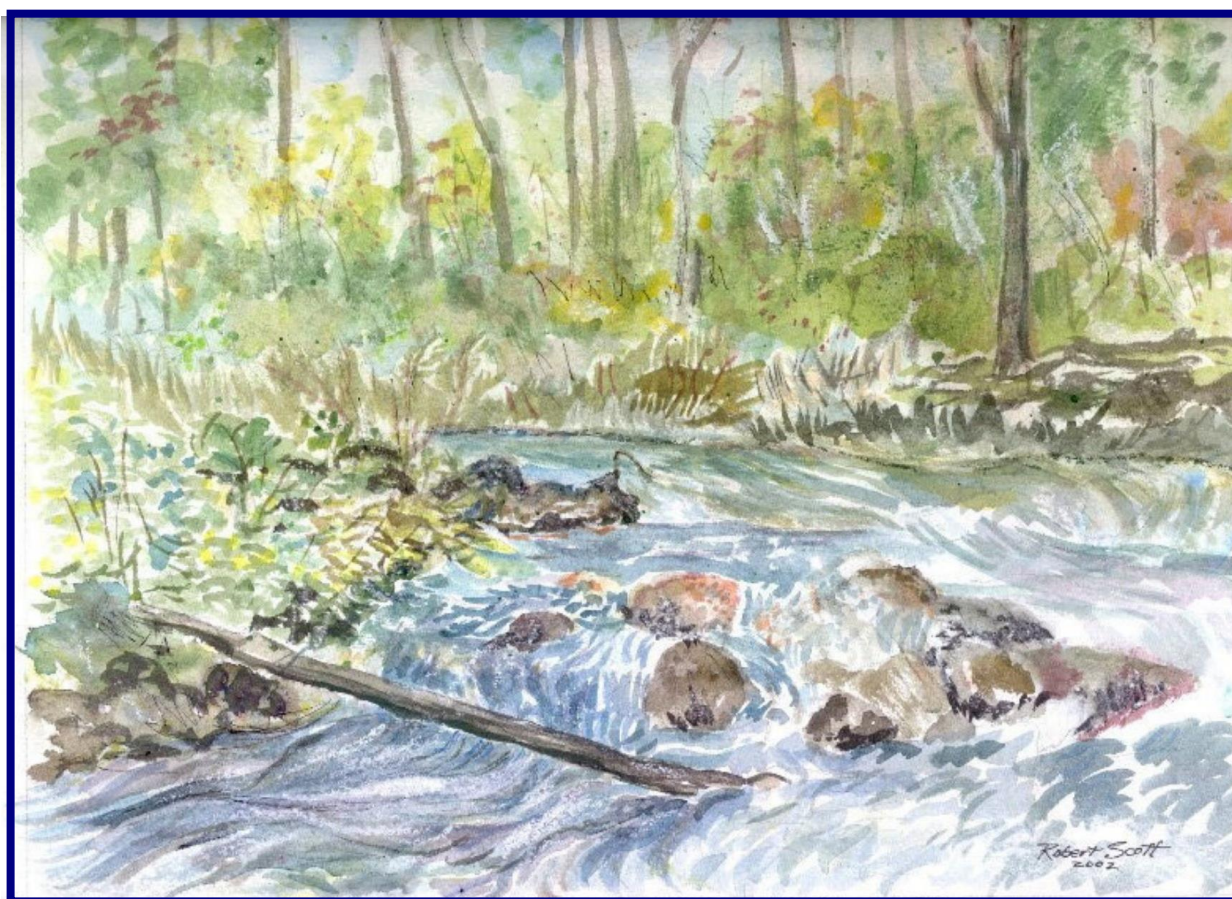


# **TOWN OF WAREHAM**

## **Open Space and Recreation Plan**

### **2017 – 2024**



FEARING HILL CONSERVATION AREA

Town of Wareham  
54 Marion Road  
Wareham, Massachusetts

About the Cover Art:

The watercolor of the Weweantic River in Wareham's Fearing Hill Conservation Area is used with permission from the artist Robert Scott.

Robert Scott is a graphic artist/designer and a resident of Wareham. He earned his BFA degree at Tufts University and the Boston Museum School. He enjoys creating from his imagination a wide range of art forms, including watercolor, acrylic, computer graphics, ink and pastel. He is a member of the Printmakers of Cape Cod.



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May 29, 2018

Nanette Bergeron  
5 Pierce Street  
West Wareham, MA 02576

Re: Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Bergeron:

Thank you for submitting Wareham's Open Space and Recreation Plan to this office for review for compliance with the current Open Space and Recreation Plan Requirements. I am pleased to write that the plan is approved. This final approval will allow Wareham to participate in DCS grant rounds through December 2024.

Congratulations on a great job. Please call me at (617) 626-1171 if you have any questions or concerns about the plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melissa Cryan".

Melissa Cryan  
Grant Programs Supervisor





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The maps in this document are for illustrative purposes only.  
They are not adequate for regulatory interpretation or parcel level analysis.

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## **Section 1                      Plan Summary**

This 2017 update to Wareham's Open Space and Recreation Plan provides a foundation to guide future land use policies and actions. The need to protect open space, upgrade playing fields and playground facilities, safeguard watershed areas, and protect river corridors, ponds, and coastlines is widely recognized by Wareham's residents.

Residents express the need to replace aging playground equipment and would like to see improved access to boat, canoe, and kayak launch areas. Wareham's seniors remind us that walking trails, playgrounds, and benches need to be accessible and accommodate those with reduced mobility. Many expressed a need for a non-motorized, multi-use pathway to provide a safe place to walk.

The Town faces financial challenges in addressing the diverse needs for land preservation, maintaining recreational facilities, and improving access to the Town's vast array of rivers, ponds, and coastal areas. Protected open space is an integral component of maintaining Wareham's character; it provides recreational opportunities, safeguards natural resources, and improves the overall quality of life for all residents. Open space acquisition should be continued and, to the extent practical, targeted to encourage efficacious groundwater recharge, stream flow maintenance, and habitat protection. Open space preserves the scenic quality and visual character of the town.

This Plan was revised with the assistance of Wareham's Open Space Committee. A process of analysis, committee consensus, and public survey is used to establish priority areas for land protection, playground improvements, and the development of new recreational opportunities.

The Open Space and Recreation Plan reaffirms Wareham's desire to acquire, protect, and preserve open spaces, expand and improve recreational facilities, develop biking and hiking trails, and improve public access and awareness for the Town's natural and recreational resources.

## **Section 2 Introduction**

### **A. Statement of Purpose**

An Open Space and Recreation Plan serves as a stand-alone state approved document to guide the Town in future conservation and recreation opportunities. This Wareham Open Space and Recreation Plan is an update to the 2010 – 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan. It presents the accomplishments since the last plan and the goals for the next seven years. Wareham is committed to planning for its future. This Open Space and Recreation Plan:

- Encourages land acquisition and conservation restrictions (CR) to increase our protected land for recreation, wildlife habitat, and safeguarding our watershed
- Identifies existing needs and concerns of residents in relation to preserving land and enhancing recreation areas
- Lists specific goals and objectives to advance Wareham's commitment to improve the community
- Creates a Seven Year Action Plan to act as a guide for the future management and development of Open Space and Recreation assets

Since 2010, over 600 acres in our community have been protected due to the combined efforts of the Town of Wareham, state agencies, and many nonprofit conservation organizations. These projects have conserved valuable wildlife habitat, miles of riparian habitat, salt marshes, and 185 acres of Pine Barrens. Community Preservation Act funds were integral to this achievement. The Town should pursue every opportunity to acquire open space, whether by gift, charitable contribution, or fee-simple purchase. It is suspected that many residents are not aware of the tenuous nature of existing open space. Public education in this area is important.

In 2016, the Wareham Land Trust joined forces with Father Bill's & MainSpring and the Town of Wareham to purchase a 4-unit apartment building and 8 acres of open space in West Wareham. The apartments are designated as permanent affordable housing to provide a home for those in need. A Conservation Restriction on the town-owned open space is held by Buzzards Bay Coalition protecting 8 acres of open space including 1,300-feet of Weweantic River frontage. The Coalition plans to build a trail system on the property that will connect to the 2011 acquisition of 49 acres known as the Douglas S. Westgate Conservation Area. The Westgate Conservation Area is Town-owned land located off of Papermill Road. It features trails that wander along the Weweantic River, through the woods, and around several abandoned cranberry bogs.

Recreational needs have long been considered a priority within the community. Recreation plays an important role in the well-being of Wareham residents. Recreational activity develops confidence, leadership skills, and cooperation among participants. Recreation also helps reduce stress and promotes good health. Since 2010, the Open Space Committee has secured funding to improve safety issues at all Town playgrounds and to replace play equipment at the Oakdale and Philip Lukey Weweantic playgrounds. These rejuvenated playgrounds will include an accessible route to play structures designed for individuals with disabilities. Endeavors are also underway to renovate Lopes Playground in Onset and the playground at Swifts Beach. A project at the Bryant Farm Conservation Area will create a parking area on Sandwich Road, an accessible walking trail, suitable for wheelchairs, and several picnic tables.

The 2010 Open Space and Recreation Plan indicated the desire for a dog park in Wareham. A Dog Park Study Committee has formed to evaluate the feasibility of a dog park in Wareham. The committee is moving forward with a location analysis and applying for grants.

Wareham has accomplished a lot since 2010 but there is still much to do. We will continue to strive to increase our protected land for recreation, wildlife habitat, and to protect our watershed. The efforts to improve, maintain, and expand recreational opportunities in Wareham must continue.

## **B. Planning Process and Public Participation**

This update of Wareham's Open Space and Recreation Plan received input from the Open Space Committee and the citizens of Wareham. Residents were invited to attend Open Space Committee meetings and asked to voice their priorities about open space, recreational facilities, and beaches by taking a few minutes to complete a survey.

All Open Space Committee meetings are open to the public. The meeting time and place is posted on the Town's website and the meeting place is accessible to all. Every effort was made to involve as many citizens as possible in updating this Plan. At the 2017 Spring Town Meeting, attendees received a flyer with information about the Plan's update including an invitation to complete an on-line survey and the time and place of the Open Space Committee meetings. The Open Space and Recreation Plan Survey was available on the Town website. To accommodate residents that might not have the confidence to attempt an on-line survey, print copies were distributed at the Council of Aging's Health Fair and at the well-attended Oyster Festival. The Wareham Housing Authority received 120 printed copies of the survey that were hand delivered to their residents. The availability of the print format was met with enthusiasm by many, while others opted to fill out the survey on-line. The questionnaire allowed residents to state which open space and recreation goals are important to them, how they currently use open space and recreation areas in Wareham, and voice their concerns and suggestions. An article in the local newspaper expounded the importance of this survey and the impact the results would have on the priorities set in the 2017 update of Wareham's Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Plan's update process was announced during the citizen's participation portion of the Selectmen's meeting including information about the survey and Open Space Committee meetings. All Board of Selectmen meetings are televised on a Local Community Access television station.

In preparing this Open Space and Recreation Plan update a process of analysis, committee consensus, and public survey was used to establish the goals and objectives outlined in this document. Information was obtained from a number of sources, including Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District, the U.S. Census Bureau, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, MassGIS, and various Town offices. Section 11 has a complete list of references.

The survey results indicate:

- When asked to choose priorities for the Wareham Open Space and Recreation Plan, survey respondents identified their most important goal as the desire to preserve coastal areas, wetlands, and land along rivers and ponds, closely followed by the need to conserve open space for wildlife habitat and scenic areas. Preserving open space for water supply protection and sustaining the scenic quality and visual character of the town tied for third as the most important goal.
- Beaches are once again the preferred recreation option, followed by protected conservation areas that provide wildlife habitat and walking trails. A multi-use bike path / rail trail ranked third (Wareham does not currently have a community pathway for non-motorized recreation but is working toward that goal). Playgrounds and neighborhood parks also ranked very high as favorite recreation options.
- The least requested types of recreation options are BMX parks and skateboard parks but there were many write-ins for the creation of a dog park. Wareham is currently working on creating a dog park.
- Favorite recreational activities are going to the beach, walking in the woods, wildlife viewing and bird watching, followed closely by boating, canoeing, kayaking, and picnicking.

There are many fishing and boat launch areas in Wareham. Tempest Knob Terrace on Oak Street and the East Boulevard area of Onset rose to the top as the most popular. Other very popular areas include the Wareham River Fishing Piers at the Narrows, Besse Park, and the Tremont Nail Complex.

Although Lopes Playground continues to be selected as the most popular, the survey indicates that all of Wareham's playgrounds are popular.

Pollution, trash, poorly maintained facilities, and inadequate parking are the primary reasons listed as reasons that discourage the use of a boat launch or a recreation area. Playgrounds in particular are reported as needing repair and improvements to eliminate safety issues such as poorly maintained equipment and broken glass.

The survey shows that the two most popular beaches are Little Harbor Beach and Onset Beach. The number one reason that discourages the use of a Town beach is pollution and trash, followed by inadequate parking and the cost of parking / parking sticker. Many also indicated that the lack of lifeguards and bathrooms as a primary reason for not using a beach.

The most requested improvements for recreation areas include the need for playground maintenance and trash removal, improved access to boat, canoe and kayak launch areas, update playgrounds for special needs, improvements to outdoor ball fields, and several requests to provide bathrooms at beaches.

Wareham's wish list for recreation opportunities focuses on the creation of a bike path, more dog friendly spaces including a dog park, creating more walking trails, and increasing the recreation opportunities for seniors such as pickle ball, bocce, or chair volleyball.

Additional survey comments re-emphasize the need for playground maintenance, better trash removal, and the creation of a non-motorized bike/walking path. Others express the need to acquire more land for clean water, preserve bay, marsh, river, and stream health, continue to preserve open spaces and critical wildlife habitat in Town, and an admonishment to practice Smart Growth to plan for the future health and well-being of the next generation.

It is clear from the survey response that protecting our natural water resources is very important to the residents of Wareham. It is also evident that we need to focus on improving the playgrounds and recreational facilities for the youngest citizens of the Town. Wareham's seniors remind us that walking trails, playgrounds, and beaches need to be accessible and accommodate those with mobility problems.

The results of the Open Space and Recreation Plan Questionnaire are the basis for several of the Goals and Objectives described in this Plan.

### **C. Enhanced Outreach and Public Participation**

The Open Space Committee shared a booth with the Wareham Land Trust at the 2017 Oyster Festival. In addition to being on the public transportation route, this well attended celebration was held within one of Wareham's Environmental Justice communities. This was an ideal location to interact with community members, discuss open space and recreation priorities, and ask attendees to complete a survey to help in the planning process.

Print copies of the survey were distributed at the Council of Aging's Health Fair held in Wareham's Multi-Service Center and the Wareham Housing Authority received 120 printed copies of the survey that were hand delivered to the residents in senior housing. By specifically providing surveys to the senior community an important demographic in Wareham is represented in the Open Space Plan. Seniors would like more accessible walking trails with benches and noted that playgrounds with broken gates and uneven surfaces are difficult to navigate.

The Multi-Service Center and the senior housing areas are in Environmental Justice communities (For more information on Environmental Justice (EJ) populations, see Section 3C—Population Characteristics.)

Notices about the Open Space and Recreation Plan update process were posted at the Housing Authority, Council on Aging, and the Cape Verdean Cultural Center. Citizens were encouraged to attend Open Space Committee meetings and/or provide comments in writing or through email. All Open Space Committee meetings are held in a community building on the public transportation route.

## **Section 3 Community Setting**

### **A. Regional Context**

Wareham is located in southeastern Massachusetts in Plymouth County at the head of Buzzards Bay, near the southern end of the Cape Cod Canal. It is bordered by the Town of Rochester to the west, the Town of Middleborough to the northwest, the towns of Carver and Plymouth to the north, the Town of Marion to the south, and the Town of Bourne, which is in Barnstable County, to the east. Wareham is about 17 miles northeast of New Bedford, 16 miles south of Plymouth, 50 miles south of Boston, 35 miles west of Hyannis, and 45 miles east of Providence, Rhode Island.

Several major roads and highways pass through Wareham including Interstate Highways 195 and 495, State Route 25, State Route 28, and U.S. Route 6. This road network is an important regional corridor that connects Wareham to Cape Cod, Boston, New Bedford, and other communities.

Wareham was first settled in 1678 and incorporated in 1739. It is known as "The Gateway to Cape Cod". Situated at the head of Buzzards Bay, Wareham offers an exceptional location within easy traveling distance to Boston (about an hour away) and Providence, RI (about 45 minutes away). Wareham has 23,940 acres of land, or 37 square-miles, with 86 miles of saltwater shoreline (Massachusetts Shoreline Change Mapping and Analysis Project, 2013) enhanced by beaches, estuaries, rivers, and ponds. Being an oceanside community, Wareham enjoys a tourist industry throughout the summer months.

The Town has several rivers including the Weweantic, Wankinco, Agawam, and Wareham. There are numerous intermittent streams, wetlands, marshes, and cranberry bogs throughout the Town. The cranberry industry depends on the rivers that flow through Wareham and surrounding communities. The cranberry growers of Carver and Wareham share the water resources of the Weweantic River. These communities must communicate and cooperate to ensure that water is available to growers in both communities during all phases of the cranberry growing season and to minimize the inflow of pollutants into the river in Carver that will inevitably pass downstream into Wareham.



The Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer is Wareham's primary source of drinking water. The Aquifer, located in eight towns in southeastern Massachusetts, exhibits regional groundwater flow patterns. It is quite vulnerable to contamination. In 2007, seven communities, including Wareham, formed the Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer Advisory Committee (PCAAC). This Committee developed the Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer Plan to provide valuable guiding principles to help advise the citizens living and working in the Aquifer region to protect the Aquifer. This regional cooperation promotes the diligence necessary to ensure excellent water quality.

Map 1—Regional Context is located at the end of Section 3.

## **B. History of the Community**

Native Americans, including the Wampanoag, were the first settlers of the Wareham area. It is probable that they lived in coastal areas during the spring and summer then moved inland to less exposed encampments during the winter. The words on the Town seal "Nepinnae Kekit" are Wampanoag for 'summer home'.

The first European settlement in Wareham occurred in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century near the Agawam Cemetery (c. 1685). An additional settlement was established in South Wareham (Fresh Meadow Village) near the junction of the Weweantic River and Mary's Pond Road. Scattered homes were established on Cromesett Neck and Great Neck. The Town of Wareham was incorporated on July 20, 1739. Wareham annexed Tihonet from Carver and Plymouth in 1827.

Wareham's economy before 1800 revolved primarily around agriculture and shipbuilding. Wareham salt pans produced large quantities of salt from 1775 - 1825. The salt yards extended along the coast between Nobska Point and Onset from which tradition says Onset acquired its early name "Old Pan" from the evaporation pans used in salt manufacture.

From 1775 to 1847, shipbuilding was the dominant local industry. The ships *Pocahontas*, *Jubilee*, *Wareham*, *George Washington*, *Republic*, and a number of smaller vessels for the coastal trade were built here. The lack of available timber and the shallowness of the Wankinco River caused the industry to decline though the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In addition to a substantial coastal trade, Wareham-built vessels engaged in whaling and fishing for cod and mackerel.

The early 19<sup>th</sup> century saw the addition of the cut nail, hollow-ware, cotton, and paper industries to Wareham's economic base. For most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Wareham's economic development was dominated by iron-related industries made possible by the fortuitous combination of excellent waterpower from the Weweantic, Wankinco, and Agawam Rivers, ready access to the 18<sup>th</sup> century iron skills of interior Plymouth County towns, and a rapidly developing coastal trade in iron ore and products. These factors made Wareham a strong magnet for ironmasters from all over the country.

A hollow-ware blast furnace was established on the Weweantic River by 1805, but the nail business, which played a large role in the development of local industries, was not begun until 1819 when Isaac and Jared Pratt arrived from Middleborough with Jesse Reed's new nail machines. By 1822, I & J Pratt & Company, had built a small rolling mill at the site of the Tremont Nail Complex. At almost the same time, Bartlett Murdock established the Washington Ironworks on the Weweantic River in West Wareham. The peak of the iron industry appears to have been reached in 1855 when 860 men working in 7 to 8 mills produced over \$867,000 worth of nails, hoops, and iron bar.

Cranberry growing became an important industry in the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. One of the earliest known bogs was constructed on White Island (c.1860). The Hayden Cranberry Separator Manufacturing Company, a cranberry equipment manufacturer, was formed in 1895. An early example of a cranberry preserving factory was operated by R. C. Randall from 1898 to 1901. Marcus Urann formed the United Cape Cranberry Company in 1907. At that time, 37 cranberry growers were

listed in the Town directory. Nine years later, this had increased to 42 growers. The cranberry industry continues to be a significant presence in Wareham.

While there had been some resort settlement along the shore in the 1860's, the impetus for resort development was provided by the Onset Bay Grove Association in 1877. The Association, which was dedicated to the "principles of spiritualism and humanism" created a campground in Onset and sold building lots for summer residences; 150 summer cottages were built during 1883 – 1884. During the early 1900's, Onset grew rapidly with the construction of hotels, rooming houses, and businesses to attract thousands of summer visitors to the beach

Although Wareham was incorporated in 1739, it was 1900 before the first Town seal appeared. The design is credited to Charles Lincoln Bates, it showed a small sailboat with a jib sail, a land background, the name of the town, and the words "Nepinnae Kekit" meaning 'summer home'. The seal was redesigned in 1921 by Bates. The sailboat was replaced with a Native American in a canoe. This seal is still in use today.

The first Town Hall, what is known as the Old Town Hall, was built in 1901 and replaced in 1939 by the current Town Hall on Marion Road. Wareham established an official police force in 1903 and in 1917, Elwell Smith was appointed the first year-round chief of police. The first police car was purchased in 1929.

In 1894 residents of Onset created the Onset Water Company, which evolved into the Onset Fire District. The Wareham Fire District was established in 1907. The two fire districts continued to expand but they did not provide services to the entire Town. In the early 1900's, the Town of Wareham created a Forest Fire and Out of District Fire Department to provide services to the areas of Town not covered by the two fire districts. In 2000, the Town asked the Onset and Wareham Fire Districts to annex the Out of District areas. The Onset Fire District and the Wareham Fire District now provide services to the entire Town. The Fire Districts are separate governmental bodies not under the care, control, or custody of the Town.

Wareham had a library early in its history; the Wareham Social Library (established in 1798) was Wareham's first lending library with 118 titles. In 1891, the Monday Club started a free library for the Town and by 1899, there were 1,800 books on the shelves. The Wareham Free Library has moved several times and occupied its current location on Marion Road in 1991.

In the early 1930's, inspired by the Wareham Chamber of Commerce, the Town built two fieldstone lighthouses facing each other on opposite sides of Route 28 as symbols to show that Wareham is the 'Gateway to Cape Cod surrounded by the sea'. These stately replicas of real lighthouses that guided ships to a safe harbor were refurbished in 1953.

In 1925, Wareham's rivers fell an average of 50-feet from the headwaters to the sea making it feasible to erect many dams. There were more than nine dams on the Agawam, Wankinco, and Weweantic Rivers. Grist mills, saw mills, tanneries, hollow-ware manufacturers, cotton mills, paper mills, nail factories, and bog iron producers thrived. In 1928, a textile mill of modern design was erected on the Agawam River and operated for years. By the late 1930's, Wareham's industries had dwindled to the Tremont Nail Company, Cape Cod Shipbuilding, and Anderson's Boat Shop.

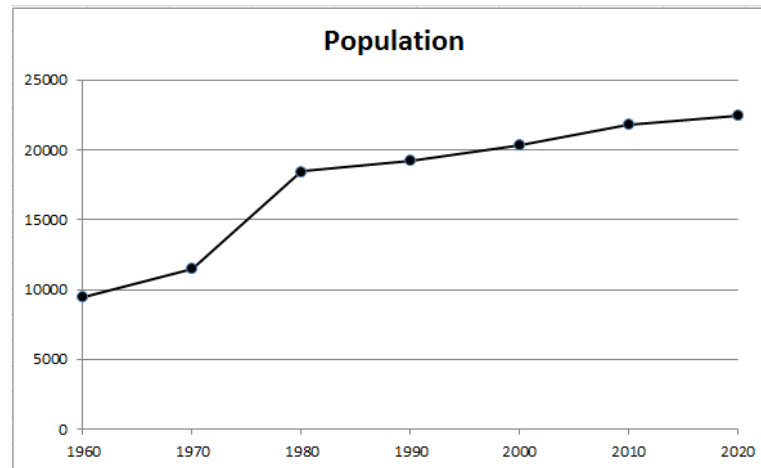
Anderson's Boat Shop met its demise when a railroad bridge was constructed across the Narrows, blocking the channel with its supporting pillars. A major effort by Anderson to open the waterway failed, contributing to the eventual failure of his boat shop. The Tremont Nail Company was the oldest continually operating cut nail factory in the United States until it became a division of Acorn Manufacturing and moved to Mansfield, Massachusetts. The Town of Wareham purchased the Tremont Nail property in 2004. The Cape Cod Shipbuilding Company, founded in 1899, has remained in continuous operation for over 100 years and remains one of the largest boat yards along the Wareham River.

From its early beginnings of farming and shipbuilding in the 1700s, Wareham has evolved a diversified industrial and commercial economy with ample human and natural resources to support continued growth. Wareham offers a distinctive social and economic mix from tech industry to traditional boat building.

In 2014, Wareham declared a “Summer of Celebration” to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the attack on Wareham by the British ship *HMS Nimrod* and the 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the incorporation of the Town of Wareham. The summer was filled with re-enactments of the 220 British marines that came ashore on Long Warf, now known as British Landing. The 1814 attack had no casualties but the British burned 12 ships, destroyed a salt works, set the cotton mill on fire, and took a number of hostages. Wareham residents hosted a militia encampment showcasing living history and period crafters. There were many historical displays including a Town of Wareham incorporation re-enactment, a parade, and a Founder’s Ball. The Town had a fabulous time celebrating the day Wareham was incorporated as a town by the Massachusetts Bay Colony’s General Court on July 10 1739. This occurred only 79 years after the land known as Agawam was purchased from a group of Native Americans and settled by a small group of Plymouth farmers.

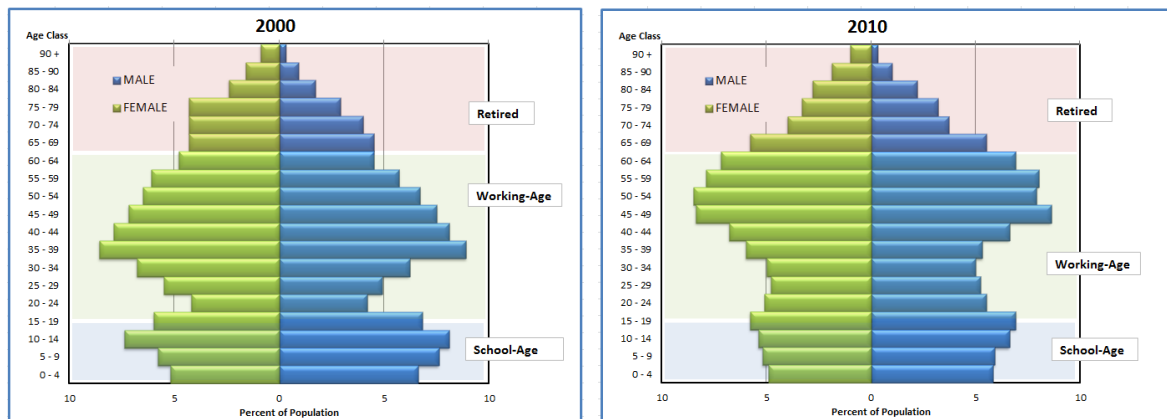
### C. Population Characteristics

The 2010 census indicates that Wareham's fulltime (does not include summer residents) population of 21,822 has doubled in the past fifty years. However, most of that increase occurred in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the past three decades have shown about a 5 percent increase per decade. This trend is expected to continue through the next census period. The entire region has shown a similar increase in population. Despite the increase in population, Wareham maintains its rural character.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, SRPEDD for 2020 projection

As the figures below illustrate, the population distribution of Wareham's residents is more important than the number of individuals living in Wareham. For example, from 2000 to 2010 there was a decrease in school-age children. The working-age population is about the same but is aging near retirement age. Wareham is seeing an increase in retirees both from within the population and from retirees moving to the area. This trend impacts the demand for recreational activities.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Census

Wareham's population has some ethnic diversity — 86.5 percent white, 3.5 percent black or African American, 2.3 percent Hispanic or Latino (U.S. Census 2010). People of many ethnic backgrounds including Cape Verdean, Irish, Italian, Portuguese, English, and French reside in Wareham. Minorities are integrated into the community; they are not in isolated neighborhoods. Wareham's cultural diversity contributes to its character.

Environmental Justice (EJ) is based on the principle that all people have a right to be protected from environmental pollution, and to live in and enjoy a clean and healthful environment. Environmental Justice is the equitable distribution of environmental benefits such as open space and recreation areas. An Environmental Justice community meets one or more of these criteria:

- Households earn 65% or less of the statewide household median income
- 25% or more of the residents are minority
- 25% or more of the residents are foreign-born
- 25% or more of the residents are lacking English language proficiency

In 2010, Massachusetts' median household income was \$62,133 (Department of Economic Development)—65% of this value is \$40,673. According to the 2010 Census Block Data, Wareham has four Environmental Justice Populations. The portion of the population in the Environmental Justice areas is 20.7 percent. Two of the areas meet the low-income threshold and two areas have 25% or more minority residents. English proficiency is high in all four areas with an English proficiency of 98% to 100%.

Map 2—Environmental Justice Populations is located at the end of Section 3.

According to the U.S. Bureau's 2010 census, Wareham's population density is 584 people per square-mile; a low to moderate density that varies throughout the Town. This represents a 7.3 percent increase since the 2000 census. West Wareham and Great Neck are less dense with scattered subdivisions. Wareham Center is a residential village of moderate density. Higher density areas include Swifts Beach, Rose Point, Shangri-La, Wewantic Shores, Parkwood Beach, and Onset Village, where most cottages are situated on 0.1-acre lots or smaller.

In 2010, Wareham had 9,071 homes occupied, 809 vacant homes, and 2,376 homes occupied seasonally (U.S. Census 2010). Of the 9,071 homes, 77 percent were owner occupied and 23 percent were rented. According to the Warren Group, median house prices in Wareham from 2000 – 2016 were among the lowest in the region and much lower than the median price for Massachusetts. This phenomenon, coupled with the regionally low residential tax rate, has made Wareham attractive for development.

Wareham's part-time seasonal residences promote relatively dense communities. Represented by 2,376 summer homes (U.S. Census 2010), this population is important to the demographics and economics of the Town. During the housing boom of the early 2000s, Wareham has seen many of these summer homes converted into year-round residences.

Wareham residents over the age of 25 that have a high school diploma or higher is 90.8 percent; the population over the age of 25 with a bachelor's degree or higher is 21.2 percent. In Wareham, 11.8 percent of the population was below the poverty level in 2015. This is higher than the state average. Wareham's median household income was \$58,728 in 2015 (American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau).

In 2015, the estimate of Wareham's civilian workforce was 12,025. An unemployment rate of 8.3 percent results in a working adult population of 11,025. Individuals are employed 26.2 percent in educational and healthcare services, 14.4 percent in arts and entertainment, 14.0 percent in retail, 9.8 percent in construction, 6.8 percent in manufacturing, 6.4 percent professional and management, and 15.5 percent in other categories (American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau).

Wareham's industry is clustered along Rt. 28/Cranberry Highway on the west side of town. The 500 acres of industrial zoned land includes several industrial parks and Wareham Crossing. This approximately 150 acre open-air shopping center offers 45 stores and restaurants to visitors and locals. The industrial parks contain a variety of manufacturing, several foodstuffs businesses, equipment suppliers, rental services, a landscape supply store, a powder coating service and more.

## **D. Growth and Development Patterns**

### **Patterns and Trends**

The Town of Wareham has 86 miles of coastline. Water access has played an important role in Wareham's development from its initial settlement to the present. Early shipbuilding and fisheries industries were directly water-dependent, while salt works and iron products industries were viable because of ready access to water. The availability of water transportation was important for the growth of commerce. Today, most shorefront property remains in private ownership and public access to the shoreline is limited.

The overall development pattern reflects the Town's close ties to the sea. Historically, Wareham developed along main roads and in farming areas. As its waterfront resources became attractive, Wareham developed densely clustered beach communities on small lots long before the benefits of zoning were recognized and before infrastructure was in place to support them. Many beach areas were developed for summer homes, most on these homes have small yards with lot sizes smaller than what is allowed under present regulations. Concentrated waterfront development occurred in the Swifts Beach area, Indian Mound Beach, Parkwood, Penhurst, Rose Point, Weweantic Shores, and Briarwood. Dense inland developments include the Shargri-La area, Aga-Pine area, Pine Tree Estates, and Westfield. These communities were designed with little or no public open space. Because many neighborhoods were developed at higher densities than are currently allowed, access to public open space plays an important role in the life of the community.

Historically, the important commercial center of the Town was downtown Wareham. During the early settlement period various mills were constructed along the Wankinco River. They processed cotton, paper, and iron. The need for tools and other iron products made Wareham an important contributor to the early development of southeast Massachusetts. As the Town grew, commerce on Cranberry Highway surpassed the Village center and today dominates the commercial activity of the community. Cranberry Plaza and Wareham Crossing, both on Cranberry Highway, are the centers of commercial activity with many businesses attracting shoppers from a regional market. Lower concentrations of businesses are found in Wareham center, Onset, and on Cranberry Highway west of the industrial parks. In recent years, downtown Wareham and Onset have had difficulty competing with businesses on Cranberry Highway. The Onset Bay Association and the Wareham Village Association are dedicated to attracting desirable and appropriate economic activities to the villages.

Prior to the construction of Interstate Routes 495/25 and 195, Cape-bound traffic was funneled through Cranberry Highway. This created enormous traffic congestion in the summer and provided opportunity for numerous retail businesses. The eastern third of the Wareham stretch of the highway was developed to virtual build-out from 1950 through 1970.

This build-out included numerous mobile home parks containing many manufactured homes on small lots with no public open space. The revenue collected from these parks includes the modest personal property tax paid by the homeowner and the real estate tax the park owner pays on the land. This revenue does not begin to cover the cost of Town services for these residents. Additionally, the Commonwealth does not include mobile homes in the Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI). In 1969, Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40B (a.k.a. the Comprehensive Permit Law) passed by a margin of one vote to help address the shortage of affordable housing by reducing barriers created by local zoning and other restrictions. Only units listed on a town's SHI count towards the 10 percent affordable housing goal for that town. As of December 5, 2014, the Department of Housing and Community Development Chapter 40B Subsidized Housing Inventory shows 759 (7.7 percent) SHI units for Wareham.

The opening of Route 25 removed pass-through traffic from Cranberry Highway in 1987. The local economic impact was disastrous. Traffic was reduced by more than half, causing numerous businesses to fail. Surviving commercial activity became less profitable resulting in poorly maintained properties. Business investment in Cranberry Plaza was almost nonexistent until the Walmart store

opened in 1994. In 2007, Wareham Crossing opened on Cranberry Highway just northwest of the interchange of Route 28 and Interstate 195, 5 miles north of Cranberry Plaza. This 45-store plaza has many businesses that attract shoppers from a regional market.

Rosebrook Place, also on Cranberry Highway near the interchange of Route 28 and Interstate 195, opened in 2015. The development is owned by A.D. Makepeace and consists of a TownSuites by Marriot hotel, the Rosebrook Event Center, several restaurants, and an eye care center. A Ninety Nine Restaurant relocated to Rosebrook in May, 2016. This restaurant relocated from the east end of town and the old location remains vacant.

Walmart relocated its store from the east end of town to a 150,000 square-foot store on Tobey Road across from Wareham Crossing. The new store opened in August, 2015. The 125,000 square-foot building vacated by Walmart was purchased by Ocean State Job Lot. After extensive renovations, the space was subdivided and is now occupied by Ocean State Job Lot and a Cardi's Furniture & Mattress showroom.

An 8.5-acre lot on Tobey Road, across from the new Walmart, has been purchased by the J. Donegan Company, a Virginia-based commercial development firm. The firm plans to build Wareham Marketplace which will be a 46,000 square-foot mixed-use commercial center anchored by an Aldi supermarket.

## Infrastructure

### Transportation

Wareham's transportation system is comprised of interstate highways, secondary routes, minor streets, and bus service.

Map 3—Road Network is located at the end of Section 3.

Two interstate highways intersect in Wareham. Interstate 195 offers convenient access to New Bedford, Fall River, and Providence. Interstate 495/25 provides access to the greater Boston area to the north and Cape Cod to the south. This makes Wareham a convenient location for commuting to employment in the larger population centers.

Cranberry Highway, a.k.a. U.S. Route 6 and State Route 28, is the most economically significant road in Town. The state road runs 10 miles through Wareham and has a high volume of daily traffic. The stretch from the Route 6/28 merge to the Bourne line is a major commercial strip. Many of the Town's retail businesses are located on the Highway. In recent years, Cranberry Highway on the west end of town has seen rapid commercial development.

Wareham has 180 miles of streets. The Town is responsible for the maintenance of all public streets and performs routine grading on many private streets to maintain access for emergency vehicles.

Great Neck Road and Indian Neck Road are designated as Scenic Roads. This classification provides protection of the roads' rural and scenic character. Any alterations to these roads require approval by the Board of Selectmen and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Onset-Wareham Link Bus Service (OWL) is sponsored by the Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA). OWL makes connections to destinations in Wareham, Onset, Buzzards Bay, Bourne Village, and along Waterhouse Road. GATRA provides public transportation services throughout 26 communities in southeastern Massachusetts. All GATRA transportation is equipped with accessibility for wheelchairs and Dial-A-Ride services are available for persons with disabilities.



Wareham is inching forward to create a pedestrian and bicycle friendly community. A five-year project started in 2011 updated and widened sidewalks in Wareham Village making Main Street from Tremont Nail to Besse Park more pedestrian-friendly. Onset Avenue now has road striping delineating a bike lane on both sides. A proposed project will build a bike lane on Narrows Road and expand Minot Avenue to make a ten-foot wide off-road path for bicycles and pedestrians. When complete, there will be a direct bike path access from the center of Wareham to Onset.

A MassDOT project is set to begin in the spring of 2019. The project will improve 1.67 miles of Cranberry Highway from 500 feet east of Tyler Avenue to 1,000 feet east of Red Brook Road. The reconstruction will include five-foot sidewalks on either side of the road and four intersections with signals, pedestrian push buttons, crosswalks, and wheelchair ramps. In keeping with MassDOT's Healthy Transportation Policy, there will be five-foot shoulders for bicycle travel. These improvements will increase the safety for bicyclists and pedestrians.

The Wareham Community Pathway Committee continues their efforts to create a multi-use pathway that will connect the Marion Bike Path through Wareham to Buzzards Bay. It is a long, difficult process but they are determined to create a pathway to provide a safe, clean, aesthetic, and enjoyable place for people of all ages to walk, jog, or ride a bicycle.

### Water Supply

The Town of Wareham is served by two water departments—the Wareham Fire District and the Onset Fire District. These water districts provide Town water to most of Wareham; the northern agricultural areas do not have water service. All water provided by Wareham's Water Departments is drawn from the Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer.

The Wareham Fire District has 8,000 service connections, most are residential with about 10 percent commercial and 2 percent industrial. Wareham's water originates from seven gravel packed wells within the Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer. Each well is drilled to a depth of 60 – 90 feet. All wells are located in isolated areas of Maple Springs and Seawood Springs. The water system includes two corrosion control facilities, three water storage towers, 1,254 hydrants, and approximately 165 miles of water main. Uni-directional hydrant flushing is done as part of the Wareham Fire District's annual water main and fire hydrant preventive maintenance program. Flushing removes sediment that accumulates in water pipes that could produce bacteria if not removed. The program optimizes the cleaning of all water mains throughout the distribution system. Low doses of Sodium Hypochlorite (chlorine) are added to the wellfields as a disinfectant for control of potentially harmful bacteria such as E-Coli and fecal coliform. For corrosion control and pH adjustment, lime (calcium hydroxide) is added to increase the lower raw water pH to between 7.0 and 8.5 for the finished water. Water with a pH of less than 7.0 has a tendency to corrode and dissolve the metal piping it flows through. This can damage pipes and add harmful metals, such as lead and copper, to the water. Polyphosphates are added to the water from one of the wells in the Maple Springs Wellfield to sequester iron and manganese. Iron and manganese are often present in groundwater at levels that can discolor the water or cause it to take on unpleasant odors or tastes. Even though the water may still be safe to drink, treatment is often desirable.

The Wareham Fire District has plans to build a Water Purification Plant at the Maple Springs Wellfield. This new facility will provide a long-term solution to the current water system challenges and greatly improve the quality and taste of the Wareham Water supply. The new facility will remove iron and manganese to at or below the MassDEP Health Advisory levels, incorporate a new disinfection system using ultraviolet light (UV) to remove bacteria and pathogens, and use a Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) System to remove pesticides from the water supply.

The Wareham Water District takes an active role in promoting water source protection. They have permanently protected almost 350 acres in the Water Supply Protection Area.

The Onset Fire District serves approximately 3,000 residents. Onset's water originates from five wells located behind the Onset Fire District building off Red Brook Road. All wells are within the Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer. The water systems includes approximately 42 miles of water main and one water tower. Onset has a water treatment facility that purifies an average of 750,000 gallons of water per day. The Onset Water District has permanently protected 290 acres in the Water Supply Protection Area.

Both Water Districts have a mandatory water conservation program. Odd / Even lawn sprinkler restrictions are in effect from May 1<sup>st</sup> thru September 30<sup>th</sup>. Even numbered houses are allowed to water on even days and odd numbered houses are allowed to water on odd numbered days. Penalties apply.

Map 4—DEP Zone II Water Supply Protection Areas is located at the end of Section 3.

### Sewer Service

Wareham's Water Pollution Control Facility, located on Tony's Lane, provides the treatment of public sewerage from Wareham, Onset, and up to 200,000 gallons per day from Bourne. The facility's tertiary treatment capacity is 1.56 million gallons per day; treated effluent is discharged into the Agawam River. The facility is fed by 61 miles of gravity pipe and 45 pump stations.

Map 5—Water and Sewer Infrastructure is located at the end of Section 3.

### Long-term Development Patterns

An evaluation of the patterns of land use and development influence land use policies that determine the nature of a community. A land use inventory identifies past trends, areas of conflicting land uses, areas where future growth is likely to occur, areas where growth is suitable, and areas that should be protected from future growth. These factors, as well as others, provide valuable information for future planning. As Table 1 shows, Wareham's 23,940 acres have a diversity of land use.

Map 6— Land Use is located at the end of Section 3.

**TABLE 1 LAND USE**

SOURCE: MASSGIS, 2005 LAND USE DATA UPDATED USING 2014 IMAGERY (WAREHAM LAND TRUST)

<b>Land Use</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Land Use</b>	<b>Acres</b>
Brushland / Successional	59.5	Non-Forested Wetland	792.2
Cemetery	41.2	Nursery	10.4
Commercial	458.3	Open Land	234.0
Cranberry Bog	2626.2	Orchard	1.8
Cropland	9.1	Participation Recreation	102.3
Forest	10980.9	Pasture	91.5
Forested Wetland	756.0	Powerline / Utility	174.8
Golf Course	113.8	Saltwater Sandy Beach	333.6
High Density Residential	1220.5	Saltwater Wetland	884.9
Industrial	418.1	Transitional	0
Junkyard	31.2	Transportation	449.5
Low Density Residential	1126.8	Urban Public/Institutional	136.7
Marina	11.4	Very Low Density Residential	340.1
Medium Density Residential	1006.0	Waste Disposal	24.7
Mining	13.5	Water	1069.6
Multi-Family Residential	221.3	Water-Based Recreation	21.6

The 2014 land use analysis shows a 33 percent increase in commercial use and a 59 percent increase in the industrial category since 2005. During the same time period, Wareham has lost 9 percent of its open land and forest has decreased by 7 percent. Since 2010, there has been significant commercial development in West Wareham and, as of April 2017, there have been six large-scale solar arrays constructed in Wareham. One 11-acre solar array is in Onset on land that was removed from Article 97. Three arrays, totaling 65.5 acres, were developed by A.D. Makepeace and two solar arrays are off of County Road in West Wareham. Solar arrays are classified as industrial and account for most of the increase in the Industrial category and a decrease in open space.

Development in Wareham is primarily regulated under the provisions of the Zoning By-Law. The 2016 Zoning By-Law of the Town of Wareham identifies five residential districts, four village districts that are a mix of residential and commercial, four commercial districts, one industrial district, one institutional district, and three special use districts. There are also four overlay districts. An overlay district is superimposed over one or more established zoning districts; it is an additional zoning requirement that does not change the underlying zoning.

Map 7—Zoning is located at the end of Section 3.

The Zoning By-Law favors development of single-family homes. More than half of Wareham's land area is zoned R-60 or R-130 for development of single-family homes on minimum lot sizes of 60,000 square-feet or 130,000 square-feet respectively. Much of the land in these districts is agriculture or undeveloped. There is significant potential for large subdivisions. In areas where Town water and/or sewer service is not available, future development must provide private wells and adequate septic systems.

Cranberry growers own large tracts of land in Wareham. The cranberry industry accounts for nearly all of Wareham's employment in agriculture. The community has more than 1,500 acres of cranberry bogs, making it the second largest cranberry producer in Massachusetts, after the neighboring town of Carver. The cranberry industry has been depressed for the past several years and great uncertainty exists with respect to the future of the cranberry industry in Wareham. In recent years, the price of cranberries has not covered production costs and some cranberry growers in Wareham have left their bogs idle or have gone out of business. The economic pressure is particularly difficult for small cranberry growers.

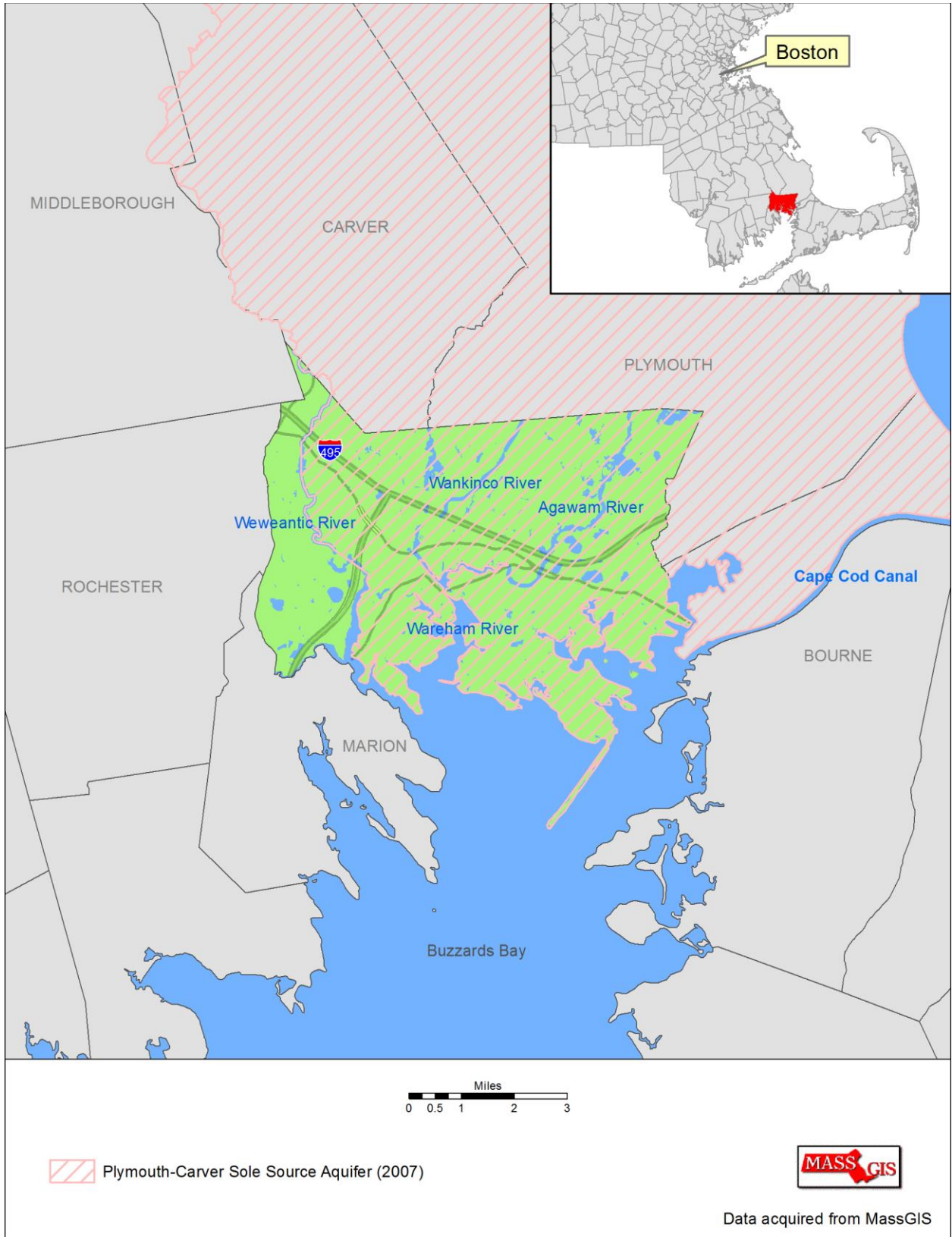
The cranberry industry is the dominant holder of land held under MGL Chapter 61. Lands held in "chapter" protection are restricted from development only at the discretion of the owner. Cranberry growers provide much of the open space in Wareham; it would be a devastating loss of green space if the owners of this land opt to leave the program and develop their properties.

The largest cranberry grower in Wareham, the A.D. Makepeace Company, has proposed developing thousands of acres of land for both residential and commercial use. In West Wareham, they have already built Rosebrook Office Park (offices and medical space), Rosebrook Place (a hotel, an event center, retail, and restaurants), and a 58-unit assisted living facility. They have also developed several solar arrays. Future plans include the construction of 375 single-family homes.

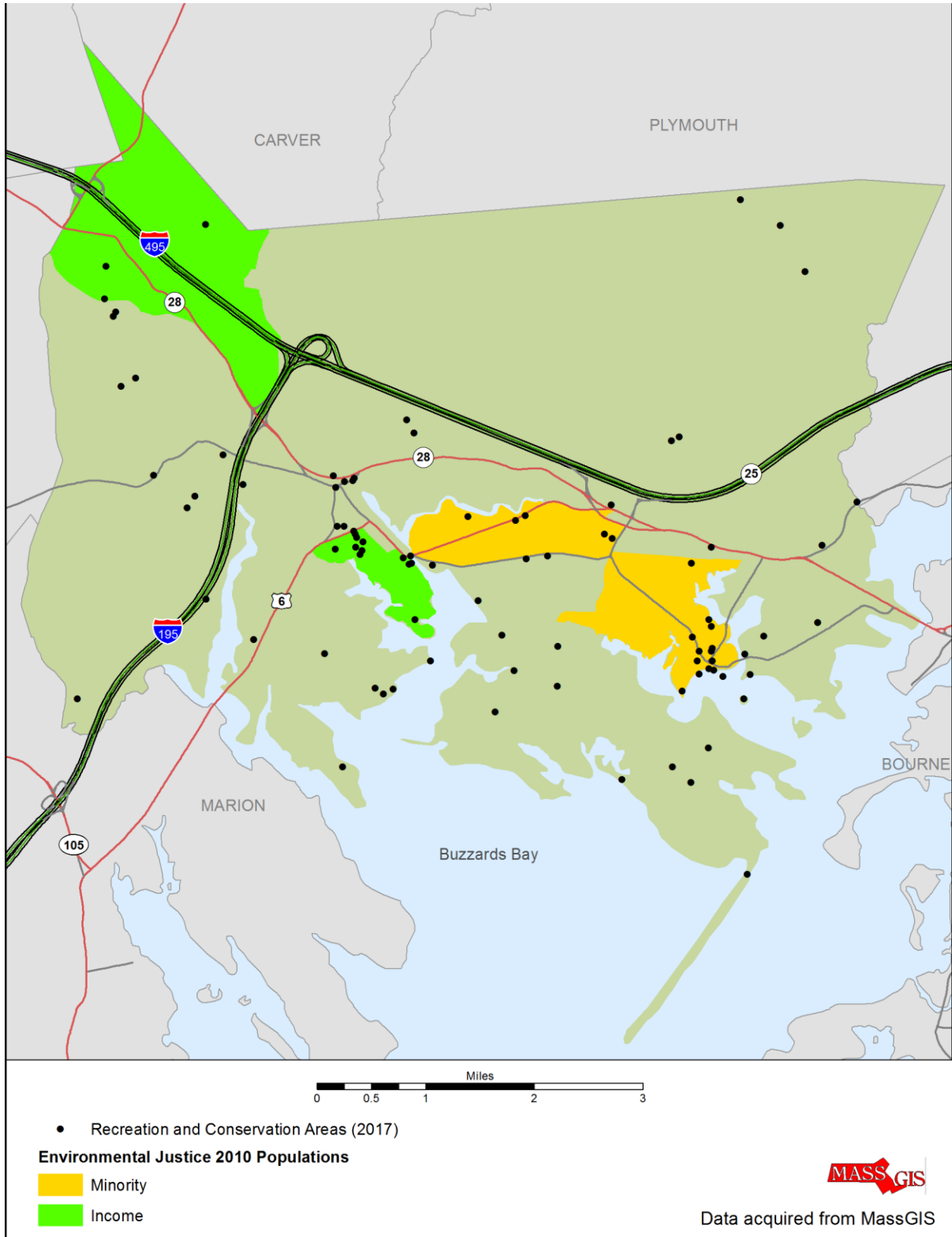
Wareham's rural character is partly dependent on the cranberry industry. The remaining cranberry industry will eventually be threatened by development pressures. The open space provided by cranberry and agricultural land is not permanently protected open space. Parcels adjacent to cranberry bogs can be developed without impacting agricultural operations. Areas surrounding cranberry bogs often have water access or water views thus increasing the value of the land for development, which could potentially outweigh its value as farmland. The Town should recognize the importance of maintaining this open space resource and take appropriate steps to protect it.

Agricultural interests control much of the land that could be subdivided in Wareham. If cranberry growers ever decide to sell a significant portion of their lands for development, the character of the community would change significantly. As long as cranberry production remains in the area, residents will continue to enjoy the open space benefits of the bogs and their associated buffer areas without having to take any action to protect them.

Studies have shown that residential growth contributes to the demand for local services to a greater degree than any other category of land use. However, responsible and well-planned economic growth is a critical component for a healthy local economy and the overall sustainability of any community, including Wareham. Wareham needs targeted growth and development with a balance of residential, commercial, and agricultural land uses.

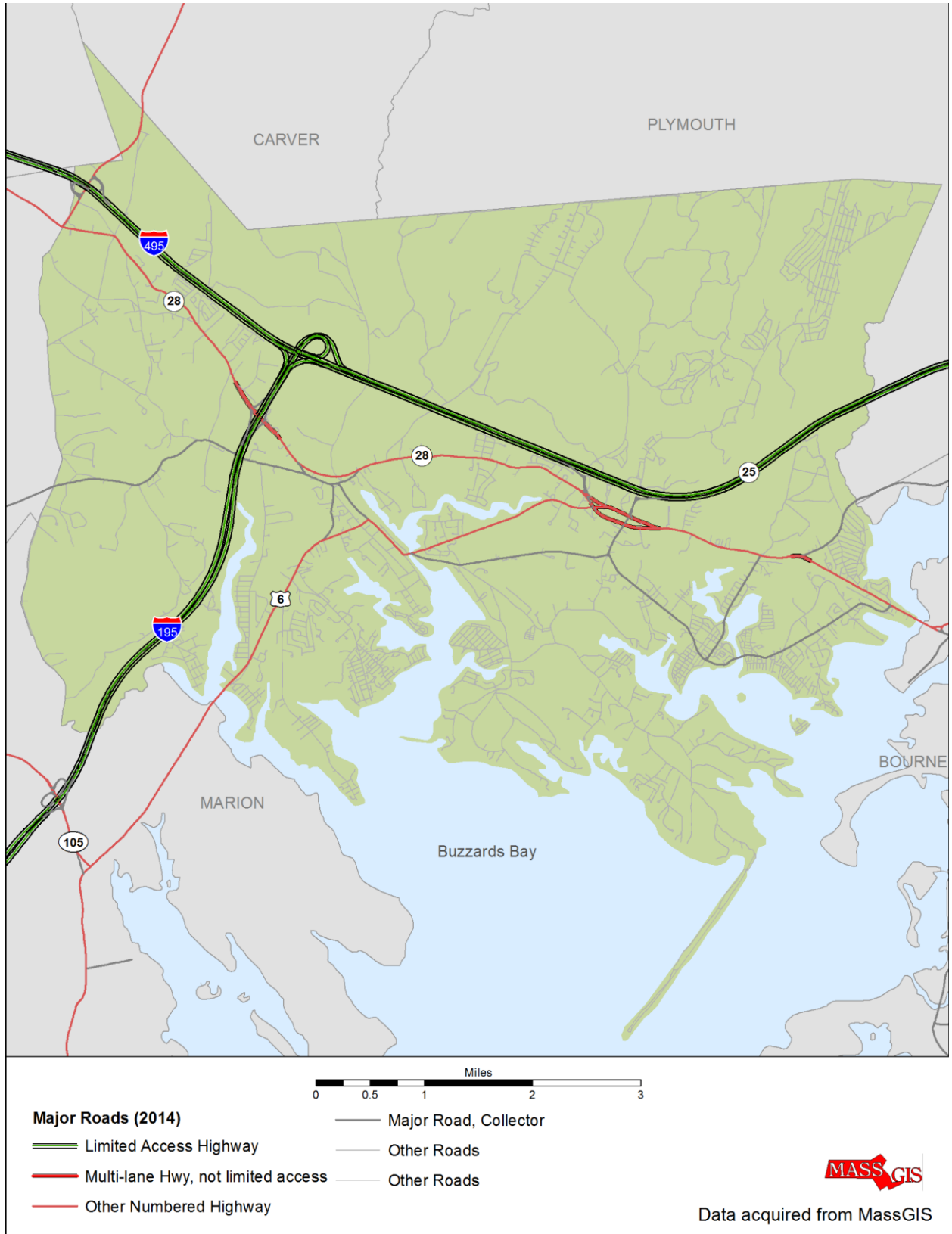


**MAP 1 REGIONAL CONTEXT**



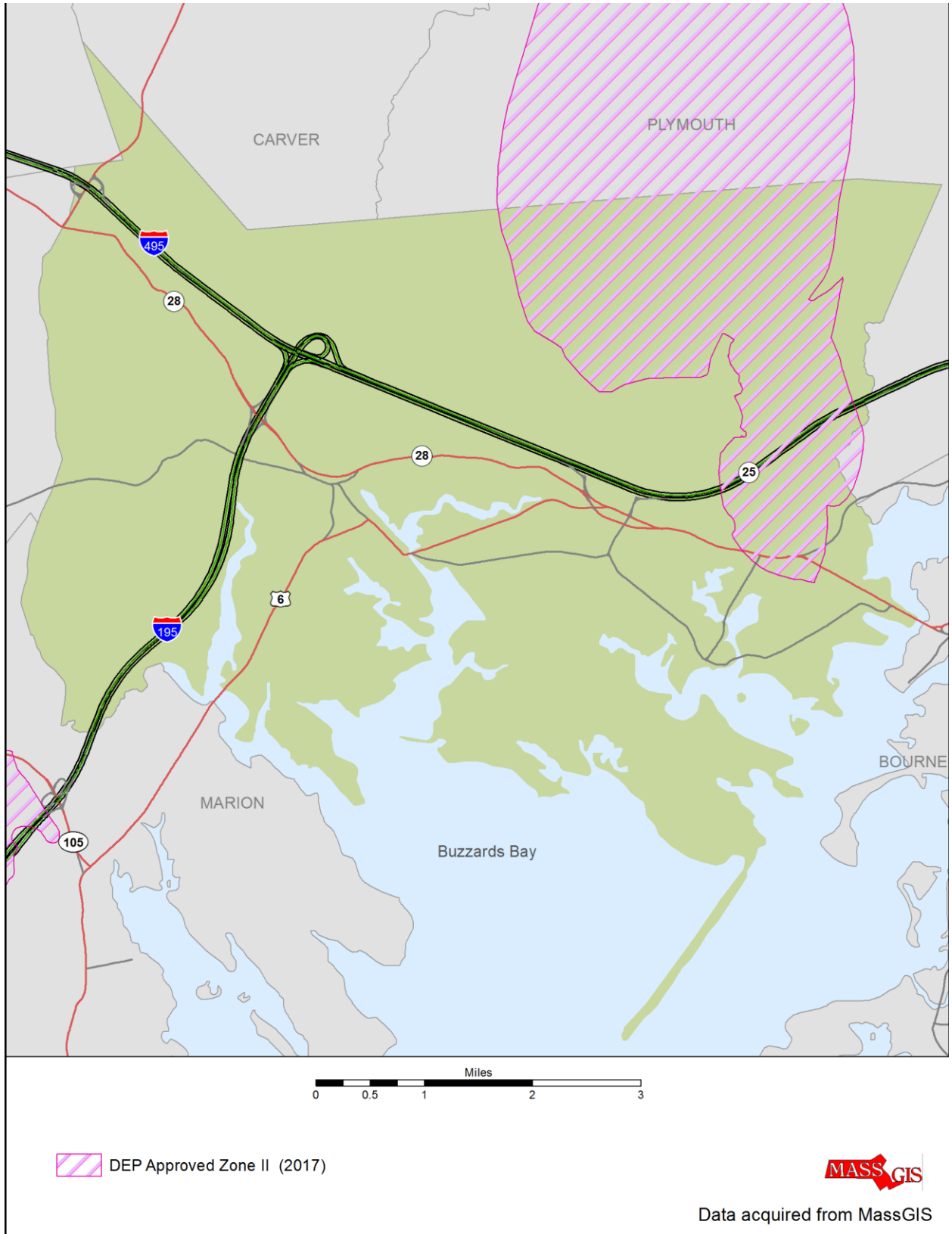
**MAP 2 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE POPULATIONS**



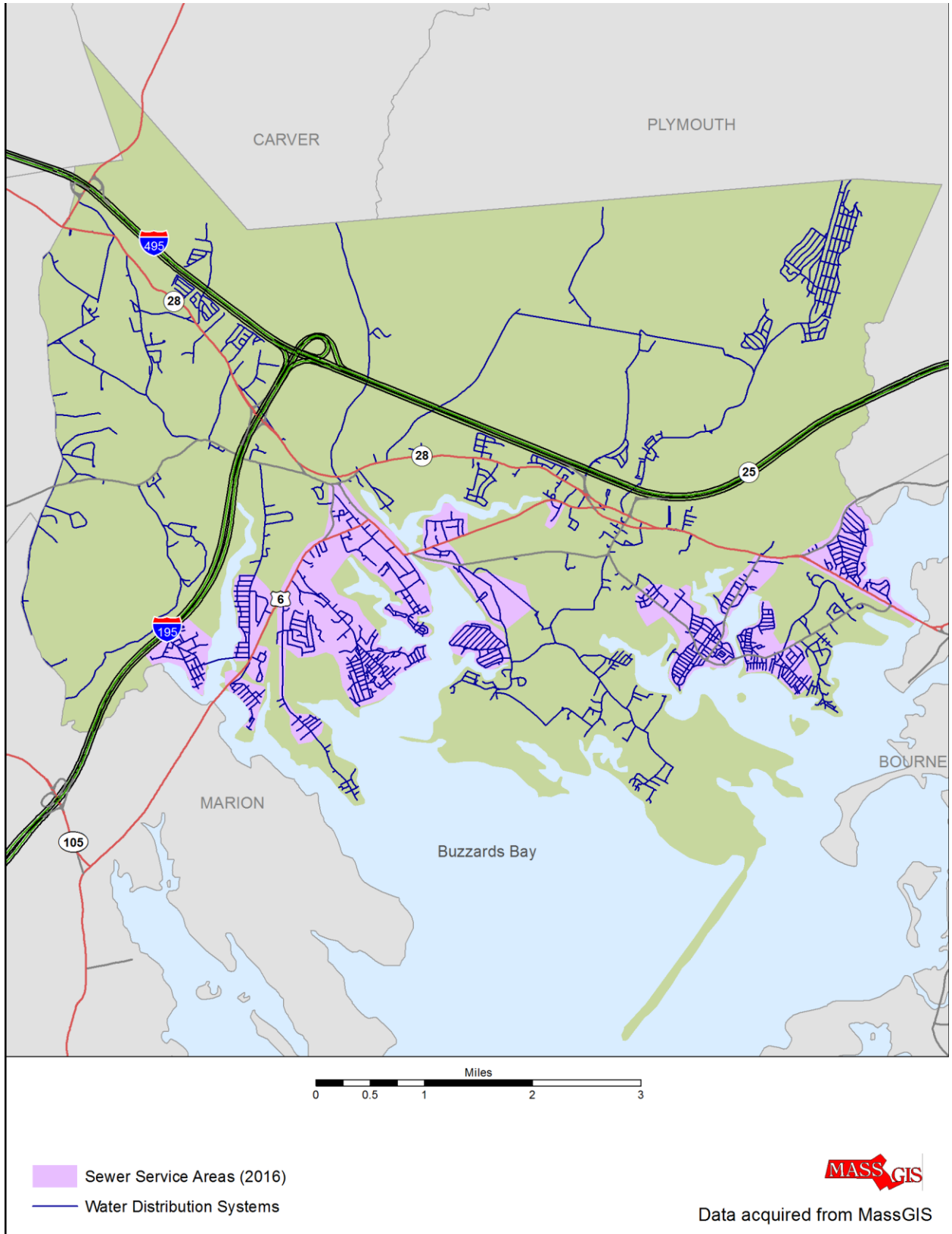


**MAP 3 ROAD NETWORK**

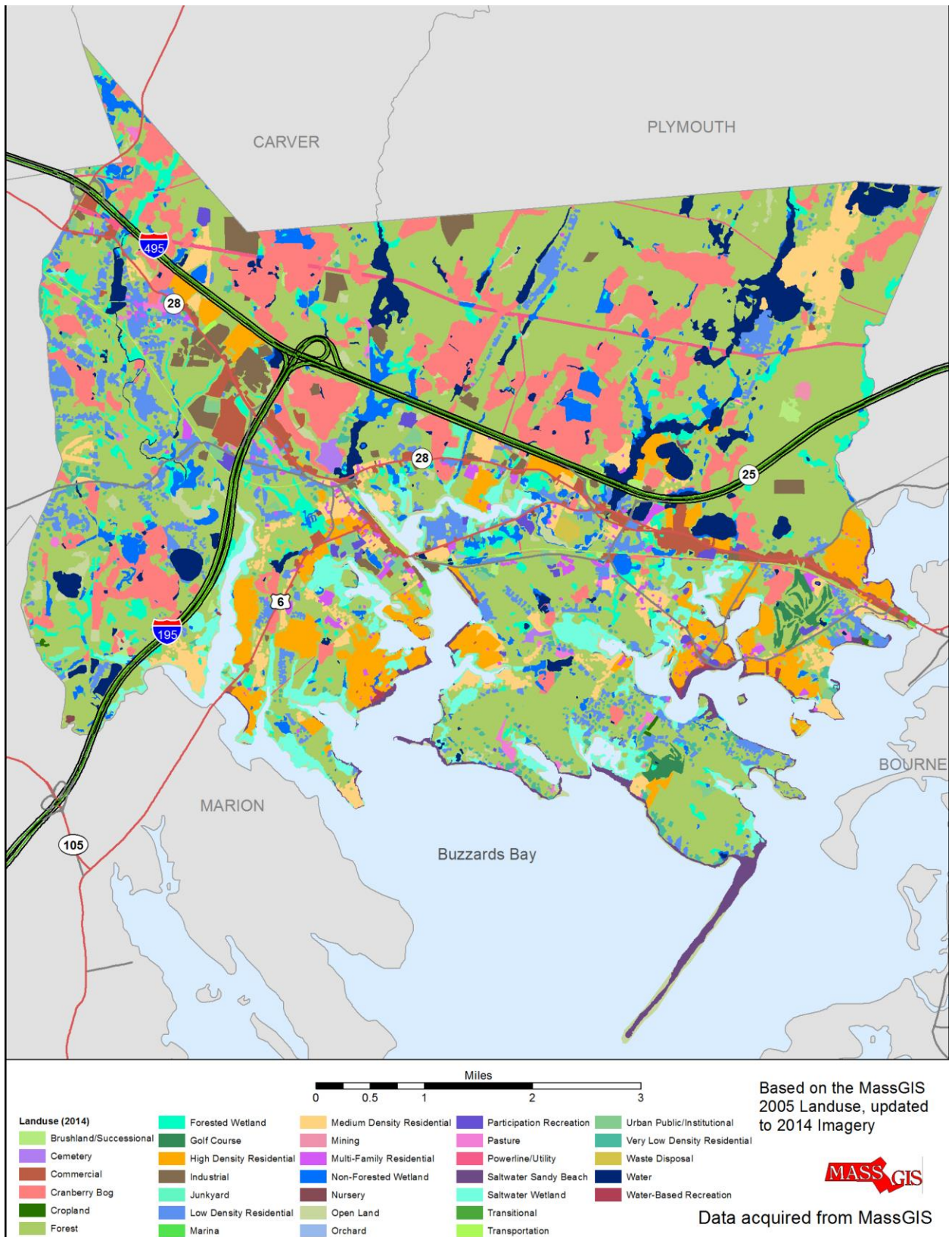




**MAP 4 DEP ZONE II WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION AREAS**

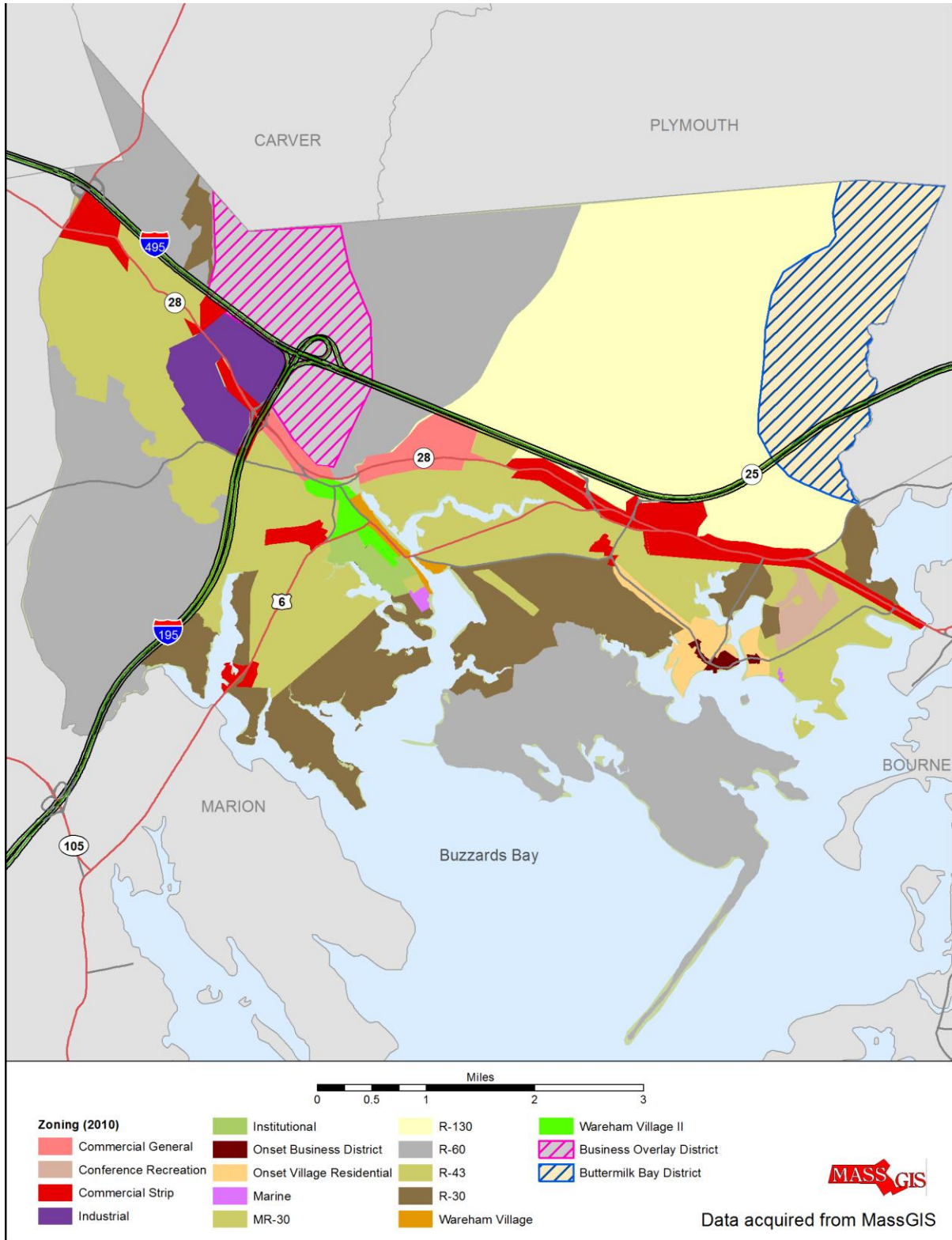


**MAP 5 WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE**



MAP 6 LAND USE





**MAP 7 ZONING**

## **Section 4                      Environmental Inventory and Analysis**

Wareham is located on an outwash plain in a temperate environment. The area has a wealth of natural resources. The natural environment is important not only for ecological purposes but also serves a role in the economy, attracting tourism, and in maintaining commercial and recreational fisheries.

Future growth must be balanced with resource protection to ensure the community continues to be an attractive place to live. As development pressures intensify, so does the potential for destruction or damage to the environment. Sound land management policies are essential to produce development that minimizes adverse impacts on natural systems. Planning is especially critical in coastal and wetland areas where much of the wildlife is fragile and cannot tolerate environmental changes. However, due to the beauty and uniqueness of these areas, they are in the greatest demand for development.

### **A.            Geology, Soils, and Topography**

Wareham is on the Coastal Lowlands of Buzzards Bay. Land surfaces are predominantly covered by glacial outwash, a reminder of the time when it was covered by glaciers. The land rises gradually from sea level in the south to an altitude of approximately 70 feet in the north, with a few hills above the 100-foot level. There are 86 miles of saltwater shoreline, including over 30 barrier beaches. Good topsoil in Wareham is sparse, being only a few inches in depth and containing a high percentage of sand. Watersheds in Wareham are defined by the Weweantic, Wareham, and Agawam Rivers. The Town has moderate topographic relief with extensive low-lying areas suitable for bogs and man-made ponds.

Nearly all of Wareham is located in the Carver general soil association. Wareham is predominantly flat with well-drained soils although poorly drained soils occur in low areas. There are numerous small ponds. Some of these ponds were converted to cranberry bogs and some, over time, became swamps. Other ponds remain today and provide recreation areas for swimming, boating, and fishing. About 23 percent of Wareham's total land area is made up of wetlands or cranberry bogs. These areas contain hydric soils. A hydric soil is one of the indicators for a regulated wetland and have constraints for building and other activities. Aside from the wetlands, which are ideal for cranberries and blueberries, development of the land for agricultural use is limited.

Map 8—Hydric Soils is located at the end of Section 4.

Map 9—Topography located at the end of Section 4.

#### *Bedrock Geology*

The type of bedrock has a role in chemical and physical properties associated with the development of the soils within the region. The type and depth of bedrock also influences water movement and availability, construction site limitations, and plant growth. The bedrock in Wareham consists of crystalline rocks (igneous and metamorphic rocks from the late Proterozoic and Paleozoic formed 2,500,000,000 to 248,000,000 years ago). The crystalline rocks are buried 100 to 300 feet below the surface by glacial deposits.

#### *Surficial Geology*

The glaciers of the great ice ages deposited the parent material that formed the local soils. Glacial till and fluvial deposits are the two dominant types of glacial deposits that occur in Wareham. Till is unsorted, unstratified material that consists of a heterogeneous mixture of clay to boulder size particles. Soils developed in glacial till have a high percentage of surface and subsurface gravel to boulder size rock fragments. The upland soils are capped with a mantle of sand to silty soil textures. The melting ice from retreating glaciers provided huge amounts of water, which left outwash deposits of stratified sand and gravel sediments hundreds of feet thick. These outwash deposits are important aquifer recharge areas, often are prime farmland areas, and commercially important sources of sand

and gravel. The outwash plains are “pitted” with kettle holes that were formed by blocks of ice (detached from the retreating glaciers) that were buried in the sediment for many years until they melted, leaving a depression. If the kettle hole was deep enough to intercept the water table, it formed a kettle pond such as Charge Pond. Some of the kettle ponds eventually filled with organic sediments forming bogs. Many of these bogs are used for cranberry production.

Map 10—Surficial Geology is located at the end of Section 4.

## **B. Landscape Character**

Wareham has a varied landscape including forested land, bogs that are used extensively for growing cranberries, and seaside marshes. A special attribute of the Town is its coastal location with fine beaches and excellent small boat harbors both in Onset Bay and at the mouth of the Wareham River. These assets provide a desirable spot for the residents to call home and an area that tourists enjoy. As Wareham’s population increases, through new development and through the transformation of summer cottages into year-round homes, it is necessary to ensure that over-development and over-use does not destroy our fragile coastal environment.

The Wareham River once enjoyed the distinction of being the last spot north of the Chesapeake Bay where oyster spat grew naturally. Unfortunately, pollution has robbed us of that distinction. Our shellfish industry has suffered. Now it is common for our beaches and shellfish areas to be closed several times during the summer due to pollution.

Most of Wareham’s beaches are privately owned; public access is limited. A notable exception is in Onset, where the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court granted the beaches to be held only for public purposes under the so-called “1916 Decree”. Much of Onset’s shore is protected as open space under the terms of that ruling. Although Wareham has less town-owned waterfront than other towns on Buzzards Bay, Wareham provides more public access to its coastal resources than any of the surrounding communities. This Open Space and Recreation Plan strongly recommends protecting our undeveloped coastline and if the opportunity arises, acquire privately owned land and maintain it as open space for the benefit of all.

## **C. Water Resources**

### *Surface Water*

The Town of Wareham has 86 miles of coastline. Wareham’s beaches attract tourists and are one of many reasons residents call this area home. In 2009, an Ecological Evaluation of Natural Resources was completed for Swifts Beach (BSC, 2009). It documents flora found in the salt marsh, coastal beach, and coastal dune areas. Birds, mammals, shellfish, and crustaceans were also inventoried. The study provides recommendations to protect and enhance the area. It serves as a reminder that we must be vigilant and maintain stewardship of our water resources.

### *Watersheds*

Three major river systems flow through the Town and empty onto Buzzards Bay. The drainage area for the Wareham, Weweantic, and Sippican River systems includes land in Middleborough, Carver, Rochester, and Wareham. Much of this area has been extensively developed for cranberry bogs.

The Wareham River Basin is made up of the Wankinco and Agawam Rivers. These rivers originate in Myles Standish State Forest, flow southward through a series of ponds, bogs, and swamps, and then join to form the Wareham River. The Wareham River Basin drains approximately 29,795 acres.

The Weweantic and Sippican Rivers, along with their tributaries, drain 55,438 acres. The Weweantic River and the Sippican River tributaries include Beaverdam Creek, Cohackett Brook, Crane Brook, and Patterson Brook.

The meandering coastline creates numerous coves, bays, rivers, and estuaries. Onset Harbor, located in the eastern most part of Wareham, has a drainage basin of 3,240 acres and is the largest and most important of the local water bodies. Other smaller water bodies include Mark's Cove, Bourne Cove, Butler Cove, Broad Cove, Shell Point Bay, Muddy Cover, Bass Cover, Widows Cove, Sunset Cove, Little Harbor, Buttermilk Bay, the Broad Marsh River area, the Crooked River, and the East River.

#### Wetlands

Wareham has over 2,000 acres of wetlands. These wetlands include 756 acres of forested wetland, 792 acres of non-forested wetlands, and 885 acres of saltwater wetlands. The freshwater wetlands are varied and include shrub swamps, shallow and deep marshes, and seasonally flooded flats. Coastal wetlands are rich in marine life and provide nursery areas for fish, shellfish, and crustaceans. The plants that grow in saltwater wetlands have extensive root systems that enable them to withstand brief storm surges, buffering the impact on upland areas. Wetlands are an important resource and efforts must be continued to protect them.

Map 11—Water Resources is located at the end of Section 4.

Outstanding Resource Waters (ORW) are designated under the Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards of 2007. "Certain waters shall be designated for protection under this provision. Waters that constitute an outstanding resource as determined by their outstanding socioeconomic, recreational, ecological and / or aesthetic value may be designated as ORWs. The quality of these waters shall be protected and maintained." (Source: 314 CMR)

Outstanding Resource Waters in Wareham include the 261-acre Sand Pond Reservoir Watershed in Onset, two Coldwater Fisheries Resources (CFR), and three vernal pools.

CFRs are important habitat for a number of cold water species, including trout. Cold water species are typically more sensitive than other species to alterations to stream flow, water quality, and temperature within their aquatic habitat. Identification of CFRs is based on fish samples collected annually. Red Brook and Patterson Brook are identified as CFRs.

Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) certified vernal pools are designated as Class B Outstanding Resource Waters. Vernal pools are unique wildlife habitat best known for the amphibians and invertebrate animals that use them to breed. The NHESP certifies vernal pools that are documented by citizens. Finding vernal pools is the first step for protection. As of 2017, Wareham has three certified vernal pools. A greater effort must be made to certify more vernal pools to prevent their destruction due to development.

Map 12—Outstanding Resource Waters is located at the end of Section 4.

The NHESP designated Natural Communities are assemblages of species that recur together in particular environmental conditions. They represent areas of special conservation interest. Natural Community designations in Wareham include pitch pine and scrub oak communities, tidal marshes, and coastal plain pondshores,

Spectacle Pond, 5.5-acres, and Bartlett Pond, 2.5-acres, are designated as Coastal Plain Pondshore Communities. Coastal Plain Pondshore Communities occur on exposed shores of ponds in glacial outwash on the coastal plain where water levels are controlled by seasonal groundwater changes. Both ponds are degraded by heavy recreational use and nearby development. The water level changes with the water table, typically leaving the shoreline exposed in summer where many rare species grow. These areas are threatened by water drawdown (wells), development, and trampling from heavy recreational use.



The Agawam River (near Depot Street) is an example of a Freshwater Tidal Marsh. This 12-acre marsh is in fairly good condition despite having little buffering by naturally vegetated land. A Freshwater Tidal Marsh is a mixed herbaceous marsh flooded by daily tides and occurring in the freshwater reach of a coastal river.

A 4.6-acre area along the Sippican River near Blackmore Pond Road is a Brackish Tidal Marsh. It is a small area, not well buffered, but it does have some unusual native plant species as well as some exotic invasive species. A Brackish Tidal Marsh community is often found in stretches of coastal rivers where salt and fresh water mix and consists of mixed herbaceous vegetation that is flooded by daily tides. Invasive species such as *Phragmites australis* and *Lythrum salicaria*, as well as polluted runoff can threaten these communities.

Map 13—NHESP Natural Communities is located at the end of Section 4.

#### *Salt Marshes*

Wareham has approximately 900 acres of salt marshes. Salt marshes are coastal wetlands rich in marine life. They are important for many reasons. Salt marsh systems provide nursery areas for fish, shellfish, and crustaceans. Hidden within the tangle of salt marsh plants are animals in various stages of life. The plants that grow in salt marshes have extensive root systems that enable them to withstand brief storm surges, buffering the impact on upland areas. Salt marshes also act as filters. Tidal creeks meander through the marshes transporting valuable nutrients as well as pollutants from upland development. Salt marshes can absorb, or trap, some of these pollutants, reducing the pollutant load entering estuaries. Salt marshes also prevent sediments from washing offshore, often creating more land on which the salt marshes can expand. Many water birds depend on salt marshes as habitat area. Broad Marsh, approximately 95 acres, is the largest single expanse of salt marsh in Wareham. Salt marshes are an important resource and further protection efforts are advantageous.

#### *Barrier Beaches*

The Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management defines a barrier beach as a narrow low-lying strip of land that generally consists of coastal beaches and coastal dunes extending parallel to the trend of the coast; it usually protects nutrient-rich areas behind it. The Town of Wareham has over 30 federal or state designated barrier beaches totaling approximately 59 acres. Most of these barrier beaches are bay barriers with the landward area being a marsh or wetland system. Development has occurred on Swifts Neck, a barrier beach in the Hamilton Beach area. Development does not alter the designation as a barrier beach. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts discourages development from occurring on barrier beaches because of their sensitive nature, their importance for flood damage abatement, and their value as wildlife habitat.

Map 14— Salt Marshes and Barrier Beaches is located at the end of Section 4.

#### *Flood Hazard Areas*

Wareham is a low-lying coastal town that is subject to flooding. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates the land area covered by the floodwaters of the base flood as a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) maps. The SFHA flood zones A, AE, AH, AO, and VE are present in Wareham. These are the areas where the NFIP's flood plain management regulations must be enforced and the area where the mandatory purchase of flood insurance may apply. According to FEMA, Wareham has over 5,000 acres in the 1% (100-year) flood plain and over 2,000 acres in the 0.2% (or 1 in 500 chance) flood plain.

Velocity zones, where the most damage occurs during coastal storm events, are of particular concern. Several velocity zone areas in Wareham are developed, including Swifts Beach, Cromesett Point, and Onset Island. In 2001 Wareham adopted a bylaw preventing further development in these areas.

Map 15—Flood Hazard Areas is located at the end of Section 4.

*Plymouth-Carver Aquifer*

The Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer is a 199 square-mile aquifer located in eight towns in southeastern Massachusetts, primarily in Plymouth County. It includes the entire area of the Town of Plymouth, Bourne north of the Cape Cod Canal, a small portion of Sandwich, most of the Towns of Carver and Wareham, substantial portions of Kinston and Plympton, and a small section of the Town of Middleborough. In Wareham, Buzzards Bay forms the southern border and the Weweantic River forms the southwestern border. The Aquifer is the primary source of the public and private water supply for the communities located upon it and is one of the largest designated aquifers in New England.

The unconsolidated stratified glacial deposits that form the aquifer were deposited during the last retreat of glacial ice about 15,000 years ago. These deposits are saturated with water fed by direct infiltration of precipitation (the aquifer recharge). The groundwater table elevations range from approximately sea level to approximately 125 feet at interior groundwater highs, with the maximum saturated thickness of more than 160 feet at some locations. The coarse nature of the deposits results in very low surface runoff and high infiltration rates. There is an estimated 540 billion gallons of water stored within the aquifer.

The Plymouth-Carver Aquifer is quite vulnerable to contamination. Because of its highly permeable and transmissive character, and large size granular materials, groundwater contaminants can quickly travel long distances and affect a large area. The recharge area is characterized by moderate relief. Activities occurring in the upland areas can have direct impact on groundwater quality in the rest of the Aquifer. The present quality of the water from the Aquifer is characterized as good to excellent. Municipal supply wells in the Aquifer area have been affected by relatively few instances of major contamination. There have been several instances of local contamination at several places in the Aquifer.

Wareham has 20,238 acres located in the Plymouth-Carver Aquifer, which is 84.4 percent of the Town (Fuss & O'Neill 2007). Both the Wareham Fire District and the Onset Fire District use the Aquifer as their source of water. The well fields for both districts are on protected land. Wareham's zoning helps to protect the groundwater resources. Diligence must be exercised to ensure that the water quality of the Aquifer does not degrade. Development creates impervious surface (e.g. roads and parking lots) that increase runoff and prevents groundwater recharge.

The Plymouth-Carver Aquifer exhibits regional groundwater flow patterns. Awareness and protection of this vulnerable resource is the responsibility of all the towns that share it, including Wareham. In 2007, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs coordinated the creation of the Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer Advisory Committee (PCAAC). Delegates from the towns of Bourne, Carver, Kingston, Middleborough, Plymouth, Plympton, and Wareham formed the committee and contributed time and effort to the creation of the Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer Plan. This Plan provides many valuable guiding principles to help advise the citizens living and working in the Aquifer region on how to protect the Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer.

Map 16—Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer is located at the end of Section 4.

**D. Vegetation**

Forest, wetland, and brushland / successional areas cover approximately 60 percent of Wareham's 23,940 acres; this does not include cranberry bogs (source: MassGIS 2014 Land Use Data; see Table 1: Land Use in Section 3D, and Map 6—Land Use – 2014 at the end of Section 3). Forested land and open space are an important aspect of the rural character valued by Wareham's residents.

Wareham recognizes the importance of public shade trees—trees in parks, Town-owned cemeteries, the Town Commons, and within the road right-of-ways. The preservation of existing large trees is encouraged; only dead trees that pose a threat to pedestrians or property are removed. The Town By-Laws require a landscape buffer strip between potentially incompatible land uses. Buffers must

be placed along the sideline of roadways, sidewalks, utility easements, and internal streets to minimize and mitigate potential negative impacts such as noise, stormwater runoff, and air pollution. Buffers must include native and naturalized shade trees and shrubs. Planting a row of native trees with a shade-providing canopy is desirable along the primary street frontage. Properly vegetated and maintained landscaped buffers serve to enhance and preserve the rural and visual character of Wareham.

An inventory of Wareham's hardwood forests reveals a mix of scarlet and black oak, sugar and red maple, white ash, American beech, and black gum. The softwoods include Eastern hemlock, Atlantic white cedar, pitch pine, and white pine. The only commercially important wood is white pine. The forest understory is composed of arrowwood, spicebush, greenbrier, wild grape, wintergreen, partridge berry, pipsissewa, wild rose, sheep laurel, inkberry, sassafras, beachplum, huckleberry, blueberry, bayberry, witch hazel, blackberry, sarsaparilla, club moss, and salt spray rose. In the spring, lady slippers, star flowers, and trailing arbutus (mayflowers) are abundant on the forest floor.

There are 19 species of plants that are officially listed as endangered, threatened, or species of special concern are found in Wareham (current as of June 2017).

#### **Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) listed plants found in Wareham**

Current as of June 2017

E = Endangered    T = Threatened    SC = Special Concern    MRO = Most Recent Observation

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	MESA Status	MRO
Vascular Plant	<i>Ageratina aromatica</i>	Lesser Snakeroot	E	1935
Vascular Plant	<i>Aristida purpurascens</i>	Purple Needlegrass	T	2009
Vascular Plant	<i>Cardamine longii</i>	Long's Bitter-cress	E	2016
Vascular Plant	<i>Carex striata</i>	Walter's Sedge	E	1986
Vascular Plant	<i>Crassula aquatica</i>	Pygmyweed	T	2016
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Cycnia inopinatus</i>	Unexpected Cycnia	T	1975
Vascular Plant	<i>Cyperus houghtonii</i>	Houghton's Flatsedge	E	1890
Vascular Plant	<i>Dichanthelium dichotomum</i> ssp. <i>mattamuskeetense</i>	Mattamuskeet Panic-grass	E	1990
Vascular Plant	<i>Elatine americana</i>	American Waterwort	E	1980
Vascular Plant	<i>Eriocaulon parkeri</i>	Parker's Pipewort	E	2015
Vascular Plant	<i>Liatris scariosa</i> var. <i>novae-angliae</i>	New England Blazing Star	SC	2000
Vascular Plant	<i>Linum medium</i> var. <i>texanum</i>	Rigid Flax	T	1931
Vascular Plant	<i>Nabalus serpentarius</i>	Lion's Foot	E	1933
Vascular Plant	<i>Sabatia kennedyana</i>	Plymouth Gentian	SC	2000
Vascular Plant	<i>Sagittaria teres</i>	Terete Arrowhead	SC	2016
Vascular Plant	<i>Setaria parviflora</i>	Bristly Foxtail	SC	2000
Vascular Plant	<i>Spartina cynosuroides</i>	Salt Reedgrass	T	2015
Vascular Plant	<i>Sphenopholis pensylvanica</i>	Swamp Oats	T	2013
Vascular Plant	<i>Symphyotrichum concolor</i>	Eastern Silvery Aster	E	1926
Vascular Plant	<i>Utricularia subulata</i>	Subulate Bladderwort	SC	1975

A 1,483-acre Pitch Pine–Scrub Oak Community in northeast Wareham is part of almost 17,000 acres designated by NHESP as a Natural Community. This Pitch Pine-Scrub Oak Community, that straddles the Wareham / Plymouth line, is globally significant and the largest of its kind remaining in the northeast. Pitch Pine-Scrub Oak Communities are globally rare, fire dependent, shrub dominated communities with scattered trees and occasional openings, occurring on dry, poor, usually sandy,

soils. Pitch Pine-Scrub Oak Communities provide habitat for many species. The NHESP Natural Communities map represents the extent of this natural community in Wareham.

Map 13—NHESP Natural Communities located at the end of Section 4.

A large area of Wareham is classified as wetlands. While this is primarily open water, it also includes a nearly equal amount of freshwater and saltwater wetlands. The freshwater wetlands are varied and include shrub swamps, shallow and deep marshes, and seasonally flooded flats. The vegetation is varied. Shrub swamps commonly contain alder, buttonbush, dogwood, willow, and sedges. Shallow marshes generally contain emergent vegetation such as cattails, bulrushes, barreel, pickerelweed, and arrowhead, in addition to grasses, sedges, water lilies, and the yellow cow lily. Saltwater wetlands are mostly salt meadows, which support cordgrass, saltgrass, and black rush.

Agricultural land in Wareham is primarily used for growing cranberries. Thousands of acres occupied by cranberry farms are the most notable factor in Wareham's rural character. On average, every planted acre of cranberries is supported by approximately four acres of surrounding wetlands and uplands. This acreage provides open space, wildlife habitat, and groundwater recharge. In recent years, changes in the economics in production of cranberries have put pressure on landowners to consider more lucrative development opportunities.

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP), which is part of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, lists 257 species of native plants that are officially listed as endangered, threatened, or species of concern in Massachusetts, 19 of these species are found in Wareham (current as of June 2017). Table 2, located at the end of Section E, is a list of MESA (Massachusetts Endangered Species Act) and Federal Status for Rare Species in Wareham.

## **E. Fisheries and Wildlife**

### *Shellfish*

The many small bays, coves, marshes, and rivers in Wareham provide excellent habitat for a variety of shellfish species, such as quahogs, soft-shell clams, oysters, and scallops. Wareham's shellfish resources support local commercial fishermen and numerous recreational shell-fishing enthusiasts.

Each year, the Town of Wareham issues Shellfish Grants. Shellfish Grants are analogous to underwater farms with the crop being shellfish. There grants are operated by individuals who obtained permits through the Town's Board of Selectmen. Wareham also does a shellfish relay, which involves obtaining quahogs from contaminated areas and transplanting them into Wareham's cleaner waters. Once the shellfish have had ample time to purify themselves, they are available for consumption. Wareham also has a shellfish propagation program, which involves planting shellfish and setting suitable substrate for the shellfish spat to adhere.

The majority of the shellfish beds are open to fishing during the winter months although there are areas that remain closed to shell fishing due to poor water quality. Certain areas are classified as seasonal closure areas. These areas are closed to shell fishing during a specified portion of the year, generally in the warmer months. This is due to increased human activity around the waterfront and a climate that is more suitable for bacteria growth.

### *Finfish*

Wareham's numerous ponds and streams contain a variety of freshwater fish species, including large-mouth bass, small-mouth bass, trout, pickerel, yellow and white perch, sunfish, catfish, suckers, and minnows. Coastal areas contain many fish species, including popular game fish such as striped bass, bluefish, scup, flounder, and fluke.

Each spring alewives (*Alosa pseudoharengus*), blueback herring (*Alosa aestivalis*), American shad, and rainbow smelt migrate from the coastal water through the major river systems and several

smaller brooks in Wareham to reach fresh water ponds to spawn. Alewives return between March and April to spawn and herring return from late April to late May. These anadromous fish return annually to the Weweantic River, Agawam River, Wankinco River, Gibbs Brook, and Red Brook. Smelt run primarily up the Weweantic River, however, they also occur in the Agawam River in lesser numbers. Anadromous fish hatch in freshwater, spend their adult lives in saltwater, and return to freshwater to spawn. Anadromous fish generally use the same route that they followed to the ocean as juveniles to return to spawn in the same location where they were hatched. These fish are important links in both marine and freshwater food webs and they are important renewable resource to humans. They are recreationally, aesthetically, and commercially important (Woods Hole Research Center).

Anadromous fish migrate by fish runs – streams connecting bodies of marine and freshwater. Often, natural fish runs are enhanced with man-made fish ladders that allow the fish to navigate obstructions, such as dams, during their annual migration. In 2000, the Town of Wareham, with help from the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, secured funds to reconstruct the Elks Fishway on the Agawam River. The Elks Fishway Rehabilitation Project reconstructed the fishway to improve the passage over the dam. The new fishway slows the river's flow thus preventing the herring from expending all of their energy before reaching their spawning grounds. The first dam at this site, built in 1632, included a fishway to help the fish migrate to their freshwater spawning grounds. Wareham established an improved herring run at this location in 1838. Several modifications to the fish ladder have taken place since then. The installation of new fish ladders at this site has significantly improved the ability for river herring to migrate to their freshwater spawning grounds in Wareham and Plymouth.

A moratorium on the harvest, possession, and sale of river herring in the Commonwealth has been in effect since January 2006. The Massachusetts Marine Fisheries has renewed the State Waters River Herring Moratorium. Until further notice the harvest, possession, and sale of river herring is prohibited in the Commonwealth. Other states including Connecticut, Rhode Island, and North Carolina have also closed their fisheries for river herring and the National Marine Fisheries Service has listed both species of river herring, alewife (*Alosa pseudoharengus*) and blueback herring (*A. aestivalis*), as species of concern due to an overall decline coast-wide. (Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries).

Map 17—Anadromous Fish is located at the end of Section 4.

#### *Wildlife*

Wareham's densely wooded areas are habitat for whitetail deer, cottontail rabbit, gray squirrel, flying squirrel, raccoon, ruffed grouse, woodchuck, opossum, skunk, coyote, and fox. Open areas provide habitat for quail, turkey, and occasionally pheasant. Nesting osprey can be observed at Little Harbor, Stony Point Dike, Burgess Point, various locations along the Weweantic River, and other areas. Black ducks, mallards, and wood ducks nest along rivers, swamps, marshes, and cranberry bogs. The coastal areas attract migratory ducks and geese. Several species of gulls are observed in abundance. Mute swans nest on Agawam Mill Pond and on many of the cranberry bog reservoirs.

In 2003, David Kay conducted a wildlife study on approximately 65 acres of forested Town property on the Weweantic River known as the Fearing Hill Conservation Area. The study found evidence of the following mammals, in approximate order of activity level seen (most to least): gray fox, whitetail deer, raccoon, gray squirrel, fisher, eastern chipmunk, striped skunk, red fox, mink, and red squirrel. The absence of an animal from this list does not signify absence from the property. Although this study did not include wildlife other than mammals, several other wildlife species were heard or seen. These include: wood frog, hawks (species uncertain), turkey vultures, rufous-sided towhees, chickadees, and oven birds (Kay, 2003).

A wildlife corridor is a swath of protected land where animals can live and travel undisturbed by development and other human activity. Development, two highways, and an extensive road network negates the possibility of creating a true wildlife corridor in Wareham. Although Wareham does not have the opportunity to protect wildlife corridors, efforts are made to conserve riparian areas and other wildlife habitat wherever possible.

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP), part of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, lists 169 species of native vertebrate and invertebrate animals that are officially listed as endangered, threatened, or species of concern in Massachusetts, 27 of these species are found in Wareham (current as of June 2017). Table 2 is a list of MESA (Massachusetts Endangered Species Act) and Federal Status for Rare and Endangered species in Wareham. The field MRO—Most Recent Observation, represents the most recent observation of that species in a town. However, because they are rare, many MESA-listed species are difficult to detect even when they are present. The fact that the ‘Most Recent Observation’ recorded for a species may be several years old should not be interpreted as meaning that the species no longer occurs in a town. However, records older than twenty-five years are considered historic.

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) and The Nature Conservancy’s Massachusetts Program developed *BioMap2* in 2010 as a conservation plan to protect the state’s biodiversity. *BioMap2* is designed to guide strategic biodiversity conservation in Massachusetts over the next decade by focusing land protection and stewardship on the areas that are most critical for ensuring the long-term persistence of rare and other native species and their habitats, exemplary natural communities, and a diversity of ecosystems. *BioMap2* components include Core Habitat and Critical Natural Landscape.

***BioMap2* Core Habitat** identifies specific areas necessary to promote the long-term persistence of Species of Conservation Concern (those listed under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act as well as additional species identified in the State Wildlife Action Plan), exemplary natural communities, and intact ecosystems. NHESP Core Habitat consists of six components identified as Priority Natural Communities, Forest Core, Vernal Pool Core, Wetlands, Aquatic Core, and Species of Conservation Concern.

**Core Habitat includes:**

- Habitats for rare, vulnerable, or uncommon mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, fish, invertebrate, and plant species
- Priority Natural Communities
- High quality wetland, vernal pool, aquatic, and coastal habitats
- Intact forest ecosystems

***BioMap2* Critical Natural Landscape** – Landscapes are defined as mosaics of forests, wetlands, rivers, shrublands, and other habitats. Large intact landscapes provide diverse habitats at a scale necessary to sustain healthy populations of local and wide-ranging species. The dynamic nature of landscapes, which can only occur in large intact areas, results in a mosaic of habitat types and patches that in turn support a wide array of species.

**Critical Natural Landscape includes:**

- The largest Landscape Blocks in an ecoregion
- Adjacent uplands that buffer wetland, aquatic, and coastal habitats

Landscape Blocks are derived from a GIS analysis designed to capture the largest and most intact extents of contiguous natural cover relative to the surrounding landscape.

Core Habitat and Critical Natural Landscape often overlap. Together they identify 9,146 acres in Wareham with 2,212 acres conserved as permanent open space.

<b>NHESP Core Habitat in Wareham</b>	<b>Acres</b>
Priority Natural Communities Core	1520
Forest Core	227
Vernal Pool Core	0
Wetlands Core	55
Aquatic Core	1585
Species of Conservation Concern Core	5044

Map 18—NHESP Biomap2 Core Components and  
Map 19—NHESP BioMap2 are located at the end of Section 4.

**TABLE 2 MESA AND FEDERAL STATUS FOR RARE SPECIES IN WAREHAM**

Current as of June 2017

E = Endangered T = Threatened SC = Special Concern MRO = Most Recent Observation

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	MESA	Federal Status	MRO Status
Vascular Plant	<i>Ageratina aromatica</i>	Lesser Snakeroot	E		1935
Mussel	<i>Alasmidonta heterodon</i>	Dwarf Wedgemussel	E	E	Historic
Amphibian	<i>Ambystoma opacum</i>	Marbled Salamander	T		1900
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Apamea inebriata</i>	Drunk Apamea Moth	SC		2002
Vascular Plant	<i>Aristida purpurascens</i>	Purple Needlegrass	T		2009
Dragonfly/Damselfly	<i>Boyeria grafiana</i>	Ocellated Darner	SC		1912
Vascular Plant	<i>Cardamine longii</i>	Long's Bitter-cress	E		2016
Vascular Plant	<i>Carex striata</i>	Walter's Sedge	E		1986
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Catocala herodias gerhardi</i>	Gerhard's Underwing	SC		2002
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Catocala pretiosa pretiosa</i>	Precious Underwing	E		2009
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Chaetagnathia cerata</i>	Waxed Sallow Moth	SC		1900s
Bird	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	T	T	2015
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Cicinnus melsheimeri</i>	Melzheimer's Sack Bearer	T		1974
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Cingilia catenaria</i>	Chain Dot Geometer	SC		1977
Vascular Plant	<i>Crassula aquatica</i>	Pygmyweed	T		2016
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Cycnia inopinatus</i>	Unexpected Cycnia	T		1975
Vascular Plant	<i>Cyperus houghtonii</i>	Houghton's Flatsedge	E		1890
Vascular Plant	<i>Dichanthelium dichotomum</i> ssp. <i>mattamuskeetense</i>	Mattamuskeet Panic-grass	E		1990
Vascular Plant	<i>Elatine americana</i>	American Waterwort	E		1980
Vascular Plant	<i>Eriocaulon parkeri</i>	Parker's Pipewort	E		2015
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Hemileuca maia</i>	Barrens Buckmoth	SC		2014
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Hypomecis buchholzaria</i>	Buchholz's Gray	E		1968
Mussel	<i>Leptodea ochracea</i>	Tidewater Mucket	SC		1999
Vascular Plant	<i>Liatris scariosa</i> var. <i>novae-angliae</i>	New England Blazing Star	SC		2000
Vascular Plant	<i>Linum medium</i> var. <i>texanum</i>	Rigid Flax	T		1931
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Lithophane viridipallens</i>	Pale Green Pinion Moth	SC		2002
Reptile	<i>Malaclemys terrapin</i>	Diamond-backed Terrapin	T		2016
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Metarranthus pilosaria</i>	Coastal Swamp Metarranthus	SC		1978
Vascular Plant	<i>Nabalus serpentarius</i>	Lion's Foot	E		1933
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Papaipema appassionate</i>	Pitcher Plant Borer Moth	T		1971
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Papaipema sulphurata</i>	Water-willow Borer Moth	T		1987
Bird	<i>Parula americana</i>	Northern Parula	T		1889
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Photodes inops</i>	Spartina Borer Moth	SC		1977
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Psectraglaea carnosia</i>	Pink Sallow Moth	SC		1978
Reptile	<i>Pseudemys rubriventris</i> pop. 1	Northern Red-bellied Cooter	E	E	2012
Vascular Plant	<i>Sabatia kennedyana</i>	Plymouth Gentian	SC		2000
Vascular Plant	<i>Sagittaria teres</i>	Terete Arrowhead	SC		2016
Vascular Plant	<i>Setaria parviflora</i>	Bristly Foxtail	SC		2000
Vascular Plant	<i>Spartina cynosuroides</i>	Salt Reedgrass	T		2015
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Speranza exonerata</i>	Pine Barrens Speranza	SC		1978
Vascular Plant	<i>Sphenopholis pensylvanica</i>	Swamp Oats	T		2013
Bird	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	Roseate Tern	E	E	2006
Bird	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Common Tern	SC		2006
Vascular Plant	<i>Symphyotrichum concolor</i>	Eastern Silvery Aster	E		1926
Mammal	<i>Synaptomys cooperi</i>	Southern Bog Lemming	SC		1894
Reptile	<i>Terrapene carolina</i>	Eastern Box Turtle	SC		2015
Vascular Plant	<i>Utricularia subulata</i>	Subulate Bladderwort	SC		1975

**TABLE 2 MESA AND FEDERAL STATUS FOR RARE SPECIES IN WAREHAM**



## **F. Scenic Resources and Unique Environments**

Wareham is on a sandy coastal plain and its myriad of beaches, marshes, rivers, streams, ponds, and glacial hills are the dominant natural features. Its extensive shoreline, which includes Buzzards Bay, and numerous cranberry bogs are the Town's most unique geomorphic features. The area was "pitted" with kettle holes that were formed by blocks of ice that were detached from retreating glaciers and buried in the sediment for many years until they melted, leaving a depression. If the kettle hole was deep enough to intercept the water table, it formed a kettle pond such as Charge Pond. Some of the kettle ponds eventually filled with organic sediments forming bogs. Many of these bogs are used for cranberry production.

Wareham does not have any unusual geologic features but it does have an abundance of areas, landscapes, and sites that have architectural and historic interest. Wareham's Parker Mills, Centre Park, and The Narrows are areas protected through local historic district designation. Cranberry bogs, scenic vistas of Onset Bay and the Narrows, the Parker Mill Bridge overlook, and Little Harbor serve not just as natural resources but as community assets which contribute to Wareham's sense of place, way of life, economy, and connect it to its past.

In 2001, Wareham participated in the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Heritage Landscape Inventory Pilot Project. A heritage landscape, as defined by the DCR, is a place which results from human interaction with the natural environment and development of the land, and helps define the character of the community and reflect its past. These areas contain both natural and cultural resources and come in many forms, including cemeteries, mill sites, cranberry bogs, river corridors, village centers, scenic roads, camp meeting grounds, and shipyards. The areas identified as heritage landscapes in Wareham include: Agawam River Watershed, Captain John Kendrick House, Cranberry Commons, Fearing Tavern, Greer Lumber, On-I-Set Wigwam, Wankinco River Watershed, Weweantic River Watershed, Ancient Indian Route, Horseshoe Pond, Wicket's Island, Tobey Homestead, and Tremont Dam. The Cape Cod Ship Building Company, cranberry bogs, and the Tremont Nail Factory are also cited as having great historic significance (Wareham Preservation Plan 2007).

Cranberry bogs are a prominent feature in Wareham. The cranberry, the blueberry, and the Concord grape are the only three fruits that can trace their roots to North American soil. Cranberries, a native wetland plant, are the largest agricultural crop in the Commonwealth. The cranberry industry maintains extensive wetland systems. For each acre of producing bogs, there are approximately four acres of ditches, dikes, reservoirs, ponds, and uplands. Just like natural wetlands, the cranberry wetland system recharges the aquifer, provides flood control, storm water drainage, preserves habitats for plants and animals, and filters the groundwater. In recent years, there has been a dramatic drop in cranberry prices causing an economic uncertainty and a destabilization of the cranberry industry. The agricultural lands owned by the cranberry industry provide large expanses of undeveloped areas as both bog and surrounding woodlands. Development pressure, as well as a decline in the profitability of the cranberry industry, has led to the recent sale of agricultural land. The cranberry industry is a valuable contributor to Wareham's open space.

Map 21—Cranberry Bogs is located at the end of Section 4.

Wareham has various types of scenic resources and unique environments in addition to the acres of cranberry bogs. The view of Onset Bay from the elevated bluffs of Onset Village is a visual panorama of the various activities associated with a coastal existence. Beaches, private piers, marinas, and fishing vessels coexist within this moderately protected embayment. The surrounding area is densely developed and becomes heavily populated in summer months.

Just above the Narrows Bridge, near Wareham Village, a sprawling salt marsh provides habitat for many plants and animals. This marks the area where the Wankinco River joins the Agawam River. Looking upriver, past the marsh, is the Tremont Nail Factory. In the other direction, the Wareham River continues on to Buzzards Bay. Mary Besse Park and Pier is located along the edge of the

Wareham River adjacent to the bridge. This scenic park is frequented by recreational fishermen and sightseers.

Little Harbor is a barrier beach system that offers excellent views of Buzzards Bay. A thriving estuarine community exists behind the low dunes of the barrier. This beach offers shallow calm waters for swimming and wind surfing; it is a popular summer destination. The barrier beach and coastal banks have suffered erosion in several areas during past storm events. Efforts have been made to reestablish beach grass on the over-washed areas to stabilize the dunes.

Wareham has many historic structures including the Tremont Nail Factory Complex and the Tobey Homestead; both are listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. Other historic resources include the Cape Cod Shipbuilding Company, the Roland Thatcher House, the Fearing Tavern, the Prince Burgess House, the Onset Avenue Bridge, and the Agawam Cemetery. The Great Neck Road area contains a concentration of fourteen structures of historical importance. Wareham has established local historic districts at Parker Mills, Centre Park, and the Narrows.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century Tremont Nail Factory was listed in the National Registry of Historic Places in 1976. This group of buildings is set along Elm Street surrounded by the Parker Mills Pond and the Wankinco River. Tremont Nail was the oldest continually operating cut nail factory in the United States until the factory became a division of Acorn Manufacturing and moved to Mansfield, Massachusetts. The Town of Wareham used CPA funds to purchase the site in 2004. In addition to its historic significance, a fish ladder adjacent to Tremont Nail allows herring to navigate the Parker Mills Pond dam in their annual trek upriver to their freshwater spawning grounds.

The Tobey Homestead is a historic farmhouse on Main Street near Mary Besse Park. The site was built in 1825 and added to the National Historic Register in 1986.

The Cape Cod Shipbuilding Company was founded in 1899 by Captain Charles S. Gurney. During his lifetime, over 16,000 boats were built. The largest boats were 100 feet, but most were 12 to 20 feet. The shipbuilding company was relocated to its present site on Narrows Road in 1919 and purchased by E. L. Goodwin in 1939. The Cape Cod Shipbuilding Company has remained in continuous operation for over 100 years. Seven buildings built in the 1930's represent the historic core of one of the last boat yards along the Wareham River.

The Fearing Tavern, on Elm Street, was built in 1690 by the Bump family. One of Wareham's oldest homes became the Fearing Tavern when Israel Fearing purchased it in 1747. Additions were added in 1765 and 1820. The tavern remained in the Fearing family for 200 years. Fearing Tavern is an important survivor of Wareham's colonial past and is now operated as a museum by the Wareham Historical Society. The tavern contains sixteen period rooms displaying 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century furnishings, toys, tools, and other objects.

The On I-Set Wigwam, located on Crescent Place in Onset, is one of Wareham's most iconic buildings. Onset was settled in 1877 by the Onset Bay Grove Association. They were a group of professional businessmen dedicated to the principals of Spiritualism and the interest of human progress. The On I-Set Wigwam, completed in 1894, was built by the Onset Bay Grove Camp Meeting Co. Workers and was dedicated to the Wampanog Indians. The Wigwam is a 26-foot octagonal structure with a healing pole at its center. The wooden edifice was designed to resemble a Native American teepee. The Wareham Historical Commission holds a preservation restriction from the National Spiritualist Association of Churches (NSAC) and has worked with the NSAC to obtain funding for necessary repairs to the Wigwam.

The Kendrick House, located on Main Street in Wareham Village, was purchased by Captain John Kendrick (c 1740 – 1794) in 1778. Kendrick was an American sea captain during the Revolutionary War and later a prominent sea captain, fur trader, and explorer. He sailed to the Sandwich Islands (now Hawaii), China, and Japan. The Kendrick house is now owned by the Wareham Historical

Society and serves as a maritime museum. The museum contains furnishings from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century, textiles, costumes, maritime paintings, and a model of the schooner “Ernestina”, which served as a packet ship for many years sailing between the United States and the Cape Verdean Islands.

Centre Park, on Main Street, is the site of the Town Commons. A plaque describes it as “the original center of Town, known as Fresh Meadow, until its incorporation as Wareham in 1739. Here livestock grazed and the first meetinghouse was built, in which early settlers worshiped and Town business was conducted”. A Soldiers and Sailors Monument graces the park. Erected in 1904, the 25-foot monument is flanked by two cannons donated by Fairhaven; a pyramid of cannon balls is nearby. It was erected “in memory of her loyal sons” in the Army and Navy that were lost in these wars: King George’s War, Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, Philippine War. A World War I Veterans Plaque is displayed nearby.

Map 20—Unique Features is located at the end of Section 4.

## **G. Environmental Challenges**

Hazardous waste sites are a potential environmental problem that could conflict with recreation and open space goals. As of June, 2017, Wareham has two hazardous waste sites with open DEP files (Source: Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup). These sites are monitored and efforts made to mitigate their impact on the environment.

Map 22—Hazardous Waste Sites is located at the end of Section 4.

Wareham does not have a landfill or any transfer stations. Residents may contract private businesses to provide home pick-up of solid waste or they can drop it off at either the Marion Transfer Station or the Rochester Transfer Station. The refuse is then delivered to the SEMASS Resource Recovery Facility. SEMASS is a 95-acre facility in Rochester that offers southeastern Massachusetts’s communities an alternative to land filling their municipal solid waste. SEMASS employs a shred-and-burn technology to create refuse-derived fuel, enabling the plant’s processing of approximately one million tons of solid waste each year. The resulting electricity meets the needs of more than 75,000 homes.

Sedimentation of wetlands, streams, and rivers can cause poor water circulation, which may lead to a degradation of wildlife habitat. It has been a common practice to channel stormwater into nearby waterways. This road runoff is a significant contributor to sedimentation in streams and rivers. Sedimentation is a concern in some locations. Wareham continues to upgrade its road drainage systems to eliminate this environmental problem. Sedimentation and leaching basins have been installed under roads in problem areas.

In 2009, the bulkhead near Mary Besse Park was repaired to prevent soil from washing into the river and in 2015 the Wareham portion of County Road was redesigned to improve the control of stormwater runoff. In 2016, the stormwater system and leaching field on Onset Ave. was upgraded to improve the control of stormwater runoff. These projects are difficult due to lack of available space in which to build new drainage structures. Improvements to the collection and treatment of stormwater should dramatically improve water quality. Dredging of waterways may present environmental problems but they can be essential to maintaining wildlife habitat. These projects are cost prohibitive and the Town must depend on funding assistance from other government agencies for dredging projects.

Wareham is a low-lying coastal town subject to erosion and flooding problems associated with coastal storm events. Beach erosion is a concern due to extreme weather events and higher tides are more frequent with climate change. Dredging projects that can correct for some of the material movement are being considered but require a large financial commitment. Little Harbor is a barrier beach

system that has suffered erosion in several areas during past storm events. Efforts have been made to reestablish beach grass on the over-washed areas to stabilize the dunes.

Wareham has approximately 5,000 acres in the 1% (100-year) flood plain and over 2,000 acres in the 0.2% (or 1 in 500 chance) flood plain. The majority of this land is heavily developed. Damage to structures and property erosion is a problem along the coast during hurricanes and winter storms. In the Swifts Beach area, several homes were reconstructed on concrete pilings after being damaged during Hurricane Bob (1991). Current flood construction regulations require that new structures be elevated above the base flood elevation designated on the FEMA Firm Maps. Because of the extensive development in flood zones, flooding continues to be a problem with structures damaged during storm events. Flooding sometimes occurs along inland river systems but does not result in the same level of damage as is done along the coast. Inland flooding results from heavy rain events and does not necessarily coincide with storms that cause coastal damage.

Map 15—Flood Hazard Areas is located at the end of Section 4.

Water quality problems in Wareham have resulted in the intermittent closure of individual shellfishing areas. The degradation of water quality may be related to human activity and the impacts associated with that activity.

Nitrogen loading from activities in the towns upstream from Wareham directly contributes to water quality degradation in Wareham's major river and estuarine systems. Nitrogen overloading is a complex management issue due to the size of the watersheds involved and the fact that much of the nitrogen emanates from communities outside of Wareham's municipal boundaries.

Sewage disposal is also a difficult issue. More than half of Wareham residents have public sewer service, the remainder must use individual septic systems. Failing systems can add nitrogen to the groundwater. Another source of nitrogen pollution results from overuse of fertilizers on lawns and agricultural fields. Excessive nitrates in surface water can cause algal blooms and other undesirable effects. To minimize the effects of sewage disposal, septic systems must be properly constructed and should be located as far from wells and surface waters as is practical. Fertilizer should be used with care, especially when near a body of open water. As the population continues to increase and the exploitation of undersized lots intensifies, the Town may find it necessary to enact more stringent septic regulations than those mandated by the Commonwealth.

In the summer months, many Canada geese populate Wareham's waters. In great numbers, these birds produce large quantities of fecal matter and have been blamed for the destruction of lawns. Currently, the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife allows extended hunting seasons for Canada geese and land owners can apply for a special permit to addle eggs or destroy nests of geese on property they own or control to curb the population.

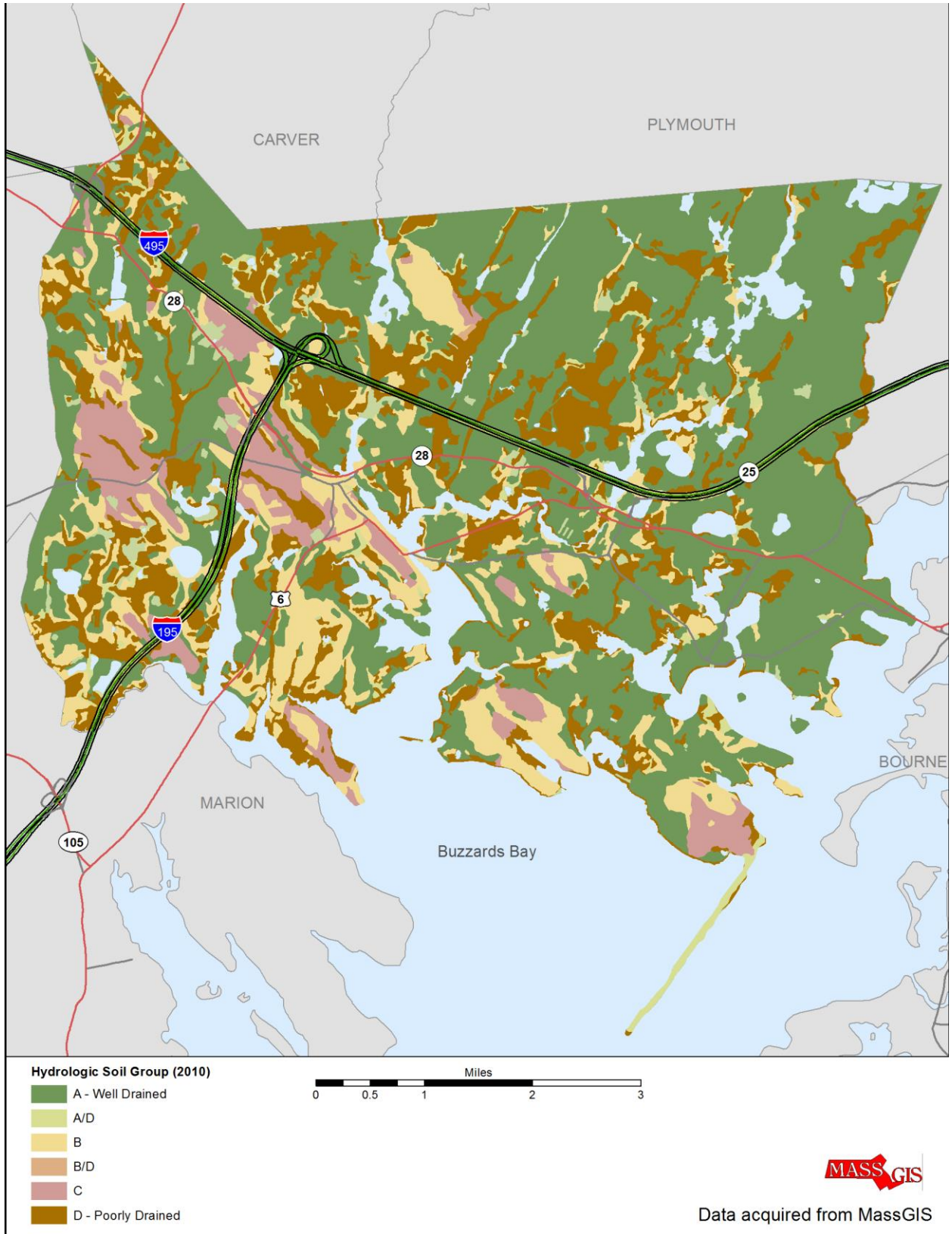
Another environmental challenge is invasive species. The William Minot Forest is 200 plus acres of protected forestland acquired by the Town of Wareham in 1951. It is comprised of Norway maple, red pine, white pine, mixed oaks, pitch pine, red maple, and black locust with an understory of black cherry, sassafras, huckleberry, highbush and lowbush blueberry, wild raisin, bayberry, sheep laurel, briars, bittersweet, grasses, wintergreen, arrowwood, goldenrod. Several areas are seasonally wet.

Some areas of the forest have a fair amount of invasive species, which include bittersweet, winged euonymus, buckthorn, and barberry. Efforts are being considered to control the spread of these species before they begin to significantly alter the composition of the existing stands. Wildlife habitat enhancement is recommended to ensure the forest remains attractive for a greater variety of wildlife. Periodically mowing power line easements, thinning, and individual selection harvest would both stimulate the natural regeneration of the white pine and improve the growing conditions of the remaining trees (Forest Management Plan, 2010).

*Environmental Equity*

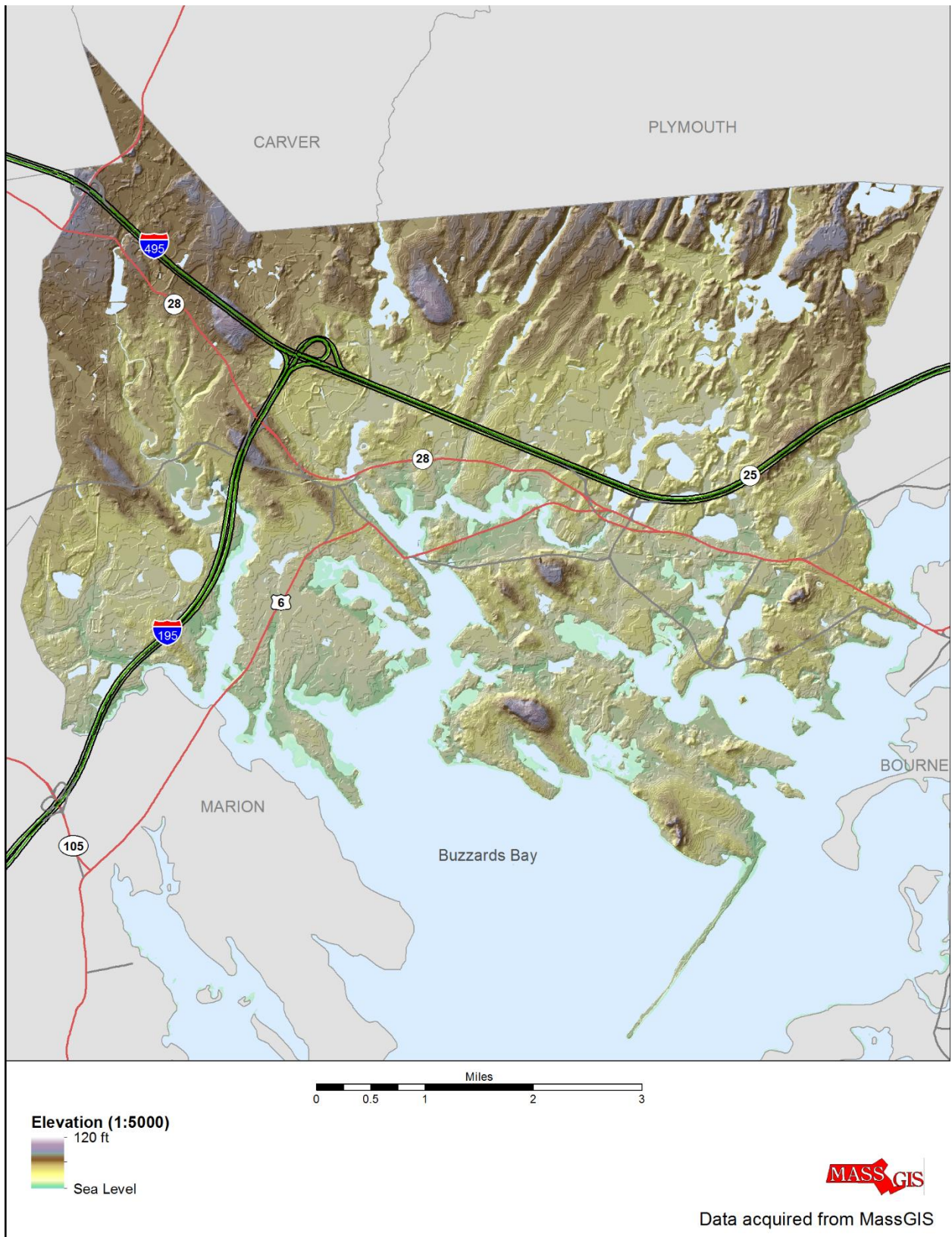
All of the residents of Wareham, including those belonging to Environmental Justice (EJ) populations, have access to and many opportunities to enjoy the recreational facilities and the protected open space in Town. (For more information on Wareham's EJ populations, see Section 3C – Population Characteristics. Map 2—Environmental Justice Populations is located at the end of Section 3) Environmental Justice is based on the principle that all people have a right to be protected from environmental pollution, and to live in and enjoy a clean and healthful environment. Environmental equity assures an unbiased distribution of environmental benefits such as open space and recreation areas to all neighborhoods, including communities designated as EJ populations. These lower income and minority populations live alongside the remaining residents and have access to the same parks, recreation areas, and green amenities.

Wareham has four Environmental Justice Populations; half of the areas meet the low-income threshold while the other half have a minority population greater than 25%. Wareham's EJ population represents 20.7% of the Town's residents. The areas designated as Environmental Justice communities contain over one-third of the Town's neighborhood parks, playgrounds, recreation facilities, and conservation areas. All conservation areas are free of charge and many are located along public transportation routes. Wareham is committed to providing all residents with equal access to parks, conservation areas, and recreational opportunities.

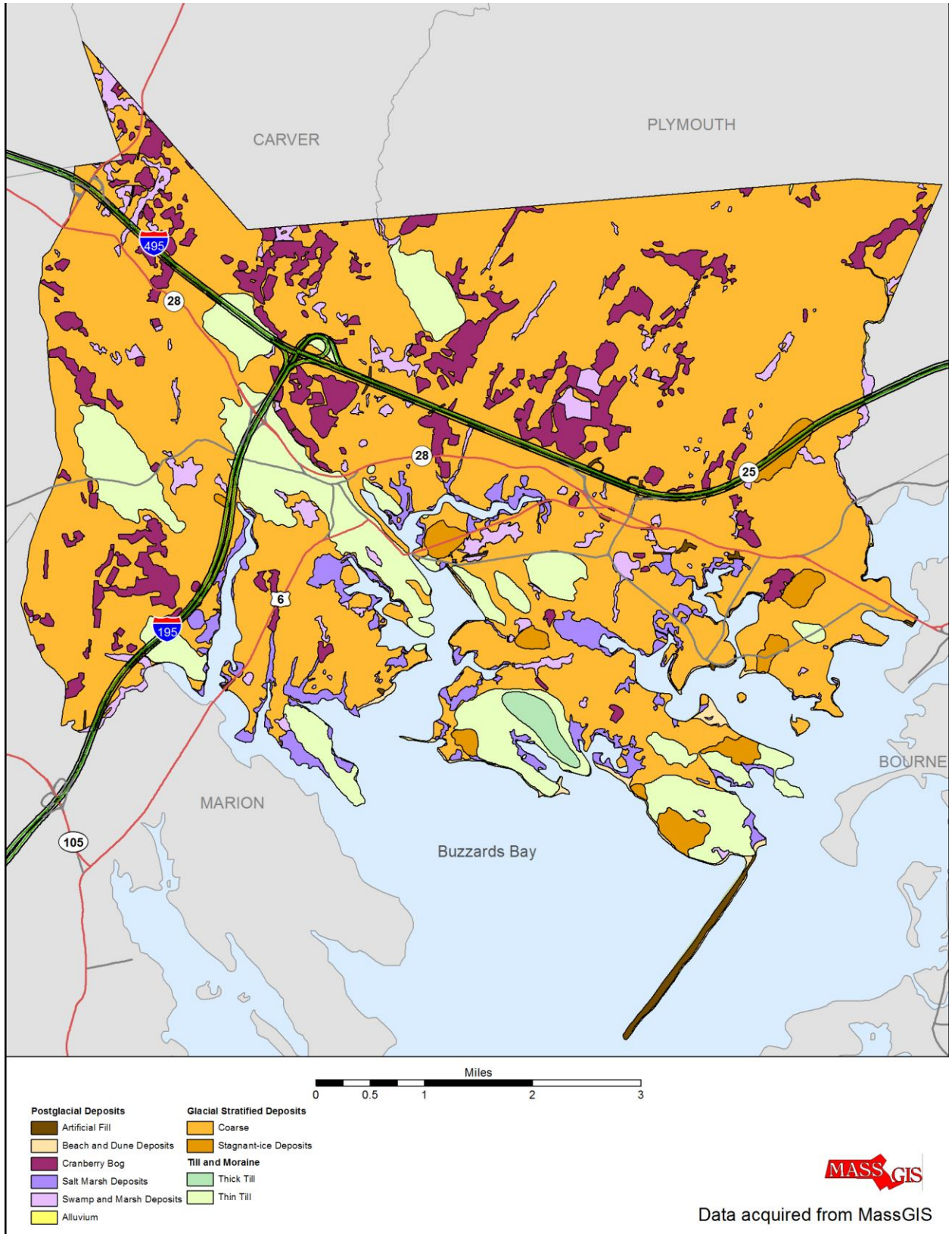


**MAP 8 HYDRIC SOILS**

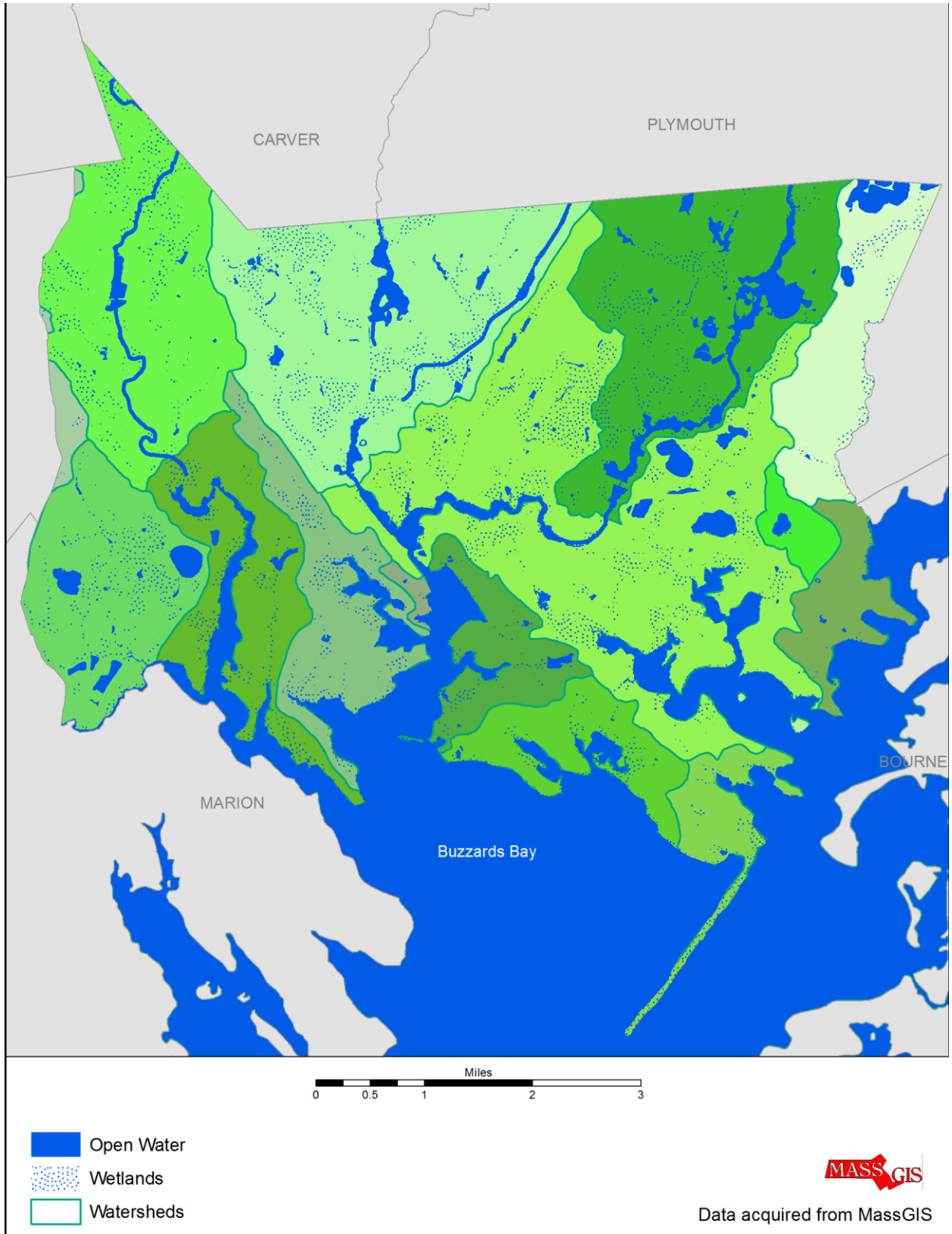




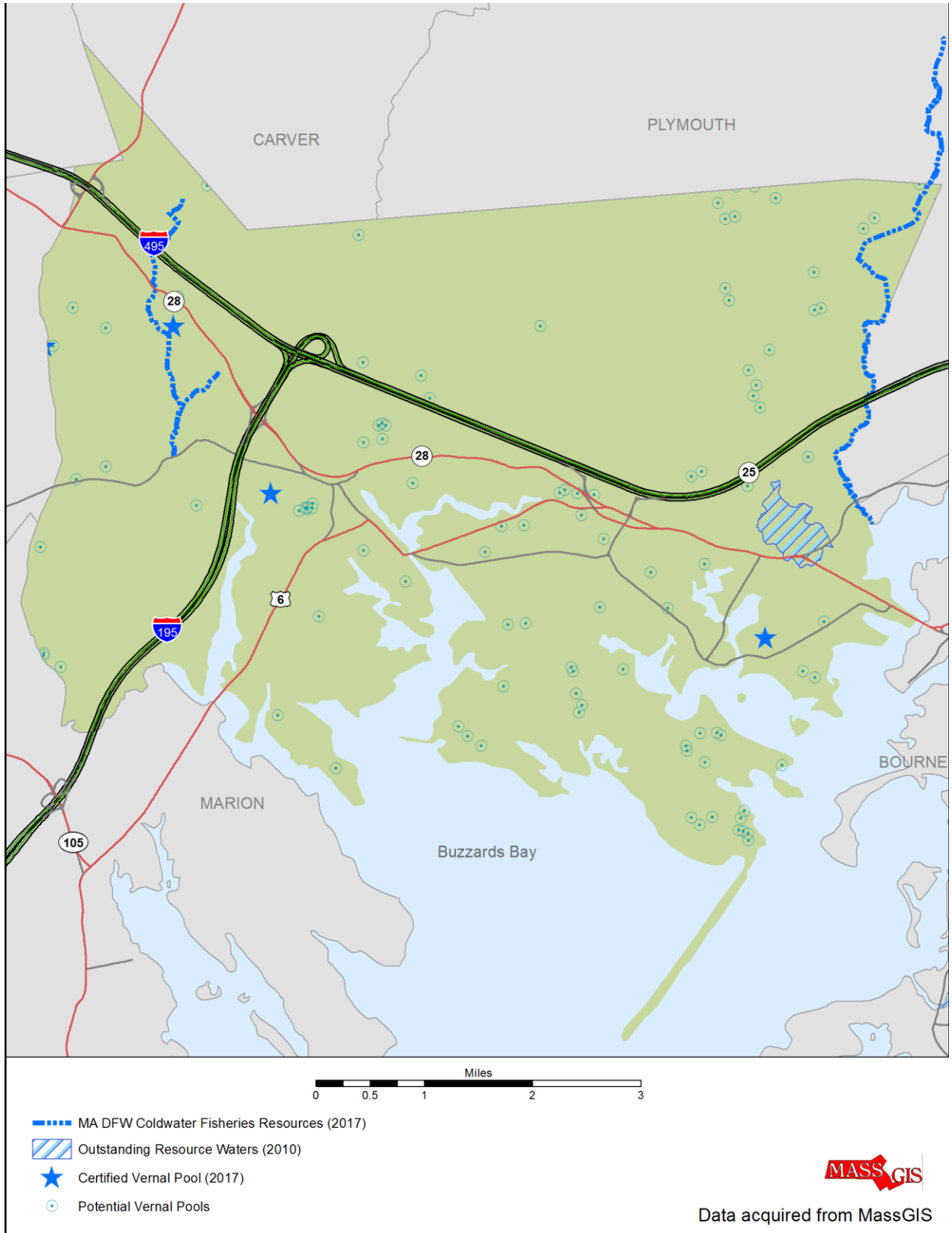
**MAP 9 TOPOGRAPHY**



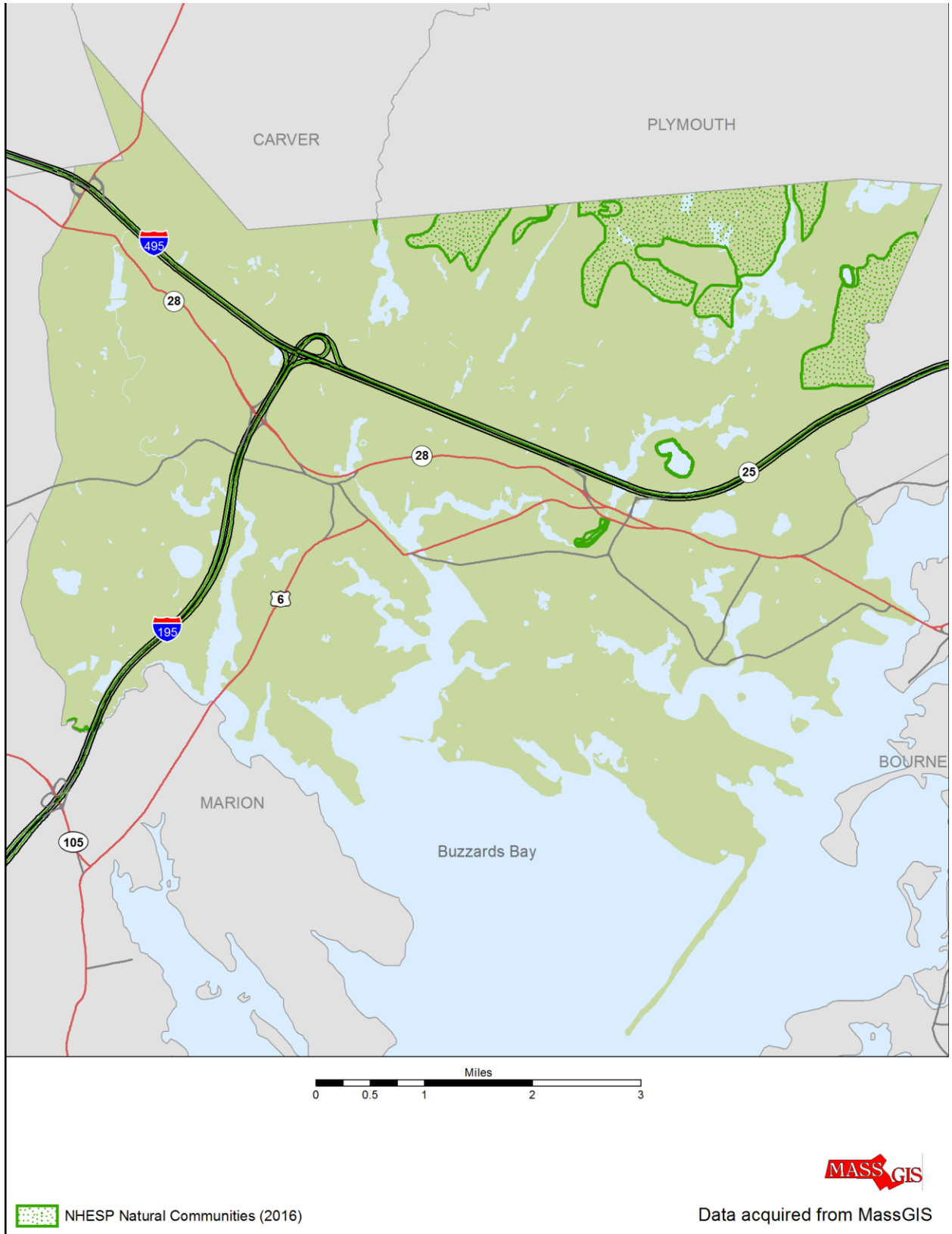




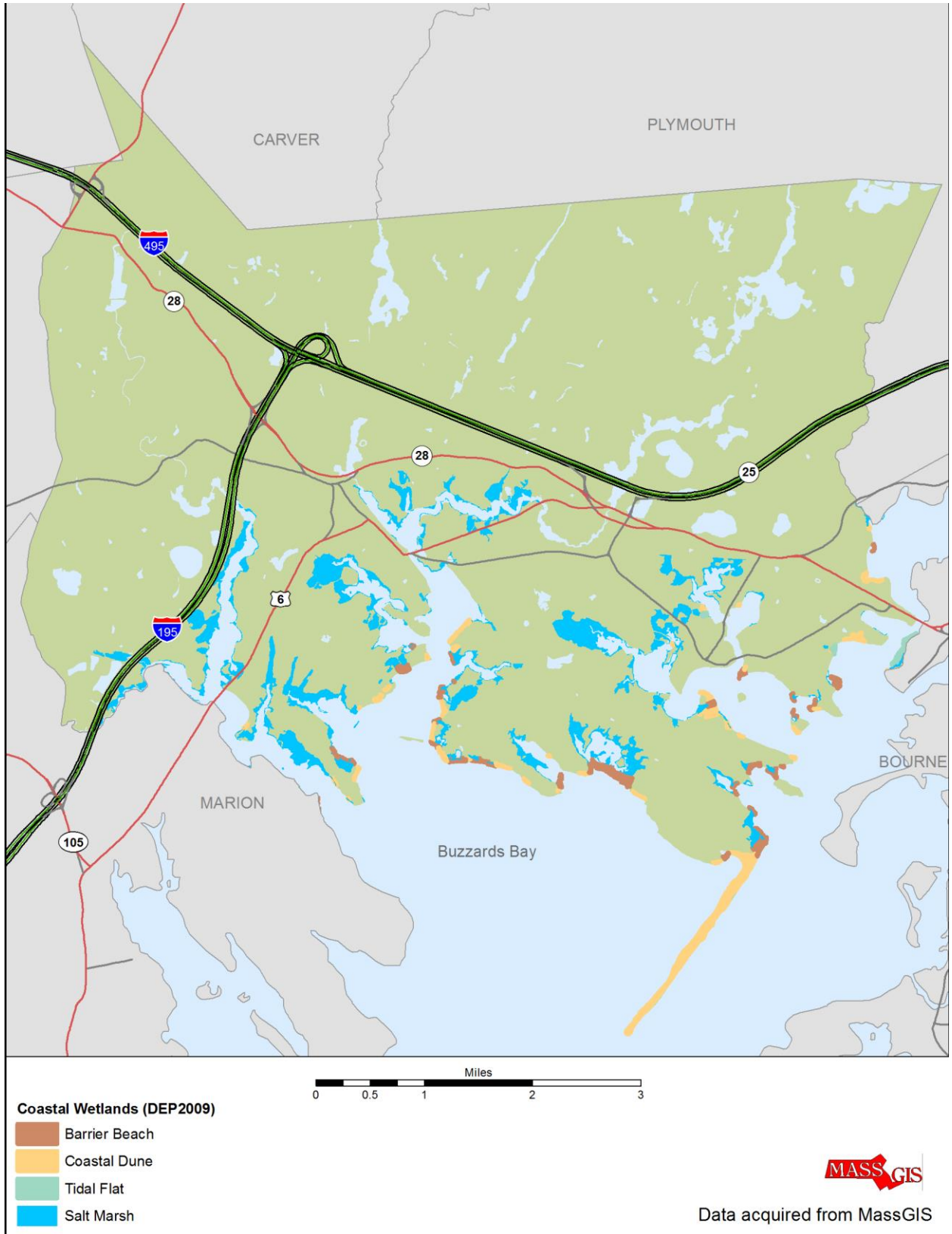
**MAP 11 WATER RESOURCES**



MAP 12 OUTSTANDING RESOURCE WATERS

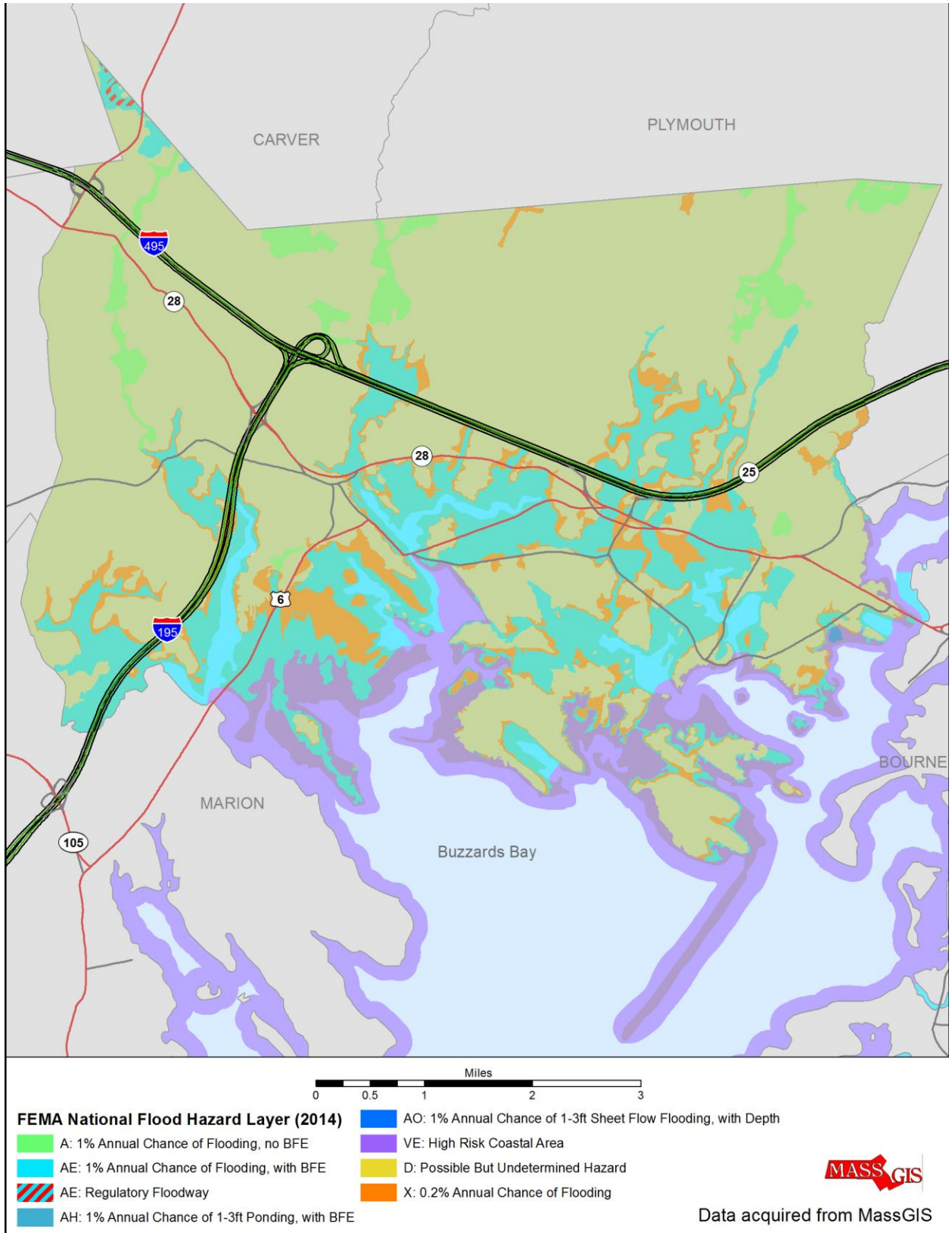


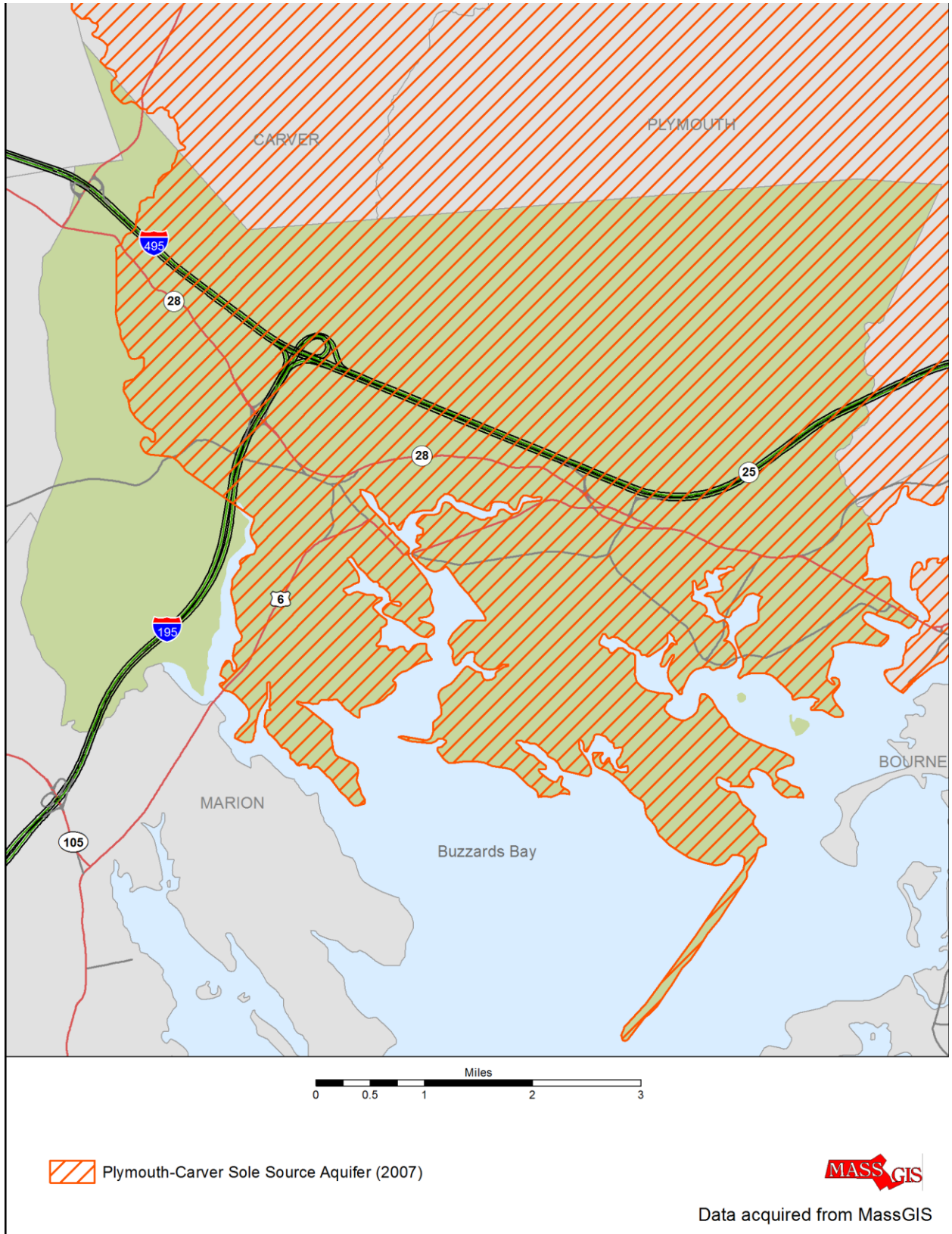
**MAP 13 NHESP NATURAL COMMUNITIES**



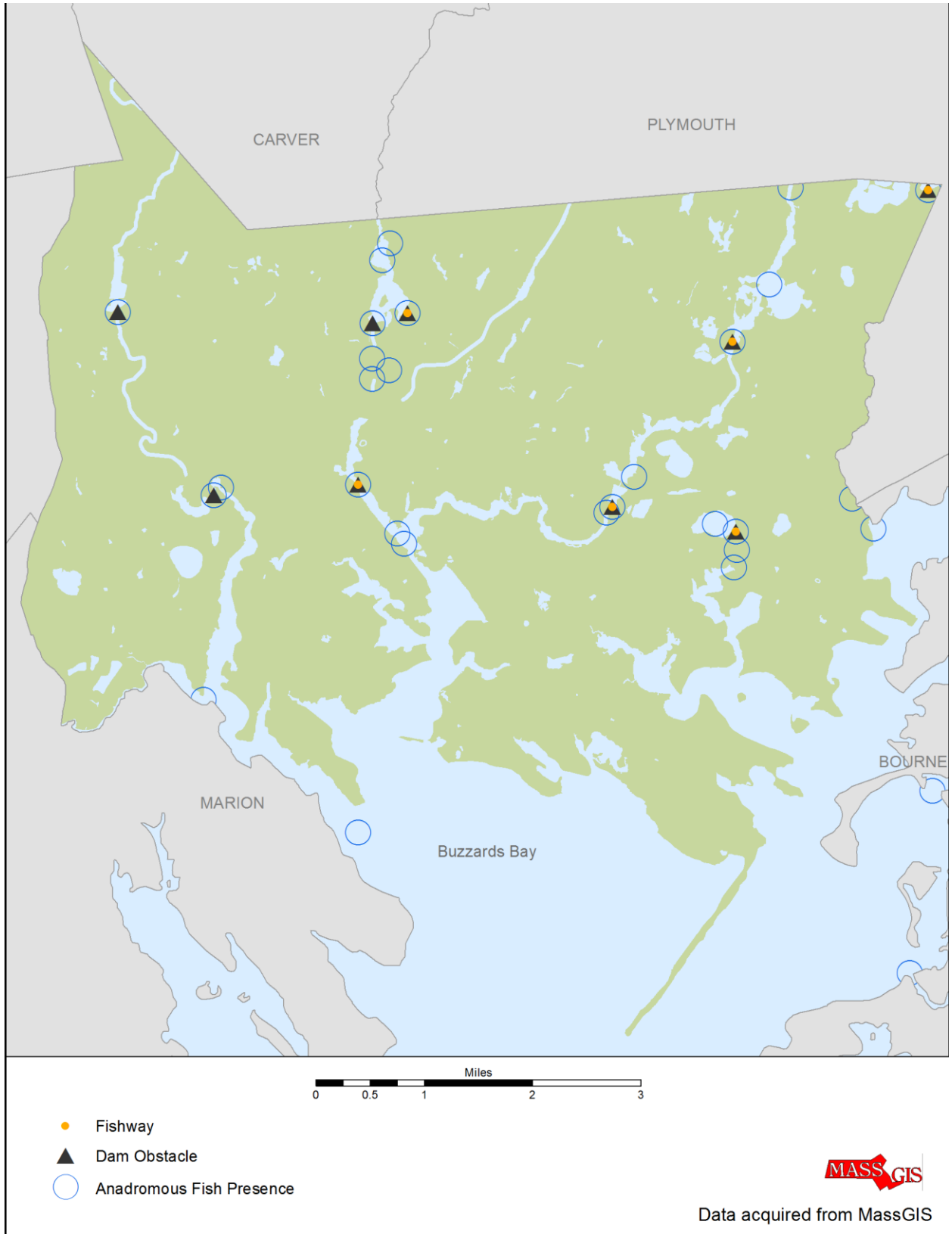
**MAP 14 SALT MARSHES AND BARRIER BEACHES**



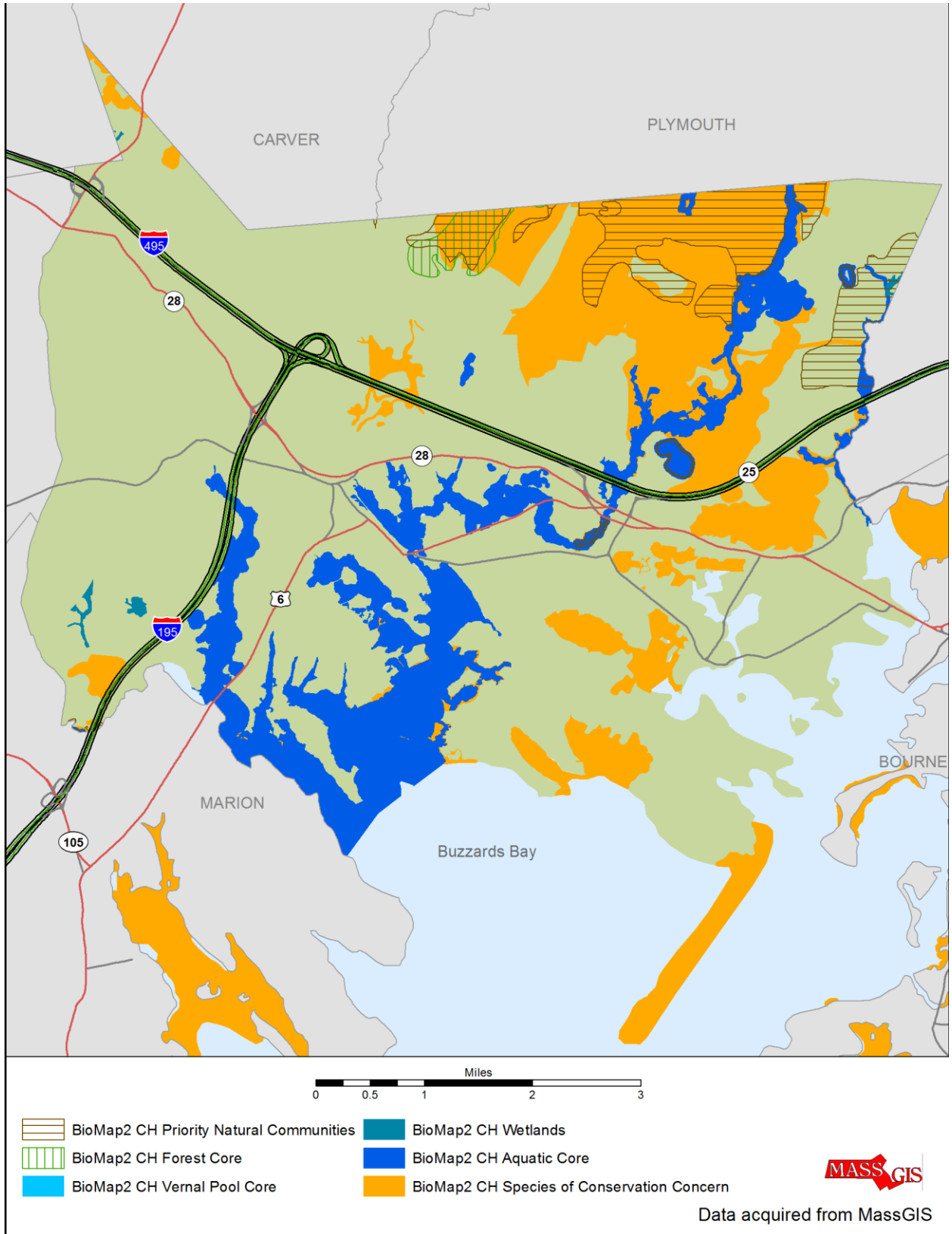
**MAP 15 FLOOD HAZARD AREAS**



**MAP 16 PLYMOUTH-CARVER SOLE SOURCE AQUIFER**

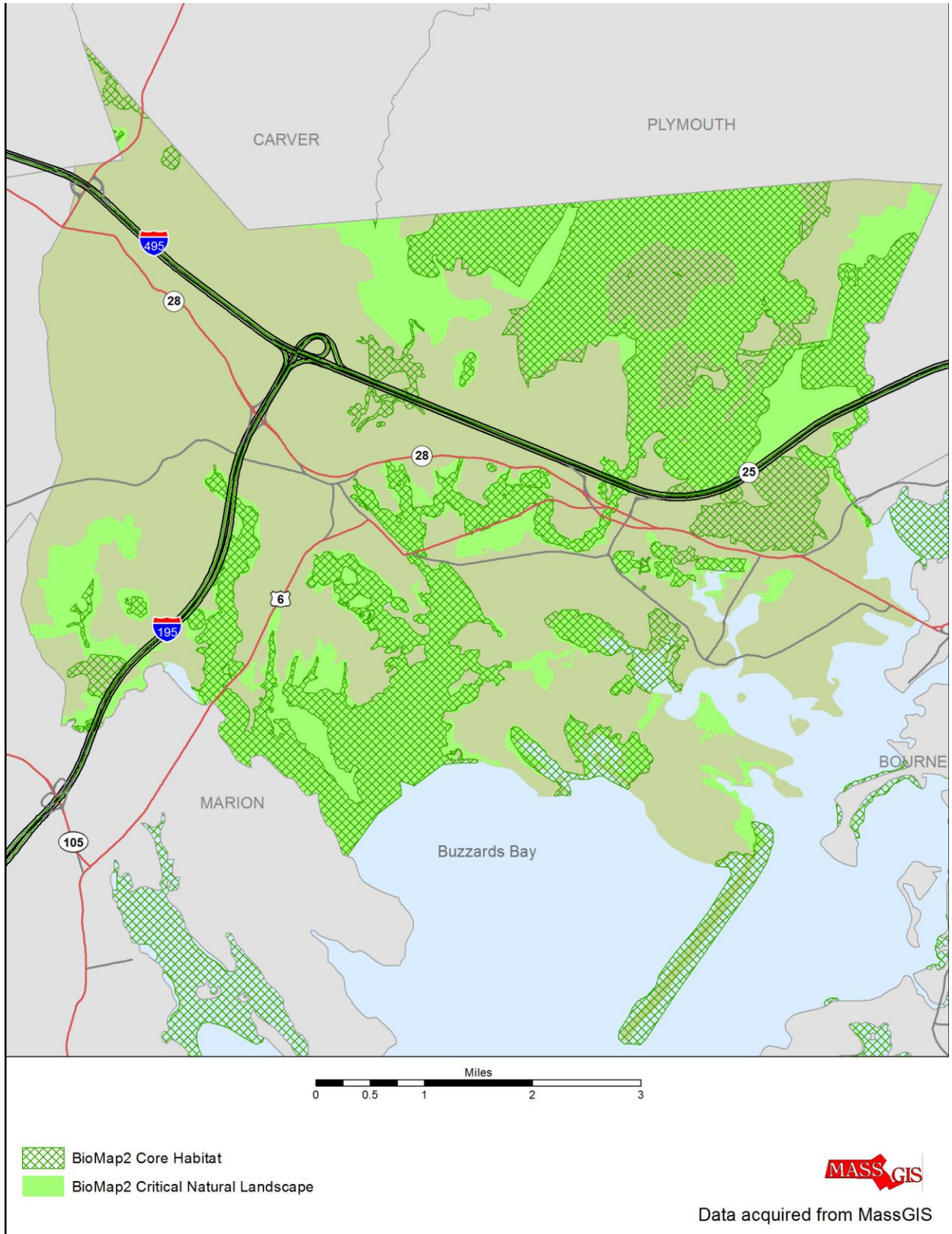


**MAP 17 ANADROMOUS FISH**

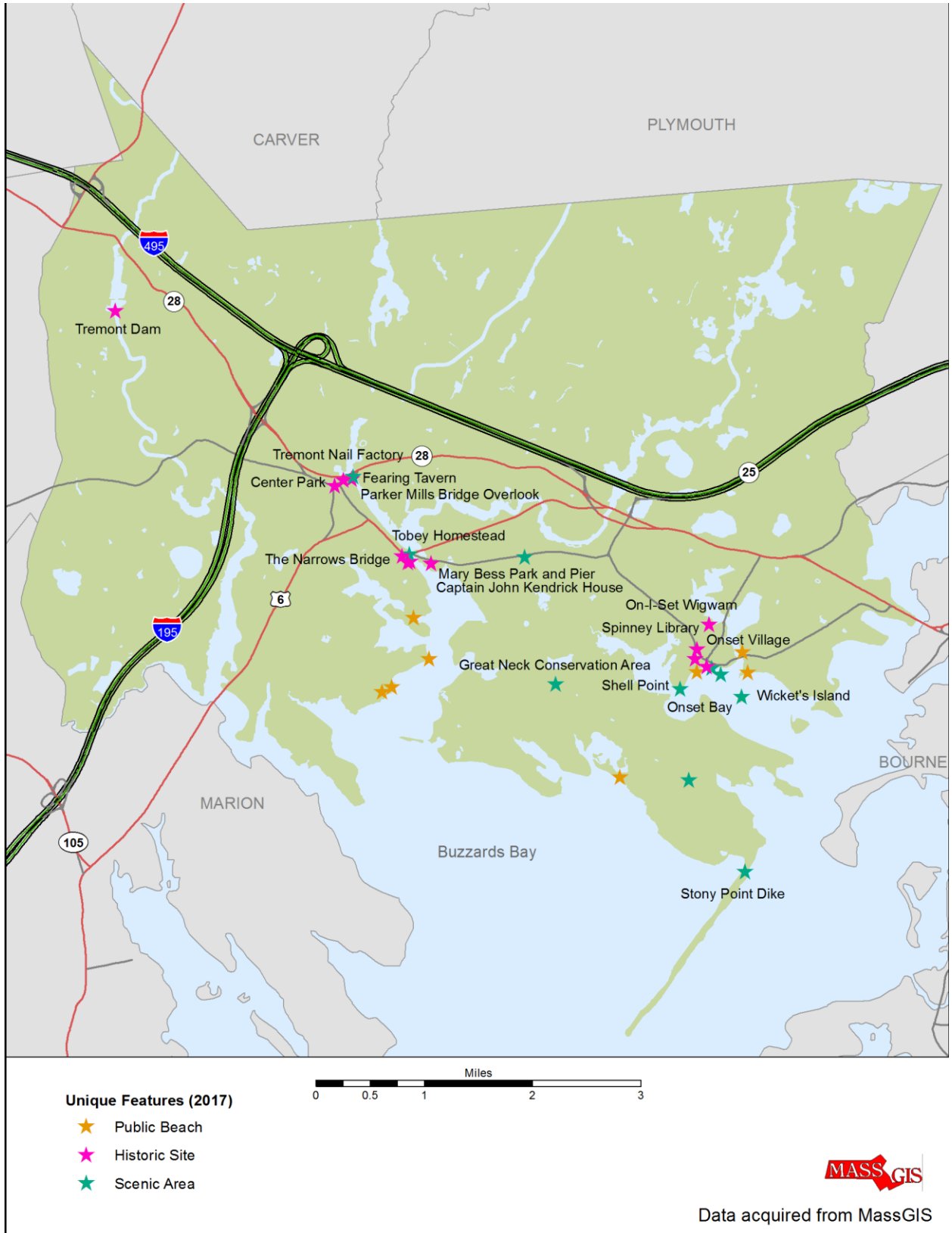


MAP 18 NHESP BIOMAP2 CORE COMPONENT

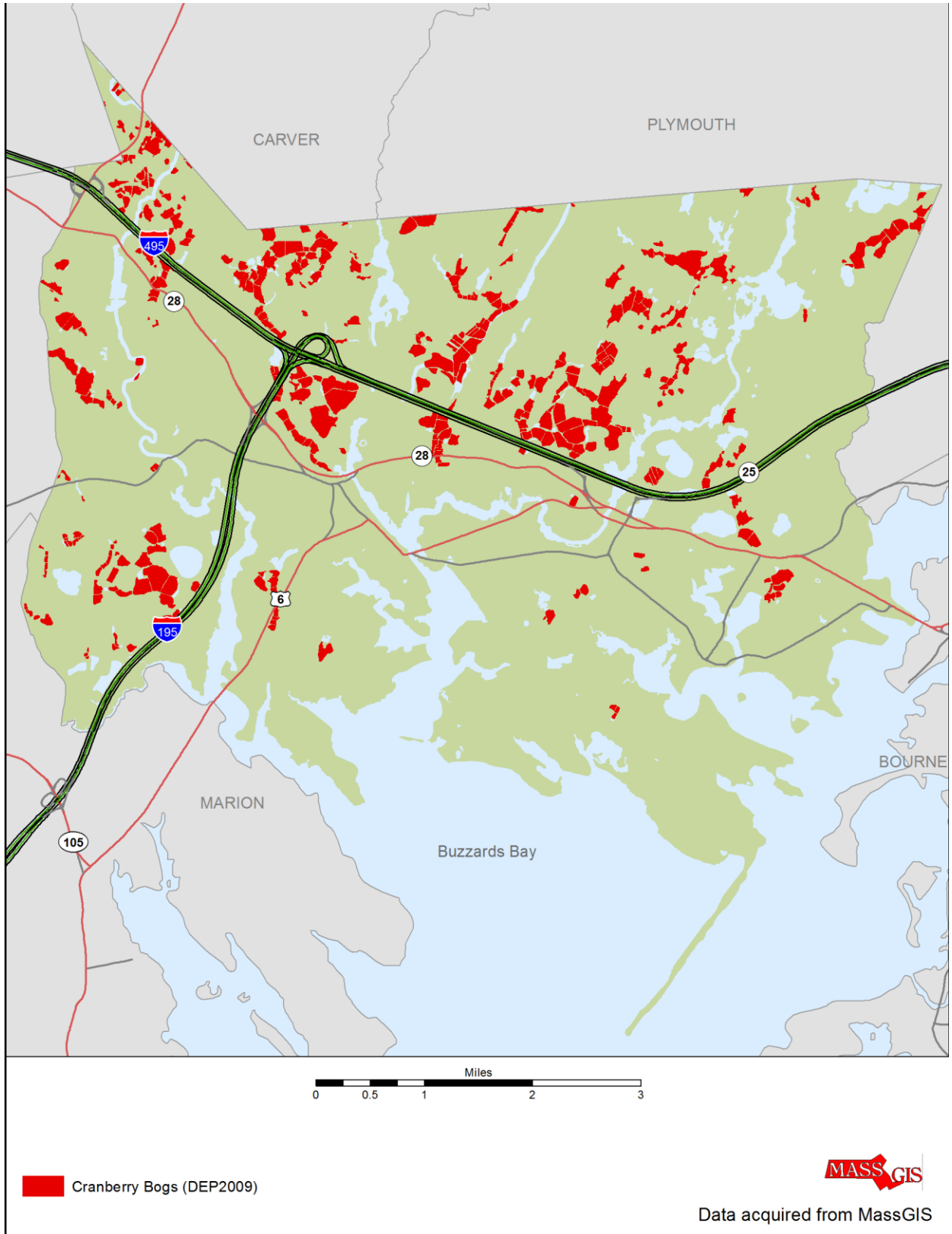




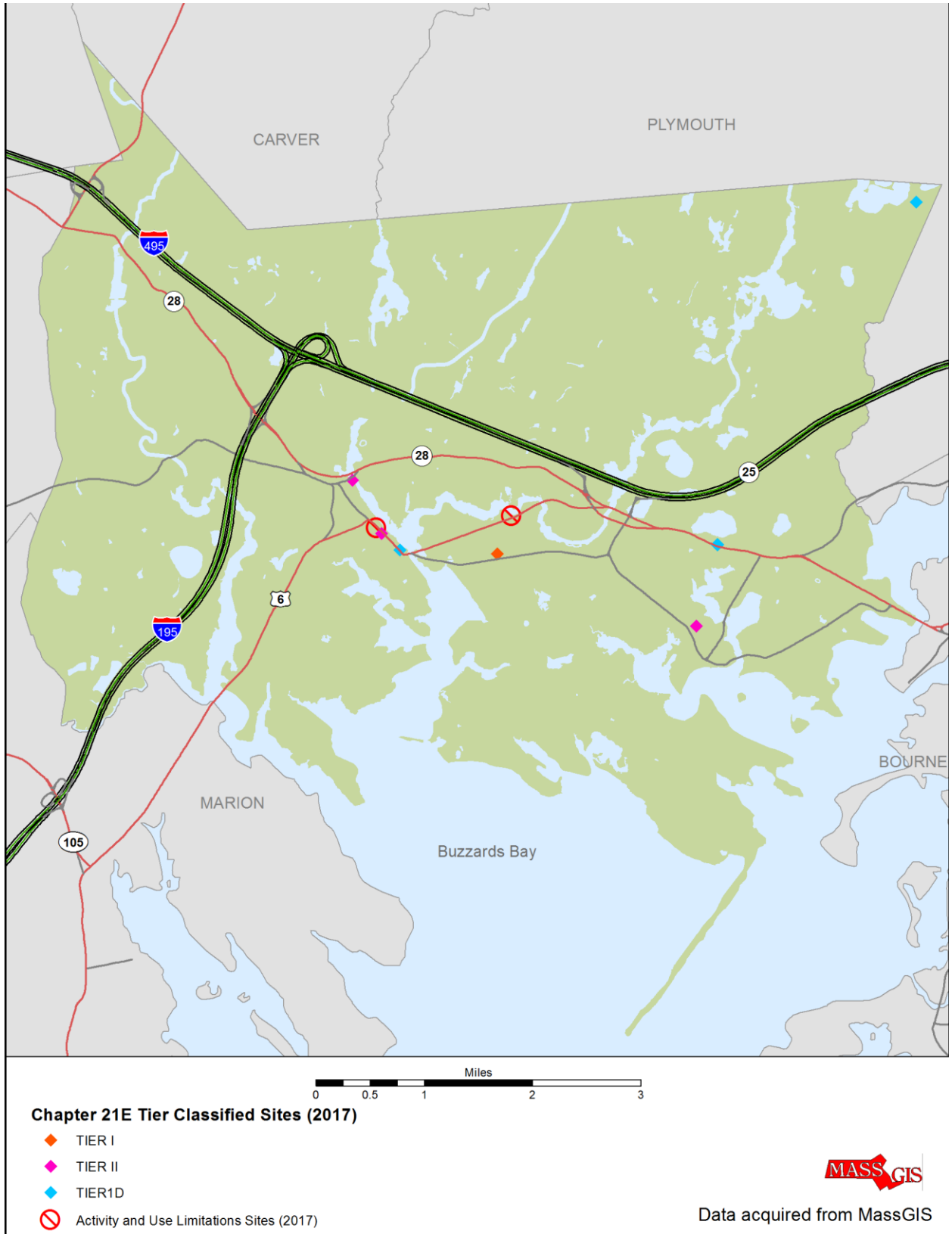
MAP 19 NHESP BioMAP2



MAP 20 UNIQUE FEATURES



**MAP 21 CRANBERRY BOGS**



MAP 22 HAZARDOUS WASTE SITES

## **Section 5 Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest**

The value of open space is shown in many ways. Open space protection leads to financial benefits, recreational opportunities, preserves natural resources, and safeguards public health. It provides visual respite, ecological benefits, and has a positive effect on physical and mental health. Open space is critical for maintaining recharge of the Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer – Wareham's only source of drinking water. Open space supports the continued existence of rare species and critical habitats.

In dollar terms, open space increases the property value of adjacent properties, attracts more tourism, and reduces demand for public services. Open space is sound fiscal policy for a municipality. Studies have shown that residential growth contributes to the demand for local services to a greater degree than any other category of land use. Open space can reduce financial burdens on the town—the cost of providing municipal services to newly developed neighborhoods outweighs its potential tax revenue. A current Open Space and Recreation Plan makes the town eligible to apply for grants sponsored by the Department of Conservation Services.

Maintaining land as open space is an integral component of preserving the overall quality of life for Wareham's residents. Protected open space ensures that the Town's rural character will be maintained. Open space acquisition should be continue and, to the extent practical, targeted to encourage efficacious groundwater recharge, stream flow maintenance, and habitat protection.

Responsible and well-planned economic growth is a critical component for a healthy local economy and the overall sustainability of any community, including Wareham. Wareham needs targeted growth and development that will work synergistically with our goals to permanently protect a reasonable level of open space. This effort will enhance the Town and preserve its rural character.

Protected open space is land that is set aside, in perpetuity, for the benefit of all. Unprotected open space provides many of the same benefits as protected open space with one exception—it remains open space only at the discretion of the owners. Unprotected open space can be developed at any time thus losing a valuable resource forever.

Open space in Wareham is protected through a variety of means. To protect private land in perpetuity, the deed must be restricted. A Conservation Restriction (known as a Conservation Easement outside of Massachusetts) is the most common type of deed restriction, but there are others. The following list, although not complete, describes some common methods to protect open space.

### Acquisition

The most straightforward way of preserving open space is outright purchase and encumbering the deed with a restriction that will protect it in perpetuity.

### Article 97

In 1972, Massachusetts's voters approved an amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution, Article 97, granting people the right to a clean environment. Article 97 requires that any land or easements taken or acquired for natural resource purposes shall not be used for other purpose unless the Massachusetts legislature approves the change by a two-thirds vote. Article 97 is intended to be a legislative 'check' to ensure that lands acquired for conservation purposes were not converted to other inconsistent uses.

### Chapter 61

Massachusetts General Law authorizes three tax reduction programs known as: 1) Chapter 61 – the Forestland Act; 2) Chapter 61A – the Farmland Assessment Act; and 3) Chapter 61B – the Recreational Land Act. Property taxes on farm, forest, and open space lands are reduced, provided the owners make a commitment to keep their lands in one or more of those uses and withhold the land from development. These programs retain open space and municipalities have a "right of first

refusal” to acquire lands that are removed from the program at the same price as a named buyer. The three Chapter 61 laws also allow municipalities to assign the right of first refusal to a nonprofit conservation organization or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and its political subdivisions. Lands in “chapter” protection are not permanently protected. These properties may be partially or fully developable at some time in the future. During the first ten years, there is a penalty for removing a property from the program. Nearly all Wareham parcels in the program have passed the inception period. After the first ten years, in order for a property to be developed, the owner would have to pay current year property taxes plus the taxes for the previous four years. As property values and development pressures increase, it is likely that some owners will opt to leave the program and develop their properties.

#### Conservation Restriction

The most traditional tool for conserving private land is a “conservation restriction” or CR (known as a Conservation Easement outside of Massachusetts). A CR is a legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust or government agency that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect its conservation value. A conservation restriction allows landowners to continue to own and use their land and they can sell it or pass it on to heirs. In some cases, the deed stipulates that the CR will only be in effect for a period of years, in this case the land is not permanently protected. Without this time-limit restriction, any land that has a conservation restriction in the deed is protected in perpetuity.

#### Donation of Land

Land may be donated to a land trust, government agency, or municipality for conservation.

#### Bargain Sale

In a bargain sale, land is sold to a land trust for less than its fair market value. A charitable income tax deduction is allowed based on the difference between the land’s fair market value and its sale price.

#### Donation with a Lifetime Income (Charitable Trust)

A charitable gift annuity or a charitable remainder unitrust allow a landowner to donate land to a land trust and receive income over the course of their lifetime. Charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder unitrusts are most useful for highly appreciated land, the sale of which would incur high capital gains tax.

#### Watershed and Aquifer Protection

Lands acquired by municipalities for watershed and aquifer protection are often permanently protected open space under Article 97.



## Land of Conservation and Recreation Interest Inventory

The Land of Conservation and Recreation Interest Inventory includes land that has significant value for conservation, recreation, and agriculture, some of this land is protected in perpetuity and some is not. Private, public, and nonprofit landowners are included.

Map 23—Inventory of Open Space is located at the end of Section 5.

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) identifies areas in Wareham that are important for the protection of rare species, habitats vital for rare wildlife, and land that harbors exemplary natural communities. These areas are not included in this inventory, but they are identified in Map 13, Map 18, and Map 19 located at the end of Section 4.

Map 13—NHESP Natural Communities

Map 18—NHESP Biomap2 Core Components

Map 19—NHESP BioMap2

Private Parcels inventories significant private holdings greater than 5 acres including:

- Forestlands including those held in Chapter 61
- Agricultural property including those held in Chapter 61A
- Private recreation facilities such as golf courses, marinas, and recreational land including those held in Chapter 61B
- Land encumbered by a deed restriction specifying conservation or recreation use

For a detailed list, see Table 3: Private Parcels Inventory located in Section 5A—Private Parcels.

The only land protected in perpetuity in the Private Parcels inventory are the ones with a Conservation Restriction or other deed restriction. Land in “chapter” protection (Chapter 61, Chapter 61A, and Chapter 61B) is not permanently protected. These properties may be partially or fully developable at some time in the future.

The owner of private parcels is also the manager except in the case of Conservation Restrictions. The organization responsible for managing private land that has a Conservation Restriction is listed in Table 4.

For a detailed list, see Table 4: Private Land with a Conservation Restriction located in Section 5A—Private Parcels.

Public Parcels inventories federal, state, and municipal lands and facilities including those dedicated for conservation or recreational use including:

- Conservation and recreational land owned by the Town of Wareham, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the United States of America
- Land acquired for watershed and aquifer protection
- Protected public recreation and conservation areas
- Unprotected public recreation, conservation, and open space areas
- Other unprotected public land

Information about access for persons with disabilities for the Town of Wareham’s recreation areas can be found in Appendix A: ADA Accessibility Self-Evaluation.

For a detailed inventory of federal, state, and municipal lands and facilities in Wareham, see Table 5: Public Parcels Inventory located in Section 5B—Public and Nonprofit Parcels.

Nonprofit Parcels inventories conservation and recreation land greater than 3 acres owned by nonprofit organizations including:

- Properties owned by land trusts
- Properties owned by other nonprofit conservation organizations
- Properties owned by nonprofit organizations that support recreation

For a detailed list, see Table 6: Nonprofit Parcels located in Section 5B—Public and Nonprofit Parcels.



**A. Private Parcels****TABLE 3 PRIVATE PARCELS INVENTORY**

Source: Wareham Assessors Database, 2016

Private Parcel Owner	Current Use	Access	Protection	Zone	Acres	Map and Lot
290 Glen Charlie Road Llc	Chapter 61A - Productive Woodlots	No	None	R130	12.63	127_1008
290 Glen Charlie Road Llc	Chapter 61A - Productive Woodlots	No	None	R130	11.46	127_1007_A
Adm Cranberry Company Llc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	6.97	106_1004
Akins Patricia R Trustee	Chapter 61A - Vegetables	No	None	MR30	19.91	88_1007_A
Ashley Herbert W	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		39.70	115_1011
Ashley Herbert W	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		29.60	115_1005
Ashley Herbert W	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		41.30	115_1012
Ashley James E	Agricultural Land not in Chapter 61A	No	None	MR30	6.40	115_1021
Ashley James E	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R130	238.10	115_1014
Ashley James E	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		29.30	115_1013
Atwood William F	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R130	32.89	131_10_A
Baldwin Rose W	Chapter 61B - Recreation Land	Yes	None	R60	5.40	33_3
Baldwin Rose W Et Als Trs	Chapter 61B - Recreation Land	Yes	None	R60	5.83	36_9_A
Baldwin Rose W Et Als Trustees	Chapter 61B - Recreation Land	Yes	None	R60	24.29	33_1000
Baptiste Brothers Ltd	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		10.51	105_1004
Barlow Cindy A	Agricultural Land not in Chapter 61A	No	None		5.98	103_1039
Barlow Cindy A	Agricultural Land not in Chapter 61A	No	None	R60	53.25	103_1038
Bartholomew Family Bogs Llc	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	MR30	23.69	97_1031
Bartholomew Family Bogs Llc	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	MR30	6.31	98_1031
Bartholomew Family Bogs Llc	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	MR30	20.40	96_1005_P
Bartholomew Family Bogs Llc	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	MR30	7.87	98_1004_P
Bartholomew Family Bogs Llc	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	MR30	11.82	98_1011_P
Bartholomew Family Bogs Llc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	MR30	8.23	98_1018
Bartholomew Family Bogs Llc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	MR30	9.62	98_1012
Bartholomew Family Bogs Llc	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	MR30	7.76	98_1004
Bay Pointe Club Llc	Recreation Land not in Chapter 61B	Yes	None	CNRC	137.48	2_1004_A
Bayside Agricultural Inc	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R130	92.70	126_1005_A
Blackmore Cranberry Bogs Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		9.16	77_1001
Blackmore Cranberry Bogs Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	6.68	77_1005
Common Lands Conservation Llc	Chapter 61B - Recreation Land	Yes	None	R60	20.72	33_I
Common Lands Conservation Llc	Chapter 61B - Recreation Land	Yes	None	R60	11.83	35_N
Corwin Paul Executor	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None		13.21	77_1002_P
Dan Johnson Cranberries Llc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	MR30	44.41	99_1023
Defelice Francis	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R60	8.91	63_1005_B
Degrenier Roseann	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	SC	12.50	132_1032
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	94.03	70_1001

Private Parcel Owner	Current Use	Access	Protection	Zone	Acres	Map and Lot
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	5.43	72_1021
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	5.51	72_1016
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	9.12	72_1009
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	24.72	71_1003
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	24.36	72_1006
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	8.39	72_1022
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	14.16	71_1002
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	6.54	71_1006
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	30.88	72_1015
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	15.34	69_1002
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	10.33	70_1002
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	6.31	65_1011
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None		15.17	77_1006
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	8.67	65_1007
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	8.02	75_1005
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R60	14.56	71_1001
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R60	11.41	72_1007
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R60	7.66	72_1008
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R60	60.19	73_1001
Eagle Holt Company Inc	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R60	6.94	71_1004
Erickson Richard A Trustee	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	7.49	103_1042
Fielding Richard	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R60	12.23	72_1011
Fielding Rodney A	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	MR30	11.86	14_1002
Florindo Gary F	Agricultural Land not in Chapter 61A	No	None	MR30	11.26	102_1007_C
Gleason Robert C	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	R60	9.40	52_P11_A
Gleason Robert C	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	R30	6.21	51_1001
Gleason Robert C	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	R30	19.03	52_P1007
Harju Ellen	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	36.44	64_1006
Hedin E Richard	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	MR30	19.02	96_1007
Hurd George N	Chapter 61B - Recreation Land	Yes	None	R60	15.31	34_A
Keyes Dana & Gleason Elizabeth Tr	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	R30	13.10	11_34_A
Little Harbor Country Club Inc	Chapter 61B - Recreation Land	Yes	None		5.17	28_1010
Little Harbor Country Club Inc	Chapter 61B - Recreation Land	Yes	None		22.17	28_1000
Little Harbor Country Club Inc	Recreation Land not in Chapter 61B	Yes	None		18.90	28_1001
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None		25.78	105_1002_A
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	19.37	106_1012
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	8.50	113_1015
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	20.83	106_1000_B
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R130	14.50	116_1006

Private Parcel Owner	Current Use	Access	Protection	Zone	Acres	Map and Lot
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	22.10	114_1001
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R130	15.63	117_1002
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	37.00	113_1021
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		12.54	107_1009
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	210.00	114_1000
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	6.43	106_1009
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	112.40	112_1000
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R130	79.11	126_3
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		15.08	107_1000
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R130	18.85	126_6
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R130	48.80	118_1002
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		17.75	107_1001
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	512.70	111_1000
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		5.61	107_1007
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	52.70	113_1000
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R130	79.00	116_1010
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R130	8.19	116_1007
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R130	9.80	116_1012
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	20.38	106_1013
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R130	102.77	117_1001
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R130	320.43	129_1161
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R130	24.70	116_1016
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R130	11.40	116_1011
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	20.80	114_1002
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	5.50	113_1017
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None		6.63	108_1008_P
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None		27.20	105_1014
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R130	41.60	117_1009
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	8.50	110_1024
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R130	13.10	117_1007
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R130	6.60	127_1005
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R130	46.00	127_1002
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None		7.47	107_1008
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None		22.43	107_1004
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	129.80	110_1015
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None		6.46	105_1013
Makepeace Co A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	MR30	25.70	110_1016
Makepeace Company A D	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	IND	19.95	108_1006_A1
Makepeace Company A D	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None		16.49	107_1003

Private Parcel Owner	Current Use	Access	Protection	Zone	Acres	Map and Lot
Makepeace/F-H Acquisition Corp	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	178.47	106_1002
Makepeace/F-H Acquisition Corp	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	6.10	106_A
Makepeace/F-H Acquisition Corp	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	42.74	106_1014
Mann Keith A Trustee Of The	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		83.91	59_1027
Mann Keith A Trustee Of The	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		13.10	58_1054
Meredith Brett W	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		37.81	104_1049_A
Meredith Brett W	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	17.11	104_1049_B
Meredith Brett W	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	18.82	104_1049_D
Niemi Robert	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	5.35	93_LC_A
Noble Golf Llc	Recreation Land not in Chapter 61B	Yes	None	MR30	13.81	44_1006_C
Oconnor Daniel F Trustee	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	156.41	113_1020
Parkwood Beach Improvement	Chapter 61B - Recreation Land	Yes	None	R30	11.22	38_1003
Patterson Brook Corporation	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	SC	20.65	105_1020_A
Patterson Brook Corporation	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None		14.02	105_1008
Pavao Jeffrey J	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R60	6.00	69_1004_A
Popes Pond Cranberry Co Inc	Agricultural Land not in Chapter 61A	No	None	R30	21.84	41_1012_A
Rinta Andrew B	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R60	18.79	103_1032
Rinta Paul E	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	10.50	104_V_B
Rinta Paul E	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	MR30	9.30	10_1010_A
Rinta Paul E	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	28.34	104_1046
Rinta Paul E	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		5.29	103_1035
Rinta Paul E	Chapter 61A - Orchard	No	None	R60	6.90	104_V_C
Rinta Paul E	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R60	25.01	103_1019_A
Rounsville Hammond &	Agricultural Land not in Chapter 61A	No	None	R130	6.35	130_1017
Rounsville Hammond &	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R130	25.91	130_1016
Rounsville Hammond &	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None		6.97	127_A1
Rounsville Hammond &	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R130	26.70	130_1006
Rounsville, Hammond &	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R130	126.96	130_1002
Sawyer Timothy M	Chapter 61B - Recreation Land	Yes	None	R130	12.10	128_1006
Slocum-Gibbs Cranberry Co	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	R60	30.20	104_PT_A
Slocum-Gibbs Cranberry Co	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	R60	6.90	104_PT_C
Slocum-Gibbs Cranberry Co	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	R60	23.36	104_PTK2
Slocum-Gibbs Cranberry Co	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	23.84	104_A
Slocum-Gibbs Cranberry Co	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	14.73	104_J
Slocum-Gibbs Cranberry Co	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	10.70	104_G
Slocum-Gibbs Cranberry Co	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	12.01	104_K2
Slocum-Gibbs Cranberry Co	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	15.31	104_M
Slocum-Gibbs Cranberry Co	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	SC	15.40	104_1039
Slocum-Gibbs Cranberry Co	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R60	6.88	104_1_A

Private Parcel Owner	Current Use	Access	Protection	Zone	Acres	Map and Lot
Sure-Cran Services Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		23.00	115_1001
Sure-Cran Services Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		6.20	115_1009
Sure-Cran Services Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		16.00	115_1008
Sure-Cran Services Inc	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		6.80	115_1007
Sure-Cran Services Inc	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R130	23.89	113_1013_B
Sure-Cran Services Inc	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None		15.90	113_1012
Sure-Cran Services Inc	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R130	5.03	113_1014_C
Sure-Cran Services Inc	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None		5.60	115_1006
Sure-Cran Services Inc	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	MR30	9.00	110_1072
Sure-Cran Services Inc	Chapter 61A - Roads, Buildings, and Ponds	No	None	R130	16.60	114_1006
Truran Douglas W	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R130	5.08	129_1005_A
Truran Eric J	Chapter 61 - Forest Land	No	None	R130	14.55	130_A1
Tweedy & Barnes Co	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	9.13	94_1015
Tweedy & Barnes Co	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		6.00	95_1006
Tweedy & Barnes Co	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None		48.72	95_1013_H
Tweedy & Barnes Co	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	R60	61.20	113_1018
Tweedy & Barnes Co	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	MR30	6.71	110_1070_B
Tweedy & Barnes Co	Chapter 61A - Cranberry	No	None	SC	52.80	110_1068
Tweedy & Barnes Co	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	MR30	7.10	97_1035_A
Tweedy & Barnes Co	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	5.50	110_1039
Tweedy & Barnes Co	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	R60	7.40	113_1024
Tweedy & Barnes Co	Chapter 61A - Non-Productive Land	No	None	MR30	13.30	96_1002
Water Wizz Of Cape Cod Inc	Recreation Land not in Chapter 61B	Yes	None	SC	6.68	12_LC36
White David	Agricultural Land not in Chapter 61A	No	None	R60	18.41	66_1001
Zecco Marine Llc	Recreation Land not in Chapter 61B	Yes	None	MRN	12.32	46_1002
Zimmer Patricia H	Chapter 61B - Recreation Land	Yes	None	R60	9.34	63_1018

**TABLE 3 PRIVATE PARCELS INVENTORY**

**TABLE 4 PRIVATE PARCELS WITH A CONSERVATION RESTRICTION INVENTORY**

Source: Buzzards Bay NEP, 2017

Private Parcel Owner	Manager	Current Use	Access	Protection	Grant	Acres	Map and Lot
Baldwin Brothers	Wareham Land Trust	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		4.27	36-P-2
Charles A. Cheever	MA Audubon & Wareham Land Trust	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		1.83	26-G1B
Cheever, Daniel and Stasiowski, Susan	MA Audubon & Wareham Land Trust	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		8.8	26-1000
Decas, John	Buzzards Bay Coalition	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		1.25	21-C
Decas, John	Buzzards Bay Coalition	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		4.4	21-1019
Gleason, Dr.	Wareham Land Trust	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		4.36	51-1007
Gray, Judith	Wildlands Trust of SE Massachusetts	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		2.01	31-4-B
Gray, Samuel P.M.	Wildlands Trust of SE Massachusetts	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		1.76	31-1A
Indian Neck Land Conservation	Wildlands Trust	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		34.4	33-I-A
Indian Neck Land Conservation	Wildlands Trust	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		34.4	35-N
Lyman Family	MA Audubon & Wareham Land Trust	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		16	26-1000
Narragansett Council BSA	Division of State Parks & Recreation	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		36.3	117-1004
New England Forestry Foundation	New England Forestry Foundation	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		39	36-8
Peirce, John W.	Wildlands Trust of SE Massachusetts	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		6.62	37-A
Peirce, John W.	Wildlands Trust of SE Massachusetts	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		2.9	31-A
Peirce, John W.	Wildlands Trust of SE Massachusetts	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		34.6	37-B
Phinney, Malcolm	Wareham Land Trust	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		5.20	90-1034
Barker	Wareham Land Trust & Wareham	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction	CPA funds	19.55	27-1000
Private Landowner	Wareham Land Trust	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction	NAWCA grant	3.4	33-8
Private Landowners	Wildlands Trust of SE Massachusetts	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		4.08	37-1009
Truran, Douglas	Wildlands Trust of SE Massachusetts	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		7.9	129-1018
Truran, Mark	Wildlands Trust of SE Massachusetts	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		3.05	129-1005
Zine, Peter & Heather	Wareham Land Trust	Conservation	Limited	Conservation Restriction		3.77	90-1032

**TABLE 4 PRIVATE PARCELS WITH A CONSERVATION RESTRICTION INVENTORY**

**B. Public and Nonprofit Parcels****TABLE 5 PUBLIC PARCELS INVENTORY**

Source: Wareham Assessor's Database, 2016

Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Education	Cranberry Experiment Station	Education	Yes	Good	Good	R130		None	19.6	129_1029
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Fish & Game	Agawam Mill Pond Boat Ramp	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	CS		Protected	1.4	129_1074
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Fish & Game	Century Bog	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R130	Env.Bond	Protected	88.8	125_1000
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Fish & Game	Century Bog	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R130	Env.Bond	Protected	166.2	125_1001
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Fish & Game	Century Bog Canal	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R130	Env.Bond	Protected	5.5	125_CA
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Fish & Game	Maple Springs Wildlife Management Area	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R130		Protected	128.7	126_M1
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Fish & Game	Redbrook Reserve	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R130		Protected	190.9	128_1010
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Fish & Game	Spectacle Pond Area	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R130		Protected	0.3	129_1013
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Fish & Game	Spectacle Pond Area	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R130		Protected	0.1	129_1014
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Fish & Game	Spectacle Pond Area	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R130		Protected	0.1	129_1015
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Active Railroad	Transportation	No	Good	None	CS		None	7.4	12_1011
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Active Railroad	Transportation	No	Good	None	CS		None	10.9	8_1069
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Active Railroad	Transportation	No	Good	None	MR30		None	5.1	10_1021
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Active Railroad	Transportation	No	Good	None	MR30		None	13.7	101_1003
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Active Railroad	Transportation	No	Good	None	MR30		None	7.9	132_1088
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Active Railroad	Transportation	No	Good	None	MR30		None	6	15_1066
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Active Railroad	Transportation	No	Good	None	MR30		None	11.4	44_1009
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Active Railroad	Transportation	No	Good	None	MR30		None	5.2	82_1012
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Active Railroad	Transportation	No	Good	None	MR30		None	5.3	83_1026
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Active Railroad	Transportation	No	Good	None	MR30		None	7.1	89_1009
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Adjacent to I 195	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	21.5	80_1005
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Between Sippican River and I 195	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	5.2	67_1005
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Between Sippican River and I 195	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	35.7	68_1005
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Highway Maintenance Facility	Transportation	No	Good	None	MR30		None	6.1	129_1055
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	I 195 Boat Ramp Area	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	R60		None	26.9	77_1007
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	I 195 Boat Ramp Area	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	R60		None	29.2	79_1005
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Vacant Rail Bed	Vacant	Yes	Fair	Good	MR30		None	7.3	97_1044
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Vacant Rail Bed	Vacant	Yes	Fair	Good	R60		None	3.1	72_1023

Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Vacant Rail Bed	Vacant	Yes	Fair	Good	R60		None	1.4	73_1006
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Vacant Rail Bed	Vacant	Yes	Fair	Good	R60		None	2.7	74_1013
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Vacant Rail Bed	Vacant	Yes	Fair	Good	R60		None	6.3	91_1009
Commonwealth of Mass	Department of Transportation	Vacant Rail Bed	Vacant	Yes	Fair	Good	R60		None	3.1	92_1011
Town of Wareham	Buzzards Bay Coalition (CR)	Weweantic Ridge Conservation Area	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R60	EPA	Protected	21.9	75_1004
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Agawam Mill Pond Access	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	0.2	129_1162
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Beaverdam Creek Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	1.4	54_1003
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Beaverdam Creek Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	1.8	53_1019
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Beaverdam Creek Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	1.2	53_1010_A
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Birch Island Conservation Area	Conservation	Yes	Fair	Good	MR30		Protected	20	81_1000_B
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Brainerd Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	8.6	53_1002
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Broad Marsh Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	3.3	48_1046
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Broad Marsh Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	3	48_1059_A
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Broad Marsh Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	0.4	48_1061
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Broad Marsh Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	1	48_1063_A
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Broad Marsh Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	9.9	48_1064
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Broad Marsh Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	1.5	48_1067
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Broad Marsh Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	1	48_1068
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Broad Marsh Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	2.1	49_1009_B
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Broad Marsh Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R60		Protected	0.1	18_1030
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Broad Marsh Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R60		Protected	0.5	18_1039_A
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Broad Marsh Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R60		Protected	3.2	18_1032
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Cedar Island	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	1.5	52_1002
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Cromesett Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	2	52_1006_A
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Cromesett Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	1.5	54_1008
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Cromesett Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	2.5	54_1011
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Easement	Conservation	No	Good	None	OVR		Protected	0.1	1_492_A
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Estuary off of Onset Ave	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	1.8	16_1030
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Helen Palmer Lincoln Conservation Area	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	24	80_B8
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Mallard Road Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	9.8	133_A_D
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Onset Avenue Wetland	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	11.3	14_1003



Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Over Jordan Road Parcel	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R60		Protected	0.2	20_A
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Spectacle Pond Area	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R130		Protected	0.1	129_1016
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Swifts Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	0.1	50_D_142
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Swifts Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	0.1	50_D_144
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Swifts Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	0.2	50_D_172
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Swifts Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	0.2	50_D_191
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Swifts Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	0.1	50_D_194
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Swifts Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	0.1	50_D_199
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Swifts Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	0.1	50_D_234
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Swifts Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	0.2	50_D_237
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Swifts Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	0.2	50_D_240
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Swifts Neck Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	1.6	50_F_B4
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Tower Terrace Preserve	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	2.1	61_24
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Tower Terrace Preserve	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	2.4	61_31
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Tower Terrace Preserve	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	0.5	61_36
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Tower Terrace Preserve	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	3.2	61_39
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Tower Terrace Preserve	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	16	61_52
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Wareham River Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	4.3	132_1075
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Weweantic River Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	CS		Protected	2.2	58_1006
Town of Wareham	Conservation Commission	Weweantic River Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	CS		Protected	2	58_1008
Town of Wareham	Harbormaster	Onset Pier	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVC		Protected	0.3	1_1052_A
Town of Wareham	Harbormaster	Onset Pier	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVC		Protected	1.4	1_1052_B
Town of Wareham	Minot Forest Committee	Minot Forest	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	1.8	44_1001
Town of Wareham	Minot Forest Committee	Minot Forest	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	0.9	39_1003
Town of Wareham	Minot Forest Committee	Minot Forest	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	13.7	39_1005
Town of Wareham	Minot Forest Committee	Minot Forest	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	38	39_1006
Town of Wareham	Minot Forest Committee	Minot Forest	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	10.7	39_L
Town of Wareham	Minot Forest Committee	Minot Forest	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	21.9	40_1011
Town of Wareham	Minot Forest Committee	Minot Forest	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	5.6	40_1019
Town of Wareham	Minot Forest Committee	Minot Forest	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	94.4	42_1000
Town of Wareham	Minot Forest Committee	Minot Forest	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R43		Protected	6.7	39_J

Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Adjacent to Highway	Vacant	Yes	Good	Poor	R130		None	5.7	131_1000
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Adjacent to Highway	Vacant	Yes	Good	Poor	R130		None	5.1	131_1001
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Adjacent to School Ballfields	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.3	47_1007
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Adjacent to School Ballfields	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	1.1	47_1010
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Adjacent to School Ballfields	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	1	47_1011
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Agawam Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	7.2	40_1012
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Agawam Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	6.2	40_1014
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Agawam River Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Wetland	1	133_1021A
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Agawam River Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Wetland	1	133_1021B
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Area off of Charge Pond Rd	Vacant	No	Good	None	R60		None	0.3	114_B_102
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Area off of Charge Pond Rd	Vacant	No	Good	None	R60		None	0.8	114_B_103
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Area off of Charge Pond Rd	Vacant	No	Good	None	R60		None	0.6	114_B_90
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Area off of Charge Pond Rd	Vacant	No	Good	None	R60		None	1.1	114_B_91
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Area off of Charge Pond Rd	Vacant	No	Good	None	R60		None	1.6	114_D_2
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Area off of Charge Pond Rd	Vacant	No	Good	None	R60		None	1.8	114_D_4
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Beach on Riverside Drive	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	2.7	11_B
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Beaverdam Creek Estuary	Encroached	Yes	Poor	Poor	R30		Wetland	0.2	53_1009
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Beaverdam Creek Estuary	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Wetland	6.9	58_1018
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Carver Road Tennis Courts	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Good	MR30		None	2.6	100_1022
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Center Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Fair	R60		None	1.3	109_1003
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Center Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Fair	R60		None	1.8	109_1004
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Center Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Fair	R60		None	1.7	109_1005
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Center Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Fair	R60		None	0.1	109_1007
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Center Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Fair	R60		None	0.1	109_1008
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Center Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Fair	R60		None	0.8	109_1009
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Center Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Fair	R60		None	0.1	109_1010
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Center Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Fair	R60		None	2.8	109_1011
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Center Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Fair	R60		None	11	109_1012
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Center Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Fair	R60		None	6.3	109_1001A
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Center Park	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.5	61_1037
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Century Bog	Vacant	No	Poor	None	R130		Wetland	0.1	122_1637

Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Church Avenue Bog	Vacant	Yes	Good	Fair	R30		Wetland	0.2	47_F1
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Church Avenue Bog	Vacant	Yes	Good	Fair	R30		Wetland	5.8	47_F5
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Church Avenue Bog	Vacant	Yes	Good	Fair	R30		Wetland	4.2	47_F6
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Crescent Park	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Fair	OVR		None	0.6	1_1024
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Dudley L. Brown Square	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVC		None	0.1	1_1051
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	East Blvd Land	Vacant	No	Poor	None	OVR		None	0.2	1_1016
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	East Blvd Waterfront	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Fair	OVR		None	1	1_1015_A
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	East Blvd Waterfront	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Fair	OVR		None	0.1	1_1015_B
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Ellis Playground	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVR		None	2	1_1023
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Estuary next to Lopes Field	Conservation	Yes	Good	Fair	OVR		Wetland	1.1	1_1037_B
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Estuary next to Lopes Field	Conservation	Yes	Good	Fair	OVR		Wetland	2.8	1_1038
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Estuary next to Lopes Field	Conservation	Yes	Good	Fair	OVR		Wetland	0.6	1_1045
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Estuary next to Lopes Field	Conservation	Yes	Good	Fair	OVR		Wetland	0.2	1_1046
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Estuary next to Lopes Field	Conservation	Yes	Good	Fair	OVR		Wetland	0.2	1_1047
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Estuary next to Lopes Field	Conservation	Yes	Good	Fair	OVR		Wetland	0.1	1_G9
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Estuary next to Lopes Field	Conservation	Yes	Good	Fair	OVR		Wetland	0.1	1_J6
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Estuary next to Oakdale Playground	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Wetland	6.5	133_1015
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Estuary next to Oakdale Playground	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Wetland	0.3	134_1097B
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Indian Mound Playground	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	R130		Protected	2.9	131_F1
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Adjacent to Little League Fields	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	R60		None	9.2	110_1036
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Land around water tower	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	R60		None	10.2	36_1004_B
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Leonard C. Lopes Playground	Recreation	Yes	Poor	Good	OVR		None	4.6	1_1031
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Lighthouse Gateway Monument	Monument	No	Good	None	CS		None	1.3	109_A1_1033
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Little Harbor Beach	Recreation	Yes; Fee	Good	Good	R60		None	6.2	28_1004
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Little Harbor Parcel	Vacant	Yes	Good	Poor	R60		None	0.4	28_A1
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Little Harbor Wildland	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R60		None	21.7	29_1004
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Long Neck Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	Good	Good	R43		None	1.2	5_1005
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Longwood Park	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVR		None	0.4	1_1049
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Mary Besse Park & Pier	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	WRVL		Protected	0.8	47_1127
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Mary Besse Park & Pier	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	WRVL		Protected	0.6	47_1128
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Mary Wing Park	Recreation	Yes	Good	Poor	R60		None	0.3	109_1014

Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Mary Wing Park	Recreation	Yes	Good	Poor	R60		None	1	109_1016
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Minot Ave	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	25.8	41_P1
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Minot Forest Access	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	1.2	42_A
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Minot Forest Access	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	0.3	42_C
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Minot Forest School Playground	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	20.9	42_1001
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Municipal Maintenance Facility	Town Operations	No	Fair	None	R130		None	21.5	113_1029
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Municipal Maintenance Facility	Town Operations	No	Fair	None	R130		None	7.4	113_1029P
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Municipal Maintenance Stock Piles	Town Operations	No	Fair	None	R60		None	0.3	110_1042
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Municipal Maintenance Stock Piles	Town Operations	No	Fair	None	R60		None	1.7	110_1043
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Near Lopes Playground	Vacant	No	Poor	None	OVR		None	1.1	1_1034
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Neighborhood Parcel	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	R130		None	1.1	128_A1841
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Neighborhood Parcel	Vacant	No	Good	None	R60		None	0.2	36_1001_A
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	North Blvd Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Fair	MR30		Wetland	1	13_B
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Oakdale Playground	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	1.8	134_F99
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Off Swifts Beach Road	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	12.9	56_1
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Off Swifts Beach Road	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.1	56_1004
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Old Town Hall	Town Operations	Yes	Good	Poor	MR30		None	0.8	61_1012
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Onset Beach	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVC		Protected	0.1	1_1005
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Onset Beach	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVC		Protected	0.1	1_1006
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Onset Beach	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVC		Protected	9.6	1_1048
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Onset Beach	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVC		Protected	1.6	1_1054
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Park at Onset Avenue	Recreation	Yes	Good	Poor	CS		None	0.1	17_1000
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Park on Elm Street	Recreation	Yes	Good	Poor	CS		None	0.2	132_1005A
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Park on Elm Street	Recreation	Yes	Good	Poor	CS		None	0.1	132_1005B
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Parking near Lopes Playground	Town Operations	Yes	Poor	Fair	OVR		None	3	1_1025
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Parking next to Prospect Park	Town Operations	Yes	Fair	Poor	OVR		None	1.3	1_1018
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Point Independence	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVR		None	2.3	2_1006
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Point Independence Beach	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.4	3_1033_A
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Point Independence Beach	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.7	3_1033_B
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Prospect Park	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Good	OVC		Protected	0.7	1_1000
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Prospect Park	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Good	OVC		Protected	3.6	1_1002

Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Prospect Park	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Good	OVC		Protected	0.1	1_1003
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Prospect Park	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Good	OVC		Protected	0.1	1_1004
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Redbrook Reserve	Vacant	Yes	Good	Good	R130		None	19.9	128_1003
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Richard Brown Sr. Tennis Courts	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Good	OVR		Protected	2.3	1_1019
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Richard H. Arrunda Playground	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	2.8	61_1162
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Shangri la Parcel	Vacant	No	Poor	None	R130		None	0.2	119_363
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Shangri la Parcel	Vacant	No	Poor	None	R130		None	0.1	119_370
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Shangri la Parcel	Vacant	No	Poor	None	R130		None	0.2	119_441
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Shangri la Parcel	Vacant	No	Poor	None	R130		None	0.1	121_231
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Shangri la Parcel	Vacant	No	Poor	None	R130		None	0.1	123_122
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Shangri la Parcel	Vacant	No	Poor	None	R130		None	0.3	123_1692
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Shangri la Parcel	Vacant	No	Poor	None	R130		None	0.1	124_279
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Shangri la Parcel	Vacant	No	Poor	None	R130		None	0.1	124_280
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Shangri la Playground	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Good	R130		None	1.5	119_1002
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Swamp on Charlette Furnace Rd	Conservation	Yes	Fair	Poor	R60		Wetland	15.5	105_1009
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Swifts Beach	Recreation	Yes, Fee	Good	Good	R30		None	1.7	50_A_C9
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Swifts Beach	Recreation	Yes, Fee	Good	Good	R30		None	5.4	50_B_2_B1
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Swifts Beach	Recreation	Yes, Fee	Good	Good	R30		None	0.2	50_B_2_B2
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Swifts Beach	Recreation	Yes, Fee	Good	Good	R30		None	0.2	50_B_2_B3
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Swifts Beach	Recreation	Yes, Fee	Good	Good	R30		None	0.3	50_D_1036
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Swifts Beach	Recreation	Yes, Fee	Good	Good	R30		None	0.1	50_D_1037
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Swifts Beach Playground	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	8.1	50_1031
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Tempest Knob Terrace Beach Marina	Recreation	Yes, Fee	Good	Good	R30		Term Deed	1.2	39_1001
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Town Hall and Middle School	Town Operations	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	22.4	48_1001
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Tremont Mill Pond	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	35.3	100_1029
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Tremont Mill Pond Dam	Recreation	Yes	Poor	Good	CS		None	22.3	101_1000
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Tremont Nail Complex	Recreation	Yes	Poor	Good	CS		None	7.2	132_A_1
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Union Pond Access	Vacant	Yes	Good	Fair	CS		None	0.6	129_1093A
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Vacant Land	Vacant	Yes	Fair	Poor	R60		None	0.2	113_1023

Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Wabassa Park	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVR		None	0.4	1_1050
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Wabun Park	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVR		None	2.2	1_1022_A
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Wabun Park	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVR		None	0.4	1_1022_B
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Wabun Square	Recreation	Yes	Good	Poor	OVC		None	0.4	1_1017
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Wareham Village Parking	Town Operations	Yes	Good	Fair	MR30		None	0.4	47_1107
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Vacant Land Adjacent to Water District	Vacant	No	Good	None	R130		None	1.5	128_1012
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Westfield Ball Field	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Good	MR30		None	45.3	105_A_90
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Weweantic Playground	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Good	MR30		Protected	4.2	58_1031
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Weweantic Playground	Recreation	Yes	Fair	Good	MR30		Protected	0.3	58_C6
Town of Wareham	Municipal Maintenance	Weweantic River Estuary	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Wetland	5	77_1008
Town of Wareham	Onset Fire District	Onset Fire House	Town Operations	No	Fair	None	OVR		None	0.5	1_230
Town of Wareham	Onset Fire District	Onset Fire House	Town Operations	No	Fair	None	OVR		None	0.2	1_236
Town of Wareham	Police Department	Police Station	Town Operations	No	Fair	None	CS		None	3	84_1029
Town of Wareham	School Department	Decas School / Playground	Education and Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	15.6	82_1001
Town of Wareham	School Department	Decas School / Playground	Education and Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.1	82_1002
Town of Wareham	School Department	Decas School / Playground	Education and Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.1	82_1003
Town of Wareham	School Department	Decas School / Playground	Education and Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.1	82_1004
Town of Wareham	School Department	Decas School / Playground	Education and Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	2.7	82_1005
Town of Wareham	School Department	E. Wareham School / Playground	Education and Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.9	43_1056
Town of Wareham	School Department	E. Wareham School / Playground	Education and Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.2	43_1057
Town of Wareham	School Department	Hammond School / Playground	Education and Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVR		None	0.7	1_1020
Town of Wareham	School Department	Hammond School / Playground	Education and Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	OVR		None	0.7	1_1021
Town of Wareham	School Department	Little League Field	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	2.7	47_1009
Town of Wareham	School Department	W. Wareham School / Playground	Education and Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.8	100_1016
Town of Wareham	School Department	W. Wareham School / Playground	Education and Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	1.9	100_1017
Town of Wareham	School Department	Wareham High School	Education	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	7.4	47_1163_B
Town of Wareham	School Department	Wareham High School	Education	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	2.8	47_F12

Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Town of Wareham	School Department	Wareham High School	Education	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	2.8	47_F7
Town of Wareham	School Department	Wareham High School Ball Fields	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	8.1	47_1162
Town of Wareham	School Department	Wareham Running Track	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.2	48_1003
Town of Wareham	School Department	Wareham Running Track	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	0.5	48_1004
Town of Wareham	School Department	Wareham Running Track	Recreation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		None	11	48_1005
Town of Wareham	School Department	Wareham Multiuse Center	Town Operations	Yes	Good	Good	R30		None	0.8	48_1000
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Apple Street Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	CS		None	0.8	134_F110
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Cohasset Narrows Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	CS		None	0.1	6_1001
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Depot Street Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	MR30		None	0.3	15_1067
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Dicks Pond Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	CS		None	0.2	130_1018
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Industrial Park Pump Station I	Town Operations	No	Good	None	I		None	0.1	108_1006P
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Industrial Park Pump Station II	Town Operations	No	Good	None	I		None	0.3	108_1006_F
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Kennedy Lane Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	MR30		None	0.2	47_1006
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Narrows Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	MRVL		None	0.1	47_1161
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Narrows Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	WRVL		None	0.1	47_1160
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Naumett Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	MR30		None	0.1	3_A_4_67A
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Onset Heights Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	MR30		None	4.8	2_1025_B
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Pinehurst Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	R30		None	0.1	46A2_188B
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Smith Avenue Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	R30		None	0.2	50_F_B1
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	South Water Street Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	OVC		None	0.1	2_1010
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	South Water Street Pump Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	OVC		None	0.1	2_1011
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Wastewater Treatment Plant	Town Operations	No	Good	None	MR30		None	60.9	43_1000
Town of Wareham	Sewer Department	Wastewater Treatment Plant	Town Operations	No	Good	None	MR30		None	0.3	43_W10
Town of Wareham	Wareham Land Trust (CR)	Bryant Farm	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	MR30		Protected	101.3	44_1006_B
Town of Wareham	Wareham Land Trust (CR)	Fearing Hill Conservation Area	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R60	LAND	Protected	66.3	86_1000
Town of Wareham	Wareham Land Trust (CR)	Murphy Freedom Cranberry Preserve	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	4.8	40_1017
Town of Wareham	Wareham Land Trust (CR)	Murphy Freedom Cranberry Preserve	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R30		Protected	9.7	40_1018
Town of Wareham	Wareham Land Trust (CR)	Westgate Conservation Area	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R60	NAWCA	Protected	1.2	92_1003
Town of Wareham	Wareham Land Trust (CR)	Westgate Conservation Area	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R60	NAWCA	Protected	30	92_1007
Town of Wareham	Wareham Land Trust (CR)	Westgate Conservation Area	Conservation	Yes	Good	Good	R60	NAWCA	Protected	17.3	92_1009
Unites States of America	U.S. Army Corp of Engineers	Stony Point Dike	Conservation	Limited	Good	Poor	R60		Protected	84.2	26_1



Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Water District	Onset Fire District	Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	CNRC		Protected	0.8	9_1000_B
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	CS		Protected	1.4	131_1022
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	CS		Protected	1.8	131_1023
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	48.3	131_1003
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	53.9	131_1004
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	5.9	131_1009
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	3.6	131_1010
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1.7	131_1011
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	21.9	131_1012
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	62.5	131_1013_A
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1.4	131_1013_B
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	7.9	131_1014_B
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.6	131_1015_A
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	82	131_1017
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.4	131_1018
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	20	131_1019_A
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.8	131_1024
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	10	131_1031
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	11	131_1047
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.1	131_138
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1.4	131_9_A
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	3.6	131_F5_B
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	15.5	131_LC7

Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	4.4	131_LC8
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.8	131_W10
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.6	131_W103
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.6	131_W125
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.6	131_W128
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.6	131_W143
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.1	131_W146
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.8	131_W148
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1	131_W15
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.3	131_W163
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.4	131_W167
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.1	131_W171
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.1	131_W181
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.8	131_W23
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.1	131_W33
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.2	131_W5
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.1	131_W54
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.2	131_W75
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.1	131_W84
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.2	131_W88
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1	131_W94
Water District	Onset Fire District	Red Brook Wellfield	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.8	131_W62
Water District	Onset Fire District	Water Tower	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	CNRC		Protected	4.6	10_1013_B

Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Century Bog	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.2	122_1630
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Charge Pond Road Well Site	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.1	114_C_1_1000
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Charge Pond Road Well Site	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	3.1	114_C_1_W11
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Charge Pond Road Well Site	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.6	114_C_2_321
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Charge Pond Road Well Site	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1.4	114_C_2_322
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Charge Pond Road Well Site	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.5	114_C_2_324
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Charge Pond Road Well Site	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	2.2	114_C_2_W10
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Charge Pond Road Well Site	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1.4	114_C_2_W9
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Charge Pond Road Well Site	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.4	114_D_1
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Charge Pond Road Well Site	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.4	114_D_1000
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Fire Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	MR30		Protected	0.3	43_1070_B
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Fire Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	WRVL		Protected	0.2	47_1150
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Fire Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	WRVL		Protected	0.4	47_1151
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Fire Station	Town Operations	No	Good	None	WRVL		Protected	0.1	47_1154
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	CS		Protected	2.2	105_1046
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	CS		Protected	2.2	105_B
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	CS		Protected	0.2	105_C
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	26.8	114_1007
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	69.5	114_1010_A
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	55.4	114_1010_B
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.3	114_D_52
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	2.7	114_D_W11
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1.4	114_D_W12
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1	114_D_W13

Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.7	114_D_W14
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.8	114_D_W15
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1.5	114_D_W3
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	7.3	114_D_W4
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1.9	114_D_W5
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.7	114_D_W6
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1.3	114_E_368
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.6	114_E_402
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	12.3	114_E_W1
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	23.4	114_E_W2
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1.3	114_E_W7
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	2.1	114_E_W8
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	11.5	117_1005_B
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	4.9	126_1
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	2	126_1001
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	4.5	126_1002
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	15.9	126_1005_B
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.7	126_1005_C
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1	126_4
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	4.3	126_5
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	5.3	126_A
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	1.9	126_C1_A
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	20.9	126_C1_B

Public Parcel Owner	Manager	Site Name	Current Use	Public Access	Condition	Recreation Potential	Zone	Grant Type	Level of Protection	Acres	Map and Lot
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Land	Water Supply Protection	No	Good	None	R30		Protected	1.2	46_1001
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Wareham Fire District Main Office	Town Operations	No	Good	None	CS		Protected	2.5	109_A1_A1
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Water Tower	Town Operations	No	Good	None	R130		Protected	0.9	128_B2
Water District	Wareham Fire District	Water Tower	Town Operations	No	Good	None	R60		Protected	2.6	36_61

**TABLE 6 NONPROFIT PARCELS INVENTORY**

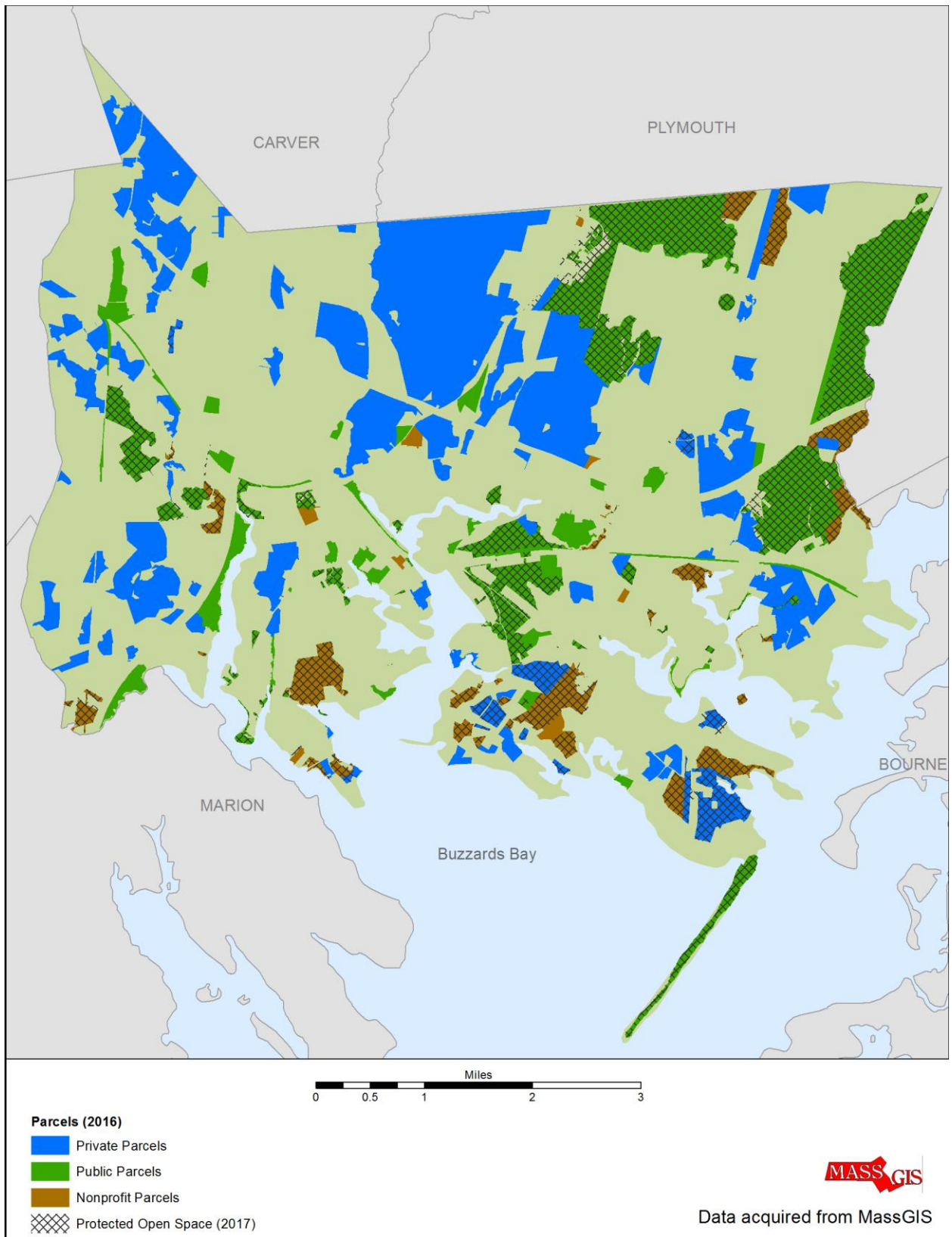
Source: Wareham Assessor's Database, 2016

Nonprofit Parcel Owner	Current Use	Access	Zone	Protection	Grant	Acres	Map and Lot
Annawon Council Inc	Function Hall	Yes		None		13.33	61_1206_A
Brown Dudley L Post No. 2846	Function Hall	Yes		None		4.78	17_1035
Buzzards Bay Coalition Inc	Conservation	Yes	MR30	Protected		10.08	81_1018
Mass Audubon Society, Inc	Conservation	Yes	R30	Protected		6.00	54_1012
Mass Audubon Society, Inc	Conservation	Yes	R30	Protected		4.00	54_1013
Mass Audubon Society, Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		35.80	27_1007
Massachusetts Audubon Society	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		3.27	23_1000
Massachusetts Audubon Society	Conservation	Yes		Protected		4.00	52_1006_F
Massachusetts Audubon Society	Conservation	Yes	R30	Protected		6.40	52_1006_B
Massachusetts Audubon Society	Conservation	Yes	R30	Protected		13.89	51_1000
Massachusetts Audubon Society	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		52.30	24_B
Massachusetts Audubon Society	Conservation	Yes	R30	Protected		4.00	51_1008
Moby Dick Council Inc	Function Hall	Yes	R130	None		36.70	117_1004
New England Forestry	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		3.86	31_P1_B
New England Forestry	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		17.63	31_P1_D
New England Forestry	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		39.83	36_8
Seven Hills Community Services Inc	Charitable Services	No	R130	None		3.19	114_D_SB8
Tobey Hospital Inc	Hospital	Yes	MR30	None		5.50	47_1118
Trustees Of Reservations, The	Conservation	Yes	R30	Protected		4.20	7_1003_P
Trustees Of Reservations, The	Conservation	Yes	R30	Protected		8.47	7_1003
Trustees Of Reservations, The	Conservation	Yes	R130	Protected		16.20	131_1019_B
Trustees Of Reservations, The	Conservation	Yes	R130	Protected		19.20	131_1014_A
Trustees Of Reservations, The	Conservation	Yes	R130	Protected		45.77	128_1013
Trustees Of Reservations, The	Conservation	Yes	R130	Protected		3.10	128_1009
Wareham Athletic Association	Active Recreation	Yes	R130	None		7.00	115_1018
Wareham Land Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		3.38	33_8
Wareham Land Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	SC	Protected	Conservation Partnership Grant	3.98	43_1066
Wareham Land Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R130	Protected		5.04	128_1005
Wareham Land Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R130	Protected	NAWCA Grant	63.40	117_1012
Wareham Land Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	MR30	Protected		4.86	86_1005
Wareham Land Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes		Protected	Conservation Partnership Grant	8.14	55_1009
Wareham Land Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		12.89	67_1010
Wareham Land Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	MR30	Protected		3.11	2_1025_A1
Wareham Land Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		8.25	67_1011
Wareham Land Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R30	Protected		5.86	55_1010
Wareham Little League Inc	Active Recreation	Yes	R60	None		9.70	110_1037
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R30	Protected		49.24	54_1002

Nonprofit Parcel Owner	Current Use	Access	Zone	Protection	Grant	Acres	Map and Lot
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		7.63	31_C
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R30	Protected		3.80	35_1005
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		17.70	34_M1
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		4.67	33_2-1
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		10.88	36_E
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		17.05	37_GB
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		3.87	36_I5
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	MR30	Protected		23.44	80_1000
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R30	Protected		16.85	55_1011
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		43.63	37_1000
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		12.00	35_1006_B
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		16.63	31_P1_C
Wildlands Trust Inc	Conservation	Yes	R60	Protected		23.30	37_C
Young Men's Christian	Active Recreation	Yes	MR30	None		14.91	110_Y3

**TABLE 6 NONPROFIT PARCELS INVENTORY**





**MAP 23 INVENTORY OF OPEN SPACE**

## **Section 6                      Community Vision**

Preserving land as open space and providing recreational facilities for Town residents is an integral component of maintaining Town character, protecting valuable natural resources, and improving the overall quality of life for Wareham residents. The need to protect and improve access to open space, upgrade recreational facilities, safeguard watershed areas, and protect river corridors, ponds, and coastlines is widely recognized by Wareham's residents.

### **A.            Description of Process**

Every effort was made to involve as many citizens as possible in updating this Plan. At spring Town Meeting, attendees received a flyer with information about the Plan's update. Residents were invited to attend Open Space Committee meetings and asked to voice their priorities about open space, recreational facilities, and beaches by taking a few minutes to complete an on-line survey. All Open Space Committee meetings are open to the public. The meeting time and place is posted on the Town's website and the meeting place is accessible to all.

An article in the local newspaper expounded on the importance of this survey and the impact the results would have on the priorities set in the 2017 update of Wareham's Open Space and Recreation Plan. The questionnaire allowed residents to state which open space and recreation goals are important to them, how they currently use open space and recreation areas in Wareham, and voice their concerns and suggestions.

This survey was available on the Town website but to accommodate residents that might not have the confidence to attempt an on-line survey, print copies were distributed at the Council of Aging's Health Fair and at the well-attended Oyster Festival. The Wareham Housing Authority received 120 printed copies of the survey that were hand delivered to their residents. The availability of the print format was met with enthusiasm by many, while others opted to fill out the survey on-line. The questionnaire allowed residents to state which open space and recreation goals are important to them, how they currently use open space and recreation areas in Wareham, and voice their concerns and suggestions. The Plan's update process was announced during the citizen's participation portion of the Selectmen's meeting including information about the survey and Open Space Committee meetings. All Board of Selectmen meetings are televised on a Local Community Access television station.

The results of the questionnaire show that Wareham residents support the acquisition of open space and many commented on the intrinsic value that open space has for preserving the quality of life in Wareham.

In 2001, Wareham approved the Community Preservation Act. Today, Wareham's residents continue their strong support and greatly appreciate the funds approved by the Community Preservation Committee for the acquisition of open space. In the past seven years, the CPC has contributed significantly to increasing Wareham's protected open space. The community values the CPC's continued support and recommendations.

Since this was a Town effort, as large a representation as possible was involved with this update of Wareham's Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Wareham Open Space and Recreation Plan was developed using a process of analysis, committee consensus, public survey, and input from the community to establish priority areas for protection and recreational development.

**B. Statement of Open Space and Recreation Goals**

Year-round residents, summer residents, and those who only visit for a few days value Wareham's rural character, scenic beauty, beaches, rivers, and ponds. Water is an important aspect of life in this area—water for drinking and water for recreation. The goals outlined in this Plan promote the desire to protect open space lands that have significant value for preserving water quality, to protect the abundant natural water resources of the area, and to enhance the public's awareness of conservation and recreation areas in Wareham.

This plan also expresses the need to improve recreational facilities and eliminate safety issues such as poorly maintained equipment and broken glass. Wareham has an ongoing goal to develop a non-motorized multi-use path, improve access to boat launch sites, and to develop new opportunities for recreation.

The Wareham Open Space and Recreation Plan advocates:

- ❖ Preserving open space:
  - To protect watersheds, wetlands, salt marshes, rivers, bays, and ponds
  - To improve recreational access to natural water resources
  - To provide habitat for plants, wildlife, fish, and marine life
- ❖ Protecting and acquiring land of high natural, environmental, scenic, and recreational value
- ❖ Improving recreational facilities
  - Update playground equipment
  - Improve access to canoe and kayak launch areas
  - Increase access for those with reduced mobility
- ❖ Developing trails and picnic area that are accessible to all
- ❖ Enhancing the public's opportunities to enjoy open space and recreational facilities
- ❖ Providing materials to inform the public about the environment and green living

## **Section 7                      Analysis of Needs**

### **A.            Summary of Resource Protection Needs**

In a recent survey, Wareham residents indicated their highest priority is the desire to preserve coastal areas, wetlands and land along rivers and ponds, closely followed by the need to conserve open space for wildlife habitat and scenic areas. Preserving open space for water supply protection and sustaining the scenic quality and visual character of the town tied for third as the most important goal.

The primary source of Wareham's potable water is the Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer. The Aquifer is 199 square miles and includes eight towns in southeastern Massachusetts. The groundwater table elevations range from approximately sea level to approximately 125 feet at interior groundwater highs, with the maximum saturated thickness of more than 160 feet at some locations. The coarse nature of the deposits results in very low surface runoff and high infiltration rates making the Aquifer quite vulnerable to contamination. Because of its highly permeable and transmissive character, and large size granular materials, groundwater contaminants can quickly travel long distances, and affect a large area. The recharge area is characterized by moderate relief. Activities occurring in the upland areas can have direct impact on groundwater quality in the rest of the Aquifer. The present quality of the water from the Aquifer is characterized as good to excellent.

The 2007 Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer Action Plan was developed by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs with assistance from the Plymouth Carver Aquifer Advisory Committee that includes representatives from Wareham and six other towns in the Aquifer region. It is an excellent step in providing guiding principles to help advise the citizens living and working in the Aquifer region on how to protect the Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer.

Over 80 percent of Wareham is located in the Plymouth-Carver Aquifer. Both the Wareham Fire District and the Onset Fire District use the Aquifer as their main source of water. The well fields for both districts are on protected land. Wareham must monitor its zoning to protect groundwater resources. Diligence must be exercised to ensure the water quality of the Aquifer. Development creates impervious surface (e.g. roads) that increase runoff and prevents groundwater recharge. The Plymouth-Carver Aquifer exhibits regional groundwater flow patterns. Awareness and protection of this vulnerable resource is the responsibility of all the towns that share it, including Wareham.

Wetlands and cranberry bog systems provide valuable recharge areas for the Aquifer. They provide wildlife habitat, protect our water supply, and help Wareham keep its rural character. Declining cranberry prices has led to an increase in development pressure on agriculture land as cranberry growers seek to find more profitable uses for their land. If cranberry bog owners ever decide to sell their lands for development, the character of the community would change significantly.

The Weweantic River, Agawam River, Red Brook, and the Wankinco River are all anadromous fish runs. These rivers and their riparian areas are critical for wildlife and invaluable for recreation activities—swimming, fishing, boating. The protection of river systems is a high priority for open space and recreation planning in Wareham. Uncontrolled development along river corridors could adversely affect an already declining anadromous fish population and further restrict public access to Wareham's river systems.

Wareham's extensive coastline is vulnerable to storm damage and erosion. Protection of coastal areas, either through purchase or through Conservation Restrictions, would limit development in these fragile environments. We must safeguard the vitality of our coastal areas and salt marshes for the benefit of our shorebirds, fish, shellfish, plants, and other wildlife but also for the aesthetic value and the intrinsic value they provide for Wareham's year-round residents, seasonal residents, and visitors.

## **B. Summary of Community's Needs**

The recent survey indicates neighborhood parks and playgrounds are widely used by residents, second only to utilization of coastal resources. One in four residents in this region visited wildlife conservation areas, trails, and greenways. Biking is clearly a desired activity but the low participation may reflect the general lack of safe areas to ride in reasonable proximity to home. Residents in this region strongly favor the development of a non-motorized path to accommodate activities such as walking, jogging, or riding a bicycle.

Wareham residents identified water-based activities as the most popular form of recreation. With its extensive shoreline, it is not surprising that the most popular recreational options are beaches. Walking trails, protected conservation areas, and bike paths also rank very high. Many playgrounds, athletic fields, and tennis courts are in need of repair and it is desirable to increase the recreational facilities available to persons with disabilities. Wareham's seniors remind us that walking trails, playgrounds, and benches need to be accessible and accommodate those with mobility problems. The Action Plan recommends repairs to playgrounds and improvements of non-motorized boat launch areas.

The Wareham Bike Path Committee conducted a survey where 95 percent of the respondents favored the creation of a Community Pathway that will provide a safe, clean, aesthetic, enjoyable year-round place to enjoy non-motorized activities such as walking, jogging, or riding a bicycle. This response was reflected in the Open Space Plan survey where more than half of the respondents listed a bike pathway and almost 75 percent listed walking trails as one of their most important recreation options.

The proposed Wareham Community Pathway will be approximately twelve miles long and will connect the Marion Bike Path on Old County Road and wind through Wareham to the Buzzard's Bay town line. The proposed route for the Wareham Community Pathway is included in the Action Plan Map.

Map 24— Action Plan located at the end of Section 9.

The Open Space Plan survey indicates that Wareham residents would like more parking at Town beaches and an improvement in the facilities at playgrounds. Many residents are unaware of the vast array of playgrounds, recreational facilities, and conservation areas available in the Town of Wareham. Improved signage would help identify playgrounds, ball fields, and conservation areas. A brochure has been developed with locations and maps of nature trails in Wareham; it is available on the Town website. A brochure showing the location of playgrounds, recreational facilities, fishing access points, and boat launch areas would be a beneficial companion. To reach the widest audience possible, this brochure and other information sheets should be posted on the Town's website.

Recreational needs have long been considered a priority within the community. Recreation plays an important role in the well-being of Wareham residents. Recreational activities develop confidence, leadership skill, and cooperation among participants. They also help reduce stress and promote good health. Wareham must maintain its recreational facilities to ensure they are safe, clean, and available to all. Many residents report that some playgrounds have unsafe equipment. Fortunately, CPA funds have been secured to remove hazards and improve safety at the Town's playgrounds. Funds are also secured to update several playgrounds and build a handicap accessible walking trail at Bryant Farm, a Town owned conservation area.

Survey results indicate residents' desire to protect the community's open space. The Town should pursue every opportunity to acquire open space, whether by gift, charitable contribution, or fee-simple purchase and protect it in perpetuity. It is suspected that many residents are not aware of the tenuous nature of existing open space. Public education in this area is important. Wareham residents have had the experience of seeing land that many thought was Town owned protected

open space developed into private housing. This happened in the early 1990's when the Kindred Forestview Nursing Home was built on land adjacent to Minot Forest. Prior to development, the property was tree covered and many residents assumed it was part of the Town's protected land. This scenario should remind residents that there is no guarantee that unprotected open space will remain in a natural state.

The Multi-Service Building, a fully accessible facility easily reached via public transportation, offers relevant programs and services for seniors. Activities are free or available at a nominal cost, ensuring that they are affordable for all residents. Wareham strives to continue to offer quality programs and services. Wareham's seniors remind us that walking trails, playgrounds, and beaches need to be accessible and accommodate those with mobility problems.

## SCORP

The Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2012 (SCORP) is a five-year plan prepared by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) and approved by the National Park Service. It is an invaluable tool for planning the future needs and uses of outdoor resources for public recreation and relaxation.

Surveys were used to gather information from residents, municipalities, and land trusts about their feelings towards open space and recreation in Massachusetts. The SCORP findings reveal that running, jogging, and walking are the most frequently mentioned activities, closely followed by respondents that swim in pools and frequently in fresh and saltwater. Trails and multi-use paths were the two types of facilities that officials said 'require more resources'. Playgrounds and baseball fields also ranked high. Southern Massachusetts reported a need for more overnight camping and additional beaches. The need to protect wildlife habitat, improving quality of life, and the protection drinking water were three values important to residents. Respondents indicated the desire for more water access, including more boat ramps and coastal access. Seniors expressed the need for more places to walk.

Multiple SCORP goals closely mirror the needs of Wareham. When asked to choose priorities for the Wareham OSRP, survey respondents identified their most important goal as the desire to preserve coastal areas, wetlands and land along rivers and ponds, closely followed by the need to conserve open space for wildlife habitat and scenic areas. Preserving open space for water supply protection and sustaining the scenic quality and visual character of the town tied for third as the most important goal. Survey results identified beaches as the preferred recreation option, followed by walking in conservation areas, and having a multi-use path for non-motorized recreation. Playgrounds and neighborhood parks ranked very high as favorite recreation option.

The Wareham Open Space and Recreation Plan advocates for adding and improving trails, building playing fields, increasing the availability of water-based recreation, and investing in recreation and conservation areas. Playground improvement and the development of conservation and recreation areas suitable for those with mobility issues will benefit the young and the young-at-heart. The goals expressed in the 2012 SCORP reaffirms that Wareham residents' needs are aligned with EEA's analysis.

**C. Management Needs, Potential Change of Use**

Tremont Dam is an earthen water control structure on the Weweantic River. The dam is in disrepair and a study should be undertaken to secure funding to either remove or repair the dam. Tremont Pond is above the dam. Town owned property exists above and below the dam including most of the Tremont Pond waterfront property. There are remnants of a bog iron mill and more recently a recreational facility for children's programs known as Camp Running River. The property is no longer used for recreational programs but it does have frontage along the Weweantic River that allows canoe and kayak access. Tremont Pond and its surrounding woodlands and marshes are valuable as wildlife habitat. Improvements made to the canoe launch area on the Weweantic River would allow Wareham residents to explore and enjoy this beautiful site.

A 2017 study to rejuvenate the historic Tremont Nail property indicated that it has potential to be converted into a multi-use development, incorporating historic preservation, commercial, recreational, cultural, and residential components. Although this vision is years away, it provides hope that the 7.2-acre property might one day be a destination for residents and visitors.

The 2010 Open Space and Recreation Plan Questionnaire indicated the desire for a dog park in Wareham. A Dog Park Study Committee was formed to evaluate the feasibility of a Town dog park. The committee is moving forward with a location analysis and applying for grants to help fund the development of a canine friendly park in Wareham.



## **Section 8                      Goals and Objectives**

The Open Space Committee employed a process of analysis, committee consensus, public survey, input from the community, and an ADA accessibility self-evaluation to establish priorities for the Goals and Objectives articulated in the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

GOAL: Protect land of high natural, environmental, scenic, and recreational value

Objectives:

- Protect land with high environmental value including but not limited to significant wetlands, waterways, estuarine environments, watersheds, land important for wildlife habitat, land that supports rare plants and animals, and land and water that are important fish habitat
- Protect land for passive outdoor recreation and land that provides scenic vistas

GOAL: Expand and improve recreational facilities

Objectives:

- Upgrade and maintain existing recreational facilities including playgrounds, playing fields, and beaches
- Expand recreational facilities that can accommodate persons with reduced mobility
- Create a park dedicated to safe canine activities

GOAL: Increase and enhance the public's opportunity to enjoy open space and recreational facilities

Objectives:

- Create a multi-use community pathway that will provide a safe, enjoyable year-round place to enjoy such activities as walking, jogging, or riding a bicycle
- Improve canoe and kayak river access
- Improve access to conservation areas

GOAL: Promote public education of environmental issues, sustainability, and green living

Objectives:

- Increase environmental awareness within the community
- Provide opportunities for public education on local wildlife, plants, and environmental issues

## Section 9                      Seven-Year Action Plan

The successful implementation of Wareham's Open Space and Recreation Plan is the responsibility of all of Wareham's residents. The Town of Wareham has a responsibility to its citizens to ensure that all town-owned recreational facilities are clean, safe, and accessible to all. In these difficult economic times, Wareham's residents can help by not littering parks, playgrounds or beaches and by reporting all broken or unsafe equipment to the Town Administrator's office. Always be respectful of recreational facilities so that all may enjoy the wonderful parks, playgrounds, and beautiful areas in Wareham.

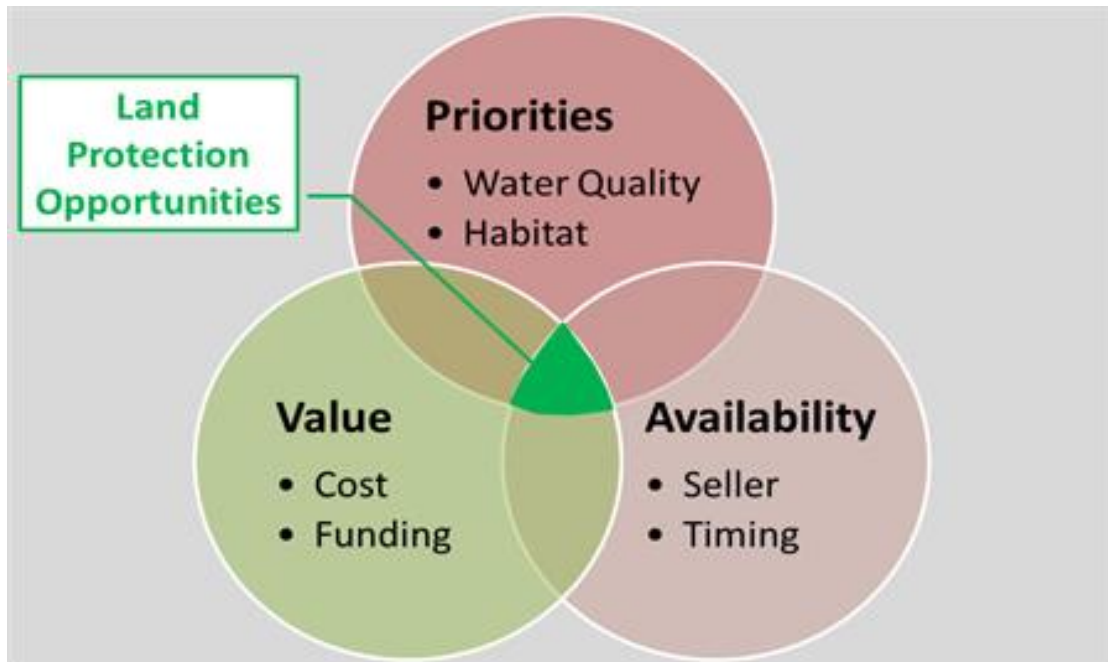
Protecting open space through land acquisition, conservation restriction, or other means is a collaborative effort of Wareham's Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen, Town Planner, the Conservation Commission, the Community Preservation Committee, the Open Space Committee, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, local, regional, and state conservation organizations, and Wareham's residents. Increasing Wareham's permanently protected open space is guided by many factors including the availability of land, funding, cooperation, and the desire of the people who live here to ensure the continued existence of the community they love. Wareham is fortunate to have an active land trust that is ever diligent in pursuing land that can be permanently protected. The Open Space Committee extends heartfelt thanks to the dedicated volunteers of the Wareham Land Trust.

The Town of Wareham, working through the Open Space Committee, retained BL Companies to evaluate Wareham's open space and recreation facilities. The September 2014 report entitled *Playground and Open Space Assessment and Recreation Plan* reviewed thirteen public play areas, seven school play areas, and four open space sites located within the Town. The report contains site specific play area and open space improvement strategies along with maintenance recommendations and estimates of the cost to accomplish the described tasks. The Open Space Committee is using the report as a guide to prioritize play area renovations and the expansion of amenities at Town-owned open space.

The criteria used to identify priority areas for permanently protected open space include: buffers to coastal waters, rivers, and streams, wildlife habitat, priority areas for aquifer recharge, proximity to existing open space, and areas that will preserve undisturbed resources. The priority areas depicted include the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) BioMap2 which identify areas in Wareham that are important for the protection of rare species, habitats vital for rare wildlife, and land that harbors exemplary natural communities. The Priority Areas for Protection depicted in the Action Plan Map are unprotected parcels over 6 acres that are in or adjacent to BioMap2. More information on NHESP, BioMap2, and Natural Communities is in Section 4: Environmental Inventory and Analysis.

Open space acquisition should continue and, to the extent practical, target efficacious groundwater recharge, stream flow maintenance, and habitat protection. The 3,256 acres of protected open space in Wareham represents 14% of its total land area. This is less than all but one of the seven surrounding towns which range between 10% and 47% of protected open space. The state average is 25% protected open space as is the local average. Coastal communities tend to have the highest percentage of protected open space and Wareham is well behind (less than half) other coastal towns in the area. (Source: MassGIS, 2017)

The opportunity to protect open space requires several factors to align at the same time. Available parcels are prioritized by their conservation values, the desired parcel must have a willing seller or donor, and the project must be a good value to garner grant funds or philanthropic donation. These three factors limit land protection opportunities. Generally, this limited opportunity and the quantity of available open space in Wareham negates any potential for competition between conservation and development. Wareham has approximately 10,000 acres of open space available for conservation or development. Prioritizing the protection of open space in Wareham safeguards the scenic and environmental quality of the town.



The Seven-Year Action Plan is detailed in the following table. The Action Plan Map, located at the end of Section 9, depicts priority areas for permanently protected open space and identifies recreation facilities and river access areas in need of repair. It also shows the proposed Wareham Community Pathway route.

**Seven-Year Action Plan**

GOAL    Protect land of high natural, environmental, scenic, and recreational value			
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
Protect land with high environmental value including but not limited to significant wetlands, waterways, estuarine environments, watersheds, land important for wildlife habitat, land that supports rare plants and animals, and land and water that are important fish habitat	1) Purchase 6 acres on Main Street that is adjacent to other conservation areas. This will protect the riparian area and wetlands of Stoney Run. This is an important freshwater fishery in Wareham.  TIMEFRAME: 2018	CPA funds \$ 91,000  PRIORITY: High	Town of Wareham  Wareham Land Trust
	2) Protect open space as opportunities arise  TIMEFRAME: 2017 -- 2024	No funding secured  PRIORITY: High	Wareham Land Trust  Conservation Commission  Open Space Committee
	3) Identify natural areas most vulnerable to climate change and focus conservation efforts on landward migration zones for estuaries to accommodate sea level rise.  TIMEFRAME: 2017 -- 2024	No funding secured  PRIORITY: Medium	Conservation Commission  Open Space Committee
Protect land for passive outdoor recreation and land that provides scenic vistas	4) Protect open space as opportunities arise  TIMEFRAME: 2017 -- 2024	No funding secured  PRIORITY: High	Wareham Land Trust  Conservation Commission  Open Space Committee

GOAL Expand and improve recreational facilities			
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
Upgrade and maintain existing recreational facilities including playgrounds, playing fields, and beaches	<p>5) Oakdale Playground, 23 Apple Street – Resurface the basketball court, install new playground equipment. These plans include an accessible route to play structures designed for individuals with disabilities.</p> <p>TIMEFRAME: 2018 - 2019</p>	<p>CPA funds \$ 45,000</p> <p>PRIORITY: High</p>	<p>Open Space Committee</p> <p>Maintenance Department</p>
	<p>6) <u>Joseph W. Conway, Sr. Playground at Swifts Neck Beach</u>, Roby Street – Contract for an engineering plan to refurbish the playground and design a footbridge to span the channel that separates two town-owned parcels at Swifts Beach and Swifts Neck. This project also includes designing a barrier system to prevent unauthorized vehicle traffic on the beach. Once this phase is complete, funds will be sought to implement the new design.</p> <p>TIMEFRAME: 2018</p>	<p>CPA funds \$ 11,000</p> <p>PRIORITY: High</p>	<p>Open Space Committee</p>
	<p>7) <u>Leonard C. Lopes Playground</u>, Onset Avenue – Contracted for an engineering plan for the re-design of Lopes playground.</p> <p>TIMEFRAME: 2017</p>	<p>CPA funds \$ 75,000</p> <p>PRIORITY: High</p>	<p>Open Space Committee</p> <p>Wareham CORE</p>
	<p>8) <u>Leonard C. Lopes Playground</u>, Onset Avenue – Build the newly redesigned adaptive playground Estimated cost: \$ 500,000</p> <p>TIMEFRAME: 2018 – 2019</p>	<p>Private funds</p> <p>PRIORITY: High</p>	<p>Wareham CORE</p>

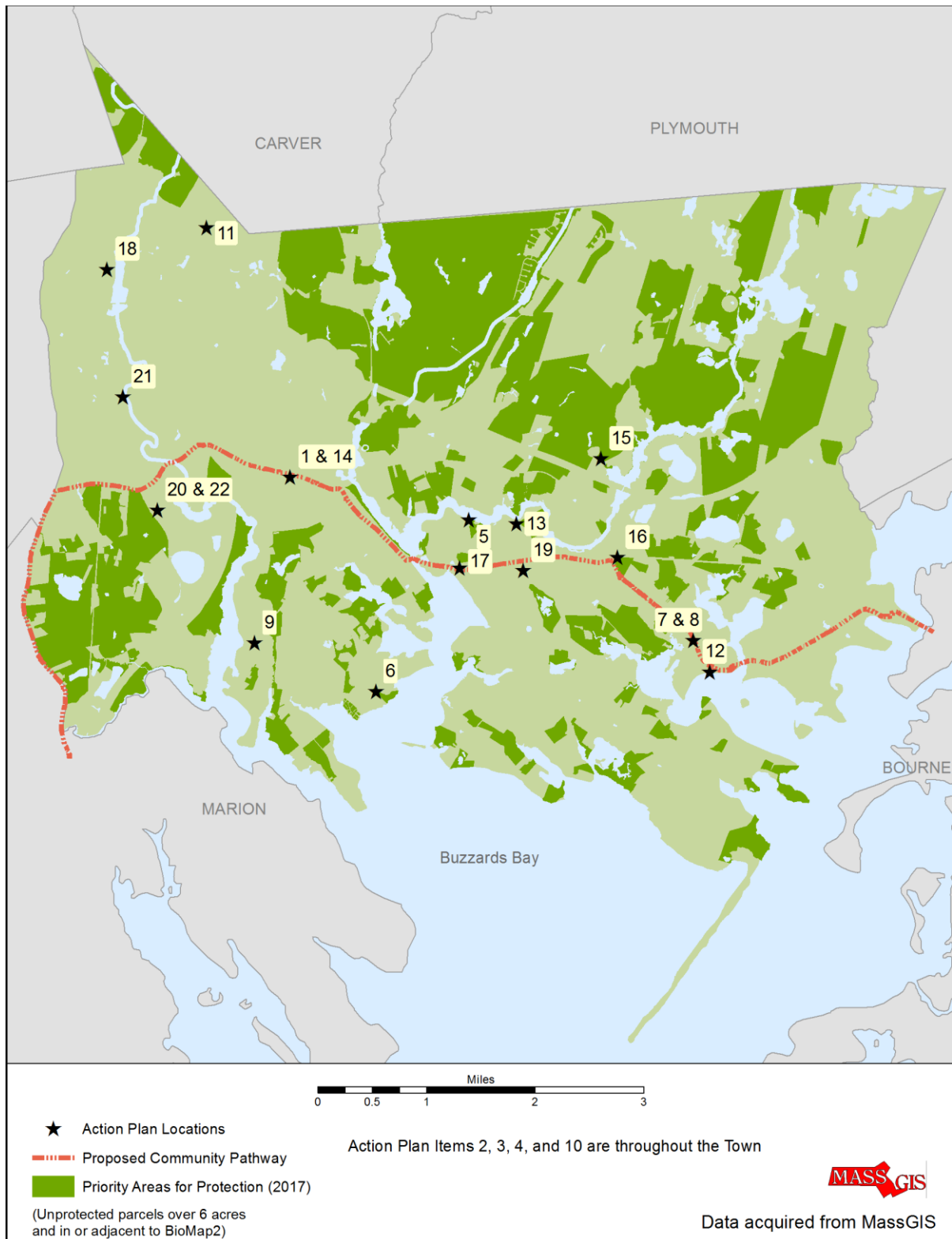
GOAL Expand and improve recreational facilities			
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
Upgrade and maintain existing recreational facilities including playgrounds, playing fields, and beaches	9) <u>Philip Lukey Weweantic Playground</u> , Hathaway Street – Remove hazards, purchase new play equipment, install a basketball court, create a walking trail, and improve the parking area.  TIMEFRAME: 2017	CPA funds \$ 175,000  PRIORITY: High	Open Space Committee  Maintenance Department
	10) Remove or correct safety hazards in playgrounds. Funds available as needed to eliminate playground safety issues.  TIMEFRAME: 2017 – 2024 – or until funds are exhausted	CPA funds \$ 50,000  PRIORITY: High	Open Space Committee  Maintenance Department
	11) <u>Westfield Ball Fields</u> , Charlotte Furnace Road Add a third softball field and create two soccer fields on the unused open grass area. Estimated cost: \$150,000  TIMEFRAME: 2022	No funding secured  PRIORITY: Medium	Open Space Committee  Maintenance Department
	12) <u>Onset Bathhouse</u> at Onset Beach – Historic renovations to include classrooms and event space Estimated cost: \$5.3 million  TIMEFRAME: 2017 - 2020	CPA funds \$ 215,000  Seaport Economic Council Award \$350,000  Private funds  PRIORITY: High	Buzzards Bay Coalition

GOAL Expand and improve recreational facilities			
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
Expand recreational facilities that can accommodate persons with reduced mobility	13) Bryant Farm Conservation Area, Sandwich Road – Create a 0.5-mile ADA accessible trail and a parking area along Sandwich Road. The project also includes the addition of benches along the trail, picnic tables and informational signage.  TIMEFRAME: 2018 – 2019	CPA funds \$ 67,000  PRIORITY: High	Open Space Committee  Wareham Land Trust
	14) Build an ADA accessible trail in the newly acquired conservation property on Main Street Estimated cost: \$10,000  TIMEFRAME: 2020	No funding secured  PRIORITY: High	Wareham Land Trust  Town of Wareham
Create a park dedicated to safe canine activities	15) A Dog Park Study Committee was formed to evaluate the feasibility of a Town dog park. The committee is moving forward with a location analysis and applying for grants. Estimated cost: unknown  TIMEFRAME: 2018 - 2020	No funding secured  PRIORITY: High	Dog Park Study Committee  Open Space Committee
GOAL Increase and enhance the public's opportunity to enjoy open space and recreational facilities			
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
Create a multi-use community pathway that will provide a safe, enjoyable year-round place to enjoy such activities as walking, jogging, or riding a bicycle	16) The Wareham Community Pathway Committee continues its ongoing efforts to realize a Bike Path that will connect the Marion Bike Path on Old County Road and wind through Wareham to the Buzzards Bay town line.  TIMEFRAME: Ongoing effort	No funding secured  PRIORITY: High	Wareham Community Pathway Committee



GOAL Increase and enhance the public's opportunity to enjoy open space and recreational facilities			
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
Create a multi-use community pathway that will provide a safe, enjoyable year-round place to enjoy such activities as walking, jogging, or riding a bicycle	17) Engineering plan to create a bike lane on Narrows Road and expand Minot Avenue to make a ten-foot wide off-road path for bicycles and pedestrians. When complete, there will be a direct bike path access from the center of Wareham to Onset. MassDOT has approved construction.  TIMEFRAME: 2022	CPA funds \$220,000  PRIORITY: High	Open Space Committee  MassDOT
Improve canoe and kayak river access.	18) Carver Road Tennis Courts, Carver Road – Regrade and stabilize the path to the canoe / kayak launch into Tremont Mill Pond and improve signage  Estimated cost for repair to path: \$ 5,000 Estimated cost for new sign: \$ 1,500  TIMEFRAME: 2022	No funding secured  PRIORITY: Low	Open Space Committee  Maintenance Department
Improve access to conservation areas.	19) <u>William Minot Forest</u> – Create a trailhead and parking area at the intersection of Indian Neck Road and Stillman Memorial Drive.  TIMEFRAME: 2018	CPA funds \$ 8,500  PRIORITY: High	Open Space Committee  Maintenance Department
	20) Weweantic Ridge, Blackmore Pond Road – Create a parking area along Blackmore Pond Road to allow pedestrian access to the 22.25-acre town-owned conservation area that borders Horseshoe Pond. TIMEFRAME: 2018	CPA funds \$4,475  PRIORITY: High	Open Space Committee  Buzzards Bay Coalition  Maintenance Department

GOAL Increase and enhance the public's opportunity to enjoy open space and recreational facilities			
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
Improve access to conservation areas.	21) Douglas S. Westgate Conservation Area, Papermill Road – Create a 0.5-mile trail around the cranberry bogs with informative signage about the history and ecology of cranberry bogs. Estimated cost: \$ 18,000  TIMEFRAME: 2024	No funding secured  PRIORITY: Medium	Open Space Committee
	22) <u>Weweantic Ridge</u> , Blackmore Pond Road – Create a 1-mile loop footpath from the parking area to Horseshoe Pond. Estimated cost: \$ 17,000  TIMEFRAME: 2024	No funding secured  PRIORITY: Medium	Open Space Committee
GOAL Promote public education of environmental issues, sustainability, and green living			
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
Increase environmental awareness within the community	23) Periodic trash clean-ups throughout the town  TIMEFRAME: Ongoing effort	Volunteers  PRIORITY: High	Don't Trash Wareham  Open Space Committee
	24) Improve signs at recreation and conservation areas to increase awareness and promote use.  TIMEFRAME: Ongoing effort	No funding secured  PRIORITY: High	Open Space Committee
Provide opportunities for public education on local wildlife, plants, and environmental issues	25) Local lecture series on a variety of topics  TIMEFRAME: 2017 - 2024	Volunteers  PRIORITY: High	Wareham Land Trust  Wareham Garden Club  Boys and Girls Club

**MAP 24 ACTION PLAN**

## **Section 10                      Public Comments**

Your Committee did a great job with the Open Space and Recreation Plan, and the timing is perfect with the Master Plan (and possible) Hazard Mitigation Plan coming up.

The Open Space Committee has accurately assessed Wareham's open space and recreation needs and it is obvious a great deal of effort went into this document.

Thanks you for your dedicated service and commitment to Wareham

### **A sample of the answers to 'What is your wish list for recreation opportunities in Wareham?'**

More protected open space in its natural state to help keep Wareham's rural/agrarian character

Better walking trails and bike paths

Purchase Whitehead Sandpit for recreational use

More dog friendly space. Wish there was a dog park in the area

Safe bike paths

Senior opportunities such as pickle ball, chair volleyball, bocce, and any activity that includes our under-served senior population

Improve upkeep and care of beaches, facilities

That all playgrounds and beaches are fully accessible for all

Walks and trail in coastal areas

I'd love to see kayak storage lockers you could rent seasonally at some of the launch areas. Also bike racks at the beach! So many people wouldn't need to drive if there was a place to lock up your bike.

More kayak access

Hockey rink

Keep sidewalks open, clear brush

Signage and identification of recreation areas.

Would love to have a public pool or splash pad for the summer

Please, no more forest devastation along Route 28 in West Wareham! We don't want it to look like East Wareham.

Please consider maintaining wildlife habitat. We keep building and saying the animals will move to somewhere else but we have very little that isn't under attack from development. Please work to maintain our natural beauty.

**Letters of Support for the Town of Wareham Open Space and Recreation Plan 2017-2024****TOWN OF WAREHAM  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN****Memorandum**

**To:** Kenneth Buckland, Town Planner  
Sandy Slavin, Open Space Committee Chairman

**From:** Peter W. Teitelbaum, Esq., Chairman 

**Date:** December 7, 2017

**Re:** Open Space & Recreation Plan

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The Board of Selectmen has reviewed the updated 2017-2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan and found it acceptable with minor editorial changes. The conservation of open land along waterways, parks, and forests is crucial to water supply and wildlife habitat preservation. In addition, the enhancement of facilities for future and current recreation is crucial to the quality of life. The Wareham Board of Selectmen are pleased to support this update of the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan.

**Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development District**◀ 88 Broadway ▼ Phone (508)824-1367 ▼ FAX (508)823-1803 ▼ [bnap@srpedd.org](mailto:bnap@srpedd.org) ▼ Taunton, MA 02780 ▶

August 24, 2017

Melissa Cryan  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
Division of Conservation Services  
100 Cambridge Street  
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Wareham Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Cryan:

Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District's (SRPEDD) planning staff has recently completed a review of Wareham's update of their 2010 Open Space and Recreation Plan.

The plan is consistent with SRPEDD's regional goals and objectives and in general compliance with DCS's Open Space and Recreation Plan Requirements. The plan is the result of the commendable effort, outreach, and research put into it by the local Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee. The Action Plan accurately presents community needs and issues of concern as discussed at public meetings, and as derived through the public survey process.

The Town has also continued to work in partnership with local land trusts, conservation groups, the Buzzards Bay Project, and the Buzzards Bay Coalition (with whom they have done some very creative land conservation/affordable housing work that meets both needs in the community) in order to address the 2010 Open Space and Recreation Plan's Action Plan agenda. This update will also be a critical piece in the Town's efforts to integrate its natural resources assets and environmental challenges into the forthcoming Master Plan and proposed Hazard Mitigation Plan.

SRPEDD strongly supports the certification of the 2017 Wareham Open Space and Recreation Plan, as updated. If you have any questions relevant to this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me, Bill Napolitano, Environmental Program Director.

Respectfully,

*William S. Napolitano*

William S. Napolitano  
Environmental Program Director



**Town of Wareham  
Planning Board**

54 Marion Road  
Wareham, MA 02571-1428


Phone: (508) 291-3100 x6501  
Fax: (508) 291-3116  
Email: kbuckland@wareham.ma.us

Ken Buckland, Town Planner  
Jasmin Campos, Dept. Assistant

September 25, 2017

RE: 2017-2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update

The Board expresses unanimous support of the 2017-2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The actions and goals of this plan shall be implemented by this body where appropriate. The preservation of tracts of open land along waterways, parks, and forests is crucial to water supply and wildlife habitat preservation as well as facilities of future and current recreation. The Wareham Planning Board is pleased to support the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

  
George Barrett, Chairman



**Town of Wareham  
Zoning Board of Appeals**

54 Marion Road  
Wareham, MA 02571-1428

Phone: (508) 291-3100 x6501  
Fax: (508) 291-3116  
Email: kbuckland@wareham.ma.us

Ken Buckland, Town Planner  
Jasmin Campos, Dept. Assistant

September 27, 2017

The Board expresses unanimous support of the 2017-2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The actions and goals of this plan shall be implemented by this body when appropriate. The preservation of tracts of open land along waterways, parks, and forests is crucial to water supply and wildlife habitat preservation as well as facilities of future and current recreation. The Wareham Zoning Board is pleased to support the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Nazih Elkallassi, Chairman





**Town of Wareham  
Conservation Commission**

54 Marion Road  
Wareham, MA 02571-1428

Phone: (508) 291-3100 x6505  
Fax: (508) 291-3116  
Email: dpichette@wareham.ma.us

David D. Pichette, Conservation Administrator  
Kelly Barrasso, Dept. Assistant

August 16, 2017

Wareham Open Space Committee  
54 Marion Road  
Wareham, MA 02571

To the Members of the Committee:

The Conservation Commission has received and reviewed a copy of the updated Wareham Open Space & Recreation Plan, 2017-2024. Upon review of this plan, it is the consensus of the Commission that this document has been well thought out, and that it directly addresses the Town's needs regarding the protection of its remaining open space. The action plan provides an excellent framework for achieving the goals and objectives outlined in the updated Open Space & Recreation Plan. The Commission strongly supports the ideas promoted in this plan and looks forward to assisting in its implementation.

The Commission appreciates the commitment of the Open Space Committee members and other volunteers that helped to complete this valuable guidance document.

Sincerely,

Sandra Slavin,  
Conservation Commission Vice Chairman

cc: Conservation Commission

TOWN OF WAREHAM  
54 MARION RD  
WAREHAM MA 02571  
OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

December 11, 2017

The Open Space Committee has reviewed a copy of the updated Wareham Open Space and Recreation Plan, 2017-2024.

The committee strongly supports the goals and objectives outlined in this plan.

The preservation of Wareham's open space is critical to quality of water supply, wildlife habitat preservation and recreation usage in the future.

The Open Space Committee looks forward to assisting in the implementation of the goals outlined in Wareham's Open Space and Recreation Plan, 2017-2024.

Open Space Committee

Sandra Slavin, Chair  
Brian Litchfield  
Donald Hall  
Trenton Blanchard, Clerk  
Amanda Smith  
Linda Scharf  
Peter Gold



**Buzzards Bay**  
*National Estuary Program*

August 11, 2017

Open Space Committee  
Memorial Town Hall  
54 Marion Road  
Wareham, MA 02571

Dear Open Space Committee Members,

The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program (NEP) offers its full support to the Town of Wareham's 2017-2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan.

The Buzzards Bay NEP is an advisory and planning unit of the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management. We receive funding from, and are part of, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Estuary Program. Our mission is to help implement the recommendations contained within the Buzzards Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) 2013 Update, a plan that is a blueprint for the protection and restoration of water quality and living resources in Buzzards Bay and its surrounding watershed. This management plan identifies 21 priority action plans that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, U.S. EPA, and other partners have adopted as goals for the bay and watershed. The town of Wareham's Open Space and Recreation Plan will help meet specific goals of the CCMP, including Action Plan 4: Improving Land Use Management and Promoting Smart Growth, Action Plan 7: Protecting and Restoring Wetlands, Action Plan 9: Protecting Bio-Diversity and Rare and Endangered Species Habitat, Action Plan 12: Protecting Open Space, Action Plan 13: Protecting and Restoring Ponds and Streams, and Action Plan 21: Enhancing Public Education and Participation.

Since our inception, the Buzzards Bay NEP has been working with the Buzzards Bay watershed communities to facilitate the implementation of recommended actions and strategies contained in the original CCMP, adopted in 1992. Moreover, the Town of Wareham has been a recipient of our program support in our ongoing work plans and Cooperative Agreements with the U.S. EPA. We have provided maps and evaluation of habitat areas in support of grant applications to protect various open space parcels in Wareham. The Buzzards Bay NEP has also provided grant funding directly to the town for land and habitat protection projects.

The Open Space Committee has accurately assessed Wareham's open space and recreation needs and it is obvious a great deal of effort went into this document. The Buzzards Bay NEP commends the Open Space Committee for their hard work. The Buzzards Bay NEP endorses this plan and recommends its approval by the Division of Conservation Services.

Sincerely,

Sarah B. Williams  
Regional Planner

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The Buzzards Bay Project is sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs through the Coastal Zone Management Office.





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29 August 2017

Melissa Cryan  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
Division of Conservation Services  
100 Cambridge Street  
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Wareham Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Cryan:

The Wareham Land Trust has completed a review of Wareham's Open Space and Recreation Plan and enthusiastically supports the Plan and the Town of Wareham's objectives for protecting open space.

Open space, parks, and outdoor recreation are important to Wareham. Having a comprehensive plan in place to protect and enhance these resources is essential to the wellbeing of the citizens of Wareham and protecting the environmental quality of this coastal community. This Plan provides the framework to achieve these goals. The Wareham Land Trust looks forward to working with the town leadership and the Open Space Committee in realizing the vision set forth by the Plan.

Thank you for your attention to this important project. We look forward to hearing of a certification of the Plan.

Sincerely,

Kevin P Bartsch, President  
Wareham Land Trust



THE WAREHAM LAND TRUST IS A PRIVATE NON-PROFIT 501(C)3 ORGANIZATION  
YOUR DONATION IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE AS ALLOWED BY LAW

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## **APPENDIX A      ADA Accessibility Self-Evaluation**

The ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Accessibility Self-Evaluation is a required component of all Open Space and Recreation Plans. “Under Federal Law, no qualified handicapped person shall, on the basis of handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance.” (MA DCS)

### ***Designation of an ADA Coordinator***

Mr. David Riquinha is the ADA Coordinator for the Town of Wareham.

### ***Grievance Procedures***



#### **TOWN OF WAREHAM AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT TITLE II MUNICIPAL GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

This Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. It may be used by anyone who wished to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in employment practices and policies or the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits by the Town of Wareham.

The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date, and description of the problem. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of the complaint, will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.

The complaint should be submitted by the grievant and / or his / her designee as soon as possible but no later than 60 calendar days after the alleged violation to: Mr. David Riquinha, ADA Coordinator, Town of Wareham, Memorial Town Hall, 54 Marion Road, Wareham, MA 02571, (508) 291-3100.

Within 15 business days after receipt of the complaint, the ADA Coordinator will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 business days after the meeting, the ADA Coordinator will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large print, Braille, or audio tape. The response will explain the position of the Town of Wareham and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the response by the ADA Coordinator does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and / or his / her designee may appeal the decision of the ADA Coordinator within 15 business days after receipt of the response to the administration or his / her designee.

Within 15 business days after receipt of the appeal, the administrator or his / her designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 business days after the meeting the administrator or his / her designee will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

All written complaints received by the ADA Coordinator, appeals to the administrator or his / her designee, and responses from the ADA Coordinator and administrator or his / her designee will be kept by the Town of Wareham for at least three years.

***Public Notification Requirements***

Public Notice is to be given to employees and to the general public that the Town of Wareham does not discriminate on the basis of disability. The Town will translate any public notices into appropriate format to ensure proper communication with persons with disabilities. At all public meetings, the Town will (with advance notice) provide sign language interpreters and documents can be translated into Braille or reprinted into a large print format by request.

Wareham has an Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employment Plan. All recruitment materials, employment postings, and employment advertisements, state that the Town is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This serves as a notice of non-discrimination. The Town adheres to the standards for Affirmative Action, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Equal Opportunity Employer law.

***Facility Inventory and Transition Plan***

The following information was obtained by a visual inspection of each property.

**Little Harbor Beach (Little Harbor Road)**

Little Harbor Beach is a quarter-mile rocky beach located in Buzzards Bay. The paved parking area has designated handicap parking and a seasonal handicap accessible portable toilet. A Town of Wareham Beach Permit is required to park in the paved parking area.

Activities: Swimming, sunbathing, wind surfing—a limit of 24 wind surfing boards are allowed on weekends during the summer season, no weekday limit.

Transition Plan: Recommend placing handicap accessible benches along the paved parking lot facing the beach.

**Onset Beach (Onset Avenue)**

Onset Beach is a three-quarter mile stretch of smooth sandy beach located on the inner side of Onset Bay. It is a protected area with no surf. Onset Pier borders one side of the beach. The paved parking lot has four designated handicap parking areas. Handicap accessible bathrooms (open during the summer months) are located in the Harbormaster's building located in the parking area.

Activities: Swimming, sunbathing, fishing from the pier, fishing and tour boats are available at the pier. A concession stand is located on the other side of the pier.

Transition Plan: No proposed changes

**Pinehurst Beach (Pinehurst Drive)**

Pinehurst Beach is a small beach, less than one acre, located on a channel that runs briskly by the beach. There is no parking lot or bathroom facility. Limited parking is available along Pinehurst Drive. Foot and bicycle traffic are most prevalent.

Activities: Swimming, sunbathing, clamming by permit only

Transition Plan: No proposed changes



Shell Point (South Avenue)

Shell Point is a quarter-mile area at the far end of Onset Beach. There is a small paved parking area; the nearest bathroom facility is on Onset Pier.

Activities: Swimming, sunbathing

Transition Plan: Recommend accessible benches and picnic table on paved parking area

Swifts Beach and Swifts Neck (Shore Road, Circle Drive)

Swifts Beach and Swifts Neck Beach are sandy beaches located on Buzzards Bay. The Town of Wareham owns the beach area from Shore Road to Swifts Beach Road. The paved parking area on Shore Road has designated handicap parking and an accessible bench; the paved parking area off Circle Drive also has handicap designated parking. Seasonal portable toilets are available in the parking area on Circle Drive. A Town of Wareham Beach Permit is required to park in the beach parking areas.

Activities: Swimming, sunbathing, boating

Transition Plan: Proposed renovations include an accessible path and new play equipment

Richard H. Arrunda Playground (Marion Road)

Arrunda Playground is a 0.4-acre playground adjacent to the Wareham Free Library. There is a paved parking area with designated handicap parking. The closest bathroom facility is at the library; it is handicap accessible. The site has picnic tables and benches but they are not handicap accessible. Playground equipment includes a medium height wooden climb on structure, a wooden tot climb on structure with swings, climbing platforms, trapeze bar, and chin-up-bar. There is enough room between the equipment to accommodate a wheelchair.

Activities: Picnicking and playing

Transition Plan: No proposed changes

Mary Besse Park & Pier (Main Street)

Besse Park is on the Wareham River. The paved parking area has designated handicap parking. The park lacks a bathroom facility. A seasonable portable toilet is available. The picnic tables are handicap accessible. A handicap accessible fishing pier extends into the river and a cement path, suitable for wheelchairs, extends along the river for the entire length of the park. There is no launch area but boats can be moored at the floating docks.

Activities: Picnicking, fishing, bird watching, enjoying the scenic river views

Transition Plan: No proposed changes

Brown Memorial Playground (Union Avenue)

The Brown Memorial Playground is in a fenced enclosure adjacent to the Hammond School. The paved parking area has designated handicap parking and all equipment is adjacent to an accessible path. There is no bathroom facility. The two tennis courts are fenced and in good condition. There is a basketball half-court with a dirt playing surface, a large climb-on structure with additional play equipment, and swings. There is enough room between the equipment to accommodate a wheelchair.

Activities: Playing, basketball, tennis

Transition Plan: No proposed changes

Carver Road Tennis Courts (Carver Road)

The Carver Road Tennis Courts have a paved parking area that lacks any designated handicap parking. There is no bathroom facility. There is a canoe / kayak launch site with access to Tremont Mill Pond.

Activities: Tennis, Canoeing, Kayaking

Transition Plan: Improve access to the canoe / kayak launch site.

John W. Decas School Playground (Main Street)

Decas School Playground, adjacent to Decas School, has a paved parking area with designated handicap parking, but parking is not close to the playground. The playground is behind a fence; wood chips cover the ground. Equipment includes high and low monkey bars, metal climbing structures, climbing platforms, spiral slides, chain ladder, and a funnel and ball game. This playground was recently renovated and the equipment is new. The public is allowed to use the playground when school is not in session.

Activities: Playing

Transition Plan: No proposed changes

Minot Forest School Playground (Minot Avenue)

The Minot Forest School Playground is behind Minot Forest Elementary School. It can be accessed from two parking lots with handicap designated parking however, the parking is not close to the playground. The students access the playground directly from the rear of the school. There are field and paved court areas. The soccer fields are fenced. There are several distinct play areas with playscapes with different sized climbing structures, balance structures, and an open field. The public is allowed to use the playground when school is not in session.

Activities: Soccer, playing.

Transition Plan: No proposed changes

Ellis Playground (North Boulevard)

Ellis Playground is a 0.4-acre fenced play area on the beach of Muddy Cove. There is no parking area; parking is allowed along North Boulevard. The area is sandy and not wheelchair accessible. There are picnic tables and benches. A youth-sized wooden climb-on structure includes ladders, a wooden bridge, and platforms; the tot-sized wooden climb-on structure has a slide, platforms, and a steering wheel.

Activities: Picnicking, playing, bird watching

Transition Plan: No proposed changes

High School Tennis Courts (Viking Drive)

The High School Tennis Courts have a paved parking area. There is no designated handicap parking. A high fence surrounds the three tennis courts. The public is allowed to use the courts whenever they are not in use by the school.

Activities: Tennis

Transition Plan: No proposed changes

Indian Mound Playground (Shawnee Drive)

The Indian Mound Playground is a 2.3-acre fenced clay surfaced play area with a gravel parking area. There is no designated handicap parking. There are picnic tables and benches, a wooden climb-on structure equipped with platforms, fire poles, a metal arch, and a slide. There is also a tire swing, monkey bars, a round-a-bout, a small baseball field, and a backstop. This playground has a handicap accessible sand table, tic-tac-board, and swings. There is enough room between the equipment to accommodate a wheelchair.

Activities: Picnicking, playing, baseball

Transition Plan: No proposed changes

Lopes Playground (Onset Avenue)

The Leonard C. Lopes Playground is a 4-acre site with a gravel parking area; no designated handicap parking. There is a large, handicap accessible, wooden climb-on structure in the shape of a dragon. The structure includes several slides, balance beams, swings, bridges, overhead rings, chin-up bars, and ladders. The site has picnic tables and benches, a picnic shelter adjacent to an accessible path, two basketball courts, and a softball field. The playground is adjacent to an accessible path and there is enough room between the equipment to accommodate a wheelchair.

Activities: Picnicking, playing, baseball, basketball

Transition Plan: Efforts are underway to secure funding to create a new adaptive playground

Oakdale Playground (Apple Street)

Oakdale Playground is a 3-acre site on the Agawam River. There is a parking area for 4-5 cars. The picnic shelter and picnic tables are wheelchair accessible and all facilities are handicap accessible via a paved path. In addition to a basketball court, a small ball field with backboard, and a volleyball net, the wooden tot climb-on structure has slides, a ramp, a ladder, steering wheels, and a platform; the climb-on wooden ship has three levels. Additionally, there are swings, a round-a-bout, teeter totters, and monkey bars. A fence surrounds the playground. There is enough room between the equipment to accommodate a wheelchair.

Activities: Picnicking, playing, baseball, basketball, volleyball, bird watching

Transition Plan: Scheduled renovations include repairs to basketball court, replace playground equipment, repair fence around playground, and create an accessible path to play structures.

Shangri-La Playground (Restful Lane)

Shangri-La Playground has a gravel parking area with no designated handicap parking. This site is a 1-acre, bowl shaped sand lot at the intersection of three roads. There are benches, picnic tables, a basketball court, a ball field with backstop, a wooden tot climb-on structure with a ramp, a wooden bridge, and a ladder, a youth climb-on structure that has a tire crawl, barrel slide, tire swing, and a ladder. There are swings and a metal climb-on spider with fire pole. There is enough room between the equipment to accommodate a wheelchair.

Activities: Picnicking, playing, baseball, basketball,

Transition Plan: Improve access to the playground by creating a gradual slope and / or tiered stairs. Power wash and paint equipment.

Swifts Neck Beach Playground (Circle Drive)

Swifts Neck Beach Playground is an 8-acre sandy lot adjacent to Swifts Neck Beach. There is no parking area and parking is not allowed on the street. There is a parking lot at Swifts Beach; a Town of Wareham Beach Permit is required to use this lot. A seasonal portable toilet is provided at the playground. The playground has picnic shelters, picnic tables, and benches. There is a basketball court, a wooden climb-on train suitable for tots and youths. Equipment includes swings, slides, fire pole, tire climb, platform, steering wheel, barrel crawl, tire crawl, tire swing, and monkey bars. There is enough room between the equipment to accommodate a wheelchair.

Activities: Playing, basketball

Transition Plan: Scheduled renovations include replacing the fence around the playground, installing play equipment, adding parking spaces, and creating an accessible path to new playground equipment.

Sylvester Gardens Playground (Marion Road)

Sylvester Gardens Playground is behind Wareham's Multi-Service Building. There is a paved parking area with designated handicap parking. There are two basketball courts with a hard surfaced playing area and benches for spectators. The playground is in a graveled, fenced enclosure. The entrance path is eroded, rocky, and uneven. The playground area has two metal picnic tables, a sandbox, a metal climb-on structure with climbing wall, and a wooden climb-on structure with a ramp, a slide, and a barrel crawl.

Activities: Picnicking, playing, basketball

Transition Plan: Repair entrance to the playground

Philip Lukey Weweantic Playground (Hathaway Street)

Weweantic Playground has a dirt parking area with no designated handicap parking. This 4-acre site has a large open field, a basketball half-court with a dirt playing area, picnic tables, benches, and a picnic shelter in poor condition. There is a wooden climb-on structure suitable for tots and youths. Apparatus includes slides, fire pole, swings, climbing platforms, and tic-tac-toe. The playground is paved and there is enough room between the equipment to accommodate a wheelchair.

Activities: Picnicking, playing, basketball, soccer

Transition Plan: A project is underway to renovate the playground and install new play equipment.

***Employment Practices***

All position announcements for the Town of Wareham include a non-discrimination statement—“THE TOWN OF WAREHAM IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. APPLICATIONS FROM WOMEN AND MINORITIES ARE ENCOURAGED”. Announcements are posted in accessible areas. Questions asked during employment interviews relate solely to the qualification required for that position.

The Town of Wareham does not discriminate:

- in the recruitment, selection, or promotion of employees
- in regard to leave administration for sick time, leave of absence, or vacations
- in training opportunities – any training provided by the Town is administered so that employees with disabilities can participate
- in testing – tests measure job skills and qualifications only; State Department of Personnel Administration tests are used for Civil Service positions
- in Social / Recreational programs – all social and recreational programs sponsored by the Town are made accessible to employees with disabilities
- in Fringe Benefits – Employees with disabilities are offered the same benefits as those employees without disabilities
- in Collective Bargaining Agreements – Qualified employees with disabilities may participate
- in Wage and Salary Administration – Employees with disabilities are not offered different rates of compensation based on disability



TOWN OF WAREHAM  
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT PLAN  
SECTION III  
RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PLAN

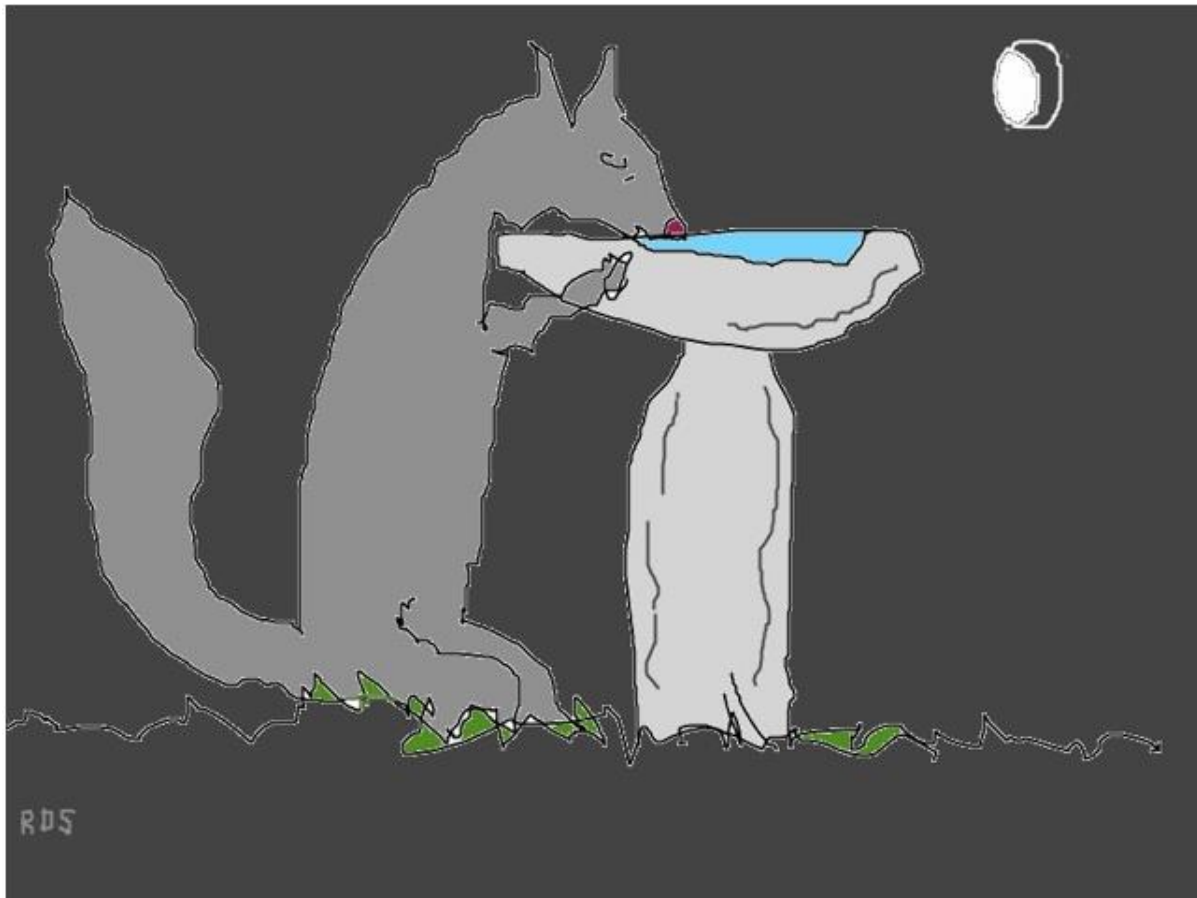
The BOARD OF SELECTMEN shall be responsible for the implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan. To ensure the Town's personnel policies and practices incorporate the Plan's objectives, the Board of Selectmen delegates administrative responsibility for the Plan to the Affirmative Action Officer.

The Affirmative Action Officer for the Town of Wareham is designated as the DIRECTOR OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS. The Director shall have the authority to review and pass upon affirmative action plans, recommend approval or disapproval of appointment forms and personnel requisitions and shall be given a sign off on all personnel requisitions and appointment forms and shall report all disapprovals to the Board of Selectmen. The Director shall be provided with sufficient authority, management support and staff to be responsible for the execution of the following responsibilities:

1. developing policy statements, affirmative action programs and internal and external communications techniques
2. assisting in the identification of problem areas
3. assisting department heads in arriving at solutions to problems
4. designing and implementing audit and reporting systems
5. serving as the liaison between the Town and the Commission
6. serving as the liaison between the Town and appropriate organizations and community action groups concerned with employment opportunities for minorities and women
7. keeping the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator informed of the latest development in the area of equal opportunity

In addition to the Director of the equal opportunity plan, all DEPARTMENT HEADS shall have a significant role in the implementation of the Plan, including but not limited to:

1. assisting in the identification of problem areas and establishment of department goals
2. periodic audit of training programs and hiring and promotion patterns to identify impediments to the attainment of goals
3. regular discussions of supervisors and employees to assure that the affirmative action policies are being followed
4. review of the qualifications and capabilities of all employees to insure that minorities and women are given full opportunity for promotion and transfer
5. prevention of harassment of employees place through affirmative action efforts
6. developing intra-departmental communication technique
7. assisting line management in arriving at solutions to problems
8. meeting departmental objectives relative to hiring and promotions
9. removing impediments to the attainment of goals and objectives
10. periodic audit to ensure the facility (if not located in Town Hall) is in compliance in areas such as:
  - display of posters
  - desegregation of the building in policy and practice
  - affording minority and female employees full opportunity to participate in all town sponsored educational, training, recreational, and social activities
11. advising all supervisors that their work performance is being evaluated on the basis of their equal employment efforts as well as other criteria



Artist: Robert Scott

*A Fox Came To Drink*