

6. Natural, Open Space and Recreation Resources

Introduction

The well-protected shallow harbor, coastal plains, fertile river valley, and adjacent upland areas that characterize the Town of Hingham have drawn humans for centuries. Native Americans – members of the Massachusetts tribe -- survived on the diverse food resources of the coastal clam flats, Weir River, and upland grasslands and forests. Today, these sites add to the overall quality of life in the town, providing places to explore, play, relax and recharge. Hingham’s commitment to protecting these resources has safeguarded them for the benefit of generations to come.



World’s End, a 251-acre peninsula extending from Hingham’s northeast coastline, was protected from development by a private land trust, The Trustees of Reservations, in 1957. It is one of the town’s most treasured open spaces. (Photo courtesy of The Trustees of Reservations)

This chapter of the inventory addresses Hingham’s natural, open space and recreation resources. It is divided into three sections, as follows:¹

- A description of **existing conditions and trends**, organized by resource type, and including:
 - An overview of existing natural, open space and recreation resources;
 - A synopsis of past and current efforts to protect these resources; and
 - A description of the many public (federal, state and local) and private entities involved in resource protection.
- An outline of **regional** natural resources and open space and recreation considerations; and
- A summary of **issues and challenges** related to the resources to be considered in the 2020 Master Plan.

¹ Much of the inventory information for this chapter, including data on parcel acreage, was sourced from the 2016-2023 Hingham Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Natural Resources: Existing Conditions and Trends

GEOLOGY

Hingham's geology consists of exposed and shallow-covered bedrock, drumlins, glacial till and floodplain deposits. Bedrock outcroppings or "nobs" appear in the east and southwest. Drumlins, formed by the movement of glacial ice sheets and resulting egg-shaped compacted till deposits (boulders, cobbles, pebbles, sand, silt and clay) lie around the northern end and include Bumpkin Island, World's End, Planter's, Baker, Turkey, Otis, Squirrel, and Great Hills. Loose glacial till, consisting of fine textured sandy, silty and clay soils suitable for planting, dominates the level plains, including Liberty and Glad Tidings Plains, and the flat south of Penniman Hill. Post-glacial geology includes floodplain deposits, swamp deposits, and tidal flats. These appear along the Weir River and smaller streams, low-lying areas, and along the north coast.

TOPOGRAPHY

Topography across Hingham divides between three general forms. A series of low, irregular hills interspersed with freshwater wetlands dominate the south, and a portion of this expanse serves as recharge area for the town's water supply. The coast, ranging in width from one to two miles, extends along the northern border and features a series of headlands interspersed by broad, tidal estuaries (including Weymouth Back River, Hingham Harbor and the Weir River), and tidal flats. A group of islands, including Button, Langley, Ragged, Sarah and Bumpkin Islands, stands off the north coast.

SOILS

Hingham contains four major soil series, each with characteristics that support constrain development.² The Accord Pond Watershed and Hingham Aquifer Protection District areas contain the sandy soils of the **Warwick** and **Quonset** series. These series are defined as very deep, somewhat excessively drained, with slopes ranging from 0% up to 70% percent, found on terraces, outwash plains, and deltas. **Broad Brook** series soils are well-drained and loamy, very deep to bedrock, ranging from 0% to 35% slopes, and found on the town's many drumlins. The Warwick, Quonset, and Broad Brook series soils present few constraints on development. The fourth major series, **Ipswich/Pawcatuck/Matunuck**, dominates the salt marsh areas of Hingham. Soils in this series are very deep, very poorly drained, and consist of herbaceous organic deposits over sandy mineral material, with slopes ranging from 0% to 1%. Development in areas containing these soils is severely limited.

WATERSHED AND SURFACE WATERS

Much of Hingham lies within the Boston Harbor Watershed, a 293-square mile area bounded by Wilmington (to the north) and Stoughton (to the south), Framingham (to the west) and Hingham (to the east). Eight smaller watersheds feed into the Boston Harbor Watershed, one of which is the **Weir River Watershed** encompassing 27 square miles and approximately 85% of Hingham. Its principal waterway is the Weir River, a tidal estuary that picks up the following smaller rivers and brooks:

- **Plymouth River/Eel River**, draining from the southwest corner of Hingham northward to Crooked Meadow River;

² <https://soilseries.sc.egov.usda.gov>

- **Fulling Mill Brook**, draining from the central south part of Hingham northward to the Crooked Meadow River;
- **Tower Brook** draining northeastward from the western part of Hingham into Crooked Meadow River;
- **Accord Pond/Accord Brook** draining northward from the south part of Hingham to the Weir River; and
- **Weir River** representing the final stretch of the watershed.

The remaining 15% of land in Hingham drains via small rivers and streams into the Weymouth Back River, a 1.5-mile long estuary extending southward from Hingham and Weymouth Harbors, and the **South Coastal Watershed**, a 240.7 square mile area encompassing 19 cities and towns along the southeast Massachusetts coastline.

Scattered across Hingham are several freshwater ponds, most of which are man-made impoundments of the rivers and brooks created through the construction of water-power-producing dams. Currently, Hingham maintains five dams.³ The largest of these, 100-acre **Accord Pond**, stands at the headwaters of the Weir River and straddles the Hingham, Norwell and Rockland lines. It feeds into Hingham's water supply and the municipal wells on South Pleasant Street. Smaller freshwater bodies include, Cushing, Fulling Mill, Triphammer and Foundry Ponds. **Home Meadow**, located in the northwest corner of Hingham, contains the remnant of a tidal mill salt pond.

WATER SUPPLY AND AQUIFERS

Groundwater, recharged by Accord Brook and its several tributaries, supplies much of the town with drinking water. Hingham has established the Accord Pond Watershed and Hingham Aquifer Protection District as part of the Zoning Bylaw (Section III-D) with the goal of protecting town's aquifer and the soils within the Accord Brook watershed. In the district, toxic or hazardous substances are regulated and controlled. Additional information about the town's water supply and aquifer can be found in the Public Facilities and Services chapter of this inventory.

INLAND FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

Despite its location along the Atlantic coast, Hingham has largely been shielded from flooding. One reason is the town's location, protected from storm surges by Nantasket Beach, a barrier beach, and by Peddock's Island. In addition to this, the relatively small sizes of the Weir River and the town's brooks and streams, combined with the limited development in the floodplains, has minimized flood hazards in Hingham. Most flood hazard areas mapped by FEMA stand along immediate edges of streams and overlap with wetlands and ponds. For coastal flooding areas, refer to the Sustainability, Water & Energy Use chapter of the inventory.

WETLANDS

Wetland areas in Hingham consist of marine wetlands, estuaries, and freshwater inland wetlands. Marine wetlands include intertidal flats, intertidal rocky shores and eelgrass beds, while estuaries include salt marshes. Inland wetlands in Hingham include red maple swamps, emergent marshes, and

³ Two of Hingham's five dams are slated for removal.

vernal pools. As of March 2020, Hingham’s number of certified vernal pools stood at 37⁴, however hundreds of additional potential vernal pools dot the town. Protection of these sites is overseen by the Hingham Conservation Commission through enforcement of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and town’s Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Both the act and bylaw require that a permit must be issued by the commission before filling, dredging, building upon or otherwise altering wetlands and 100’ wetland buffer zones can occur.

AGRICULTURAL LAND, FIELDS AND FOREST

Hingham contains little actively farmed land, and nearly all the remaining lands once used for agriculture are now open fields or have been developed into residential subdivisions. Open fields comprise parts of town-owned Lehner property, Bare Cove Park, More-Brewer Park (off Hobart Street), Push Cart Farm and state-owned Stodder’s Neck (off Lincoln Street). The 8.5-acre Shultz’s Field, also owned by the town, is leased to a dairy farmer who raises crops and silage, as is Cushing Field (0.4 acres), located on East Street. The Weir River Farm, owned by The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR), consists of 75 acres of fields, pastures and woodlands on Turkey Hill, and supports diverse wildlife habitat, including upland grasslands. World’s End, also owned by TTOR, maintains open fields, some of which are leased for pasturing of dairy cows.

Hingham’s forestlands are heavily fragmented, due to the suburban development of the past 50-70 years. The few remaining large contiguous blocks of forests make up parts of Wompatuck State Park, the Whitney-Thayer Woods, Turkey Hill, and the Weir River Farm. Two conservation areas owned by the town, Triphammer Pond and Leavitt Street, contain a total of approximately 114 acres of forest. The George Washington Town Forest, also known as the **Town Forest**, is 107.6 acres of wooded open space located off South Pleasant Street. The site contains forested upland dominated by red and white pines and Norway spruces and has been impacted by aggressive invasive pests.

VEGETATION

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) assembles vegetation and the wildlife it supports into a series of “natural communities,” groupings of species “found in recurring patterns that can be classified and described by their dominant physical and biological features.”⁵ Hingham contains twelve such communities, dispersed throughout the town, ranging from the common White Pine-Oak Forest to the quite rare Maritime Juniper Woodlands. The latter is found in the salt spray zone along the coast in areas protected from direct salt water flooding, and contains red cedar, pitch pine,



Quahogs are one of the many shellfish species that inhabit the Hingham Harbor area.

⁴ MassGIS

⁵ <https://www.mass.gov/natural-communities>

American holly, bayberry and winged sumac, among other species. World’s End, in the extreme northern portion of the town, has a large and high-quality area of this rare natural community.

WILDLIFE

Hingham’s natural resources, including the harbor and associated mudflats, estuaries, shoreline, freshwater brooks and ponds, and forests all provide habitat for a diversity of shellfish, fish, birds and mammals. The harbor is home to flounder, bluefish, striped bass and rainbow smelt, and the mudflats support soft-shell clams, blue mussels, quahogs and razor clams. Anadromous and catadromous fish, including alewives, blueback herring, and American eels live and spawn in the waters of the Weir and Fresh Rivers and Turkey Run Brook. Birds include hawks, songbirds and shorebirds. Large, medium and small size mammals, including coyote, fisher, cottontail, and shrew, contribute to Hingham’s wildlife population. While the town does not maintain terrestrial wildlife corridors, it does contain riverine corridors along the major perennial streams, including the Weir, Weymouth Back and Crooked Meadow Rivers, as well as Accord and Tower Brooks.



Adder’s Tongue Fern is one of several threatened species in Hingham identified through the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act.

RARE, THREATENED AND ENGENDERED SPECIES

The NHESP has identified twelve species of conservation concern, listed in Table 6-1. The locations of these species are purposely not described in order to protect their continued existence.

Table 6.1. Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) Rare Species in Hingham			
Common Name	Scientific Name	Taxonomic Group	MESA Status
Adder's Tongue Fern	Ophioglossum pusillum	Vascular Plant	Threatened
Barn Owl	Tyto alba	Bird	Special Concern
Bristly Buttercup	Ranunculus pensylvanicus	Vascular Plant	Special Concern
Common Gallinule	Gallinula galeata	Bird	Special Concern
Eastern Box Turtle	Terrapene carolina	Reptile	Special Concern
Pale Green Orchid	Platanthera flava var. herbiola	Vascular Plant	Threatened
Pied-billed Grebe	Podilymbus podiceps	Bird	Endangered
Seabeach Dock	Rumex pallidus	Vascular Plant	Threatened
Small-flowered Buttercup	Ranunculus micranthus	Vascular Plant	Endangered
Spartina Borer Moth	Photedes inops	Butterfly/Moth	Special Concern

Common Name	Scientific Name	Taxonomic Group	MESA Status
Whorled Milkweed	<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened
Wood Turtle	<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>	Reptile	Special Concern

Source: Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife NHESP

BIOMAP2 AREAS

Created by NHESP and The Nature Conservancy, Biomap2 combines documentation of rare species and natural communities with spatial data (mapping) to create a visual chart of species diversity in the wake of climate change. The map contains two layers:

- Core Habitat – specific areas necessary to promote the long-term persistence of rare species, other species of conservation concern, exemplary natural communities and intact ecosystems.
- Critical Natural Landscape – intact landscapes that are better able to support ecological processes and disturbance regimes, and a wide array of special habitats over long time frames.

According to the statewide biodiversity analysis developed by NHESP, Hingham has 27 Core Habitats and 15 Critical Landscapes consisting of the following area within Hingham’s 14,555 acres, located largely within the Wompatuck State Park:

- 1,672 acres of Core Habitat, 79.7% (or 1,333 acres) of which is protected
- 2,193 acres of Critical Natural Landscape, 90.3% (of 1,980 acres) of which is protected

PUBLIC SHADE TREES

Policy regarding stewardship of Hingham’s tree canopy has been placed in the hands of the Shade Tree Committee, established by the Board of Selectmen in 2012. The committee advises the Department of Public Works by recommending appropriate tree species and planting locations on public lands, and also promotes the value of shade trees through advocacy and education. The committee has posted several reports about shade trees on the town’s website, dealing with pertinent topics such as the benefits of shade trees, tree biology, and tree selection.

SCENIC RESOURCES AND UNIQUE ENVIRONMENTS

Hingham’s 2016 – 2023 Open Space and Recreation Plan highlighted several scenic resources that are unique to the town. In addition to the geologic features noted earlier in this chapter, and the resources discussed in the Historic and Cultural Resources chapter of the inventory, the following natural resource areas are of particular value:

- ***Hingham Waterfront/World’s End***, including the harbor islands, marine headlands, bathing beach, Crow Point, Hewitts Cove, and the 251 acres of World’s End;
- ***Wompatuck State Park***, over 3,600 acres of woodland interspersed with wetlands, in Hingham as well as Cohasset, Norwell and Scituate; and

- **Home Meadows**, a tidally influenced marsh located near the downtown.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. An Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) is a place that receives special recognition because of the quality, uniqueness, and significance of its natural and cultural resources. In Massachusetts, 28 natural areas have received this designation. Such areas are identified and nominated at the community level and are reviewed and designated by the state’s Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs. The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) administers the ACEC Program on behalf of the Secretary. Hingham contains two ACECs:

- **Weir River** (designated in 1986) including 950 acres encompassing the river and its estuary. Hingham’s participation in the stewardship of this area is represented by the **Weir River Estuary Park Committee**, a six-member group with representatives from Cohasset and Hull, as well as Hingham.
- **Weymouth Back River** including 468 acres protecting tidewater and saltmarsh along the Weymouth Back River, with boundaries encompassing part of the Brewer Reservation (Hingham Conservation Commission) and Great Esker Park (Weymouth). Stewardship of a portion of this area is overseen by the **Bare Cove Park Committee**, comprised of seven members appointed by the Selectmen, including a park ranger.

Scenic Roads. The town has designated eight “Scenic Roads” under M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Section 16, because of their rural character, mature trees, stone walls, and status as secondary, rather than primary connector streets. Designations take place through a local review process with the Hingham Planning Board. The existing Scenic Roads are Free Street, Lazell Street, Leavitt Street, Turkey Hill Lane, Popes Lane, South Pleasant Street, Martins Lane and Union Street.

PAST AND CURRENT NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION EFFORTS

Town of Hingham Master Plan (2001). The update of a 1968 plan, Hingham’s 2001 Master Plan included specific goals and objectives relating to natural resources. The goals focused on protecting and enhancing the town natural environment; protecting natural areas from inappropriate development; protecting freshwater and saltwater resources; maintaining sufficient natural areas to sustain native plant and wildlife species; and protecting groundwater and surface water supplies to safeguard public drinking water. Recommendations included the fifteen outlined below. The extent to which the town successfully implemented each recommendation, if known, is shown in italics.

- Continue to seek ways to acquire or otherwise protect undeveloped land as a way of protecting Hingham’s natural environment.
- Institute “conservation design” for residential development as a way of maintaining and enhancing natural resources. *In 2001, the town amended its Zoning By-law to include a Flexible Residential Development by-law, providing incentives for open space preservation with the development of residential subdivisions.*
- Develop a GIS-based tracking system to monitor Conservation Commission Orders of Conditions.

DRAFT FOR LOCAL REVIEW
Natural, Open Space, and Recreation Resources

- Adopt town-wide stormwater management standards, applicable to all new development, that address removal of suspended solids, stormwater infiltration and peak discharge rates.
- Promote design that retains natural vegetation and minimizes impervious surfaces.
- Evaluate the impact of road management activities on water quality and adjust, as required. *This evaluation takes place through the MS4 permitting process.*
- Educate town residents about the importance of water resource protection.
- Introduce water quality monitoring on local streams.
- Modify the local Wetlands Protection Bylaw to include certified vernal pools and identify additional vernal pools for certification. *Town bylaws and regulations address certified vernal pools*
- Focus acquisition of land on creation of large contiguous habitats to support larger, less common wildlife species.
- Develop and implement management plans for town-owned conservation properties and solicit volunteers to take part in management
- Develop a Local Surface Water Supply Protection Plan to ensure surface water protection.
- Strengthen the existing Accord Pond Watershed and Hingham Aquifer Protection District Bylaw by expanding district boundaries; prohibiting road salt stockpiles, etc.
- Institute a special permit requirement for activities that may impact the aquifer, defining minimum standards for stormwater management and nitrogen loading.
- Identify and protect future groundwater well sites.

Hingham Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan (2016-2023). Reviewed and conditionally approved by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, this plan will, in part, guide the town in protection of its natural resources through 2023. Town staff reviewed the previous plan (2009-2016) and other related planning efforts, interviewed various town departments and committees, and distributed a questionnaire to residents. An analysis of natural resource protection needs identified the following:

- Protection of drinking water resources to ensure adequate and safe supply now and in the future;
- Maintenance of plant and animal diversity throughout the town; and
- Protection of Hingham Bay and the ecosystems associated with this feature.

The plan included five goals, including one specifically related to natural resources: **“protect Hingham’s natural resources and the ecological and biological integrity of its wildlife through open space acquisition, development regulation, and collaboration with varied authorities and interests.”** (Goal 1) Objectives associated with this goal were (1) protecting and promoting biodiversity; (2) protecting local occurrences of natural communities and rare species habitats; (3) protecting and enhancing wildlife corridors; and (4) protecting the coastal zone, river and stream connectivity and riparian areas, and aquatic ecosystems. Implementation of these objectives was in progress during the compilation of this master plan.

Open Space Resources: Existing Conditions and Trends

According to the Massachusetts Audubon Society’s Losing Ground Project statics for 2020, Hingham is 152nd in size out of 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts but is ranked 109th in the amount of land the town has protected. In 2020, of Hingham’s 14,439 acres (22.6 square miles) a total of 4,321 Or 30% of the town’s land area has been protected in perpetuity from development

		Rank in State
Overall area protected (acres)	4,321	109
Overall percent protected	30%	103
Total area (acres)	14,439	132
Total area (square miles)	22.6	153
Source: Massachusetts Audubon Society Losing Ground Project		

Entities involved in land protection include the state, town, non-profit organizations and land trusts, and means of protection takes the form of ownership, conservation restrictions and easements. A complete listing of these lands can be found in the *2016-2023 Draft Hingham Open Space and Recreation Plan*.

PERMANENTLY PROTECTED LANDS

Permanently protected lands are committed to conservation or recreation use through ownership or a permanent conservation restriction or deed restriction. Mass. Const. art. 97 prohibits a change in use of such lands without municipal and state approval. In Hingham, permanently protected lands include properties owned by the state and town, non-profit organizations, and land trusts.

State-Owned Permanently Protected Lands. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting through the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), owns and manages 1,560 acres in Hingham, divided between two parcels. **Wompatuck State Park**, with 1,540 acres in Hingham, is named for chief Josiah Wompatuck who deeded the land to European settlers in the 1600s. The property became an ammunition depot in World War II, and in 1969, a state park. In addition to providing recreation

⁶ The total of 4,321 acres does not include privately protected land, but does include land on four islands in Hingham Bay, owned by the town and part of the Boston Harbor Island State Park and Boston Harbor National Recreation Area. This acreage varies, as some portions of the islands are intertidal.

amenities, much of the park has been classified as a Critical Natural Landscape through BioMap2. **Stodder's Neck**, off Lincoln Street, is a 20-acre peninsula at the mouth of the Weymouth Back River and also part of the Weymouth Back River ACEC, discussed earlier in this chapter.

Permanently Protected Town-Owned Lands. Evaluation of open space lands for acquisition potential is overseen by **Hingham's Open Space Acquisition Committee**, with consultation from Hingham's Conservation Officer. The committee consists of three members appointed by the Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission and Planning Board. Nine entities of Hingham government own open space in the town, consisting of 2,384.81 acres and 98 parcels of land:⁷

- Conservation Commission: 1,236.24 acres/76 parcels
- Department of Public Works: 149.17 acres/5 parcels
- Harbor Development Committee: 3 acres/2 parcels
- Trustees of the Hingham Bathing Beach: 6.1 acres/1 parcel
- Board of Selectmen: 97.12 acres/4 parcels
- Bare Cove Park Committee: 469.3 acres/1 parcel
- South Shore Country Club: 154.2 acres/1 parcel
- Hingham Sports Partnership: 24 acres/2 parcels
- Hingham School Department/Recreation Commission: 245.38 acres/6 parcels

In addition to these lands, Hingham owns four small islands located off the north coast of Hingham Bay protected for public use as part of the Boston Harbor Islands State Park and Boston Harbor National Recreation Area. **Langley, Ragged, Sarah, and Button Islands** consist of approximately 133 acres of uplands and intertidal area, accessible only by boat.

Permanently Protected Lands Owned by Non-Profit Organizations and Land Trusts. Two 501(c)(3) entities have permanently protected a total of 618.46 acres in Hingham through acquisitions, conservation restrictions, and conservation easements:

- **The Trustees of Reservations** (TTOR), established in 1891, is America's oldest land trust, managing conserved open space throughout Massachusetts. TTOR owns 511.5 acres in Hingham, including World's End, the 251-acre peninsula stretching off the northern most coast of Hingham, Weir River Farm, Whitney and Thayer Woods, and Turkey Hill.
- **Hingham Land Conservation Trust** (HLCT), established in 1972, preserves and maintains 106.96 acres, and serves as a local advocate for land preservation and educator about land conservation and stewardship. The HLCT's properties include Eel River Woods, Jacobs Meadow, Whortleberry Hollow, and land in Home Meadows and along the Fulling Mill River.

A third non-profit land trust is associated with Hingham. Founded in 1973, **Wildlands Trust** is one of the largest and oldest regional land trusts in Massachusetts and has helped to ensure the protection of 8,500 acres of natural and agricultural lands. The trust works with allied public agencies and other non-

⁷ Source of data: 2016-2023 Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan

profit land trusts to achieve land protection. Its Board of Directors includes representatives from the communities it serves, including Hingham. Currently, the trust does not own land in Hingham.

PARTIALLY OR TEMPORARILY PROTECTED LANDS

Several parcels of privately-owned land in Hingham are partially or temporarily protected, meaning that the land is still in use, but its probable future development is delayed. The partial or temporary protection may be lifted if the owner's needs change. They include:

- **Chapter 61 Lands.** 98.1 acres and eleven parcels of private land in Hingham has been partially or temporarily protected through M.G.L. Chapters 61 (14.48 acres), 61A (30.74 acres) and 61B (25.13), as forest, agricultural or recreational land, respectively. The largest portion of land still in agricultural use is located along Fulling Mill Brook and is managed by the Fulling Mill Brook Farm Trust.
- **Private School, Church and Other Institutional Land.** Six such institutions own an additional 193.1 acres of open space. They include the Benedictine Fathers, South Shore Conservatory, Derby Academy, and Sisters of Notre Dame (all non-profit), and the Hingham Yacht Club.
- **Drinking Water Protection.** The Aquarion Water Company, providers of Hingham's public drinking water, holds 363.91 acres to safeguard water quality. Use of this land could change if the company (or town) finds an alternative source. (Note: the town recently opted to purchase the company.)
- **Cemeteries and Miscellaneous Town Holdings.** Hingham contains eight cemeteries and burying grounds and all but one are in private ownership. Along with the town's non-recreational school lands, public safety facilities and properties held through tax takings, these open spaces have little or no protection.

In addition, the state, town and other non-profit organizations hold or have held time-limited preservation restrictions on historic properties.⁸ For information about these temporary restrictions, refer to the Historic and Cultural Resources chapter of this inventory.

UNPROTECTED LANDS

The town has taken 20 parcels of land totaling 17.69 acres for unpaid taxes.⁹ The largest of these parcels is 3.75 acres, consisting of salt marsh. Seven of the parcels contain wetlands, and several are valuable for groundwater recharge and the potential to support (and for the public to observe) wildlife. In addition, nearly 2,000 acres of private land are under development for residential and recreational (golf course) uses.

⁸ M.G.L. Title XVI, Chapter 114 protects abandoned cemeteries and burial sites, however the Chapter does not address private cemeteries established prior to 1936.

⁹ Source of data: *2016-2023 Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan*

ADDITIONAL EFFORTS TO PROTECT OPEN SPACE

Town of Hingham Master Plan (2001). Hingham’s last master plan included a chapter devoted to open space resources and included five goals aimed at (1) expanding the town’s network of protected open spaces to create a system; (2) developing a strategy for increasing open space acquisition; (3) providing four-season open spaces; (4) increasing public awareness of open space; and (5) preserving the town’s scenic character. Recommendations included the seventeen outlined below. The extent to which the town successfully implemented each recommendation, if known, is shown in italics.

- Purchase, through transfer of development rights or outright, additional Chapter 61, 61A and 61B lands. *The town negotiated the inclusion of 14.48 acres on Lazell Street and 9.88 acres on East Street in Chapter 61.*
- Purchase private undeveloped land. *In 2015, voters moved to purchase the 50-acre Lehner property on South Pleasant Street as a way of safeguarding the land from development, and to protect the town aquifer.*
- Purchase lands that provide links between larger protected open spaces
- Establish an annual town appropriation for acquiring open space
- Establish a cluster zoning bylaw
- Establish an open space requirement in flexible residential development
- Establish an open space incentive for developers to preserve open space
- Place protections on existing town owned land with outstanding conservation value
- Work with large landowners before they are ready to sell their land so that they are aware of protection options
- Seek outside grant funding for open space purchases
- Collaborate with non-profit land trusts to secure additional open space lands
- Encourage developers of new subdivisions to set aside land for pocket parks and linear greenways to connect open space parcels
- Improve parking, access and signage at open space areas
- Make maps of open space areas available to the public
- Expand the existing trails systems in open spaces to provide longer-distance routes. *Hingham complete a Comprehensive Trails Plan in 2015 that spelled out action steps for improving trails throughout the town and beyond.*

- Create an “ocean walk” along Hingham Harbor. *The town has developed a “Harbor Walk” a walkable path from Crow Point to the Hingham Maritime Center.*
- Enact regulations that ensure the protection of scenic resources, including scenic roads.

Hingham Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan (2016-2023). An analysis of open space protection needs identified the following:

- Increasing the number of walking paths, bike trails, trails, swimming areas and picnic areas in existing open spaces;
- Acquiring more open space
- Increasing the connections between open spaces

Of the five plan goals, Goal 5 specifically addressed open space: **“acquire and preserve land, easements, and restrictions for conservation, preservation, and recreation purposes.”** Objectives for meeting this goal included evaluating potential acquisitions; supporting open space protection in the town’s two Areas of Critical Environmental Concern; working in concert with other related studies and plans; partnering with other public and private entities to increase protection efforts; and working with town departments to develop policies and/or regulations that promote open space protection.

Community Preservation Act. The Community Preservation Act (M.G.L. Chapter 44B) (“CPA”), a local option statute enacted by the State Legislature in 2000, was adopted by the town in 2001. Through a local real property tax surcharge, the town collects and expend funds to maintain its character by supporting open space, affordable housing, recreation lands, and historic preservation initiatives specifically defined by the CPA. The current Hingham CPA surcharge rate is 1.5% and the state matches town funds annually at a varying rate. Hingham was one of the municipalities in Massachusetts to adopt the Act, and since 2003¹⁰, has awarded funding to 138 projects, roughly 20% of which fell under the open space preservation category. One of the most significant recent CPA-funded efforts was the 2015 acquisition the 50-acre Lehner property on South Pleasant, a move to both preserve scenic open space and protect the town aquifer. The CPA is administered in Hingham by the **Community Preservation Committee**, a nine-member body with representatives from the Historical Commission, Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Housing Authority, as well as three citizens at large.

Hingham Zoning Bylaw. In 1941, Hingham adopted its first Zoning Bylaw as a means for managing the distribution of growth. Since then the town has made many amendments to the law, several of which were written to protect open space resources, including establishment of the Official and Open Space District and Waterfront Recreation District, and introducing changes to the Flexible Residential Development and Residential Multi-Use Development regulations.

¹⁰ Although the town adopted the act in 2001, funding of projects did not take place until 2003. The Community Preservation Coalition website lists projects through 2018.

Recreation Resources: Existing Conditions and Trends

Many of Hingham’s open spaces discussed above, both public and private, also serve the town’s active and passive recreation needs. The following inventory focuses on the recreation amenities provided at each site, along with a discussion of athletic fields and facilities.

STATE-OWNED RECREATION LAND

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting through the Department of Conservation and Recreation provides recreation amenities at the following sites:

Wompatuck State Park. This nearly 3,500-acre property straddles the Hingham, Cohasset, Norwell and Scituate lines, with 1,540 acres in Hingham. Visitors hike on 40 miles of forested trails, take non-motorize vehicles on 12 miles of roads, enjoy overnights at the 250-site campground, collect water from the Mt. Blue Spring, ride horseback, hunt, and engage in bird-watching.

Stodder’s Neck. Located on a 20-acre peninsula extending into Hingham Harbor from the Weymouth Back River, this small property contains hiking trails and picnic spots, and visitors enjoy long views from its high points.

TOWN-OWNED RECREATION LAND

NATURAL AREAS

The town-owned open space lands discussed earlier in this chapter provide wildlife habitat, mitigate flooding, and preserve scenic views, and are also open to the public for recreational use. A complete listing of all town-owned open spaces appears in the *2016-2023 Draft Hingham Open Space and Recreation Plan*. The largest and/or most popular of these are as follows:

Bare Cove Park. Located on the western edge of Hingham along the eastern bank of the Weymouth Back River, this 469.3-acre former ammunition depot consists of upland forest and salt marsh and provides many miles of woodland trails suitable for biking, hiking, running, ice skating, canoeing, kayaking, and Nordic skiing. On the grounds are a recreation building, two Police Athletic League ballfields, a flag football field, and four-mile bicycle loop. Stewardship of the park is overseen by the Bare Cove Park Commission.

Fulling Mill Pond. The 162-acre waterfront site provides opportunity for canoeing, kayaking, ice skating, picnicking and birdwatching.

More-Brewer Park. This 186.5-acre former farm estate was designed by the Olmsted firm and contains a pond for ice skating as well as



Burns Memorial Park, known historically as Tranquility Grove, has seen recent upgrades to improve accessibility.

five miles of carriage roads for hiking, horseback riding and Nordic skiing. Visitors also enjoy picnicking and bird-watching.

George Washington Forest (Town Forest), a 107.6-acres wooded open space located off South Pleasant Street, containing three miles of hiking and horseback riding trails, partially in the form of wide paths used for forest maintenance.¹¹

Burns Memorial Park (Tranquility Grove). Located on 24 acres off Hersey Street in the heart of Hingham, this wooded area staged a “Great Abolitionist Picnic” in 1844. Minimally maintained for many years, access to Tranquility Grove has recently been improved through the addition of a new entrance, steps, cleared areas, and trails.

Town Conservation Areas. In addition to those discussed above, the town maintains several large conservation areas that provide opportunities for hiking, nature observation and other activities. These include the **Lehner Conservation Area** (51 acres), **Bouve Conservation Area** (32 acres), **McKenna Marsh** (103 acres) and **Triphammer Pond Conservation Area** (97.8 acres).

WATERFRONT AND URBAN PARKS

Hingham Bathing Beach. This narrow beach located along Hingham’s north coast is overseen by the Trustees of the Bathing Beach and Harbor Development Committee. The site includes a recently-constructed bath house, bandstand for summer concerts, picnic area with tables, and pave parking lot.

Whitney Wharf. This finger of land sits between the Hingham Bathing Beach (to the west) and Barnes Wharf (to the east). It includes the POW/MIA Memorial Park, and contains an 89-foot pedestrian bridge, constructed beginning in 2012, connecting the wharf to the Town Pier and Hingham Maritime Center at Barnes Wharf (discussed below).

Barnes Wharf. A 1966 gift to the town made by Charles Barnes, this harbor front venue is home to the **Hingham Maritime Center** (formerly the Lincoln Sailing Club), a non-profit organization offering rowing, sailing and maritime education programs. Facilities at the wharf include the Curtis Pavilion and Curtis Boathouse and recreational offerings include rowing and sailing instruction and competition. The HMC also hosts an annual Harborfest in September to raise funds for activities at the



The Hingham Bathing Beach, ca. 1900. Photo courtesy of the Hingham Historical Society.

¹¹ Acreage for the Town Forest is listed in the 2016-2023 Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan as 107.6,

wharf. Management of the Barnes Wharf property is shared by the Harbor Development Committee and Department of Public Works.

Steamboat Wharf. This 1.8-acre largely tree-covered property lies to the east of Barnes Wharf. Management of the wharf is shared by the Harbor Development Committee and Department of Public Works.

Urban Parks. The Hingham Department of Public Works maintains four small parks set with the urban fabric of Hingham, and each provides a spot for passive recreation, public gatherings, and commemoration. The 1.27-acre **Hingham Town Common**, located at the intersections of Common, Short, School and Middle Streets, contains a grassy lawn and perimeter shade trees. **Veterans' Memorial Park**, 0.5 acre on Central Street in front of Hingham Town Hall (Center **Iron Horse Park (4 Monument Park; Victory Park)**) is a one-acre passive recreation site located on the Hingham harborfront near the public boat ramp. The park features what is known as the Iron Horse Statue -- an equestrian statue of a heroic figure named "Victory," which sits atop a grassy knoll with a flagpole. **Jackass Park**, located in the middle of Main Street near Hobart Street, was upgraded in 2012 by the Hingham Garden Club and Shade Tree Committee to include plantings of maple trees, a pink flowering dogwood tree, and perennial flower beds

ATHLETIC FIELDS AND PLAYGROUNDS

Hingham maintains over 460 acres of athletic fields and playgrounds on 17 different sites, including soccer fields, Little League fields, lacrosse fields, tennis courts and playgrounds. Jurisdiction over of these is distributed between the Board of Selectmen, School Department and Recreation Commission, as follows:

- **Carlson Complex** (16 acres, Board of Selectmen): 2 rectangular fields, a Little League Baseball field, softball field, 2 basketball courts and skate park
- **Lynch Fields** (8 acres, Board of Selectmen): 2 Little League Baseball fields, 2 (overlapping) rectangular football fields, a batting cage and support building
- **Margett's Fields** (6.22 acres, Board of Selectmen and Recreation Commission): 2 lacrosse fields, lacrosse wall
- **Powers Field** (1.15 acres, Board of Selectmen): Little League baseball/softball field
- **Hingham High School** (71.6 acres, School Department): 17 fields accommodating softball, track and field, shot put, baseball, varsity field hockey, regulation soccer (3 fields), small soccer (2 fields), and lacrosse, 6 tennis courts and 2 batting cages
- **Hingham Middle School** (31 acres, School Department): Little League Baseball field, 2 rectangular fields, and 4 tennis courts
- **East Elementary School** (11.52 acres, School Department): 2 rectangular fields, informal basketball court, and playground

- **Foster Elementary School** (40.9 acres, School Department): Little League Baseball/softball field, soccer field, 3 basketball courts, 3 tennis courts, and playground
- **Plymouth River Elementary School** (62.06 acres, School Department and Recreation Commission): Little League baseball/softball field, rectangular field, basketball court, 6 tennis courts and playground
- **South Elementary School** (28.3 acres, School Department): Little League baseball field, rectangular field, basketball court, and playground
- **Cronin Complex** (17.21 acres, Recreation Commission): baseball field, soccer field, basketball court, street hockey court, 6 tennis courts, a running/walking track, volleyball court and playground
- **Haley Field** (Recreation Commission): Little League baseball field
- **Hersey Field** (4.73 acres, Recreation Commission): Little League baseball field and playground
- **Hull Street Field** (5.8 acres, Recreation Commission): rectangular field and playground
- **Kress Field** (5.03 acres, Recreation Commission): Little League baseball/softball field, basketball court, playground

In addition to these, Hingham owns the **South Shore Country Club (SSCC)**, 170 acres¹² under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen and managed by the Hingham Recreation Department. Primarily serving Hingham residents, the facility contains a golf course, hiking trails, swimming pool and three tennis courts. The 70-year-old pool has recently closed because of structural issues, and in response, the SSCC has prepared a campus plan to redevelop the site and reactivate the pool. The Town of Hingham purchased the club 30 years ago as an Enterprise Fund, and the recreational facility continues to pay for itself. Approximately \$11million are estimated for updating and upgrading the facility (including the pool). SSCC management is seeking Community Preservation Act funding, grants and other ways to finance these improvements.

INDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES

The Town of Hingham Recreation Department operates two facilities, located within and adjacent to Town Hall, 341 Main Street:

- **Recreation Center.** This multi-use facility is located in the lower level of Town Hall, and includes a gymnasium, game room, two studios and a fitness center. Outdoor amenities include a playground, street hockey rink, tennis, basketball and volleyball courts and soccer and baseball fields.

¹² The 2016-2023 Open Space and Recreation Plan lists the acreage at the South Shore Country Club at 154.2.

- **Rec Barn.** This newly renovated building located directly behind Town Hall offers public restrooms and a new multi-purpose program room that is home to our popular summer camp program, dance school, and a variety of adult fitness classes.

For additional information about the programs and services of the Hingham Recreation Department, refer to the Public Facilities and Services chapter of this inventory.

PRIVATELY-OWNED RECREATION LAND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

As discussed earlier in this chapter, two private land trusts own and manage property in Hingham, The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR) and the Hingham Land Conservation Trust (HLCT).

THE TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS PROPERTIES

The following properties are owned and managed by The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR) and are all open to the public for passive recreation use.

- **Weir River Farm.** Located on 75 acres at the end of Turkey Hill lane, this working farm consists of fields and pastures surrounded by oak and red cedar woodlands. Visitors can hike along 1.5 miles of trails passing a barnyard with horses, pigs and chickens, crossing through a woodland and garden. The trails connect to Whitney and Thayer Woods (discussed below) and lead to the Wompatuck State Park and Triphammer Conservation Area. TTOR operates the Weir River Farm Market, which sells beef, lamb, chicken, pork and eggs.
- **Whitney and Thayer Woods/Turkey Hill.** Located off Route 3A and straddling the towns of Hingham and Cohasset, Whitney and Thayer Woods, a 114.5-acre property containing ten miles of carriage roads suitable for hiking. At the property's summit is Turkey Hill, a 62-acre property, co-managed by TTOR with the Towns of Cohasset and Hingham that held an anti-missile control station during the Cold War. The summit stands at 187 feet and offers spectacular views of the South Shore and Boston skyline. TTOR annually mows and maintains the fields atop Turkey Hill and at adjacent Weir River Farm as an ongoing effort to restore grassland bird species habitat.
- **World's End.** This 251-acre former gentleman's farm located off the far northeast coast of Hingham, became a TTOR property in the 1967. In the 19th century, Boston businessman John Brewer owned the property, and considered developing it into a 163-home residential subdivision. In 1890, he hired Frederick Law Olmsted to layout the property and design a circulation system.¹³ Four-and-a-half miles of carriage roads were constructed, but the houses were not, and today, World's End is one of Massachusetts's premiere open spaces. Site amenities include parking, benches, drinking fountains and port-a-potties. Recent improvements have included expansion to the parking area. TTOR is currently raising funds to construct a new visitor center with ADA-compliant restrooms.

HINGHAM LAND CONSERVATION TRUST PROPERTIES

¹³ The work at World's End likely was conducted by the Olmsted firm, rather than individually by Frederick Law Olmsted, who was elderly and unwell in 1890. Olmsted died in 1893.

The HLCT owns and manages a total of 106.96 acres of land distributed amongst five parcels. The largest of these is **Jacob's Meadow**, a 65-acre open space located between Main Street and Fulling Mill Brook and containing a hiking trail and trailside seating. Other publicly accessible properties of the HLCT include **Eel River Woods** (12.2 acres between Cushing Street and the Eel River) and **Whortleberry Hollow** (16 acres also accessible via Cushing Street).

EFFORTS TO PLAN FOR RECREATION NEEDS

Town of Hingham Master Plan (2001). Hingham's last master plan included a chapter devoted to recreation resources and included four goals aimed at (1) expanding the number and types of recreational venues; (2) adequately financing existing and new venues; (3) providing new parks and playgrounds in underserved neighborhoods; and (4) improving maintenance and activity coordination at existing recreation sites. The thirteen recommendations outline below emerged from the planning process. The extent to which each was implemented, if known, is shown in italics.

- Providing lighted playing fields and a stadium at the High School. *Lighting has been installed at the High School.*
- Providing a skateboard park. *A skateboard park was built at the Carlson Complex.*
- Supporting construction of a recreation facility at the Weymouth Naval Air Station.
- Funding improvements at Whitney Wharf. *The town has secured funding through the Community Preservation Act for multiple improvements at Whitney Wharf, including reconstruction of a pedestrian bridge in 2012 and lighting of the bridge in 2016.*
- Improving access to Bradley Woods playground.
- Supporting improvements and staffing at Lynch Field/Bare Cove Park.
- Providing a new park and playground in neighborhoods in the south part of Hingham.
- Investigating use of the former landfill for recreational purposes.
- Acquiring new playing fields through a swapping of land off White Horse Road.
- Acquiring lands adjacent to Kress Field for expansion.
- Increasing maintenance funding for DPW's Trees and Park Division.
- Coordinating activities of the various departments, commissions, trustees and committees that manage recreation sites and facilities.

Hingham Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan (2016-2023). An analysis of recreation needs identified the following:

- Provide more connections between recreation sites, through land acquisition and trail extensions;
- Provide improved access to waterfronts, including the harbor, rivers and ponds;
- Improve communication between the various entities managing recreation facilities and sites.

Of the five plan goals, Goal 3 specifically addressed recreation, ***“maintain and enhance Hingham’s formal and informal recreation facilities in an environmentally sensitive way in order to provide diverse recreation opportunities and access to fields, courts, playgrounds and major open spaces.”***

Objectives for meeting this goal included supporting and improving existing facilities; assessing the town’s recreational needs and filling in the gaps; creating links between close but non-contiguous open spaces to provide a more unified system of recreation facilities; and enhance public access to the waterfront.

Hingham Comprehensive Trails Plan (2015). Completed in 2015, the Comprehensive Trails Plan addressed a concern about the growth of residential development in Hingham, and the detrimental impacts on unprotected open space. Driven by a public engagement process and directed by a citizen-based Trails Committee, the plan included an inventory of existing open space and trails, recommendations for future connections, and designs for access, trails, and trail signage.

Community Preservation Act (CPA). As discussed earlier in this chapter under Open Space, Hingham was one of the municipalities in Massachusetts to adopt the CPA, and since 2003, has awarded funding to 138 projects, roughly 15% of which fell under the recreation category. Projects have ranged in scope from playground upgrades, to athletic field improvements, to pedestrian bridge construction at Whitney Wharf.

Comprehensive Athletic Field and Outdoor Court Study (2020). At the end of 2019, the Town of Hingham launched a project to inventory the fields and courts, assess conditions, identify maintenance issues, and make recommendations for future additions, improvements, and long-term management. The project, funded by CPA, was in progress at the time of compilation of this inventory chapter.

Regional Considerations

Watershed Protection. Hingham lies within the Weir River Watershed which feeds into the larger Boston Harbor Watershed. The Weir River Watershed also occupies land in adjacent towns. Critical to safeguarding the environment and water quality associated with these areas will be cooperation and coordination between Hingham and its neighbors.

Wildlife Protection. Like Hingham, most towns in the South Shore Region are facing tremendous development pressure, brought on by rising home prices in Boston, and the completion of the Greenbush Commuter Rail Line. Unplanned development can lead to land fragmentation and destabilization of wildlife habitat – habitat that crosses town boundaries. Cooperation and coordination between neighboring towns, as well as local and regional land trusts will be essential to preservation of wildlife habitat, to the full extent possible.

Sea Level Rise/Coastal Flooding. As sea levels continue to rise, coastal flooding will increase if Hingham and its neighbors do not coordinate mitigation efforts. This will involve regulating development both along and at the headwaters of the Weir and Weymouth Back Rivers which flow through Hingham, but originate in other towns.

Community Connections. Opportunity exists to create a regional trail system, connecting Hingham with neighbors to the south along the coast. Existing trails exist at the Weir Farm that connect to Whitney and Thayer Woods, and Wompatuck State Park. Extensions to this system could be made through cooperation with other South Coast towns.

Issues and Opportunities

NATURAL RESOURCES

Residents and key stakeholders have expressed concern about water quality and quantity, including the need to conserve water in a much more proactive way. Hingham's existing watershed protection district is one of the town's largest environmental protection measures. **Opportunity exists to update/strengthen the regulations associated with this district, and to take additional measures, such as regulating the watering of lawns, to ensure a safe and sufficient water supply.**

OPEN SPACE

Currently, Hingham contains more than 4,000 acres of protected open space through ownership and easement held by the town and land trusts.¹⁴ The cost of both purchasing and maintaining open space is high. **Opportunity exists for these entities to take better care of what they have rather than acquiring more land, and explore alternative approaches to managing this land (friends groups, cooperatives, etc.)**

Hingham's seven cemeteries and burying grounds are privately owned, and an abandoned burying ground was recently discovered on Canterbury Street, bringing the total number to eight. While these are (minimally) protected from desecration by Massachusetts General Law, management of them is the responsibility of each owner. **Opportunity exists for the town take steps to acquire those that are not currently governed by a private corporation or association.**

Many of the open space parcels in Hingham are disconnected from one another. A recently developed trails plan identified many opportunities for making connections. **Opportunity exists for the town to devote more resources to establishing these connections.**

RECREATION

The town has recently commissioned a recreation fields assessment to better understand existing conditions and forecast long term needs. **Given the many priorities for more and improved public services (including a new senior center and library), the town will need to balance support for field recommendations with other needs.**

Hingham maintains several neighborhood playgrounds, each with a shelf-life of 20 to 30 years. ***Opportunity exists for the town to explore more sustainable approaches to designing and building playgrounds.***

As observed in the inventory, a total of nine entities of town government, including departments, committees, trustees and partnerships, manage 98 parcels and over 2,800 acres of open space and recreation land. ***Opportunity exists to consolidate and streamline this management, to minimize cost and increase efficiency.***

List of Sources

DOCUMENTS

Town of Hingham Master Plan, 2001
Town of Hingham Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan, 2016-2023
Town of Hingham Comprehensive Trails Study, 2015

WEBSITES

Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/list-of-endangered-threatened-and-special-concern-species>
Town of Hingham: <https://hingham-ma.gov/>
The Trustees of Reservations: <https://thetrustees.org>
U. S. Department of Agriculture Soils Series: <https://soilseries.sc.egov.usda.gov/>
Wildlands Trust: <https://wildlandstrust.org>

INTERVIEWS

Mary Savage Dunham, Administrator, Town of Hingham Planning Department
Loni Fournier, Administrator, Hingham Conservation Commission
Mark Thorell, Hingham Recreation Department
Vicki Donlan, Hingham Recreation Commission
Jennifer Young, Hingham Elder Services

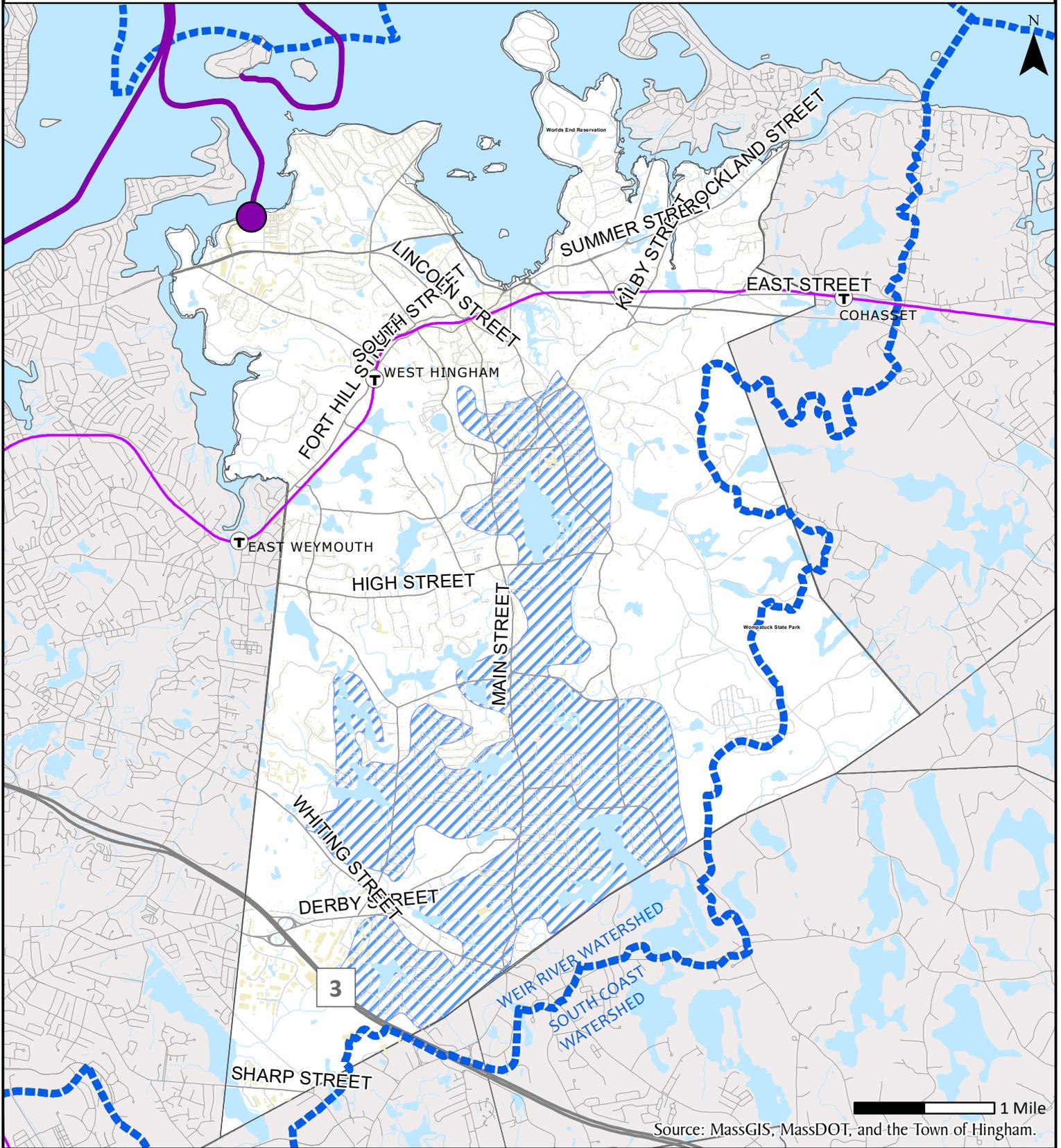
Water Resources

KEY

- ROADWAYS
 - State Route
 - Local Roads
- Commuter Rail
- Commuter Line
- Ferry Routes
- Open Water
- Watershed Boundary
- Aquifer Protection Zone



Date Issued: March 12, 2020



Source: MassGIS, MassDOT, and the Town of Hingham.

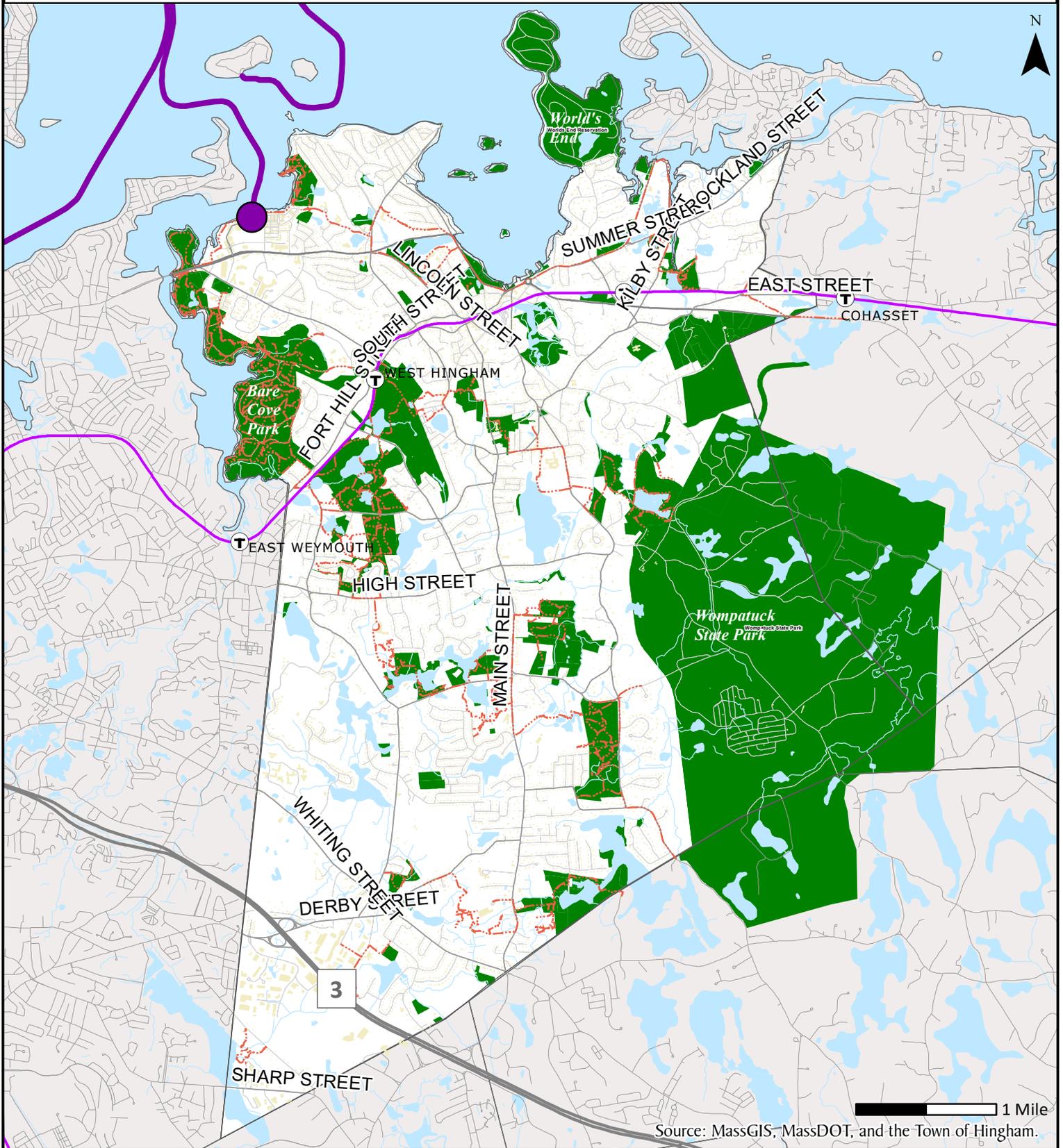
HINGHAM MASTER PLAN

Protected Open Space

- ROADWAYS
- State Route
 - Local Roads
 - Commuter Rail
 - Commuter Line
 - Ferry Routes
 - Open Water
 - Open Space
 - Protected In Perpetuity
 - Conservation Trails



Date Issued: March 14, 2020



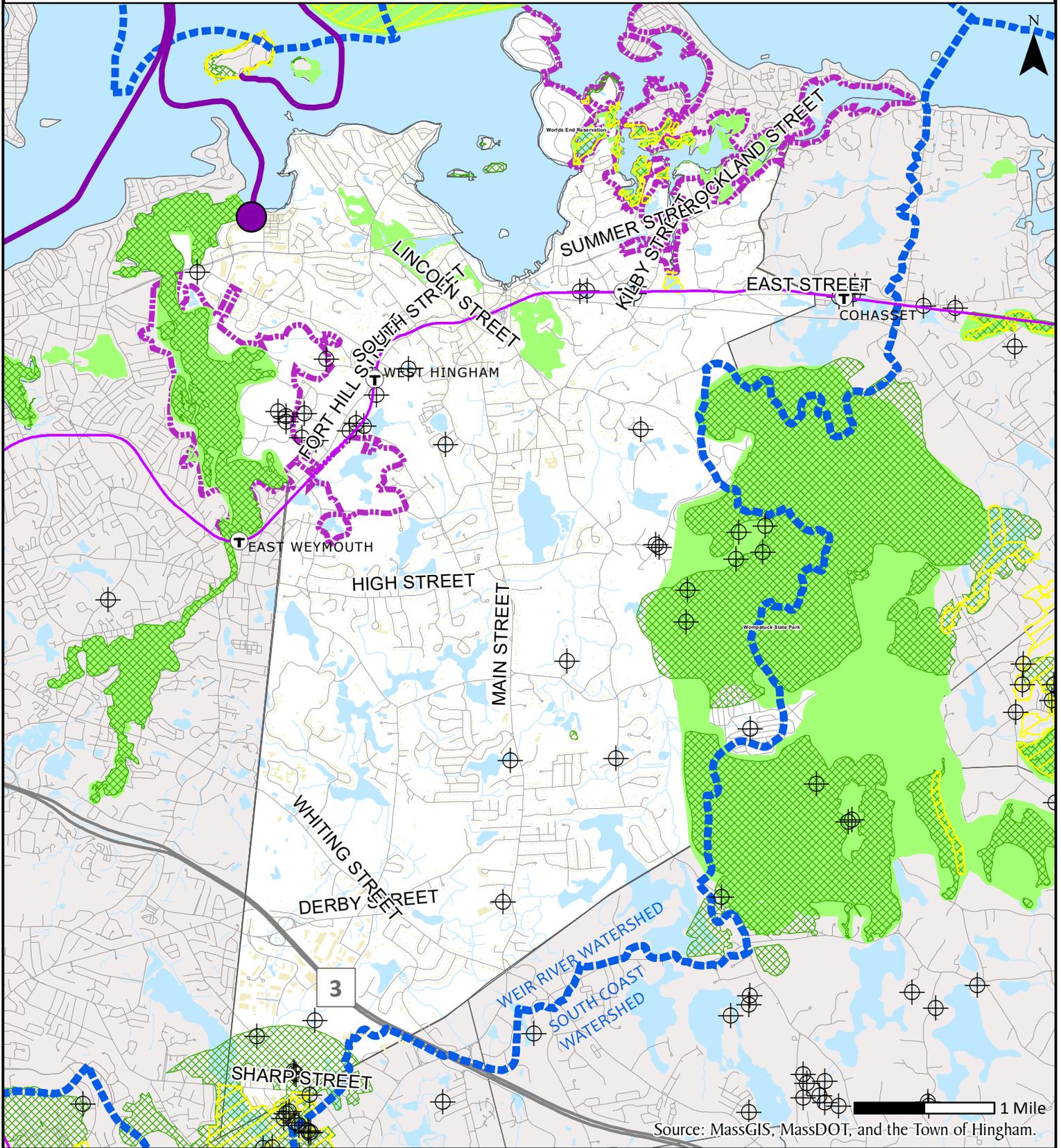
HINGHAM MASTER PLAN

Wildlife

- State Route
- Local Roads
- Ⓣ Commuter Rail
- Commuter Line
- Ferry Routes
- Open Water
- Watershed Boundary
- ⊕ Certified Vernal Pools
- BioMap2 Core Habitat
- BioMap2 Critical Natural Landscape
- Area of Critical Environmental Concern



Date Issued: March 19, 2020



Source: MassGIS, MassDOT, and the Town of Hingham. 1 Mile