

Staff Recommendation  
Town of Foxborough  
Modification to Monitoring Required Under  
its Interbasin Transfer Act Decision

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WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION

NOVEMBER 10, 2022

# Site Map and Background



- Headwaters of the Ten Mile Basin – Bungay Brook – 0.4 sq mi
- Habitat for protected species: Hessel’s hairstreak butterfly and then state-listed spotted turtle
- Foxborough’s water supply wells - Wells 14R & 15 adjacent to Witch Pond in an Atlantic white cedar swamp
- Discharges flow to a WWTP in the Taunton River Basin

# Timeline Update

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Staff Recommendation was last brought before WRC in October 2021



Since that time, WRC staff and Town staff have been working collaboratively to settle on a mutually agreeable Staff Recommendation



WRC staff appreciates the time commitment from Town staff and willingness to work together

# Summary of Changes to Conditions

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## Meeting Existing Conditions

## New or Modified Conditions

- Reducing Actions under an Existing Condition
- New or Modified Conditions Requiring Actions to Reduce Impacts to the Swamp

# Meeting Existing Conditions

**REDUCED AND NO PUMPING THRESHOLDS  
WITCH POND, FOXBOROUGH, MA**

Monitoring Location	Reduced Pumping Threshold Elevation (NGVD)	No Pumping Threshold Elevation (NGVD)
F-1AS (peat)	152.35	152.10
F-1APD (peat)	152.35	152.10
F-1AD (aquifer)	148.25	148.00
F-2S (peat)	152.75	152.50
F-2AD (aquifer)	148.25	148.00
F-7D (aquifer)	151.25	151.00
F-7PD (peat)	153.55	153.30
SG-1 (surface water)	154.25	154.20

Follow WMA well operations requirements (both wells reduced and/or shut off within 36 hours if at least 1 threshold site is triggered; no pumping for 7 days after recovery above the no pumping threshold)

If after three years, the amount of time spent below thresholds is not reduced, WRC staff may consider modifying the threshold elevations and/or reduced pumping rates



Continue/resume monitoring at wells F2D, DP-4, 8-97 and 9-97

Continue/resume meeting water conservation Conditions, including:

- the Unaccounted-for Water standard
- Industrial/Commercial/Institutional and residential programs
- per Foxborough's 2013 Amendment, during Emergency Declarations, implementing total outdoor water bans when Witch Pond wells are used and thresholds are surpassed

# Reducing Actions under an Existing Condition

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Continue monitoring levels at staff gage SG-3 year-round but only at weekly intervals (a reduction from daily readings)



Transducers in non-threshold wells may be removed from December 1st through May 31st to protect the equipment



Modified vegetation monitoring including reduced frequency and scope



New or Modified  
Conditions Requiring  
Actions to Reduce  
Impacts to the Swamp

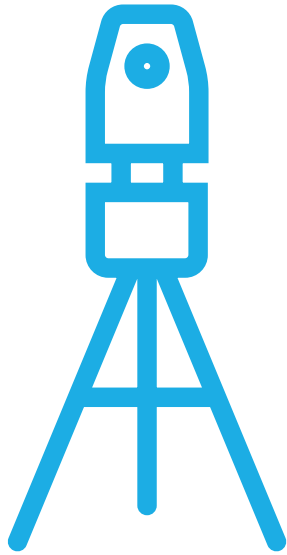


Coordination with Attleborough Water Department to get advance notifications of water releases from Lake Mirimichi to the Wading River



Notification of deviations from Conditions within 48 hours of discovery of any deviation(s), a written plan for resolving deviations within 1 week, and written notice of completion of plan within a week of resumed compliance

# Notifications



# Survey/Monitoring

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Survey measuring point elevations as soon as possible after wetlands thaw out and/or monitoring location replacement, providing data and proposed adjustments to WRC within two weeks of survey completion

Develop an invasive species management plan. For phragmites, this will be in conjunction with WRC, DFG, and MassDEP staff.



MASSACHUSETTS

# DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN

September 2019

Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02114



Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency  
400 Worcester Rd, Box 1496  
Framingham, MA 01701



Revise the Town's drought management plan to match outdoor water use restrictions in the 2019 (or most recent) MA Drought Management Plan.

Consider implementing outdoor water use restrictions on private wells.

# Reporting

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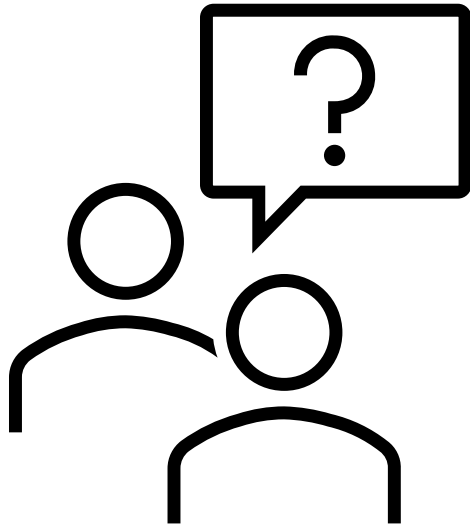
Provide summary tables that demonstrate compliance with all Conditions within 30 days of the Commission's Decision; WRC staff will provide a template Conditions table to be completed



Revise the annual report format following an outline to be provided by WRC staff



Revise the Hydrologic and Vegetation Monitoring Plan to reflect these Conditions



Questions/Discussion