Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ■ MEPA Office

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
EOEA No.: 13984
MEPA Analyst: Aisling Eglington
Phone: 617-626-1024

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: Sesuit Creek- Bridge Street Habitat Restoration Project		
Street: Bridge Street		
Municipality: Dennis	Watershed: Coastal (Cape Cod Bay)	
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates: Northing: 4622122 meters Easting: 403330 meters	Latitude: 41° 44' 42.15" N Longitude: 70° 09' 45.46" W	
Estimated commencement date: Fall of 2007	Estimated completion date: Winter of 2007	
Approximate cost: 1.1 million	Status of project design: 75 %complete	
Proponent: Town of Dennis Natural Resources Department		
Street: 485 Main Street		
Municipality: South Dennis	State: MA	Zip Code: 02660
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Craig A. Wood		
Firm/Agency: The Louis Berger Group, Inc.	Street: 75 Second Avenue, Suite 700	
Municipality: Needham	State: MA	Zip Code: 02494
Phone: 781) 444-3330 ext 7475	Fax: (781) 444-0099	E-mail: cwood@louisberger.com

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): MA Coastal Zone Management Wetlands Restoration Program ($220,000)

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: N/A

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

(Funding Source)

- ☐ Land
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ ACEC
- ☒ Rare Species
- ☐ Wastewater
- ☐ Air
- ☐ Regulations
- ☐ Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Solid & Hazardous Waste
- ☐ Historical & Archaeological Resources

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total
LAND			
Total site acreage	41		
New acres of land altered		0	
Acres of impervious area	0.97	0.19 porous paving	1.16
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		386	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		2030	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0	
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage	0	0	0
Number of housing units	0	0	0
Maximum height (in feet)	5	0	5
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day	0	0	0
Parking spaces	0	0	0
WASTEWATER			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	0	0	0
GPD water withdrawal	0	0	0
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	0	0	0
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	0	0

State Permits & Approvals

- ☒ Order of Conditions
- ☐ Superseding Order of Conditions
- ☒ Chapter 91 License
- ☒ 401 Water Quality Certification
- ☐ MHD or MDC Access Permit
- ☐ Water Management Act Permit
- ☐ New Source Approval
- ☐ DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit
- ☒ Other Permits (*including Legislative Approvals*) – Specify:

Army Corps of Engineers-
PGP CAT 2
Coastal Zone Mgt-
Federal Consistency

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: This restoration site is located within Priority Habitat and Estimated Habitat of Rare Wildlife on the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) mapping dated October 2006. ☐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_____) ☒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_____) ☒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.*)

Sesuit Creek flows from Scargo Lake into Sesuit Harbor on the Cape Cod Bay side of the Town of Dennis. The creek is approximately 1.6 miles in length with a drainage area upstream of Bridge Street of approximately 1.3 square miles. Bridge Street crosses the creek approximately 0.75 miles upstream of the Harbor. Bridge Street is a local two-lane road connecting Route 6A to Sesuit Neck. Bridge Street is owned and maintained by the Town of Dennis. Several studies have documented a significant tidal restriction upstream of the Bridge Street crossing, caused by an undersized culvert. In addition, the culvert is in a failing condition and is likely inhibiting the upstream movement of adult river herring and rainbow smelt during their spawning run.

East or downstream of the Bridge Street crossing, wetland areas within the Sesuit Creek marsh are dominated by typical estuarine vegetation with a low marsh community fringing the tidal creek banks and broad salt hay meadows extending beyond. Populations of the invasive *Phragmites australis* are typically limited to narrow bands fringing the upland borders. In contrast, most areas similar in elevation upstream of the tidal restriction are dominated by deciduous shrub swamp or stands of *Phragmites*. Salt marsh vegetation is limited to narrow bands along the creek banks. The severe tidal restriction has also resulted in the accumulation of fine sediments in the former tidal creek upstream of the crossing.

The proposed project seeks to restore degraded coastal wetland habitat upgradient of the road crossing by restoring tidal flow through replacing the failed culvert in a manner that would not only serve to protect public safety but would also serve to promote a healthy and sustainable salt marsh/fish run system. The project design elements include the replacement of the failed 24 inch culvert with twin 12 foot wide box culverts, realigning the crossing to the historic creek location, the repaving of Bridge Street with construction of a sidewalk, the placement of overhead utilities underground and the construction of drainage facilities. A more detailed description of proposed project, current conditions within the degraded coastal marsh, design alternatives, and impacts is presented in the attached Project Narrative (Attachment A).