

Mr. Ken Buckland
Town of Wareham Planner
54 Marion Road
Wareham, MA 02571

April 1, 2021

Dear Mr. Buckland,

Attached are 2 documents that the 10 Conservation Organizations who are in opposition to Article 1 of the Special Town Meeting within the Special Town Meeting on April 10, 2021 have had reviewed and approved by Madame Moderator for distribution at Town Meeting. I am writing to ask that you place the 2 attachments on the Planning Board's website as you have the "final submission package from Jeffrey A Tocchio, Esq."

The 10 conservation organizations are Buzzards Bay Coalition, Sea Run Brook Trout Coalition, Southeastern Massachusetts Pine Barrens Alliance, Wareham Land Trust, Trustees of Reservation, Herring Pond Wampanoag Tribe, Northeast Wilderness Trust, Community Land and Water Coalition, Trout Unlimited and Wildlands Trust.

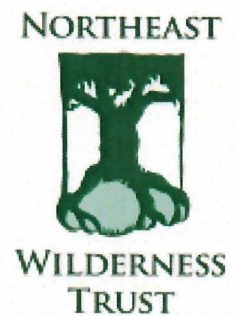
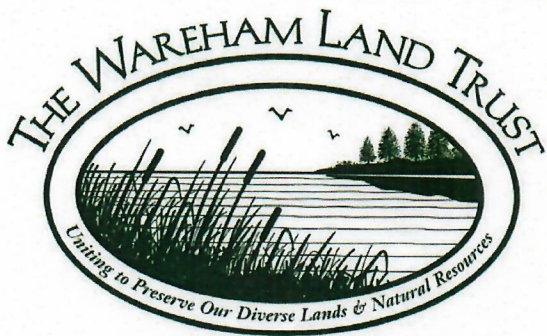
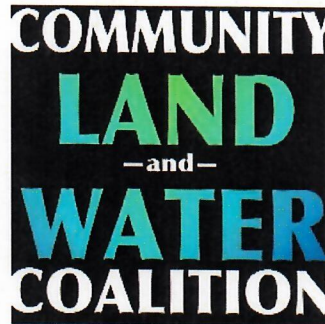
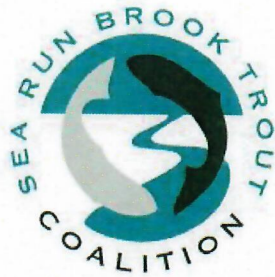
Please let me know if you have any comments, questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

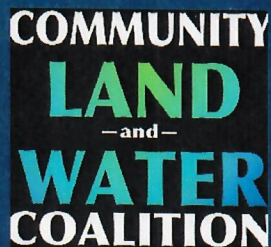


Nancy McHale
Wareham Land Trust
PO Box 718
Wareham, MA 02571

Conservation Groups Opposed to Article #1



VOTE "NO" to the creation of new
zoning district and overlay zone
"NO" to HREOD!



PROTECT OUR WATER, NATURAL AREAS, FISH & WILDLIFE HABITAT

VOTE "NO" ON ARTICLE 1

A developer, the Notos Group, proposes to amend Wareham Zoning Bylaw to re-zone 756 acres of coastal Pine Barrens from residential zoning to a new "Hospitality, Recreational and Entertainment Overlay District." Commercial development would detrimentally impact our freshwater supplies, create economic harm to residents, and permanently destroy globally rare habitat by turning it into hotels, drive-throughs, retail shops, garages, and multi-family dwellings.

Please vote "NO" at Wareham's
Special within Special Town Meeting
Saturday, April 10 @ 12 noon

Wareham High School Spillane Field
7 Viking Drive, Wareham

Register to vote by April 1st

Only registered voters from Wareham can vote at Town Meeting; the last day to register before the Special Town Meeting is Thursday, April 1.

Register here:
www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleifv/howreg.htm

Please participate in the entire Town Meeting; the order of voting on articles on the town warrant is decided at the meeting itself.



Vote "NO" on Article 1 Protect Wareham's Quality of Life for Future Generations

PROTECT OUR DRINKING WATER

The re-zoning proposal would allow for dense development that is incompatible with surrounding residential use. Commercial development would require further water withdrawals, which the region cannot withstand; and increase traffic, pollution, and wastewater that threatens to contaminate wetlands, ponds, and Wareham's only source of clean drinking water: the Plymouth-Carver Sole Source Aquifer. Keeping the land largely undeveloped allows forests to purify and recharge water as it passes through sandy soils, protecting this unique resource for future generations.

SAVE RARE SPECIES HABITAT

Coastal Pine Barrens are a globally rare ecosystem -- home to 220 endangered and threatened animals and plants. The state has formally designated most of the 963 acres as Priority and Core Habitat or Critical Natural Landscape. Endangered herring and eel migrate through the Red Brook Wildlife Management Area, which hosts a healthy population of Salter Brook Trout. The proposed zoning change and subsequent development threatens these species and would likely result in the irreversible collapse of sensitive ecosystems impacting our quality of life.

SUPPORT OUR ECONOMY

If this land is intensely developed, Wareham would need enhanced police and fire protection, expanded sewer, and costly infrastructure to manage traffic. Development could create light, noise, air, and water pollution and impact the historic live herring runs in Red Brook which contribute to the region's fishing economy as they are a primary food source for coastal fish.

STAND UP FOR WAMPANOAG RIGHTS

Indigenous Wampanoag people have occupied these lands for millennia and continue to hunt, fish, and gather in the area. Their sovereign rights must be honored.

JOIN PARTNERS WHO OPPOSE ARTICLE 1

The MA Division of Fish and Wildlife, Trustees of Reservations, Trout Unlimited, Buzzards Bay Coalition, Wareham Land Trust, Herring Pond Wampanoag, Wildlands Trust, Southeastern MA Pine Barrens Alliance, and Sea Run Brook Trout Coalition oppose Article 1.

Learn more about the Community Land and Water Coalition here:
<https://www.facebook.com/LandWaterPlymouthArea>