



Connecticut Fund  
for the Environment

Save the Sound®

February 14, 2018

Contact: Laura McMillan, 540-292-8429  
[lmcmillan@ctenvironment.org](mailto:lmcmillan@ctenvironment.org)

Melissa Schlag, 860-398-0569  
[mschlag@ctenvironment.org](mailto:mschlag@ctenvironment.org)

## **Preserve Plum Island Coalition hits 100 members, launches new site, advocates with Governor Cuomo**

New Haven, Conn. - The multi-state campaign to permanently protect Plum Island, NY, from auction continues to grow. The 840-acre, federally-owned island is home the largest numbers of congregating seals in New York as well as breeding populations of endangered birds and rare plants. It is also prized for historic Fort Terry and the Plum Island Lighthouse.

With the addition of several new members already this year, this month, the Preserve Plum Island Coalition has reached 100 organizational members from Connecticut, New York, and Rhode Island. Newest sign-ons include Coastal Steward, Concerned Citizens of Montauk, Earth Documentary Resistance, The Inkspot Southold, Island Outreach Foundation, Operation SPLASH, Preservation Long Island, Southold Historic Preservation Commission, Third House Nature Center, and Wild Bird Crossing of Bridgehampton in New York and The Valley Stands Up in Connecticut.

"The regional push to conserve Plum Island has never been stronger," said **Louise Harrison, New York natural areas coordinator for Connecticut Fund for the Environment/Save the Sound**, who helps coordinate the coalition. "Everywhere we go in the Sound region, citizens want its habitats and history protected, and elected officials agree."

A fully revamped [coalition website](#), designed by generous volunteer Michael Strong, provides easy-to-access action opportunities for the public and detailed resources for current and potential coalition members.

Save the Sound and other coalition members used the new site Wednesday to [launch a new phase](#) of its public campaign. The campaign asks Governor Andrew Cuomo, who has been supportive of cleaning up and conserving the island, to use his authority under various New York laws to prevent inappropriate development of the island and ensure it is permanently protected.

###