



# Coastal America

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December 20, 2010

Rick Balla  
Peconic Estuary Program Coordinator  
U.S. EPA  
290 Broadway (24<sup>th</sup> Floor)  
New York, New York 10007

Dear Mr. Balla:

I am pleased to inform you that the Peconic River Fishway Partnership has been selected to receive a 2010 Coastal America Partnership Award for outstanding efforts to restore and protect the coastal environment.

This award emphasizes the significance of your innovative accomplishments and contributions to the objectives of Coastal America. The award recognizes the team's innovative efforts to restore diadromous fish access in the Peconic River by constructing a Rock Ramp on the South Spillway which will ultimately return alewife and the American eels to their historic habitat and spawning areas on the Peconic River.

Please notify your team of the award. A Coastal America Principal, representing the President of the United States, will present the award to the team at an appropriate venue. Ms. Carli Bertrand is the coordinating point of contact from the Coastal America Washington, D.C. office. She can be reached via email at [Carli.Bertrand@usda.gov](mailto:Carli.Bertrand@usda.gov) or phone 202-401-9922. She will soon contact you to begin planning an appropriate award ceremony in your region. In the meantime, should you become aware of an upcoming event that could be used as a forum to present this award please notify Ms. Bertrand. Your Coastal America Regional Chairs will be instrumental in planning for the ceremony and will receive a copy of this letter.

I congratulate you and the Peconic River Fishway Partnership on your accomplishments and thank you for being an inspiration to us all.

Sincerely,

Virginia K. Tippie  
Director

cc: Mario DelVicario, MARIT Chair  
Roselle Henn, MARIT Chair