



Canoe River Project Cluster

What is this project?

The Canoe River Project Cluster includes upgrades to six culverts, repairs to a dam, and restoration of a wetland area around the Canoe River in Mansfield and Foxborough, MA. The culverts appear to be undersized and would benefit from replacement to address flooding concerns, improve water flow, and support aquatic habitat. Additionally, because stormwater discharged from these culverts is not treated, replacement will also incorporate features to help remove pollutants from runoff and improve water quality. The dam, which has been identified as a vulnerable structure, should be monitored and repaired to ensure its viability. Enhancing the wetland area in this Project Cluster will support the infiltration of runoff from storm events and store flood waters. Finally, the surface drainage areas in this Project Cluster should be assessed to determine if nature based solutions, such as rain gardens, could improve the treatment of stormwater runoff and reduce flooding events in the neighborhoods.

Why is this project important for the environment and for Foxborough and Mansfield?

- **Restoration of habitat.** Restoring how water naturally circulates through the Canoe River will help improve natural water flows and consequently water quality and habitats for a variety of aquatic species and wildlife.
- **Ecological benefits to the region.** Waterbodies and wetlands are interconnected. Restoration would help not only the Canoe River, but also other interconnected waters with critical habitats.
- **Improved flood storage.** Restoring how water naturally circulates in the Canoe River will protect the community from flooding by enabling watercourses and surrounding wetlands to absorb more stormwater runoff during storm events.
- **Protection against drought.** Restoring how water naturally circulates through the Canoe River, in addition to restoring the natural drainage abilities of surrounding wetlands, will improve the ability of the floodplain to capture stormwater and store more groundwater, helping protect the region against future droughts when rainfall is low.

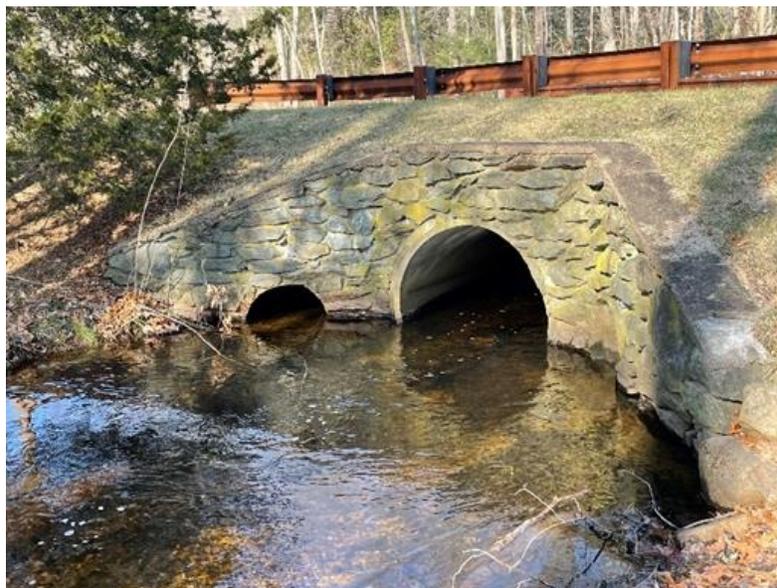
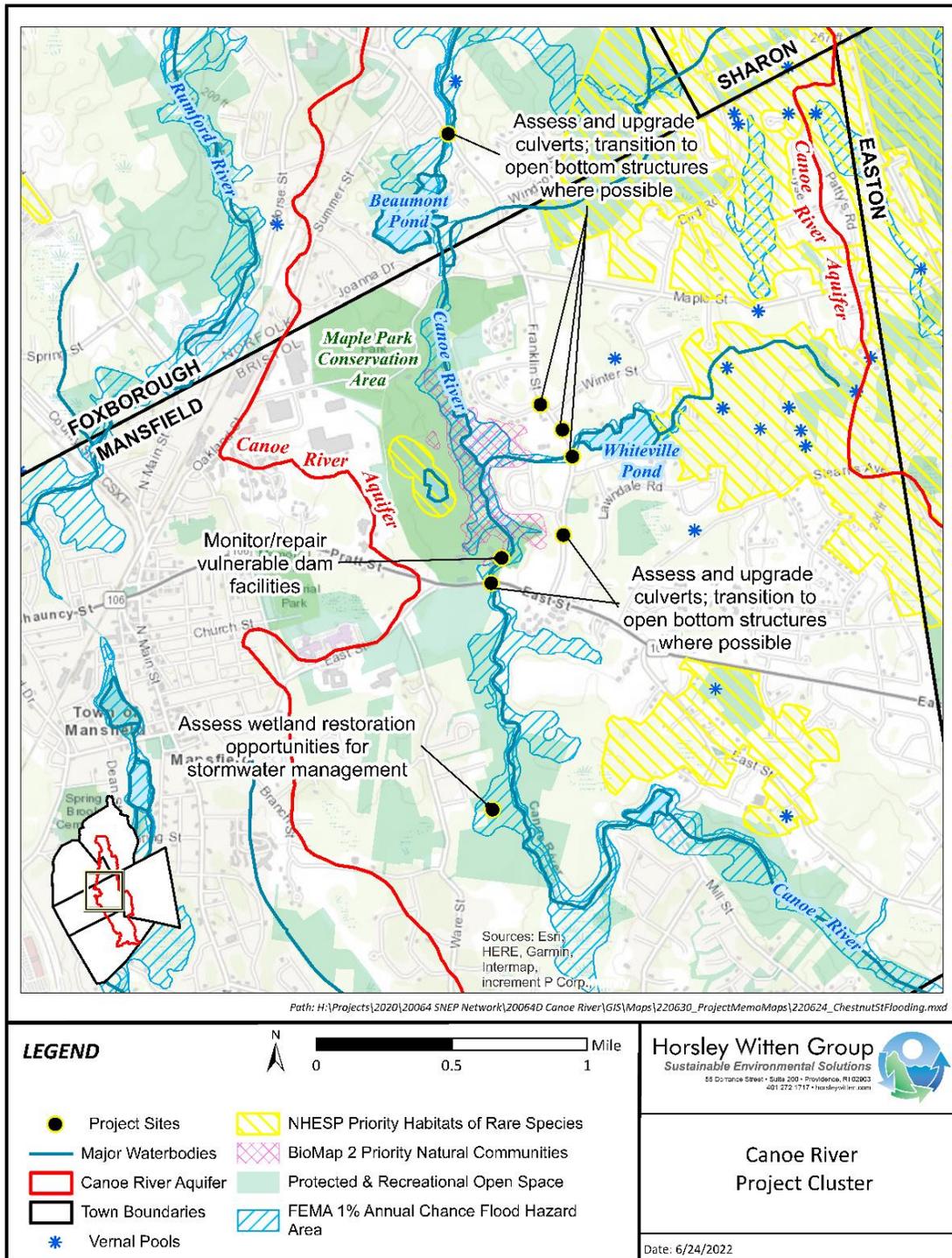


Figure 1. The Mansfield Culvert on Franklin Street.



If you care about this project, what should you do?

If you are interested in supporting efforts to make this project a reality, we encourage you to reach out to the Conservation Commission in Foxborough or Mansfield. Let your community know that addressing this project should be a priority for the environment and for Foxborough and Mansfield!

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