

Drift Road Stormwater Mitigation Project Proposal

Description of environmental impairment

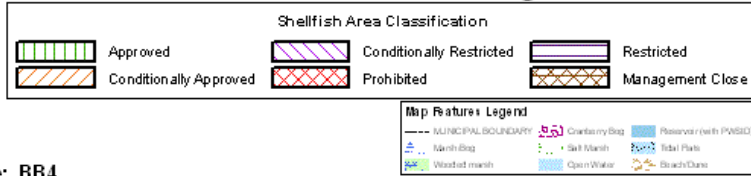
The area of mitigation is Drift Road south of Hix Bridge, in the area of Sam Tripp Brook. Stormwater runoff from the road south of the Brook is directed from a stormwater catch basin at the top of an incline into a cement slough that runs along the side of the road directly into the Westport River side of Sam Tripp Brook. The storm water drain collects water from runoff from Drift Road, and the slough effectively directs and concentrates the flow of storm water from the drain and moves it at a high velocity into the Brook. There is no opportunity for natural absorption, filtration, or redirection of this stormwater, and as a result, pollutants that are contributed and accumulate from the area above the Brook enter the waterway unmitigated.

Presently, the culvert that runs under the road through which Sam Tripp Brook flows is collapsing, as is the embankment above the culvert. As a result, the shoulder of the road on either side of the culvert has begun to erode and collapse, creating a hazardous situation for travelers. This degradation is largely due to the major storm in 2010, as significant amounts of swift-moving stormwater ran from the road into the Brook, wearing away soil, vegetation, and pavement. Through the years, subsequent stormwater events have further added to the erosion of the area, creating the conditions that exist today.

According to a 2010 Biological Survey of Waters conducted by the MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Sam Tripp Brook has been found to support populations of American Eel (*Anguilla rostrata*) and Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*), and quite possibly Salter (Sea Run) Brook Trout.

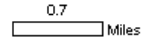
The area of the Westport River adjacent to the mouth of Sam Tripp Brook is a habitat not only for shellfish (soft-shell clams, quahogs) and finfish, but it is also subject to high recreational use, including kayaking, canoeing, and power boating. The MA Department of Marine Fisheries has classified the area as "Conditionally Approved" for shellfishing. Directly off the marsh into which Sam Tripp Brook feeds are documented areas containing shellfish beds.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries - Designated Shellfish Growing Area



Produced: July 28, 2009

Growing Area Code: BB4
 Area Name: EAST BRANCH WESTPORT RIVER
 Area Town(s): Westport



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Sam Tripp Brook
41°33.762'N
71°4.603'W

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Imagery Date: 4/30/2010 1995

41° 33.783' N 71° 4.591' W elev 7m

Eye alt 391 m

