



Buzzards Bay
National Estuary Program

November 4, 2008

To: Municipal Boards of Selectmen, Conservation Commissions, and Mayor of New Bedford
Re: Request for review and comments on draft Buzzards Bay Watershed Regional Open Space Plan

Dear Municipal Official:

As growth pressures in the Buzzards Bay watershed place greater stress upon our natural resources it becomes increasingly important for communities to have a regional focus when it comes to land protection. In an effort to preserve biodiversity in the watershed, the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program has produced the enclosed draft document titled Buzzards Bay Watershed Regional Open Space Plan. This plan is being created to encourage municipalities and land conservation organizations to work cooperatively toward land acquisition and protection goals on a regional scale and to help leverage funding and resources for open space protection.

At this time we are kindly requesting your assistance with the review of this draft plan. Specifically, we would appreciate comments that address the following sections:

- Do you agree with the General Recommendations for Regional Land Protection found on page 15?
- Do you feel the Regional Plan of Action (page 23) meets the needs of your community and the region as a whole? If not, do you have any suggestions for additions or changes?
- Do the resource areas identified for protection in the Recommended Priority Protection Areas for Municipalities section (page 25) accurately reflect your community? Are there any specific areas you suggest we add or change?

We thank you in advance for your time and effort and request that any you submit comments to us no later than December 29, 2008. You may provide comments to me by email at sarah.williams@state.ma.us or at the address or phone below: You can also view the plan and provide us feedback online at this webpage: www.buzzardsbay.org/open-space.htm.

Sincerely,

Sarah Williams
(508) 291-3625 ext 13

