

Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration

**Restoring and Protecting Rivers, Wetlands, and Watersheds
for the Benefit of People and the Environment**



Happy 10th Anniversary

DER and Partners!



Mission: to restore and protect rivers, wetlands, and watersheds for the benefit of people and the environment



Program areas:

- Streamflow restoration
- Riverways / Water quality
- Physical habitat restoration





All DER's work has climate adaptation benefits:

- Water conservation
- Streamflow restoration via dam management and other methods
- Dam removal
- Culvert upgrades
- Salt marsh restoration
- Cranberry bog restoration
- Water quality restoration
- Urban river revitalization



New staff in FY19

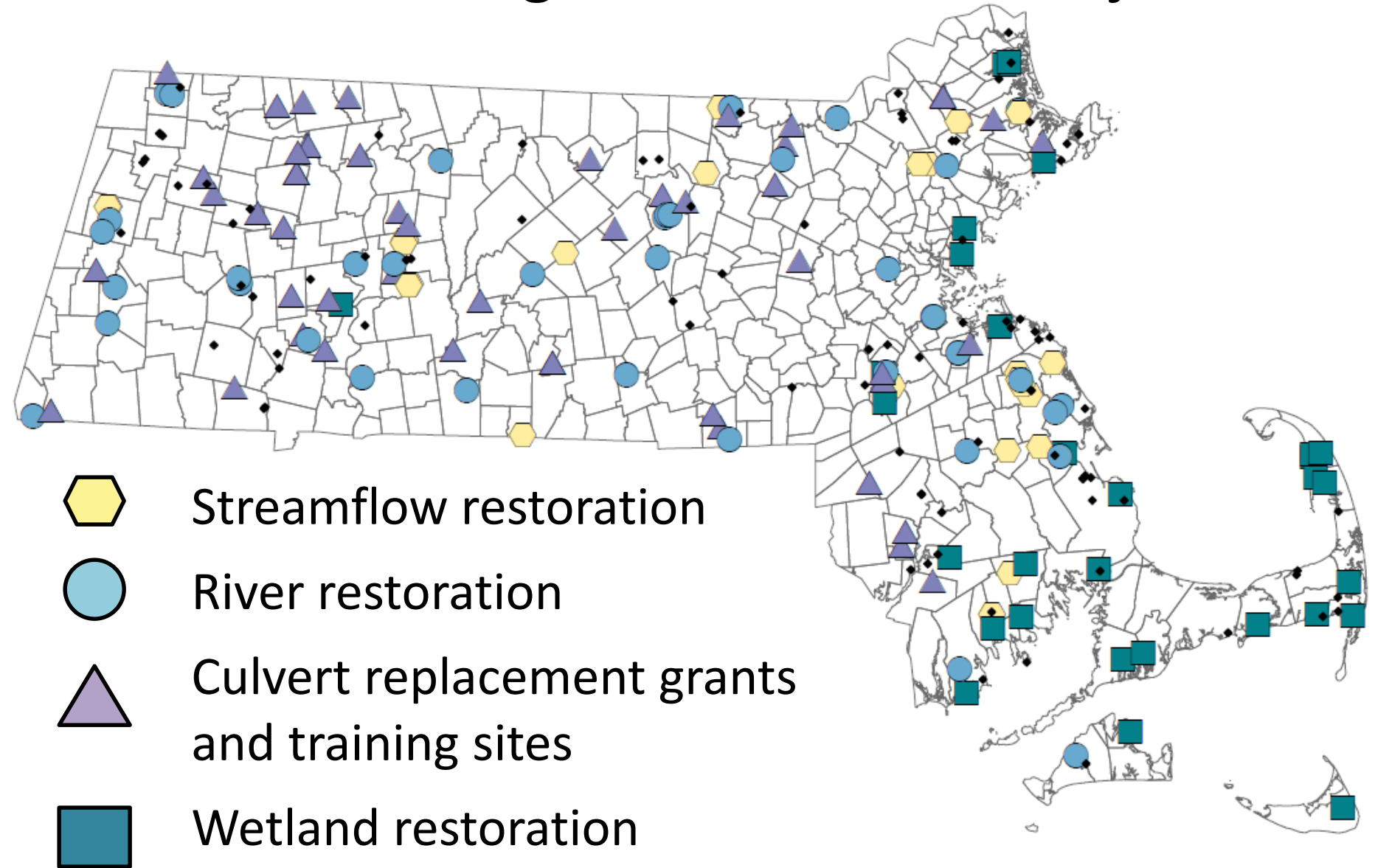
- Cranberry bog restoration
- Dam removal
- Engineering
- Procurement



New staff in FY20 (positions open!)

- Communications
- Internal operations
- Culvert grant program manager
- Restoration Partnerships Program Manager

Division of Ecological Restoration Project Sites







Recently completed Upper Roberts Dam Removal in Northampton

Tel-electric Dam Removal, Pittsfield



Parkers River Tidal Crossing, Yarmouth





Accomplishments

- 50 dams removed
- >300 river miles opened
- >2000 acres coastal wetlands restored
- Municipal culvert replacement program (a.k.a stream continuity program)





We work in 200 communities per year, on average

The need

- Towns and agencies lack knowledge, skills, capacity to plan and carry out restoration / adaptation projects
- State and local planning for adaptation is underway
- Sustained technical and financial assistance is needed to bridge the gap



Walker Brook, Becket

The Opportunity

Make dam removal, culvert upgrades, water conservation, and other adaptation / restoration actions a regular part of doing business

1. Help towns / agencies / watershed and regional orgs. complete projects that provide adaptation, habitat, and resilience benefits
2. Set projects up to be successful through MVP Program, Dam / Seawall Grant Program, state and federal grants
3. Promote projects as part of Administration's Climate Change Adaptation work.

A. Expand the pipeline of projects that DER manages



B. Document and share best practices, tools, approaches



C. Build and add capacity at the local level to lead and support restoration and adaptation



