Long Island Sound Futures Fund 2024 Proposal Narrative

INSTRUCTIONS: This is the <u>narrative</u> portion of the Long Island Sound Futures Fund (LISFF) application. Narrative should not exceed 10 pages in a 12-point font. Please do not delete questions (you can remove the description or graphics after the boldface question category but not the category itself (e.g., maintain **Problem/Solution** etc.). When complete upload narrative into Easygrants.

Project Theme: *Check only one* **"Theme"** from the *[Long Island Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for Long Island Sound 2020-2024](#)* (CCMP) which describes the primary outcome of the proposed project: ( ) Clean Waters and Healthy Watersheds; ( ) Thriving Habitats and Abundant Wildlife; or ( ) Sustainable and Resilient Communities.

Project Type: Check *only one* **category** that describes the *primary* project activities. *For planning:* ( ) EPA 9 Element watershed plan; ( ) Community Engagement, Planning and Priority setting; ( ) Feasibility, Suitability or Alternatives Analysis; ( ) Site Assessment and Conceptual Design; ( ) Final Design and Permits; ( ) Partnership to scale up water quality or habitat restoration project implementation;   *For other types of projects*: ( ) Water Quality Implementation; ( ) Habitat Restoration Implementation; ( ) Resilience Implementation; ( ) Invasives Control; ( ) Education/Engagement; or ( ) Technical Assistance.

( ) **Check if your project proposes to collect data.** Some examples of data collection or use that require a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP): New data collection; Existing data use; Data collection associated with development or design of plans; Sample results, observations, measurements, surveys and survey results (people and environmental media), Mapping environmental processes or conditions (GIS), Water or other environmental media monitoring; Secondary Data; Developing Information Technology and management systems, Model development or use etc. If you are not sure if the project requires a QAPP **contact Victoria.Moreno@nfwf.org** and provide a short description (one to two paragraphs about the project methods and outputs (e.g., a plan to restore fish passage, water quality monitoring of trends in an embayment, a management tool for community and government etc.) Go to the LISFF [QAPP page](#) for more information. <mark>Please note if checking off this section YOU MUST complete the QAPP Data Collection Information Form and add to the "Uploads" section of your Easygrants online proposal.</mark>

Problem/Solution. Describe: a) the specific problem(s) addressed by the project; b) how the project will help address or solve the problem; c) why the problem and solution are relevant to protection and restoration of the health and/or living resources of the Sound. For projects in non-coastal CT or the upper basin watershed states (MA, NH, VT) describe the direct benefit of the project to the Sound in terms of reducing downstream nitrogen/nutrient pollution loading; and d) review the *[LISFF Metrics and CCMP Implementation Action (IA) Tracking Guidance](#)* or you may look by CMMP Theme page under [Summary of Updated IAs](#). You *must* identify the IA action associated with your project metrics (project metrics are information you entered into *Activities and Accomplishments (e.g., metrics)* in Easygrants for your proposal). <mark>Please select *no more than* three IAs.</mark> <u>Example:</u> *If your project proposes to develop a watershed plan to address water quality problems and identify potential projects you might select under the [CCMP](#) Theme: Clean Waters and Healthy Watersheds* **Implementation Action #: WW-1; Implementation Action Title:** *Evaluate how drivers of pollutant loads and management responses will affect current and future pollutant loads from point and nonpoint sources.*

Table: Implementation Actions

Implementation Action #	Implementation Action Title

Technical Merit. Provide a work plan, including a: a) description of *each* major activity to be undertaken by the project and the method used to carry out that activity; b) timetable indicating when activities are to be accomplished. The timetable does not need to provide specific dates but instead may group activities by month/quarter over the start and end date of the project; and 3) where relevant, a description of strategy and resources for long-term maintenance of the site. Remember if you need a QAPP you need to plan for that activity in the timeline and budget. Go to the LISFF QAPP page for information about timing.

For fish passage projects (plans or implementation): 1) if the barrier is one of multiple barriers that block downstream movement of fish to the Sound; 2) discuss planning and timing to remove the other barriers; and 3) the location of the barrier in terms of its distance from Long Island Sound.

For projects primarily focused on invasives control: 1) discuss methods for treatment and retreatment of the area, types of invasives to be addressed, if replanting with natives provide a plant list, and preparation of a long-term management and stewardship plan as part of the project. If you already have this plan put it in the "Uploads" section in Easygrants as part of your proposal; or 2) If this area has received a prior LISFF grant to address invasives, discuss how this effort follows on the previous primary and secondary treatment (when prior project occurred, type of invasive treated, why the need for retreatment) and confirm that the proposed invasives control is being done under a management plan. Put that existing plan in the "Uploads" section in Easygrants as part of your proposal.

Table: Timetable for Project Activities

Activity	Time Period

Qualifications. Describe for the proposed project: a) organizational qualifications, b) staff, and/or consultant qualifications. Where consultants are proposed but not yet selected competitively describe the experience and qualifications sought; and c) the responsibility(ies) of each in delivery of project. *Do not upload CVs/resumes.*

Community Impact. Describe: a) the community(ies) where the project will occur, b) who will benefit from the project, c) *where relevant*… how you will work collaboratively with community members, leaders and community-based organizations or other key stakeholders on project; and d) demographic information about the community(ies) served. **Please complete the Community Demographics table below.** Potential sources of data to define "Community Impact" include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency EJScreen. The EJScreen provides much of the information requested in the Community Demographics table. Data are found within the "Printable Standard Report." How to use EJ Screen: 1) Go to the EJScreen homepage; 2) Click "Launch the Tool" 3) "Input a Location" such as by zip code; 4) Click "Search"; 5) Click the plus sign "+" over the community location; and 6) Click "Printable Standard Report".
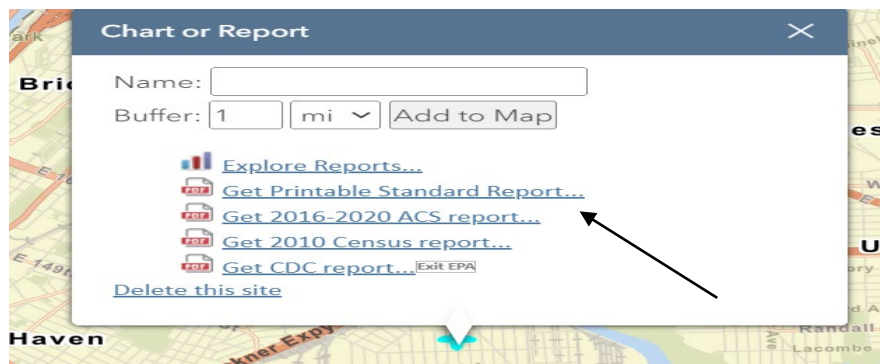
The Printable Standard Report below is produced. The percentage shown in the "Value"column is what is sought for the table. **If you are using EJScreen to capture information about community charateristics, please download the Printable Standard Report and make it one of your uploads into Easygrants under "Other Documents".**

Selected Variables	Value
Pollution and Sources	
Particulate Matter 2.5 (µg/m³)	9.08
Ozone (ppb)	42.3
Diesel Particulate Matter* (µg/m³)	1.28
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	40
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.6
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	2300
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.5
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.12
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.83
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	12
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km²)	20
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	5.6
Socioeconomic Indicators	
Demographic Index	78%
People of Color	98%
Low Income	59%
Unemployment Rate	11%
Limited English Speaking	21%
Less Than High School Education	29%
Under Age 5	7%
Over Age 64	10%

Other sources of demographic data other than EJScreen: 1) Explore US Census Data; 2) the U.S. Census Quick Facts Page; and the 3) American Community Survey as well as state data sources.

Table: Community Demographics

Community(ies)	Race*	Poverty Rate*	Low Income*	Annualized Unemployment Rate*

<mark>*Input percentages **not** percentiles. Thanks!</mark>

Prior LISFF Grant(s). If you have received a prior grant under LISFF in the period 2019-2021 provide no more than a one paragraph summary of progress associated with that grant relative to promised deliverables.