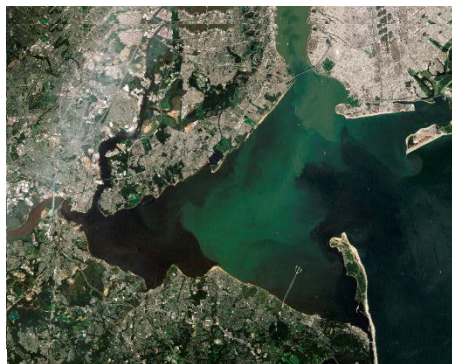


7th Annual Sustainable Raritan Conference and Awards Ceremony



Two States: One Bay

A bi-state conversation about the future of the Raritan Bay

Douglass Student Center

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
100 George Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Friday, June 12, 2015

Participant Biographies

Carl Alderson is the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Habitat Restoration Coordinator for the NOAA Fisheries Restoration Center, stationed at the Howard National Marine Science Lab in Highlands, NJ. Through his career Carl has provided management, restoration planning and technical design guidance to coastal habitat projects valued at over \$50 million dollars through NOAA's Damage Assessment Remedial and Restoration Program and Community-based Restoration Grants Program. Projects improve passage of migratory fish, and enhance shellfish and wetland habitats; often with the additional benefit of site remediation. As coordinator for NOAA efforts in Delaware, Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey, Carl has developed relationships between federal, state and local partners that led to significant leveraging of project funds.

Carl is a graduate of the Rutgers University, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences - Landscape Architecture Program. Before joining NOAA in 2002, Carl led a team of NYC scientists in a decade long effort to acquire, protect and restore tidal and freshwater wetlands, marine bird and fish habitat as compensation for natural resources damages resulting from oil spills in NY Harbor.

Kate Anderson, Chief, Clean Water Regulatory Branch, USEPA. Kate Anderson is the branch manager for the Clean Water Regulatory Branch in the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Water Division in EPA's New York office. Her branch is responsible for a variety of CWA regulatory programs in New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, including, NPDES permitting, Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL), water quality standards, dredged materials management and the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act enforcement. Kate started her career at EPA in 1989 as an environmental scientist in the RCRA enforcement program. She was the deputy director of EPA's national Water Enforcement Division for 10 years in Washington, D.C. until last year when her family moved to NYC. Kate has a B.S. in Natural Resource Management from the University of Maryland and a Master's in Environmental Administration from the University of California, Riverside.

Michael Catania, Executive Director, Duke Farms Foundation. Duke Farms, serves as a model of sustainability and environmental stewardship on 2,700 acres in Hillsborough, NJ. Michael founded Conservation Resources Inc., a nonprofit conservation group that provided financial and technical assistance to the conservation community in New Jersey. Previously, he served as Deputy Commissioner of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy of NJ, President of the Schiff Natural Lands Trust, and he has been the Chair of the NJ Natural Lands Trust since for more than 12 years.

Peter Clarke, Fisheries Biologist, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, NJDEP. For the past 12 years Peter Clarke has worked for the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Marine Fisheries. His work has focused on the conservation and management of marine and estuarine fishes with relation to population ecology, behavior ecology, migration / life cycles, and habitat ecology. Peter's particular interests include commercial and recreational fisheries management and population dynamics, recruitment mechanisms leading to variability in marine fish populations, spatial and temporal distribution of marine animals applied to migration behavior, essential habitat selection and variability, and foraging theory and predator/prey interactions. Peter serves as the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife biologist for summer flounder, scup, black sea bass, and American lobster providing biological and technical statistics for fisheries management plans and stock assessments. He supervises the biological and harvest data collection for New Jersey managed species including Atlantic menhaden, summer flounder, black sea bass, scup, bluefish, American lobster, and American eel.

Soren Dahl, State Coordinator for Seagrass Management, Bureau of Marine Resources, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Soren investigated the transmission of QPX disease in hard clams as a New York Sea Grant Scholar in the Marine Animal Disease Lab at the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, Stony Brook University. His dissertation research continues to investigate the influence of environmental factors on QPX disease ecology, particularly focusing on dynamics in Raritan Bay. He has contributed to fisheries research and education programs aboard Stony Brook's R/V *Seawolf* in Long Island Sound, the Hudson River Estuary, and down the Atlantic coast to the Delmarva Peninsula. Restoration activities through Americorp with the National Park Service and with The Nature Conservancy, led to his pursuits in natural resource management. The goal of science application in marine resource management has led to his previous role in the Shellfisheries Unit, on population assessments and pathogen monitoring programs, and his current role as an Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission Specialist in the Marine Habitat Protection Unit. Soren maintains a strong interest in science communication by presenting at professional conferences, public speaking engagements and as an Oceanography Instructor at Suffolk County Community College.

Robert Freudenberg, Administrator, Office of Engineering & Construction, NJDEP. Robert Freudenberg is director of RPA's energy and environmental programs, leading the organization's initiatives in areas including climate mitigation and adaptation, open space conservation and park development, and water resource management. He oversees a comprehensive program of projects and policies to improve public health, quality of life, sustainable development and climate resilience in the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut metropolitan area. Rob works closely with other RPA staff to integrate these objectives with RPA's economic, transportation, land use, design and community development initiatives.

Rob has been with RPA since 2006 and most recently served as New Jersey director, where he managed the state program with a focus on sustainability planning and policy. He led projects including developing an arts and revitalization plan for Paterson and a neighborhood revitalization plan for East Camden; producing an economic and land use study for a future bus rapid transit corridor in Union County; advancing regenerative design efforts in the New Jersey Highlands; and facilitating land use and urban design recommendations and leading local demonstration projects for the 13-county Together North Jersey effort.

Prior to joining RPA, Rob served as a coastal management fellow at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, where he focused on policies for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Rob holds a master's of public administration in environmental science and policy from the Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs and a bachelor's in environmental biology from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

Steven N. Handel, PhD, Professor of Ecology and Evolution at Rutgers University. Professor Handel is a restoration ecologist studying the potential for improvement of habitats, biodiversity, and ecoservices in urban

and coastal areas. His scientific background is in plant population ecology and plant-animal interactions. He has collaborated with landscape architects on the application of ecology to the design of urban parks and habitats, and spoken about these issues internationally. In 2013, he was selected for the “Rebuild By Design” HUD competition to develop new approaches to secure the NJ Shore. He is an Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellow of the Ecological Society of America and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He serves as Editor of *Ecological Restoration*. He was awarded “Honorary Membership” to the American Society of Landscape Architects for “nationally or internationally significant achievements” important to that profession. In 2011, he received the Theodore Sperry Award by the Society for Ecological Restoration International for “pioneering work in the restoration of urban areas.” The Sperry Award, is the highest research award for ecological restoration in the world. Handel received his B.A. from Columbia College and Ph.D. from Cornell University, in the Field of Ecology and Evolution.

James W. Hughes, PhD, Dean, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Dean James W. Hughes has been a member of the Rutgers faculty since 1971 and was appointed dean of the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy in 1995. Dr. Hughes is a nationally-recognized academic expert on demographics, housing, and regional economics. He has been both a Woodrow Wilson and a Ford Foundation Fellow. Dean Hughes is the author or co-author of 34 books and monographs and more than 150 articles. He was recently a member of Governor's Housing Opportunity Task Force. In the past, he served on the New Jersey Governor's Commission on Jobs, Growth and Economic Development, and the Governor's World Class Economy Task Force.

Dan Kennedy, Assistant Commissioner, Water Resources, NJ DEP. Dan Kennedy oversees the Division of Water Supply and Geoscience, the Division of Water Quality, and the Water Monitoring Standards Program for the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. He previously served as the Deputy Director of the Office for Planning Advocacy within the Business Action Center in the Dept. of State. Prior to this position, he managed Burlington County's nationally recognized Agriculture Retention and Development Program after working for the NJ State Agriculture Development Committee and the Monmouth County Planning Board. He is a licensed professional planner with a Masters Degree in City & Regional Planning from Rutgers' Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy and a B.S. in Environmental Science from the University of Delaware. Dan served as Burlington County's representative to the Pinelands Commission from 2007-2011, serving on the Policy & Implementation Committee, Public & Government Committee and chairing the Pinelands Agriculture Advisory Committee. He has also served a term on his City's Environmental Commission and Planning Board.

William Kibler, Director of Policy and Science, Raritan Headwaters Association. Bill Kibler was the Executive Director of the South Branch Watershed Association from 2005 until RHA was created in 2011. An attorney (JD, Syracuse University) who specializes in environmental law, he served as an Officer with the Army Corps of Engineers after graduating from the United States Military Academy. Bill is also Chief of the Califon Fire Department and serves on the New Jersey Highlands Coalition Policy Committee and the Raritan Basin Watershed Alliance.

John Kilcullen, Director, Conference House Park, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation. John Kilcullen oversees the management of Conference House Park, including the development and execution of special events, educational programming, stewardship initiatives, capital program, including the historic preservation and adaptive re-use of the various structures in the park, and leads a comprehensive evaluation of the branding and promotion of the park as a community and regional destination. In addition, he works with partners, such as the Historic House Trust, the Conference House Park Conservancy and the Conference House Association, in their efforts to advocate for support and to offer programming at the park and its historic houses.

John joined NYC Parks in 2008 as a Borough Forester/Arborist for Staten Island Forestry. As the senior Forester in the division, he oversaw City and private development projects impacting City trees. He was responsible for developing and implementing tree preservation and damage mitigation plans for preserving the health of City trees. John also serves as President of the Preservation League of Staten Island Board of Directors. John is an ISA certified municipal arborist. He earned a Bachelors degree from St. Bonaventure University in Sociology-Community Planning.

Venetia Lannon, Regional Director, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Ms. Lannon is Regional Director for NYS DEC's Region 2 that is comprised of the five boroughs of New York City. Prior to that, she was a Senior Vice President at the New York City Economic Development Corporation, where she led the Maritime group. In this role she oversaw the City's efforts to develop its marine terminals, port facilities, private ferry landings, heliports and freight rail assets.

In her previous work at EDC, she was an active participant in the development and negotiation of the City's 20-year Solid Waste Management Plan, including developing a materials recovery facility at the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal and overseeing the evaluation and potential piloting of new waste management technologies. Before joining EDC in 2003, Ms. Lannon was a Deputy Director at the New York City Department of Sanitation's Recycling Bureau where she oversaw the composting program. Ms. Lannon holds a Bachelors degree from Vassar College and a Masters in Public Administration from Columbia University.

Tony MacDonald, Director, Urban Coast Institute, Monmouth University. Tony MacDonald is currently the Director of the Monmouth University Urban Coast Institute (UCI) that was founded in 2005 as a Center of Distinction to support healthy and sustainable coastal communities and ecosystems. Mr. MacDonald previously served as the Executive Director of the Coastal States Organization (CSO) based in Washington, DC, which represents the interests of the Governors of the United States' 35 coastal states and territories on coastal and ocean policy matters.

Prior to joining CSO, Mr. MacDonald was the Special Counsel and Director of Environmental Affairs at the American Association of Port Authorities. Tony has also practiced law with a private firm in Washington, DC, served as the Washington, DC environmental legislative representative for the Mayor of the City of New York and attorney with the New York City Corporation Council's Office. He is a graduate of Fordham University School of Law and Middlebury College.

Sara Malone, Senior Research Specialist, Environmental Analysis and Communications Group, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Sara Malone is a Senior Research Specialist in the EAC Group at Bloustein where she works with the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative, the New Jersey Healthy Homes Initiative and on several land use planning projects including a Brownfield to Greenfield project in Perth Amboy, a Statewide climate adaptation/habitat vulnerability assessment project, and a Municipal Public Access Plan and Coastal Vulnerability Assessment for New Brunswick. She is a part-time lecturer at Bloustein and co-taught a graduate planning studio on wetlands and habitat restoration for a working waterfront in the Raritan Center. She has a background in regional planning, project management, accounting, and human resources management and has training in ecological restoration and landscape design. Sara holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Massachusetts/Boston and she received a Master of Environmental Studies from the University of Pennsylvania in 2012 where her academic focus was on ecology, wetlands restoration, and damaged lands reuse. Sara serves on the Shade Tree Commission and is caretaker for an historic Dutch home and barns in Franklin Township, Somerset County.

Debbie Mans, Baykeeper and Executive Director, NY/NJ Baykeeper. Debbie Mans has been Baykeeper and Executive Director since April 2008. NY/NJ Baykeeper is the citizen guardian of the Hudson-Raritan Estuary. Prior

to joining NY/NJ Baykeeper, Debbie was the Environmental and Energy Policy Advisor for NJ Governor Jon S. Corzine. Debbie is a graduate of The University of Michigan and holds a J.D. from Vermont Law School. She is the Chair of the New Jersey League of Conservation Voters and Treasurer of the New Jersey League of Conservation Voters Education Fund.

Joan Leary Matthews, Director, Clean Water Division, US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2. Joan Leary Matthews is the Director of the Clean Water Division, U.S. EPA Region 2, which serves New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands and eight tribal nations. She leads a team of engineers and scientists to promote and protect water quality. The Clean Water Division covers a wide range of issues – including watershed protection, water infrastructure, permitting, coastal and ocean water protection, surface and groundwater protection.

Prior to joining EPA, Joan served as Associate Commissioner for Hearings and Mediation Services at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; a professor at Albany Law School where she taught environmental law and legal writing courses; an attorney in private practice, representing citizen groups in environmental and land use cases; and an Assistant Attorney General in the Environmental Protection Bureau of the New York State Department of Law.

Ms. Leary Matthews received a B.A. degree *cum laude* in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland and a J.D. degree from Albany Law School. She is a past Chair of the Environmental Law Section of the New York State Bar Association and President of the Capital District Women's Bar Association.

Bonnie McCay, Ph.D., Professor of Human Ecology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Bonnie McCay is Distinguished Professor Emerita at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, in the Department of Human Ecology of the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences. Her graduate training was in environmental anthropology at Columbia University (PhD 1976), and her research and teaching have focused on challenges and policies for managing common pool resources such as fish and shellfish, with particular attention to intersections of ecology, community, and social institutions of science, law and property. She has done field research in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, Canada, in New Jersey and other states of the Middle Atlantic region of the U.S., and in Baja California, Mexico, with funding from the U.S. National Science Foundation, the Sea Grant College Program, the National Park Service, and the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

Her books include "The Question of the Commons," "Oyster Wars and the Public Trust," and "Enclosing the Commons." She currently serves on numerous editorial boards and on the Scientific and Statistical Committee of the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council. Her graduate teaching and mentoring is within the Anthropology, Geography, and Ecology & Evolution programs at Rutgers University. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Anthropological Association.

Kerry Miller, Assistant Director, Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions. Kerry Miller has been with ANJEC since 1997, and Assistant Director since 2002. ANJEC is a statewide organization, established in 1969. Its mission is to achieve responsible and sustainable use of NJ's natural resources by providing leadership, education and support to environmental commissions and other local boards and public officials in their efforts to protect the environment in their communities. Kerry has administered ANJEC's land use planning and other grant programs for municipal environmental commissions throughout her tenure with the organization. She lives in Bound Brook, a Raritan River community, and has worked with her town and other Lower Raritan municipalities on community outreach projects to raise awareness of the Raritan. She serves on the Planning Board, Economic Development and Special Improvement District boards in Bound Brook.

Jeff Myers, Bureau Director, Water Assessment Management, NYS DEC. Jeff Myers, a graduate of Penn State University (B.S., Environmental Engineering), has worked in the Division of Water at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation since 1982. He has long been involved in the Division's statewide water quality monitoring and assessment programs, serving as program manager of these efforts, including the state's Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List and Section 303(d) List of Impaired/TMDL Waters. Currently he serves as Director of the Bureau of Water Assessment and Monitoring overseeing the statewide lakes, rivers and streams monitoring and assessment activities, the water quality standards program, and partnership activities including the Water Quality Improvement Projects awards and other environmental project grant/funding programs.

NYSDEC is the state's environmental regulatory agency charged with the protection of environmental quality and public health, while maintaining economic prosperity and social well-being.

Tom Noji, Director, NOAA Fisheries Lab at Sandy Hook. After completing his B.A. in the USA, Dr. Noji conducted his graduate studies in Germany and received his Ph.D. in biological oceanography at the University of Kiel in 1987. Engaged as an oceanographic researcher at the University of Kiel in Germany and at the Institute of Marine Research in Bergen, Norway until 2001, he then moved back to the USA to work with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. For fourteen years he has been the Director of NOAA's James J. Howard Marine Sciences Laboratory in Sandy Hook, NJ, and the Chief of the Ecosystems Processes Division of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center. He leads four environmental research branches (Oceanography, Marine Chemistry, Behavioral Ecology and Coastal Ecology) located in Sandy Hook, NJ; Woods Hole, MA; and Narragansett, RI. Dr. Noji is deeply involved in the development and implementation of an ecosystem approach to marine research and management both nationally and internationally. He is a member of NOAA committees and advisory groups addressing implementation of an ecosystem approach, cold-water corals, habitat science in support of fish stock assessment, and biodiversity. He has also served on several committees with ICES (International Council for the Exploration of the Sea) and currently is the USA representative on the ICES Science Committee. In the course of his career, his personal research has focused on oceanic plankton ecology; harmful algae blooms; benthic-pelagic coupling; oceanic carbon pumps; marine biogeochemical cycles; marine contaminant transport; essential fish habitat; habitat mapping and classification; and effects of broad-scale hydrographic changes on habitat properties and fisheries sustainability. Dr. Noji has been asked to assume leadership of the NOAA Fisheries Aquaculture and Enhancement Division in Milford, CT and will begin those duties in the summer.

Adam Parris, Executive Director, Science and Resilience Institute at Jamaica Bay. Adam Parris is an interdisciplinary expert who works on social and environmental change in US coastal zones. Adam currently serves as the Executive Director of the Science and Resilience Institute at Jamaica Bay (SRIJB). Prior to that, he served as the lead author on the report "Global Mean Sea Level Rise Scenarios for the US National Climate Assessment." He also provided technical guidance and leadership on the Sea Level Rise Tool for Sandy Recovery, for which he and others received a Presidential Green.Gov award as Climate Champion. Mr. Parris also served as program manager for NOAA's Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA) program, internationally recognized for its design in helping decision makers manage weather and climate risks. Adam is co-editor and co-author of the upcoming book "Climate in Context" by Wiley & Sons. Adam holds a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Geology and English Literature from Bucknell University and a Master of Science in Geology from the University of Vermont.

Robert Pirani, Program Director, New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program. Robert Pirani is the program director for the New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program at the Hudson River Foundation. HEP is a collaboration of government, scientists and the civic sector that helps protect and restore the harbor's waters and habitat. It is one of 28 such programs around the country authorized under the Clean Water Act. Prior to joining the Foundation in 2014, Mr. Pirani was vice president for energy and environment at Regional Plan Association

and executive director of the Governors Island Alliance. Mr. Pirani has received awards from the Environmental Advocates of New York, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and The New York Harbor School Foundation. Mr. Pirani has served as a founding board member of the four state Highlands Coalition, Governors Island Alliance and Brooklyn Greenway Initiative. Mr. Pirani holds a Masters Degree in Regional Planning from Cornell University and BA in Environmental Studies from Hampshire College.

Dave Rosenblatt, Administrator, Office of Engineering & Construction, NJDEP. As Administrator of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Engineering and Construction for eleven years Dave Rosenblatt, with 45 engineers and environmental specialists, has been designing, budgeting, and developing project partnerships with the US Army Corps of Engineers and with municipalities to provide coastal storm damage reduction projects and flood control projects. The State's Dam Safety Program, National Flood Insurance Program Coordinator, and Floodplain Delineation are within the office.

Mr. Rosenblatt is also Director of the Office of Flood Hazard Risk Reduction Measures with responsibility for the design and construction of the Rebuild by Design flood management projects selected by HUD in Hoboken and in the Meadowlands. This office is also developing the state's application for HUD's National Disaster Resilience Competition, focusing on at-risk estuarine communities.

Mr. Rosenblatt assisted Governor Christie's Flood Advisory Commission's in its development of recommendations for flood control and flood risk mitigation in the Passaic River Basin in 2010 and similarly assisted with the *Delaware River Flood Task Force Report* to Governor Codey in 2005; each effort was subsequent to significant repetitive flooding in these river basins.

During the previous 24 years with NJDEP, he managed the State's coastal recreational water quality monitoring, watershed planning and environmental restoration projects in the Atlantic coastal basin, and implemented a small business and municipal regulatory compliance assistance program.

Mr. Rosenblatt graduated from the Rutgers College of Agriculture and Environmental Science (BS in Environmental Science 1976) and from the College of New Jersey (MA in Teaching 1997).

Judy A. Shaw, PhD, Program Director, Sustainable Raritan River Initiative, Environmental Analysis and Communications Group, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Judy Auer Shaw joined the staff of Rutgers' Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy in 2008 after a government career with the New Jersey's Departments of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) and Community Affairs. She currently serves as the Director of the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative and conducts research in the fields of redevelopment and environmental management. Her career spans research and practice in risk communication, urban environmental planning, public participation and site remediation. Her positions in public service included Deputy Director of the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment for the Department of Community Affairs, NJDEP Urban Coordinator and the first Administrator of the NJDEP Office of Brownfield Reuse, which she led for two years. In 2004, she transitioned to the Office of Community Relations to chair the Public Participation in Site Remediation Task Force. She is active in the New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association and serves on the Burlington County Agricultural Development Board. Judy received her doctorate in Urban and Environmental Planning from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey in 2002. Her latest book, *The Raritan River: Our Landscape, Our Legacy* was published by Rutgers University Press in December 2014.

Dennis Suszkowski, PhD, Science Director, Hudson River Foundation. Dr. Suszkowski is the Science Director of the Hudson River Foundation for Science and Environmental Research, Inc. He received a doctorate in marine science from the University of Delaware in 1978. Prior to joining the Hudson River Foundation, Dr. Suszkowski held positions as Chief of the Marine and Wetlands Protection Branch at Region 2 of the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency and Assistant Chief of the Operations Division of the New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Dr. Suszkowski currently oversees the Hudson River Foundation's grants program for scientific research. He chairs several advisory groups including the Hudson River Estuary Management Advisory Committee and the Science and Technical Advisory Committee of the NY/NJ Harbor and Estuary Program. He also is an adjunct professor at Monmouth University.

Nick Tufaro, Principal Planner, Middlesex County Office of Planning. Nicholas (Nick) Tufaro, PP, LLA, RGST has a career spanning 38 years working as a professional consultant in Landscape Architecture, Land Use, Environmental and Transportation Planning in public and private projects throughout the Eastern Seaboard. Currently, Nick is a Principal Planner in the Middlesex County Division of Environment, Parks and Comprehensive Planning, where he is principally involved in watershed management planning, natural resource conservation and environmentally responsive strategies in regional policy actions for a balance of economic and ecological health in Middlesex County, NJ communities.

A long-time member of the American Society of Landscape Architects, New Jersey Chapter (NJASLA), Nick served as president and chaired Chapter task forces. He currently represents New Jersey on the Society's Board of Trustees. The ASLA has been instrumental in assisting President Obama's Nick is a member of the ASLA Native Pollinators Task Force that presented recommendations to the Office of President Obama in December 2014, leading to directives for all federal agencies to enhance native pollinator habitat in all programs and holdings released in May, 2015.

Nick is a member of the NY/NJ Harbor Estuary Program Citizen Advisory Committee, representing the Middlesex County Office of Planning and has contributed to the public access program of that group and a HEP funded study of potential Sea Rise impacts to waterfront access facilities in the Lower Raritan River. In addition, Nick is on the advisory committees for two New Jersey Municipal Public Access Plans; City of New Brunswick and City of Perth Amboy.

Kris Van Orsdel, Director of Infrastructure & Local Government Programs, Governor's Office of Storm Recovery, New York. Kris Van Orsdel currently serves as the Director of Infrastructure and Local Government for the New York Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR). Prior to working for GOSR, Kris worked in New Jersey at DCA as the Assistant Director for Recovery Programs. Kris' current responsibilities include implementing several large resiliency based projects in New York. These projects are focused on addressing climate change by designing projects that will make New York more resilient to future storms events. The resiliency projects include two Rebuild by Design Projects: Living Breakwaters located off Staten Island and Living with the Bay in Nassau County and a major Water Quality and Resiliency Initiative in Suffolk County. He also works closely with New York's Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and FEMA with the State's hazard mitigation and Public Assistance program addressing recovery needs. From 2006-2010, Kris served as Policy Director for the Louisiana Recovery Authority, created in response to Hurricane Katrina where among other roles he helped to develop and implement innovative fishery and coastal restoration recovery programs using HUD funds. Following the 2010 BP Oil Spill, Kris transitioned from the State to The Ocean Conservancy serving as Senior Policy and Government Affairs Manager for the Gulf of Mexico program working to get \$20 billion back to the Gulf for restoration activities through the RESTORE Act. Since the summer of 2013, Kris has been working toward developing a more resilient Sandy-impacted communities using his experience in disaster recovery, strategic planning, policy, fund allocation, program creation, partnership development and coordination, government relations, and community outreach.

Peter Weppler, Chief of Environmental Branch, US Army Corps of Engineers-NY District's Planning Division. As the Branch Chief, Peter will be responsible for all environmental issues related to NY District's Civil Works Projects. Among his many projects, Peter was the New York District Environmental Team Lead for the New York District's

Coastal Storm Risk Management Mission which is addressing post-Sandy coastal resiliency and coastal storm risk management per Public Law 113-2 – The Disaster Relief Appropriations Act. Peter was also responsible for multiple ecosystem restoration projects including the Jamaica Bay Marsh Islands Restoration and Hudson-Raritan Estuary Ecosystem Restoration Study which developed the Comprehensive Restoration Plan (CRP) for the NY/NJ Harbor. He has over 20 years of experience in the field of ecosystem restoration and flood and coastal storm damage risk reduction. Peter has an extensive background in ecological investigations in coastal and riverine systems throughout the New York/New Jersey Bight.

Photo of Somerset Mitigation Bank by Mark Gallagher, Princeton Hydro, LLC

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