



Neponset Reservoir Project Cluster

What is this project?

The Neponset Reservoir Project Cluster in Foxborough, MA includes four areas bordering the Neponset Reservoir that experience extreme flooding during storm events, in addition to one dam. While the identified flooding locations should be assessed for infrastructure opportunities to reduce stormwater runoff to the reservoir, a cohesive stormwater management plan for the surrounding neighborhoods and the use of stormwater retrofits and low impact development practices—including green infrastructure—will also benefit flood hazard reduction efforts. The Foxborough MVP plan notes that nutrient and sediment pollution of the Neponset Reservoir and adjacent ponds are causing water quality degradation and algal blooms. With reductions in nonpoint source pollution from stormwater runoff, this Project Cluster will also improve water quality in the Neponset Reservoir and other local waterbodies.

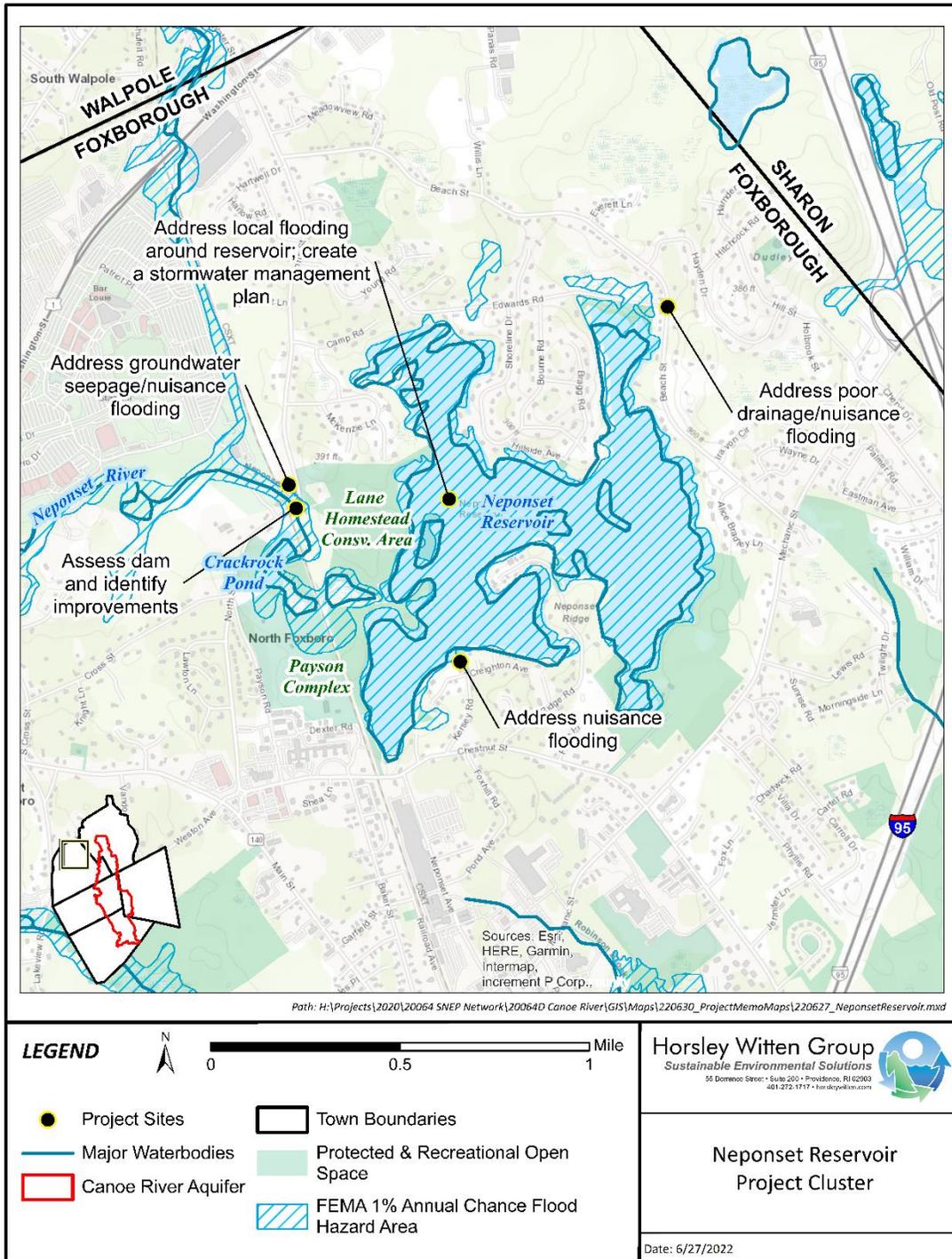
In addition, Crackrock Pond Dam on the Neponset River immediately bordering the Neponset Reservoir should be assessed for repairs. While the dam is owned by the Neponset Reservoir Company, Town staff have reported that the dam is in poor condition. Improvements to the dam could potentially stabilize some of the flow issues to the Reservoir.

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

- **Restoration of habitat.** Improved water quality will enhance local habitats for fish and other species in the Neponset Reservoir, Neponset River, and Crackrock Pond.
- **Ecological benefits to the region.** Improved stormwater management and infiltration has the potential to reduce pollution and eutrophication (e.g., nutrient overload that can cause harmful algal blooms, fish kills, and areas of reduced oxygen in water) of the Neponset Reservoir and Crackrock Pond.
- **Improved flood storage.** Improved stormwater management should reduce flood hazards in the highly urbanized area around the Neponset Reservoir.
- **Public safety and health benefits.** Alleviation of flooding in the project area will reduce traffic hazards during wet periods, and a reduction in nonpoint source water pollution will improve drinking water quality.



Figure 1. Aerial view of the Neponset Reservoir (NRRC Inc).



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 to voice your support. Let your community know that addressing this project should be a priority for the environment and for Foxborough!

Town of Foxborough Conservation Commission
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