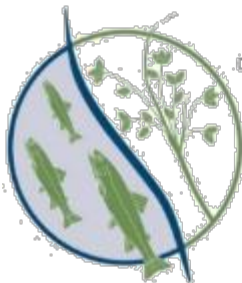


Stream Continuity/Culvert Grants Briefing



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
**Division of
Ecological
Restoration**

**Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game
Division of Ecological Restoration**

Presentation Overview

1. Welcome and presentation Summary
2. Stream Continuity Program Overview
3. Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Grant Summary
4. Resources and Materials
5. Question & Answer Period

DER Stream Continuity Program

Remove barriers to fish and wildlife, reconnect upstream and downstream habitat, and restore stream processes.



Massachusetts Stream Crossing Standards (SCS)

0.82 Openness ratio

Large span, 1.2x bankfull width

Open arch

**2 feet
Embedment**

**Natural
substrate**



Paul Nguyen

**Banks, dry
passage**

**Comparable depth and
velocity, up & downstream**

Benefits of SCS Structures



Traditional Culverts

- Blocks movement of fish and wildlife
- Disrupts stream processes
- Vulnerable to clogging with sediment and wood
- Downstream scour and erosion of structural components
- Often reduced hydraulic capacity
- Susceptible to failure and damages
- Higher maintenance and repair costs



Meets MA Stream Crossing Standards

- Reconnects access to critical habitat for fish and wildlife
- Allows natural stream channel adjustment and movement of sediment and wood
- Reduces lifetime maintenance costs
- Improved flood resiliency and reduces probability of flood-related damages
- Maintains road access for emergency, residential and community services
- Cost effective over lifespan of the structure

Stream Continuity Program

Increase communities' ability to replace culverts meeting the Massachusetts Stream Crossing Standards.



- Culvert Assessments
- Technical Assistance

- Training Sites
- Tools & Resources

Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Grant (CRMA) Program

- Replace undersized, perched, and/or degraded culverts located in areas of high ecological value
- With better designed crossings that meet improved structural and environmental design standards and flood resiliency criteria

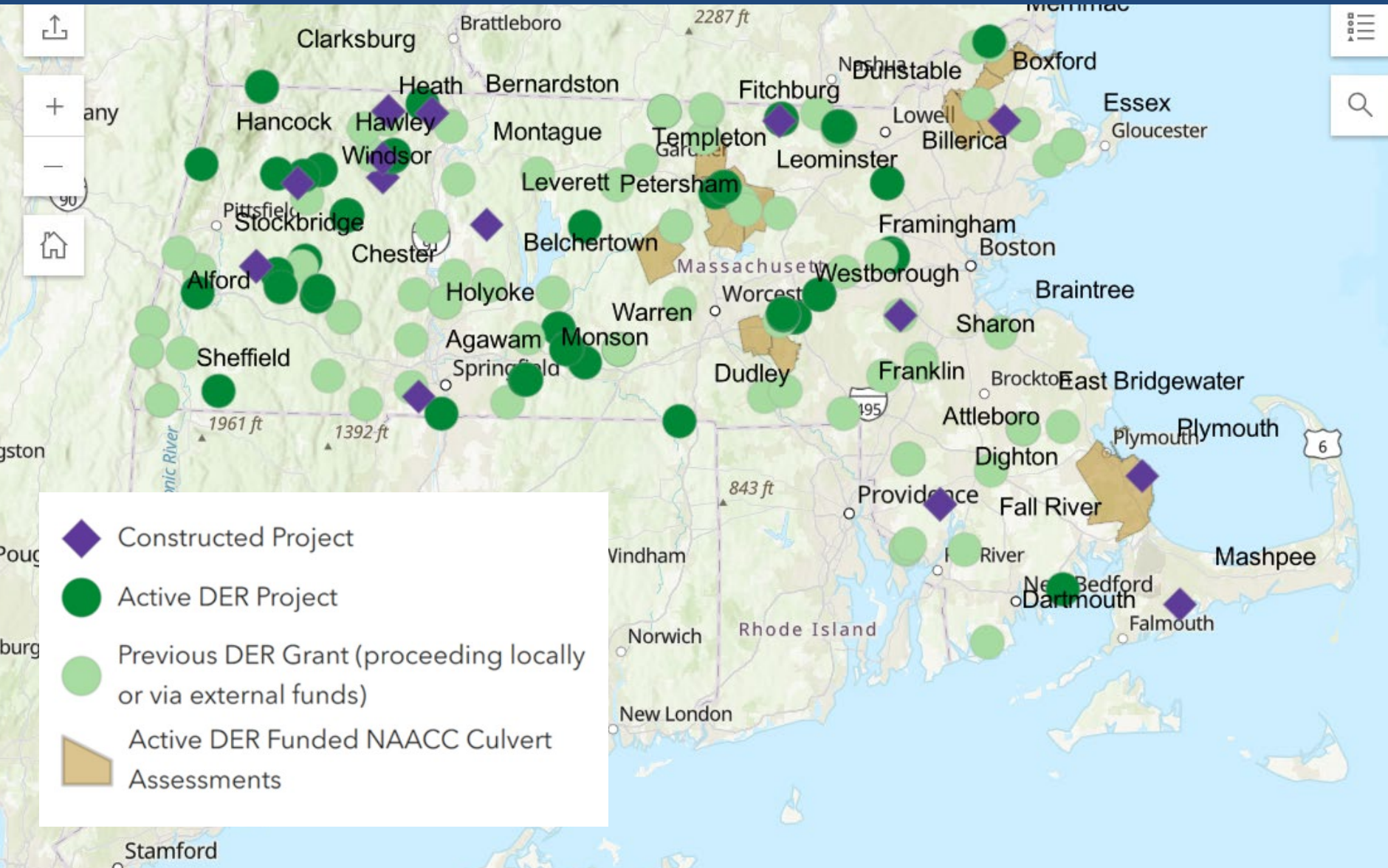


Before



After

Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Grant Program (CRMA)



FY26 CRMA Grant Timeline

- **April 7 - May 12:** Request for Response (RFR) Period
- **April 18 4pm:**
Questions due
- **April 28 (estimated):**
Q&A posted to COMMBUYS
- **May 12 4pm**
Grant Applications Due
- **July-August 2025**
Anticipated Grant Awards
- **July/August 2025 to June 30, 2025**
Grant Duration

What's new in FY26 grant round?

- Updated information on award size, including consideration for proposals requesting **\$400,000- \$650,000**
- Updated scoring regarding permanent removal of structures
- Clarification regarding definition of 'structures'

Applications Sought

- Voluntary projects to remove or replace undersized, perched, and/or degraded culverts or bridges.
- Focus on areas of high ecological value. Projects that improve river function and access for fish and wildlife.
- Reduce hazards to public safety, such as flooding, culvert failure, and road washout.
- **Only projects intended to meet the goals of the MA Stream Crossing Standards (SCS) will be considered for funding.**

Eligible Applicants

- The Commonwealth of Massachusetts local government units, including municipalities, towns, cities, districts, commissions, regional governments, and tribal governments are eligible to apply.
- Applicants are also eligible to apply jointly and should submit one application together with one eligible applicant serving as the Lead Organization
- Applicants awarded funding through the Stream Continuity grant programs in a previous fiscal year are eligible to apply for a new project or apply for a new phase of work

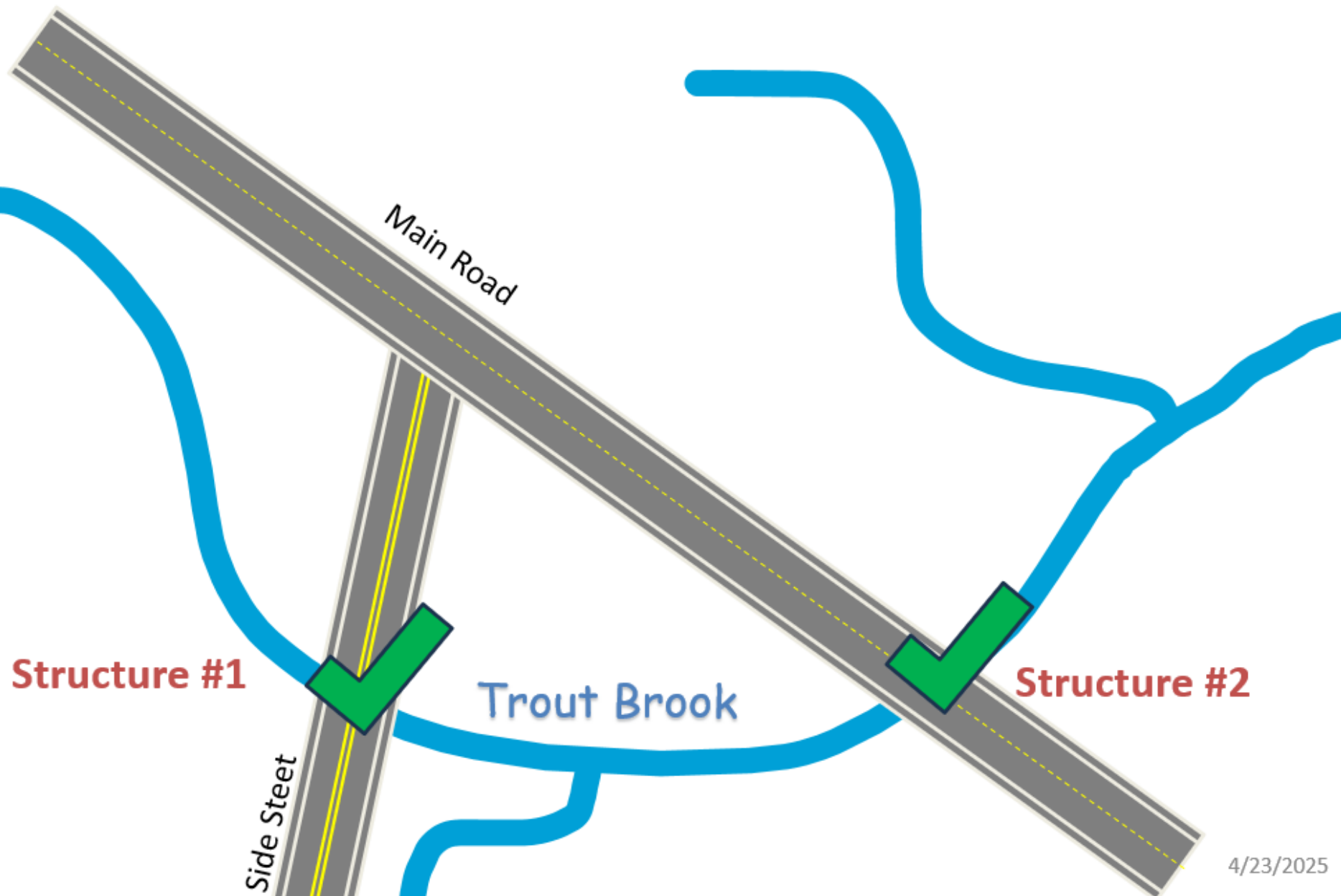
Eligible Projects

- Each applicant may submit **one** grant application.
- Each application may propose a replacement or removal project with **up to 3** structures on the same local connected stream network.
- Proposed projects must intend to meet the goals of the Massachusetts Stream Crossing Standards.
- Only one application for any given stream crossing will be considered.

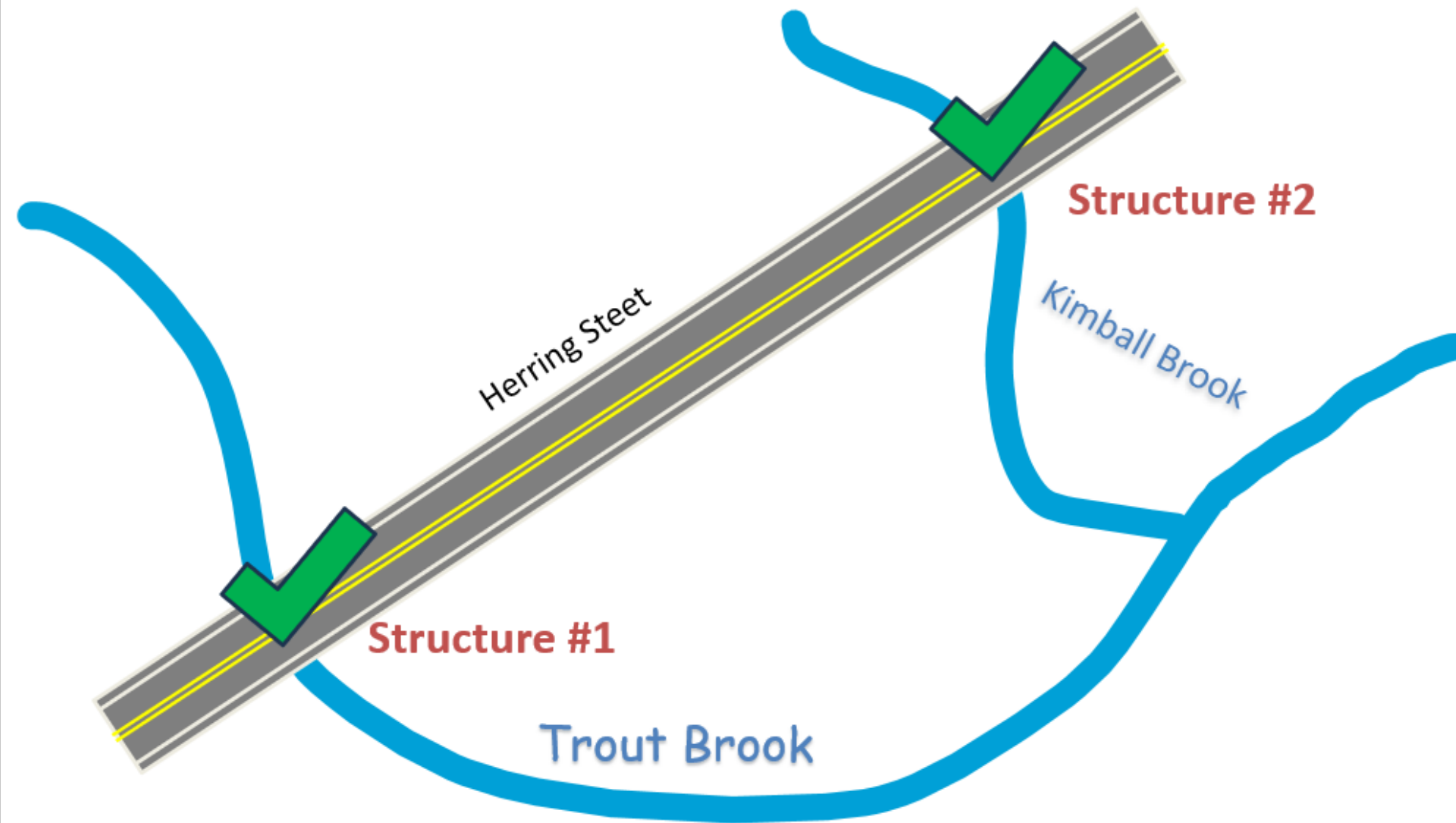
Eligible Projects

- Culvert or bridge replacement(s) or removal(s) located on a public way, owned and maintained by a municipality or other eligible applicant
- Must cross freshwater, non-tidal river or stream channels within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- Can be either an intermittent or perennial stream
- Projects where a culvert or bridge will be completely removed and the road will be decommissioned are also eligible

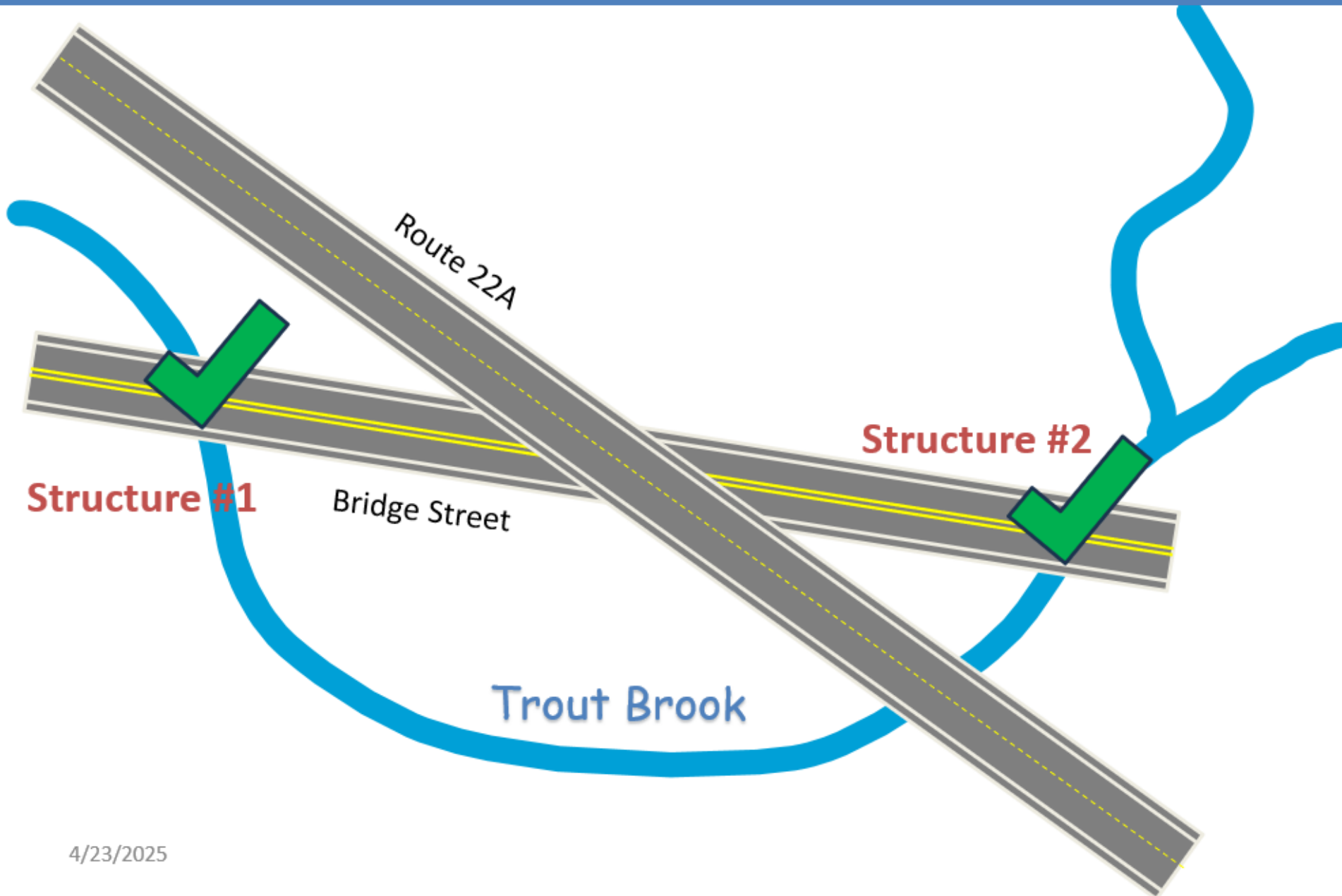
Eligible Projects – Stream Reach



Eligible Projects – Local Stream Network



Eligible Projects – Stream Reach



Project Phases

- Field Data Collection
- Design & Engineering
- Permitting
- Construction

Applicants may request funding for more than one project phase, but all work must be completed by June 30, 2026

Engineering Projects

- Small Bridge/Chapter 85 review
- Any replacement span greater than 10 feet will be subject to MassDOT design requirements and review
- Applicants are encouraged to work with a prequalified consultant on applicable projects.

Match Requirement

- There is no match requirement.
- Applicants are encouraged to report other known sources of funding for the proposed project (both secured and anticipated).
- Cost effective projects and/or projects leveraging external funding may receive higher scoring.

Evaluation Criteria

- **Demonstrated Need (25 Points)**
 - i. Project Background
 - ii. Project Status/Readiness
 - iii. Financial Need
- **Project Description (30 Points)**
 - i. Project Scope
 - ii. Project Budget/Cost Effectiveness
 - iii. Project Timeline
- **Project Benefits (45 Points)**
 - i. Benefit to the Environment
 - ii. Public Safety Benefits
 - iii. Economic and Community Benefits
 - iv. Capacity Building/Transferability
 - v. Environmental Justice Communities Benefits
- **Total : 100 Points**

Evaluation Criteria

Capacity building/transferability –

- Did the applicant demonstrate how DER funding will build capacity? For instance: leverage additional funding, or enhance ability of the applicant to transfer knowledge, or amplify benefits of the project to the stream and/or community

Project Budget and Cost Effectiveness –

- How cost effective is the project given its benefits? Does the application leverage other work (e.g., leveraged funds, other completed or planned restoration projects)?

Performance & Contract Specifications

Project Terms

- Contract is subject to negotiation of agreed upon scope of work

Deliverables, Ownership and Credit Due

- Technical deliverables produced under the contract shall be delivered to DER
- Structures will remain property of the Municipality/applicant

Reporting

- Necessary reports and deliverables are project specific and will be identified during contracting

Invoicing

- Grant is managed on a reimbursement basis for work completed after contract execution
- Only tasks identified in the scope are eligible for reimbursement

Fiscal Year 2026 Grant Opportunity

RFR is posted on COMMBUYS.com
Search “DER culvert”



Search...

Bid Solicitation:



Advanced

Supplier Registration

[Sign In](#)

+ Advanced Search

Results

1-1 of 1 << < 1 > >>								
Bid Solicitation #	Organization Name	Blanket #	Buyer	Description	Bid Opening Date	Bid Holder List	Awarded Vendor(s)	Alternate Id
BD-25-1046-DER-FWE01-114623	Department of Fish and Game		Anthony Lucivero	FY26 Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance (CRMA) Grant Program	05/12/2025 16:00:00			
1-1 of 1 << < 1 > >>								

Fiscal Year 2026 Grant Opportunity

RFR is posted on COMMBUYS.com



Bid Solicitation: BD-25-1046-DER-FWE01-114623

Responses Due in 27 Days, 0 Hours, 38 Minutes

Header Information

Bid Number:	BD-25-1046-DER-FWE01-114623	Description:	FY26 Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance (CRMA) Grant Program	Bid Op
Purchaser:	Anthony Lucivero	Organization:	Department of Fish and Game	
Department:	DER - Division of Ecological Restoration	Location:	FWE01 - Division Ecological Restoration	
Fiscal Year:	25	Type Code:	NS - Non-Statewide Solicitation	Allow
Alternate Id:		Required Date:		Availa
Info Contact:		Bid Type:	OPEN	Inform
Purchase Method:	Open Market			

Pre Bid Conference:	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/c70iMCVzQxCYgYZlpf2HTw
Bulletin Desc:	The Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) seeks proposals to remove or replace culverts with crossings intending to meet the goals of the MA stream crossing standards. Please see the File Attachments for more information.

Ship-to Address:	Anthony Lucivero 100 Cambridge Street 6th Floor Boston, MA 02114 US Email: anthony.lucivero@mass.gov Phone: (617) 626-1540	Bill-to Address:	Anthony Lucivero 100 Cambridge Street 6th Floor Boston, MA 02114 US Email: anthony.lucivero@mass.gov Phone: (617) 626-1540	Print F
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File Attachments:

- [FY26 CRMA Stream Continuity RFR.pdf](#)
- [Attachments A-C.pdf](#)
- [Attachment D Budget Template.xlsx](#)
- [Attachment E Endorsement Letter Example.docx](#)
- [Attachment F Reference Copy - FY26 Application Form.pdf](#)
- [FY26 CRMA Notice of Upcoming Grant Opportunity-1.pdf](#)

Form Attachments:

Fiscal Year 2026 Grant Opportunity

Questions deadline: April 18 at 4pm

bit.ly/CRMAquestion



Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Grant Initiative

Question Submission Form

QUESTION SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 4:00PM EDT on April 18, 2025.

Please fill out this form to submit a question during the Q&A Period of this RFR solicitation. Questions will not be answered outside of the allowable submission timeframe. Answers to all questions will be posted on DER's website and on COMMBUYS by April 28.

Please refer to the resources on DER's website regarding this opportunity prior to submitting a question.

What is your question? *

You may include more than one question in this field.

IMPORTANT: Your question will be added to the public record and will be subject to Public Record Requests. Please do not include any personal information in your question.

Fiscal Year 2026 Grant Opportunity

Materials also linked on DER's website:

<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/culvert-replacement-municipal-assistance-grant-program>

An official website of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts [Here's how you know](#)

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Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Grant Program

Details on how to apply for grants to replace undersized, perched, and/or degraded culverts located in areas of high ecological value

The Request for Responses (RFR) is now live! Applications are due May 12, 2025 by 4:00pm. See below for details.

[Submit Question](#)

[Submit Application](#)

THE DETAILS

CONTACTS

[What you need](#)

[What you need](#)

DER Stream Continuity Program

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