

Herring River Restoration Committee
19 November 2008

Members present: Gary Joseph, Charleen Greenhalgh, Carrie Phillips, Steve Block, Eric Derleth, Mark Adams, Tim Smith, Steve Spear, Hillary Greenberg

I. Woods Hole Group Hydrodynamic modeling presentation

Sub-embayments, hypsometry- elevation relative to acres can be used as an estimate of wetting and drying on the floodplain, gauge locations, existing data-tidal constituents for old saw leg, dog leg, high toss, bound brook, old county, and, atmospheric conditions – wind speed & rainfall, culverts & structures, circular pipe culvert flow, Sluice gate / flap gate flow calculations, were all reviewed in the model development. The model was then calibrated and validated (model error bias were detailed) and compared to three existing conditions such as a normal tidal condition, storm scenarios- 1 year storm surge =7.89' and 100 year storm surge =10.11', and sea level rise-data from Boston, MA by NOAA =2.63 +/- 0.18 mm/year.

Alternative simulations consist of runs involving removal of all anthropogenic features (fully open) and optimization of the dike opening at 10 and 20 meters. 20 meters is not as dynamic as fully open however a lot could be accomplished at this width. There are many evaluation factors to consider. Data is available in table form to compare locations with normal tides, 10 & 20 meter openings, and a fully open river, one would then review the data with the timed series. 9 feet tidal range will never return to the upper portions of the river, even with the river fully open. This could be due to subsidence and ponding that has occurred over time. Shoaling, spoil piles, and sediment movement will need to be considered in the near future. The Herring River is quite dynamic as it has not been wet in so long.

WHG's next steps include a model development report that focuses on the presentation given today. A technical summary of current alternative results is also forthcoming within a few weeks time. This will include key evaluation criteria and recommendations. HRRC must come up with one additional model run under the current contract. These additional alternative simulations could include salinity, rainfall, and fecal coliform, as well as different opening scenarios.

Two additional pieces of data WHG would need for a sediment transport model would include bathymetry of the gut and grain sizes of sediment. Steve Smith (NPS) will supply WHG with elevation of salt marsh downstream of the dike.

The modeling committee will meet to decide on the next run

II. Low Lying Properties

A. CYCC Discussion

Smith gave an overview of interactions with CYCC to date. Derleth suggested taking the following three options: 1. do nothing / protection for mill creek, 2. fill low lands, or 3. relocate the course to the uplands and fully analyze them all. These components

could then slide into the alternative analysis for the EIR/EIS compliance document. A comparison chart could be formed and shared with CYCC. Meetings could then take place with club members to discuss all approaches and costs associated. This document will also be a common document for all HRRC and CYCC members to use and refer to. More information is needed on the do nothing alternative. Barbara Boone feels there has been a collapse in communication with the HRRC although she has met regularly with Derleth, Smith and McGowen. Rex Peterson was asked if the Town could use a portion of 1.2 million allocated at a previous town meeting for conservation restrictions. Peterson said we would have to borrow the money and he is not sure if the HRRC would need to craft a new article or extend the time period of the current article because the money was left over from the Land Bank and we now operate under the Community Preservation Committee. He is also not sure if the money from the CPC could be used to purchase a conservation restriction. Dennis O'Connell felt we would need to go back before Town Meeting to change any factors involved in the previous article. O'Connell did not feel the town was bound by the yellow book appraisal numbers. HRRC will form a subcommittee to review the 1.2 million and the matrix of options. A member of the Town of Wellfleet should be on this subcommittee this will include Rex Peterson, Dennis O'Connell, or Jan Plauie. Boone asked some procedural questions relative to NEPA/ MEPA. The subcommittee must begin working promptly. Members include Smith, Derleth, Town of Wellfleet representative, Barbara Boone, Jack Whalen, and maybe an additional member of CYCC, and Dave McGowen of The Nature Conservancy.

III. Friends of Herring River

Palladino would like links to popular information for the newsletter. He will feature the HRRC in the next letter. Friends of the National Seashore provided a grant for the web site for the Friends of the Herring River. The friends group could get involved in some lobbying.

IV. Army Corp

Smith has not made any advances. Smith talked with Larry Oliver to discuss East Harbor in Truro. Oliver would have to charge \$500.00 to come down and meet with members of Truro's community. There is \$127,000.00 in unspent money from East Harbor that could be transferred to Herring River. The Army Corp would expand their current scope to include Herring River. In order to start the feasibility study we must have \$300000.00 in an account. Joseph will work on a draft letter for Corp involvement.

V. Comment Coding Discussion with LBG

Craig Wood and Jeff Goodearis present on speaker phone. Jeff gave an overview of coding process. All correspondence goes into PEPC data base. Then comments are pursued out of correspondence. Coding structure is developed in two ways: 1. codes already exist within the NPS 2. Specific codes relative to project that do not exist within the national code system. Comments are then rated substantive vs nonsubstantive. Once comments are all coded they then get into concern statements and list concerns and who is concerned. The comment analysis report draft delivery

date is December 12, 2008. 32 written correspondences were received that will include many comments. Each correspondence could have multiple comments. Phillips will contact Wood regarding fixed costs for coding because we have significantly less comments than LBG had planned on.

VI. Certificate of the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs on the Environmental Notification Form

Reviewed letter dated 7 November 2008. CCC was left out of the TWG. HRRC recommends that TWG assemble and review the proposed matrix for CYCC. The model will be of assistance for rare and threatened species movement. The TOY restriction established by DMF seems unreasonable; HRRC will broach this topic within the TWG.

VII. USDA Funding

Discussion ensued on hiring a project manager to facilitate development of the EIS / EIR with the USDA funding. HRRC will come up with a list of associated tasks and needs. The project manager will manage the issues not do the technical work. Mark Robinson provided a list of names of capable individuals who may be able to assume this role. Spear will work on a job description for the project manager.

VIII. Approval of 22 October 2008 minutes with corrections

IX. Next Meeting

17 December 2008 at 12:00pm at CCNS Headquarters