



Mattapoisett Land Trust Saltmarsh Restoration Study

Funded by Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management

2024

Project Fact Sheet

Who and What?

The Mattapoisett Land Trust (MLT) was awarded \$82,856 in grant funding from the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) to complete a comprehensive saltmarsh restoration study.

Where?

The study area is 250 acres of saltmarsh are primarily located west of Mattapoisett Neck Road and extending south towards Hammond Cove and Brandt Cove.

When?

The study is currently underway and will be completed by June 30th, 2024.

Why?

The 250 acre study area contains some of the most degraded saltmarsh in all of Buzzards Bay according to recent data published by the Buzzards Bay Coalition. The marsh is experiencing a loss of vegetation, expanding areas of mud flat, and an issue with drainage. The study seeks to pinpoint causation for these conditions and identify solutions.

Details about the study

The study, funded by CZM with a matching portion provided by project lead MLT, will do the following three things:

1. Explore and document the current conditions of the saltmarsh.
2. Use computer modeling to predict future saltmarsh conditions, considering factors such as sea level rise and increased storm surge.



3. Create a restoration plan with a minimum of three feasible restoration actions that can be enacted in the next five years and will help to restore healthy function and create resilience within the marsh.

Note

Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Ecological Restoration, the Buzzards Bay Coalition is simultaneously conducting a Hydrologic and Hydraulic (H&H) study within the same area of saltmarsh. The findings of this H&H study will be an instrumental data set for the researchers of this saltmarsh study to utilize. One reason this H&H study was conducted is because the Mollys Cove culvert on Mattapoisett Neck Road is undersized and assumed to be causing damage to the marsh, as well as becoming a risk to public infrastructure.

Project Partners

Mattapoisett Land Trust, Inc. (project lead and grantee)

Town of Mattapoisett

Buzzards Bay National Estuary Project

Buzzards Bay Coalition

Plymouth County Mosquito Control

Office of Coastal Zone Management (grantors)

Woods Hole Group, Inc. (subcontractor)

Greenman Pederson, Inc. (subcontractor)

Resources

Project Grant Application

Study Area Map (see below)

Mattapoissett Neck Salt Marshes - Study Area - Drone Footage

