

**Habitat Restoration & Stewardship Work Group  
In-Person & Virtual Meeting  
Connecticut College, New London, CT  
Tuesday, September 13, 2022 – Meeting Summary**



A recording of the meeting can be found here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ITv6Pgx3CHCTXd6mJ36gPacdBpSt4DTI?usp=sharing>

Time stamps for the presentations:

05:00 LISS Work Group Priorities & Work Plan discussion

1:40:55 Building Resilience in a changing environment: organismal to ecosystem level responses (Camels Reef Living Shoreline Project)

**Welcome and Roll Call**

A total of 35 people attended the meeting.

**Virtual**

Juliana Barrett, CT Sea Grant

Shelby Casas, Audubon New York

Sarah Crosby, The Maritime Aquarium

Ellen Hartig, NYC Parks

Heather Johnson, Friends of the Bay

Kate Knight, CTDEEP

Jack Matthias, Audubon Connecticut

Alexander Patterson, EA Engineering

Sarah Schaefer-Brown, NYSG/LISS

Angela Schimizzi, NYS DEC Region 3 Marine Habitat

Heather Young, EA Engineering

**In Person**

Zofia Baumann, UConn

Jordan Bishop, NEIWPPC

Todd Bobowick, USDA-NRCS

Alexis Canney, NYC Parks

Timothy Clark, The Nature Conservancy

Emily Hall, Seatuck

Leah Hill, Town of Nantucket Natural Resources

Kristin Hudgins, NYC Parks

David Kozak, CTDEEP (retired)

DeAva Lambert, CTDEEP

Alisha Milardo, CT Audubon

Diana Nguyen, The Nature Conservancy

Jennifer O'Donnell, UConn  
Vicky O'Neill, NEIWPC  
Susan Paton, USFWS  
Maria Rosa, Connecticut College  
Cayla Sullivan, EPA Region 2  
Nicole Tacchiki, EPA  
Mark Tedesco, EPA Long Island Sound Office  
Jim Turek, NOAA-Restoration Center  
Tim Visel  
Harry Yamalis, CTDEEP  
Elizabeth Hornstein, NYSG/LISS  
Jimena Perez-Viscasillas, NYSG/LISS

### **FY23 Work Group Work Plan FY23-Presentation and Discussion**

- The presentation reviewed the structure of the Long Island Sound Study and the Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan with the associated Ecosystem Targets and Implementation Actions. The presentation also focused on the LISS budget and funding mechanisms. The purpose of the presentation was to remind the work group members about the purpose of the work plan and why they are being asked for input.
- Discussion followed regarding the current draft work plan. All comments collected to date were discussed (see attached *LISS HRSWG FY23 Work Plan\_DRAFT\_All HRSWG comments to date*). All additional comments received during the meeting were incorporated into a final draft (see attached *LISS HRSWG FY23 Work Plan\_FINAL*).
- The co-chairs submitted the final draft of the work plan to the LISS EPA office on September 23.

### **Building Resilience in a changing environment: organismal to ecosystem level response (Camels Reef Living Shoreline Project)**

- Little was known about the shoreline and river along the Conn College campus. Shoreline was eroding and infrastructure (train tracks) were under threat.
- In June 2018, undergraduate students were able to sample the river for water quality and biological samples. Data showed a fairly clean area with a high diversity of species.
- Camel Reef (pilot) was established in October 2021– completed, 34 reef balls. Sedimentation behind the reef structure was rapid, with 3-4 cm accumulated by July 2022.
- Camel Reef phase 2 will occur in 2022– still in planning; will have 96 reef balls; just a bit downstream from the pilot site
- Planting behind the pilot reef ball site will occur in March 2023 (when sediment should be at least 4-5 cm)
- tree trunks, root wads coming to one or both sites
- Peter Solomon from The Sound School has a 28-reef-ball site just offshore of campus, with a webcam monitoring oyster growth

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