# 2013 Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Program

## Chesapeake Bay Program – Management Board
## November 21st, 2013

# Program Overview


- In August, the DOI selected NFWF to administer its Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Program.
- $100M in grants are dedicated through the grant program.
- Part of $360M emergency supplemental to mitigate damages caused by Hurricane Sandy.
- Projects that reduce communities' vulnerability to coastal storms and associated threats by strengthening natural ecosystems that also benefit fish and wildlife.
- $2.6 million in additional funds from IDEA are supporting the program.

# Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Program Draft Goals

1. Enhance the resiliency of coastal and inland communities to reduce their vulnerability to storms and associated threats by strengthening natural ecosystems that also benefit fish and wildlife.

2. Reduce the impacts of storm surge and wave velocity on coastal communities by using ecosystem-based restoration and protection approaches and methods.

3. Strengthen and expand complexes of conserved federal, state and local lands to protect communities vulnerable to storm events and associated threats such as sea level rise, storm surge and excessive wind and wave energy.

4. Improve the management of storm water runoff to reduce flooding and non-point source pollution and their associated impacts on communities and ecosystem health.

5. Promote community-based green infrastructure plans to reduce the impacts of storms and associated threats, to better manage stormwater and to restore ecosystem function.

6. Improve surface and ground water quality, including groundwater recharge, by enhancing hubs of protected lands and their surrounding areas.

# Review of the 2013 RFP

## Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grants Program

**Request for Proposals**
**Proposal Due Date: Friday, January 31, 2014**

On behalf of the Department of the Interior, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is pleased to announce the Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grant Program which will support projects that reduce communities' vulnerability to the growing risks from coastal storms, sea level rise, flooding, erosion and associated threats through strengthening natural ecosystems that also benefit fish and wildlife.

The Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grants Program will award more than $100 million in grants throughout the region affected by Hurricane Sandy including Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, and West Virginia—the states that officially declared a natural disaster as a result of the storm event. Grants will be awarded to projects that assess, restore, enhance or create wetlands, beaches and other natural systems to help better protect communities and to mitigate the impacts of future storms and naturally occurring events on fish and wildlife species and habitats.

Program implementation is being closely coordinated with several Department of the Interior (DOI) bureaus including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

### Program Sponsors

More than $100 million in funding is being provided by DOI to support the Competitive Grants Program. These funds are focused on rebuilding, restoring and researching natural defense systems in states that declared a natural disaster as a result of Hurricane Sandy.

In addition, NFWF received $2.6 million from a court-ordered community service payment out of the District Courts of Delaware and New Jersey. The funds will be used for projects that will help to conserve, preserve, or restore the coastal environment of New Jersey and Delaware, specifically the areas affected by Hurricane Sandy.

## ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

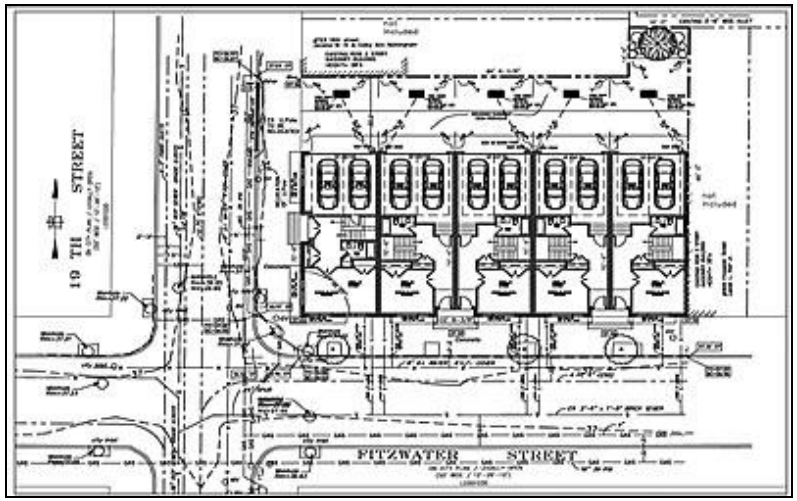
| Project Type | Funding Level |
|---|---|
| Project Planning and Design | Up to $250,000 |
| Coastal Resiliency Assessments | Up to $1,000,000 |
| Restoration and Resiliency Projects | $250,000 to $5,000,000 |
| Green Infrastructure | $250,000 to $1,000,000 |
| Community and Coastal Resiliency Planning | $250,000 to $500,000 |

NFWF

# Review of the 2013 RFP

**PROJECT PLANNING AND DESIGN**
**Up to $250,000**

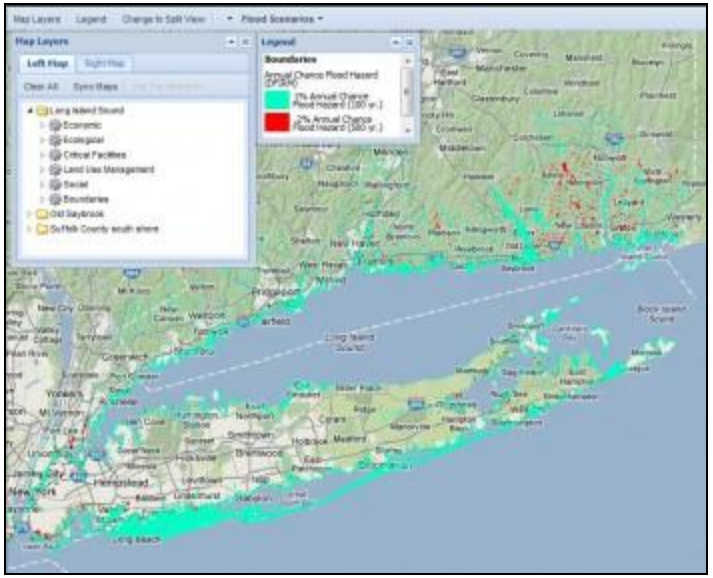
- Can support planning, design and permitting
- May include preparation of conceptual designs, engineering plans, and detailed project budgets, to facilitate permitting processes, and to support other related tasks to position projects for successful implementation in the future.
- Projects that receive grants for planning and design may be eligible for funding in future grant cycles, if available.




# Review of the 2013 RFP

**COASTAL RESILIENCY ASSESSMENTS**
**Up to $1,000,000**

- Can support efforts that advance our knowledge of the effects of climate change, sea level rise, and storm events on coastal natural ecosystems and communities including:
  - Mapping
  - Analysis
  - Assessments
  - Resiliency Planning
  - Natural Resource Prioritizations



- The assessments should be designed to inform future management actions, policies and practices that can help natural resource managers and communities mitigate for the impacts of future storms and other naturally occurring events.

NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION NFWF

# Review of the 2013 RFP

**RESTORATION AND RESILIENCY PROJECTS**
**$250,000 to $5,000,000**

Examples of landscapes eligible for funding to restore habitat and increase community resiliency include, but are not limited to:

Sub-tidal Habitat

Beaches and Dunes

Wetlands and Marshes

Near-Coastal Freshwater Habitat

Coastal Forests

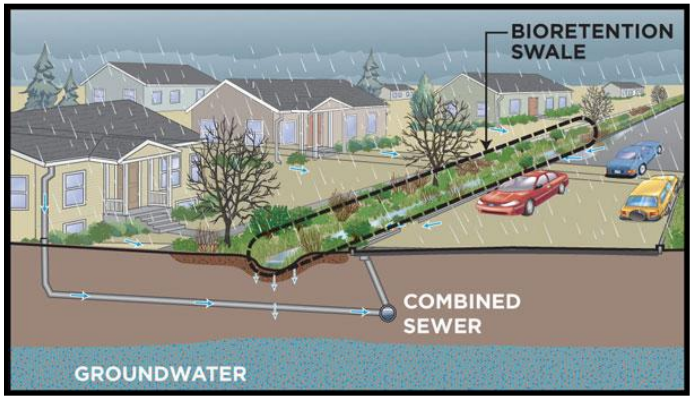
Inland Rivers and Streams

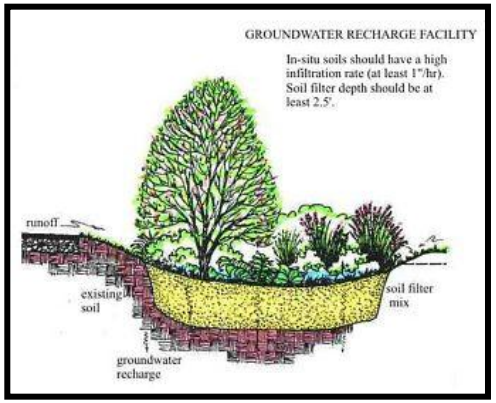
# Review of the 2013 RFP

**GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE**
**$250,000 to $1,000,000**

- Green infrastructure techniques and approaches that provide multiple ecosystem benefits and help to provide community resiliency

- These projects may include:
  - rebuilding natural systems in communities, such as wetlands, floodplains and forests
  - applying green/"nature-based" stormwater management techniques including projects that infiltrate, capture and reuse stormwater to maintain or restore natural hydrology and prevent overflows and flooding.



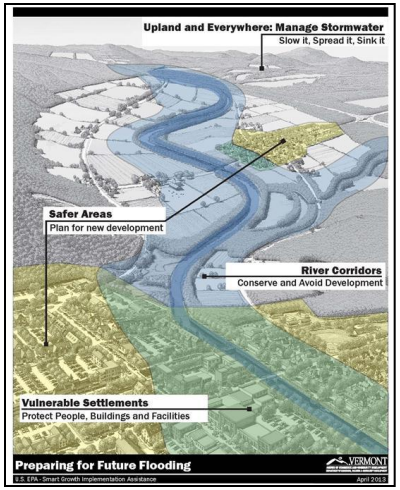



# Review of the 2013 RFP

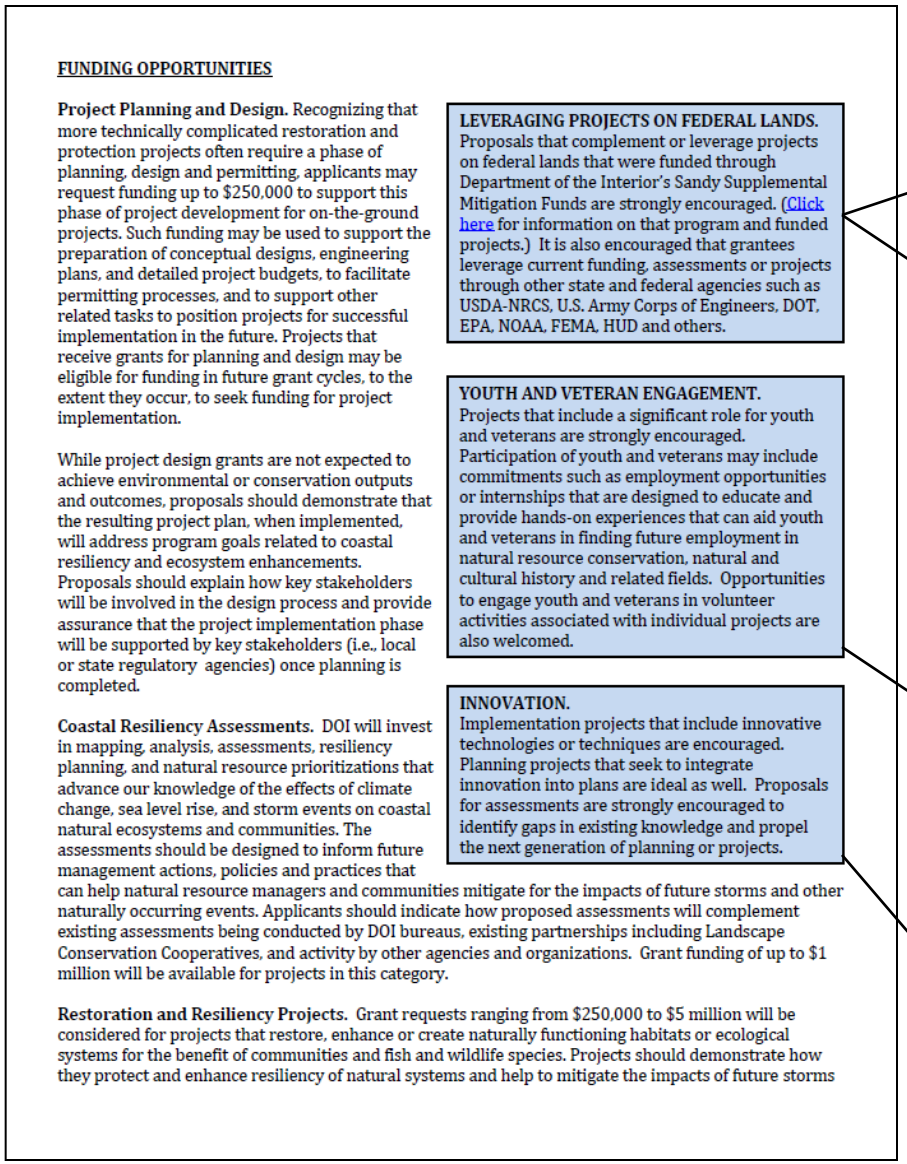
**COMMUNITY COASTAL RESILIENCY PLANNING**
**$250,000 to $500,000**

- Assist local governments and community organizations to integrate environmentally-sound solutions into comprehensive planning and zoning and into capital programs for parks, schools, transportation and community redevelopment

- Demonstrate how local governments can integrate green infrastructure restoration, protection and maintenance into existing budgets and planning processes across multiple government departments




# Review of the 2013 RFP



**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Project Planning and Design.** Recognizing that more technically complicated restoration and protection projects often require a phase of planning, design and permitting, applicants may request funding up to $250,000 to support this phase of project development for on-the-ground projects. Such funding may be used to support the preparation of conceptual designs, engineering plans, and detailed project budgets, to facilitate permitting processes, and to support other related tasks to position projects for successful implementation in the future. Projects that receive grants for planning and design may be eligible for funding in future grant cycles, to the extent they occur, to seek funding for project implementation.

While project design grants are not expected to achieve environmental or conservation outputs and outcomes, proposals should demonstrate that the resulting project plan, when implemented, will address program goals related to coastal resiliency and ecosystem enhancements. Proposals should explain how key stakeholders will be involved in the design process and provide assurance that the project implementation phase will be supported by key stakeholders (i.e., local or state regulatory agencies) once planning is completed.

**Coastal Resiliency Assessments.** DOI will invest in mapping, analysis, assessments, resiliency planning, and natural resource prioritizations that advance our knowledge of the effects of climate change, sea level rise, and storm events on coastal natural ecosystems and communities. The assessments should be designed to inform future management actions, policies and practices that can help natural resource managers and communities mitigate for the impacts of future storms and other naturally occurring events. Applicants should indicate how proposed assessments will complement existing assessments being conducted by DOI bureaus, existing partnerships including Landscape Conservation Cooperatives, and activity by other agencies and organizations. Grant funding of up to $1 million will be available for projects in this category.

**Restoration and Resiliency Projects.** Grant requests ranging from $250,000 to $5 million will be considered for projects that restore, enhance or create naturally functioning habitats or ecological systems for the benefit of communities and fish and wildlife species. Projects should demonstrate how they protect and enhance resiliency of natural systems and help to mitigate the impacts of future storms

**LEVERAGING PROJECTS ON FEDERAL LANDS.** Proposals that complement or leverage projects on federal lands that were funded through Department of the Interior's Sandy Supplemental Mitigation Funds are strongly encouraged. (Click here for information on that program and funded projects.) It is also encouraged that grantees leverage current funding, assessments or projects through other state and federal agencies such as USDA-NRCS, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOT, EPA, NOAA, FEMA, HUD and others.

**YOUTH AND VETERAN ENGAGEMENT.** Projects that include a significant role for youth and veterans are strongly encouraged. Participation of youth and veterans may include commitments such as employment opportunities or internships that are designed to educate and provide hands-on experiences that can aid youth and veterans in finding future employment in natural resource conservation, natural and cultural history and related fields. Opportunities to engage youth and veterans in volunteer activities associated with individual projects are also welcomed.

**INNOVATION.** Implementation projects that include innovative technologies or techniques are encouraged. Planning projects that seek to integrate innovation into plans are ideal as well. Proposals for assessments are strongly encouraged to identify gaps in existing knowledge and propel the next generation of planning or projects.

**PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO PROJECTS THAT:**

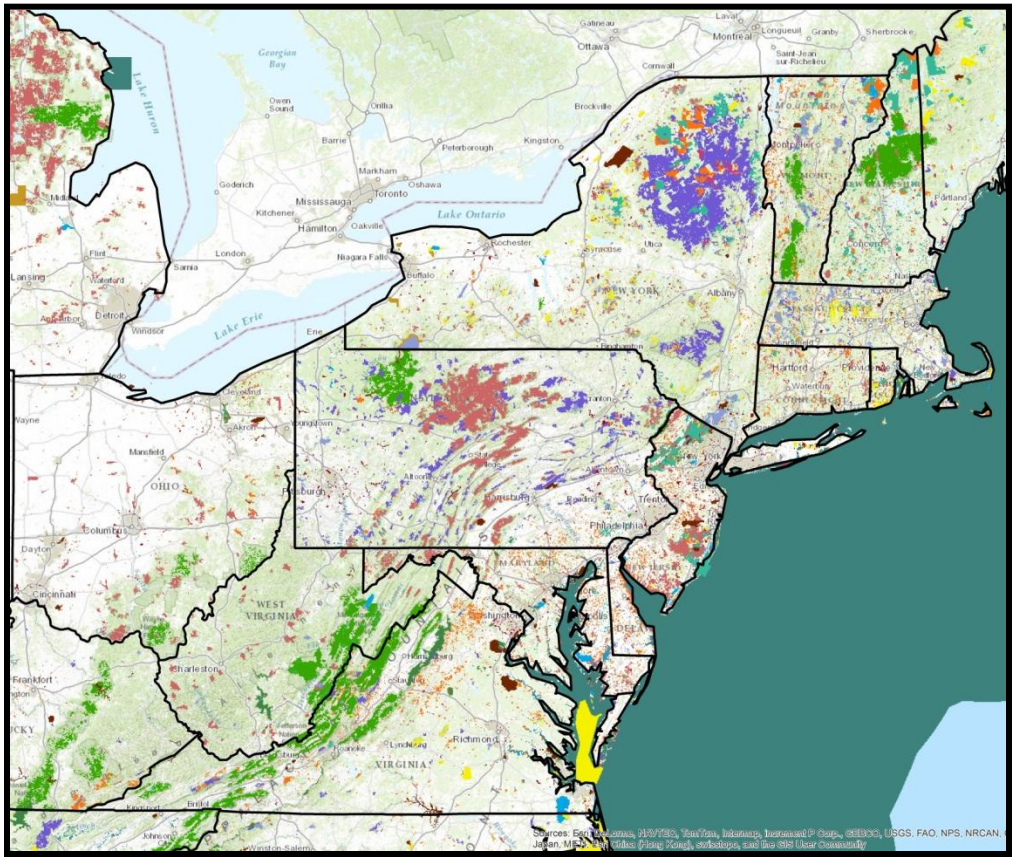
- Leverage other DOI Hurricane Sandy commitments of funding
- Leverage the efforts, plans, or projects of state agencies and other federal agencies including USDA-NRCS, US Army Corps of Engineers, DOT, EPA, NOAA, FEMA, HUD, and others
- Include a significant role for youth and veterans
- Include an innovative component

NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION NFWF

# Resiliency Hubs

## CHARACTERISTICS

Coastal or inland areas characterized by preserved public or private open lands that contain an intact complex of ecosystems, habitats, and “nature based infrastructure” and that are in close proximity or connected to population centers or communities.



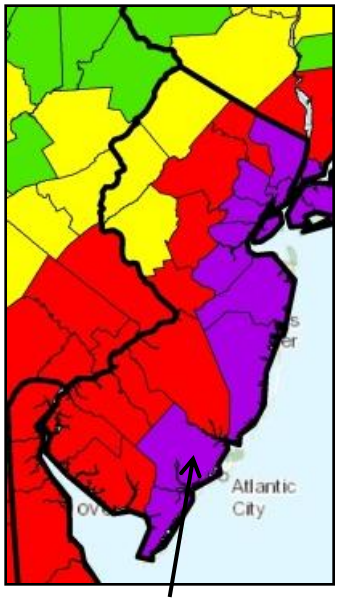

- Tribal Land
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)
- City Land
- County Land \ Regional Agency Land
- Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of Energy (DOE)
- Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
- Forest Service (USFS)
- National Park Service (NPS)
- Other Federal (TVA,NRCS,NOAA, etc.)
- Private Conservation; Private Corporation
- State Trust Land
- State Fish and Wildlife
- State Parks and Recreation
- Other State (NHP,DOT,HS,etc.); State University
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- Territorial Land
- Joint, Other, Unknown Owner Land

NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION NFWF

# HUB EXAMPLE: Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge

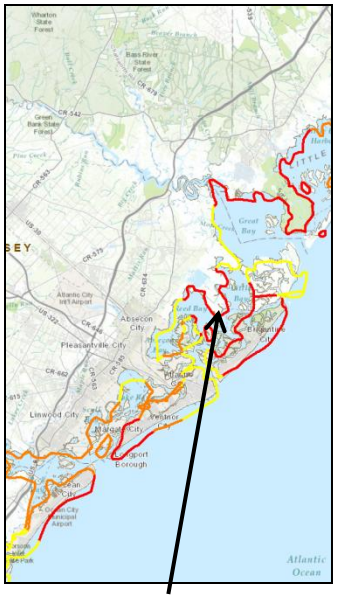
Restoring Coastal Marshes in New Jersey National Wildlife Refuges

Project types: Elevate salt marsh, Restore salt marsh, Restore tidal flow, Remove debris

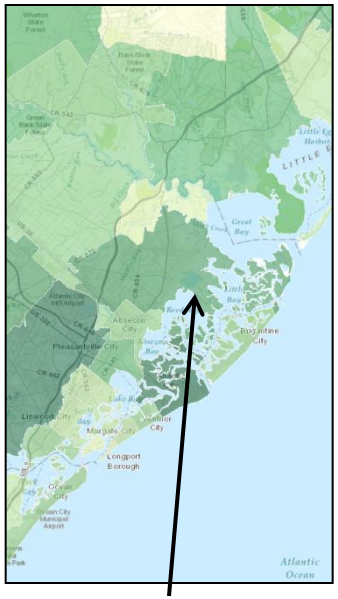



"Very High" Hurricane Impact Area

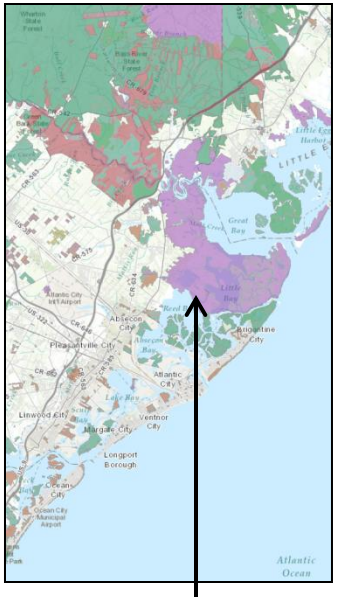
"Above Average" in Resiliency



Mod to high vuln. to sea level rise



High Population Nearby

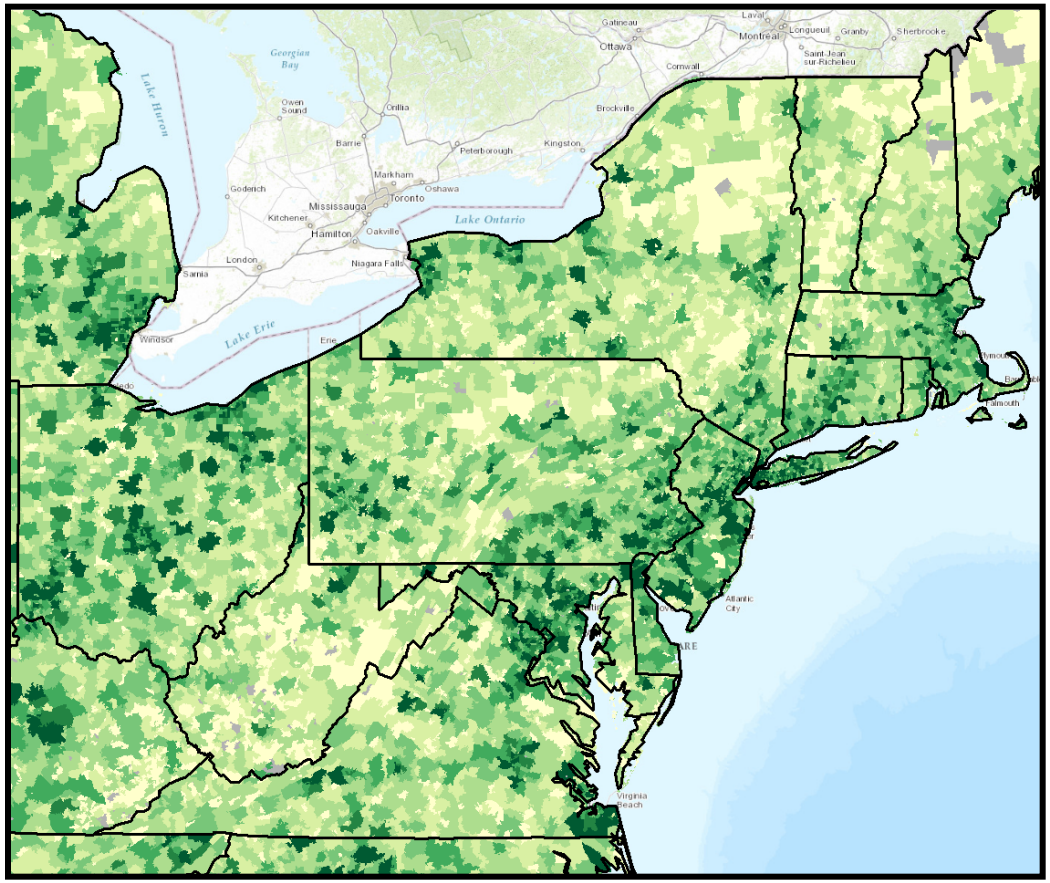


On and around large tracts of protected lands

# Coastal Communities At Risk

**CHARACTERISTICS**

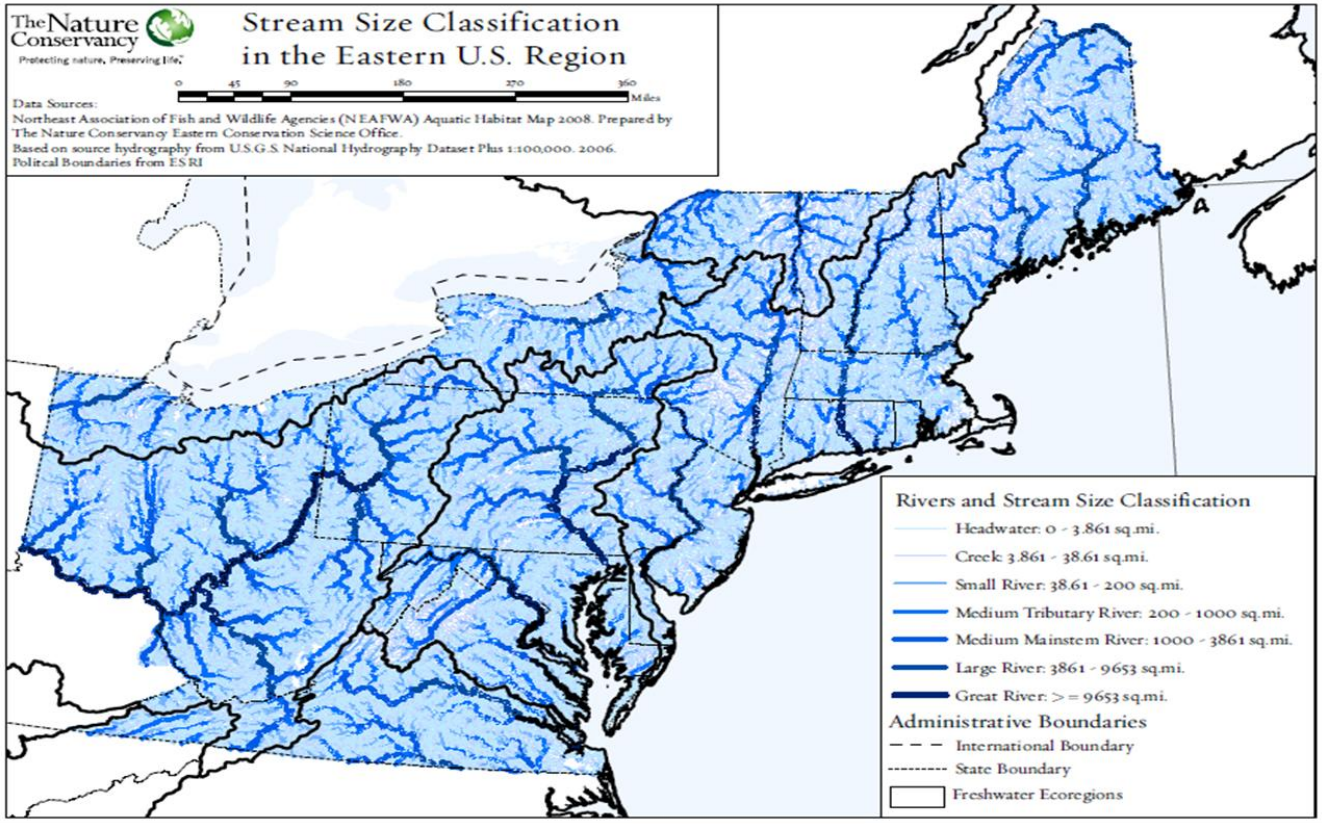
Coastal communities or population centers with minimal  public or private open lands or, with degraded remnant ecosystems, habitats or Green Infrastructure systems.



# Inland Communities At Risk

**CHARACTERISTICS**

Inland communities or population centers located within or in close proximity to river or stream corridors, with minimal public or private open lands or, with degraded remnant ecosystems, habitats or Green Infrastructure systems.

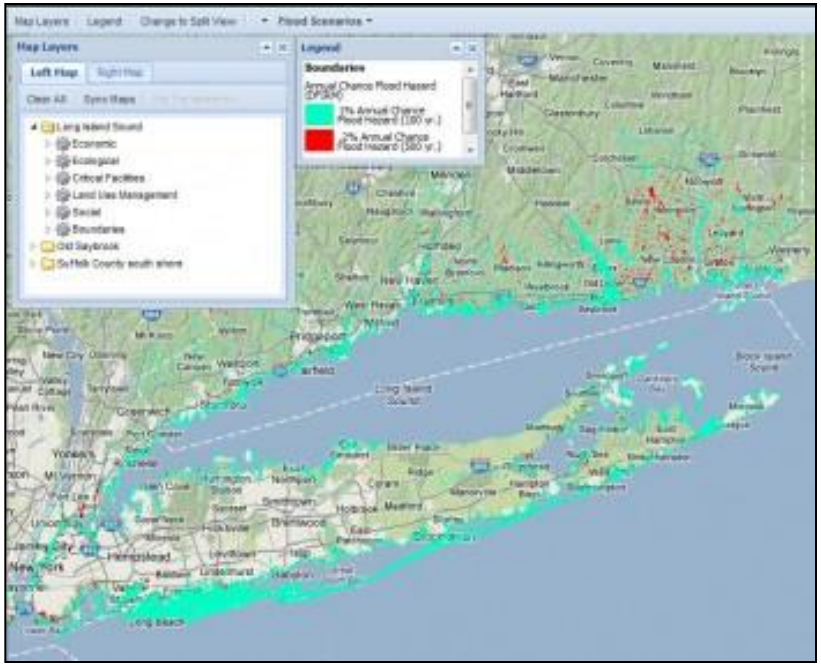



NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION NFWF

# Science and Assessment

## CHARACTERISTICS

Projects that inform the efforts or enable the implementation of actions to increase the resiliency of ecosystems, habitats and Green Infrastructure, especially where they connect with built infrastructure and can provide increased resiliency for population centers and communities.




NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION NFWF

# Review of the 2013 RFP

**EVALUATION CRITERIA**

- ✓ Environmental and Community Benefits (65pts)
  - Increase community resiliency and reduce risks from coastal storms, sea level rise, flooding, erosion, and other natural threats.
  - explain the importance of the project location
  - describe how the project benefits are substantial and measureable
  - explain how long will it take for the expected benefits to be realized
- ✓ Collaboration and Partnership (10pts)
- ✓ Work Plan & Logistics (10pts)
- ✓ Budget (10 pts)
- ✓ Youth and/or Veteran Engagement (5pts)

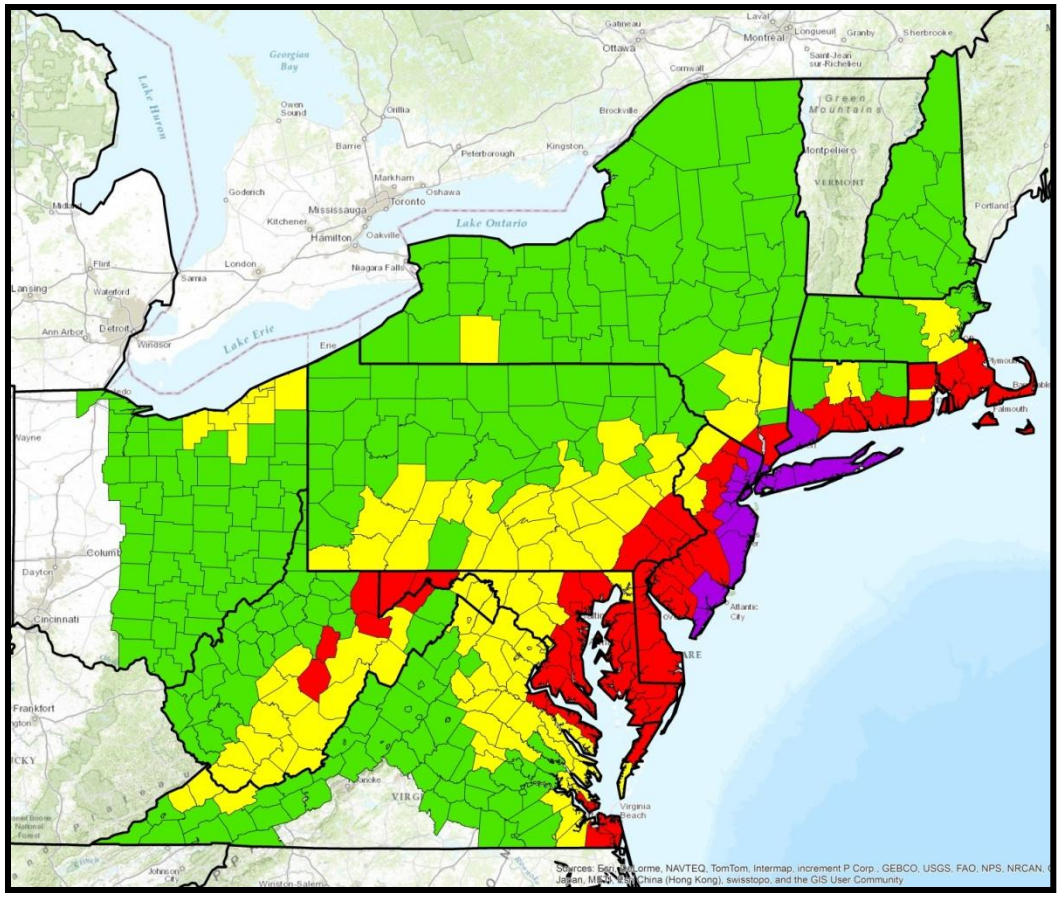
NFWF

# Review of the 2013 RFP

## GUIDELINES

Projects must be implemented entirely within the ***states that officially declared a natural disaster*** as a result of the storm system:

- Connecticut
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New York
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- Virginia
- West Virginia




FEMA

Dataset is from the **FEMA Modeling Task Force (MOTF) - Hurricane Sandy Impact Analysis.**

NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION NFWF

# Review of the 2013 RFP

**GUIDELINES**

- Projects that are in the planning stage may be funded in phases, where an initial grant phase may support completion of the planning and design stage of a project and a subsequent phase(s) supports on-the-ground implementation.

- Successful applicants will be required to provide sufficient documentation that the project expects to receive or has received all necessary permits and clearances to comply with any Federal, state or local requirements.

- All appropriate, on-the-ground projects should include a monitoring plan and collect and generate data for future use. In these cases, applicants will be asked to develop Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) as part of their grant. Applicants should budget time and resources to complete this task if appropriate.

- Projects must engage all appropriate local partners to ensure the long-term sustainability of the project, as well as its integration into local programs and policies.

NFWF

# Review of the 2013 RFP

**GUIDELINES**

- Grantees must contribute non-Federal matching funds and in-kind services valued at a minimum of 25% of total project costs.

- Grantees may only use grant funds for indirect costs if
  1) the grantee organization has a federally-approved indirect rate; AND,
  2) indirect costs do not exceed 15% of the total grant request (even when the federally-approved rate is greater than 15%).

- Projects must be ready to begin implementation within six months of the grant award.

- Projects must be completed within 2 years of grant award.

- All applicants with active grants from NFWF must be in good standing in terms of reporting requirements, expenditure of funds, and QAPPs (if required).

NFWF

# Review of the 2013 RFP

**ELIGIBILITY**

- ✓ Non-profit Organizations (e.g., watershed organizations, homeowners associations, environmental organizations, private schools, etc.)
- ✓ Local Governments (e.g., counties, townships, cities, boroughs, conservation districts, planning districts, utility districts, public schools, etc.)
- ✓ State Government Agencies
- ✓ Universities and Academic Institutions
- ✓ Recognized Tribes

X **NOT** individuals, for-profit firms, or federal agencies

NFWF

# Review of the 2013 RFP

**INELIGIBLE USES OF FUNDS**

- X Neither grant funds nor matching contributions may be used to support political advocacy, lobbying or litigation.

- X Grantees may not use grant funds to support ongoing efforts to comply with legal requirements, including permit conditions, mitigation and settlement agreements.

- X Funds may not be used for land acquisition

NFWF

# Review of the 2013 RFP

**TIMELINE**

- Community Workshops
  - November 18 Grasonville, MD
  - November 19 Narragansett, RI
  - December 9 West Long Branch, NJ
  - December 10 Rockaway, NY
- Applicant Webinar – December 17
- Proposals due January 31, 2014
- Award announcement anticipated in April 2014

NFWF

# Contact Us


**Mandy Chesnutt**
Senior Manager of Conservation Programs
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
(202) 595-2486
Mandy.Chesnutt@NFWF.org

**Marty McHugh**
Field Representative, Hurricane Sandy Program
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
(908) 910-8091
Martin.McHugh@NFWF.org

**Jake Reilly**
Director, Chesapeake Bay Programs
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
(202) 595-2610
Jake.Reilly@nfwf.org


NFWF