



## Rumford River Project Cluster

### What is this project?

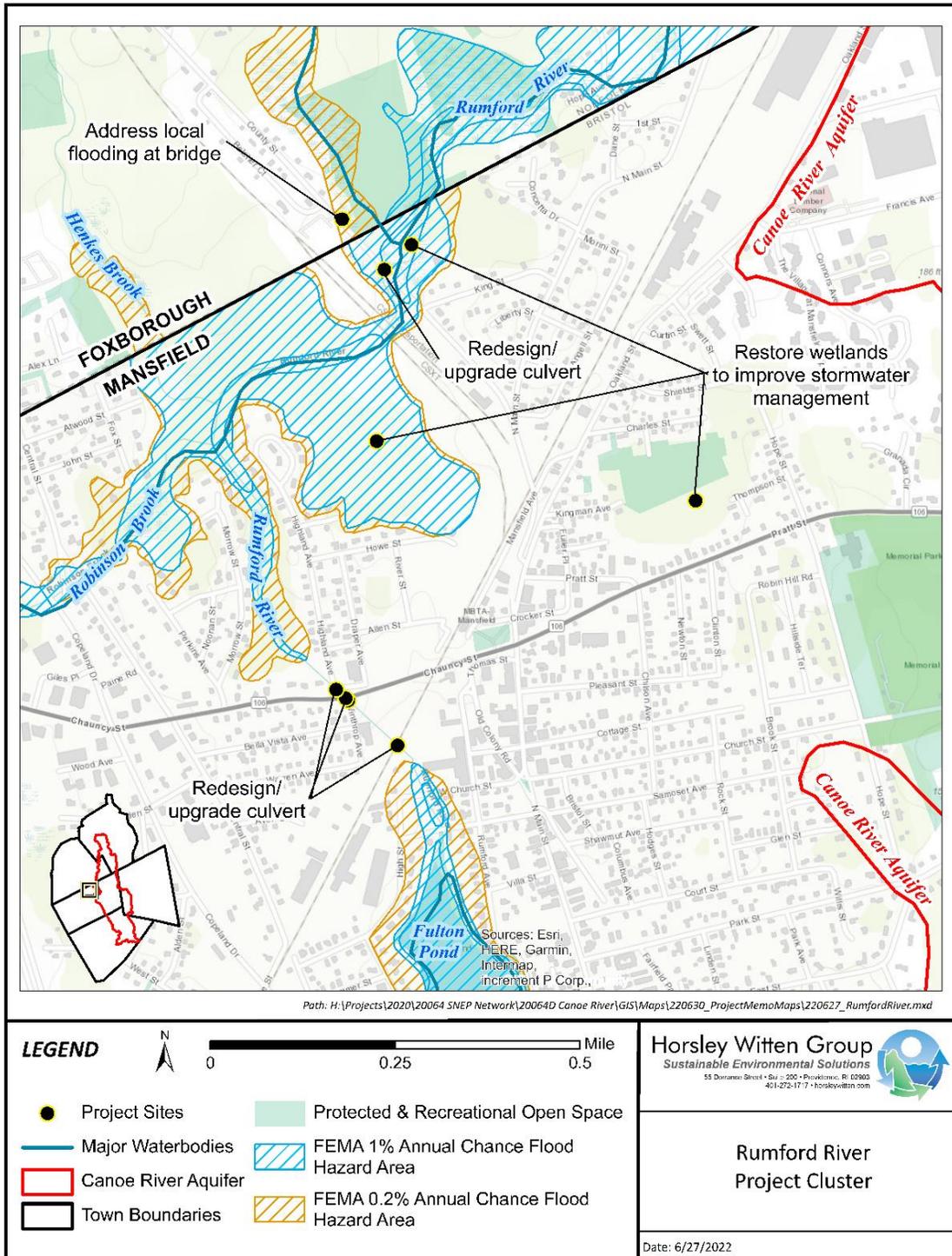
The Rumford River Project Cluster includes updates to existing infrastructure and improvements to wetland areas and an area prone to flooding near the Rumford River in Foxborough and Mansfield, MA. The area prone to flooding should be assessed to determine if stormwater retrofits, including green infrastructure, could be implemented to improve infiltration and drainage. With these improvements, the area could see a reduction in flooding and water pollution from runoff during storm events. The three wetland areas that have been identified as strong candidates for enhancement should be supported by restoration efforts, including the development of green infrastructure, to increase the infiltration rates for stormwater in the area. The five culverts should be assessed to determine if they are correctly sized for the Rumford River and, where possible, should be upgraded to open bottom structures. These improvements will reduce flooding at the culverts, improve fish passage, restore natural flows, and improve water quality to the River.

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

- **Restoration of habitat.** Restoring how water naturally circulates through the Rumford River will help improve natural water flows and consequently water quality and habitats for a variety of aquatic species and wildlife. Stream crossing restoration at most culverts in this Project Cluster (upstream of Fulton Pond) have the potential to improve local aquatic connectivity as ecological integrity is not yet too seriously degraded.
- **Ecological benefits to the region.** Waterbodies and wetlands are interconnected. Restoration would help not only the Rumford River, but also other interconnected waters with critical habitats.
- **Improved flood storage.** Restoring how water naturally circulates in the Rumford River will protect the community from flooding by enabling the watercourses and surrounding wetlands to absorb more stormwater runoff during storm events.
- **Protection against drought.** Restoring how water naturally circulates through the Rumford 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 Rumford River in Mansfield, MA (MA Fish Finder).



### 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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