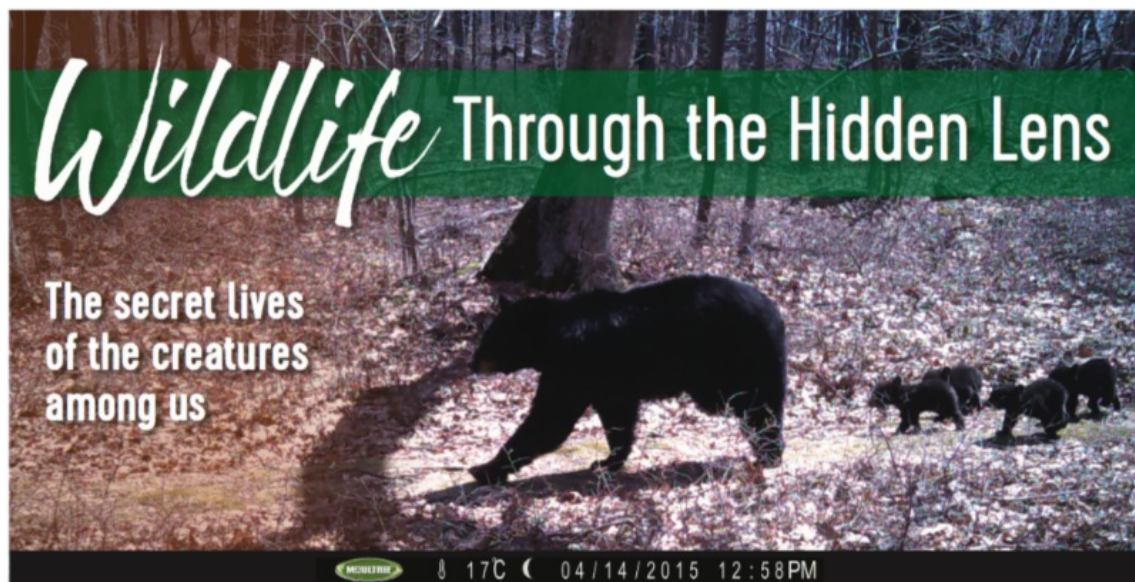




News from HHLT: February 2019

Registration Now Open for 2019 Community Forum, Scheduled for April 14th



Our annual Community Forum will take place on **Sunday, April 14th**, from **1 to 4pm** at the **Old VFW Hall in Cold Spring**. This year's forum, [Wildlife Through the Hidden Lens](#), will focus on how scientists are using camera trapping technology to better understand our natural world and how local residents can use technology to discover wildlife in their own backyards. Our distinguished speakers include Ed McGowan from [Bear Mountain State Park](#), Dr. Scott LaPoint from [Black Rock Forest](#) and Brent Boscarino from the [Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management \(PRISM\)](#). Join us to learn about:

- The secret lives of regional wildlife through stunning photography and video footage
- Ongoing scientific studies on public conserved lands that are using camera traps to track rarely-spotted animals like the Golden Eagle and Fisher
- How you can use technology to capture wildlife in your own backyard and contribute to scientific research

The Forum is free for the community, but we suggest a donation of \$10, which can be made [online](#) or at the door. The event always fills up, so advance registration through [Eventbrite](#) is required.

HHLT Protects 72 Acres Adjoining Appalachian Trail in Garrison



In December 2018, with support from the [Appalachian Trail Landscape Partnership Action Fund Grant Program](#), we partnered with private landowners in Garrison to conserve a 72-acre parcel adjoining the Appalachian Trail—a portion of which is a critical buffer around the Trail. The conservation project includes subdivision of the 72-acre parcel, conveying 42 acres to a neighbor with a No Build conservation easement. The project will be on the Philipstown Planning Board's agenda in the coming weeks. We are grateful to the neighboring landowners and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy for their dedication to conserving this special area of the Hudson Highlands. Please contact us with any questions.

Help Us Improve Our Outreach by Completing a [Brief Survey](#)

We have been working with Cadet Grant Ryan from West Point to evaluate the efficacy of our outreach and communication activities as part of his capstone project. Please take a few minutes to complete this brief [survey](#) to help inform Cadet Ryan's research and help us improve our outreach efforts. Many thanks in advance for your feedback!

HHLT Welcomes Julia Rogers as New Stewardship Coordinator



Julia will join us this March after the completion of her "Natural Resources and the Environment" MSC degree from the University of Connecticut. She comes with experience in conservation from previous involvement with two local land trusts—Joshua's Trust and the Lancaster County Conservancy—as well as her work on the Conservation Commission in the Town of Mansfield, CT. Julia holds a BA in Biology from Colby College.

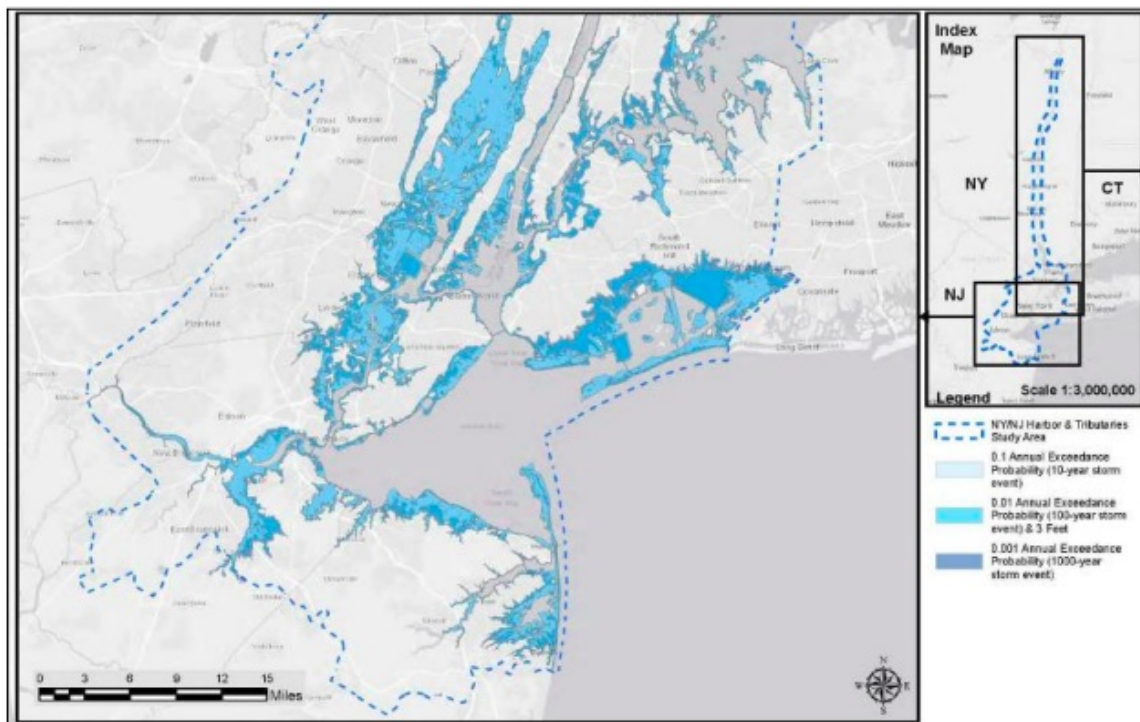
In the Stewardship Coordinator role, Julia will monitor our easement portfolio, manage our digital conservation resources, and streamline our systems for property monitoring and management. She looks forward to meeting the community here and supporting our conservation easement landowners.

Granite Mountain Preserve Featured in NYTimes

Our Granite Mountain Preserve in Putnam Valley was featured in a recent "Living In" article in *The New York Times* entitled [Putnam Valley, N.Y.: Quiet, Rustic and 'Old-Timey.'](#) The article highlights conservation efforts in the town: "A good portion of the 14,086-acre Clarence Fahnestock Memorial State Park lies in Putnam Valley, along with about 1,000 acres of protected land owned by the town and the Hudson Highlands Land Trust. "We are trying to preserve as much as we can," said Sam Oliverio Jr., the town supervisor and a lifelong resident."

To learn more about what's happening at Granite Mountain Preserve, you can read our recent [press release here](#).

Army Corps Releases Interim Report and Schedules Additional Public Forums for NY Harbor Storm Surge Study



In response to calls for more transparency, the Army Corps recently released an [interim report](#) on their NY Harbor and Tributary Study, which is evaluating options for coastal storm protection. The report provides information that has been collected and analyzed on the various alternatives under consideration, such as storm surge barriers. The [project website](#) has been updated with more information and answers to common questions.

To better engage the public in the study, the Army Corps also announced additional public meetings, at which the interim report will be discussed. Upcoming meetings in our area include:

- Tuesday, **March 12th** from 5-7pm at the **Westchester County Center in White Plains**
- Wednesday, **April 3rd** from 5-7pm at the **Hudson Valley Community Center in Poughkeepsie**

Public comments will be accepted on an ongoing basis as the Army Corps works towards identifying a

"tentatively selected plan" in early 2020. New comments can be submitted by emailing NYNJHarbor.TribStudy@usace.army.mil. You can use [our comments](#) as a reference.

Local Conservation Events and Opportunities in March

There are two upcoming opportunities to share your support for New York's parks and trails: [Parks Advocacy Day](#) on **March 4th** and [Trails Advocacy Day](#) on **March 18th**, both taking place in Albany.

The deadline to place orders for the annual **Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District / Cornell Cooperative Extension Putnam County Tree & Shrub Seedling Sale** is **March 27th**. More information about the sale and the order form can be found [here](#). Orders can be placed at putnamcountyny.com/keepputnamgreen.

Please consider supporting our work.
HHLT is the only organization that focuses exclusively on protecting the Hudson Highlands.
Your contribution protects this iconic region for our future generations.
Thank you!

DONATE NOW



The Hudson Highlands Land Trust protects and preserves the natural resources, rural character and scenic beauty of the Hudson Highlands.

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