



3/18/19

Secretary Matthew Beaton
Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Attn: MEPA Analyst, Alex Strycky, EEA No. 15987
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

RE: EEA No. 15987, Childs River Restoration

Dear Secretary Beaton:

On behalf of the Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC), I am pleased to provide our letter of support to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for the Upper Childs River Restoration Project and the request for a waiver of the Environmental Impact Review (EIR) requirements. APCC is a regional environmental non-profit working to preserve, protect and restore the natural resources of Cape Cod. Our Restoration Coordination Center has been working closely with the Falmouth Rod and Gun Club since 2016 to support planning, design, monitoring and administration of the Childs River restoration project.

The project proposed by the Falmouth Rod and Gun Club is taking a holistic approach to watershed restoration. The restoration will provide ecosystem benefits for aquatic and terrestrial organisms, help address water quality concerns in the watershed as well as provide long-term climate change resiliency. Removal of the earthen dam, replacement of the culvert under Carriage Shop Road and removal of water control structures in the bogs will restore fish passage, providing access to existing and restored aquatic habitat for brook trout, American eel and river herring. Removal of these barriers and the existing impoundment will also eliminate sources of warm water currently impairing cold water habitat downstream. Restoration of the river channel will reconnect the stream to the floodplain and create new habitat for brook trout and other aquatic species. Restoring the abandoned bogs to natural wetlands with ponds will provide habitat for waterfowl and wildlife while mitigating nutrient impacts to the impaired waters of Waquoit Bay and providing increased capacity for flood water storage.

We urge you to approve the request for a waiver of the EIR requirement and to support this important restoration project. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (508) 619-3185.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Gottlieb', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Gottlieb
Executive Director
Association to Preserve Cape Cod