



Connecticut Fund
for the Environment

Save the Sound®

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CFE/Save the Sound and Visionaries launch SavePlumIslandNY.org *Short documentary, extras, and action steps now online*

New Haven, Conn. – A documentary film focusing on the conservation of Plum Island and featuring Academy Award nominee Sam Waterston is now available for free viewing online. New website SavePlumIslandNY.org also features extras like extended interviews, action steps to protect the island's wildlife habitat, and an app that lets visitors create their own videos.

The short documentary, developed by nonprofit producer Visionaries in cooperation with Connecticut Fund for the Environment and its bi-state program Save the Sound, provides an engaging exploration of Plum Island's natural resources and the continuing efforts of the Preserve Plum Island Coalition to preserve public land threatened by government attempts to sell it to the highest bidder. The film premiered on Connecticut Public Television in January and is expected to air on Long Island public television stations this spring.

"This may be one of the most important shows Visionaries has produced in its 23 years on public television," **said Bill Mosher, founder and executive producer of Visionaries.** "It is the ultimate test of the power citizens have to move government in the direction that the people want, not what government wants. This story, in its dissemination over the internet and on public television, can demonstrate to all non-profits what can happen when socially conscious media intersects with a really important environmental cause."

The film features Chris Cryder, Leah Lopez Schmalz, and Curt Johnson of CFE/Save the Sound, as well as historians, birders, elected officials, and other advocates affiliated with the Preserve Plum Island Coalition.

Plum Island, an 840-acre, federally-owned island in the eastern end of Long Island Sound, is home to threatened and endangered birds like the piping plover and roseate tern, as well as other rare species. Seventy Connecticut and New York organizations work together as the Preserve Plum Island Coalition, partnering with grassroots activists and champions in Congress to halt sale of the island.

Since the making of the documentary, CFE/Save the Sound has brought an action in federal court claiming that the government's decision to sell the island violates numerous federal environmental laws.

"Once people see Plum Island, they want to help protect it," **said Chris Cryder, special projects coordinator for CFE/Save the Sound OR Louise Harrison, New York natural areas coordinator for Save the Sound,** who has been showing the documentary to community groups around the

Sound region. "We're excited to bring the beauty and unique history of Plum Island to thousands more people, and to make it easy for them to share their love of the island with their friends!"

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The film is viewable on mobile devices, but for best site functionality we recommend using a Mozilla or Chrome browser on your computer.

The mission of Connecticut Fund for the Environment and its bi-state program Save the Sound is to protect and improve the land, air, and water of Connecticut and Long Island Sound. We use legal and scientific expertise and bring citizens together to achieve results that benefit our environment for current and future generations.

[About CFE/Save the Sound](#)

[About the Preserve Plum Island Coalition](#)

[About Visionaries, Inc.](#)