# FY 2024: Coastal Habitat and Water Quality (CHWQ) Grant Awards

**Public Boat Ramp Stormwater Remediation – Phase 2**

**Funding: $761,137**

**Recipient: Association to Preserve Cape Cod**

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC), in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game, the towns of Dennis, Mashpee, and Yarmouth, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Cape Cod Conservation District, will complete permitting and final designs of green stormwater infrastructure at four public boat ramp sites on Cape Cod. These sites are Scargo Lake Landing and Dr. Lords Common Landing in Dennis, Follins Pond in Yarmouth, and Mashpee-Wakeby Pond in Mashpee. APCC and project partners will also complete construction of green stormwater infrastructure at Scargo Lake Landing and Dr. Lords Common Landing. CHWQ grant funds will also be utilized to support construction at Follins Pond. This work builds of a public boat ramp stormwater assessment completed by APCC and supported by previous CZM funding and will treat stormwater for nutrients and bacteria to improve water quality and recreational opportunities at several sites across Cape Cod.

**Cheesecake Brook Subwatershed Planning and Best Management Practice (BMP) Design**

**Funding: $99,992**

**Recipient: Charles River Watershed Association**

The Charles River Watershed Association (CRWA), in partnership with the city of Newton, will develop designs for green stormwater infrastructure to treat runoff into Cheesecake Brook, a tributary of the Charles River. The stream currently suffers from nutrient impairment and habitat loss due to human impacts on the system. The stormwater green infrastructure designs include a subsurface infiltration system at Albemarle Field and bioretention Best Management Practices (BMPs) at multiple locations along the stream. Additionally, CRWA will develop a comprehensive restoration plan for the Cheesecake Brook subwatershed to identify and prioritize restoration opportunities, particularly for diadromous fish habitat.

**Assessment of Coastal Habitat and Water Quality in the Fresh River System, Falmouth, MA with Evaluation of Conceptual Alternatives for Tidal Restoration**

**Funding: $90,237**

**Recipient: Town of Falmouth**

The Town of Falmouth will develop a comprehensive habitat restoration plan to identify and prioritize restoration opportunities in the Fresh River system through data collection on existing conditions, including water level and quality, bathymetry, topography, and sediment characteristics. Results from the assessment will be used to develop conceptual designs for restoring of tidal flow, minimizing sediment accumulation, improving coastal habitat, and remediating stormwater pollution. The town will also engage the public and key stakeholders to aid in the development of the habitat restoration plan.

**Coonamessett River Restoration: Protection of Water Quality and Habitat through Improvement of Storm Water Management on Thomas B. Landers Road, Falmouth, MA**

**Funding: $40,000**

**Recipient: Town of Falmouth**

The town of Falmouth will develop green stormwater infrastructure designs to treat stormwater runoff entering the Coonamessett River from Thomas B. Landers Road. Thomas B. Landers Road is a heavily trafficked roadway and stormwater currently flows untreated directly from the road into the river. The designed stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) will treat for nutrients and bacteria entering the river, which is a critical diadromous fish run on Cape Cod. The Coonamessett River has been the site of several stated-funded restoration efforts, and this project provides added value to protect water quality in a key diadromous fish run.

**Assisting Salt Marsh Migration in the Jones River Estuary, Kingston, MA**

**Funding: $18,000**

**Recipient: Town of Kingston**

The town of Kingston, in partnership with Wildlands Trust, will conduct an analysis of land parcels located in the town that may be preserved to facilitate marsh migration, or the landward movement of marshes into suitable adjacent lands, with sea level rise. The analysis will include a desktop assessment to inventory land parcels and examine land ownership, acreage, and ecological value that will result in a list of priority parcels. The town will also conduct legal due diligence through a review of the legal process and requirements for fee simple purchase and purchase of conservation restrictions for priority parcels. This project addresses a priority action in the town's comprehensive habitat restoration plan supported by previous CZM funding.

**Habitat Restoration Plan for the Mattapoisett Neck Salt Marshes**

**Funding: $82,856**

**Recipient: Mattapoisett Land Trust**

Mattapoisett Land Trust (MLT), in partnership with the town of Mattapoisett, will complete a comprehensive habitat restoration plan for the tidal marshes west of Mattapoisett Neck Road. The planning effort will include tasks such as aerial imagery collection, natural resource delineation, and modeling to project impacts of climate change to coastal habitat to inform the identification and prioritization of restoration actions. The plan will include the development of 3-4 technical plans for priority restoration actions, including preliminary designs to replace the undersized culvert under Mattapoisett Neck Road at Molly's Cove. This project builds on significant effort by MLT and the town of Mattapoisett to improve climate resiliency and coastal habitat in the area.

**South Shore Salt Marsh Restoration Prioritization**

**Funding: $88,129**

**Recipient: North and South Rivers Watershed Association**

The North and South Rivers Watershed Association (NSRWA), in partnership with the Cohasset Center for Student Coastal Research and UMass Amherst, will complete a comprehensive habitat restoration plan for the tidal marshes across the South Shore of Massachusetts. NSWRA will assess salt marsh units using several field methods including vegetation surveys, nutrient sampling, and sediment monitoring as well as desktop methods such as the unvegetated to vegetated ratio (UVVR), elevation, and parcel ownership assessment. Using the results from these assessments, a quantitative rubric will be created to prioritize marsh units to inform future restoration efforts. Education and outreach opportunities about the importance of salt marsh restoration and protection will be provided through collaboration with the

Cohasset Center for Student Coastal Research and the towns of Duxbury, Norwell, Plymouth, and Scituate.

**North River Rain Gardens Case Study**

**Funding: $50,000**

**Recipient: Salem Sound Coastwatch**

Salem Sound Coastwatch (SSCW) will conduct a case study of the North River rain gardens located on Commercial Street in Salem, MA. To build capacity around green stormwater infrastructure and showcase the success of the North River rain gardens, SSCW will develop an executive summary, ESRI Story Map, and two informational videos documenting how the rain gardens work and lessons learned from the project. The informational videos will be provided in both English and Spanish. This project builds of previous work to design and construct the North River rain gardens supported by previous CZM funding.

**Compton's Corner Stormwater Management Planning to Protect Shellfishing Habitat**

**Funding: $99,900**

**Recipient: Town of Swansea**

The town of Swansea, in partnership with the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) and Save the Bay, will conduct a stormwater assessment for the Cole's River in the adjacent Compton's Corner area in Swansea. Water quality samples will be taken at four stormwater outfalls to test for nutrients and bacteria in stormwater runoff entering the Cole's River. In addition, SPREDD and the town will deliver a series of stormwater trainings to town staff to build capacity focused on green stormwater infrastructure. Education and outreach materials will also be produced to engage the public on the importance of nonpoint source pollution management and solicit feedback on assessment results. The assessment will result in conceptual designs for one stormwater Best Management Practice (BMP) and increased capacity for the town to address stormwater concerns in critical shellfish habitat.

**Yarmouth Stormwater Design and Implementation**

**Funding: $795,908**

**Recipient: Town of Yarmouth**

The town of Yarmouth, in partnership with the Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC), will complete design, permitting, and installation of priority stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) to treat nutrients and bacteria in stormwater runoff entering coastal waterbodies throughout the town. Initial designs will be completed for 5 priority green stormwater infrastructure sites, of which two will be selected for final design, permitting, and implementation based on priority and public feedback. Sites selected for design and implementation will be selected based on benefit to impaired waters, shellfish, beach closures, and proximity to Environmental Justice communities. This project will improve water quality to reduce beach closures and improve conditions for shellfish habitat and builds off assessment work supported by previous CZM funding.