# Weir Creek Tidal Restoration

April Wobst, Restoration Manager Association to Preserve Cape Cod

> Enter your Name and Email in the Chatbox to Sign Up for Future Project Meeting Updates













Tighe&Bond





Conservation

District \_ 🤇



## Meeting Purpose and Overview

- Meeting Purpose: Updates, Comments & Qs
- Project Overview (April Wobst, APCC)
- Modeling (Arden Herrin, Woods Hole Group)
- Design (Eric Ohanian, Tighe & Bond)
- Question and Answers (20-30 minutes)
- Wrap Up and Next Steps







# Benefits of Restoration

- Ecological Value
- Human Use Value
- Ecosystem Services

Salt marshes provide the nursery habitat for more than 75% of commercial fishery species! Enhancing Community Resilience to Climate Change by Restoring Degraded Ecosystems Weir Creek Project Summary

- Identified Priority by Town, APCC, Regional and Federal Partners (CCWRRP)
- APCC Applied for and was Awarded Two Grants for Planning and Design (2023-2024)
- Scope: Feasibility Study, Culvert Design Alternatives, Outreach and Community Engagement and 30/60% Design



ershed Implementation Grant



# Weir Creek Tidal Restoration Goals

### Short-term Goals:

- Understand Current Condition and Flooding Impacts to Community
  - > Series of Stakeholder Engagement Meetings
- Determine Feasibility of Tidal Restoration
  - H&H Study and Alternatives Analysis
- Develop 30/60% Design Plans with Cost Estimates for Next Phase

### Long-term Goals:

- Restore Tidal Flow to the Salt Marsh
- Improve Health and Habitat within Weir Creek and Bass River Watersheds
- Increase Resilience of System and Community to Impacts of Climate Change

# Project Team

#### Association to Preserve Cape Cod

Town of Dennis

Tighe & Bond with Woods Hole Group

**USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** 

Cape Cod Conservation District

Friends of Bass River

**Dennis Conservation Land Trust** 

Cape Cod Mosquito Control

Cape Cod Commission

MA Division of Ecological Restoration

## **Project Funding**

EPA SNEP and NFWF Grants: \$417,888 for Current Scope

In-Kind Contributions (Match): \$73,292 for Current Scope

NOAA Grant Applications (Pending): \$4-4.5 million for project completion over the next 3 years (2025-2027)

NFWF Grant Application (In Progress): permitting and final design

Cape Cod Water Resource Restoration Project (CCWRRP): NRCS and CCCD Funding



## Project Scope and Timeline

#### **Project Kick Off**

- Project Planning and Development (Winter Spring 2023)
- Public Meeting One June 15, 2023

#### Tidal Evaluation, Modeling and Culvert Alternatives

- Field Data Collection (Summer 2023)
- Hydrodynamic Modeling and Culvert Alternatives Analysis (Fall/Winter 2023)
- Public Meeting Two (March 2024)

#### **Culvert Design and Planning**

- 30% Conceptual Designs (Spring 2024)
- 60% Permit-Ready Designs (Summer-Fall 2024)
  - Low-lying Infrastructure Survey
- Pre-Restoration Monitoring (Summer 2024)
- Public Meeting Three (Fall 2024)

#### LEGEND

• Woods Hole Group Loggers WQ Sampling Stations ▲ Salinity Loggers Vegetation Monitoring Fresh/Brackish Upstream Reference Restricted

### Proposed APCC 2024 Pre-Restoration Monitoring

- 1. Vegetation
- 2. Water Quality

#### Funding for Monitoring:



1,000

2,000 Feet

**Private Foundation Funding** 

## Public Meeting Goals



- Share Plans for Project
- Understand What Community Values
- Inform Study and Data Collection
- Listen to and Address Concerns and Questions
- Gather Support for Project

What the community values

canoeing biodiversi iet kayaking funding storm resiliency ecological potential cat-tails conservation recreation ducks seals water quality ion outreach proved collaboration seabirds walkability

## Community Concerns

rising water levels increased water velocity degraded freshwater system stagnant water communication issues odor phragmites pollution proper **Impacts** mold covotes Adim eros septic issues restricted marsh 🔹 fishkill surge flood zone

## **Meeting Registration Feedback**

### **Summary of Key Questions**

- Any proposed activity at South Main and Fisk Street? Or at the culvert that connects Weir Creek to Kelley's Pond?
- 2. How many sensors were used to monitor salinity? Was salinity monitored at Indian Pond? What do salinity models show for the upper reaches of the system?
- 3. How will the project change flooding on private properties? On Lighthouse Inn Road?
- 4. Affect on local groundwater levels during high tides and storm events?

### **Summary of Key Public Concerns**

- Flooding of Lighthouse Inn Road
- Need for dredging
- Insufficient tidal flow upstream to maintain a healthy salt marsh ecosystem.
- Preserving the natural marsh and wildlife
- Water quality



### WEIR CREEK TIDAL RESTORATION MODELING AND DESIGN

Arden Herrin, Woods Hole Group Eric Ohanian, PE, Tighe & Bond



## Questions



# Next Steps

- Write Up and Consolidate Comments and Questions from this Meeting
- Planning and Design (April-Oct)
- Monitoring of Vegetation and Water Quality (Summer)
- Public Meeting 3 Fall 2024



# Thank You for Coming

Sign In – Name and Email

For More Information and Project Updates Go To:

www.apcc.org/weir-creek



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