

Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Investing in New York



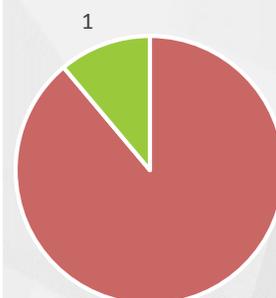
Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Created by the 2014 Farm Bill, the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) is a partner-driven, locally-led approach to conservation. It offers new opportunities for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to harness innovation, welcome new partners to the conservation mission, and demonstrates the value and efficacy of voluntary, private lands conservation.

In 2017, NRCS is investing up to \$225 million in 88 projects that impact every state in the nation, including one in New York. Since 2014, NRCS has invested more than \$825 million in 286 high-impact projects, bringing together more than 2,000 conservation partners who have invested an additional \$1.4 billion. By 2018, NRCS and partners will have invested at least \$2.4 billion. These projects are leading to cleaner and more abundant water, better soil and air quality, enhance wildlife habitat, more resilient and productive agricultural lands and stronger rural economies.

New York Projects to Date

Projects by Resource Concern



9

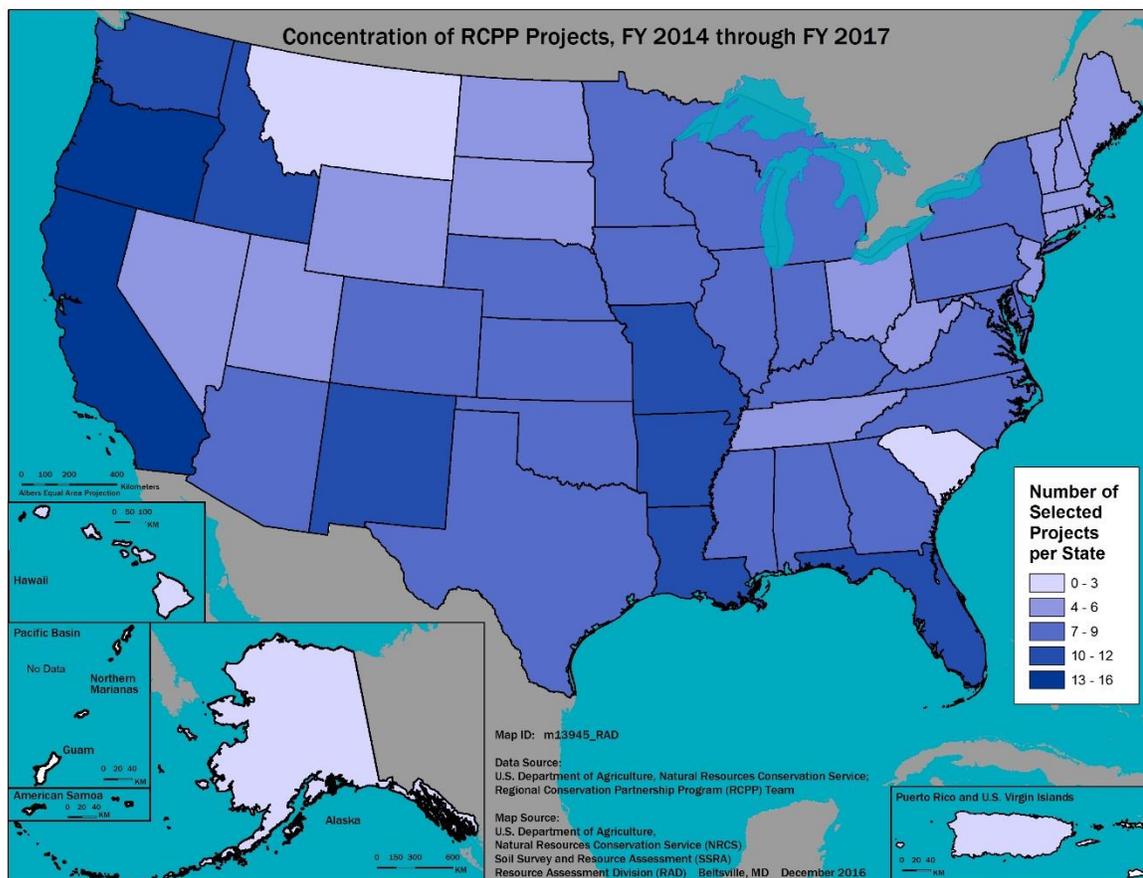
Projects

\$55.2 million

NRCS Investment

91

Partners



Existing RCPP Projects

Year	Title	Funding Pool	Lead Partner	Number of Partners	NRCS Investment
2016	Enhancement to the NYC Watershed Ag Program	State	Watershed Agricultural Council of the NYC Watersheds, Inc.	1	\$1.2 million
2016	Genesee River Sediment and Phosphorus Reduction	CCA	New York State Soil & Water Conservation Committee	4	\$3 million
2016	Upper Susquehanna Agricultural BMP Implementation	CCA	Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District	2	\$4.1 million
2016	The Young Forest Initiative for At-Risk Species	National	Wildlife Management Institute	12	\$5.2 million
2014/2015	Greater Adirondack Agricultural Environmental Enhancement Program	State	Greater Adirondack Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc.	9	\$1.5 million
2014/2015	Accelerated Implementation of Agricultural and Forestry Conservation Practices in the Lake Champlain Watershed of Vermont and New York	National	State of Vermont Agencies of Agriculture, Food and Markets, and Natural Resources	19	\$16 million
2014/2015	Delaware River Watershed Working Lands Conservation and Protection Partnership	National	American Farmland Trust	27	\$13 million
2014/2015	Long Island Sound Watershed RCPP	National	Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation	7	\$10 million

2017 RCPP Projects

Agricultural Stewardship in the Peconic Estuary

Proposed NRCS Investment: \$1,212,000 (State)

Lead Partner: Suffolk County - Department of Economic Development & Planning

Number of Initial Partners: 10

Participating States: New York (Lead State)

Agricultural Stewardship in the Peconic Estuary project - a partnership among government agencies, non-profit organizations, academic institutions and private farmers – will provide technical assistance and financial resources to Suffolk County farmers within the federally-designated Peconic Estuary Watershed in New York. With these resources, farmers can conduct nutrient management plans and integrated pest management plans to adapt best management practices, which will improve water quality, soil vitality and wildlife habitat. The project will support an agricultural specialist at the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District whose primary responsibility will be to assist farmers with their nutrient and pest management plans. The project also will provide farmers with access to trained professionals who can provide information about additional Natural Resources Conservation Service funding needed to enhance agricultural stewardship efforts.

