

Principles in Action: Case Study #2



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Our World Depends on Us.

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The Nature Conservancy

- Conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends
- Located in 70+ countries
- Largest conservation organization world-wide
- 4 priorities are
 - Tackle climate change
 - Protect land and water
 - Provide food and water sustainably
 - Build healthy cities



MITIGATION: Actions that address the root causes of climate change such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Ex. renewable energy

ADAPTATION: Actions that seek to lower the risks posed by the consequences of climatic changes.

Ex. elevate buildings

Sea Level Rise

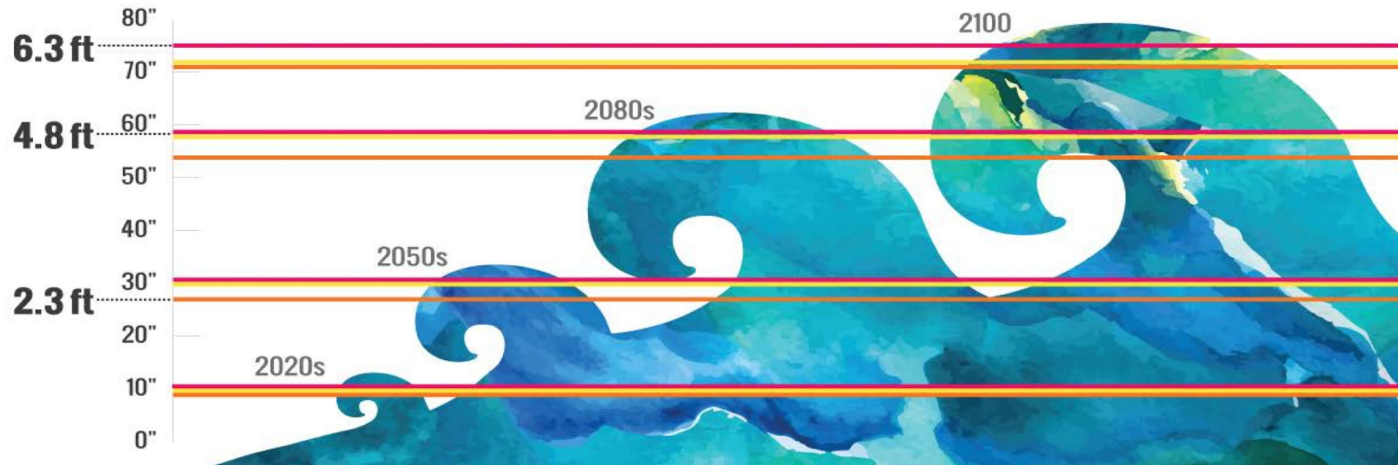


Department of
Environmental
Conservation

6 NYCRR Part 490, Projected Sea-level Rise

HIGH PROJECTION FOR SEA-LEVEL RISE IN NEW YORK STATE

Mid-Hudson Region New York City Long Island



Weather Becomes More Extreme

NEW YORK CLIMATE RISK REALITY

THREE TRILLION DOLLARS

of NY Coastal Property at Risk

Every Single New York
Citizen

Lives in a county affected by at least one weather
disaster since 2010





During Hurricane Sandy, wetlands prevented **\$565,000,000** in flood damages in New York and New Jersey.

Wetlands in front of properties reduce their annual flood losses by an average of 16%, and up to 70% in some locations.



Flood Adaptation Hierarchy

Protect Natural Floodplains

Un-develop and Restore Floodplains

Passive Risk Reduction

Active Risk Reduction

Nature-based
Defenses

Hard Defenses

Start Here

The old way:
Defend,
Accommodate,
Retreat¹

Equity

The new way:
Protect,
Retreat,
Accommodate,
Defend





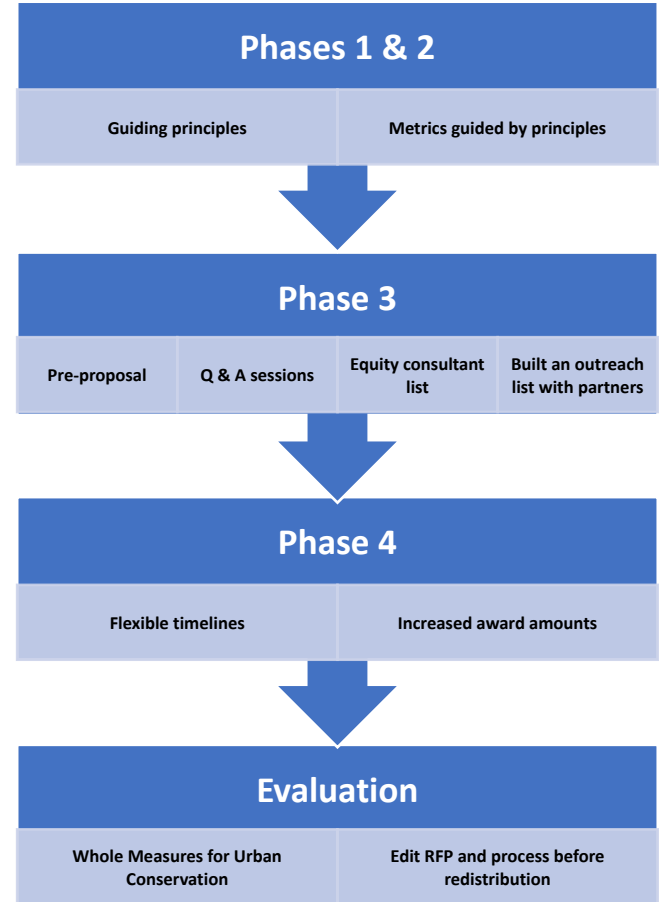
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Community Visioning Following Managed Retreat RFP

- We want to have two on the ground restoration projects
- We are interested in the process
- We want an **enlightened** way of community engagement /project design



Standard RFP Process



Guiding Principles

- Ensure that resources are shared equitably among organizations that are involved in the partnership; partnerships should demonstrate reciprocal resource sharing
- Ensure that any Indigenous communities, Environmental Justice and frontline populations in the area are equitably represented
- Must include a plan for engagement beyond partner organizations to ensure individuals, not just co-providers, are part of the planning and implementation
- Work to change unequal power structures and dynamics that may prevent marginalized communities or individual voices from participating in the process
- Whenever possible, hire from within in the community or the people who will be specifically affected by the project
- Balance current needs of the community with solutions that can adapt to changing conditions over the long term(e.g., future flood projections)
- Adhere to any local, state, or federal public health guidance regarding COVID-19 health and safety

Community Visioning Following Managed Retreat RFP



Awardees: Sidney Greenplain (Sidney, NY) & Rockaway Initiative for Sustainability & Equity RISE (Edgemere, Queens, NY)



Grant duration: approx. 1 year



Additional component: mentorship program (mentees are employees in: Olive, NY and Brookhaven, NY)

Mentorship program

- Paired similar communities
 - Geography
 - Demographics
 - Socioeconomic conditions



Where are the projects now?

- Edgemere & Sidney: filming documentary to share the story of their visioning work and advocate for implementation.
- Mastic Beach: Mentees are working on ways to implement their post project action steps. Impending field trip for local high school students to project area.
- Olive: Applied for implementation funding. TNC provided grant writing support.



Adaptation Principles

Safeguard people

Recognize context

Think in systems

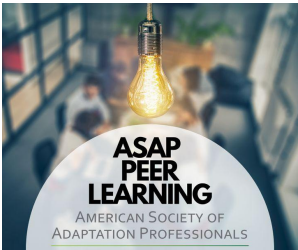
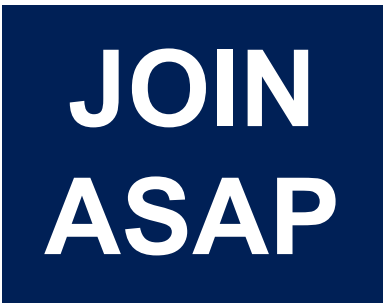
Ensure equitable distribution of costs and benefits

Upcoming Opportunities



Michigan Happy Hour!

Thursday May 26, 5:30pm @ Bill's Beer Garden



Peer learning groups (monthly)

- [Private Sector](#) | June 1, 4:00pm EST
- [Policy Practice](#) | June 3, 1:00pm EST
- [Professional Opportunities](#) | June 17, 12:00pm EST
- [Convening Climate Collaborators](#) | June 20, 2:00pm EST
- [Funding and Finance](#) | June 27, 12:00pm EST
- [Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion](#) | Quarterly, July 18

adaptationprofessionals.org/join-us

Co-Creation Webinar Series (Bimonthly)

Breaking the Disaster Cycle: Building Equity Through Collaboration Before Crisis with ARISE-US on July 20

[-REGISTER HERE](#)



Co-Creation Webinar Series

The space where innovation and climate resilience meet.

Principles of Adaptation Training (Quarterly)

August 24 - [REGISTER HERE](#)



**Principles of Quality
Climate Change Adaptation**

The climate is changing.

Now is the time for action. This is the place for you.

[Join Us](#)



Learn more at:

www.AdaptationProfessionals.org

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