



News from the North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) September 2017

New study looks at ecological “tipping points” for coastal species to help manage for change

A new paper published by a team of scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in *Ocean & Coastal Management* synthesizes existing information on ecological “tipping points” related to environmental changes -- including sea-level rise and coastal storms -- for 45 species of coastal fish, wildlife, and plants selected because of their ecological, economic and cultural importance.

[Learn more](#)

In New York, priorities for public safety and conservation converge at road-stream crossings

Historic flooding caused by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee in 2011 demonstrated the need to update bridges and culverts in New York for public safety and aquatic passage. Now partners across the state are using resources from the North Atlantic LCC-supported North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative to find opportunities to work together on updating road-stream crossings for the benefit of people, fish, and wildlife.

[Learn more](#)

\$12.6 million awarded to projects supporting conservation in Chesapeake Bay watershed

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced more than \$12.6 million in grants to support the restoration and conservation of the Chesapeake Bay watershed in six states and the District of Columbia through the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Foundation, including a project using protocols developed by the North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative.

[Learn more](#)

Other News of Note

Wetlands stopped \$625 million in property damage during Hurricane Sandy (PBS Newshour)

A recently published study led by the University of California Santa Cruz shows that wetlands prevented \$625-million of property damage during Hurricane Sandy in 2012, protecting hundreds of homes and thousands of miles of roads by absorbing storm surge and sea-level rise.

[Learn more](#)

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge reaches another marsh restoration milestone (TWS)

Partners on Maryland’s Eastern Shore are using innovative techniques to restore vital saltmarsh habitat at Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge in the face of a triple threat: rising sea levels, land subsidence, and invasive nutria.

[Learn more](#)

Wildlands and Woodlands, Farmlands and Community (Highstead Foundation)

A new report released by Highstead Foundation and Harvard Forest outlines a vision for conservation in New England that focuses on the interdependent role that forests, farms, and communities play in shaping the landscape. The Wildlands and Woodlands report describes trends in land protection and

public funding for conservation, highlights key challenges to achieving the vision, and points to ways partners are collaborating to overcome them.

[Learn more](#)

Report shows 40 percent of Americans participated in wildlife activities in 2016 (USFWS)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released the preliminary report for its national wildlife recreation survey, which is distributed every five years to collect and report information on wildlife related recreation activities by adults in the United States. The report found that nearly 40 percent of the U.S. population participated in some form of hunting, fishing, or wildlife-associated recreation in 2016 and spent nearly \$156.3 billion on expenditures related to these activities.

[Learn more](#)

Upcoming Workshops, Meetings, Presentations, and Webinars

October 9 - 12 -- Eastern Wildway Summit, Little Switzerland, N.C.

Join members of the Wildlands Network, an organization founded in 1991 to reconnect, restore, and rewild North America, at a gathering of conservation leaders and luminaries thinking ambitiously and strategically about a grand continental vision for wild nature restoration in Eastern North America.

[Learn more](#)

October 12, 12:00 to 1:00 pm -- Science Seminar: “Risk of Failure” of road-stream crossings

University of Massachusetts Amherst professor Scott Jackson will present the results of a pilot project in the Deerfield River watershed to prioritize road-stream crossing upgrades based on transportation vulnerability and ecological disruption. Jackson will demonstrate the new Stream Crossings Explorer visualization tool and describe the methods used for developing a risk of failure and criticality of infrastructure in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

[Learn more](#)

October 26 - 28 -- Rally 2017 National Land Conservation Conference, Denver, Co.

The 30th annual gathering of land conservation practitioners sponsored by the Land Trust Alliance features inspiring speakers, scenic field trips, opportunities to network, and more than 130 educational training sessions, including a seminar led by Mark Anderson of The Nature Conservancy and Abby Weinberg of the Open Space Institute on *Climate Resilience for Land Protection: Science and Communication* -- a daylong interactive session is designed to equip land trusts with tools to incorporate climate resilience into land protection.

[Learn more](#)

November 16 -- Regional Conservation Partnerships Network Gathering, Nashua, N.H.

At this annual day-long conference hosted by Highstead Foundation, conservation professionals working across New England and New York can share experiences, explore innovative resources, hear success stories, and network with peers who are working in collaborative conservation at different scales to protect the diverse regional landscape.

[Learn more](#)

Submission deadline for the next edition of North Atlantic LCC News: Friday October 20, 2017

Please email submissions to: bridget_macdonald@fws.gov

For more information about the North Atlantic LCC: www.northatlanticlcc.org