



Shellfish RESTORATION CLAMOR

JULY 2006

SHELLFISH RESTORATION NETWORK

Native shellfish play vital ecological roles in many estuaries, but are imperiled in many estuaries by habitat loss, over fishing, and pollution. Through a Shellfish Restoration Network, The Nature Conservancy and its partners are working to improve the design and implementation of restoration projects that help to illustrate the ecosystem services that shellfish provide. Through this network, we also hope to demonstrate the elements necessary to expand restoration and conservation to ecosystem scales.

GLOBAL MARINE INITIATIVE'S VISION

"The Nature Conservancy and partners working together in polar, temperate and tropical seas worldwide to conserve marine biodiversity effectively across seascapes and landscapes through transformative strategies and integrated planning and action."

TO JOIN THE NETWORK, CONTACT:

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For more information about The Nature Conservancy's Global Marine Initiative, visit: www.nature.org/marine

The Nature Conservancy 
SAVING THE LAST GREAT PLACES ON EARTH

Clam program spurs ecosystem-scale restoration on Long Island



Long Island's Great South Bay, once known as the nation's "clam factory". © TNC Long Island Chapter

The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) Long Island Program has been working since 2004 to restore clams to Great South Bay after acquiring the 'Bluepoints' property representing 20% of the Bay's bottom. Now the Conservancy and its partners on the Bluepoints Bottomlands Council are expanding their efforts to a bay-wide scale.

In June 2006, coincident with transplanting the millionth adult clam into shellfish spawner sanctuaries on the Bluepoints property, Suffolk County announced that it will contribute \$1 million to support restoration, research, monitoring, and management of clams throughout Great South Bay. This award to TNC will help to implement a plan crafted in 2005 by the Bluepoints Bottomlands Council to restore clams for both ecological and economic benefits. The Plan calls for clam restoration, more holistic management of clam predators, and a bay-wide shellfish stock assessment and fishery management

plan – the first such plan in the region. <http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/newyork/press/press1616.html>

Building on this momentum, at the request of New York's Department of State, TNC's Long Island Program will begin crafting an Ecosystem-based Management Plan for Great South Bay using TNC's Conservation by Design planning process.

NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program provided significant support for the initial restoration work undertaken by TNC and partners in Great South Bay. Carl LoBue, Long Island's South Shore Site Director, has overseen TNC's work in Great South Bay. He notes that "These increasingly ambitious steps toward a healthy Great South Bay are testament to the value of investing in community-based restoration." clobue@tnc.org

looking ahead

November 15-19, 2006

The 9th International Conference on Shellfish Restoration.
DoubleTree Guest Suites, Charleston, SC
Deadline for Abstracts – July 31
<http://www.scseagrant.org/icsr.htm>

December 9-13, 2006

3rd National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration.
Hilton Riverside Hotel, New Orleans, LA
Hosted by Restore America's Estuaries
<http://www.estuaries.org/conference>

Call for Restoration Proposals

NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program is seeking proposals for available funding to implement grass-roots habitat restoration projects that will benefit living marine resources, including anadromous fish, under the NOAA Community-based Restoration Program.

Deadline for proposals is September 28, 2006
http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners_funding/callforprojects.html

New Publication Available Electronically

"A Practitioners Guide to Design and Monitoring of Shellfish Restoration Projects: An Ecosystem Services Approach"
Check out 'What's New' at TNC's Global Marine Initiative:
<http://www.nature.org/initiatives/marine/>