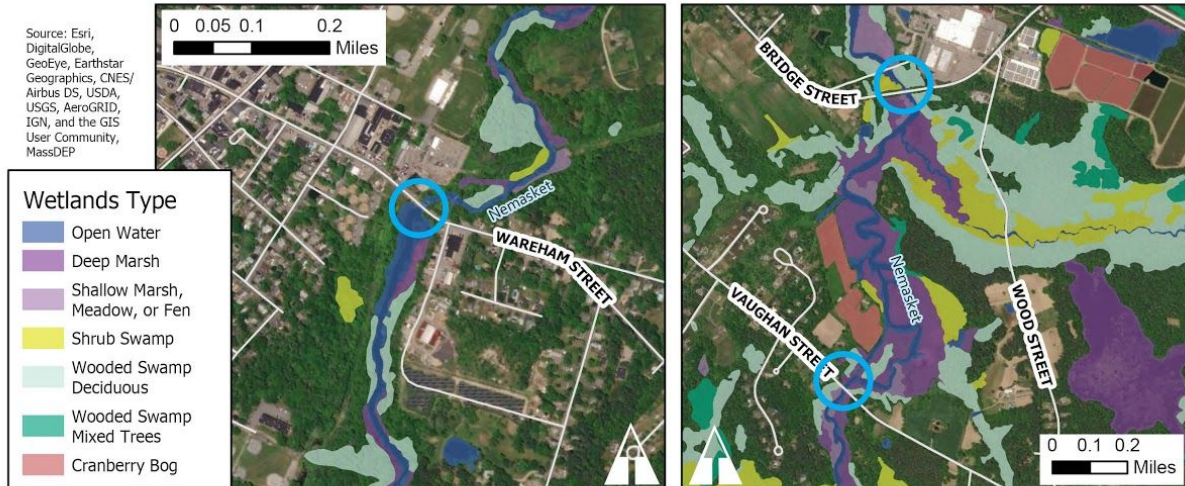


## Assawompset Pond Complex Floodwater Management Program 2020

### WETLANDS RESTORATION

#### Priority Action Next Steps Summary



**Where:** The Assawompset Ponds watershed and the upper Nemasket River.

**What's the problem:** Urbanization, changing land use patterns, and associated loss of wetlands have resulted in diminishment of flood storage capacity, water quality impacts and habitat destruction. These alterations result in people living and working in low-lying wet areas and have diminished the capacity of wetlands to buffer flooding.

**What's the solution:** Targeted wetland restoration could provide multiple benefits including flood mitigation, water quality improvement, improve water access and recreational opportunities, and enhanced support of biodiversity. A regional analysis and prioritization of restoration opportunities is a needed first step. Once the analysis is complete it will be possible to determine linkage to other aspects of APC project planning, develop more detailed implementation plans, and seek funding.

**Who:** Towns of Lakeville, Middleborough, Freetown, Rochester, Taunton, and New Bedford; APC Management Team; SRPEDD; USGS; local environmental non-profits; civil/environmental/water resource engineers.

#### Steps to complete work:

- Expansion of existing wetlands restoration analysis from the Nemasket River watershed to the APC watershed.
- Prioritization of potential restoration sites with the project steering committee.
- Integration of priority restoration projects with other aspects of the APC effort.



- On-site assessment of soil, vegetation, and current wetlands. Survey data will be needed for design.
- Engineering and permitting
- Construction, and hopefully some monitoring.

#### **Permits required:**

- Conservation commission NOI FOR WPA relevant work
- Depending on size, potential MEPA
- Need to check for endangered species
- If altering River, potential for ACOE

#### **Assets and barriers:**

- Climate resilience
- Biodiversity services
- Water quality
- Flood relief
- Enhancing fisheries
- Potential recreation co-benefit

**When would we see results:** We could request funds for engineering, permitting, and construction to Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). Application due 4/18, construction completion deadline Nov 2022.

**How much (ballpark costs):** \$175,000

#### **Funding sources:**

- WCS
- NFWF
- MVP
- DER Cranberry Priority Projects

**Similar Example:** The Town of Easton just received MVP action grant funding to restore a wetland identified by TNC through one of the analyses used in the Nemasket watershed.