Municipal officials, friends, and colleagues:

It is my pleasure to provide you with the "Selected Inventory of Potential Wetland Restoration Sites in the Buzzards Bay Watershed – Phase I: Southern Area." This document, prepared by the Buzzards Bay Project National Estuary Program, identifies fresh and saltwater wetlands that have been filled due to construction and agricultural-related activities on public lands, private conservation areas, and abandoned cranberry bogs. The Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management provided funding for this project.

This Atlas documents 75 potential restoration sites comprising 124 acres in the southern portion of the Buzzards Bay Watershed. It includes the towns of Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Fall River, Freetown, New Bedford, and Westport. This information is intended to help municipal officials, state agencies, and non-governmental organizations seeking to identify potential restoration projects or to identify sites to meet wetland mitigation requirements.

During the next year the Buzzards Bay Project will be working to complete the second phase of this project. The "Selected Inventory of Potential Wetland Restoration Sites in the Buzzards Bay Watershed – Phase II: Northern and Eastern Areas" will include the towns of Bourne, Carver, Falmouth, Mattapoisett, Marion, Middleborough, Plymouth, Rochester, and Wareham.

Additional copies of this reports can be downloaded in PDF format from our website, www.BuzzardsBay.org.

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Joseph E. Costa, PhD