

| 2017 Award Nomination   |   |
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| *Please email completed form to <u>nygis77@gmail.com</u>  |   |
| Date:   Cat     8/30/2017   [   | tegory:   Lifetime Achievement   Individual Contribution to the Profession   X GIS Champion   You Tube Sensation   UAV Innovation   Geospatial Applications Program ( <i>skip to entry form below</i> )   ress, phone, and email) |
| Submitted by (please include name, address, phone, and email)<br>Benjamin Houston<br>14 Lund Court<br>Woodstock, NY 12498<br>(845) 224-7780<br>benjamin.h.houston@gmail.com |   |
| Sector:XLocal GovernmentState GovernmentTribal GovernmentPrivate (For Profit)Private (non-Profit)Academic   | Functional Area:   X Transportation   X Urban Planning   □ Emergency Response   X Environmental   X Infrastructure   □ Other (please note)  |

**Narrative Description of Contribution.** (Attach separate file or pages as necessary. Please refer to the Narrative Guidance for additional information on the narrative description.)

Amanda LaValle has been a long time advocate and proponent of using GIS in Ulster County. As the Director of the newly instituted Department of the Environment, she was instrumental in finding funding for the County's comprehensive hydrography data layer update and has recently embarked on an aggressive geospatial mapping initiative aimed at assessing and improving stream connectivity through culverts on locally maintained roads. She also recently secured funding for a pilot project to assess existing culvert sizes against improved estimates of peak runoff generated from the county's new LiDAR data using ArcGIS tools and Python Scripts. These new tools are being developed in collaboration with Cornell University and Spatial Analytix, LLC. This new pilot project endeavors to demonstrate how high resolution remote sensing (imagery and LiDAR) can be used in conjunction with advanced geospatial processing to prioritize culverts that are too small to pass expected storm flows and replace them as part of a comprehensive capital plan to improve community resiliency to storm damage from flash flooding. Amanda's ongoing commitment to having geospatial technology at the core of her environmental and infrastructure programs has made her a true GIS Champion in New York State.

## **Deadline & Submission Information**

The deadline for entries is Friday, September 8th, 2017. Please email this completed template to the NYSGISA Awards Committee at <u>nygis77@gmail.com</u>, with "GIS Applications: [Name of Submitting Organization]" in the message Subject line.

Thank you for your submission and Good Luck!