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**Contact**

Sara Harrison, Communications  
Manager, 212-497-1018,  
[sharrison@hudsonriver.org](mailto:sharrison@hudsonriver.org)



## **The Hudson River Foundation Will Administer the Champlain Hudson Environmental Trust**

The Foundation will convene the Trust's Environmental Governing Committee and associated technical workgroups; manage funds; and make the Trust's decision-making process transparent to the public.

**New York, NY** – Today the Hudson River Foundation announces that it will be taking on the role of Trust Administrator for the Hudson River and Lake Champlain Habitat Enhancement, Restoration and Research/Habitat Improvement Project Trust, more commonly known as the Champlain Hudson Environmental Trust (CHET).

“Understanding how New York’s waterways are changing in response to new technology and the changing energy landscape is crucial,” says **Jonathan Kramer, president of the Hudson River Foundation (HRF)**. “HRF looks forward to being a part of this project; to facilitate the trust’s governing committee; and to administer funds to scientists and organizations who can help answer these important questions and safeguard New York’s waters.”

CHET arose out of the Champlain Hudson Power Express, a project which will place a high voltage direct current line underwater to run power from hydroelectric dams in Quebec 330 miles to a converter station in Astoria, Queens. However, the impacts of this project – including harm from the initial construction, the release of mercury from the dams' reservoirs into the watershed, and the effects of the electromagnetic fields created by the cable – are unknown.

To address these concerns, Champlain Hudson Power Express will fund CHET with \$117.15 million over 35 years. CHET’s mission is to protect, restore, and improve aquatic habitats and fisheries resources in the Hudson River Estuary, the Harlem and East Rivers, Lake Champlain, and their tributaries. HRF will work with governing committee members including New York State, New York City, Scenic Hudson, and Riverkeeper, to administer the funds to scientists and community organizations with the goal of minimizing, mitigating, studying, and/or compensating for short- and long-term harm to these waterways.

“HRF has decades of experience managing similar research funds,” says Kramer. “We are proud to be one of many groups informing the stewardship of New York’s waters and we will strive to make the decision-making process around these funds transparent for all stakeholders.”

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**About the Hudson River Foundation** – For over 40 years, HRF has been a trusted resource and partner for policy makers, government agencies, scientists, and community members who live and work along the Hudson River and its tidal estuary in New York and New Jersey. The Foundation actively engages these diverse stakeholders, synthesizes information, helps create consensus, and promotes science-based stewardship of the watershed, making this extraordinary resource accessible for everyone. Find out more at [hudsonriver.org](https://www.hudsonriver.org)