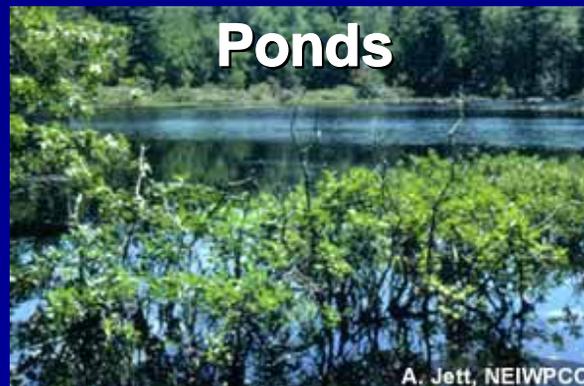
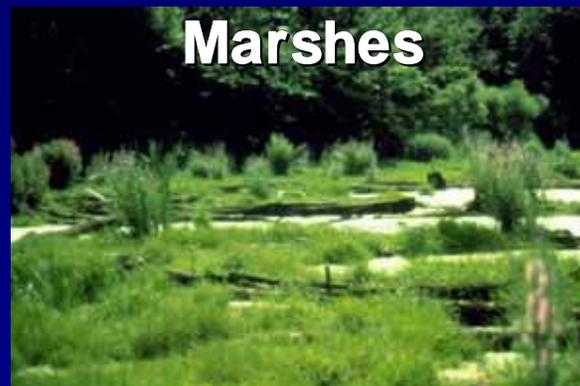
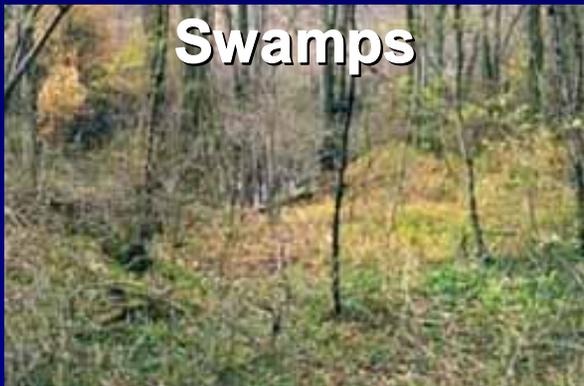


DEM
Water Quality/Wetland
Restoration Team

Land and Water Conservation Summit
2012

Regulated Wetlands



Also: Forested & shrub wetlands, emergent & submergent plant communities, special aquatic sites, intermittent streams, ASF, ASSF, flood plains, floodways, riverbanks, perimeter wetland

Invasive Plants in RI Wetlands

Glossy Buckthorn



Multiflora Rose



Japanese Barberry



Common Reed



Purple Loosestrife



Oriental Bittersweet



Japanese Knotweed



Reed Canary Grass



Newman Farm Grassland & Riparian Restoration



Aug 2006

Smithfield DPW

Stormwater drainage & perimeter wetland restoration



Spring 2002



Spring 2008

Pawtuxet River Dam Removal



Photo by T. Ardito

Types of authorizations

- Automatic – Exempt
- Request for Regulatory Applicability
- Presence of Wetlands
- Edge Verification
- Preliminary Determination
- Formal Application
- Modification



DEM Water Quality & Wetland Restoration Team

- Creates partnerships between project proponents and regulators
- Helps ensure that projects are successful and meet grant requirements
- Help with the permitting process



Work of the Restoration Team

- One hundred meetings
- Assisted on a total of 57 projects
- Project reviewer assigned immediately
- Field meetings as part of pre-app assistance
- Improved projects
- Approved in less time



Types of Projects Reviewed

- Invasive Management 22
- River Restoration 17
- Stormwater 15
- Wetland Restoration 3



What we've learned

- Project proponents value interacting with DEM staff early on in the process
- Detailed requirements should be specified
- Restoration projects can be challenging and costly
- Modified regulations
- Lower permit preparation costs, quicker permits desired by partners
- Assistance needed on defining projects



**Stormwater - Wet Vegetated
Treatment System - WVTS
Horsley Witten Group, Inc**

DEM Water Quality & Wetland Restoration Team



*To learn more about the team,
or if you are planning a
restoration project, contact:*

Lisa McGreavy

Lisa.McGreavy@dem.ri.gov

(401) 222.4700, Ext. 7611

Plan Ahead

Fact sheet available @ www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/water/wetlands/pdfs/wqwrteam.pdf

Restoration Kit

- Wetland Restoration Resources
- Potential Sources of Restoration Funding or Technical Assistance
- Site Evaluation Worksheet
- Restoration Assessment Worksheet
- Permitting Requirements if Any
 - Application Types
 - The Process (evolving!)
 - What's the Scoop on Wetlands?
- Soil Erosion Controls/BMPs
- Wetland Buffer Plantings
- Invasive Plants in Wetlands



Handouts

"Wetland BMP Manual" *Techniques for Avoidance and Minimization*

"How do I know what DEM wants?"
"How do I know if I will get a permit?"

The **Wetland BMP Manual** is a compilation of text, tips, and examples intended to help answer these questions.

Using the guidelines in this manual can help applicants and consultants:

- prepare more complete applications,
- adequately avoid and minimize, and
- receive speedier decisions from DEM.



The **Wetland BMP Manual** contains project-specific examples and details of acceptable and permitted wetland-friendly designs and practices for many project types, including:

Single-Family House Lots
Subdivisions
Commercial and Industrial Projects
Golf Courses
Paths and Trails
Roads and Bridges
Utilities

View the **Wetland BMP Manual** on the web at: www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/water/permits/fresh/pdfs/wetbmp.pdf



NEIWPC
New England Inland Waters Program Council



FRESHWATER WETLAND RESTORATION KIT *for Landowners*

Restoring wetlands or wetland buffers on your property can help to create wildlife habitat, enhance recreational opportunities, help to reduce flooding, and potentially increase the value of your land.

Examples of restoration project types include: trash removal, re-planting wetland or buffer vegetation, invasive species control, enhancing surface water flow, removing fill, and more.



This restoration kit contains several documents designed to help you through the process of restoring a wetland or wetland buffer, such as:

How Do I Restore My Wetland?
Sources of Funding or Assistance
Site Evaluation and Assessment
Restoration Permitting

View the **Freshwater Wetland Restoration Kit for Landowners** on the web at: <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/water/wetlands/restkit.htm>



NEIWPC
New England Inland Waters Program Council



Where team is headed

- Streamlining permitting process
- Improve customer service
- Include lake management projects
- Include “beneficial projects” such as
 - Trails; canoe launches, others
- More restoration exemptions
- General permits?
- Restoration Chapter in Rules
 - Build on other states’ lessons
- Improve, standardize monitoring; short and long term

Rhode Island Freshwater Lakes and Ponds:
Aquatic Invasive Plants and Water Quality Concerns

A Report to the Governor and Rhode Island General Assembly



February 2012



State of Rhode Island
Department of Environmental Management

Questions?

What would you like the
WQ/Wetland Restoration
Team to do or change?

Photos and images courtesy of:

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