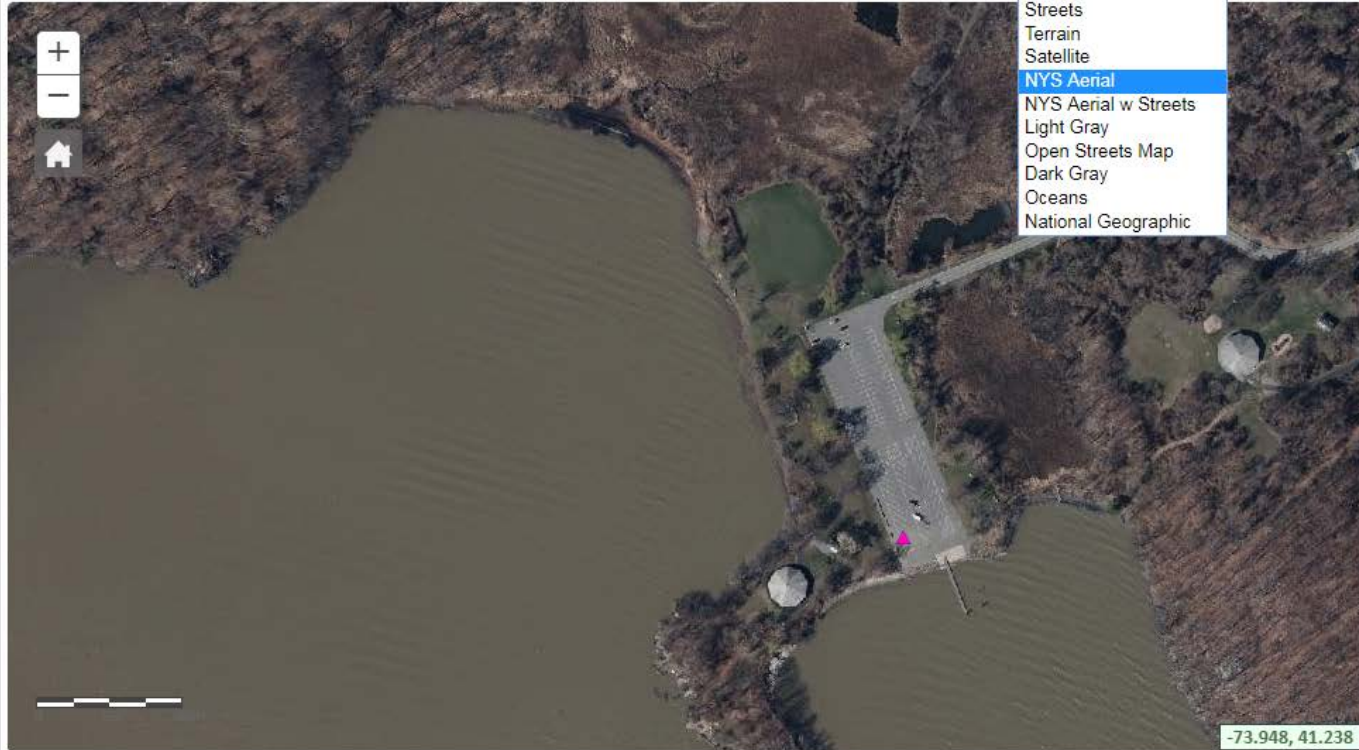
☒ Fishing and/or Boat Launch Access

☐ NYS Parks and Historic Sites

☐ DEC Lands

☐ Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance

Reference Layers



- Topographical
- Satellite with Labels
- Streets
- Terrain
- Satellite
- NYS Aerial**
- NYS Aerial w Streets
- Light Gray
- Open Streets Map
- Dark Gray
- Oceans
- National Geographic



# Data Layers: NY Protected Areas

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



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Hudson River  
Estuary Program

A Program of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation



Cornell University

Base Map: Topographical

[How to use  
this map](#)

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Hudson River Estuary Layers

Stream and Watershed Layers

Wetland Layers

Forest Layers

Biodiversity Layers

Scenic and Recreation Layers

Reference Layers

☐ Counties

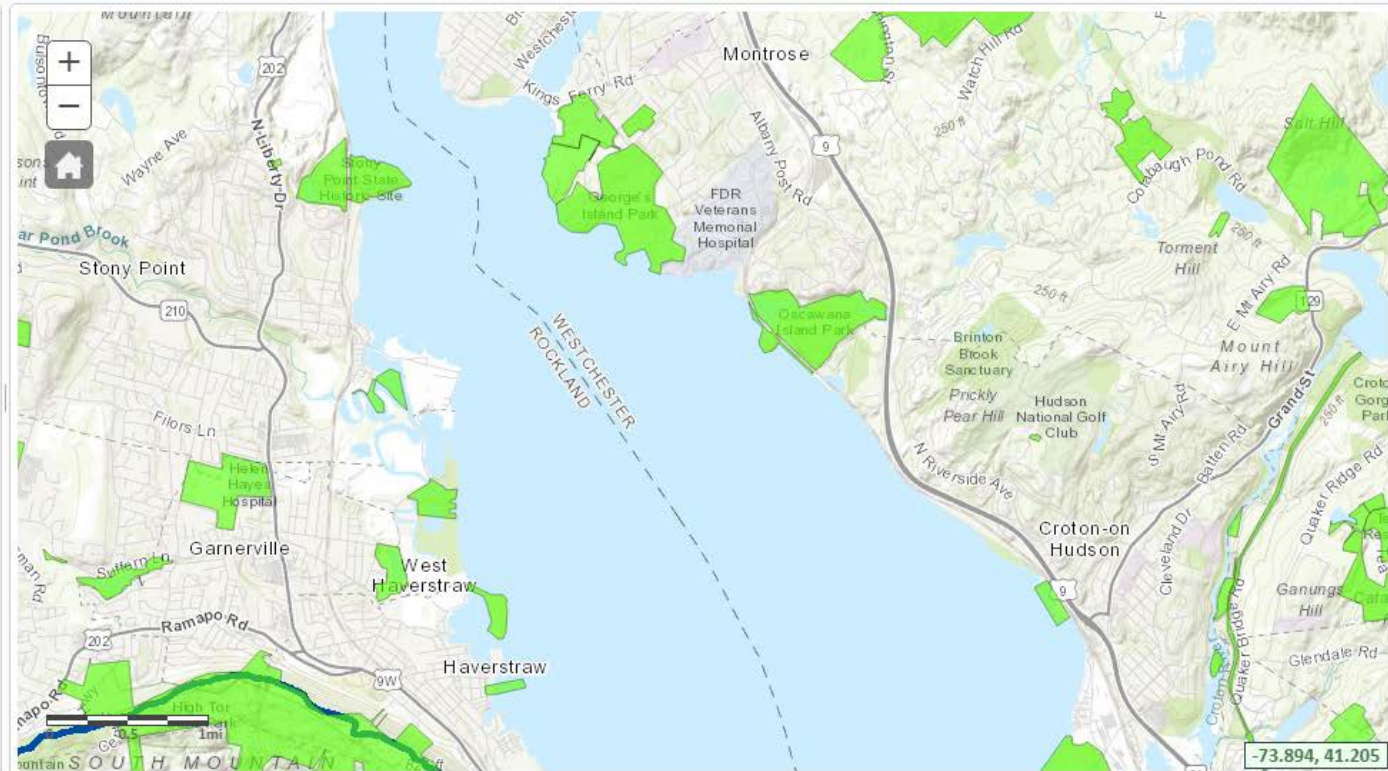
☐ Cities

☐ Towns

☐ Villages

☐ Tax Parcels

☒ NY Protected Areas



# Data Layers: NY Protected Areas

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



## Hudson Valley Natural Resource Mapper

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Hudson River  
Estuary Program

A Program of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation



Cornell University

Base Map: Topographical

How to use  
this map

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Hudson River Estuary Layers

Stream and Watershed Layers

Wetland Layers

Forest Layers

Biodiversity Layers

Scenic and Recreation Layers

Reference Layers

☐ Counties

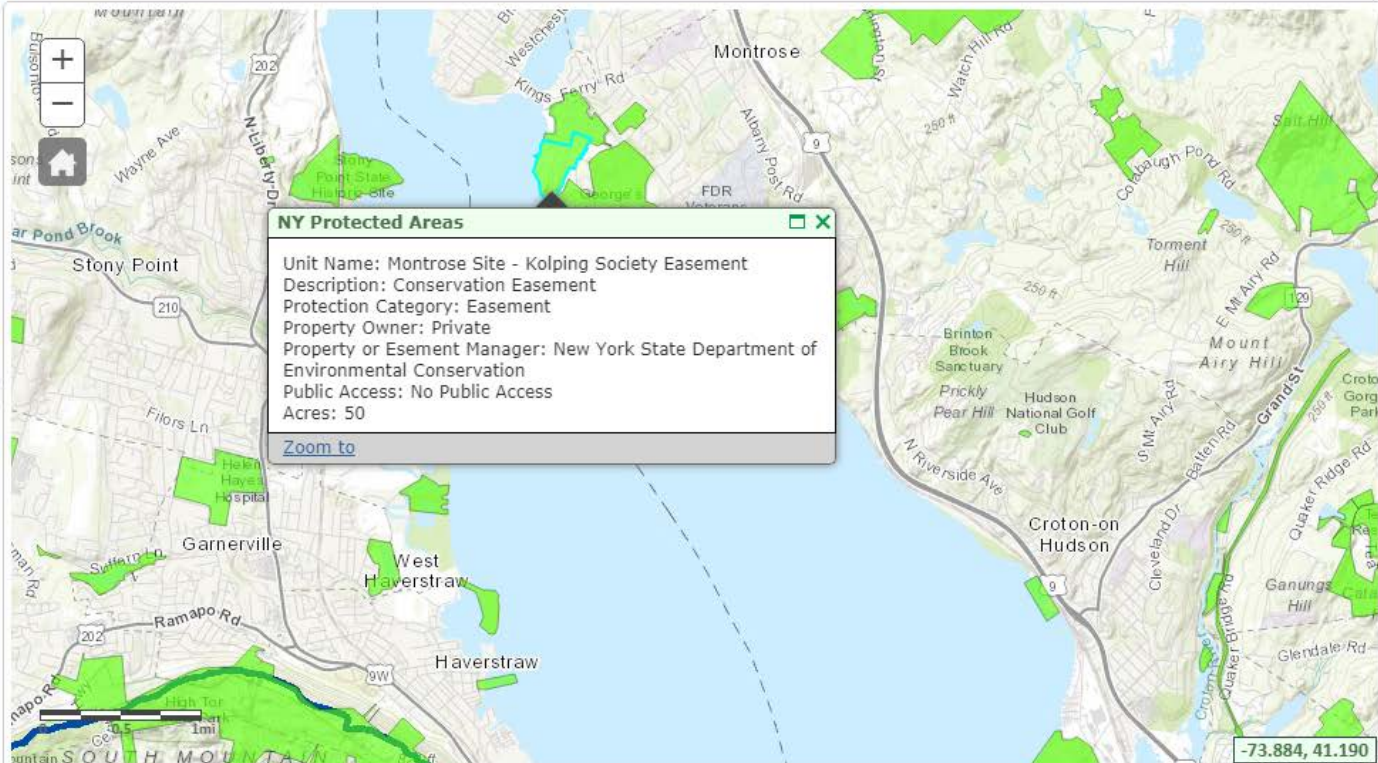
☐ Cities

☐ Towns

☐ Villages

☐ Tax Parcels

☒ NY Protected Areas **1**



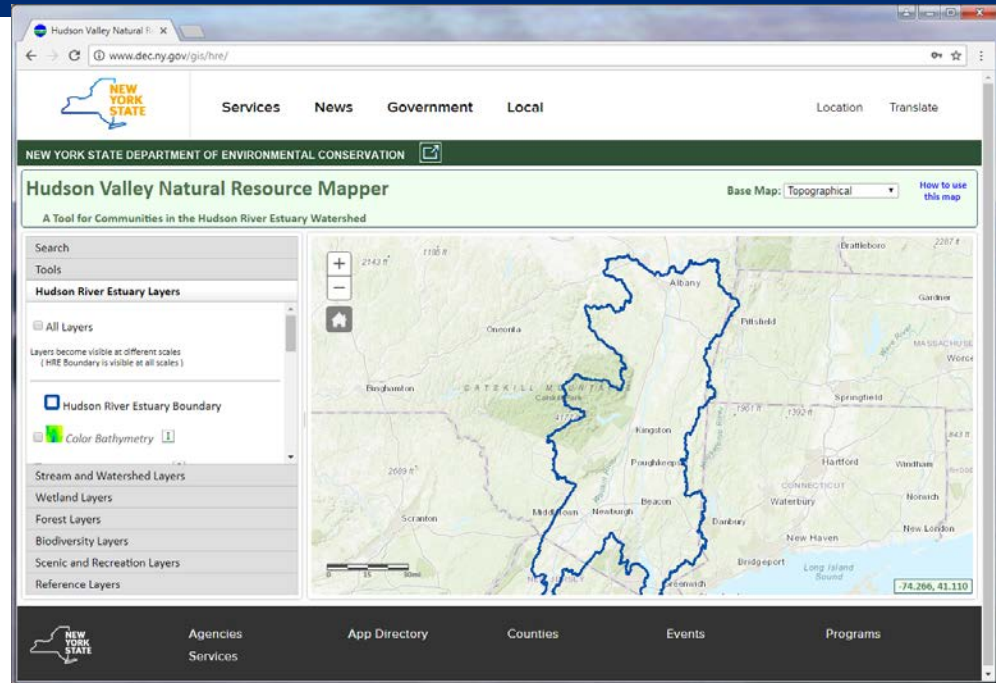
**For more information:**

**Ingrid Haeckel**

*Conservation & Land Use Specialist*

[ingrid.haeckel@dec.ny.gov](mailto:ingrid.haeckel@dec.ny.gov)

Hudson River Estuary Program  
and Cornell University



[www.dec.ny.gov/lands/112137.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/112137.html)



Cornell University



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation



**Hudson River Valley Greenway  
Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area  
*Acting Executive Director's Report*  
September 12, 2018  
Scott Keller**

**Empire State Trail (EST)**

Andy Beers and Paul Glesta continue working on the Empire State Trail. A website for the trail is available at [Empire State Trail link](#). We have released an Empire State Trail Plan, an Empire State Trail Design Guide, and an Empire State Trail User Projection.



The Albany Hudson Electric Trail continues into the final planning stages with the release of an Overall Trail Alignment, a final environmental impact statement (FEIS), a trail maintenance plan, and a final concept plan. Visit [Albany Hudson Electric Trail link](#) for more information.

The Maybrook Trailway (previously called Beacon Line Rail Trail), running from Brewster to Hopewell Junction is being constructed by Metro North Railroad. A final concept plan has been released for this segment of the trail as well. Visit [Maybrook Trailway link](#) for more information.

The NYS Department of Transportation has released a draft concept plan for the on-road routes. It is available: [NYS DOT Empire State Trail link](#).

**Success Files on PBS**

The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area (NHA) will be featured on the PBS short-series *Success Files hosted by Rob Lowe* beginning September 24<sup>th</sup>. The show delivers cutting edge educational content for a short form documentary series. A 3 to 5-minute show on the NHA will run for a year and is anticipated to reach 60 million households. In addition to the educational segment covering the NHA, we have received a one minute commercial about the Hudson River Valley Ramble which is airing this month in the New York, Boston, Washington DC, Albany and Syracuse markets. These airings will occur during Peak (7:00 am-11:45 am) and Prime (6:00 pm-11:45 pm) time on the news networks including CNN, CNN Headline News, MSNBC, CNBC, Fox News, Fox Business Network, TLC, Travel and Discovery between September 17, 2018 and September 30, 2018. In addition, we will be receiving the raw footage from the film shoots, including drone footage that should provide us with a promotional tool we have not had before.

**Hudson River Safety, Operations, and Navigation Steering Committee**

The Hudson River Safety, Operations, and Navigation Steering Committee will be holding a public meeting and information gathering session on October 2 at 10:00 a.m.

at the Wallace Center in Hyde Park. The purpose of the meeting is to bring stakeholders together to hear about what the Steering Committee has accomplished so far and to solicit input on topics of interest to the larger group. The information gathered will be used to guide the agenda of the Steering Committee.

### **American Indian and Dutch Heritage**

Working with Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation staff, the Dutch Consulate, Conservancy Member Stefan Yarabek, and Allison Jungkurth, a graduate student at NYU, we have 1) created a webpage for Dutch Heritage on our NHA website [HRV NHA Dutch Heritage link](#), 2) are allowing NHA event submitters to select a Dutch theme for their event, and 3) created a draft combined American Indian and Dutch Heritage Map Guide similar to the others in our series. We have received a draft of the map/guide and will be reviewing it at the NHA Management Committee meeting later today.

### **Hudson River Train Tour App**

Development of the app for use by Amtrak and Metro North riders in nearing completion. We launched the app on May 17<sup>th</sup> at the New York by Rail trade show at Penn Station. We continue to work to improve the app, recently geofencing all sites in all themes, even if they are not visible from the train (of which the user is informed). In process is to add the ability to navigate away from an audio page to another page and still have the audio play. A marketing campaign was launched in May and concludes in October.



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Working with Sound & Story Project of the Hudson Valley, we are also adding eight new stories by the end of the year, including Washington Irving, Sing Sing Prison, Revolutionary War, Dutch History in the Hudson Valley, Hudson River Greenway Water Trail, the Roosevelts, Lighthouses of the Hudson, and Hudson River School Painters. Finally, in partnership with the Hudson River Estuary Program, we will be adding a sixth theme by spring, tentatively titled, Getting, In, On, or Next to the Hudson River—a listing of access sites on the east shore. All staff participated in testing the app.

On August 22 we began to receive analytics on usage from OnCell. As of September 9 the most popular themes have been What's Out the Window, Nature & Culture, Freedom & Dignity. The top three pages have been Sing Sing prison, Walkway Over the Hudson and Castleton Bridges. We have had users from Italy, Canada, and thirteen states including Washington and Alaska. Usage patterns show a definite spike on weekends, with little use during the week. In speaking with a Westchester County commuter, she was unaware of the app, despite our promotional campaign in Grand Central. Once I pointed out to her we had a presence, she noticed it. We will work with the vendor to try to capture commuter attention in a different way.

### **Great Hudson River Paddle**

I will have more information in the success of this event in the next report, but the Great Hudson River Paddle was held from August 1-5. Initially scheduled to be a trip from Albany to Poughkeepsie, dangerous weather conditions resulted in a Coeymans to Poughkeepsie trip. The vendor is pleased with the event, and continues to host overnight events and promoting the Greenway Water Trail.

### **New Greenway Website** [Hudson River Valley Greenway link](#)

The Greenway, in coordination with NYS Information Technology Services, launched our new website on June 26<sup>th</sup> fully three months ahead of schedule. The entire process from first meeting to launch, including staff training took six weeks, a new record for any state agency. The site looks fantastic, featuring many new photos, is now mobile responsive, and is nearly 100% accessible. Feedback to date has been extremely positive. Dan Jeanson, Beth Campochiaro, Shannon Day, and I worked diligently to make this happen. We continue to work to bring the website up to 100% accessibility.

### **Staff Activities**

Trails and Community Outreach Director **Beth Campochiaro** and Assistant Event Coordinator **Cody Arana** are working on the ongoing 2018 Hudson River Valley Ramble. Featuring nearly 200 events this year, the Ramble is going well.

Beth also worked on reviewing trail designations, preparing Board and Grants Committee meeting minutes, attended a Partners Restoring the Hudson meeting, reviewed and commented on the Hudson River Comprehensive Restoration Plan and participated in listening and comment sessions by phone, and prepared and distributed the Trail Grant program.

Beth and Project Director **Dan Jeanson** also presented in May at the Greater Hudson Heritage Network Focus on Funding Workshop to inform site directors and communities about the way the Greenway grant programs work and how best to prepare a successful application and presented a webinar on the same topic in September.

Project Director **Dan Jeanson** is leading the effort to complete the Hudson River Line Mobile App described earlier. Dan also updated the Council Grant Application and associated Grant Guidelines with accessibility guidelines in mind, attended the “YATSI” (Young Abolitionist Teen Scholars’ Institute) presentation on August 9th. The students enrolled in this 5-week program learned about the abolitionist movement and presented group and individual projects completed over the summer program. This project was supported by a 2018 Heritage Development Grant. Dan also attended the Dutchess Trails Roundtable, the Hudson River Estuary Management Advisory Committee meeting, and two Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council meetings.

Dan is working to simplify the budget request portion of our grant applications, which will soon be the same for any of our grant programs.

Grants and Finance Coordinator **Shannon Day** attended the launch of the Hudson River Train Tour app at Penn Station and manned a booth promoting the app to passersby. Shannon worked with the NYS FOIL office to add a NY FOIL request form to our website, took CPR/AED training, completed our agency-wide internal controls certification, completed our bi-annual Domestic Violence in the Workplace Report, assisted with audit preparations and was interviewed by the auditors, volunteered for and began training in the Greenway’s finance system and took on some of that



workload and attended Building Tenant Committee meetings. Finally, Shannon has completed the task of cataloguing all Greenway records. We are currently waiting on NYS Archives to approve our retention schedule so that we may determine which records will be transferred to the archives, and which should be destroyed.

Assistant Event Coordinator **Cody Arana** began training on the Content Management Software for the new website, participated for a day in the Great Hudson River Paddle, and writing and publishing our newsletters. The majority of his time was spent working on the Ramble, including preparing and posting social media postings, writing press releases, creating and distributing guide kits, redesigning our comment card, creating an on-line survey, and editing the website.

**Scott Keller** attended numerous meetings and conferences and made several presentations. Included among these was a NOAA review of the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve, attended the New York By Rail Trade Show, participated in filming for the Success Files videos, attended a Hudson River Harbor Safety Steering Committee meeting, and toured the AHET trail with the Chairmen, Jane Daniels, and Andy Beers.

Scott also attended the Change of Command Ceremony for the US Coast Guard's Captain of the Port of New York, attended a reenactment of the King's "hot dog summit" picnic at Top Cottage with the Chairmen, was interviewed for a new audio piece on the Water Trail for our Train Tour app, participated in a series of meetings with OPRHP and the Shared Dutch Heritage office of the Dutch Consulate, participated in a Hudson River Regional Workshop with the NY/NJ Harbor Estuary Program, and participated in a Hudson River Estuary Program 2020-2030 Action Agenda planning and strategy session for the Access metric.

Finally, Scott participated in an open house about the Coast Guard's Operation Safe Hudson aboard the 197 foot patrol boat *Shrike*. In addition to going out on the *Shrike* and viewing a launch and recovery of a zodiac raft, tours of a Saugerties based buoy tender and a medium response boat were given. In response to the Ports and Waterways Safety Assessment released earlier this year, the Coast Guard is making a concerted effort to patrol the Hudson and to educate all boaters about safe boating do's and don'ts. The crews seemed quite excited to see a different part of the Sector New York coverage area and were enthusiastic about promoting boating safety.

The Conservancy's annual audit was performed in late July, with Beth Campochiaro, Shannon Day and Scott participating. The findings were clean with no items in the management letter. The audit will be presented for acceptance by the Board at our November meeting.

As always, the entire staff participated in reviewing grants applications for Greenway Trail Awards and Council Planning grants and to test the Train Tour app. Beth, Dan and Shannon are working with communities and non-profits to resolve expired grants. Our staff works with these grantees to extend grant performance times, complete grant projects, or return funds that will not be used<sub>4</sub>

With both joy and sadness, we said goodbye to a two long-time partners, who retired over the summer. Betsy Blair, founding Manager of the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve retired in mid-June. Betsy had served with the Reserve since the mid-1980s. Debi Duke, founding Manager of the Teaching the Hudson Valley Program, retired at the same time. Without Debi we would not have a Teaching the Hudson Valley program.

We also bade farewell to Chairman McHenry's Executive Assistant, Chris Marchitello. Chris retired after 38 years in public service. Chris has been an integral part of the Greenway since 2003. Chris's leaving has led to the closing of the Greenway's office in Manhattan.

### **Teaching the Hudson Valley**

#### **Annual Program Report from THV Program Manager Debi Duke**

Michael Zwelling has taken over Teaching the Hudson Valley and is working to learn all about the program. Michael continues the NPS tradition of providing us with smart people who are a pleasure to work with.

## Grants Program Update

Grants Completed Since the April 25, 2018 Board Meeting						
Grant Type	Grantee	Project	Awarded	Match	Award Date	Completion Date
NHA	Friends of John Jay Homestead	Red Barn Discovery Center	\$4,000.00	\$10,388.57	3/11/2015	4/24/2018
Council Compact	Village of Tivoli	Waterfront access walkway and Montgomery Street improvements	\$13,461.23	\$13,461.25	6/7/2012	4/30/2018
Council Planning	Town of Pine Plains	Trails and Bikeway Concept Plan	\$6,532.82	\$6,532.82	6/12/2013	5/14/2018
Conservancy	Teatown Lake Reservation	Kitchawan Bridge Repair	\$1,795.00	\$2,911.55	10/14/2015	6/13/2018
Conservancy	Winnakee Land Trust, Inc.	Rhinebeck Trails Project	\$14,800.00	\$30,002.42	10/26/2016	6/13/2018
NHA	FASNY Museum of Firefighting	FASNY Museum of Firefighting Marketing Initiative	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	4/25/2018	6/14/2018
Conservancy	Columbia Land Conservancy, Inc.	Interpretive Signage at Greenport Conservation Area	\$7,500.00	\$8,180.05	10/26/2016	7/19/2018
Council Planning	Town of Fort Ann	Old Champlain Canal Lock 17 Trail	\$5,974.05	\$5,974.06	6/3/2014	7/26/2018
Council Planning	Village of New Paltz	New Paltz Village-Town Master Plan	\$7,000.00	\$7,380.00	6/8/2016	8/3/2018
NHA	City of Beacon	City of Beacon Heritage Site Mapping and Signage Project	\$8,500.00	\$22,558.00	3/11/2015	8/17/2018
NHA	Friends of Clermont	Harvesting History: The Teaching Garden at Clermont	\$5,000.00	\$7,804.79	3/23/2016	8/17/2018
Totals			\$79,563.10	\$120,193.51		

**Grants Awarded Since the April 25, 2018 Board Meeting**

<b>Grant Type</b>	<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Awarded</b>	<b>Award Date</b>
Council Compact	City of Port Jervis	Zoning Code Gap Analysis	\$10,000.00	4/25/2018
Council Compact	Village of Pawling	Comprehensive Plan Update Project	\$10,000.00	4/25/2018
Council Planning	Town of Greenville	Vanderbilt Park Improvements	\$10,000.00	4/25/2018
Council Planning	Town of Saratoga	Sword Surrender March Trail: Garnsey Trailhead	\$10,000.00	4/25/2018
Council Planning	Town of Durham	2018 Comprehensive Plan Update	\$10,000.00	6/6/2018
Council Planning	Town of Fort Edward	Birding Center Market Analysis	\$2,500.00	6/6/2018
Council Planning	Town of Pine Plains	Comprehensive Plan Review and Revision	\$7,200.00	6/6/2018
Council Planning	Town of Salem	The Georgi on the Battenkill's Corridor Connection Project	\$6,000.00	6/6/2018
Council Planning	Town of Halfmoon	Vosburgh Road Preserve	\$10,000.00	6/18/2018
Council Compact	City of Poughkeepsie	Pershing Avenue Community Farm	\$4,000.00	6/7/2018
NHA	Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College	"The State at Montgomery Place" A Public Performing Arts Initiative	\$5,000.00	4/25/2018
NHA	D&H Canal Historical Society	Improving Access to Five Locks Walk	\$4,850.00	4/25/2018
NHA	Hudson River Maritime Museum	Hudson River Lighthouse Coalition	\$5,400.00	4/25/2018
NHA	Palisades Parks Conservancy	Stony Point: Public Access to History Education and Scenic Viewpoints	\$3,500.00	4/25/2018
NHA	Putnam History Museum	West Point Foundry Bicentennial Exhibition	\$2,500.00	4/25/2018
NHA	St Agnes Cemetery	St. Agnes Cemetery Visitor Enhancement Program	\$5,000.00	4/25/2018
NHA	Thomas Cole Historic House	In the Footseteps of the Hudson River School: Finding Inspiration in Landscape	\$5,000.00	4/25/2018
NHA	Underground Railroad History Project of the Capital Region, Inc.	Seeking Sanctuary	\$5,000.00	4/25/2018
NHA	Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy	Interpretive Signage	\$5,000.00	4/25/2018

Grant Type	Grantee	Project	Awarded	Award Date
NHA	National Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association	1781 and 1782 Hudson River Crossings: Research, Mapping, Website and Symposium	\$5,000.00	4/25/2018
NHA	FASNY Museum of Firefighting	FASNY Museum of Firefighting Marketing Initiative	\$5,000.00	4/25/2018
NHA	Boscobel House and Garden	Boscobel's Landscape and Landmarks Tour	\$4,000.00	5/9/2018
NHA	John Burroughs Association	Slabsides Gateway Experience-Entrance Signs Project	\$5,000.00	5/24/2018
<b>Totals</b>			<b>\$139,950.00</b>	