

**Coastal America 2005 Awards Program**  
**List of Award Winners**  
**June 7, 2005**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Name of Nominated Team</b>	<b>Team Activities</b>	<b>Federal Agencies Involved</b>	<b>Tools of the Coastal America Partnership Utilized</b>	<b>Award Presented</b>
NE	Drakes Island Salt Marsh Restoration Team	This project improved and restored approximately 77 acres of salt marsh by enhancing tidal inundation and circulation. The project included the removal of an existing undersized culvert and replacement with the first self-regulating tide gate in the state of Maine. This new technology was designed to allow for both flood protection to low-lying adjacent properties as well as facilitating salt marsh restoration.	NOAA, EPA, FWS	CWRP	Partnership Award
NE	Lonsdale Wetlands Restoration Team	The Lonsdale Marsh Restoration Project was identified through a comprehensive watershed evaluation of ecological restoration opportunities aimed at restoring and linking key habitats to enhance overall watershed functioning. The project involved the restoration of 17 acres of habitat by removing a former drive-in theater within a heavily urbanized watershed. The project created a continuous wooded riparian buffer along the Blackstone River, linking important upstream and downstream habitats for the watershed's wildlife community.	USACE, NPS, EPA	CWRP	Partnership Award

MA	Batsto River Fishway Restoration Team	The Batsto River Fishway Restoration Project is a program to restore access to spawning and rearing habitat for anadromous fish (alewife and blueback herring) on the Batsto River. The restoration goal was accomplished through the installation of a permanent fishway on the Batsto River to allow anadromous fish to proceed unimpeded around a spillway (dam) to approximately eight miles of historic spawning and foraging areas upstream.	USACE, FWS	CWRP	Partnership Award
MA	Project Creek: Coney Island Creek Salt Marsh Restoration	The New York Aquarium at Coney Island, NY is enhancing its existing community partnerships by involving students with training and working as Aquarium exhibit interpreters and participating in community habitat restoration projects. Through this program, students contribute to restoration activities at Coney Island Creek, investigate the habitat conditions of an degraded urban waterway and the affect of the degradation on native flora and fauna, measure basic physical conditions at a site, collect fish and crab sampling data, and gain problem-solving skills. The program highlights the value of linking environmental education and environmental restoration.	EPA	CELC	Partnership Award
MA	Cuddebackville Dam Removal Project	The Cuddebackville Dam removal project restored spawning and rearing habitat for migratory fish on the Neversink River. The Neversink River supports the world's largest and healthiest population of the dwarf wedge mussel, listed as endangered	FWS, USGS, USACE		Partnership Award

		both in New York State and under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Additional project benefits include increased recreational fishing opportunities for the public with future "shad runs," movements of other migratory fish, and movements of resident fish species.			
MA	Southern Maryland Coastal and Aquatic Resource Team	The Department of the Navy suffered severe and ongoing erosion at NAS Patuxent River's westernmost shoreline; as a result, West Basin recreational areas and facilities and Chesapeake Bay resources were threatened. A cooperative team was assembled to address the erosion issue. As a result, over 2,500 feet of shoreline is now protected by the use of sills, breakwaters and revetments; 33,000 <i>Spartina</i> spp. are soon to be established; over 1,000 volunteer hours will be accrued in this cooperative effort; and the protection of Navy resources and has been significantly enhanced.	Navy	CELC	Spirit Award
MA	Old Inlet Terrapin Habitat Enhancement Project Team	The goal of the Old Inlet Terrapin Habitat Enhancement Project was to restore nesting habitat for the Northern Diamond-backed Terrapin. This habitat enhancement project created 6.2 acres of safe nesting habitat for terrapins as well as a habitat benefit for Osprey, Willets, American Oystercatchers, Black Skimmers and Black Duck. This was the first project of the Delaware CWRP.	FWS	CWRP	Spirit Award

MA	New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium Habitat Initiative	With an initial investment of approximately \$700,000 in federal Sea Grant funds, the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium (NJMSC), through its <i>New Jersey Sea Grant College Program</i> , has partnered with federal and state agencies, NGOs, universities, municipalities, and other members of the private sector to develop a six year, nearly \$3.8 million, <i>NJMSC Habitat Initiative (NHI)</i> . The <i>NHI</i> includes significant research, education and outreach that advances the science and practice of restoration ecology and links habitat restoration to the secondary production of managed species and their forage base.	NOAA, USGS, USACE		Spirit Award
MA	Maryland Nutria Project	Nutria herbivory has resulted in the destruction of 7000 acres of salt marsh on the Chesapeake Marshlands National Wildlife refuge Complex (CMNWRC) Blackwater Unit (Blackwater Unit). Since September of 2002, the Maryland Nutria Project has removed over 9000 nutria from the Blackwater Unit and environs, resulting in the protection of approximately 40,000 acres of marshland from further degradation. This includes more than 9000 acres on adjacent private property. The project continues to expand with the ultimate goal of eradicating nutria from the entire Chesapeake Bay Region.	FWS, USGS, USDA, USACE, EPA	CELC, AmeriCorps	Spirit Award
MA	PSE&G	PSE&G and its Estuary Enhancement Program came to the attention of Coastal America after having completed the restoration and/or preservation of over	n/a	CWRP	Special Recognition Award

		20,000 acres of salt marsh and adjacent upland buffers in the Delaware Estuary as part of a permit requirement proposed by the company. PSE&G is the lead corporation in New Jersey and has been very active in the establishment of other state chapters in the MidAtlantic region.			
SE	IGFA Regional Ocean Conservation Club (ROCC)	When the National Student Summit in January 2004 asked the participating students to form a commitment to action to carry out once they returned to their areas, the IGFA formed the Regional Ocean Conservation Club concept. ROCC is a club that partners schools with private, NGO, and state/federal agencies. The most significant achievement is that the high school students are working closely with so many agencies to conduct a variety of educational and restoration projects.	NOAA	CELC	Spirit Award
SE	Culebra Island Conservation Coalition: Luis Peña Channel Natural Reserve	On August 21, 1999 the Luis Peña Channel Natural Reserve was established. The 637 ha area reserve became a reality because the combined effort of many citizens, community leaders, academia, and government agencies at all levels (i.e. Municipal, Commonwealth, and Federal). The main purpose of the reserve is to protect and manage significant coral reefs and endangered marine turtles, as well as to protect the breeding ground of many commercial fish species. The most significant achievements of this project were the establishment of the first community-driven no-take marine reserve in Puerto Rico.	NOAA, FWS, HUD		Spirit Award

GM	Fort DeSoto Ecosystem Restoration Partnership	This project resulted from a long history of generally unsuccessful attempts at ecological restoration of the “back-bays” of Mullet Key in Fort DeSoto Park. Project partners reopened a historic hydrologic connection and restored approximately 200 acres of sea grass near the Fort DeSoto area of Tampa Bay. The project made a significant contribution to the seagrass restoration goals of the Tampa Bay Estuary Program. Water quality has improved due to the restoration of circulation.	EPA, NOAA, FWS		Partnership Award
GM	Galveston Bay Estuary Program Invasive Species Workgroup	The Invasive Species workgroup was assembled in early 2001 following a reassessment of <i>The Galveston Bay Plan</i> in 2000. Invasive species was previously a low priority for the Galveston Bay Estuary Program. The ISWG was established to focus exclusively on invasive issues within in the coastal zone of Texas in the Galveston Bay watershed. The workgroup developed a comparative risk assessment for invasive species, along with efforts in research, remediation, and education.	EPA, NOAA, CG, FWS		Spirit Award
SW	San Francisco Bay Salt Pond Sale/Donation and Interim Stewardship Plan	This program encompasses the bargain sale of 16,500 acres of San Francisco Bay shoreline from Cargill Salt to two governmental entities, plus the Initial Stewardship Phase of a restoration effort that will proceed for decades and ultimately transform 25 square miles of shoreline wetlands. The land provides habitat for four endangered and threatened species, more than a million	FWS, EPA		Spirit Award

		birds, including 70 native and migratory species, and has the potential to make the greatest contribution to revitalizing water quality and wildlife enhancement in the Bay's history.			
NW	Hatfield Marine Science Center SeaFest Planning Team	The planning team conducted the SeaFest event, a public education / outreach event that reached 4,000 people. The annual one-day event educates the public about the work of state and federal agencies in managing and protecting ocean and coastal resources. Hatfield Marine Science Center coordinates the event with a variety of federal, state and local agencies and organizations, providing a broad overview of coastal research for the general public.	EPA, NOAA, USDA, FWS, CG, BLM, FS	CELC	Spirit Award