

Incorporating Natural Resource Priorities into Transportation Planning

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Establishing a Community of Practice

Purpose and Function:
Effective Communication

Trust

Collaboration

Strategic Planning

Leverage Resources



MassDOT Current State of Practice

Project Development

Planning phase environmental screening: MaPIT

Scoping phase environmental review for permit reqs & ENV considerations

Strategy focuses on wildlife connectivity at stream crossing replacements



Partnership with Natural Resource Agencies

Streamlined project review

Development best practices and inclusion on MassDOT projects

Incorporate natural resource priorities into transportation planning

Project data sharing and early environmental coordination

Staff Development

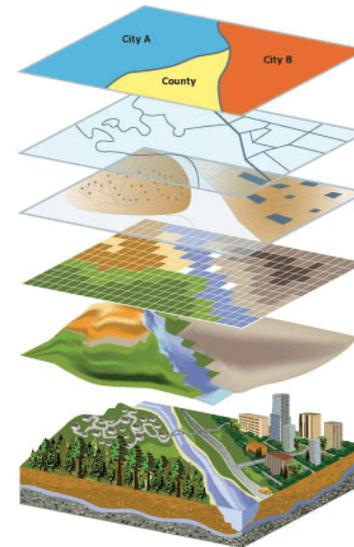
Training program on range of environmental topics, including wildlife connectivity and conservation.

Rivers & Roads Training Program

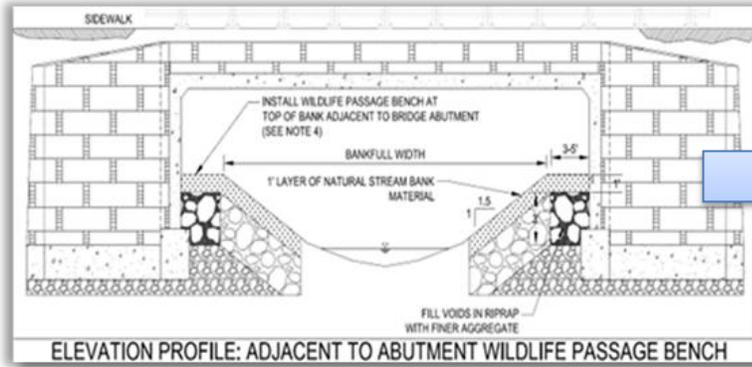


Planning

- Interagency Working Group
 - Identify Priorities
 - Rare Species, Wildlife, Landscape Connectivity
 - Inland Fisheries, Marine Fisheries
- Enhanced Geospatial Data Sharing
- Spatial Analysis and Modeling
 - Conservation/Restoration: Priorities
 - AD List Projects (Focus Pre 25% and 2050)
 - MassDOT Vulnerable Culverts and Bridges
 - MassDOT Culvert Inventory

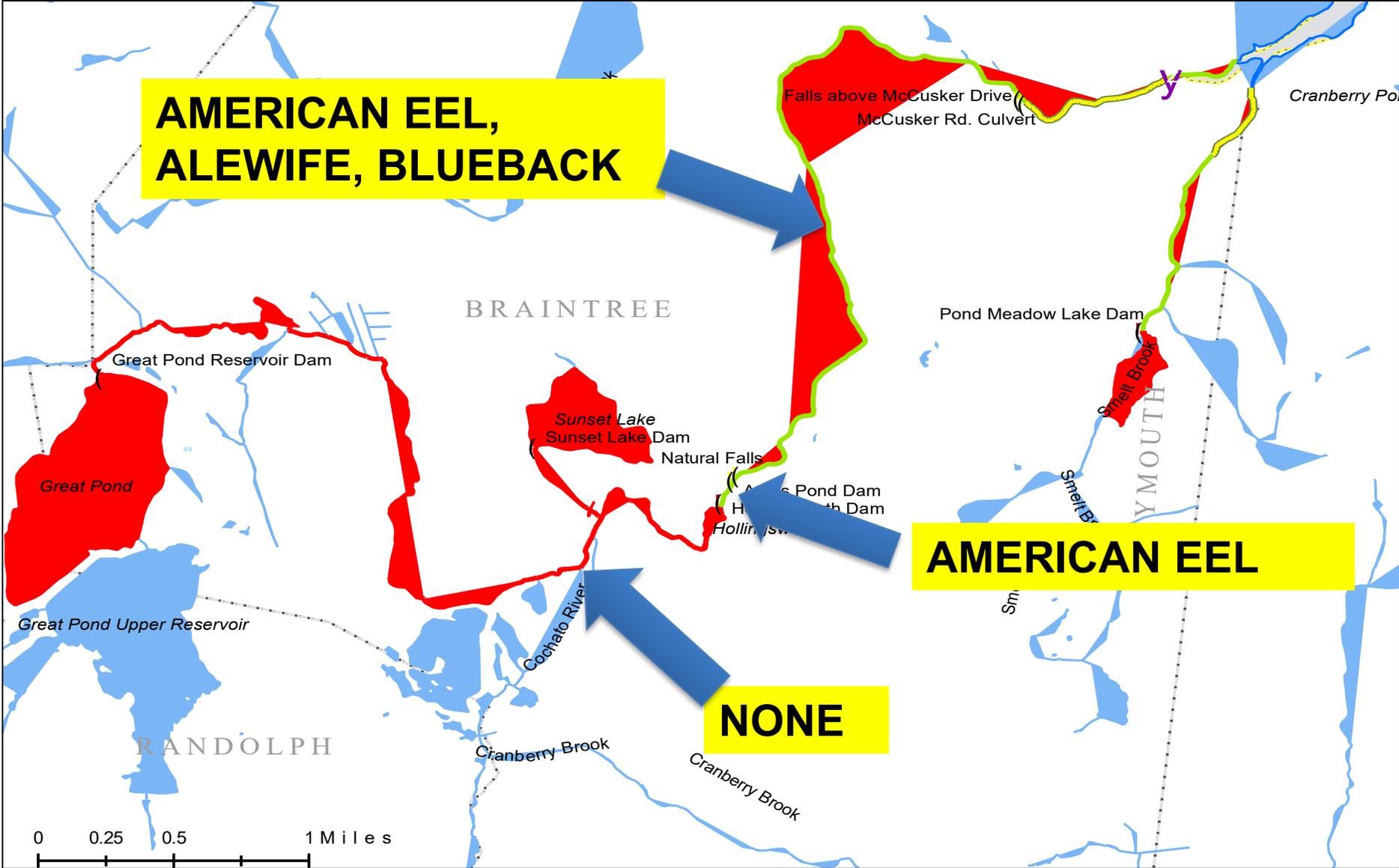


State Transportation and Wildlife Action Plan

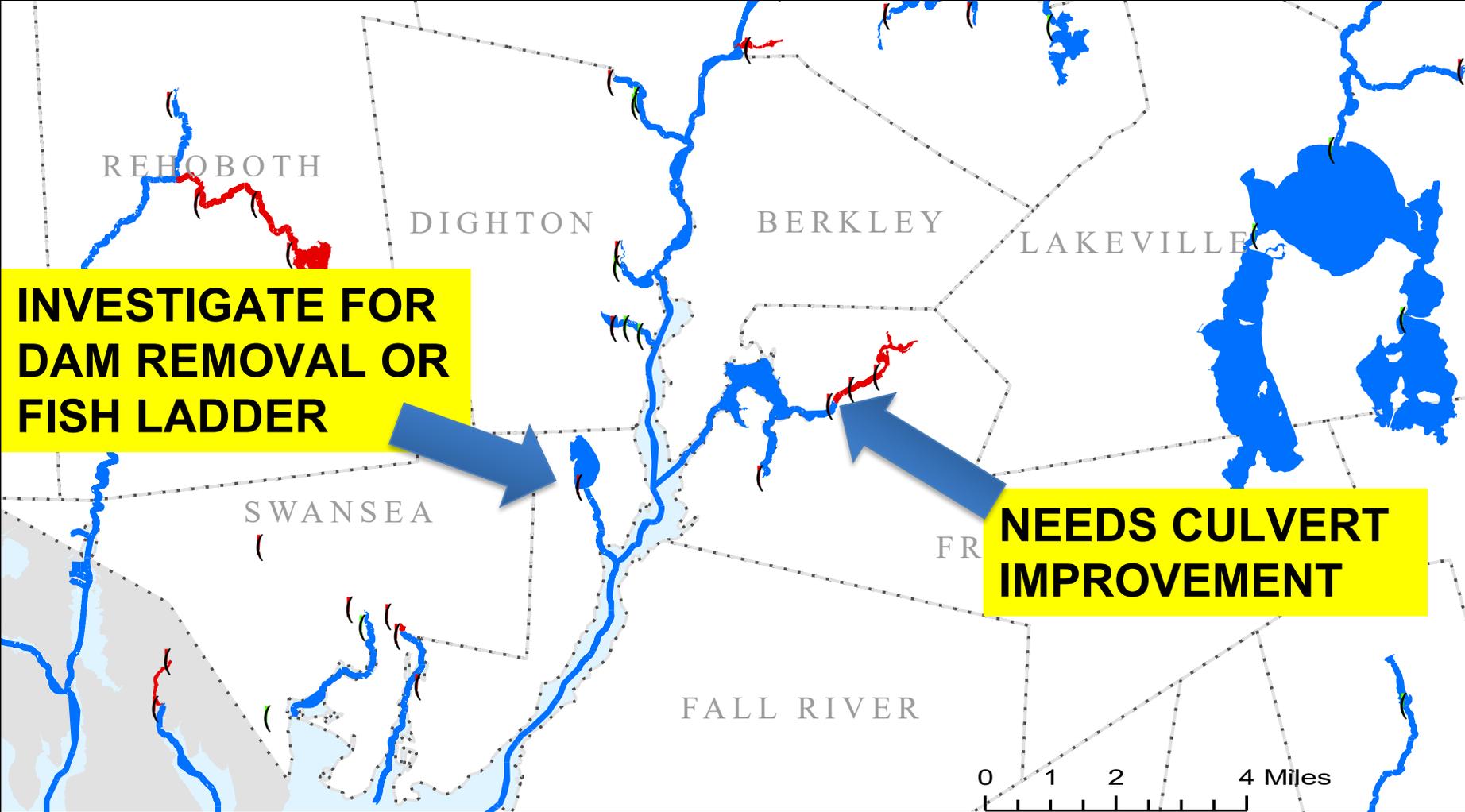


- 1. Formalize Policies and Procedures**
- 2. Actions to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and improve public safety**
- 3. Enhance, protect, and restore habitats impacted by roads;**
- 4. Incorporate conservation priorities into transportation planning; and identify wildlife-transportation research needs.**

Identify diadromous fish communities by waterbody and waterway segments



Make recommendations for diadromous fish passage improvements



Acushnet - Hamlin Street Bridge Replacement Acushnet River



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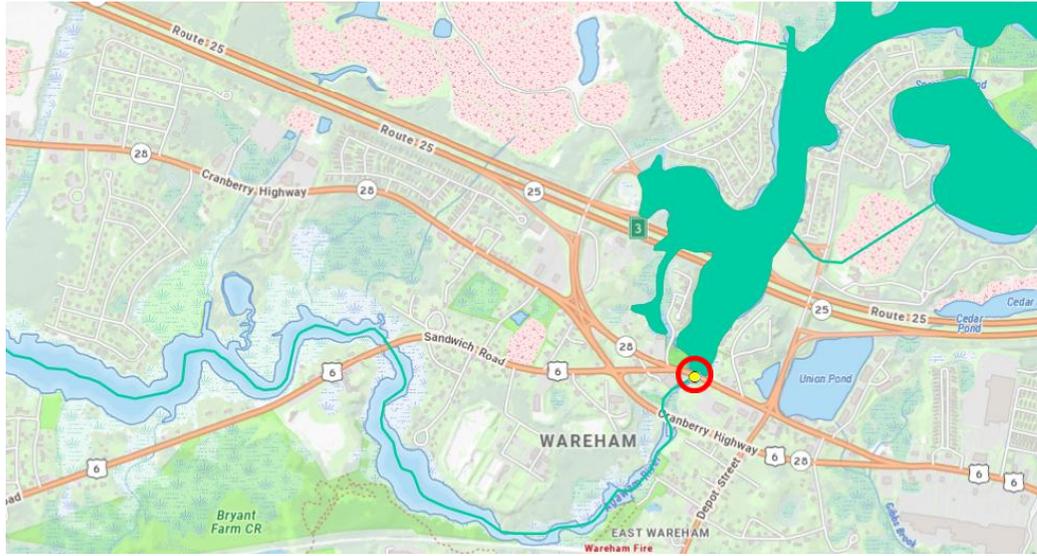
Dennis - Sesuit Creek Culvert Replacements



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Wareham- Mill Pond Dam and Fish Ladder Replacement Agawam River



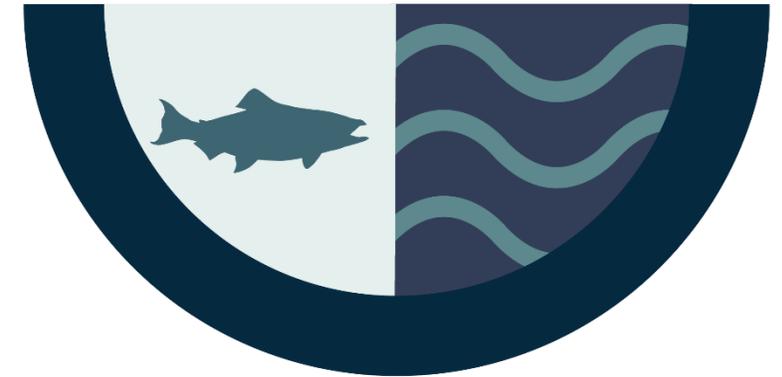
Wareham- Mill Pond Dam and Fish Ladder Replacement Agawam River



National Culvert Removal, Replacement & Restoration Grants (Culvert AOP Program): Opportunity*

- The AOP Program is a competitive grant program that awards grants to eligible entities for projects for the replacement, removal, and repair of culverts or weirs that meaningfully improve or restore fish passage for anadromous fish.
- Eligible Applicants: State, local government, Tribes
- Criteria: Anadromous fish stocks listed as an endangered species or a threatened species, could reasonably become listed as an endangered species or prey for endangered species, threatened species, or protected species or climate resilient stocks

Culvert AOP Program



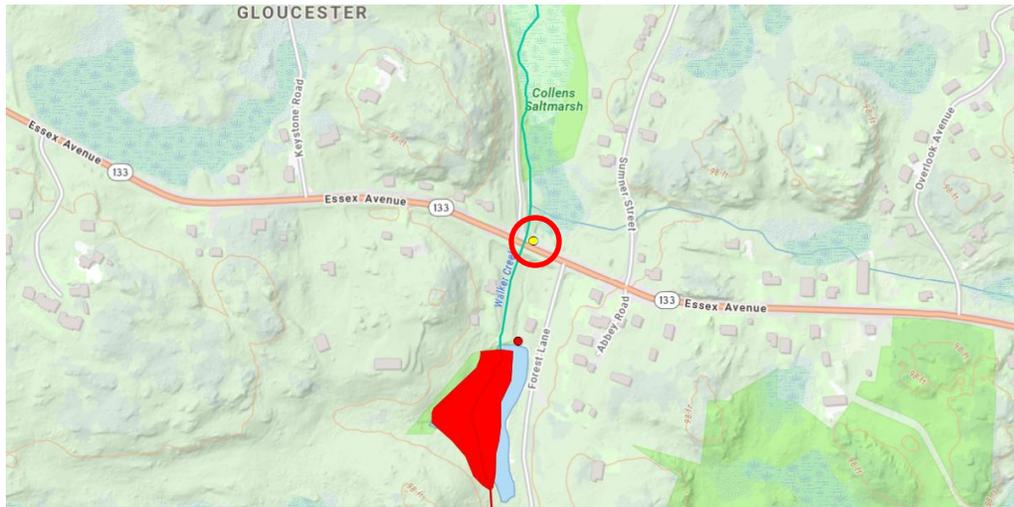
Barnstable Route 6A

- MassDOT Project 613156 Barnstable – Culvert Replacement on Route 6A Over Boat Cove Creek
- Project Approved June 2023, Advertising January 2028
- Enhances 500 meters of upstream migration to Mill Pond



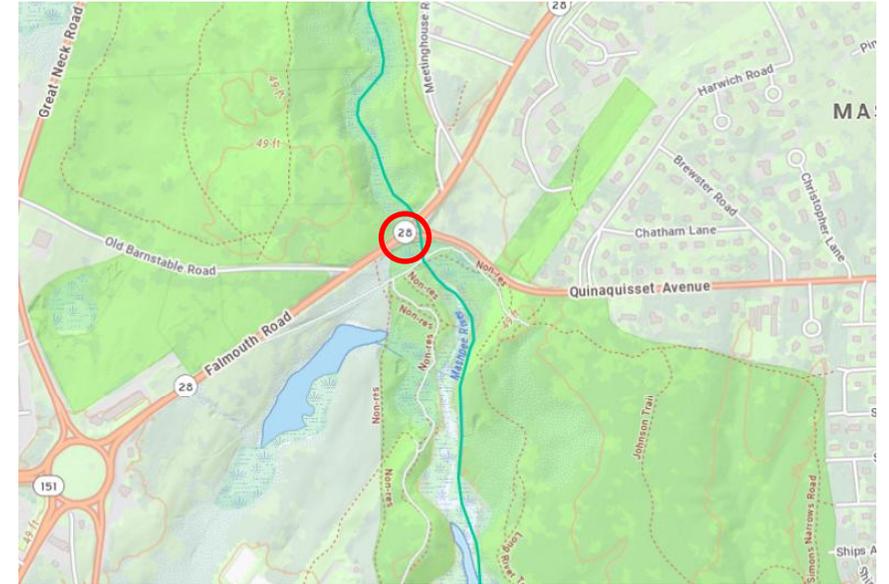
Gloucester Route 133 Walker Creek

- Perched Culvert creating impassable elevation change
- Connects fish ~900 meters of migratory habitat and 50 acres of spawning habitat (Hasken Pond)
- 5' CMP/stone/concrete box culvert
- Age of structure: unknown



Mashpee Route 28 Mashpee River

- MassDOT owned structure, Structurally deficient
- Condition 4, built in 1850, reconstructed 1900
- Considered passable but restricts the river channel
- Identified by the District in need of replace



Thank You

