INLAND WETLANDS and WATERCOURSES COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT, FY 2006-2007

The Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission (IWWC) was established by the Town of Old Saybrook in 1973, and is responsible for regulating activities located within one hundred feet of inland wetlands or watercourses. In addition, the Commission may consider activities in adjacent areas beyond the one hundred foot regulated area when such activity could impact existing inland wetlands or watercourses. This authority is provided in the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of Old Saybrook pursuant to the applicable portions of Section 22a of the Connecticut General Statutes. The IWWC does not regulate activities within or adjacent to tidal wetlands, the Connecticut River or Long Island Sound.

The Commission is comprised of seven regular members and three alternate members. Three of the regular members and the three alternate members are appointed to two year terms on the Commission by the Town's Board of Selectmen. The remaining four Commissioners consist of one representative each from the Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, Conservation Commission and Economic Development Commission; and are appointed by their respective Commissions. IWWC meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 P.M. at Saybrook Point Pavilion.

The Inland Wetlands Commissioners have attended site walks, special meetings and workshops in addition to the twelve regularly scheduled meetings for the 2006-2007 fiscal year. Twenty applications were processed, including six applications that were deemed significant and required a public hearing. The Commission also considered and approved two changes in the regulations for consistency with state regulations, conducted three informal discussions with property owners, reviewed a project referral from an adjacent community, acted on four requests for permit extensions or bond releases, and administered three significant violations of the Town's wetland regulations.

A number of the Commissioners have attended state and regionally sponsored workshops, seminars, DEP training and presentations that focused on the technical, regulatory and administrative aspects of the Commission's work. Their interest and commitment to serve the Town by active participation on this Commission is exemplary, and is appreciated.

Paul Smith IWWC Chairman