

**Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed
Wild and Scenic Rivers Stewardship Council
Meeting Agenda**



February 22, 2023, 6 pm to 8 pm, in person or on Zoom

WPWA Campus, 203 Arcadia Road, Hope Valley, RI 02832

ZOOM Web Conference

Login:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88521365590?pwd=djFZOXp0azFaRDYwaHh5dHh4UFBGUT09>

Meeting ID: 885 2136 5590

Passcode: Steward

Dial-in:

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 885 2136 5590

Passcode: 5367745

Call to Order please keep comments brief and on topic so many people can participate in the discussion

Secretary's Report: Approval of Minutes of December 14, 2022 meeting

Financial Report:

1. Approval of the Bi-Monthly Financial Report.
2. Motion to Accept NPS budget request and transfer. Stewardship Council approves a NPS Budget Request annually in February.

Projects Committee – Grant Program:

1. Present and accept motion to fund each individually:
 - a. The Town of Richmond, and its Conservation Commission for signage about Beaver River, ORVs and Grasslands
 - b. Charlestown Land Trust for a Conservation Easement
 - c. The Narragansett Chapter of the AMC, for a kiosk in Charlestown about Narragansett Trail & ORVs
 - d. Westerly Land Trust for water monitoring
 - e. Peter Stetson dba Educational Mapping Service to offer all watershed teachers Professional Development in GIS
 - f. North Stonington Sustainability Committee for Youth Education & Field Experience
 - g. Hopkinton Land Trust for Riparian Plantings and Invasive Management
 - h. The Town of Richmond, and its Conservation Commission for Invasive Plant Management
2. Present those not selected for funding:
 - a. Exeter Public Library for a Native Plant Garden
 - b. RI Dept of Environmental Management for a conservation and patrol e-bike
 - c. North Stonington Conservation Commission for an Accessible Trail

Executive Committee (7:30 pm)

1. Update on Interim Coordinator and Job Description

View as PDF: https://wpwilddrivers.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2023-24-WS-Budget_02.07.2023.pdf

Download as Excel spreadsheet: https://wpwilddrivers.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2023-24-WS-Budget_02.07.2023.xlsx

Draft 02/07/2023							
Wood-Pawcatuck W&S							
Budget 424A							
2023-24		# Notes on Budget Transfer					
		* Notes on Carryover					
		Additional Notes					
	1	Staffing, Outsourcing & Interns	Remaining as of 12/20/2022	Obligated	Projected Carryover by 06/30/2023	Request to NPS	Narrative
		a Outreach Publications & Communications	28,485		6,951	-	# \$17K of carryover (projected to be \$23,951) transferred to 1e to cover the cost of the Facilitation process and other contractual commitments in winter/spring 2023. The transfer decreases the carryover to \$6,951. * No new NPS funds requested, carryover will meet this need. Funding is unused for contracted writer and for NPS WSRS logo signs on state roads because the national department of transportation manual currently doesn't include logo installations on state roads. Funds will be used for publicization of events and restocking tabling/outreach materials.
		b Website Maintenance	2,759		2,364	-	* Carryover will meet this need. Website overhaul has been unnecessary, and yearly maintenance is sufficiently covered with these funds.
		c Coordinator (1.0 FTE hours @ \$40/hr)	48,798		32,000	40,800	* Carryover plus new funds will cover the salary for Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinator 35 hrs/wk @\$40/hr. Details of the position are subject to change as they will be discussed in the Facilitation process. Role is to coordinate the WSR management council and projects. Responsibilities are to oversee and implement the management plan and work plans.
		d GIS & Mapping Service	5,540		5,540	-	* No new NPS funds requested, carryover will meet this need. Compensate a consultant to provide these services, such as mapping a sign inventory and serving town needs.
		e Expert Consultant	32,129	43,000	-	25,000	# Transfer \$17K carryover from 1a to 1e. Funds obligated to existing RCOD contract \$6K, and earmarked for next contract on LID \$19K, interim coordinator \$12K, facilitation process \$13K. The transfer will cover these expenses. New funds: compensate an environmental planning firm and University of Rhode Island's Program Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials to provide draft and support towns adopt resource protection and enhancement ordinances (e.g. Low Impact Development). Environmental planning firm and University staff at average \$185 per hour will perform 135 hours.
		g Program Director (950 hours @ \$40/hr)		10,872	15,700	22,300	# Transfer carryover of \$15.7K from 2b Signature Event will supplement this line item. * Details of this position are subject to change. The exact responsibilities and expenses will be discussed in the Facilitation process. Salary for Wild and Scenic Rivers Program Director 20 hrs/wk @\$40/hr. Role is to direct programs and events. Responsibilities are to oversee and implement the grants program, expert consultant working on low impact development, Youth Adventure Program and Signature Event.
	2	Programs					
		a Enhancement Projects	73,061	77,386	38,693	70,959	*Obligated funds include \$30K grants, \$22K Briggs, \$3.7K Natives, and \$22K for public access improvement contracts. About half of the obligated funds will be spent this winter/spring. The remaining obligated, but unspent funds will carryover to next FY for payment. Wild and Scenic River Management Plan Implementation Grants for internal programs and for partners to implement the management plan. Grants recipient must either supply proof of payment for reimbursement with the grant application, or sign a memorandum of agreement which follows NPS & Stewardship Council guidelines. \$4K - \$12K per grant award.
		b Events (ex public paddles)	24,813		2,691	4,000	# Transfer \$15.7K carryover from 7 Rivers Festival event to 1g to cover salary for Program Director. * \$2,373 of carryover is reserved for Green Fall Art Portfolio. New funding will be used to lead hikes, paddles, art creations and presentations throughout the year.
		c River Trail Maintenance			-	7,000	Clear blowdowns, hazards, and obstructions in popular paddling sections of the Wood and Pawcatuck Rivers.
		e Water Quality Monitoring	511		-	10,500	Water Quality Monitoring Data for each of the designated rivers to be collected, processed and then publicly published.
		f Youth Adventure Program			-	1,800	Education and Recreational trips to be overseen and implemented by Program Director. This funding supports kayak supplies and bus transportation for youth travel to river site.
	4	Miscellaneous Costs					
		a Insurance	1,878		-	3,150	Cost for events, Wild and Scenic meeting, storage and office space to be covered by Auto, General Commercial Liability, Flood Insurance and Directors and Officers Insurance.
		b Mileage	1,194		694	1,500	Provides the Coordinator and Program Director travel of 2,290 miles @65.5c/mile federal rate.
		c Supplies	1,164		1,164	3,900	Office supplies (e.g., office equipment, repairs and maintenance; office expense, conference line, internet based document storage and sharing; paper, toner, chart paper, postage and shipping).
		d Workshop Attendance	1,974		1,584	-	* No new NPS funds requested, carryover will meet the expense of staff and council members to attend workshops, trainings, etc.
	5	Total Direct Costs	222,304			190,909	
	6	Indirect and Accounting (10%)	16,955			19,091	
		TOTAL	239,259		107,381	210,000	

3. DETAILED GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS

The following content was written by Projects Committee Members:

1. Eric Thomas, CT DEEP
2. Madeline Jeffery, N Stonington
3. Nan Quinlan, Exeter
4. Andrew McNulty, WPWA
5. Elaine Caldarone, N Stonington

Over just 7 weeks, Committee members spent **over 118 hours** reviewing, assessing, discussing decisions and formalizing recommendations for funding (and not funding) the following grant applications. Each title includes the town(s), applicant and title of their proposal. Description, relevant ORVs / Action Strategies, amount requested and committee recommendation follows.

TOWN: RICHMOND, RI

APPLICANT: TOWN OF RICHMOND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

APPLICATION TITLE: STRENGTHENING PUBLIC EDUCATION: HIGHLIGHTING ORVs OF THE WILD AND SCENIC BEAVER RIVER (SIGNAGE)

Description: There are two (2) outdoor educational signs to be developed and installed at Beaver River Park. One sign will explain the Exceptional Ecosystem values of the Beaver River and the on-site natural and recreational resources. One sign will explain the invasive, non-native plant management on this property and the benefits accrued for the increasingly rare native grassland habitat and the hydrological connections with the park's vegetated riparian buffer.

ORVs and Action Strategies (identified within Chapter 6 Stewardship Plan):

ORV: Exceptional Ecosystems

ORV: Scenic and Recreation

ORV: Geology and Hydrology

ORV: Cultural

- Pg 146, Ecosystem Action Plan, B, Protect and Enhance Coldwater Fisheries
- Pg 147, Ecosystem Action Plan, B2, Minimize the Effect of Non-Native Invasive Species
- Pg 148-149, Ecosystem Action Plan, B, Educating the Public about River Ecology and the Ways to Keep Rivers Healthy
- Pg 150, Cultural Action Plan, A, Preserve and Protect Cultural Resources

Funding Request: \$2,251

Committee Recommendation: Our Committee recommends Richmond's grant request. This request fully aligns with the goals of the Stewardship Plan and for this community grant program. The project is anticipated to be completed by early summer 2023.

/Eric Thomas February 15, 2023

TOWN: CHARLESTOWN, RI

APPLICANT: CHARLESTOWN LAND TRUST

APPLICATION TITLE: RICCI CONSERVATION EASEMENT

Description: This project will place 40 acres of the Amos Greene Farm into a legally binding conservation easement, protecting against adverse development pressures. This property adjoins a larger landscape

complex of about 850 acres, is within 0.33 miles from the Pawcatuck River, and includes a working CSA farm (Sweet Pea Farm).

ORVs and Action Strategies (identified within Chapter 6 Stewardship Plan):

ORV: Exceptional Ecosystems

ORV: Geology and Hydrology

ORV: Cultural

ORV: Scenic and Recreation

- Pg. 141, Hydrology Plan, A6, Conserve Land
- Pg. 143, Hydrology Plan, B1, Promote Aquifer Protection and Preserve Hydrology
- Pg. 145, Ecosystem Action Plan, A1, Purchase Conservation Easements
- Pg. 145, Ecosystem Action Plan, A6, Conserve Contiguous Habitat
- Pg. 146, Ecosystem Action Plan, A8, Protect Land Corridors
- Pg. 150, Cultural Action Plan, A5, Protect Historical and Cultural Character
- Pg. 150, Cultural Action Plan, A6, Protect Traditional Landscapes (including working landscapes)
- Pg. 151, Cultural Action Plan, A10, Develop Compatibly
- Pg. 151, Cultural Action Plan, B1, Preserve Agricultural Soil
- Pg. 151, Cultural Action Plan, B2, Preserve Working Farms
- Pg. 151, Cultural Action Plan, B4, Support Alternative Incomes for Farming
- Pg. 155, Scenic and Recreation Action Plan, E1, Protect Viewshed

Funding Request: \$4,000

Committee Recommendation: Our Committee recommends Charlestown Land Trust's grant request. The requested Council funds will preserve additional acreage near the Pawcatuck River for agricultural use and to preserve contiguous forested habitat in support of a developing greenway in Charlestown. The applicant has an excellent working relationship with this land donor as shown with previous conservation easements. Landowner has significant and documented land preservation experience. The applicant has done their due diligence, survey is done, subdivision is 99% done, and legal aspects are in progress. A large, in-kind service match is stated. The project is anticipated to be completed by early summer 2023.

/Eric Thomas February 15, 2023

AMC NARRAGANSETT TRAIL RESTORATION PROJECT KIOSK, CARTER PRESERVE

CHARLESTOWN LOCATION

AMC: Appalachian Mountain Club

TNC: The Nature Conservancy

Description:

An existing kiosk along the 44-mile Narragansett Trail as it passes through the TNC's Carter Preserve in Charlestown needs to be restored structurally and updated with new interpretive signage. Much of the rotting wood siding, roof, and walls need repair, with the existing cement ground cover to be replaced with more porous crushed stone. The request is for one-half of the grant fund, with partners and volunteers assuming the remainder cost.

ORV's & Action Strategies:

Ecosystems

Cultural

Scenic and Recreation

Ecosystem Action E: pg 148: Educate the public about river ecology and river health

Cultural Action A: pg 150: Preserve and protect cultural resources

Recreation Action C: pg 154: Provide opportunities for hikers and walkers along rivers

Recreation Action D: pg 154-155: Inform the public and be informed

Funding Request: \$2,000

Committee Recommendations:

Our committee recommends AMC's grant request. In the kiosk's reconstruction and informational updating, the intent is to convey a fresh understanding of both our New England history and special environment to the hikers along The Narragansett Trail from South Kingston RI's Worden Pond to North Stonington, CT's Lantern Hill. The new signage will include the Pawcatuck River's NPS status within the Wood Pawcatuck watershed as part of this active AMC trail environment.

Madeline Jeffery February 15, 2023

WESTERLY LAND TRUST, WATER QUALITY MONITORING PHASE II AT MASTUXET BROOK, WESTERLY

WLT: Westerly Land Trust

URI: University of Rhode Island

Description:

Within University of Rhode Island's Watershed Watch, WLT programs for both teachers and their students will continue. WLT plans to expand its Mastuxet Brook Cove water testing with the purchase and installation of new equipment: water temperature data loggers, a streamflow gauging station, and interpretive signage. This cove is known as a "hot spot of pollution" and needs this help.

ORV's & Action Strategies:

Hydrology

Ecosystems

Hydrology Action Plan A: Pg 141 Monitor water quality and river gauges, impaired waters

Pg 142 Improve water quality, best practices from pollutants

Ecosystem Action Plan B: Pg 147 Preserve and enhance coldwater fisheries resources

Funding Request: \$1,920

Committee Recommendation:

The Projects Committee recommends Westerly Land Trust's request. Mastuxet Brook Cove is one of known high pollution. The advantages of the new and more advanced equipment will enable WLT, their collaborators URI and Save The Bay, to hold river programs for both teachers and students, will help to identify point-sources of pollution and will educate the public about the importance of scheduled monitoring of critical native habitat.

Madeline Jeffery February 15, 2023

APPLICATION TITLE: WATERSHED WIDE, PETER STETSON DBA EDUCATIONAL MAPPING SERVICES, KNOW YOUR PLACE IN THE WATERSHED

Description: Peter Stetson is President of Educational Mapping Services. He delivers professional development workshops to RI teachers in Geospatial Technology in Education. This 6.5 hour training will enable teachers to create a lesson on many facets of the Watershed using tools such as ArcGIS online, Living World Atlas, Storymaps, and ArcGIS123. The developed course must address one or more of the ORVs and Action Strategies below and will be taught to middle and high school students in the fall 2023. Teachers will receive a stipend for attending the training and developing their course.

ORVs/Action Strategies

- Action Plan Strategies (Potential Based on Educator's Lesson)
- Pg 137, Identifying Threats, Climate Change
- Pg 138, Identifying Threats, Invasive Species
- Pg 141, Hydrology Plan, A2, Continue to operate USGS river gages
- Pg 142, Hydrology Plan, A11, Plan for pollutant spills
- Pg 146, Ecosystem Action Plan, B1, Raise awareness about streams
- Pg 147, Ecosystem Action Plan, D2, Raise awareness about invasives
- Pg 148, Ecosystem Action Plan, E6, Pursue education opportunities
- Pg 149, Ecosystem Action Plan, E7, Engage school-aged children
- Pg 149, Ecosystem Action Plan, E7, Teach watershed science to teachers
- Pg 149, Ecosystem Action Plan, E11, Build an educational network
- Pg 150, Cultural Action Plan, A2, Emphasize our connection with the rivers
- Pg 152, Scenic and Recreation Action Plan, A5, Balance multiple uses
- Pg 154, Scenic and Recreation Action Plan, C3, Teach multi-use principles

Funding Request: \$4,000

Committee Recommendation: Fund this application. This grant has the potential to inform many dozens of students from many different towns about the watershed, and visualize their place in it. Potential for expansion/repeat in future if successful. The applicant is recommended by RI Envirothon and Southern RI Conservation District. GIS is an excellent tool for teaching watershed dynamics, which can be a difficult topic to comprehend. Offering teachers a stipend to expand their teaching capabilities is commendable.

-Nan Quinlan 2/14/23

TITLE: NORTH STONINGTON, TOWN SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE, NORTH STONINGTON 6TH GRADE WATERSHED EDUCATION

Description: The program follows the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) curriculum implemented throughout the state. Students, study, touch, and interact with plants and animals and study their habitats. The program takes place on Barn Island and while outside of the watershed program is generated by a watershed town. In addition, the STEM curriculum and the water quality lessons in the program have relevancy and application for similar learning programs conducted in fresh water. Project Oceanology is a non-profit organization educational and research facility that has encouraged interest and participation by students in marine sciences since 1972.

ORVs and Action Strategies:

- Pg 142, Hydrology Action Plan, A10, Practice bioretention
- Pg 143, Hydrology Action Plan, B3, Encourage rainwater reuse
- Pg 146, Ecosystem Action Plan, B1, Raise awareness about streams
- Pg 149, Ecosystem Action Plan, E7, Engage school-aged children

Funding Request: \$3,463

Committee Recommendation: Fund this application to provide all 6th graders in one town with memorable, exciting experiences with environmental education. Project Oceanology is reputable and uses state required Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) curriculum. Funding this application elevates youth education opportunity within the watershed. Although Barn Island is technically outside of the watershed this is an example of 'takes place within a watershed town but not limited to the physical boundaries of the watershed.' The Committee realizes estuarine/marine ecosystems make up a small portion of the watershed, yet the watersheds and water quality lessons for this grade level are applicable to fresh water.

-Nan Quinlan 2/14/23

HOPKINTON, TOWN LAND TRUST, INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT AND NATIVE PLANTINGS ALONG BRUSHY BROOK TRAIL

Description: The objectives of this proposal are to (1) manage the invasive knotweed patches along Brushy Brook using mechanical and chemical methods, and (2) reestablish vegetation in disturbed areas by planting native trees and shrubs. Knotweed removal will be performed by an environmental management company focused on wetland restoration and invasive management. Plantings are proposed where knotweed has been removed and in previously disturbed areas to discourage unauthorized foot traffic.

ORVs and Action Strategies:

- Pg 141, Hydrology Plan, A4, Protect Riparian Buffers
- Pg 145, Ecosystem Plan, A4, Protect Vegetative Buffers
- Pg 145, Ecosystem Plan, A7, Carefully site new trails and river accesses
- Pg 146, Ecosystem Plan, B2, Protect Brooks
- Pg 148, Ecosystem Plan, D4, Encourage native plantings
- Pg 154, Scenic and Recreation, C1, Practice Trail Stewardship

Funding Request: \$3,000.00

Committee Recommendation: Fund this application along Brushy Brook, a Wild and Scenic Tributary to the Wood River. This invasive management plan references leading research on knotweed removal and proposes hiring a company specialized in wetland restoration and invasive management. Approval from RIDEM for invasive removal was provided. The applicant recognizes the need for continued invasive management on Brushy Brook. The goals of the applicant are shared by the Council's Stewardship Plan.

-Andrew McNulty 2/15/2023

RICHMOND, BEAVER RIVER PARK - GRASSLAND REHABILITATION AND INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

Description: The Town of Richmond seeks to improve a unique grassland habitat at Beaver River Park. Funds are requested to partially cover material and labor costs involved in restoring 3.5 acres of grassland in the North Cell area. This action is the second phase of the Beaver River Park Plant Management and Public Access Plan. Phase 1 of this plan received funding from the WSRC in 2022. *Management Plan:* <http://www.richmondri.com/DocumentCenter/View/2351/BeaverRiverPark-PlantManagementPublicAccessPlan-Final-09-2022>

ORVs and Action Strategies:

- Pg 141, Hydrology Plan, A4, Protect Riparian Buffers
- Pg 145, Ecosystem Plan, A4, Protect Vegetative Buffers
- Pg 147, Ecosystem Action Plan, D1, Monitor Invasive Species
- Pg 148, Ecosystem Action Plan, E2, Engage Town and State Agencies
- Pg 149, Ecosystem Action Plan, E10, Promote Stewardship
- Pg 151, Cultural Action Plan, B1, Preserve Agricultural Soil
- Pg 155, Scenic and Recreation Action Plan, E1, Protect Viewshed

Funding Request: \$4,000.00

Committee Recommendation: Fund this application to restore native grasslands near the Beaver River, a Wild and Scenic tributary to the Pawcatuck River. Wildlife dependent on grassland habitat have experienced a rate of decline faster than any other New England species (UNH Extension). Grass as a land

cover type provides the greatest level of ground and surface water filtration. Funding this plant management project will play a role in preserving rare and threatened habitat, as well as supporting natural means of water conservation within our watershed.

-Andrew McNulty 2/15/2023

EXETER, TOWN PUBLIC GARDEN, CHILDREN'S NATIVE PLANTS LEARNING & DISCOVERY GARDEN

Description: Currently, an Exeter public playground contains a 1,200 sq ft garden that is populated with overgrown shrubs and non-native plants. The grant applicant is requesting funds to be used to hire a design consultant, install informational signs and purchase plant material to transform the existing area into a children's discovery garden focused on native plants.

ORVs and Action Strategies:

From applicant:

- Hydrology / Geology
- Exceptional Ecosystems
- Scenic / Recreation
- Pg. 142, Hydrology Action Plan, A13, Encourage best practices for property owners
- Pg. 143, Hydrology Action Plan, B3, Encourage rainwater reuse
- Pg 145, Ecosystem Action Plan, A6, Conserve contiguous habitat
- Pg 146, Ecosystem Action Plan, A8, Protect land corridors
- Pg 147, Ecosystem Action Plan, D2, Raise awareness about invasives
- Pg 148, Ecosystem Action Plan, D4, Encourage native plantings
- Pg. 154, Scenic and Recreation Action Plan, D1, Publicize the Wild and Scenic River Program

Funding Request: \$4,000

Committee Recommendation: Not to fund this grant application

Although the committee supported the concept of promoting native plantings, the proposal itself was lacking in specifics. The garden area is large and will require a large number of plants, mulch, and upkeep. The grant applicant did not address the additional funding that would be needed for pathways or mulch, did not adequately address future upkeep of such a large area, and the application did not contain a list of potential native plants. The garden location is far from any water and the connection to the watershed was tenuous.

-Elaine Caldarone, 2/13/2023

WATERSHED WIDE; RI DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, ECOSYSTEM AND RECREATION PATROL AND MONITORING

Description: RIDEM maintains thousands of acres of conservation land in Rhode Island for wildlife habitat and the enjoyment of outdoor recreational enthusiasts. The agency is requesting funds to purchase an electric-assisted bicycle in order to expand the areas they currently access and patrol, with a focus on RI DEM managed land in Charlestown, Richmond, West Greenwich and Hopkinton.

ORVs and Action Strategies: listed by applicant...

Scenic and Recreational,
Exceptional Ecosystems

Geology and Hydrology

Cultural

Wild and Scenic River Values: free flowing condition

- Pg. 142 Hydrology Action Plan, A11 Plan for Pollutant Spills
- Pg. 145, Ecosystem Action Plan, A2, Protect Habitats and Corridors
- Pg. 145 Ecosystem Action Plan, A3, Protect Riparian Zones
- Pg. 145, Ecosystem Action Plan, A5, Restore Streambeds
- Pg. 145, Ecosystem Action Plan, A6, Conserve Contiguous Habitat
- Pg. 148, Ecosystem Action Plan, E5, Engage the Public
- Pg. 152, Scenic Recreation Action Plan, A6, Promote Responsible Angling
- Pg. 153, Scenic Recreation Action Plan, B9, Encourage Clean Boating
- Pg. 154., Scenic Recreation Action Plan, C1, Practice Trail Stewardship
- Pg. 154, Scenic Recreation Action Plan, C3, Teach Multi-Use Principles
- Pg. 154, Scenic Recreation Action Plan, D4, Engage Public in Nature-focused wildlife Viewing
- Pg. 154, Scenic Recreation Action Plan, D5, Responsive to variety of recreational interests

Funding Request: \$4,000

Committee Recommendation: not to fund this grant application

Although the proposal was intriguing, the Projects Committee did not feel that the electric bicycle would result in significant watershed-value support beyond easier reconnaissance trips for the RI DEM. There was no documentation supporting the decision to purchase the particular brand of electric bicycle requested.

-Elaine Caldarone, 2/13/2023

NORTH STONINGTON, TOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION, ASSEKONK BORDERLANDS TRAIL

Description: The applicant is proposing to transform an existing town walking trail to a universally accessible trail. The trail would allow views of the Assekonk Swamp Wildlife Area and be ¾ mile long, cross three low lying areas of approximately 200' in length and require a 10" culvert under each crossing to allow any seasonal water flow. The applicant is requesting funds for Phase 1 only which would entail purchasing and laying non-woven textile fabric over the existing trail. Phase 2 of this project involves purchasing and laying processed semi-permeable stone on top of the fabric and also creating a universally accessible parking area.

ORVs and Action Strategies:

Pg. 153 Scenic and Recreation Action Plan, B3, Support handicapped access

Pg. 154, Scenic and Recreation Action Plan, C6, Encourage universal accessibility

Funding Request: \$4,000

Committee Recommendation: not to fund this grant application

The committee had concerns regarding trail planning in this sensitive area. The application would have benefitted from a detailed plan created by a consultant experienced in both universal design of paths and permits needed within wet areas. Phase 1 of this project cannot be completed without Phase 2 funds. Funding of Phase 2 has not been secured.

-Elaine Caldarone, 2/13/2023

SOUTH KINGSTOWN, ZACHARY SIROWICH, THE COMPASS SCHOOL TRAILWAY

Not reviewed because application was incomplete due to lack of necessary permits for building trails on private and school properties.