

**Taunton, Massachusetts
Comprehensive Wastewater
Management Plan**

Environmental Notification Form

Prepared for:

City of Taunton, Massachusetts

Submitted to:

**MEPA Unit, Executive Office
of Environmental Affairs**

August 2006

[SAMPLE COVER LETTER]

August 2006

Secretary Stephen R. Pritchard
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Attn: MEPA Office
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

**Subject: Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan
 Taunton, Massachusetts
 Environmental Notification Form**

Dear Secretary Pritchard,

The city of Taunton respectfully encloses two copies of an Environmental Notification Form (ENF) for activities related to the implementation of the recommended comprehensive wastewater management plan (CWMP) for the city.

The recommended wastewater management plan involves extending sewers to 14 wastewater priority needs areas throughout the city that are currently served by on-site wastewater disposal systems and expanding the existing WWTF to handle additional flow. The recommended plan proposes construction of approximately 50 miles of new sewers within the priority needs areas. Thus, under Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) regulations (301 CMR 11.03(5)), an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is needed for this project.

Implementation of this project would aid existing residences and businesses in areas of the city currently experiencing failures of on-site systems and other areas considered unsuitable for long-term use of on-site disposal systems due to poor soil or groundwater conditions. It would also result in improved surface water and groundwater quality within priority needs areas, as the proposed project would eliminate the potential for individual septic system failures. The city plans to phase the work of the recommended plan.

This recommended wastewater management plan is proposed by the city of Taunton in accordance with the requirements of Administrative Consent Order with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, dated April 15, 2005 (ACOP-SE-R006-1N-SEP). Following the submittal of this ENF to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office, any comments provided by MEPA will be incorporated into the CWMP and a final CWMP will be issued.

If you have any questions, please call me at 508-821-1434.

Sincerely,

Fred Cornaglia
Public Works Commissioner

DISTRIBUTION LIST FOR ENVIRONMENTAL NOTIFICATION FORM

Secretary Stephen R. Pritchard
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Attn: MEPA Office
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Undersecretary for Policy
c/o Nancy Gabriel-Sackie
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Department of Environmental Protection –
Boston Office
Commissioner's Office
One Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

MA DEP – Southeast Regional Office
Attn: MEPA Coordinator
20 Riverside Drive
Lakeville, MA 02347

Executive Office of Transportation (EOT)
Attn: Environmental Reviewer
10 Park Plaza, Room 3510
Boston, MA 02116-3969

Massachusetts Highway Department
Public/Private Development Unit
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116

Massachusetts Highway Department
District #5
Attn: MEPA Coordinator
1000 County Street
Taunton, MA 02780

Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission
Attn: MEPA Coordinator
10 Park Plaza, Suite 3510
Boston, MA 02116

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
New England Field Office
70 Commercial Street, Suite 300
Concord, NH 03301-5087

Massachusetts Historical Commission
The MA Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic
Development District
88 Broadway
Taunton, MA 02780

City of Taunton – City Council
15 Summer Street
Taunton, MA 02780

City of Taunton – Planning Board
15 Summer Street
Taunton, MA 02780

City of Taunton – Conservation Commission
15 Summer Street
Taunton, MA 02780

City of Taunton – Board of Health
15 Summer Street
Taunton, MA 02780

Coastal Zone Management
Attn: Project Review Coordinator
251 Causeway Street, Suite 800
Boston, MA 02114

Natural Heritage & Endangered Species
Program
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
North Drive
Westborough, MA 01581

Department of Public Health (DPH)
Director of Environmental Health
250 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02115

Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources
Attn: Victor T. Mastone, Director
251 Causeway Street, Suite 800
Boston, MA 02114-2199

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ENVIRONMENTAL NOTIFICATION FORM

ATTACHMENT A PROJECT DESCRIPTION

ATTACHMENT B TOPOGRAPHIC MAP/SITE PLAN

**ATTACHMENT C MASSACHUSETTS NATURAL HERITAGE
ATLAS PAGES**

ATTACHMENT D AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE

ENVIRONMENTAL NOTIFICATION FORM

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.:
 MEPA Analyst:
 Phone: 617-626-

ENF Environmental Notification Form

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

| | | |
|---|---|------------------------|
| Project Name: Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) | | |
| Street: Multiple streets throughout the city of Taunton | | |
| Municipality: Taunton | Watershed: Taunton River Watershed | |
| Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: North American Datum (NAD) 1983 | Latitude: 41.90° N Longitude: 71.09° W | |
| Estimated commencement date: 2007 | Estimated completion date: 2015 | |
| Approximate cost: \$90 million | Status of project design: 0 %complete | |
| Proponent: City of Taunton, Public Works Department, Fred Cornaglia | | |
| Street: 90 Ingell Street | | |
| Municipality: Taunton | State: MA | Zip Code: 02780 |
| Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Fred Cornaglia | | |
| Firm/Agency: City of Taunton, Public Works Dept. | Street: 90 Ingell Street | |
| Municipality: Taunton | State: MA | Zip Code: 02780 |
| Phone: 508-821-1434 | Fax: 508-821-1437 | E-mail: |

- Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
 Yes No
- Has this project been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No
- Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No
- Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:
- a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8)) Yes No
 - a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09) Yes No
 - a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No
 - a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an agency of the Commonwealth, including the agency name and the amount of funding or land area (in acres): **SRF Funding may be sought for all costs of the recommended plan (\$90 million).**

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?
 Yes (Specify _____) No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: **Order of Conditions from Taunton Conservation Commission, NPDES Surface Water Discharge Permit – Modification, NPDES General Permit**

for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activities, NPDES Remediation General Permit.

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACEC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological Resources |

| Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts | Existing | Change | Total | State Permits & Approvals |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|----------|---|
| Total site acreage ¹ | Approx. 4,600 | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits (including Legislative Approvals) – Specify: Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) Project Review (321 CMR 10.00) DEP Limited Plan Approval may be required (to be determined as design proceeds) |
| New acres of land altered | | 0.9 | | |
| Acres of impervious area ² | | 0.9 | | |
| Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration ³ | | 0 | | |
| Square feet of new other wetland alteration ² | | 3,400 sf of BLSF 2,400 sf of Riverfront Area | | |
| Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways | | 0 | | |
| Gross square footage ² | | 37,700 | 37,700 | |
| Number of housing units ² | | 0 | 0 | |
| Maximum height (in feet) ² | | 25 | 25 | |
| Vehicle trips per day | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Parking spaces | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Gallons/day (GPD) of water use | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| GPD water withdrawal | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| GPD wastewater generation/treatment | 8.25 mgd (city-wide including IMAs) | +1.02 mgd ⁴ +1.43 mgd ⁵ | 10.7 mgd | |
| Length of water/ <u>sewer</u> mains (in miles) | Approx. 100 (city-wide) | +50 | 150 | |

Notes:

General note – Impacts are based on preliminary/conceptual designs prepared during the early planning phase of the proposed project and may change as design progresses.

- Includes the land area within all 14 wastewater priority needs areas throughout the city and the wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) site.
- Numbers presented only for proposed WWTF expansion and pump station buildings.
- Impacts to wetland resource areas are based on review of available wetlands mapping layers from Massachusetts Geographic Information System (MassGIS). Impacts to wetlands will be confirmed during design.
- Represents existing volume of wastewater generated in the priority needs areas plus flow associated with projected infill development over the next twenty years in these areas that would be added to the city's wastewater collection system under the proposed project.
- Represents additional 20-year projected flow from anticipated infilling within existing sewered areas and additional intermunicipal wastewater flow.

CONSERVATION LAND: Will the project involve the conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?

Yes (Specify _____) No

Will it involve the release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction?

Yes (Specify _____) No

RARE SPECIES: Does the project site include Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities?

Yes (Specify Based on review of the Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program 2003 Natural Heritage Atlas and MassGIS datalayers, the project area includes portions of several Estimated Habitats of Rare Species [WH324, WH446, WH1097, WH2061, WH4105, WH6087, WH7049, and WH7502] and Priority Sites of Rare Species [PH1243, PH1297, PH1315, PH1316, PH1365, PH1377, PH1378, PH1387]; see Attachment C for respective pages from the Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas and Attachment D for correspondence from the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP).) No

HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Does the project site include any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes (Specify The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has identified several historic and archaeological sites in the project area that are included in the Inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth. These sites are identified in the attached correspondence from the MHC (see Attachment D).) No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?

Yes (Specify _____) No

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN: Is the project in or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

Yes (Specify Based on review of the MassGIS Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) datalayer, portions of the following ACECs are located within the project area: Hockomock Swamp and Canoe River Aquifer.) No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project description should include (a) a description of the project site, (b) a description of both on-site and off-site alternatives and the impacts associated with each alternative, and (c) potential on-site and off-site mitigation measures for each alternative (*You may attach one additional page, if necessary.*)

This proposed project represents the recommended plan of the *Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP)* prepared for the city of Taunton, which was submitted in July 2005 to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP). The city of Taunton's existing wastewater collection system consists of approximately 100 miles of sewer and a wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) that provides advanced secondary treatment. The recommended wastewater management plan involves implementing sewers within 14 wastewater priority needs areas throughout the city that are currently served by on-site wastewater disposal systems and expanding the existing WWTF to handle additional flow from these needs areas, as well as from projected infilling within existing sewer areas and projected additional intermunicipal flow.

Implementation of this project would aid existing residences and businesses in areas of the city currently experiencing failures of on-site systems and other areas considered unsuitable for long-term use of on-site disposal systems due to poor soil or groundwater conditions. It would also result in improved surface water and groundwater quality within priority needs areas, as the proposed project would eliminate the potential for individual septic system failures. Thus, the recommended plan would solve an immediate problem that the city faces. This recommended wastewater management plan is proposed by the city of Taunton in accordance with the requirements of Administrative Consent Order with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, dated April 15, 2005 (ACOP-SE-R006-1N-SEP).

See "Attachment A" for a detailed project description. Due to the geographic area covered by the 14 priority areas, more than one page is included in Attachment A to provide an appropriate level of detail. The site plan provided in "Attachment B" is preliminary/conceptual. The locations of the facilities required for WWTF expansion, the proposed sewers, and the associated pump stations were primarily selected based on engineering requirements. Final locations will be determined as project design proceeds. Copies of the CWMP are available for public review at the Taunton Public Works Department offices (90 Ingell Street) and the Taunton Public Library (12 Pleasant Street).

LAND SECTION – all proponents must fill out this section

I. Thresholds / Permits

A. Does the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **land** (see 301 CMR 11.03(1))
 Yes No; if yes, specify each threshold:

II. Impacts and Permits

A. Describe, in acres, the current and proposed character of the project site, as follows:

The proposed sewers will be below ground, and any disturbed surfaces will be restored to existing conditions. Thus, only permanent impacts associated with the above ground components of the project (pump stations, WWTF expansion) are listed below. Existing conditions are not provided given the vast size and variability of the project area and inability to make accurate approximations.

| | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Footprint of buildings | _____ | <u>+0.75</u> | <u>+0.75</u> |
| Roadways, parking, and other paved areas | _____ | <u>+0.12</u> | <u>+0.12</u> |
| Other altered areas (describe) | _____ | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| Undeveloped areas | _____ | <u>-0.87</u> | <u>-0.87</u> |

B. Has any part of the project site been in active agricultural use in the last three years?
 Yes No; if yes, how many acres of land in agricultural use (with agricultural soils) will be converted to nonagricultural use?

One pump station may be located within land identified as “cropland” by MassGIS (located off of Myricks Street near the southern edge of priority needs area “Z.” This pump station may result in the permanent conversion of approximately 400 sf (less than 0.01 acre) of land. As previously noted, the locations of the pump stations are preliminary and may be relocated as design proceeds. Thus, this impact may be avoided.

C. Is any part of the project site currently or proposed to be in active forestry use?
 Yes No; if yes, please describe current and proposed forestry activities and indicate whether any part of the site is the subject of a DEM-approved forest management plan:

D. Does any part of the project involve conversion of land held for natural resources purposes in accordance with Article 97 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97? Yes No; if yes, describe:

E. Is any part of the project site currently subject to a conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction or watershed preservation restriction? Yes No; if yes, does the project involve the release or modification of such restriction? Yes No; if yes, describe:

F. Does the project require approval of a new urban redevelopment project or a fundamental change in an existing urban redevelopment project under M.G.L.c.121A? Yes No; if yes, describe:

G. Does the project require approval of a new urban renewal plan or a major modification of an existing urban renewal plan under M.G.L.c.121B? Yes No ; if yes, describe:

H. Describe the project's stormwater impacts and, if applicable, measures that the project will take to comply with the standards found in DEP's Stormwater Management Policy:

Best management practices for stormwater management would be incorporated into project design to meet state standards. Work would be conducted in compliance with the Taunton

Conservation Commission's Order of Conditions for the project. Prior to the start of construction, all erosion and sedimentation controls would be approved by the Engineer and inspected by the Taunton Conservation Commission if they so choose. Construction is expected to be covered under the NPDES General Permit for Construction Stormwater Discharges.

I. Is the project site currently being regulated under M.G.L.c.21E or the Massachusetts Contingency Plan? Yes ___ No ; if yes, what is the Release Tracking Number (RTN)?

J. If the project site is within the Chicopee or Nashua watershed, is it within the Quabbin, Ware, or Wachusett subwatershed? ___ Yes ___ No; if yes, is the project site subject to regulation under the Watershed Protection Act? ___ Yes ___ No

K. Describe the project's other impacts on land:

Since the majority of the proposed project consists of construction of subsurface pipelines within rights-of-way, most impacts would be temporary and primarily related to traffic disruption. The proposed pump stations would represent a permanent alteration of land use, although these structures and their associated land requirements are relatively small (approximately 400 sf each). Expansion of the main lift station and the WWTF would not directly impact land use of the existing sites or adjoining parcels. While the WWTF site is zoned for open space/conservation, the land use of the site would remain the same as currently used (i.e., to support waste treatment/disposal for public purposes).

The intent of the project is to serve existing development in the city of Taunton, and not to provide infrastructure improvements to induce growth in the city. However, the city will need to address potential indirect impacts that may result from the proposed sewer extensions. Extension of sewers to previously unsewered areas has the potential to induce growth within areas that might previously have been restricted due to on site wastewater disposal limitations.

III. Consistency

A. Identify the current municipal comprehensive land use plan and the open space plan and describe the consistency of the project and its impacts with that plan(s):

The project is compatible with the "Comprehensive Master Plan" for the city of Taunton (1998) by protecting natural resources and improving surface water quality, as the proposed alternative eliminates the potential for individual septic system failures within the priority needs areas. The proposed project is also compatible with the Master Plan's goal of expanding sewer service to areas of the city on a needs basis.

B. Identify the current Regional Policy Plan of the applicable Regional Planning Agency and describe the consistency of the project and its impacts with that plan:

The project is compatible with the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District's "Regional Land Use: Roles, Policies, and Plan Outline for Southeastern Massachusetts" (1996) by planning for the future through identifying and proposing a wastewater management solution for areas in the city that, over the long term, are not suitable for on-site systems.

C. Will the project require any approvals under the local zoning by-law or ordinance (i.e. text or map amendment, special permit, or variance)? Yes ___ No ; if yes, describe:

D. Will the project require local site plan or project impact review?
 Yes No; if yes, describe:

RARE SPECIES SECTION

I. Thresholds / Permits

A. Will the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **rare species or habitat** (see 301 CMR 11.03(2))? Yes No; if yes, specify, in quantitative terms:

The proposed project would result in the permanent alteration of a Priority Habitat of Rare Species (PH1377) and a Estimated Habitat of Rare Wildlife (WH6087) for the chlorine contact tank expansion at the WWTF (2,400 sf), and the main lift station expansion (1,000 sf). Since these activities involve expansions to existing facilities, there are no alternative locations for this work. The proposed denitrification facility at the WWTF (7,000 sf) may result in the permanent alteration of the same priority and estimated habitats. However, the location of this structure is preliminary and efforts will be taken to relocate this structure outside of priority and estimated habitat as design proceeds.

In addition, four pump stations (approximately 400 sf each, for a total of 1,600 sf) may result in the permanent alteration of Priority Habitats of Rare Species (PH1297, PH1315, PH1387) and Estimated Habitats of Rare Wildlife (WH1097, WH4105, WH7049). As previously noted, the locations of the pump stations are preliminary and efforts will be taken to relocate these pump stations outside of priority and estimated habitat as design proceeds. Thus, permanent impacts to priority and estimated habitat due to pump stations may be avoided. Further coordination with NHESP will be conducted once locations are finalized.

B. Does the project require any state permits related to **rare species or habitat**? Yes No

Pursuant to the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (321 CMR 10.00) and the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (310 CMR 10.00).

C. If you answered "No" to both questions A and B, proceed to the **Wetlands, Waterways, and Tidelands Section**. If you answered "Yes" to either question A or question B, fill out the remainder of the Rare Species section below.

II. Impacts and Permits

A. Does the project site fall within Priority or Estimated Habitat in the current Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas (attach relevant page)? Yes No. If yes,

1. Which rare species are known to occur within the Priority or Estimated Habitat (contact: Environmental Review, Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, Route 135, Westborough, MA 01581, allowing 30 days for receipt of information):

A list of rare species known to occur within the priority and estimated habitats located within the project area is included in correspondence received from the NHESP (see Attachment D).

2. Have you surveyed the site for rare species? Yes No; if yes, please include the results of your survey.

3. If your project is within Estimated Habitat, have you filed a Notice of Intent or received an Order of Conditions for this project? Yes No; if yes, did you send a copy of the Notice of Intent to the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, in accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act regulations? Yes No

B. Will the project "take" an endangered, threatened, and/or species of special concern in accordance with M.G.L. c.131A (see also 321 CMR 10.04)? ___ Yes ___ No; if yes, describe:

Additional coordination will be conducted with NHESP as project design proceeds, and required materials will be submitted to NHESP to determine whether a probable "take" under MESA would occur.

C. Will the project alter "significant habitat" as designated by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife in accordance with M.G.L. c.131A (see also 321 CMR 10.30)? ___ Yes **X** No; if yes, describe:

D. Describe the project's other impacts on rare species including indirect impacts (for example, stormwater runoff into a wetland known to contain rare species or lighting impacts on rare moth habitat):

WETLANDS, WATERWAYS, AND TIDELANDS SECTION

I. Thresholds / Permits

A. Will the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **wetlands, waterways, and tidelands** (see 301 CMR 11.03(3))? ___ Yes **X** No; if yes, specify, in quantitative terms:

B. Does the project require any state permits (or a local Order of Conditions) related to **wetlands, waterways, or tidelands**? **X** Yes ___ No; if yes, specify which permit:

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act Order of Conditions.

C. If you answered "No" to both questions A and B, proceed to the **Water Supply Section**. If you answered "Yes" to either question A or question B, fill out the remainder of the Wetlands, Waterways, and Tidelands Section below.

II. Wetlands Impacts and Permits

A. Describe any wetland resource areas currently existing on the project site and indicate them on the site plan:

The following wetland resources are located within the project area: Bank, Bordering Vegetated Wetlands, Land Under Water, Bordering Land Subject to Flooding, and Riverfront Area.

B. Estimate the extent and type of impact that the project will have on wetland resources, and indicate whether the impacts are temporary or permanent:

| <u>Coastal Wetlands</u> | <u>Area (in square feet) or Length (in linear feet)</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Land Under the Ocean | _____ |
| Designated Port Areas | _____ |
| Coastal Beaches | _____ |
| Coastal Dunes | _____ |
| Barrier Beaches | _____ |
| Coastal Banks | _____ |
| Rocky Intertidal Shores | _____ |
| Salt Marshes | _____ |
| Land Under Salt Ponds | _____ |
| Land Containing Shellfish | _____ |
| Fish Runs | _____ |
| Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage | _____ |

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Inland Wetlands | _____ |
| Bank | _____ |
| Bordering Vegetated Wetlands | _____ |
| Land under Water | _____ |
| Isolated Land Subject to Flooding | _____ |
| Bordering Land Subject to Flooding | <u>Temp. – approx. 23,400 sf; Permanent – approx. 3,400 sf</u> |
| Riverfront Area | <u>Temp. – approx. 10,400 sf; Permanent – approx. 2,400 sf</u> |

C. Is any part of the project

1. a limited project? Yes No
2. the construction or alteration of a dam? Yes No; if yes, describe:
3. fill or structure in a velocity zone or regulatory floodway? Yes No
4. dredging or disposal of dredged material? Yes No; if yes, describe the volume of dredged material and the proposed disposal site:
5. a discharge to Outstanding Resource Waters? Yes No
6. subject to a wetlands restriction order? Yes No; if yes, identify the area (in square feet):

D. Does the project require a new or amended Order of Conditions under the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. c.131A)? Yes No; if yes, has a Notice of Intent been filed or a local Order of Conditions issued? Yes No; if yes, list the date and DEP file number: _____.
 Was the Order of Conditions appealed? Yes No. Will the project require a variance from the Wetlands regulations? Yes No.

E. Will the project:

1. be subject to a local wetlands ordinance or bylaw? Yes No
2. alter any federally-protected wetlands not regulated under state or local law? Yes No; if yes, what is the area (in s.f.)?

F. Describe the project's other impacts on wetlands (including new shading of wetland areas or removal of tree canopy from forested wetlands):

The wetlands impacts estimated above would result from the construction and siting of the chlorine contact tank and main lift station expansions, which are both required as part of the proposed WWTF expansion. Indirect long-term impacts include the possible loss of wetlands across the city of Taunton due to secondary growth resulting from the provision of sewers to previously unsewered areas.

III. Waterways and Tidelands Impacts and Permits

- A. Is any part of the project site waterways or tidelands (including filled former tidelands) that are subject to the Waterways Act, M.G.L.c.91? Yes No; if yes, is there a current Chapter 91 license or permit affecting the project site? Yes No; if yes, list the date and number:
- B. Does the project require a new or modified license under M.G.L.c.91? Yes No; if yes, how many acres of the project site subject to M.G.L.c.91 will be for non-water dependent use?
 Current Change Total
- C. Is any part of the project
 1. a roadway, bridge, or utility line to or on a barrier beach? Yes No; if yes, describe:
 2. dredging or disposal of dredged material? Yes No; if yes, volume of dredged material _____
 3. a solid fill, pile-supported, or bottom-anchored structure in flowed tidelands or other

waterways? ___ Yes No; if yes, what is the base area? _____
 4. within a Designated Port Area? ___ Yes No

D. Describe the project's other impacts on waterways and tidelands:

Discharge from the expanded WWTF to the Taunton River would be maintained at levels set in the NPDES discharge permit established by the U.S. EPA and the MA DEP. Thus, no degradation of surface water quality is anticipated. There would be positive effects to water quality in the needs areas due to the elimination of individual failing septic systems.

IV. Consistency:

A. Is the project located within the Coastal Zone? ___ Yes No; if yes, describe the project's consistency with policies of the Office of Coastal Zone Management:

B. Is the project located within an area subject to a Municipal Harbor Plan? ___ Yes No; if yes, identify the Municipal Harbor Plan and describe the project's consistency with that plan:

WATER SUPPLY SECTION

I. Thresholds / Permits

A. Will the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **water supply** (see 301 CMR 11.03(4))? ___ Yes No; if yes, specify, in quantitative terms:

B. Does the project require any state permits related to **water supply**? ___ Yes No; if yes, specify which permit:

C. If you answered "No" to both questions A and B, proceed to the **Wastewater Section**. If you answered "Yes" to either question A or question B, fill out the remainder of the Water Supply Section below.

II. Impacts and Permits

A. Describe, in gallons/day, the volume and source of water use for existing and proposed activities at the project site:

| | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Withdrawal from groundwater | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Withdrawal from surface water | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Interbasin transfer | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Municipal or regional water supply | _____ | _____ | _____ |

B. If the source is a municipal or regional supply, has the municipality or region indicated that there is adequate capacity in the system to accommodate the project? ___ Yes ___ No

C. If the project involves a new or expanded withdrawal from a groundwater or surface water source,

1. have you submitted a permit application? ___ Yes ___ No; if yes, attach the application
2. have you conducted a pump test? ___ Yes ___ No; if yes, attach the pump test report

D. What is the currently permitted withdrawal at the proposed water supply source (in gallons/day)? _____ Will the project require an increase in that withdrawal? ___ Yes ___ No

E. Does the project site currently contain a water supply well, a drinking water treatment facility, water main, or other water supply facility, or will the project involve construction of a new facility? ___ Yes ___ No. If yes, describe existing and proposed water supply facilities at the project site:

| | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Water supply well(s) (capacity, in gpd) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Drinking water treatment plant (capacity, in gpd) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Water mains (length, in miles) | _____ | _____ | _____ |

F. If the project involves any interbasin transfer of water, which basins are involved, what is the direction of the transfer, and is the interbasin transfer existing or proposed?

G. Does the project involve

1. new water service by a state agency to a municipality or water district? Yes No
2. a Watershed Protection Act variance? Yes No; if yes, how many acres of alteration?
3. a non-bridged stream crossing 1,000 or less feet upstream of a public surface drinking water supply for purpose of forest harvesting activities? Yes No

H. Describe the project's other impacts (including indirect impacts) on water resources, quality, facilities and services:

III. **Consistency** -- Describe the project's consistency with water conservation plans or other plans to enhance water resources, quality, facilities and services:

WASTEWATER SECTION

I. Thresholds / Permits

A. Will the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **wastewater** (see 301 CMR 11.03(5))? Yes No; if yes, specify, in quantitative terms:

The proposed project would result in the construction of approximately 50 miles of new sewer lines and expansion of the existing WWTF by 27 percent (or 2.3 mgd) of existing capacity.

B. Does the project require any state permits related to **wastewater**? Yes No; if yes, specify which permit:

The proposed project would require a MA DEP sewer extension permit.

C. If you answered "No" to both questions A and B, proceed to the **Transportation -- Traffic Generation Section**. If you answered "Yes" to either question A or question B, fill out the remainder of the Wastewater Section below.

II. Impacts and Permits

A. Describe, in gallons/day, the volume and disposal of wastewater generation for existing and proposed activities at the project site (calculate according to 310 CMR 15.00):

| | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|--|--|------------------|
| Discharge to groundwater (Title 5) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Discharge to groundwater (non-Title 5) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Discharge to outstanding resource water | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Discharge to surface water | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Municipal or regional wastewater facility | 8.25 mgd (city-wide including IMAs) | +1.02 mgd¹ +1.43 mgd² | 10.70 mgd |
| TOTAL | 8.25 mgd (city-wide Including IMAs) | +1.02 mgd¹ +1.43 mgd² | 10.70 mgd |

Notes:

1. Represents existing volume of wastewater generated in the priority needs areas plus flow associated with projected infill development over the next twenty years in these areas that would be added to the city's wastewater collection system under the proposed project.
2. Represents additional 20-year projected flow from anticipated infilling within existing sewer areas and additional intermunicipal wastewater flow.

B. Is there sufficient capacity in the existing collection system to accommodate the project? ___ Yes No; if no, describe where capacity will be found:

The proposed project involves construction of sewer extensions that would accommodate flow from the priority needs areas that is currently being discharged to groundwater (Title 5).

C. Is there sufficient existing capacity at the proposed wastewater disposal facility? ___ Yes No; if no, describe how capacity will be increased:

The proposed project involves expansion of the existing WWTF that would provide capacity for the additional flow from the priority needs areas. The proposed WWTF expansion would also provide capacity for additional volume from projected infilling within existing sewer areas and projected intermunicipal wastewater flow.

D. Does the project site currently contain a wastewater treatment facility, sewer main, or other wastewater disposal facility, or will the project involve construction of a new facility? Yes ___ No. If yes, describe as follows:

| | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Wastewater treatment plant (capacity, in gpd) | 8.4 mgd | +2.3 mgd | 10.7 mgd |
| Sewer mains (length, in miles) | Approx. 100* | +Approx. 50 | _ 150 _ |
| Title 5 systems (capacity, in gpd) | _____ | _____ | _____ |

***Note: Represents approximate length of sewers city-wide.**

E. If the project involves any interbasin transfer of wastewater, which basins are involved, what is the direction of the transfer, and is the interbasin transfer existing or proposed?

F. Does the project involve new sewer service by an Agency of the Commonwealth to a municipality or sewer district? ___ Yes No

G. Is there any current or proposed facility at the project site for the storage, treatment, processing, combustion or disposal of sewage sludge, sludge ash, grit, screenings, or other sewage residual materials? Yes ___ No; if yes, what is the capacity (in tons per day):

| | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Storage | _ 0 _ | _ 0 _ | _ 0 _ |
| Treatment, processing | _ 6.0 DT/D _ | +2.5 DT/D | _ 8.5 DT/D _ |
| Combustion | _ 0 _ | _ 0 _ | _ 0 _ |
| Disposal | _ 0 _ | _ 0 _ | _ 0 _ |

Note: Values expressed in dry tons per day (DT/D). Dewatered sludge is trucked to municipal landfill.

H. Describe the project's other impacts (including indirect impacts) on wastewater generation and treatment facilities:

Indirect long-term impacts include the potential for additional wastewater generation within and adjacent to the priority needs areas due to secondary growth. Sewers would be provided to existing developed areas. However, extension of sewers to previously unsewered areas has the potential to induce growth within the priority needs areas that might previously have been restricted due to on-site wastewater disposal limitations. Also, extending the sewers to these remote areas may contribute to secondary growth between the end of the current sewer system and the limits of needs areas.

III. **Consistency** -- Describe measures that the proponent will take to comply with federal, state, regional, and local plans and policies related to wastewater management:

A. If the project requires a sewer extension permit, is that extension included in a comprehensive wastewater management plan? Yes No; if yes, indicate the EOEA number for the plan and describe the relationship of the project to the plan

The proposed project represents the Recommended Plan of the city of Taunton's Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP), which was submitted to MA DEP in July 2005. This ENF represents the filing of the CWMP with MEPA.

TRANSPORTATION -- TRAFFIC GENERATION SECTION

I. **Thresholds / Permits**

A. Will the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **traffic generation** (see 301 CMR 11.03(6))? Yes No; if yes, specify, in quantitative terms:

B. Does the project require any state permits related to **state-controlled roadways**? Yes No; if yes, specify which permit:

A construction access permit from the Massachusetts Highway Department for installation of proposed sewers within state-controlled roadways.

C. If you answered "No" to both questions A and B, proceed to the **Roadways and Other Transportation Facilities Section**. If you answered "Yes" to either question A or question B, fill out the remainder of the Traffic Generation Section below.

II. **Traffic Impacts and Permits**

A. Describe existing and proposed vehicular traffic generated by activities at the project site:

| | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Number of parking spaces | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Number of vehicle trips per day | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| ITE Land Use Code(s): | | | |

B. What is the estimated average daily traffic on roadways serving the site?

| | <u>Roadway</u> | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|----|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

C. Describe how the project will affect transit, pedestrian and bicycle transportation facilities and services:

Construction will potentially result in impacts to roadway capacity including reduction of the existing number of lanes, reduction of lane widths, and local road closures requiring detours. These temporary reductions in roadway capacity could lead to increased traffic delays. Traffic management plans will be prepared as part of the

design effort. No long-term impacts to traffic are anticipated.

III. **Consistency** -- Describe measures that the proponent will take to comply with municipal, regional, state, and federal plans and policies related to traffic, transit, pedestrian and bicycle transportation facilities and services: **N/A**

ROADWAYS AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES SECTION

I. Thresholds

A. Will the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **roadways or other transportation facilities** (see 301 CMR 11.03(6))? ___ Yes **X** No; if yes, specify, in quantitative terms:

B. Does the project require any state permits related to **roadways or other transportation facilities**? ___ Yes **X** No; if yes, specify which permit:

C. If you answered "No" to both questions A and B, proceed to the **Energy Section**. If you answered "Yes" to either question A or question B, fill out the remainder of the Roadways Section below.

II. Transportation Facility Impacts

A. Describe existing and proposed transportation facilities at the project site:

| | Existing | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|----------|---------------|--------------|
| Length (in linear feet) of new or widened roadway | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Width (in feet) of new or widened roadway | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Other transportation facilities:

- B. Will the project involve any
1. Alteration of bank or terrain (in linear feet)? _____
 2. Cutting of living public shade trees (number)? _____
 3. Elimination of stone wall (in linear feet)? _____

III. **Consistency** -- Describe the project's consistency with other federal, state, regional, and local plans and policies related to traffic, transit, pedestrian and bicycle transportation facilities and services, including consistency with the applicable regional transportation plan and the Transportation Improvements Plan (TIP), the State Bicycle Plan, and the State Pedestrian Plan:

ENERGY SECTION

I. Thresholds / Permits

A. Will the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **energy** (see 301 CMR 11.03(7))? ___ Yes **X** No; if yes, specify, in quantitative terms:

B. Does the project require any state permits related to **energy**? ___ Yes **X** No; if yes, specify which permit:

C. If you answered "No" to both questions A and B, proceed to the **Air Quality Section**. If you answered "Yes" to either question A or question B, fill out the remainder of the Energy Section below.

II. Impacts and Permits

A. Describe existing and proposed energy generation and transmission facilities at the project site:

| | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Capacity of electric generating facility (megawatts) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Length of fuel line (in miles) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Length of transmission lines (in miles) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Capacity of transmission lines (in kilovolts) | _____ | _____ | _____ |

B. If the project involves construction or expansion of an electric generating facility, what are
 1. the facility's current and proposed fuel source(s)?
 2. the facility's current and proposed cooling source(s)?

C. If the project involves construction of an electrical transmission line, will it be located on a new, unused, or abandoned right of way? ___ Yes ___ No; if yes, please describe:

D. Describe the project's other impacts on energy facilities and services:

III. Consistency -- Describe the project's consistency with state, municipal, regional, and federal plans and policies for enhancing energy facilities and services:

AIR QUALITY SECTION

I. Thresholds

A. Will the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **air quality** (see 301 CMR 11.03(8))? ___ Yes **X** No; if yes, specify, in quantitative terms:

B. Does the project require any state permits related to **air quality**? ___ Yes ___ No; if yes, specify which permit:

A DEP Limited Plan Approval may be required for the proposed WWTF expansion. The need to obtain this approval will be determined as design proceeds.

C. If you answered "No" to both questions A and B, proceed to the **Solid and Hazardous Waste Section**. If you answered "Yes" to either question A or question B, fill out the remainder of the Air Quality Section below.

II. Impacts and Permits

A. Does the project involve construction or modification of a major stationary source (see 310 CMR 7.00, Appendix A)? ___ Yes ___ No; if yes, describe existing and proposed emissions (in tons per day) of:

| | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Particulate matter | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Carbon monoxide | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Sulfur dioxide | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Volatile organic compounds | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Oxides of nitrogen | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Lead | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Any hazardous air pollutant | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Carbon dioxide | _____ | _____ | _____ |

B. Describe the project's other impacts on air resources and air quality, including noise impacts:

III. Consistency

A. Describe the project's consistency with the State Implementation Plan:

B. Describe measures that the proponent will take to comply with other federal, state, regional, and local plans and policies related to air resources and air quality:

SOLID AND HAZARDOUS WASTE SECTION

I. Thresholds / Permits

A. Will the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **solid or hazardous waste** (see 301 CMR 11.03(9))? ___ Yes No; if yes, specify, in quantitative terms:

B. Does the project require any state permits related to **solid and hazardous waste**? ___ Yes No; if yes, specify which permit:

C. If you answered "No" to both questions A and B, proceed to the **Historical and Archaeological Resources Section**. If you answered "Yes" to either question A or question B, fill out the remainder of the Solid and Hazardous Waste Section below.

II. Impacts and Permits

A. Is there any current or proposed facility at the project site for the storage, treatment, processing, combustion or disposal of solid waste? ___ Yes ___ No; if yes, what is the volume (in tons per day) of the capacity:

| | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Storage | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Treatment, processing | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Combustion | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Disposal | _____ | _____ | _____ |

B. Is there any current or proposed facility at the project site for the storage, recycling, treatment or disposal of hazardous waste? ___ Yes ___ No; if yes, what is the volume (in tons or gallons per day) of the capacity:

| | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Change</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Storage | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Recycling | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Treatment | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Disposal | _____ | _____ | _____ |

C. If the project will generate solid waste (for example, during demolition or construction), describe alternatives considered for re-use, recycling, and disposal:

D. If the project involves demolition, do any buildings to be demolished contain asbestos?

___ Yes ___ No

E. Describe the project's other solid and hazardous waste impacts (including indirect impacts):

III. Consistency--Describe measures that the proponent will take to comply with the State Solid Waste Master Plan:

HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES SECTION

I. Thresholds / Impacts

A. Is any part of the project site a historic structure, or a structure within a historic district, in either case listed in the State Register of Historic Places or the Inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth? Yes ___ No; if yes, does the project involve the demolition of all or any exterior part of such historic structure? ___ Yes No; if yes, please describe:

Although the Massachusetts Historical Commission has identified several historic areas in the project area that are included in the Inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth, no historic resources are located within the limits of proposed work. Since most of the components of the proposed project would be contained in roadways and previously disturbed areas, no impacts to historic resources are anticipated.

B. Is any part of the project site an archaeological site listed in the State Register of Historic Places or the Inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth? Yes No; if yes, does the project involve the destruction of all or any part of such archaeological site? Yes No; if yes, please describe:

C. If you answered "No" to all parts of both questions A and B, proceed to the **Attachments and Certifications** Sections. If you answered "Yes" to any part of either question A or question B, fill out the remainder of the Historical and Archaeological Resources Section below.

D. Have you consulted with the Massachusetts Historical Commission? Yes No; if yes, attach correspondence. **See Attachment D: Agency Correspondence.**

E. Describe and assess the project's other impacts, direct and indirect, on listed or inventoried historical and archaeological resources:

Construction activities would result in periodic increases in dust, noise, and vibration impacts. However, it is not expected that this would substantially affect the integrity of the historic resources in the project area. The new sewer pipelines would largely be constructed within existing roadways, where subsoils have been previously disturbed; therefore, the potential for intact archaeological resources within the construction corridor is minimal. Existing archaeological resources, if located within the footprint of the proposed pump stations and WWTF expansion, have the potential to be uncovered or disturbed; however, it is anticipated that efforts will be made during the final siting and design of these facilities to avoid areas with potential to impact to significant archaeological resources.

II. **Consistency** -- Describe measures that the proponent will take to comply with federal, state, regional, and local plans and policies related to preserving historical and archaeological resources:

As described above, the project is not anticipated to result in any impacts to historic and archaeological resources. However, if any historic and/or archaeological resources are encountered during construction, the Massachusetts Historical Commission would be notified and all applicable regulatory procedures would be followed.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Plan, at an appropriate scale, of existing conditions of the project site and its immediate context, showing all known structures, roadways and parking lots, rail rights-of-way, wetlands and water bodies, wooded areas, farmland, steep slopes, public open spaces, and major utilities.
2. Plan of proposed conditions upon completion of project (if construction of the project is proposed to be phased, there should be a site plan showing conditions upon the completion of each phase).
3. **Original** U.S.G.S. map or good quality **color** copy (8-½ x 11 inches or larger) indicating the project location and boundaries
4. List of all agencies and persons to whom the proponent circulated the ENF, in accordance with 301 CMR 11.16(2).
5. Other: **Detailed Project Description; Pages from the 2003 Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas**

CERTIFICATIONS:

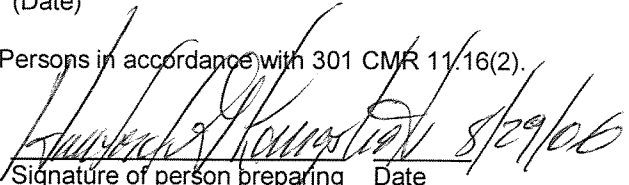
1. The Public Notice of Environmental Review has been/will be published in the following newspapers in accordance with 301 CMR 11.15(1):

Taunton Gazette
(Name)

(Date)

2. This form has been circulated to Agencies and Persons in accordance with 301 CMR 11.16(2).

Signature of Responsible Officer or Proponent Date



Signature of person preparing ENF (if different from above) Date

Fred Cornaglia

Hank Langstroth

Name (print or type)

Name (print or type)

City of Taunton – Public Works Dept.
Firm/Agency

Metcalf & Eddy, Inc.
Firm/Agency

90 Ingel Street
Street

701 Edgewater Drive
Street

Taunton, MA 02780
Municipality/State/Zip

Wakefield, MA 01880
Municipality/State/Zip

508-821-1434
Phone

781-224-6026
Phone

ATTACHMENT A
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

ATTACHMENT A: PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Introduction and Background

This proposed project represents the recommended plan of the *Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan* (CWMP) prepared for the city of Taunton, which was submitted in July 2005 to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP). The city of Taunton's existing collection system consists of approximately 100 miles of sewer ranging in size from 6-inch to 36-inch diameter pipe, and brick-lined sewers up to 42-inch. The city's wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) has been in operation since the late 1940s and currently provides advanced secondary treatment. Treated effluent is discharged to the Taunton River. The city of Taunton has a current average wastewater flow of 6.80 million gallons per day (mgd). The Taunton WWTF also treats flows from portions of the towns of Raynham (0.6 mgd), Dighton (0.14 mgd), and Norton (0.017 mgd). The extent of the existing sewer system and the location of the WWTF are shown in Figure 2 in Attachment B.

A Wastewater Facilities Plan was developed for Taunton in 1981 to review conditions and recommend sewer services in certain areas of the city. Although the city has implemented significant improvements to its wastewater collection and treatment system since the 1981 Facilities Plan, springtime flows to the WWTF have exceeded the permitted flow level of 8.4 million gallons per day (mgd) for extended periods of time, and peak wet weather flows in the system exceed 20 mgd. Coupled to this are demands for increased capacity within the city as well as from users outside the city.

The overall goal of the CWMP was to update the 1981 Facilities Plan and evaluate the city's wastewater collection and treatment needs projected through 2025 to determine, in conjunction with the city's infiltration/inflow (I/I) removal program, the most cost effective and environmentally acceptable approach to meeting these needs. This evaluation focused on three areas: 1) identification of areas in Taunton with existing problems with on-site wastewater systems and areas where future problems with on-site systems may be anticipated; 2) identification of areas of the existing collection system where capacity or physical condition issues exist; and 3) development of alternatives and recommendations for addressing the town's wastewater needs. The evaluation led to development of the recommended wastewater management plan, which is the subject of this Environmental Notification Form (ENF). Following the submittal of this ENF to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office, any comments provided by MEPA will be incorporated into the CWMP and a final CWMP will be issued.

The recommended wastewater management plan involves implementing sewers within 14 wastewater priority needs areas throughout the city that are currently served by on-site wastewater disposal systems, and expanding the existing WWTF to handle additional flow from these needs areas, as well as from projected inflow within existing sewer areas and projected additional intermunicipal flow. Implementation of this project would aid existing residences and businesses in areas of the city currently experiencing failures of on-site systems and other areas considered unsuitable for long-term use of on-site disposal systems due to poor soil or groundwater conditions. It would also result in improved surface water and groundwater quality within priority needs areas, as the proposed project would eliminate the potential for individual septic system failures. The city plans to phase the work of the recommended plan. This recommended wastewater management plan is proposed by the city of Taunton in accordance with the requirements of Administrative Consent Order ACOP-SE-R006-1N-SEP.

Project Area

The proposed project area includes 14 wastewater disposal priority needs areas within the city. The priority needs areas consist of developed and partially developed portions of the city, and most of the proposed work will be contained within existing rights-of-way located throughout these areas. The area adjacent to these roads is diverse and is comprised of a variety of land uses including commercial, industrial, residential, recreational, and institutional at varying densities. Figure 1 and Figure 2 in Attachment B illustrate the proposed project area.

Project Alternatives

A range of wastewater treatment and disposal alternatives was evaluated in the CMWP for each of the priority needs areas based on cost effectiveness and environmental evaluations. The alternatives evaluated included continued use of existing on-lot treatment systems; individual Title 5 systems; community/cluster Title 5 systems; small, satellite wastewater treatment systems; and centralized treatment at the Taunton WWTF. The recommended alternative for each priority needs area was the extension of centralized wastewater collection. Conveying wastewater flow from all of the priority areas to the existing WWTF would require expansion of the WWTF to provide increased flow capacity. The proposed expansion would also accommodate flow from projected infilling within existing sewer areas and projected additional intermunicipal flow. The MA DEP has notified the city that discharge limits on total nitrogen and phosphorus may be incorporated into the NPDES permit in the future. Although not part of the project at this time, the site layout for the plant expansion (see Figure 3 in Attachment B) provides for additional process facilities for nutrient removal.

The other alternatives were not selected because the evaluations conducted in the CWMP showed that cost estimates for these alternatives (including capital costs, operation and maintenance costs, salvage values, and land acquisition) were substantially higher and they were not more environmentally sound than the recommended plan.

The recommended plan for each of the priority needs areas is described in more detail below.

Proposed Activities

The cost effectiveness and environmental evaluations conducted as part of the CWMP resulted in the recommendation of sewerage all of the 14 priority needs areas to convey sewage to Taunton's WWTF. Figure 2 in Attachment B shows the conceptual/preliminary locations of proposed sewers and pump stations within the priority needs areas as presented in the CWMP. The total length of sewer extensions and the locations and number of pump stations may change as project design progresses. However, for the purpose of this ENF, approximately 50 miles of gravity and force main sewers and 15 pump stations within the priority needs areas are assumed to be required. As indicated in Figure 2, the majority of the proposed sewers would be constructed within existing rights-of-way. The pump stations would be constructed adjacent to these rights-of-way.

Table 1 provides a priority ranking/listing of the priority needs areas based on input provided by the city and the public. Areas near the top of the list are considered, due to soil or groundwater conditions, to have little choice but to dispose of wastewater off-site. Areas with lower priority have demonstrated somewhat satisfactory results from on-site system repairs; however, over

the long term, these areas are not considered suitable for on-site systems because of limited ability to sustain existing systems and support upgrading or installing new on-site septic systems due to soil or groundwater conditions, as well as small lot sizes. Table 1 also presents the projected average wastewater flow and estimated cost for each priority needs area. The flows represent average daily sanitary wastewater flow plus an average flow rate for I/I. Capital cost estimates include gravity sewers, pump stations, and force mains. Flows are based on current development plus development projected over the next twenty years.

TABLE 1. PRIORITIZATION OF WASTEWATER NEEDS AREAS

| Needs Area | Projected Average Daily Flow (gal) | Estimated Capital Cost for Sanitary Sewers (2005 dollars) |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Q | 25,200 | \$ 2,864,000 |
| L | 208,800 | \$ 15,605,000 |
| R | 30,200 | \$ 2,313,000 |
| C | 111,200 | \$ 11,350,000 |
| E | 102,300 | \$ 9,871,000 |
| A | 41,600 | \$ 4,506,000 |
| V | 22,600 | \$ 2,882,000 |
| U | 66,700 | \$ 5,469,000 |
| AA | 21,400 | \$ 4,292,000 |
| Z | 29,800 | \$ 4,478,000 |
| X | 35,400 | \$ 2,330,000 |
| H | 79,300 | \$ 7,200,000 |
| K | 181,500 | \$ 5,798,000 |
| I | 57,600 | \$ 6,530,000 |

Conveying wastewater flow from all of the priority needs areas to the existing WWTF would require expansion of the WWTF to provide increased treatment capacity. Taking into account near-term system flow increases separate from the proposed project, the demand on the WWTF, including currently allocated capacities, would be around 8.25 mgd. This only leaves capacity for about 150,000 gallons per day of the permitted 8.4 mgd plant capacity. Without a significant reduction of I/I in Taunton's collection system, very little WWTF capacity is available for expansion within the city, and there is virtually no additional capacity available for surrounding towns with which Taunton has inter-municipal agreements for wastewater flow. Based on estimated flows, capacity remains for sewerage only two of the three highest priority needs areas (study areas Q and R). WWTF expansion would require the following facilities (see Figure 3 in attachment B):

- Addition of primary settling tank No. 4 and gallery.
- Addition of new aeration basins 3A and 3B in battery one.
- Addition of a fourth blower in the blower building.

- Provisions for chemical feed to secondary clarifiers.
- Expansion of the chlorine contact tank to include a third section.
- Expansion of the sludge handling facilities to include rehabilitation of gravity thickener No. 1 and increasing sludge dewatering system capacity.
- Expansion of the odor control system to include covering and ducting odors from gravity thickener No. 1.
- Increase capacity of the main lift station.

In the event that nitrogen and phosphorus limits are imposed in the future, the plant expansion would be designed to accommodate additional process facilities. For planning purposes, chemical addition to the primary clarifier has been considered for phosphorus reduction. The chemical storage and feed equipment would be located in the primary gallery extension constructed in conjunction with the new primary settling tank. Denitrification filters have been considered for reduction of total nitrogen in the plant effluent. The filters would be located in a separate facility. A methanol storage facility is also required for this process

As previously mentioned, the proposed expansion would also accommodate flow from projected infilling within existing sewer areas and projected additional intermunicipal flow. It is anticipated that any increase in the permitted capacity of the WWTF would be conditioned on not increasing the mass loadings for biological oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended solids, and ammonia in the plant effluent. Chemical addition (polymer) to the final clarifiers is proposed in order to maintain current mass loading rates.

With an estimated cost of approximately \$90 million, it is recommended that the project be implemented in phases to address initially the highest priority needs areas. Scheduling of the overall project should allow sufficient time for Taunton to determine the effectiveness of its I/I removal program as well as define final flows and treatment requirements.

Project Impacts

The following paragraphs outline the types of impacts anticipated and the proposed mitigation measures for the project. This discussion is based on preliminary/conceptual designs prepared during the early planning phase of the recommended wastewater management plan. More detailed information regarding potential impacts will be available at later stages of design for the project. The impacts summarized below are intended to be conservative in nature, and impacts resulting from final design and implementation of the proposed project may be of a lesser magnitude. Identification of impacts to wetland resource areas was based on review of available wetlands mapping layers from Massachusetts Geographic Information System (MassGIS). A wetland delineation will need to be conducted as project design continues to verify anticipated impacts.

Operational Impacts. The primary purpose of this project is to provide relief to existing residences and businesses experiencing problems with on-lot wastewater disposal systems. In this regard, the extension of sewers and expansion of the WWTF is compatible with Executive Order 385. Through its various intermunicipal agreements (IMAs) with adjoining municipalities, the city is participating in a regional solution to wastewater collection and treatment in accordance with the Order, and is minimizing impacts to environmental resources in those areas of the city where sewers will be extended. Sewers would be provided to those areas of the city where development already exists and where on-lot systems are not expected to be

able to be used in the long term due to limited ability to sustain existing systems and support upgrading or installing new on-site septic systems. The intent of the project is to serve existing development in the city of Taunton, and not to provide infrastructure improvements to induce growth in the city. Because sewers would be extended to serve primarily existing population, no substantial impact on water or other utilities, roadways or community services is expected. The project is also compatible with the Commonwealth Capital policy and several of the state's sustainable development principles since it involves planning regionally to address wastewater collection and treatment, improving infrastructure for existing development, and protecting environmental resources by removing failing on-lot systems.

The city will need to address potential indirect impacts that may result from the sewer extension. Although sewers would be provided to existing developed areas, extension of sewers to previously unsewered areas has the potential to induce growth within the priority needs areas that might previously have been restricted due to on-site wastewater disposal limitations. Also, extending the sewers to these remote areas may contribute to secondary growth between the end of the current sewer system and the limits of needs areas.

Under the recommended plan, wastewater currently discharged locally through on-lot systems would be diverted away from sub-basins. This may result in some impacts on local groundwater elevations and eventually surface water levels in sub-basins due to the transport of wastewater from sub-basins to the WWTF. Discussions with the MA DEP have indicated that this is not expected to represent a significant effect as total volume per priority needs area is relatively minor, and priority needs areas are not concentrated in one area of the city. Treated effluent discharged from the expanded WWTF would be maintained at levels set in the NPDES discharge permit established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the MA DEP. Thus, no degradation of surface water quality is anticipated. There would be positive effects in the priority needs areas as the proposed sewers are phased in due to the elimination of individual failing septic systems. Positive long-term impacts include improved surface water and groundwater quality within priority needs areas, as the proposed project would eliminate the potential for individual septic system failures.

Expansion of the WWTF would not directly impact land use of the existing sites or adjoining parcels. While the WWTF site is zoned for open space/conservation, the land use of the site would remain the same as currently used (i.e., to support waste treatment/disposal for public purposes). Each of the proposed pump stations in the priority needs areas would result in a minimum permanent alteration of approximately 400 square feet of land to accommodate the associated 20-feet by 20-feet single-story building.

The chlorine contact tank expansion at the WWTF and the main lift station expansion would be located within Priority Habitats of Rare Species and Estimated Habitats of Rare Wildlife as identified by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program (NHESP). These project components would result in permanent alteration to priority habitat and, thus, Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) Project Review would be required. Also, the proposed denitrification facility at the WWTF may result in the permanent alteration of NHESP priority and estimated habitats. However, the location of this structure is preliminary and efforts will be taken to relocate this structure outside of priority and estimated habitat as design proceeds. A copy of a Notice of Intent required for this project would also be filed with NHESP for an opportunity to provide comments to the city of Taunton and to the MA DEP regarding protective measures that may be required for siting these components within these protected areas. In addition, four of the proposed pump stations may be located within NHESP priority and estimated habitats. As previously noted, the locations of the pump stations are preliminary

and efforts will be taken to relocate these pump stations outside of priority and estimated habitat as design proceeds. Thus, permanent impacts to priority and estimated habitat due to pump stations may be avoided.

The proposed chlorine contact tank expansion in the southeastern portion of the WWTF site and the proposed expansion to the main lift station for the WWTF would be located within the 100-year floodplain and would result in permanent alteration of Bordering Land Subject to Flooding (BLSF) and Riverfront Area. Compensatory storage would be required. Indirect long-term impacts include the possible loss of wetlands across the city of Taunton due to secondary growth resulting from the provision of sewers to previously unsewered areas.

The proposed pump stations, including the main lift station, would be equipped with a standby generator. Emissions from the generators would similarly be minimal and would not be anticipated to result in long-term adverse effects on air quality. Venting may also be required, although no odor emissions are anticipated. Continued operation of the central WWTF, after expansion, is also not anticipated to result in adverse impacts to air quality. While there would be the addition of several open tanks, these components when properly maintained are generally not considered odorous. Additionally, the rehabilitation of the existing gravity thickener includes the installation of a dome cover over this component and connection to the existing odor control system, which will also be upgraded. These improvements are anticipated to further reduce the potential for operation of the WWTF to result in odors that could impact adjacent parcels.

The sewer pipelines would be located below grade and not be a source of noise, other than noise potentially emitted from pump stations. However, noise generating equipment (primarily pumps) would be located within a building that would substantially attenuate noise levels. As described above, the pump stations, including the main lift station, would be equipped with a standby generator which would require periodic testing, thus elevated noise levels would be heard by nearby residents during these short periods. Continued operation of the central WWTF, after expansion, is not anticipated to result in a substantial increase in noise levels. While there would be the addition of tankage, most noise generated from the equipment within these tanks is directed upwards and therefore does not reach adjacent parcels. For these reasons, expansion of the WWTF is not expected to cause long-term operation noise impacts.

Construction-Related Impacts. The majority of proposed work is located within public rights-of-way. Thus, impacts resulting from construction of the proposed project are primarily related to disruption of traffic. Construction will potentially result in impacts to roadway capacity including reduction of the existing number of lanes, reduction of lane widths, and local road closures requiring detours. These temporary reductions in roadway capacity could lead to increased traffic delays. Traffic management plans will be prepared as part of the design effort.

While the proposed sewers would primarily be installed within existing public rights-of-way, some overland, or cross-country, connections may be required. Based on preliminary design, these overland connections range from approximately 350 to 650 feet in length and are associated with the following priority needs areas: C, Z, and AA. The overland connection proposed in priority needs area C would pass under Interstate 495 and would be located within two Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): the Canoe River Aquifer and the Hockomock Swamp. However, alternate routes will be identified as design proceeds in attempt to avoid or minimize impacts to these ACECs. Construction of these sewer connections would occupy a relatively narrow strip of vegetated land required for installation of these connections. Construction of the proposed pump stations and activities related to the expansion of the WWTF

and the main lift station would also result in the disturbance of land. The three pump stations proposed in priority needs areas A and C may be located within ACECs. As previously noted, the locations of the pump stations are preliminary and efforts will be taken to relocate these pump stations outside of the ACECs as design proceeds. Thus, these impacts may be avoided. To the extent possible, disturbed land would be returned to existing conditions upon completion of work.

Although several of the proposed sewer extensions pass through NHESP priority and estimated habitats, all of these extensions are located within existing rights-of-way and, thus, are not expected to significantly impact these areas. Construction of the chlorine contact tank expansion at the WWTF and the main lift station expansion would occur within NHESP priority and estimated habitat areas. In addition, construction of the denitrification facility and four of the proposed pump stations may be located within NHESP priority and estimated habitats. As previously noted, the locations of the denitrification facility and pump stations are preliminary and efforts will be taken to relocate these pump stations outside of priority and estimated habitat areas as design proceeds. These habitat areas may be potentially impacted by the removal of trees and vegetation, which could disrupt habitats and hinder species survival. Elevated noise levels may temporarily deter wildlife from using habitat in the areas surrounding construction. Additionally, sedimentation and erosion due to construction are possible, and runoff to surface waters could increase turbidity and affect aquatic resources. Sediment controls, such as silt fences, would be employed during construction to minimize such construction-related impacts. Construction within priority habitat would require MESA project review. Also, as previously stated, a copy of a Notice of Intent required for this project will be filed with NHESP for an opportunity to provide comments to the city of Taunton and to the MA DEP regarding protective measures that may be required for the proposed work within these protected areas.

Construction of the proposed chlorine contact tank expansion in the southeastern portion of the WWTF site and the proposed expansion to the main lift station for the WWTF would occur within the 100-year floodplain and would require construction in BLSF and Riverfront Area. Construction impacts would include excavation and fill, and potentially may include drainage and/or hydrologic modifications. Such impacts would be addressed during local/state permitting under the Wetlands Protection Act (WPA) and potentially under federal permitting programs as well.

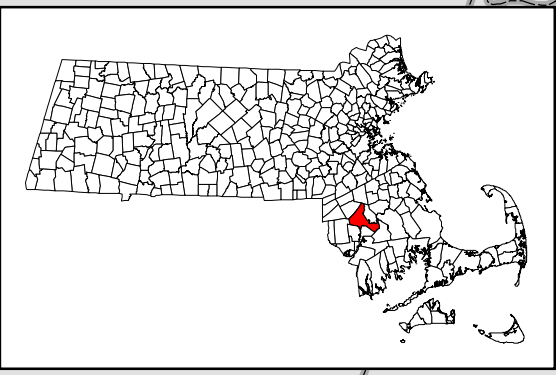
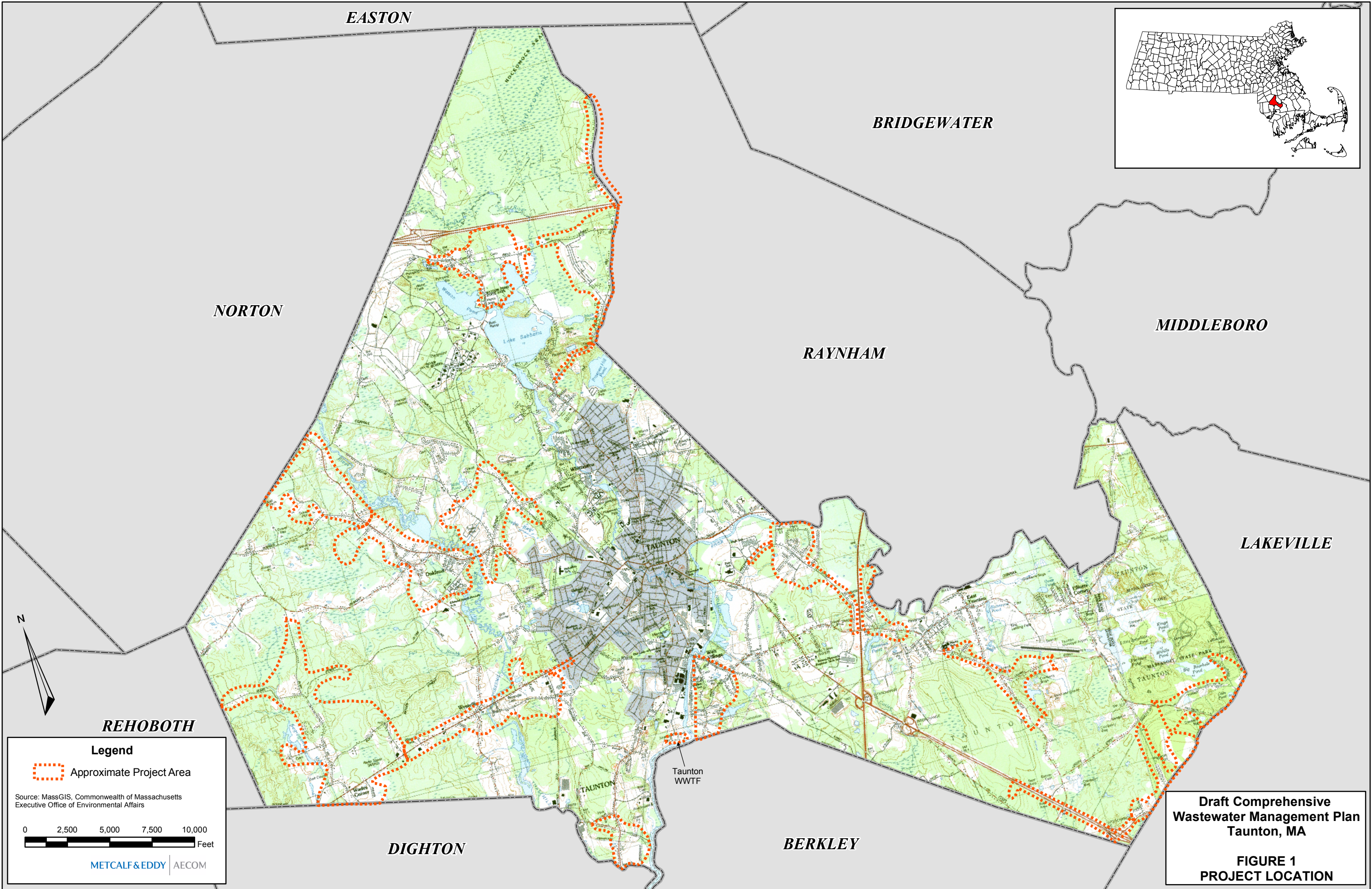
Equipment used to construct the sewer extensions, pump stations, and various new structures/buildings at the WWTF has the potential to produce engine emissions that could temporarily affect air quality in localized areas in the vicinity of construction. Additionally, construction vehicles and excavation would generate fugitive dust during construction activities. However, the extent of these impacts would be minimized by use of best management practices, such as proper engine maintenance, covering stockpiles, and wetting disturbed areas.

Construction of the proposed project components would result in temporary increases in noise levels as a result of operation of construction equipment and vehicles. The project area includes a variety of land uses. Nearby commercial and transportation-related uses will not be anticipated to be substantially affected by these noise increases. However, numerous residences and park and recreational facilities are located in close proximity to some of the proposed sewer alignments, and construction-related noise may temporarily affect these sensitive receptors.

Standard sedimentation control would be provided during construction. Increased turbidity in the surface water may result from construction runoff, and there would be potential for increased contamination from release of fuel or other contaminants due to normal construction activities or accidental spills. These temporary surface water impacts would be mitigated by standard operating procedures that will be incorporated into the construction contracts.


Any hazardous materials used during construction would be stored, transported, and disposed of in accordance with state and federal regulations. If a hazardous waste site were encountered during construction, any contaminated soil or groundwater collected would also be reported, stored, transported, and disposed of following the procedures in the Massachusetts Contingency Plan. The contractor would also be required to obtain coverage and comply with requirements of the Remediation General Permit as appropriate.

ATTACHMENT B
TOPOGRAPHIC MAP/SITE PLAN

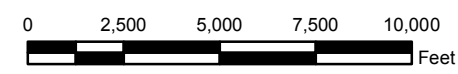


REHOBOTH

Legend

 Approximate Project Area

Source: MassGIS, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

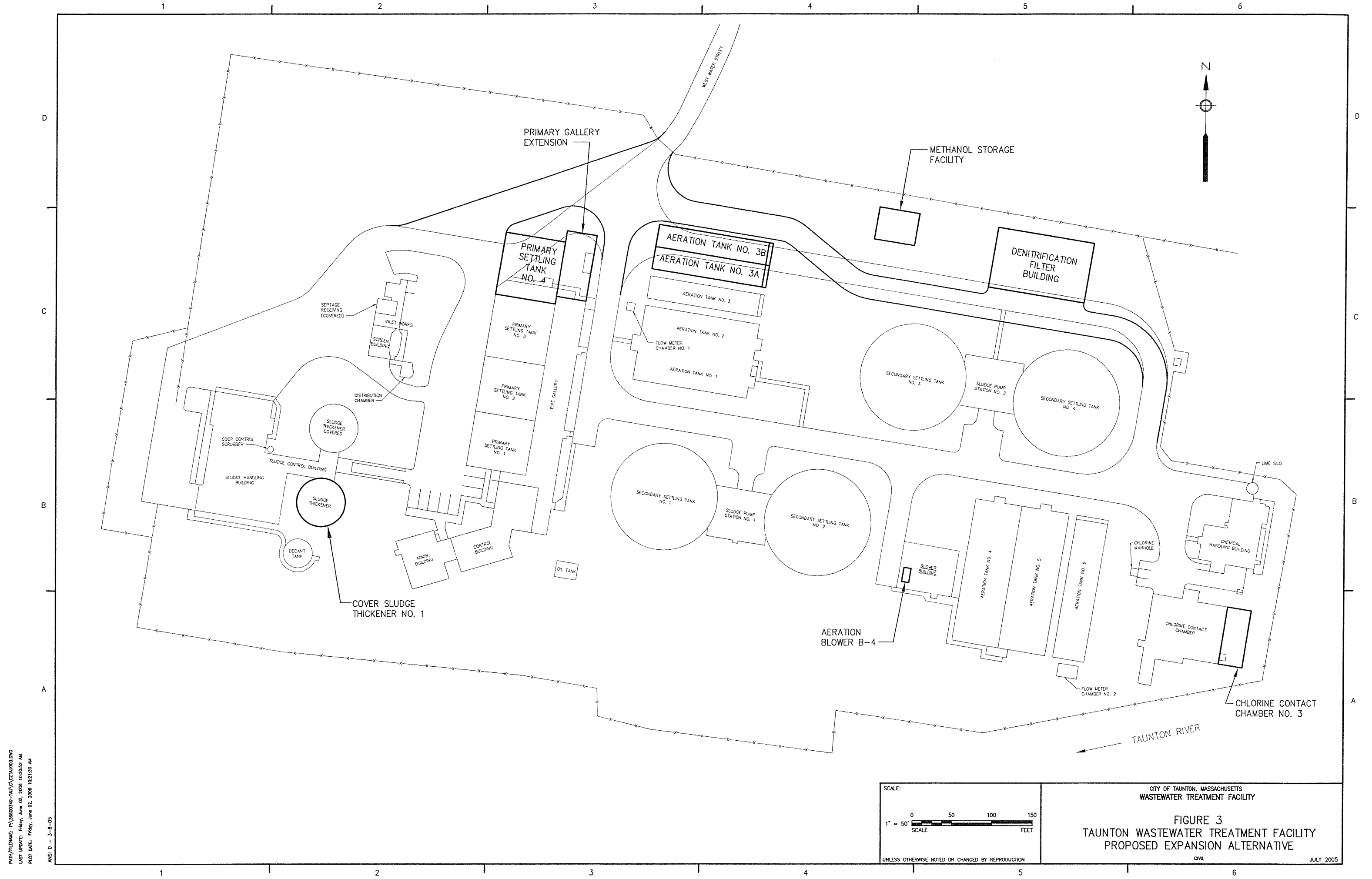


METCALF & EDDY | AECOM

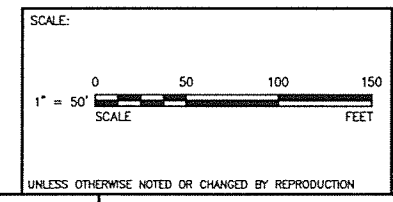
**Draft Comprehensive
Wastewater Management Plan
Taunton, MA**

**FIGURE 1
PROJECT LOCATION**

G:\Projects\MUN\36800349\TAU\maps\ENF_Figure 1.mxd



PATH/FILENAME: P:\36800348-TAUNTON\CTTAUN003.DWG
 LAST UPDATE: Friday, June 02, 2006 10:20:52 AM
 PLOT DATE: Friday, June 02, 2006 10:21:30 AM
 ANSI D - 3-8-05



CITY OF TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS
 WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
FIGURE 3
 TAUNTON WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
 PROPOSED EXPANSION ALTERNATIVE
 CIVIL JULY 2005

ATTACHMENT C

MASSACHUSETTS NATURAL HERITAGE ATLAS PAGES

**Source: Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, 2003.
*Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas 11th Edition: Part 1 –
Eastern Massachusetts. Valid from July 1, 2003.***



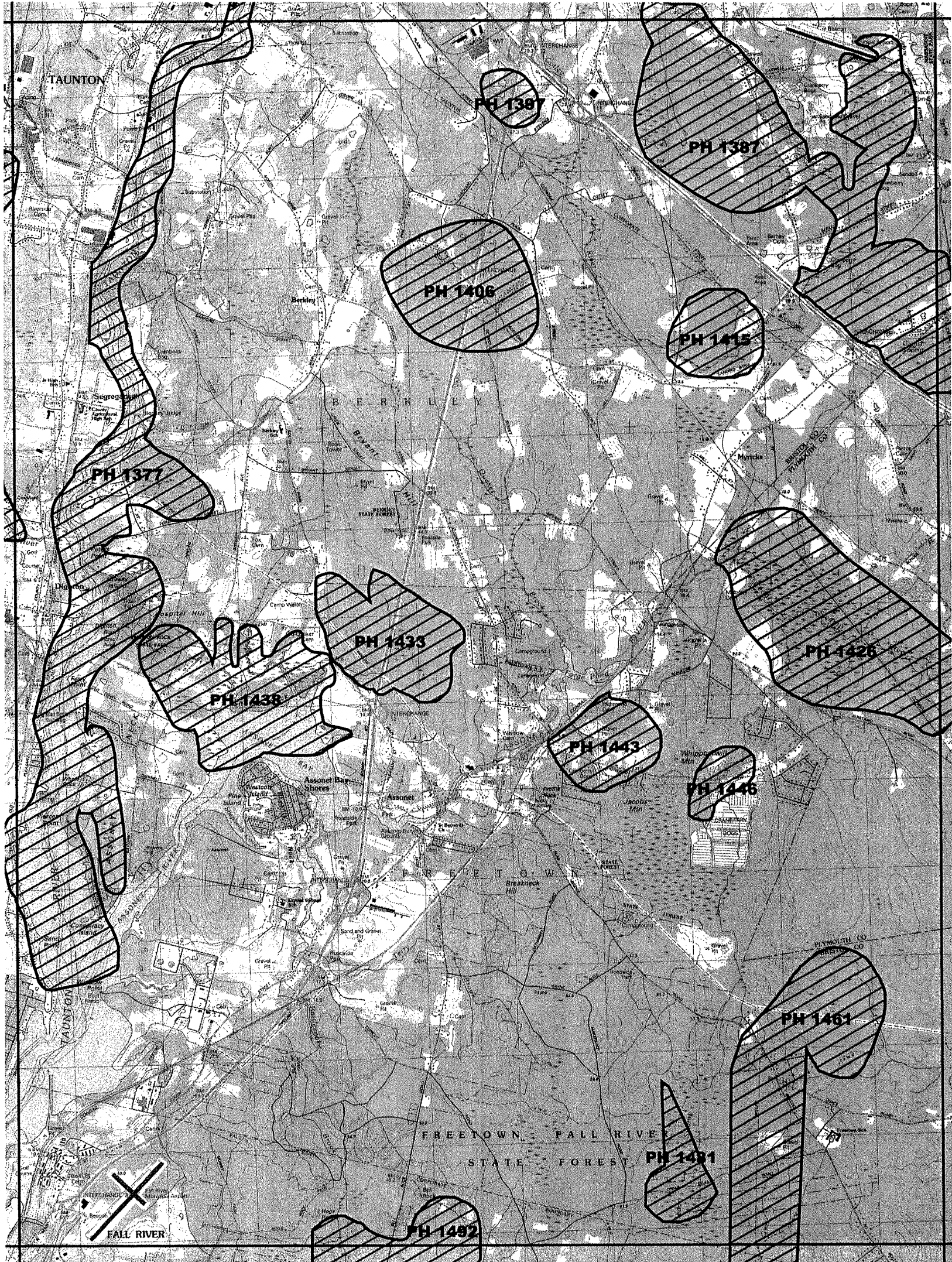
PRIORITY HABITATS OF RARE SPECIES

For species protected under MA Endangered Species Act Regulations (321 CMR 10)

Note: NOT equivalent to Significant Habitat

Effective June 1, 2003

Produced by the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program



0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

See County Index Maps to locate adjacent quadrangles



ASSONET QUAD

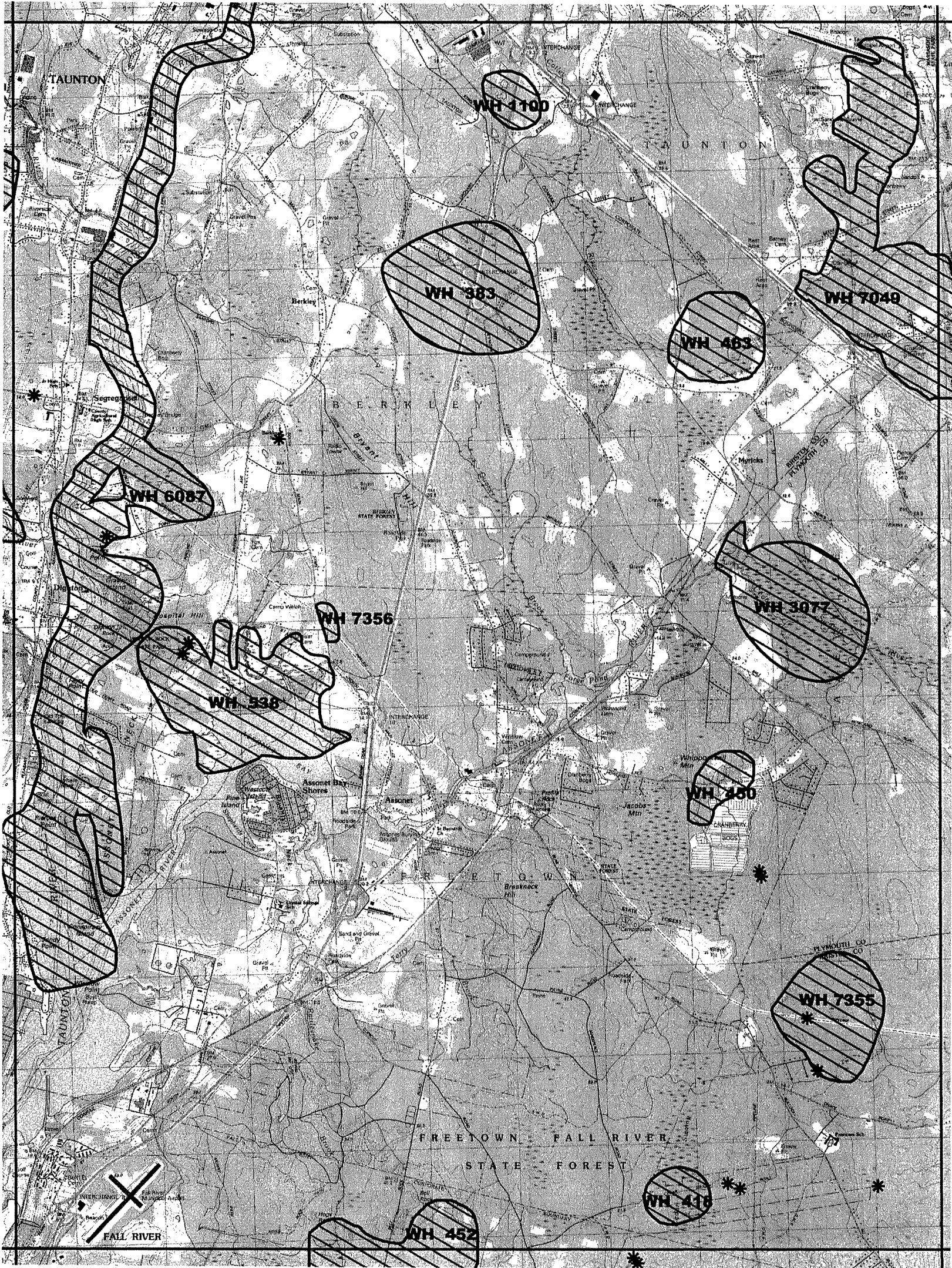


ESTIMATED HABITATS OF RARE WILDLIFE AND CERTIFIED VERNAL POOLS

For use with the MA Wetlands Protection Act Regulations (310 CMR 10)

Effective June 1, 2003

Produced by the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program



0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

See County Index Maps to locate adjacent quadrangles



ASSONET QUAD



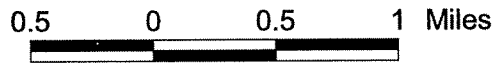
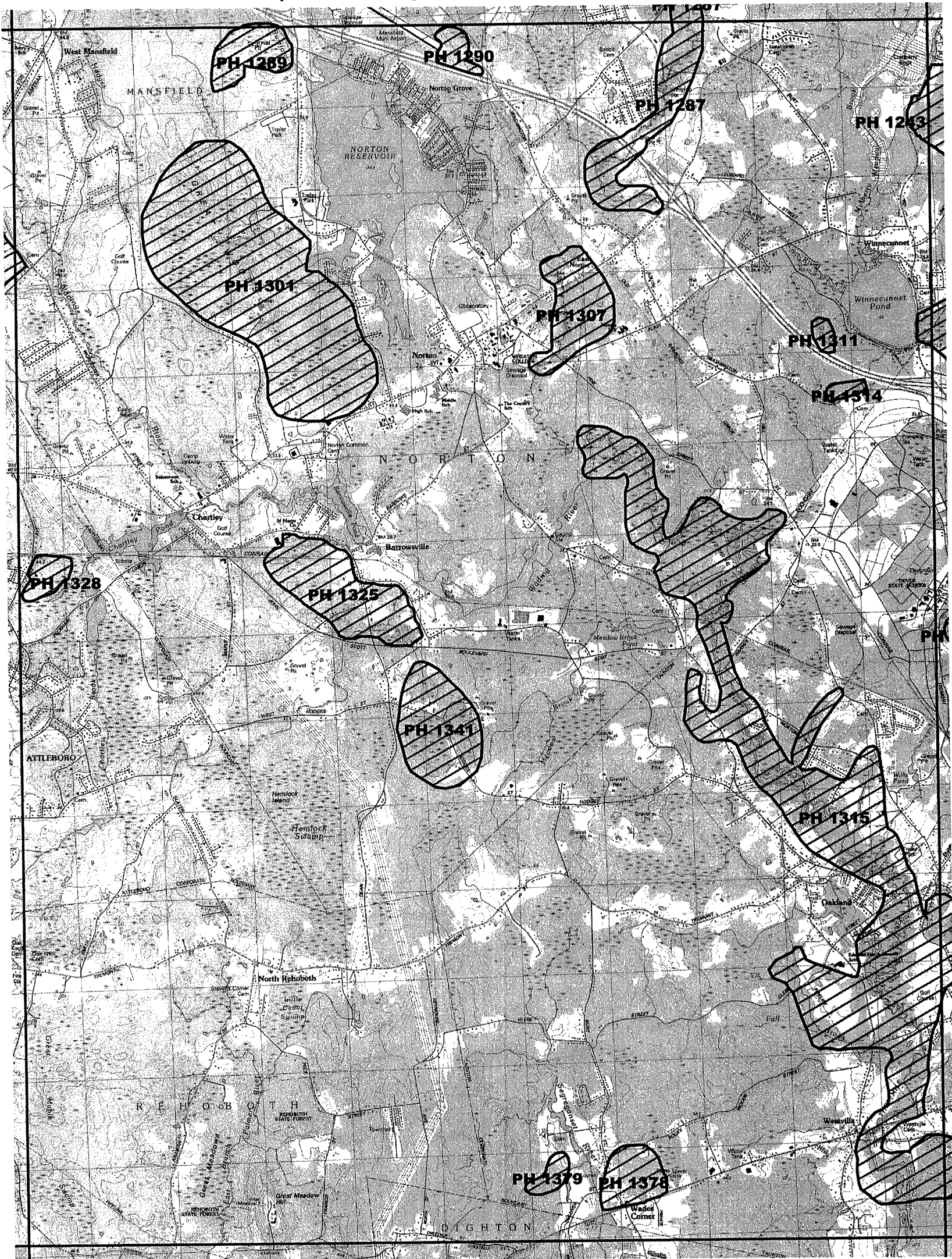
PRIORITY HABITATS OF RARE SPECIES

For species protected under MA Endangered Species Act Regulations (321 CMR 10)

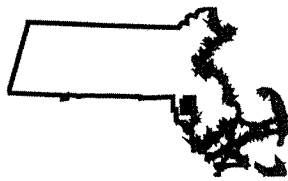
Note: NOT equivalent to Significant Habitat

Effective June 1, 2003

Produced by the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program



See County Index Maps to locate adjacent quadrangles



NORTON QUAD

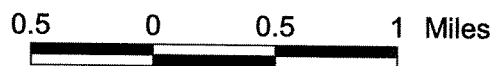
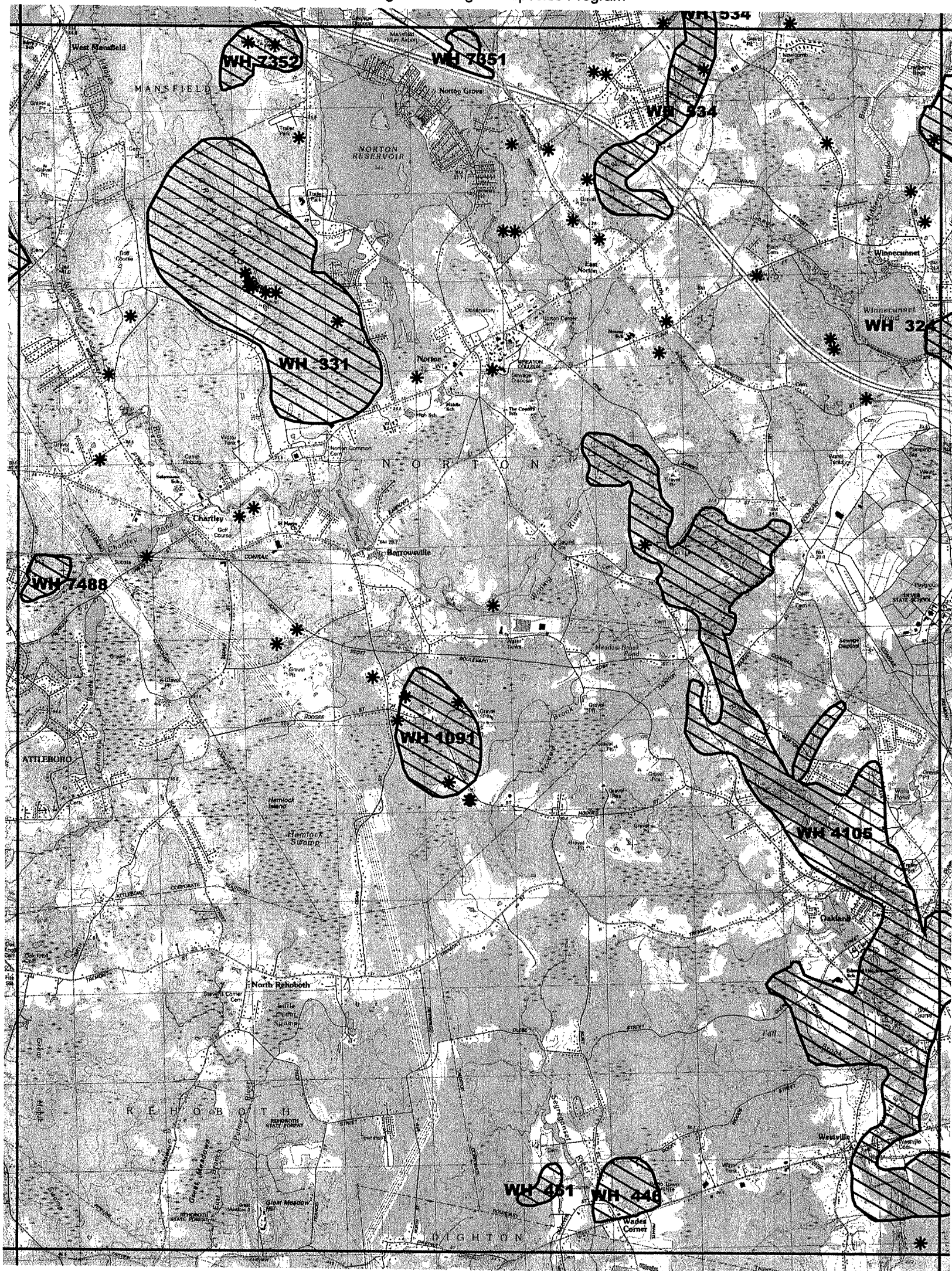


ESTIMATED HABITATS OF RARE WILDLIFE AND CERTIFIED VERNAL POOLS

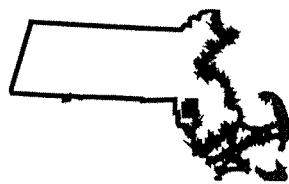
For use with the MA Wetlands Protection Act Regulations (310 CMR 10)

Effective June 1, 2003

Produced by the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program



See County Index Maps to locate adjacent quadrangles



NORTON QUAD

QUAD INDEX

TOWN INDEX

S



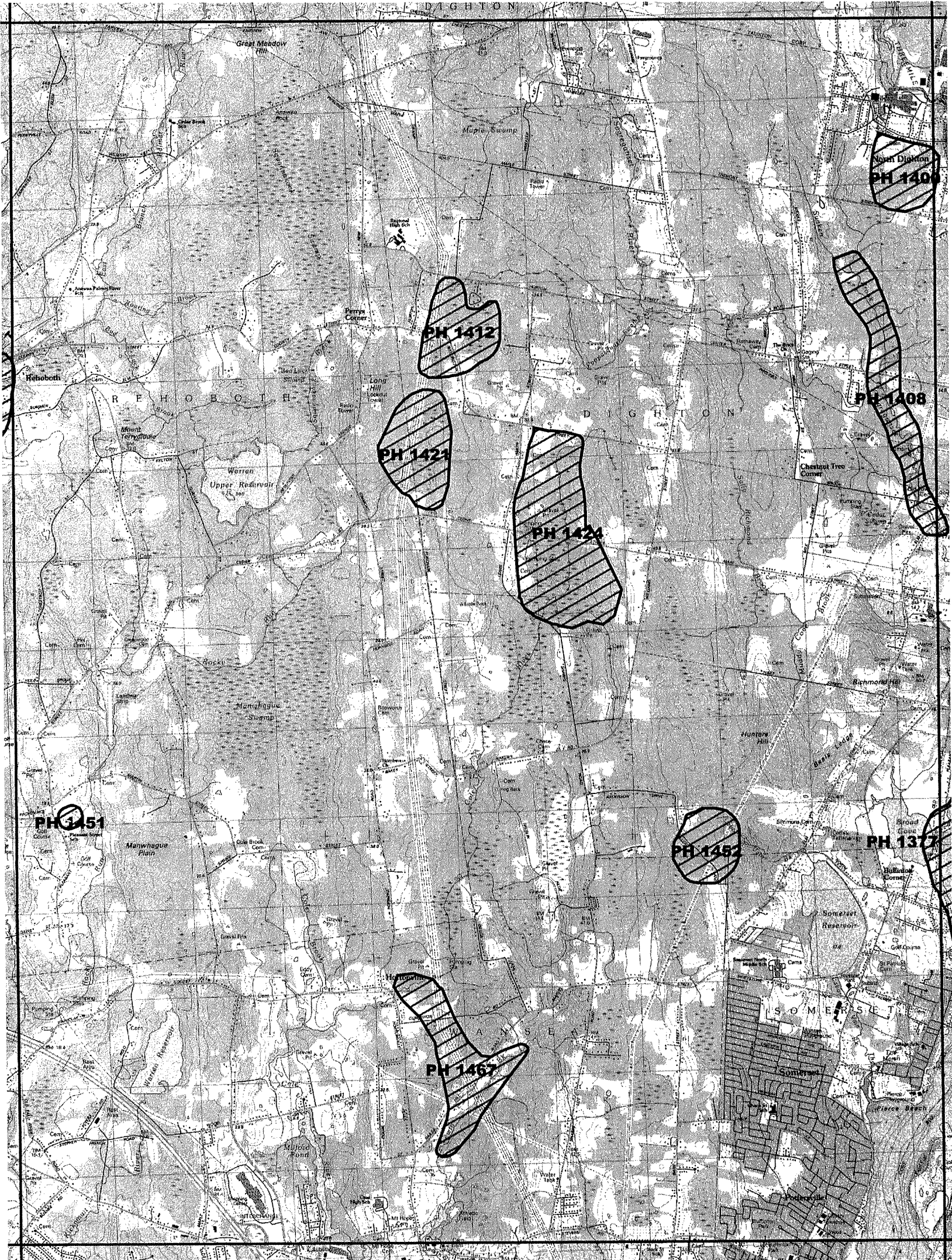
PRIORITY HABITATS OF RARE SPECIES

For species protected under MA Endangered Species Act Regulations (321 CMR 10)

Note: NOT equivalent to Significant Habitat

Effective June 1, 2003

Produced by the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program



0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

See County Index Maps to locate adjacent quadrangles



SOMERSET QUAD

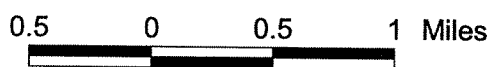
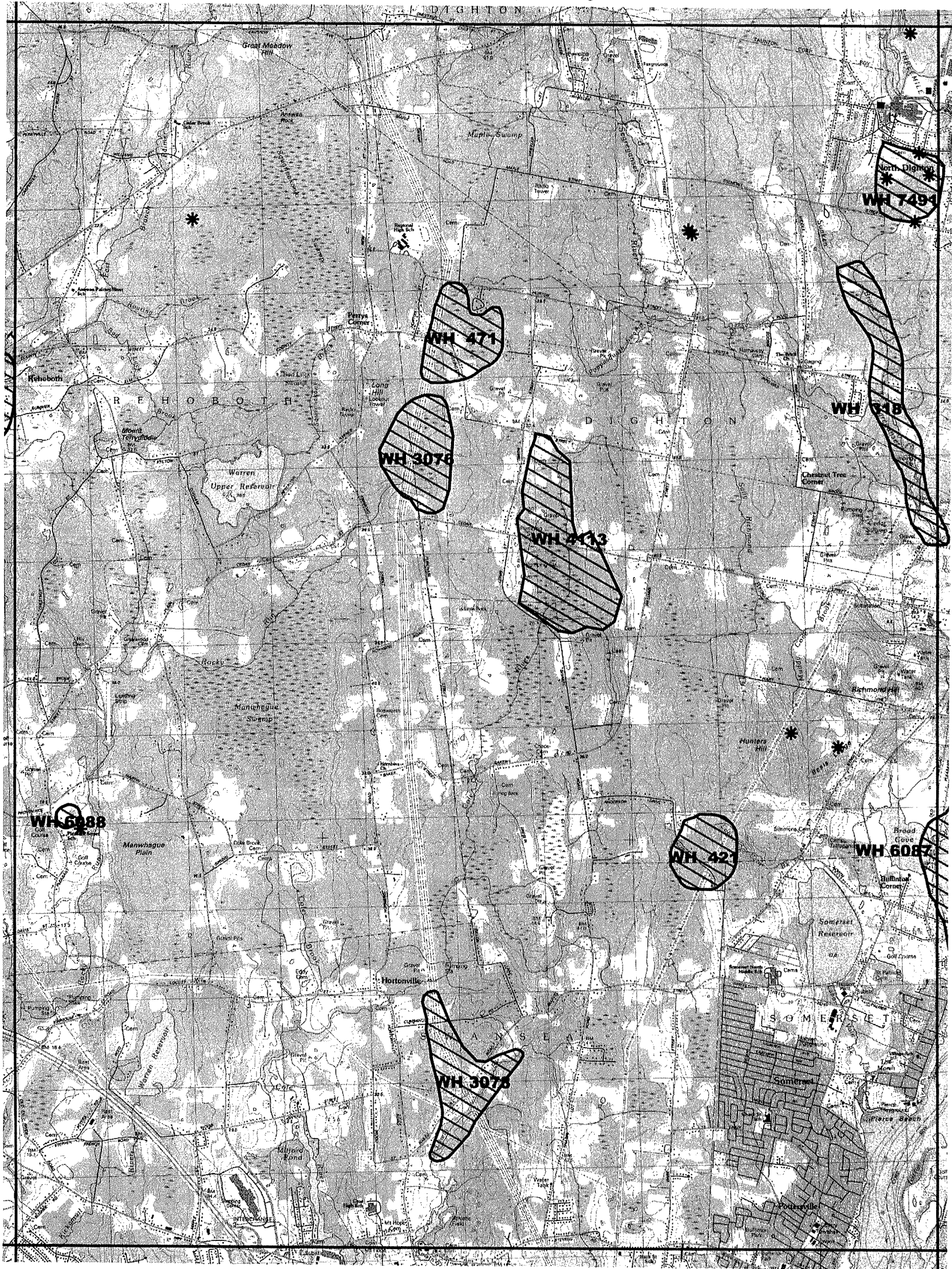


ESTIMATED HABITATS OF RARE WILDLIFE AND CERTIFIED VERNAL POOLS

For use with the MA Wetlands Protection Act Regulations (310 CMR 10)

Effective June 1, 2003

Produced by the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program



See County Index Maps to locate adjacent quadrangles



SOMERSET QUAD

QUAD INDEX

TOWN INDEX

SPECIES LIST



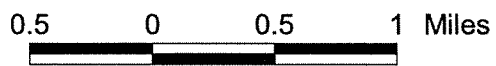
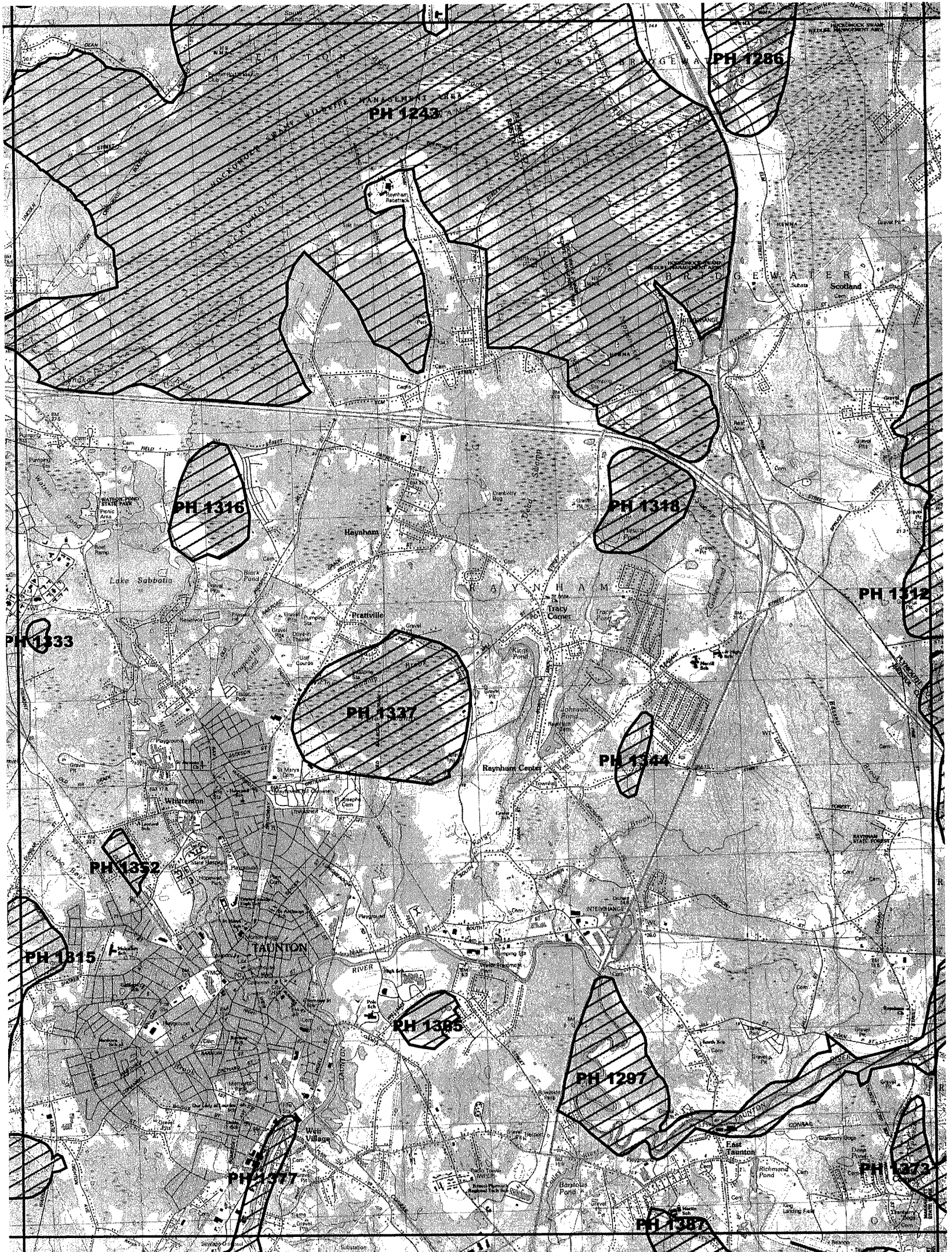
PRIORITY HABITATS OF RARE SPECIES

For species protected under MA Endangered Species Act Regulations (321 CMR 10)

Note: NOT equivalent to Significant Habitat

Effective June 1, 2003

Produced by the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program



See County Index Maps to locate adjacent quadrangles



TAUNTON QUAD

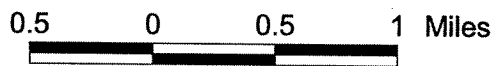


ESTIMATED HABITATS OF RARE WILDLIFE AND CERTIFIED VERNAL POOLS

For use with the MA Wetlands Protection Act Regulations (310 CMR 10)

Effective June 1, 2003

Produced by the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program



See County Index Maps to locate adjacent quadrangles



TAUNTON QUAD

QUAD INDEX

TOWN INDEX

SPECIES LIST

ATTACHMENT D
AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

May 16, 2006

Aaron Weieneth
Senior Environmental Planner
Metcalf & Eddy
701 Edgewater Drive
Wakefield, MA 01880

RE: Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan, Taunton, MA. MHC #RC.20887.

Dear Mr. Weieneth:

Thank you for your inquiry to the Massachusetts Historical Commission regarding the proposed project referenced above. Staff of the MHC have reviewed the information you submitted and have the following comments. The proposed project area includes fourteen wastewater disposal priority needs areas and involves the construction of approximately 50 miles of sewers and system pumping stations within areas in the City of Taunton.

Preliminary review of the Inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth indicates the proposed project areas are located in a number of historic areas. Area A contains the Center Area (TAU.O); Area H contains the Oakland Mills District (TAU.U) and the Taunton Multiple Resource Area (TAU.P), listed in the State and National Registers of Historic Places; Area K contains the Old Westville Village (TAU.V); Area R contains the Weir Village (TAU.K); and Area X contains the Corr Manufacturing Company (TAU.Z).

Review of MHC's files indicates that portions of the proposed project areas are contiguous to a number of recorded historic cemeteries. Area A contains the North Taunton Cemetery (TAU.18), the Bassett Burying Ground (TAU.30), and the Field Cemetery (TAU.31); Area C contains the Wetherwell Cemetery (TAU.35); Area E contains the Saint Thomas Burying Ground (TAU.23) and the Lincoln Burying Ground (TAU.56); Area H contains the Willis Burying Ground (TAU.24), the Mount Nebo Cemetery (TAU.60), and the Joseph Willis House and Burying Ground (TAU.AF); Area I contains the Woodward Burying Ground (TAU.49); Area K contains the Westville Cemetery (TAU.19); Area L contains the Walker Burying Ground (TAU.38); Area Q contains the Hathaway Burying Ground (TAU.21); and Area X contains the Caswell Street Burying Ground (TAU.15). MHC requests that project planners avoid these historic cemeteries and should take their locations into account when preparing project plans for the proposed project.

Review of MHC's files also indicates that there are a number of recorded archaeological sites located near the proposed project locations. Area A contains 19-BR. -257, -304, and -615; Area C contains 19-BR-487; Area K contains 19-BR-259; Area Q contains 19-BR-93 and -275; Area U contains 19-BR-534; and Area X contains 19-BR-369. The proposed pump station in Area C may

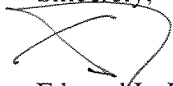
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
(617) 727-8470 • Fax: (617) 727-5128
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

be located near an historic period archaeological site designated the Wilbore Site (TAU-HA-4), determined eligible for listing in the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

More specific information is required to determine what impacts, if any, the proposed project may have on any significant historic and archaeological resources. Please provide information about any above ground facility for the proposed project (e.g., proposed pump stations). MHC requests that project planners submit to the MHC scaled project plans and elevation drawings showing existing and proposed conditions for the project when they are further developed.

These comments are offered in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800), Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 9, Sections 26-27C (950 CMR 71), and MEPA (301 CMR 11). If you have any questions concerning this review, please feel free to contact Gregory R. Dubell at this office.

Sincerely,



Edward L. Bell
Senior Archaeologist
Massachusetts Historical Commission

xc: Jeannie Brochi, EPA
F. Cornaglia, Acting Commissioner, Taunton Department of Public Works
Taunton Historical Commission



MassWildlife

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Wayne F. MacCallum, *Director*

May 11, 2006

Metclaf & Eddy
Attn: Aaron Weieneth
701 Edgewater Drive
Wakefield, MA 01880-5371

Re: City of Taunton
Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP)
Taunton, MA
NHESP Tracking No. 06-19667

Dear Ms. Weieneth:

Thank you for contacting the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program ("NHESP") of the MA Division of Fisheries & Wildlife for information regarding state-protected rare species in the vicinity of the above referenced site. We have reviewed the site and would like to offer the following comments.

This project site or portions thereof occur **within** a variety of town-wide *Priority Habitat* (PH) and *Estimated Habitat Polygons* (WH), as indicated in the 11th Edition of the Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas. Attached is a map of the City of Taunton which outlines these Priority and Estimated Habitat Polygons, along with a separate list of rare species that have been documented to occur within each.

These species are protected under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) (M.G.L. c. 131A) and its implementing regulations (321 CMR 10.00). State-listed wildlife are also protected under the state's Wetlands Protection Act (WPA) (M.G.L. c. 131, s. 40) and its implementing regulations (310 CMR 10.37 and 10.59). Fact sheets for most state-listed rare species can be found on our website <http://www.nhesp.org>.

Please note that projects and activities located within Priority and/or Estimated Habitat **must** be reviewed by the NHESP for compliance with the state-listed rare species protection provisions of MESA (321 CMR 10.00) and/or the WPA (310 CMR 10.00). If the project site is within Estimated Habitat for Rare Wildlife and a Notice of Intent (NOI) is required, then a copy of the NOI must be submitted to the NHESP in a timely manner, so that it is received at the same time as the local conservation commission. If the proposed project is located within a Priority Habitat and is not exempt from review (see 321 CMR 10.14), then project plans, a fee, and other required filing materials must be sent to NHESP Environmental Review to determine whether a probable "take" under the MA Endangered Species Act would occur (321 CMR 10.18). Please note that all proposed and anticipated development must be disclosed, as MESA does not allow project segmentation (321 CMR 10.16). For a MESA filing checklist and additional information about the MESA review process, please see our website: www.nhesp.org under the "Regulatory Review" tab. On a case by case basis, field surveys and habitat assessments may

www.masswildlife.org

Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

Field Headquarters, North Drive, Westborough, MA 01581 (508) 792-7270 Fax (508) 792-7275

An Agency of the Department of Fish and Game

be required as part of the MESA review process in order to locate rare species on the project site, and to determine their patterns of distribution and habitat use.

We recommend that rare species habitat concerns be addressed during the project design phase prior to submission of a formal MESA filing, as avoidance and minimization of impacts to rare species and their habitats is likely to expedite endangered species regulatory review.

MA Endangered Species Act (M.G.L. c. 131A)


If NHESP determines that the proposed project would “take” a rare species, then it may be possible to redesign the project to avoid a “take.” If such revisions are not possible, the applicant should note that projects resulting in the “take” of state-protected wildlife may only be permitted if they meet the performance standards for a “Conservation and Management Permit” under MESA (321 CMR 10.23). Please note that projects resulting in a “take” may require submission of an Environmental Notification Form, pursuant to the MA Environmental Policy Act regulations (301 CMR 11.00).

Wetlands Protection Act

If the NHESP determines that the proposed project will adversely affect the actual Resource Area habitat of state-protected wildlife, than the proposed project may not be permitted (310 CMR 10.37, 10.58(4)(b) & 10.59). In such a case, the project proponent may request a consultation with the NHESP to discuss potential project design modifications that would avoid adverse effects to rare wildlife habitat.

This evaluation is based on the most recent information available in the Natural Heritage database, which is constantly being expanded and updated through ongoing research and inventory. Should your site plans change, or new rare species information become available, this evaluation may be reconsidered. If you have any questions regarding this review please call Jenna Garvey, Environmental Review Assistant, at (508) 792-7270, ext. 303.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas W. French". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Thomas W. French, Ph.D.
Assistant Director

| Priority Habitat # | Scientific Name | Common Name | Species Type | DFW Rank |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| PH 1243 | Ambystoma laterale | Blue-Spotted Salamander | Amphibian | Special Concern |
| WH 324 | Clemmys guttata | Spotted Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| PH 1297 | Hemidactylium scutatum | Four-Toed Salamander | Amphibian | Special Concern |
| WH 1097 | Alasmidonta undulata | Triangle Floater | Mussel | Special Concern |
| | Clemmys guttata | Spotted Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| | Clemmys insculpta | Wood Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| | Ligumia nasuta | Eastern Pondmussel | Mussel | Special Concern |
| | Scirpus longii | Long's Bulrush | Plant | Threatened |
| | Terrapene carolina | Eastern Box Turtle | Reptile | Threatened |
| PH 1315 | Carex typhina | Cat-Tail Sedge | Plant | Threatened |
| WH 4105 | Clemmys guttata | Spotted Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| | Clemmys insculpta | Wood Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| | Emydoidea blandingii | Blanding's Turtle | Reptile | Threatened |
| | Ligumia nasuta | Eastern Pondmussel | Mussel | Special Concern |
| | Platanthera flava var. herbiola | Pale Green Orchis | Plant | Threatened |
| | Terrapene carolina | Eastern Box Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| PH 1316/WH 2061 | Clemmys guttata | Spotted Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| PH 1333 | Panicum philadelphicum | Spotted Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| PH 1352/WH 4103 | Clemmys guttata | Philadelphia Panic-grass | Plant | Special Concern |
| PH 1364 | Clemmys guttata | Spotted Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| | Terrapene carolina | Spotted Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| PH 1373 | Clemmys guttata | Eastern Box Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| | Sabatia kennedyana | Spotted Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| | Terrapene carolina | Plymouth Gentian | Plant | Special Concern |
| PH 1374/WH 4107 | Clemmys insculpta | Eastern Box Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| PH 1376/WH 6083 | Anax longipes | Wood Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| | Eleocharis tricostrata | Comet Darnier | Dragonfly | Special Concern |
| | Enallagma recurvatum | Three-angled Spike Sedge | Plant | Endangered |
| PH 1377/WH 6087 | Sabatia kennedyana | Pine Barrens Bluet | Damselfly | Threatened |
| | Acipenser oxyrinchus | Plymouth Gentian | Plant | Special Concern |
| | Cardamine longii | Atlantic Sturgeon | Fish | Endangered |
| PH 1378/WH 446 | Ambystoma opacum | Long's Bitter-creed | Plant | Endangered |
| PH 1379 | Platanthera flava var. herbiola | Marbled Salamander | Amphibian | Threatened |
| | Terrapene carolina | Pale Green Orchis | Plant | Threatened |
| PH 1387/WH 7049 | Clemmys guttata | Eastern Box Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| | Terrapene carolina | Spotted Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| | | Eastern Box Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| PH 1392 | Sabatia kennedyana | Plymouth Gentian | Plant | Special Concern |
| PH 1397 | Clemmys guttata | Spotted Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |
| PH 1752 WH 7515 | Scaphiopus holbrookii | Eastern Spadefoot | Amphibian | Threatened |
| | Terrapene carolina | Eastern Box Turtle | Reptile | Special Concern |

