

Legend

 WATERSHED BOUNDARY



GREAT SOUTH BAY

**TOWN OF ISLIP
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN
BROWN'S RIVER
AERIAL**

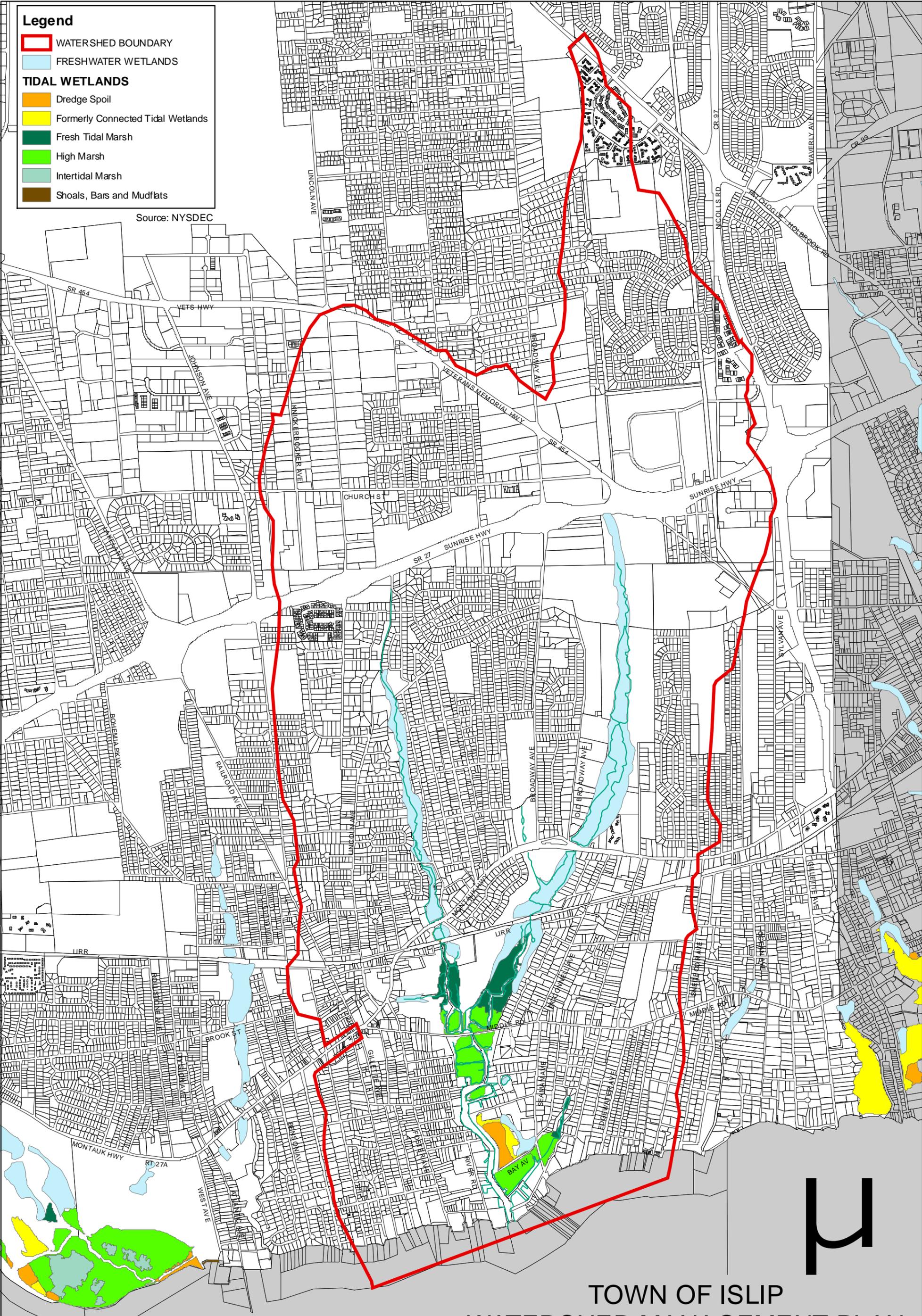


0 500 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000
Feet

FIGURE BR 2.1.1

- Legend**
- WATERSHED BOUNDARY
 - FRESHWATER WETLANDS
 - TIDAL WETLANDS**
 - Dredge Spoil
 - Formerly Connected Tidal Wetlands
 - Fresh Tidal Marsh
 - High Marsh
 - Intertidal Marsh
 - Shoals, Bars and Mudflats

Source: NYSDEC



GREAT SOUTH BAY

TOWN OF ISLIP
 WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN
 BROWN'S RIVER
 WETLANDS



FIGURE BR 2.2.9

APPENDIX A

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

September 26, 2006 – 7:30 PM

Green's Creek and Brown's River Watershed Action Plan
Meeting Location: Sayville Middle School

The Green's Creek and Brown's River Watershed Action Plan Public Meeting panel included the following individuals:

Christopher Bodkins – Councilman, Town of Islip (CB)
Eugene Murphy - Planning Commissioner, Town of Islip (EM)
Thomas Marquardt - Principal Planner, Town of Islip (TM)
Gregory Greene - Vice President, Cashin Associate, P.C. (GG)
Nancy Lenz, - Project Manager, Cashin Associates, P.C. (NL)

The Meeting began with introductions by Councilman Bodkins, Commissioner Murphy, and Cashin Associate, P.C. Gregory Greene. Nancy Lenz from Cashin Associates, P.C., provided an overview of the Green's Creek and Brown's River Watershed Action Plan (Plan) with a Power Point presentation. Following the presentation the meeting was opened to public questions and comments. The comments and questions received are as follows:

Speaker: Mike Jane

Question/Statement: Mr. Jane questioned whether the effect that DDT spraying in the mid-to late 1950's has on the current water quality issues was addressed in the Plan as the spraying resulted in widespread wetland vegetation die-off and ecosystem damage in Green's Creek Reach 2.

Panel Response: GG stated that the effect of DDT spraying can still be found in the sediments of the tributaries along the south shore and is not limited solely to Green's or Brown's.

Speaker: Resident on Brookdale Court

Question/Statement: The resident questioned whether a location could opt out of the plan if they feel they are not contributing to the pollutant problem. He stated that a grassed swale at the end of Brookdale is already filtering runoff. Resident directed attention to the fact that the MTA is storing creosote railroad ties in their right-of-way and encroaching into adjacent properties. In addition, stated that there is debris piled within the creek corridor at the Cherry Avenue School property.

Panel Response: NL stated that a swale or infiltration trench is the recommended solution at that location so they may already be meeting the recommended practice in which case no additional work may be required. The MTA site will be investigated and MTA notified if appropriate.

Speaker: Mr. Quinn from 429 Hillside Avenue

Question/Statement: Mr. Quinn stated that the pond in back of his home is now a "mosquito infested swamp" and the Town has not been responsive to requests over the past 25 years for improvements. He stated that sands from streets and eroded soils from the Cherry Avenue soccer field construction several years ago washed down Tariff into the river and filled the pond.

Panel Response: EM stated that the site would be inspected.

Speaker: Bob Cizek from Dunn Court

Question/ Statement: Mr. Cizak stated that he is concerned that herbicides are not being addressed in the report and that wildlife has disappeared from the Mill Pond Branch. Questioned why the runoff from the 10 storm sewers entering the branch cannot be redirected to other locations where there are basins to accept the runoff. Described how eels could climb up the side of the dam to get upstream but that there are no more eels.

Panel Response: NL explained that the term pesticide refers to both insecticides and herbicides. NL also stated that the Plan includes recommendations for each outfall.

Speaker: Oliver Hull - West Sayville Civic Association

Question/ Statement: Mr. Hull stated that the report needs to be better coordinated with and submitted to SCDPW and other agencies, that the subdivision planning code needs to require that all runoff be contained on-site, and that the existing laws and regulations need to be better enforced. In addition he expressed concern that the SHS is considering expanding their parking lot and increasing the drainage into the creek. Also stated the Town needs to provide funding, possibly through an environmental bond, and should consider a 3-5 year plan to implement the stream improvements

Panel Response: The report was reviewed by Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Suffolk County Department of Public Works provided available information on the roads in the watershed under their jurisdiction.

Speaker: Brendan McCurdy - West Sayville Civic Association

Question/Statement: Mr. McCurdy questioned whether dredging had been considered at locations such as the Quinn property discussed earlier.

Panel Response: NL stated that the report did not specifically address dredging. Jeff Plackis of Trout Unlimited stated that a return of the tributary to its natural environment and hydrology would allow sediments to flow out of the ponded area without dredging.

Speaker: Joel

Question/ Statement: Remembers fishing in the headwaters of Brown's River. Stated that a laundry (dry cleaners) located on Hanson Place (west side north of cemetery) had discharged runoff into the river that covered the vegetation with a white substance and wanted to note that the area should be investigated as a potential hot spot.

Subsequent Action: An Illicit Discharge Program as recommended would identify any remaining discharges of this type.

Speaker: Tom Travic (?) from Saxton Avenue on Green Creek

Question/Statement: Mr. Travic stated that he did not want the small weir that has been at the rear of his property since 1954 removed as it would destroy the established ecosystem. Ask for the definition of a dam verses a weir.

Subsequent Action: Weirs and dams will need to be identified on a site by site basis and impacts to surrounding properties addressed.

Speaker: Sayville High School students

Question/Statement: A student stated that the drainage in the SHS parking lot does in fact drain to the creek. Students asked if projects exist that there can be a fund raising campaign for.

Panel Response: The panel responded that the plan will require a large amount of funding. However individual projects may be identified that can be accomplished with smaller funds such as testing and monitoring.

Speaker: Kathy O’Conner - Suffolk County Parks /Audubon, Brookside Preserve

Question/Statement: Ms O’Conner stated that the natural lands owned by the School District should be protected or preserved and school parking should not encroach on the stream corridor or additional runoff be allowed to enter the creek. Ms O’Conner suggested that the student funds could be used to prepare brochures or develop a recognition project such placing heron’s figures on lawns of residents who practice environmental friendly maintenance and landscaping. Stated that weir (180a) on the Brookside Preserve has historic value and should remain but a fish ladder should be considered.

Speaker: Jay Kritzer - Marine Biologist with Environmental Defense

Question/Statement: Mr. Kritzer stated that some of the dams and weirs that no longer serve their intended function could be removed to allow alewife and trout passage. This could be done on a case-by- case basis. Alewives are the most difficult to attain passage for and will return if access provided. The speaker also noted that the invasive species discussion includes detection and removal and the difficulty in getting rid of invasive species. The Plan should also include methods to prevent undesirable species input and establishment in the watershed including educational efforts to stop aquarium plant dumping, and escape of non-native residential pond plants and ornamental species.

Mr. Kritzer also added information on two other discussions, 1, that although eels have the ability to climb the barriers only a small percentage can make it and 2, regarding the definition of a weir vs. a dam, he responded that a weir does not impound waters and a dam does.

Subsequent Action: Weirs and dams will need to be identified on a site by site basis and impacts to surrounding properties addressed.

Speaker: Jack Foehrenbach – ITEC Chairman

Question/Statement: Suggested fund raising events such as a Summerfest or Seafood Festival to raise the funds for stormwater mitigation. Also stated that the erosion has moved the Fire island Inlet west reducing the flushing at Sayville.

Councilman Bodkins closed with the meeting with a statement confirming the Town of Islip’s commitment to improving the water quality and living resources of the Town surface waters and, subsequently, the Great South Bay, noting that this Watershed Management Plan is an historical event as this is the first Plan completed in New York State. Councilman Bodkins concluded that this Plan will set the groundwork for funding priorities and maintenance programs and that the Town will be proactive in developing partnerships with other municipalities to implement the Green’s Creek and Brown’s River Watershed Management Plan.