

MITT ROMNEY Governor

KERRY HEALEY Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE

20 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, LAKEVILLE, MA 02347 508-946-2700

STEPHEN R. PRITCHARD Secretary

ROBERT W. GOLLEDGE, Jr. Commissioner

Water Management Act Permit Application
Department of Environmental Protection
Southeast Regional Office
For the Buzzards Bay Watershed

The Department of Environmental Protection will accept written comments on the Water Management Act application filed for permitting in the Buzzards Bay Watershed. The permit requested will authorize water withdrawals through May 31, 2011, under the Water Management Act (WMA) (M.G.L. c. 21G). Comments must be submitted by close of business on Friday, **December 23, 2005** to the Department of Environmental Protection, Southeast Regional Office, 20 Riverside Drive, Lakeville, Massachusetts, 02347, Attention: Jim McLaughlin, or via e-mail to james.m.mclaughlin@state.ma.us. A copy of the application is available for review at the Department's Southeast Regional Office, Lakeville; please contact the Service Center at (508) 946-2718 to schedule an appointment. The application is also on file with the Middleborough Water Department.

Peter Paquin of Middleborough has applied for a WMA permit to withdraw water for cranberry bog irrigation. The applicant has requested a permit for 0.26 million gallons per day (MGD) on an average daily basis to irrigate approximately twentynine (29) acres of existing, unregistered bog. The permit application is for existing surface water withdrawals off Beach and Pine Streets in Middleboro at Latitude 41° 49' 06" and Longitude 70° 47' 04". The water sources are on-site reservoirs. No new construction is proposed at this site. The permit application is in addition to an existing WMA registration for twenty-five and one-half (25.5) acres of bogs at this site, known as the "Erickson Bogs." (The registered acreage existed prior to 1986.)

The Erickson Bogs are not within an area listed as a Priority Habitat of Rare Species, or an Estimated Habitat of Rare Wildlife by the July 1, 2003 Edition of the Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas (Snipatuit Pond Quad).