



Save the Sound®

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Laura McMillan, 540-292-8429
Martin Hain, 415-225-8767

May 17: Soundkeeper's *Terry Backer II* patrol boat launch in Bridgeport

New Haven, Conn. – Save the Sound will officially launch the new Soundkeeper patrol boat, the *Terry Backer II*, this Friday at Captain's Cove Seaport in Bridgeport.

Long Island Soundkeeper Bill Lucey acts as an on-the-water watchdog, performing regular patrols of the Sound's bays and harbors. When not on the water, he is the Sound's voice in the Connecticut legislature and a resource for people around the Sound.

The new vessel, a 25-foot Parker, will greatly enhance these abilities with the addition of an on-board water testing lab and room to take advocates, scientists, and government officials out on the water. Purchase of the boat was made possible by three generous supporters who will be recognized that day.

Lucey, a native of Wilton, Conn., is a fish and wildlife biologist, a former commercial fisherman, and an experienced advocate. He led a coalition to successfully contest a timber sale on tribal lands in Alaska, lobbied federal agencies in D.C., and coordinated the writing and passage of legislation in Hawaii. After three decades of conservation work across North America, he returned to Connecticut in 2017 to become Save the Sound's Soundkeeper.

In his first full patrol season last summer, Lucey investigated citizen water pollution reports in Stamford, Milford, West Haven, and Northport. He is currently working with local advocates and officials to identify solutions to persistent sewage pollution in Bridgeport's Black Rock Harbor, where the patrol vessel is docked at a slip donated by Captain's Cove Seaport.



Members of the press are invited to attend Friday's ceremony or to arrange a future outing on the *Terry Backer II* by contacting Save the Sound's Martin Hain at mhain@savethesound.org or 415-225-8767.

Learn more about the Soundkeeper at <http://www.savethesound.org/soundkeeper>.

What: Boat launch and celebratory ceremony

Where: Captain's Cove Seaport
1 Bostwick Ave, Bridgeport, CT

When: Friday, May 17
3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Who: Soundkeeper Bill Lucey, CFE/Save the Sound
Curt Johnson, president, CFE/Save the Sound
Longtime Soundkeeper supporters
Elected officials

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