



Throwe  
Environmental

# **Introduction to the Long Island Sound Futures Fund**

# Who is Team Throwe?

*“Building community resilience through leadership, action, and investment”*

## What we do:

- Create sustainable investment systems
- Develop climate action plans and strategies
- Engage community leaders and stakeholders

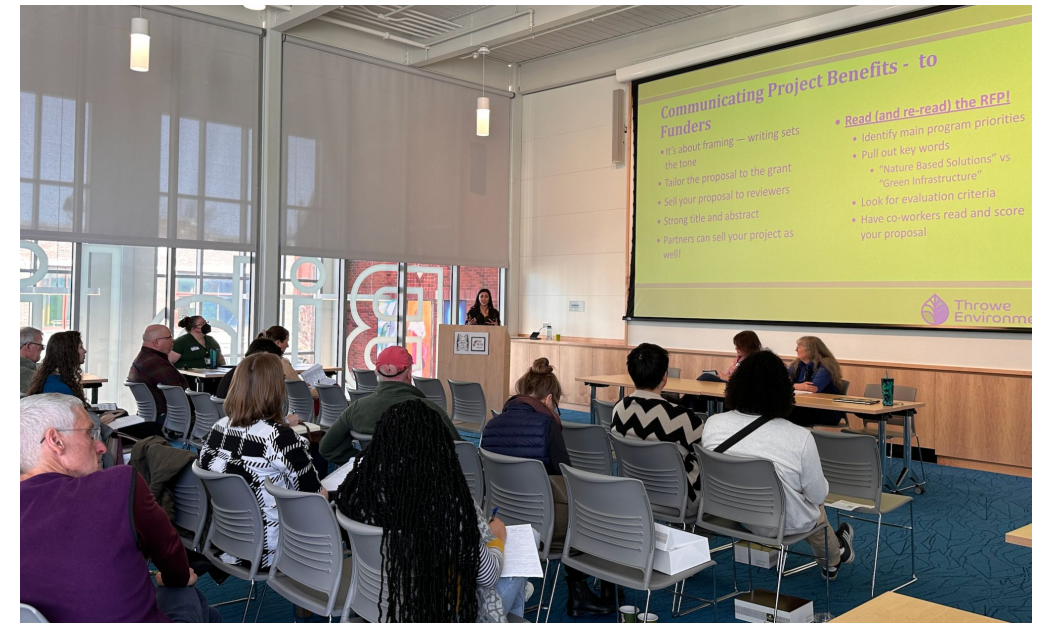
## Where we work:

- New England (*RI, MA, Long Island Watershed*)
- East Coast (*Maryland, Florida*)
- Nationally (*NCRF, GLO Initiative*)



TE contracts with LISFF as Field Liaisons, supporting LISFF by:

- Promoting LISFF through **outreach**
- **Follow-up** on proposals not selected for funding
- **Troubleshooting** with existing grantees



# NFWF Funding Opportunities in Northeast

- ✓ **Northeast Forests and Rivers Fund**: \$75K-\$300K grants for restoring/ sustaining healthy forests and river habitat for native bird and fish species
- ✓ **America the Beautiful Challenge**: \$119M nat'l conservation/restoration program for large-scale projects that address *shared* funder priorities (DOD, Interior, USDA)
- ✓ **Acres for America**: \$3.7M for 4-8 projects nat'lly, urgently needed funding for important large-scale habitat conservation (*voluntary land acquisitions, perpetual conservation easements*)
- ✓ **Five Star and Urban Waters**: \$2.4M nat'lly to develop community capacity and support diverse local partnerships to sustain local natural resources for future generations
- ✓ **National Coastal Resilience Fund**
- ✓ **Long Island Sound Futures Fund**





# Long Island Sound Futures Fund 2024 Highlights

# LISFF 2024 Sources of Funding

~\$12 million • More \$s in 2024



# Principles & Priorities

**CCMP Cross cutting principles:** Resilience, Sustainability, Environmental justice

1. **CCMP Theme: Clean Waters & Healthy Watersheds:** Improve wq by reducing nitrogen pollution, CSOs, impervious cover, stormwater and point sources of pollution

- **Examples: Focus N reduction or prevention**

- Plans for or implementation of...
  - Low Impact Development/Green Infrastructure
  - Wastewater treatment onsite or treatment plant retrofits
  - Riparian and forested buffer and channel bank vegetation enhancement to slow and intercept polluted surface runoff
  - Stream channel reconnection to floodplains and adjacent wetlands to promote nutrient removal and reduce erosion

## 2020–2024 Long Island Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan Update

This update contains new and revised Implementation Actions (IAs) for the 2020-2024 planning cycle. The full CCMP with the original IAs is at [longislandsoundstudy.net/2015/09/2015-comprehensive-conservation-and-management-plan](http://longislandsoundstudy.net/2015/09/2015-comprehensive-conservation-and-management-plan).



CCMP will be updated for 2025!!!



January 2021

# Principles & Priorities

- **Examples: Focus N reduction or prevention**
  - *Plans for or implementation of...*
    - Replacing or right-sizing culverts or otherwise improving road and stream crossings in order to reduce downstream erosion of nutrients
    - Technical assistance to engage rural landowners and farmers in design and delivery of nitrogen prevention projects
    - Addressing agricultural runoff through farm-scale conservation systems and solutions

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# Principles & Priorities

- **Examples: Focus N reduction or prevention**
  - *Plans for or implementation of...*
    - Implementation of regenerative agriculture practices
    - Soil health practices and management systems that combine improved tillage and/or pasture management, cover crops, crop and livestock rotations, and other practices to increase soil fertility while improving the capacity of crops and soils to reduce runoff and increase nutrient uptake
    - Precision nutrient management systems that fine-tune the rate, source, method, and timing of nutrient applications to maintain or increase crop yields, minimize nutrient input costs and nutrient losses to surface and groundwater

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# Boundaries & Associated Project Types Non-coastal CT & MA, VT, NH

**Non-Coastal CT: Clean Water, Resilience, Education, Fish Passage**

**LIS Watershed MA, VT, NH: Clean Water N Reduction**

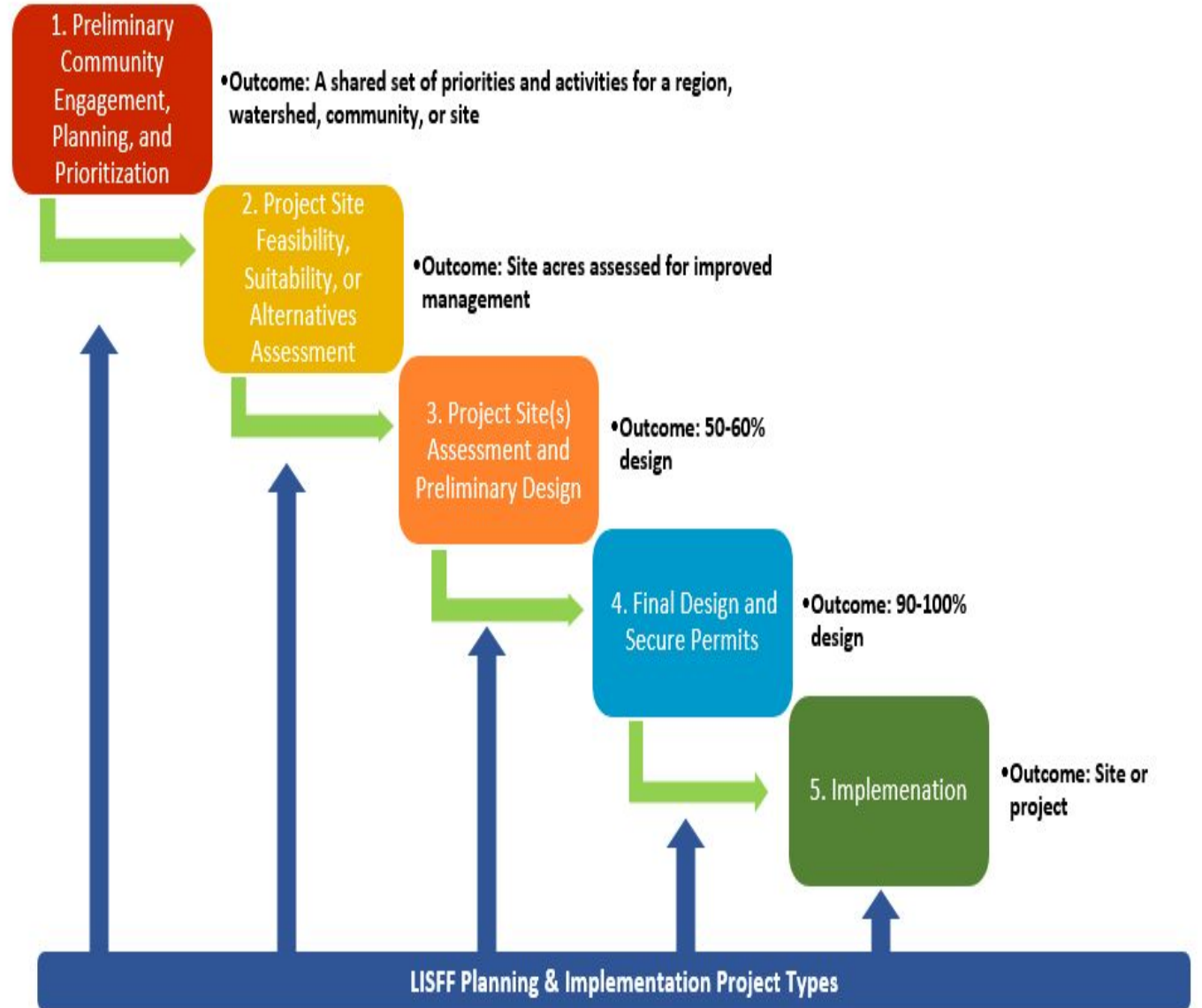


# Range of Funds for Grants

**Design/Planning:** \$50,000-\$500,000

**Implementation:** \$50,000-\$1.5 million

**Public Participation, Education (only in CT and NY):** \$50,000 to \$100,000



# Grant Guidelines

## Project Performance Period

- Start w/in 6 months complete w/in 24 months after grant award
- Large-scale **implementation** projects start w/in 6 months & complete w/in 36 months after grant award
- Proposal Due Date: May 13, 2024, 11:59PM, EDT
- Review Period: Summer/Fall 2024
- Grant award notice November 2024

## Match

- **50% of “Requested Amount”**
- **Non-federal** cash funds and/or in-kind services
  - *Examples: In-kind contributions of staff/volunteer time, materials/services donated or other tangible contributions to the project*
- **May be from applicant or partners**
- *Must* be deployed during start and end date of LISFF project



## Ineligible Activities or Items

- Research
- Operations
- New educational curriculum
- Marketing to promote an organization
- Funding for food, t-shirts/promotional items
- Full fee or easement acquisition
- Political advocacy/fundraising, lobbying/litigation; compliance w/ legal requirements including permit conditions, mitigation, settlements



# Requesting Feedback

## LISFF 2024 Proposal Labs

Book a proposal lab with NFWF at:

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/NFWFLISFF@nfwf.org/bookings/>

- What is the problem to be addressed by the project and its relevance to restoration of the health and living resources of Long Island Sound?
- What is the solution to be pursued by the project? For example, major activities of the project.
- Where is the project located? For example, provide site, watershed or waterbody, and city/ state.
- What is the approximate size of the grant to be requested?
- Who will be the applicant organization?
- Contact information to receive feedback: email, telephone?



# Timeline

**RFP is open!**

**Proposals Due  
Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> 11:59PM  
EDT!!**

**Review Period: Summer/Fall  
2024**

**Awards announced November  
2024**



# Questions? How can we help you?

## SUPPORT STAFF

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**Funding Basics:**  
*Before, During, and After*



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## Before: Picking the Right Project/Program

- Develop your idea
- Work with the community
- Establish clear plan for success (goals, objectives, timeline, responsibilities)
- **Is this the right program for you?**
  - Confirm eligibility, match, award amount, project types, priorities
- Connect with Program Officer



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## During: Communicating your Project

- **Writing sets the tone.**
- Demonstrate need and how funding will help
- Sell your project to the reviewer
- Adapt to the grant
- Pay attention to keywords
- Build partnerships



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## After: So, You Think You're Done...

- Reread, revise
- Strong title and abstract
- Compare back to program priorities, criteria
- **If you don't get funded...**
  - Recycle (and adapt) rejected proposals
  - Solicit feedback
  - Build on weaknesses

