



OUR PARTNERS ON THE POND SERIES



A LITTLE ABOUT TNC

Founded in 1951, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is a global conservation organization dedicated to conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends. TNC has been working on Block Island (BI) since 1972, and officially launched the BI program in

1991 when the organization named the island as one of 12 “Last Great Places” in the western hemisphere. This special designation highlights the island’s abundance of rare species and the community’s unique support for conservation.

WHAT TNC IS DOING

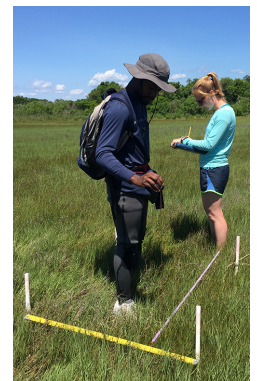
Over the last thirty years, the BI program has expanded into a multi-faceted program of land acquisition and restoration, scientific research, nature education, public outreach, stewardship, and community science. We have seven year-round staff members and each year we welcome seasonal assistants and volunteers to join our team in support of our dynamic program.

TNC ON THE GREAT SALT POND

This upcoming field season will mark the eighth year of our extensive scientific study of the Great Salt Pond (GSP). The goal of this study is to become more knowledgeable of the pond’s ecological functions as a critical nursery habitat and offshore refuge for a wide array of species. To capture what happens in the GSP over time, TNC standardized a suite of monitoring surveys to document biotic and abiotic features such as abundance and diversity of resident and migratory finfish species, water quality parameters, bay scallop populations, and accretion and secretion patterns of salt marsh habitats surrounding the pond. Collectively, this time series study provides usable datasets and accrues valuable information to help inform our work going forward, so that in years to come, TNC can confidently advise and work with our partners and the island community to help keep the GSP a sustainable resource.

TNC’s work is made possible because of our strong partnerships, local staff with extensive knowledge of BI’s ecology, and our use of proven, science-based strategies. We are proud to work with many partners and supporters – many of whom have been with us since the very beginning. For all of this, we are grateful for their trust and vision to help conserve BI together and protect this place we all care so deeply about.

To learn more about the The Nature Conservancy on Block Island, please visit natureblockisland.org or call 401.466.2129.



Photos are courtesy of ©TNC

OUR MISSION: To protect and enhance the environmental quality of the Great Salt Pond, including its shorelines and wetlands, and to promote appropriate and productive uses of the Pond’s resources by residents, visitors and local businesses.

FUNDING: Individual contributions, membership dues, special events, program grants. IRS 501(c)3 non-profit. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Please consider becoming a member of The Committee for the Great Salt Pond. For information and details, visit our website at cgspblockisland.org.