



# Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grants Program

Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management

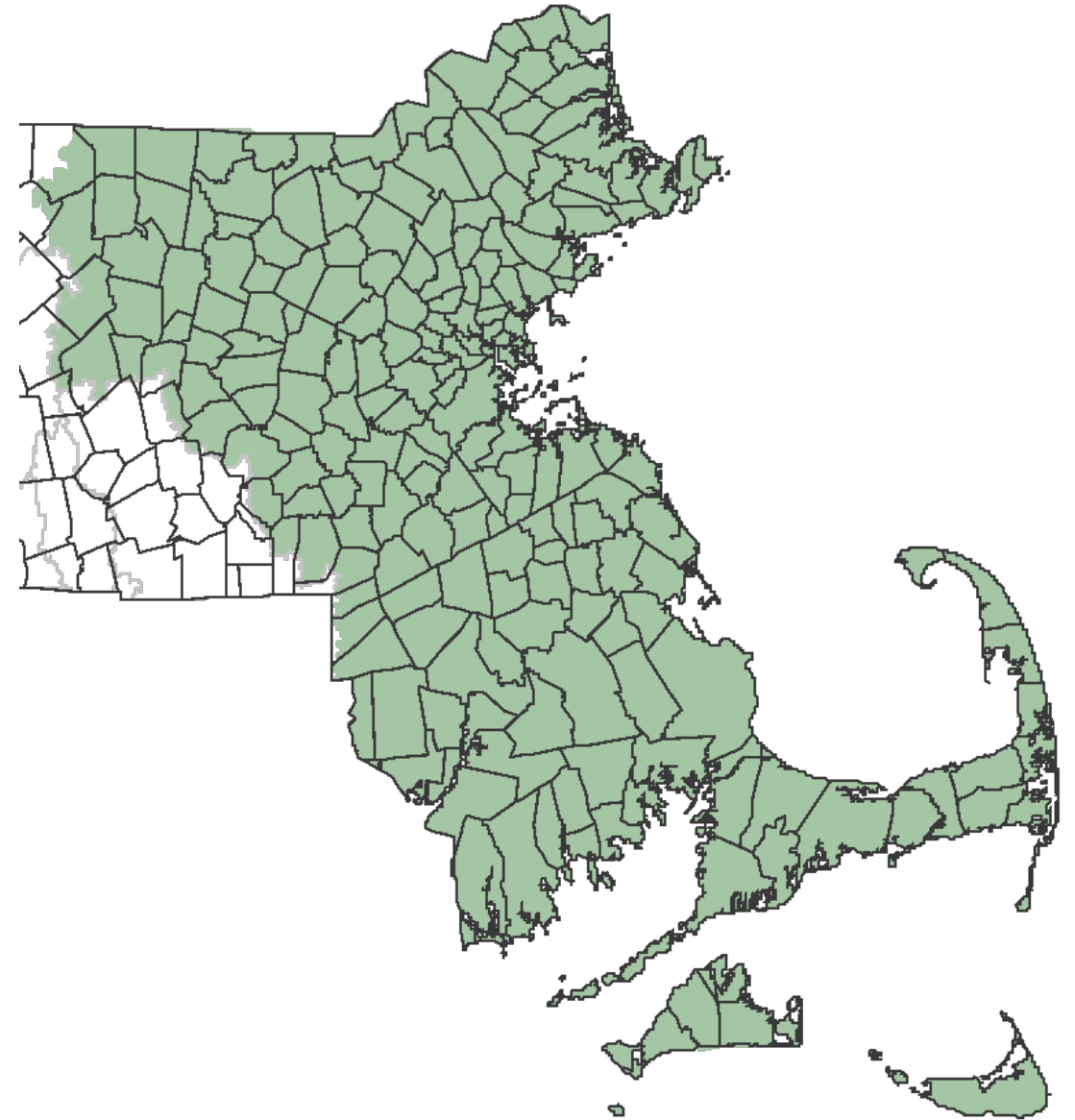
*Kathleen Mason, Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Specialist*

*Adrienne Pappal, Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Program Manager*

# Eligible Applicants

## Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grants

- Municipalities in the coastal watershed (>200)
- Federally recognized Tribes
- Certified 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations (including qualifying Tribal entities), regional planning agencies, and stormwater collaboratives in partnership with an eligible municipality



# Eligible Projects

Coastal Habitat and  
Water Quality Grants



Assessment, identification, and characterization of stormwater pollution sources



Design, permitting, implementation, and/or retrofits of structural stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



Capacity-building activities to support implementation of green stormwater infrastructure



Comprehensive habitat restoration planning



Advancement of priority land acquisition planning activities



# Stormwater Assessment

Assessment, identification, and characterization of stormwater

- Focus on **nonpoint source (NPS) pollution**, specifically stormwater discharges, to eligible waterbodies within the coastal watershed
- Outline existing data and knowledge to demonstrate a clear basis for further work
- Assessment, identification, and characterization of stormwater:
  - physical evaluation of drainage areas
  - land-use characterization
  - water quality testing at instream and outfall locations to identify remediation actions
  - investigation of the appropriate type and placement of stormwater best management practices (BMPs)

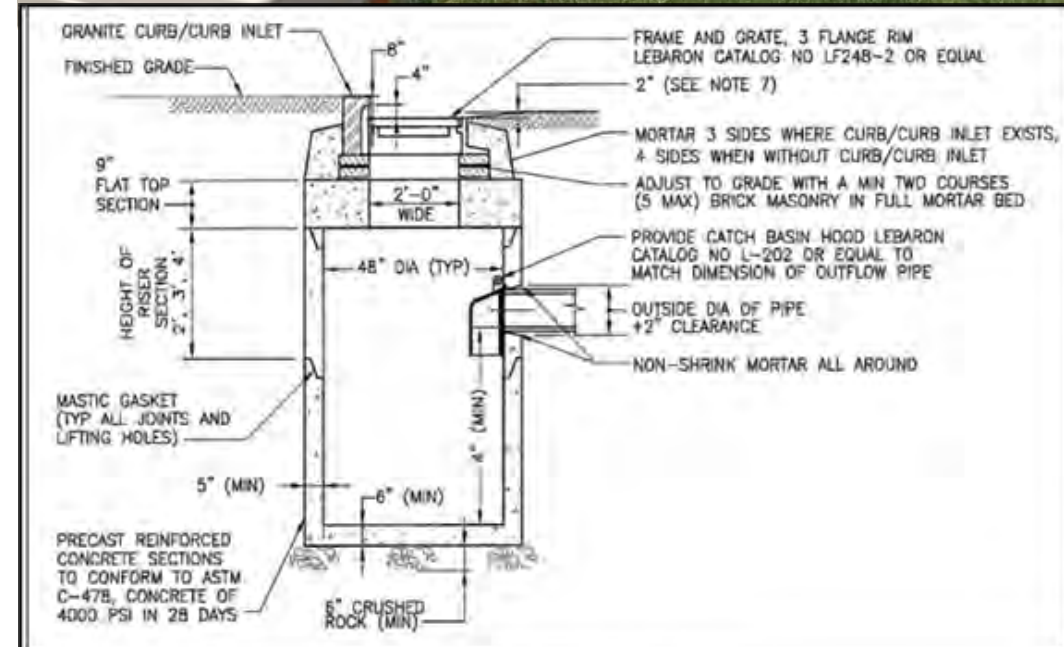




# BMP Implementation

Design, permitting, retrofits, and implementation of structural stormwater BMPs

- Target **treatment of containments of concern** impairing water quality in receiving waters
- BMPs to **remediate stormwater runoff** from paved or unpaved roads, bridges, and parking lots
- **Retrofits** to increase the ability of existing infrastructure to improve or protect water quality, remediate contaminants of concern, and support resiliency over the design life of the structure.
- Required Operation and Maintenance (O&M) plan for implementation projects
- Must be located on municipally owned land, or receive an access easement



adapted from the University of New Hampshire



## Capacity Building

Activities to support implementation of green stormwater infrastructure

- **Promote implementation of green stormwater infrastructure & ensure long-term maintenance and function**
- Development, amendment, or implementation of local stormwater bylaws, ordinances, standards, or other management measures.
- Green infrastructure operations & maintenance trainings for municipal staff
- Guidance documents or case studies of successful projects
- Development of tools or resources that support municipal assessment, planning, design, implementation, and operation and maintenance activities for green stormwater infrastructure.





# Comprehensive Habitat Restoration Planning

Evaluation, identification of restoration alternatives, and creation of a comprehensive plan

- Detail existing conditions and **define and evaluate natural resources and stressors** within a specific project area
- Analyze, assess, and **prioritize ecosystem restoration opportunities** and goals for the project area
- Design aspects of specific restoration and/or protection projects
- Development of a restoration plan with concrete and **feasible short-term and long-term actions** leading to restoration of coastal habitat





# Priority Land Acquisition Planning

Advancing planning and evaluation of potential lands for acquisition

- Open to eligible applicants with a current comprehensive Habitat Restoration Plan completed under previous CHWQ funding
- Advancing planning and evaluation of potential lands for acquisition for the purposes of restoration, buffer protection, and/or future marsh migration
- Planning may include legal analysis, assessment of ownership, prioritization of lands, etc.







Assessment, identification, and characterization of stormwater pollution sources



Design, permitting, implementation, and/or retrofits of structural stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



Capacity-building activities to support implementation of green stormwater infrastructure



Comprehensive habitat restoration planning



Advancement of priority land acquisition planning activities\*

Public Engagement,  
Education, & Outreach

Climate Resiliency

# Logistics

Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grants

**Match:** Optional, but recommended

**Total Available Funding FY25:** ~\$2 million

**Average Individual Project Costs:** \$50,000 - \$850,000

**Project Timelines:** One year OR two year

**RFR Release:** Spring annually

# Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grants Program

Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management



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# Regional Support

## Massachusetts Bays and Buzzards Bay National Estuary Programs

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# Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program (NEP) Grant Program Funding Categories

- Only municipalities are eligible to apply.
- Both grant programs have similar criteria and funding categories, but category scoring may differ.
- Any project that addresses goals of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management plan is eligible for funding
- Both provide additional scoring points that address climate or environmental justice problems.



# Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program (NEP) Grant Program Funding Categories

## Grant categories:

- 1. Stormwater designs and assessments
- 2. Construction of stormwater treatment facilities
- 3. Support for tasks to achieve Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) compliance
- 4. Restoration of wetlands, habitat, and migratory fish passage.
- 5. Construction of a boat pump-out facility
- 6. Creation of, or participation in, online reporting systems for tracking alternative septic systems.
- 7. Projects that mitigate nutrient loading or bacteria pollution.
- 8. Permanent land preservation through direct acquisition or conservation restrictions.
- 9. Other activities in support of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan

Categories 1-7 are priorities (extra points) in the infrastructure grant program