CARY INSTITUTE OF ECOSYSTEM STUDIES, INC.

FEDERAL SINGLE AUDIT REPORT

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

CPAs | CONSULTANTS | WEALTH ADVISORS

CLAconnect.com

CARY INSTITUTE OF ECOSYSTEM STUDIES, INC.
TABLE OF CONTENTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM, REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE, AND REPORT ON THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE	**1**
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS	**4**
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS	**6**
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*	**7**
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS	**9**

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP
CLAconnect.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM, REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE, AND REPORT ON THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Board of Directors
Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.
Millbrook, New York

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024. Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc., complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc., and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s federal programs.

CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP) is an independent network member of CLA Global. See CLAglobal.com/disclaimer.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance

We have audited the financial statements of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc., as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and have issued our report thereon dated November 8, 2024, which contained an unmodified opinion on those financial statements. Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

West Hartford, Connecticut
November 8, 2024

CARY INSTITUTE OF ECOSYSTEM STUDIES, INC.
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Entity/Program Title	Prime or Pass-Through Entity Grant Number	Federal Assistance Listing Number	Subrecipient Expenditures	Total Expenditures
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER				
National Science Foundation				
Direct:				
Education and Human Resources	Various	47.076	$ 288,459	$ 653,591
Computer and Information Science and Engineering	Various	47.070	-	22,275
Biological Sciences	Various	47.074	1,140,938	2,869,986
Geological Sciences	EAR-2012344	47.050	-	34,658
Polar Programs	Various	47.078	-	249,475
Engineering Grants	CBET-2115414	47.041	-	12,832
Passed Through Georgetown University:				
Biological Sciences	DBI-2213854	47.074	-	188,561
Passed Through University of Georgia:				
Biological Sciences	CCF-2200158	47.074	-	42,948
Passed Through University of Florida:				
Biological Sciences	DBI-1933102	47.074	-	2,512
Passed Through Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Inc.:				
Geological Sciences	EAR-2244446	47.050	-	7,754
Passed Through University of Connecticut:				
Education and Human Resources	DGE-2022036	47.076	-	21,584
Total National Science Foundation			1,429,397	4,106,176
Department of Agriculture				
Direct:				
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	2020-67012-36587	10.310	-	4,364
Passed Through University of Southern Florida:				
Agricultural Research	2023-70432-40381	10.310	-	45,932
Total Department of Agriculture			-	50,296
Department of Energy				
Passed Through University of Maryland-Baltimore County				
Office of Science Financial Assistance Program	DE-SC0023218	81.049	-	89,059
Department of Health and Human Services				
Passed Through University of Texas:				
Allergy and Infectious Diseases Research	5U01AI51807-04	93.855	-	124,566
Allergy and Infectious Diseases Research	5U01AI51807-05	93.855	-	15,157
Total Department of Health and Human Services			-	139,723

See accompanying Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

CARY INSTITUTE OF ECOSYSTEM STUDIES, INC.
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS (CONTINUED)
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Entity/Program Title	Prime or Pass-Through Entity Grant Number	Federal Assistance Listing Number	Subrecipient Expenditures	Total Expenditures
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER (CONTINUED)				
Fish and Wildlife Services				
Direct:				
Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance	F20AC11806-00	15.608	$ -	$ 2,685
National Aeronautics and Space Administration				
Direct:				
Science	80NSSC21K1987	43.001	-	37,299
Passed Through California Institute of Technology:				
Science	1672504	43.001	-	9,280
Total National Aeronautics and Space Administration			-	46,579
Total Research and Development Cluster			1,429,397	4,434,518
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			$ 1,429,397	$ 4,434,518

See accompanying Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

CARY INSTITUTE OF ECOSYSTEM STUDIES, INC.
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc., under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2024. The information in the Schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance).

Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc., it is not intended to, and does not, present the financial position, changes in net assets, functional expense, or cash flows of the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.

Basis of Accounting

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. For cost-reimbursement awards, such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. For performance-based awards, expenditures reported represent amounts earned.

NOTE 2 INDIRECT COST RECOVERY

Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc. did not recover the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate allowed under Section 200.414 of the Uniform Guidance.

NOTE 3 RECONCILIATION OF SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following is a reconciliation of the total federal grants and contracts as reported in the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s financial statements to the federal expenditures reported in the schedule of expenditures of federal awards:

Government Grants and Contracts Reported in the Financial Statements	$	4,742,438
Nonfederal Government Grants and Contracts		(307,920)
Expenditures in the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	$	4,434,518

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP
CLAconnect.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Board of Directors
Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.
Millbrook, New York

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc. (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2024, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 8, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc., internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP) is an independent network member of CLA Global. See CLAglobal.com/disclaimer.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc.'s financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards.*

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

West Hartford, Connecticut
November 8, 2024

CARY INSTITUTE OF ECOSYSTEM STUDIES, INC.
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Section I – Summary of Auditors' Results

Financial Statements

1. Type of auditors' report issued:	Unmodified		
2. Internal control over financial reporting:			
• Material weakness(es) identified?	_____ yes	____x____ no	
• Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	_____ yes	____x____ none reported	
3. Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	_____ yes	____x____ no	

Federal Awards

1. Internal control over federal programs:			
• Material weakness(es) identified?	_____ yes	____x____ no	
• Significant deficiency(ies) identified that are not considered to be material weakness(es)?	_____ yes	____x____ none reported	
2. Type of auditors' report issued on compliance for federal programs:	Unmodified		
3. Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with state requirements?	_____ yes	____x____ no	

Identification of Major Federal Programs

Assistance Listing Number(s)	**Name of Federal Program or Cluster**
10.310/15.608/43.001/47.076 47.070/47.074/47.078/47.050 47.041/81.049/93.855	Research and Development Cluster

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: $ 750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? ____x____ yes _____ no

Section II – Financial Statement Findings

Our audit did not disclose any matters required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

Section III – Findings and Questioned Costs – Major Federal Programs

Our audit did not disclose any matters required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a).

CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP) is a network member of CLA Global. See CLAglobal.com/disclaimer. Investment advisory services are offered through CliftonLarsonAllen Wealth Advisors, LLC, an SEC-registered investment advisor.