



Environmental Consulting & Restoration, LLC



REVISED RESTORATION PROPOSAL

TO: Hingham Conservation Commission

FROM: Brad Holmes

DATE: May 6, 2026

RE: 10 Village Lane, Hingham

As a follow-up to our May 9th hearing with the Hingham Conservation Commission, the proposed restoration plan has been revised to restore the wetland and buffer zone at 10 Village Lane in Hingham (the Site) to conditions prior to disturbance. The buffer zone and wetland restoration plan was developed through an analysis of an as-built plan prepared in 2007 and aerial imagery from 2021, both of which document site conditions prior to the unauthorized alterations. These sources were used to establish the historical extent and configuration of the wetland boundary and adjacent upland areas, allowing for the identification of disturbances and encroachments resulting from the unpermitted work. The restoration plan was then designed to reestablish pre-existing conditions, including the restoration of the Bordering Vegetated Wetland (BVW), vegetated buffer zone, and native landscape bed.

The restoration proposal provides an opportunity to diversify the ecology at the site. The wetland restoration area includes wetland meadow habitat to improve biodiversity and create additional wildlife habitat value. Wetland meadows are in significant decline in the southeast region due to the loss of farming and loss of native grasslands. Of interest is an article from MACC regarding the importance of wetland meadow habitats (see attached). A wetland meadow habitat at this site will be a significant improvement for avian species that use the Weir River Riverfront Area.

The buffer zone will be restored following typical spacing to ensure a dense buffer between the wetland and developed portion of the site is established. The native landscape bed will be restored and hand planted with native plants suitable for the upland environment. The plant species and quantity for the planting bed have not been specified, but the applicant will only utilize native plant species.

At this time, there is no wetland replication proposed and this proposal restores the altered wetland in its entirety. In total, 7,180 square feet of BVW, 1,340 square feet of buffer zone, and 990 square feet of landscape bed will be restored at the site.

The methodology for wetland and buffer zone restoration remains as proposed in the past submittal.

ECR proposes the following restoration tasks:

- 1.) Prior to the start of restoration activities, an erosion control line (mulch sock or strawwattle) will be installed along the limit of the restoration area and the adjacent undisturbed vegetated wetland.
- 2.) Remove the existing lawn within the proposed planting area. The intent of removing the lawn is to expose the native topsoil. It does not appear that any fill was placed within the altered BVW as saturated soil conditions and organic topsoil was observed during ECR's field work. If necessary, a light layer of clean loam/compost mix (topdressing) should be spread over the restoration area by hand to supplement the existing soil.
- 3.) Once the restoration area has been prepared, the area will be hand planted with a mix of native



shrubs and saplings. The wetland restoration plan has been designed to provide a diverse wetland habitat by utilizing clusters of shrubs with interplanted saplings to create pockets of wet meadow habitat within the restoration area. The wet meadow pockets will be maintained by an annual mowing event (using a handheld string trimmer) at the end of each growing season to maintain the meadow habitat, which is an important diverse habitat for a variety of wildlife species. The design has also considered the mature Weeping Willows that remain within the area.

The entire wetland restoration area (highlighted by green on the Conservation Plan) will be hand planted with native shrubs. Following DEP guidance for shrub and sapling spacing a total of 83 shrubs and 37 saplings would typically be proposed to revegetate the area. To incorporate pockets of wet meadow, the area will be planted using 50% of the typical quantity – 42 shrubs and 18 saplings are proposed throughout the restoration area. An overseeing wetland scientist will place the plantings prior to installation. The shrubs will be clustered into groups of three to leave small open areas to establish as wet meadow habitat. The saplings will be spaced randomly throughout the restoration area. See the table below for more information.

Table 1 – Proposed Wetland Restoration Plant Palette

Species	SIZE (height)	NUMBER
Red Maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>)	5-6 ft.	6
Swamp Tupelo (<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>)	5-6 ft.	6
Swamp White Oak (<i>Quercus bicolor</i>)	5-6 ft.	6
Inkberry (<i>Ilex glabra</i>)	1.5-2 ft.	10
Sweet Pepperbush (<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>)	1.5-2 ft.	10
Highbush Blueberry (<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>)	1.5-2 ft.	10
Red Chokeberry (<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>)	1.5-2 ft.	12
Total		18 saplings 42 shrubs

All plantings to be spaced at the direction of an overseeing botanist/wetland scientist. Upon completion of planting, only the root zones of the plants will be mulched with a 1 to 2-inch-thick layer of leaf litter or other natural organic mulch. The intent is to only mulch the root zones of the plants, not the entire restoration area.

- 4.) Following the installation of all the proposed plantings, the exposed soils will be stabilized with a native seed mix to establish an herbaceous layer and the wet meadow habitat. The seed mix has been specified on the attached Restoration Plan.
- 5.) The buffer zone restoration area will be hand planted with a mix of native shrubs and saplings following typical plant spacing as recommended by MA DEP (8-10 ft. on center for shrubs and 12-15 feet on center for saplings). In order to restore the 1,340 square foot buffer zone, a total of 16 shrubs and 7 saplings will be planted. See the table below for more information.



Table – Proposed Buffer Zone Restoration Plant Palette

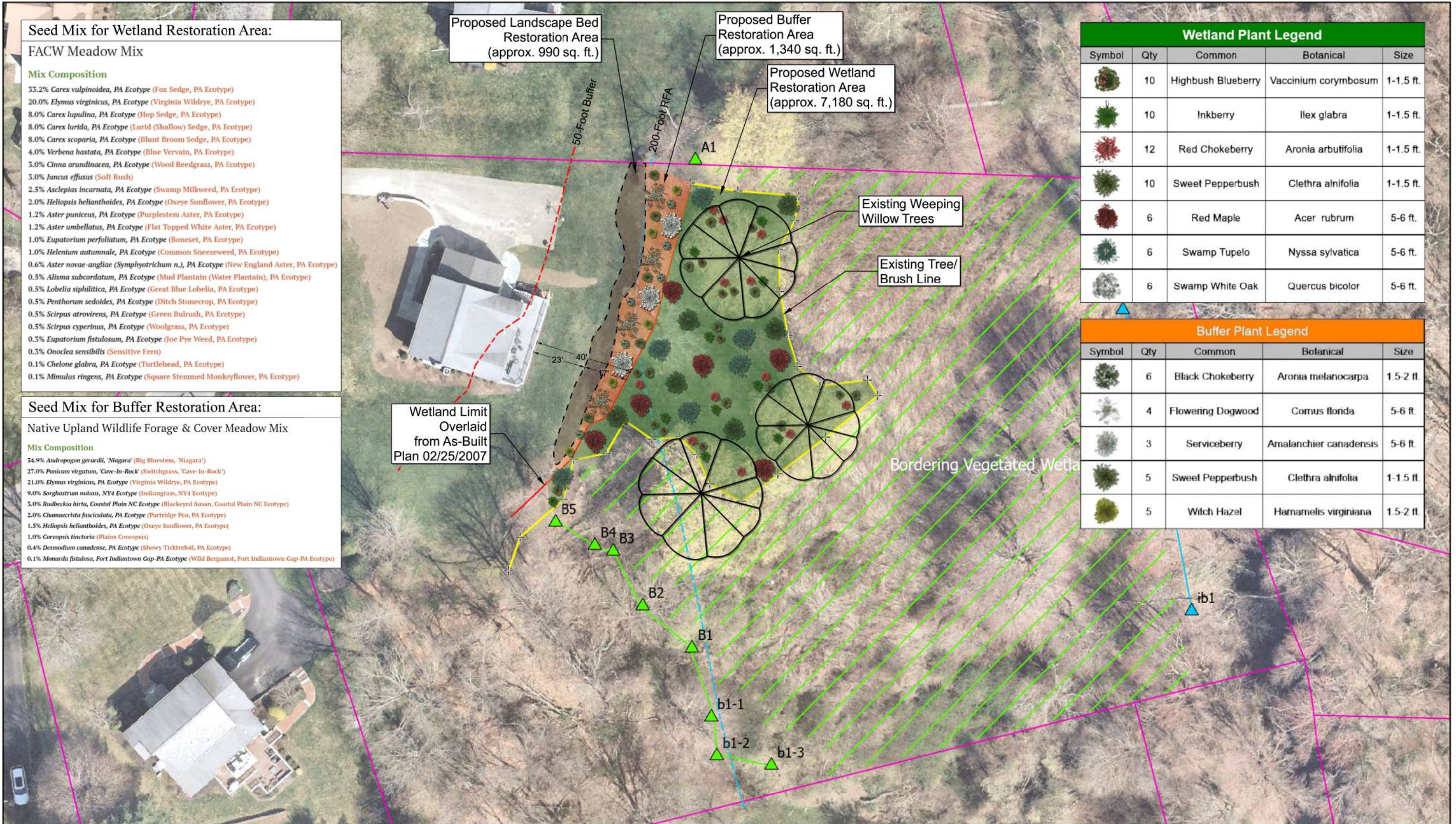
Species	SIZE (height)	NUMBER
Black Chokeberry (<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>)	1.5-2 ft.	6
Sweet Pepperbush (<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>)	1.5-2 ft.	5
Witch Hazel (<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>)	1.5-2 ft.	5
Flowering Dogwood (<i>Cornus florida</i>)	5-6 ft.	4
Serviceberry (<i>Amalanchier canadensis</i>)	5-6 ft.	3
Total		7 saplings 16 shrubs

At the completion of the restoration & replication work, a report with photographs will be prepared by the overseeing specialist and submitted to the Conservation Commission documenting the compliance with the approved restoration plan.

- 6.) Following the installation of all the proposed plantings, the exposed soils in the buffer zone will be stabilized with a native seed mix to establish an herbaceous layer. The seed mix has been specified on the attached Restoration Plan.
- 7.) The mulch bed will be restored utilizing native plant species and natural wood mulch/wood chips.

The restoration area will be monitored for two full growing seasons following the completion of work. Monitoring should include two site inspections each year, the first should be early in the growing season (mid April) in order to determine if any plantings need to be replaced, determine if overseeding is required, and to inspect/remove any new growth of non-native invasives. The second inspection should be completed near the end of the growing season (October) to document the success of the restoration replication efforts. During the inspections, the botanist will hand pull and place into trash bags for disposal any non-native invasive plant growth found in the restoration area, if any. A report will be prepared and submitted to the Conservation Commission following the inspection at the end of the

We look forward to presenting this proposal to the Commission. If there are questions or requests for additional information, please contact us at (617) 529 – 3792 or brad@ecrwetlands.com.



Seed Mix for Wetland Restoration Area:

FACW Meadow Mix

Mix Composition

33.2%	Carex vulpinoidea, PA Ecotype (Fox Sedge, PA Ecotype)
20.0%	Elymus virginicus, PA Ecotype (Virginia Wildrye, PA Ecotype)
8.0%	Carex lupulina, PA Ecotype (Hop Sedge, PA Ecotype)
8.0%	Carex lurida, PA Ecotype (Lurid (Shallow) Sedge, PA Ecotype)
8.0%	Carex scoparia, PA Ecotype (Blunt Broom Sedge, PA Ecotype)
4.0%	Verbena hastata, PA Ecotype (Blue Vervain, PA Ecotype)
3.0%	Cinna arundinacea, PA Ecotype (Wood Reedgrass, PA Ecotype)
3.0%	Juncus effusus (Soft Rush)
2.5%	Asclepias incarnata, PA Ecotype (Swamp Milkweed, PA Ecotype)
2.0%	Helianthus helianthoides, PA Ecotype (Oxeye Sunflower, PA Ecotype)
1.2%	Aster puniceus, PA Ecotype (Purplestem Aster, PA Ecotype)
1.2%	Aster umbellatus, PA Ecotype (Flat Topped White Aster, PA Ecotype)
1.0%	Eupatorium perfoliatum, PA Ecotype (Boneset, PA Ecotype)
1.0%	Helenium autumnale, PA Ecotype (Common Sneezeweed, PA Ecotype)
0.6%	Aster novae-angliae (Symphyotrichum n.), PA Ecotype (New England Aster, PA Ecotype)
0.5%	Alisma subcordatum, PA Ecotype (Mud Plantain (Water Plantain), PA Ecotype)
0.5%	Lobelia siphilitica, PA Ecotype (Great Blue Lobelia, PA Ecotype)
0.5%	Penthorum sedoides, PA Ecotype (Ditch Stonecrop, PA Ecotype)
0.5%	Scirpus atrovirens, PA Ecotype (Green Bulrush, PA Ecotype)
0.5%	Scirpus cyperinus, PA Ecotype (Woolgrass, PA Ecotype)
0.3%	Eupatorium fistulosum, PA Ecotype (Joe Pye Weed, PA Ecotype)
0.3%	Onoclea sensibilis (Sensitive Fern)
0.1%	Chelone glabra, PA Ecotype (Turtlehead, PA Ecotype)
0.1%	Mimulus ringens, PA Ecotype (Square Stemmed Monkeyflower, PA Ecotype)

Seed Mix for Buffer Restoration Area:

Native Upland Wildlife Forage & Cover Meadow Mix

Mix Composition

34.9%	Andropogon gerardii, 'Niagara' (Big Bluestem, 'Niagara')
27.0%	Panicum virgatum, 'Cave-In-Rock' (Switchgrass, 'Cave-In-Rock')
21.0%	Elymus virginicus, PA Ecotype (Virginia Wildrye, PA Ecotype)
9.0%	Sorghastrum nutans, NY4 Ecotype (Indiangrass, NY4 Ecotype)
3.0%	Rudbeckia hirta, Coastal Plain NC Ecotype (Blackeyed Susan, Coastal Plain NC Ecotype)
2.0%	Chamaecrista fasciculata, PA Ecotype (Partridge Pea, PA Ecotype)
1.5%	Helianthus helianthoides, PA Ecotype (Oxeye Sunflower, PA Ecotype)
1.0%	Coreopsis tinctoria (Plains Coreopsis)
0.4%	Desmodium canadense, PA Ecotype (Showy Ticktrefoil, PA Ecotype)
0.1%	Monarda fistulosa, Fort Indiantown Gap-PA Ecotype (Wild Bergamot, Fort Indiantown Gap-PA Ecotype)

Wetland Plant Legend				
Symbol	Qty	Common	Botanical	Size
	10	Highbush Blueberry	Vaccinium corymbosum	1-1.5 ft.
	10	Inkberry	Ilex glabra	1-1.5 ft.
	12	Red Chokeberry	Aronia arbutifolia	1-1.5 ft.
	10	Sweet Pepperbush	Clethra alnifolia	1-1.5 ft.
	6	Red Maple	Acer rubrum	5-6 ft.
	6	Swamp Tupelo	Nyssa sylvatica	5-6 ft.
	6	Swamp White Oak	Quercus bicolor	5-6 ft.

Buffer Plant Legend				
Symbol	Qty	Common	Botanical	Size
	6	Black Chokeberry	Aronia melanocarpa	1.5-2 ft.
	4	Flowering Dogwood	Cornus florida	5-6 ft.
	3	Serviceberry	Amelanchier canadensis	5-6 ft.
	5	Sweet Pepperbush	Clethra alnifolia	1-1.5 ft.
	5	Witch Hazel	Hamamelis virginiana	1.5-2 ft.

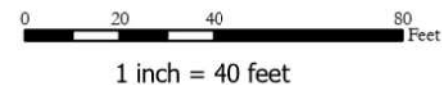


Conservation Plan

10 Village Lane, Hingham, MA

Sheet 1 of 1: Proposed Restoration

Prepared By: C. Larson



Date: May 6, 2026

Environmental Consulting & Restoration, LLC

Notes:
1.) Wetland delineation and GPS survey completed by ECR, LLC on 6/12/25 and 8/26/25.
2.) Aerial Image Source: NearMap - April 10, 2025
3.) Parcel Boundary Source: MassGIS Data