



## Rhode Island Youth Conservation League 2013 Report

In 2013, Rhode Island Youth Conservation League (YCL) hired a crew of six and two leaders and conducted 20 days of fieldwork plus held an evening program.

**Crew:**

- Joel Berroa, Providence, Paul Cuffee School
- Olivia Findlay, Exeter, Exeter West Greenwich High School
- Emma Martinez-Daniel, Providence, Moses Brown
- Dylan Mattison, W. Greenwich, Greene School
- Taylor Ryan, Warwick, Pilgrim High School
- Nicholas Tomasso, Coventry, Bishop Hendricken High School

**Leader:**

Dante Gamache, Providence

**Assistant Leader:**

Blue Sky, Richmond, YCL alumna 2011

The search, hiring, and overall planning was handled by the Rhode Island Natural History Survey (RINHS), the day-to-day planning was organized by the Audubon Society of Rhode Island (ASRI) and The Nature Conservancy of Rhode Island (TNC).

**Primary Organizers:**

Scott Comings (TNC), Scott Ruhren (ASRI), David Gregg (RINHS), Kira Stillwell (RINHS)

The 20 available crew days were split into four categories:

- 1) orientation, training, travel to BI, evaluation...1.5 days total
- 2) ASRI...8.0 days
- 3) TNC...7.5 days
- 4) Crew in Your Community...3 days

Date	Organization	Where	task 1	task 2
1-Jul	ASRI	Eppley	orientation	trail maint
2-Jul	ASRI	Touisset Marsh	invasives	
3-Jul	TNC	Gt Swamp	oyster reef rest	
5-Jul	TNC	Ninigret NWR	oyster reef rest	
8-Jul	ASRI	Maxwell Mays	invasives	
9-Jul	ASRI	Newman	invasives	field maint

10-Jul	ASRI	Newman	invasives	field maint
11-Jul	Friends of Canonchet Farm	Canonchet Farm	invasives	
14-Jul	ASRI	Caratunk	fence maint	
15-Jul	ASRI	Fisherville	beaver dam	dam repair
16-Jul	ASRI	Ed Center	weeding	painting
17-Jul	TNC	Ninigret NWR	oyster reef rest	
20-Jul	TNC/Narragansett Surf Casters	Whale Rock	boardwalk	
21-Jul	TNC	Block Is.	swallowwort removal	
22-Jul	TNC	Block Is.	swallowwort removal	
23-Jul	TNC	Block Is.	swallowwort removal	
26-Jul	Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Assoc.	WPWA HQ	invasives	weeding
27-Jul	TNC/Narr. Surf Casters	Ninigret NWR	oyster reef rest	Whale Rock
28-Jul	Tiverton Land Trust	Ft. Barton	invasives	trail maint
29-Jul	ASRI	Touisset Marsh	signage	
1-Aug	"Graduation" celebration	ASRI HQ	presentations	eating cake

Finances:

YCL 2013 was funded entirely with a grant from RICSC for \$20,000 which paid for crew and leaders' wages and fringe, mileage for planning, handbooks, t-shirts, supplies, gas for van, boat tickets and food for Block Is.,

TOTAL CASH: \$20,000

In addition to cash costs, the following in-kind contributions are recognized:

\$8,200 RINHS

\$11,200 ASRI

\$8,750 TNC

>\$864 Friends of Canonchet Farm

>\$864 Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association

>\$864 Tiverton Land Trust

TOTAL MATCH: \$30,742

TOTAL PROJECT VALUE >\$50,742

Feedback was solicited informally and formally from the crew, leaders, and organizers through response vehicles, exit interviews, and evaluation meetings. The feedback is extremely positive, with several good suggestions for smoothing some rough spots and good ideas for adding to the program. It is being incorporated into planning for future seasons.

Pictures from YCL  
2013, various sites.

