



March 21, 2013

Mr. Gary Gonyea  
604(b) RFR Coordinator  
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Resource Protection, Division of Municipal Services  
1 Winter Street, 5th Floor  
Boston, MA 02108

**Re: Letter of support for Cape Cod Conservation District Proposal  
“West Falmouth Harbor Wetland Restoration Feasibility Assessments”  
FFY13 RFR for 604(b) Water Quality Management Planning**

Dear Mr. Gonyea:

On behalf of the Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC), I am pleased to provide this letter expressing our strong support for the proposal being submitted by the Cape Cod Conservation District (CCCD) to MassDEP’s 604(b) grant program. APCC was founded in 1968 as a 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to promote science-based policies and programs that foster preservation of Cape Cod’s natural resources. APCC is the Cape’s largest environmental organization with over 5,500 members from all 15 towns across Cape Cod. We promote our goals through education, research, technical assistance, and advocacy. Our efforts have led to landmark regional achievements in water resource protection, watershed restoration, land preservation and smart growth. As one example, we led the coalition that successfully advocated for Congressional approval of the Cape Cod Water Resources Restoration Project, a Cape-wide restoration program to restore tidally-restricted salt marshes, impaired fish runs and stormwater-impacted shellfish beds. APCC views natural resources as the backbone of Cape Cod’s infrastructure. Please see our website at [www.apcc.org](http://www.apcc.org) for more information.

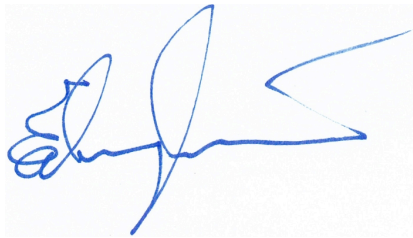
The Cape Cod Conservation District (CCCD) is a key partner in coastal restoration. Together with the NRCS, they administer the Cape Cod Water Resources Restoration Project, which received funding for one round of projects beginning in 2010. Future funding is uncertain, and yet many restoration projects are still urgently needed. The Conservation District’s proposal supports APCC’s goals of water resource protection and ecological protection.

The West Falmouth Harbor area of Falmouth contains at least seven tidal restrictions that were identified in the 2002 Atlas for Tidally Restricted Salt Marshes in the Buzzards Bay Watershed. More than 200 documented tidal restrictions have been documented across Cape Cod. This project will provide the necessary feasibility assessments to guide restoration of coastal habitat and naturalization of hydrology not only for West Falmouth but also the entire Cape. The proposed modeling will help perfect the

prioritization of tidal restriction restoration projects. This small investment will help us identify where best to put our limited restoration dollars.

We urge you to support this important application. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ed DeWitt', is centered on the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Ed DeWitt  
Executive Director