



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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In accordance with notice to members of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council's Planning and Procedures subcommittee, a meeting of the subcommittee was held on Tuesday, October 21, 2008 at Coastal Resources Management Council, Stedman Government Center, 4808 Tower Hill Road, Wakefield, RI.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Paul Lemont, Vice Chair
Dave Abedon
Bruce Dawson
Don Gomez
Russ Chateaufneuf, DEM

STAFF PRESENT

Jeff Willis, Deputy Director
James Boyd, Coastal Policy Analyst
Laura Ricketson Dwyer, Public Ed/Outreach Coord

John Longo, Legal Counsel

OTHER ATTENDEES

Wendy Waller, Save the Bay
Ames Colt, Coordination Team
Allison Castellan, OCRM
Doug Groff

Call to Order. Mr. Lemont called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m.

The Vice Chair thanked everyone for accommodating the change in venue and time of the meeting and expressed his appreciation for their commitment to the subcommittee.

The Vice Chair opened the meeting and asked for a motion to approve the September 16, 2008 meeting minutes.

Mr. Dawson seconded by Mr. Gomez moved to approve the meeting minutes of September 16, 2008. All voted in favor of the motion to approve. Mr. Chateaufneuf abstained.

Item 4.A. Greenwich Bay SAMP – Proposed Water Type Revisions. J. Boyd presented the proposed revisions to the waters in and around Chepiwanoxet Point and Baker's Creek, as detailed in October 17, 2008 memorandum (attached). J. Boyd noted that City of Warwick sought and supports such changes.

Mr. Gomez seconded by Mr. Dawson moved to approve the proposed revisions as presented. All voted in favor of the motion to approve.

Item 4.B. MetroBay SAMP – Proposed Hazards Chapter. J. Boyd presented the draft Hazards Chapter that has been vetted by the four communities and staff. He presented the involvement of the State Building Commissioners office, and the discussions on freeboard requirements. Also, detailed how these discussions will dovetail into Section 145 of the RICRMP. It was discussed by the subcommittee

that sea level is rising faster than previously believed – examples were given of the arctic ice shelf and the Greenland ice sheets melt rates. Jon Boothroyd, state geologist, provided updates for the draft chapter. Mr. Lemont questioned some data in the Project List section of the plan, as did Mr. Gomez, and staff will make appropriate revisions. Mr. Gomez asked staff to provide an executive summary.

Mr. Abedon seconded by Mr. Gomez moved to accept and begin rule-making for the draft Hazards chapter of the Metro Bay SAMP. All voted in favor of the motion to approve.

Item 5.A. Aquidneck Island SAMP – Workshop to Introduce the Draft Coastal Development Regulations. J. Willis and J. Boyd presented the draft coastal development regulations for the AISAMP. Nine various public meetings and presentations have been held on the island between the three communities, with the latest held the previous week with the West Side Master plan proponents from the three communities. J. Boyd explained the excise process regarding Navy property. J. Willis and J. Boyd explained the CZM federal consistency process vis-à-vis possible requirements for development within the AISAMP. J. Boyd explained coastal development regulations for the SAMP and their similarity and differences with the Metro Bay SAMP’s UCG regulations. Staff is seeking P&P subcommittee oversight to AI SAMP and attendance at workshop to formally unveil the coastal development regulations.

Mr. Gomez attended last week’s presentation of the draft coastal development regulations and was impressed with the level of local and state cooperation as evidenced by the number of local officials at this meeting. Mr. Lemont noted that when developing SAMPS the CRMC has been very active in working cooperatively with local communities to accommodate their needs and logistics and offered that the subcommittee would welcome the opportunity to hold a dedicated meeting and workshop on the island to formally introduce the draft coastal development regulations.

Mr. Lemont asked when such a meeting might occur. Staff responded that the December 2008 subcommittee meeting is the most realistic opportunity to hold such a meeting. Hearing no objections, Mr. Lemont directed staff to coordinate with the local communities the schedules of the subcommittee members and hold such a meeting and workshop in December.

NEW BUSINESS. J. Willis noted that a possible near-future issue of discussion is the water type designations surrounding various small island complexes in the salt ponds.

ADJOURNMENT. Mr. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Abedon, moved to adjourn the subcommittee meeting. All voted in favor of the motion and the meeting was promptly adjourned at 9:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by

DRAFT

Jeffrey M Willis, Deputy Director



Memorandum

To: Michael Tikoian, Chair; Council members; Grover Fugate; and Jeff Willis
From: James Boyd, CRMC Coastal Policy Analyst
Date: October 17, 2008
Re: Proposed water type changes for Greenwich Bay and amend description for existing quahog resource preserve in Greenwich Cove

1. Proposed water type changes

CRMC Staff recommend the following water type changes for Greenwich Bay. They are depicted on the attached Figures 1 through 4.

1. Chepiwanoxet Point –Change from Type 2 to Type 1 (Figures 1 and 2)
2. Greenwich Cove - Modify the line dividing Type 2 and Type 5 waters (Figures 1 and 2)
3. Baker's Creek barrier spit - Change from Type 2 to Type 1 (Figures 3 and 4)
4. Baker's Creek headland area - Change from Type 2 to Type 1 (Figures 3 and 4)

Chepiwanoxet Point

Chepiwanoxet Point is located along the western shore of Greenwich Bay at the mouth of Greenwich Cove. It is approximately ten acres in size and owned by the City of Warwick. The waters around Chepiwanoxet Point are currently classified as Type 2, Low-intensity Use and the area supports public access and is designated by the city as public open space (See existing water type, Figure 1). The southern shoreline along Chepiwanoxet forms a boundary for the CRMC designated quahog resource preserve at the mouth of Greenwich Cove (See Greenwich Bay SAMP Section 390.2). The northern shoreline of the point is also designated as an important horseshoe crab spawning area within Greenwich Bay and there are specific SAMP policy provisions and regulations to protect horseshoe crab spawning areas (See SAMP Section 390.6). In addition, there is a coastal wetland and small barrier spit along the northern section of Chepiwanoxet that would benefit from the more protective conservation area Type 1 status.

The recommended area for the water type change should include the shoreline of lots 11, 29, 83, and 94 in plat 221 to a distance of 500 feet off shore (See Figure 2). The change from type 2 waters to type 1 is appropriate as the Chepiwanoxet Point coastal resources meet the definition of Type 1 designation for conservation and will provide further protection for these resources under the provisions of the Coastal Resources Management Program (CRMP). The proposed water

type change is also consistent with the recommended action in Section 390.2B of the Greenwich Bay SAMP.

Greenwich Cove

Staff recommends relocating the existing line delineating Type 5 waters southward to coincide with a line drawn from the tip of Long Point northwesterly to the opposite shoreline and intersecting the most northeasterly corner boundary of the Marina Perimeter Limit for Norton's Marina authorized under CRMC Assent 2002-05-5. The corner boundary coordinate is 343158E, 212929N. The existing Type 2 waters west of Chepiwanoxet Point shall extend southward until meeting the amended line delineating Type 5 waters (See Figures 1 and 2).

Baker's Creek barrier spit

The barrier spit is located at the mouth of Baker's Creek as it empties into Greenwich Bay along the Nausauket shoreline just east of Apponaug Cove and Cedar Tree Point. This barrier spit is designated as an undeveloped barrier in the CRMP and is owned by the City of Warwick. The change from Type 2 to Type 1 classification will further protect this barrier and the Baker's Creek wetland complex, one of the largest tidal wetlands in Greenwich Bay and designated as a critical area in the SAMP (See SAMP Section 390.7). These resources are more consistent with the conservation area status of Type 1 waters. The recommended area for the water type change should include the extent of lot 201 in plat 367 to a distance of 500 feet off shore (See Figures 3 and 4).

Baker's Creek headland area

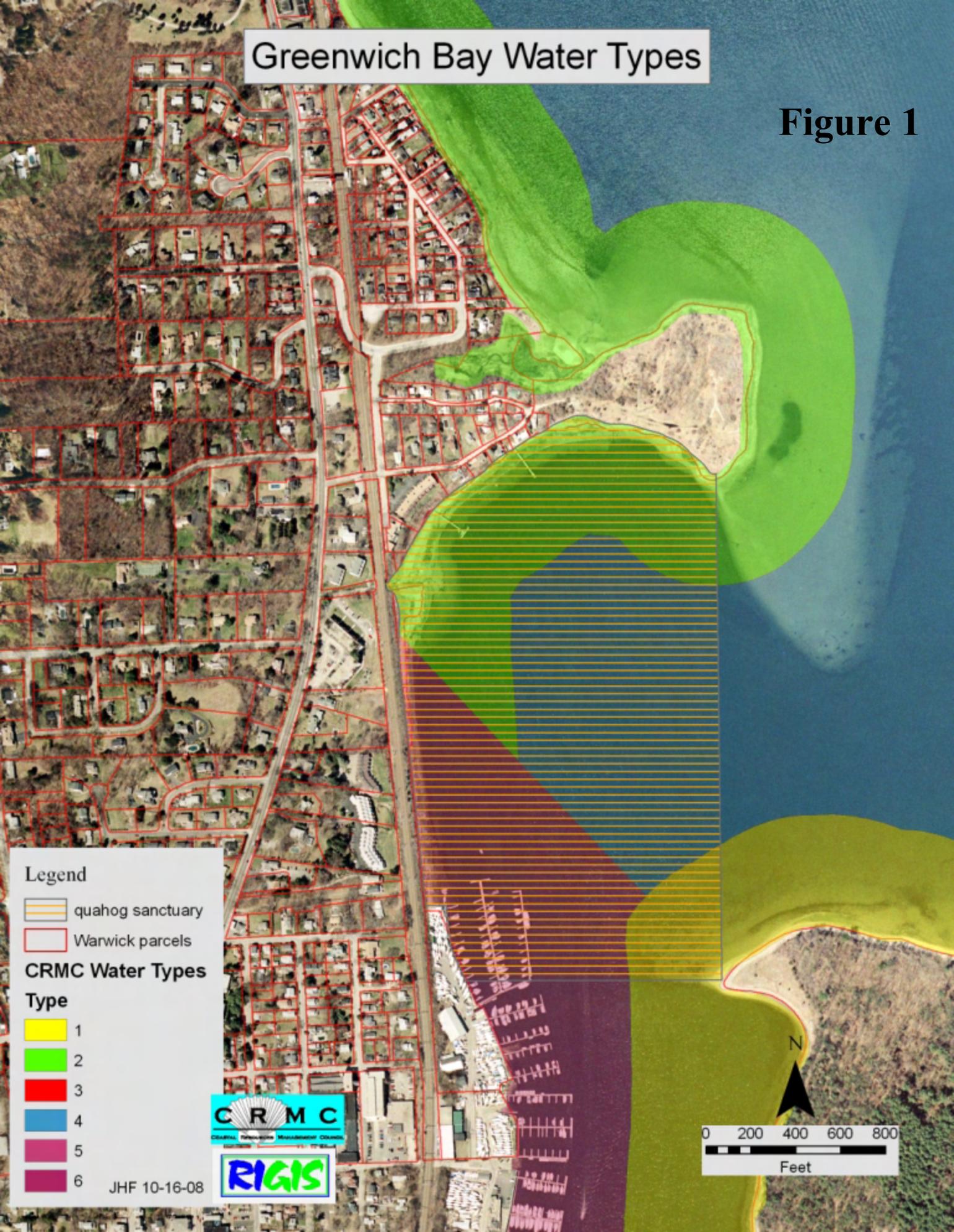
The undeveloped headland area is immediately east of and abutting the Baker's Creek tidal wetland complex. As noted above, this wetland complex is designated within the Greenwich Bay SAMP as a critical area, one of only two (the other being Mary's Creek) in all of Greenwich Bay. The shoreline is relatively undisturbed and there are no shoreline protection structures in this area. The change from Type 2 to Type 1 classification will further protect this beach area, including the adjacent barrier spit, and the Baker's Creek wetland complex. The recommended area for the water type change should include the extent of lots 114 and 116 in plat 367 to a distance of 500 feet off shore (See Figures 3 and 4).

2. Proposed amended Greenwich Cove quahog resource preserve area

The current quahog resource preserve in Greenwich Cove is "delineated by the shoreline and lines from Long Point due west and the southernmost point of Chepiwanoxet Point due south" (See SAMP Section 390.2A and Figure 1). The line running west from Long Point to the opposite shoreline bifurcates Norton's Marina and a Marina Perimeter Limit previously established by CRMC Assent 2002-05-5. Staff recommends that the southern boundary line of the quahog resource preserve be modified to be coincident with the proposed amended line for Type 5 waters, as described above (See Figure 2).

Greenwich Bay Water Types

Figure 1



Legend

- quahog sanctuary
- Warwic parcels

CRMC Water Types

Type

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

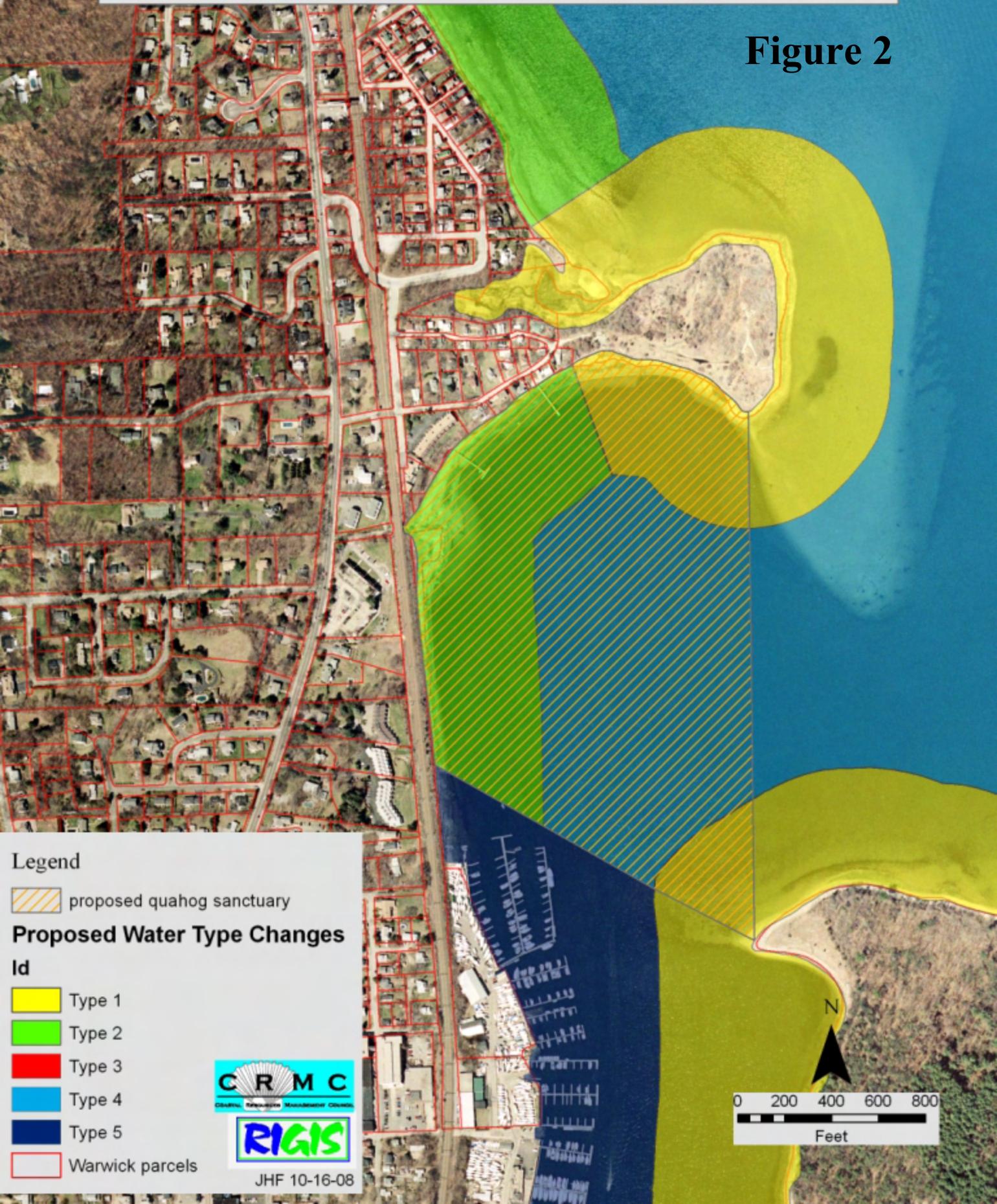


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Greenwich Bay Proposed Water Type Changes

Figure 2



Legend

-  proposed quahog sanctuary
- Proposed Water Type Changes**
- Id**
-  Type 1
-  Type 2
-  Type 3
-  Type 4
-  Type 5
-  Warwick parcels


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Greenwich Bay Water Types

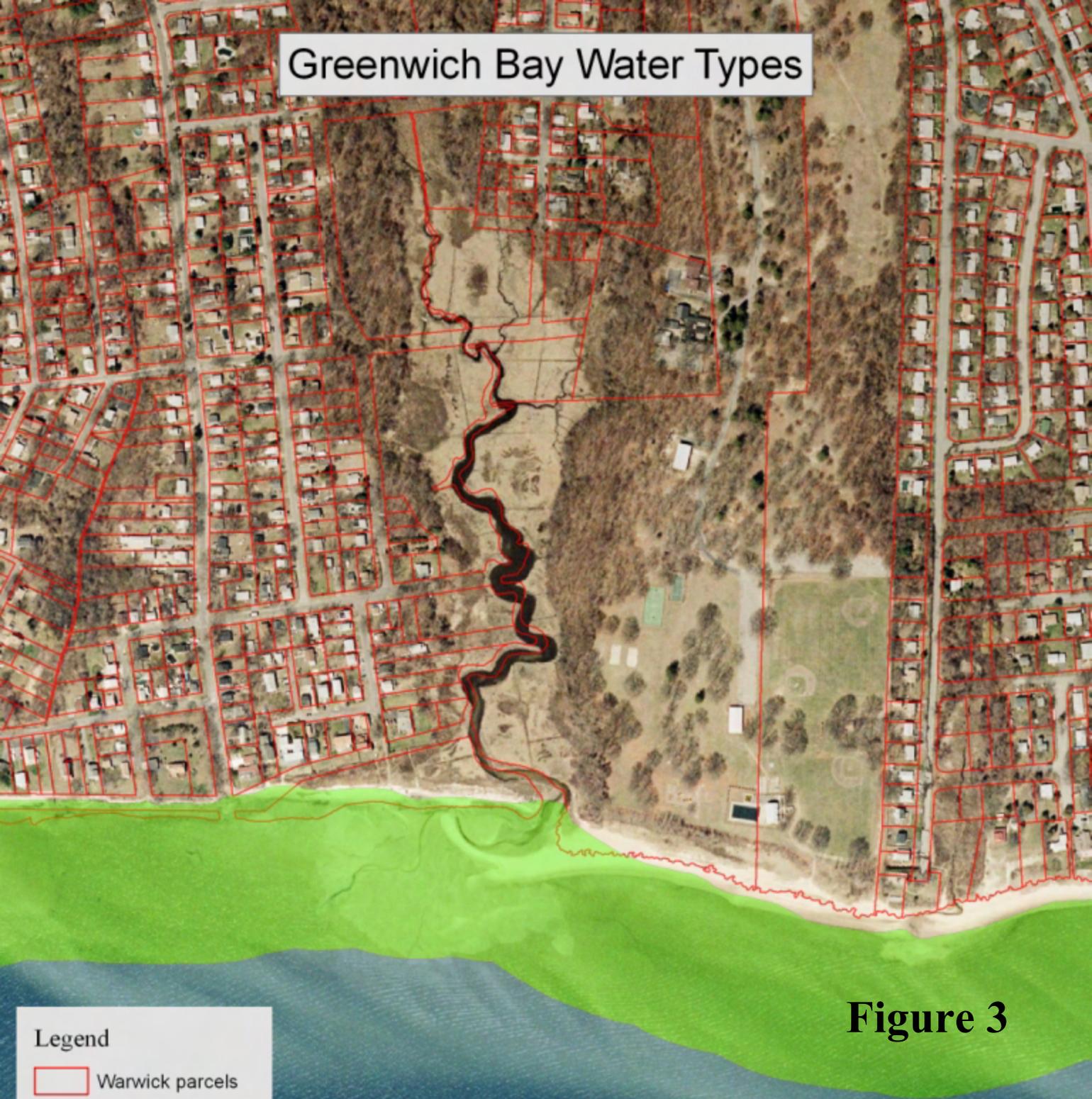


Figure 3

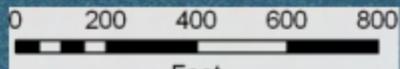
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 Warwick parcels

CRMC Water Types

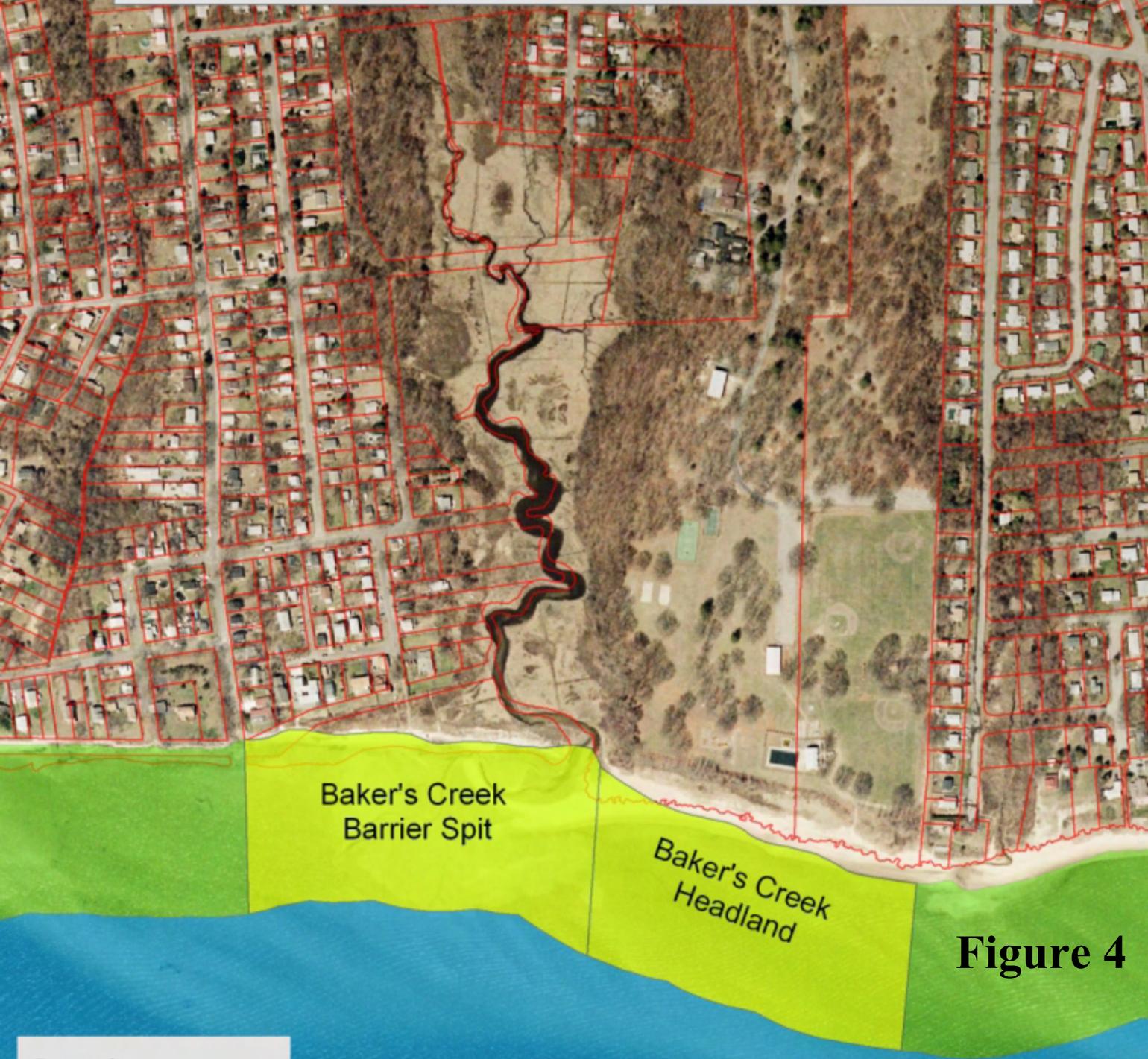
Type

-  1
-  2
-  3
-  4
-  5
-  6



Feet

Greenwich Bay Proposed Water Type Changes



Baker's Creek
Barrier Spit

Baker's Creek
Headland

Figure 4

Legend

proposed changes

- Type 1
- Type 2
- Type 3
- Type 4
- Type 5
- Warwick parcels

