Examples of Past Climate Resilience Grant Program Project Awards

(Identifying information of the awardees and the specific properties has been omitted)

Planning, Capacity and Strategy Awards

- Project to create a conservation plan for a connectivity corridor that includes engaging stakeholders, prioritizing parcels for protection, and tracking species and habitat associations. As part of plan development, this organization opened an ongoing dialogue with Indian Nations to listen, learn, and better understand their communities' cultural, linguistic, and historical impact on their region and to discuss collaborative projects.
- Project to engage local municipalities, county governments, conservation organizations, and landowners to advance the conservation of upland forest habitat and connectivity corridors utilizing a community science tool application.
- Project to assess wildlife connectivity in the Thousand Islands region, collaborate with partners to apply connectivity and mapping data at a local scale and increase understanding of the geography through the development of a Story Map and online mapping tool. Partners in this project include a non-profit conservation organization, a local land trust, the NY Department of Transportation, and the National Park Service.
- Project to advance a conceptual design for a public access walkway and bikeway along 6 ½ miles of shoreline on Long Island. Awardee and a local municipality are working together to provide public access to a walkable waterfront with nature that has been lacking in an under-resourced community. Project funding will strengthen awardee's capacity to develop this and related plans and strategies. It will also help expand staff professional development, technology skills (e.g. GIS), incorporate DEIJ training, and assist with community engagement.
- Town-led project to develop a Vision Plan for 300 acres of historically significant farmland to advance climate resiliency and adaptation through the lenses of agriculture, the environment and community development. One of the purposes of the project is to raise awareness in the community of the benefits of afro-indigenous farming systems and systematic inequities related to land access and tenure for BIPOC individuals and to ensure the active inclusion and involvement of underrepresented and historically excluded stakeholders.

Resilient Floodplains and Shorelines (RFS) Land Acquisition Projects

- Fee acquisition of 261 acres of land, 200 of which are in a floodplain complex – an undeveloped area adjacent to a stream that temporarily floods during a storm and is large enough to provide ecosystem services such as flood mitigation. This project was an ambitious pilot to assess the organization's capacity for acquiring and holding property for a period before conveying it to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.
- Acquisition of a conservation easement on 500 acres of forestland along the upper Hudson River. The easement will protect forest, wetlands, 800 feet of wild shoreline on the Hudson and 1.5 miles of tributary streams. The property will provide new opportunities for local recreational use and connections among other trail networks.
- Fee acquisition of 518 acres of high-quality forestland within the headwaters of the Taghkanic Creek watershed to advance water quality protection and create opportunities for public access and education. Awardee will manage the property in collaboration with community members through a community forest management approach.
- Fee acquisition of 92 acres along the eastern shore of Lake George that will result in 1,630- acres of contiguous protected lands. The property is characterized by steep forested slopes and contains 1,700 feet of a 'Class AA-(TS) Special' stream—a source of drinking water that is also suitable for trout spawning.
- Fee acquisition of 14 acres adjacent to County-owned land for a 2.3-mile trail and natural area along Lake Ontario's Irondequoit Bay. The acquisition will conserve shoreline, wetlands, floodplains and steep slopes.
- Fee acquisition of two parcels on the South Shore of Long Island. The area lies less than 3 feet above sea level, is prone to frequent flooding and is located within the FEMA designated "AE 7" flood zone. The two parcels consist of a maritime cedar forest habitat and brackish wetlands that would be considered buildable with appropriate variances and mitigation measures. Conserving the two parcels contributes to the Town's long-term plan for retreating from this very flood prone area and will help strengthen the community's climate resiliency.