



ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MAINE COASTAL COMMUNITIES GRANT

THURSDAY DECEMBER 10, 2015 1:00 – 2:00 PM

AT DUNAWAY COMMUNITY CENTER, OGUNQUIT, ME

ADDRESSING BACTERIA CONTAMINATION IN THE OGUNQUIT RIVER WATERSHED (2015-2016)

1. THANK YOU / INTRODUCTIONS

Present: Doug Mayer (Great Works Regional Land Trust), Leslie Hinz (Stormwater Manager, York), Bill Baker (Ogunquit Conservation Commission), Perry Ellsworth (Town Manager, South Berwick), Phil Pickering (Ogunquit Sewer District), Jon Carter (Town Manager, Wells), Laura Diemer (FB Environmental Associates), Lauren Bizzari (FB Environmental Associates, minutes).

2. GOAL: Continue efforts to identify, monitor, and manage sources of fecal contamination in the Ogunquit River watershed.

3. GRANT OVERVIEW

✧ Grantee = Town of Ogunquit; Grant Project Manager = Tom Fortier; Grant Subcontractor = FBE

✧ Grant Administrator = Ruta Dzenis, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

✧ Timeframe = 7/15/2015 – 12/31/2016; Amount: \$28,599, plus \$8,270 in local match

- For match, noted that FEMA rates should not be used to determine rate for supervisors.
- Travel time and mileage to be included for in-kind match.

✧ Clarification of official grant title- *“Addressing Bacteria Contamination in the Ogunquit River Watershed”*

4. REVIEW PROJECT TASKS & SCHEDULE

TASK 1: Multi-Town Collaboration and Meetings

✧ GOAL: Strengthen collaboration and open lines of communication among the watershed towns of Wells, South Berwick, York, and Ogunquit, as well as local land trusts (Great Works Regional Land Trust and Mt. Agamenticus to the Sea Conservation Initiative).

✧ Hold 3 multi-partner meetings (now, April-May 2016, October-November 2016) to update on project progress and ask for any assistance from partners.

- Final meeting will include discussion of monitoring results from 2016.

✧ Publish meeting minutes on Ogunquit River Restoration Project website.

✧ Discussion Notes:

How does this tie in with other grants? Maine DEP 319

- Phase I – Town of Ogunquit: septic database, WQ monitoring 2014-2016, implementation of BMPs
- Phase II – Town of Ogunquit: awarded but currently being re-scoped

TASK 2: Septic System Database and Risk Assessment

✧ GOAL: Identify areas at risk from fecal contamination as a result of old/malfunctioning septic systems.

- ✧ Expand current septic and sewer system database to include the entire watershed – adding Wells (-2,000), South Berwick (-114), and York (-140). Who is the best contact for this in each town?
 - York – *already has a septic database and mandatory pumping ordinance; contact L. Hinz*
 - South Berwick – *contact Joe Rousselle (CEO), Jon St. Pierre (Public Works Director)*
 - Wells – *contact Jodine Adams (CEO), Mike Livingston (Town Engineer)*
- ✧ Create a ranking system of properties according to risk of pollution to water based on soil and environmental risk factors as well as known or unknown condition of septic system.
- ✧ **Final product:** spreadsheet of prioritized septic and sewer parcels for the entire watershed; risk assessment maps that highlight problem areas; brief memo describing results and next steps.
- ✧ Discussion Notes:
 - *Concerns about time investment from partners – FBE will be doing a lot of the work for the septic task, just need assistance in pointing FBE to the data.*

TASK 3: Habitat Assessment: *Not funded, task eliminated, but numbering for other tasks remains the same.*

TASK 4: Water Quality Monitoring Expansion

- ✧ Expand existing water quality monitoring program to identify and bracket potential sources of bacteria in hotspot areas and across seasons.
 - *New outfalls installed as part of Rt. 1 construction and changes to drainages from that area; may want to contact Grondin and DOT to determine if any new outfalls of concern.*
- ✧ Delineate the drainage area to OR-6 and conduct a thorough upstream land use investigation of the drainage; local volunteers encouraged to participate. The river will be walked and sampled at key locations to bracket potential sources.
 - *Upstream investigation will start at Rt. 1 crossing of Ogunquit River and then move towards the headwaters.*
 - *Partners may be able to help with landowner permission in some areas.*
 - *Confluence of Tatnic and Ogunquit River – contact Nancy Reed (landowner)*
 - *Investigation into the headwaters/upper Ogunquit River was conducted in 2006, but land use changes have likely occurred since then.*
 - *P. Pickering may have some background information on S. Berwick from 20 years ago.*
- ✧ Sample the established 11 water quality sampling sites on 2 wet and 2 dry weather events in spring (May-June) and fall (October-November). Summer already covered by existing program paid for by the Town of Ogunquit. Bacteria DNA analysis will be analyzed at 4 sites during spring, summer, and fall. Additional hotspot sites found in the OR-6 drainage will be sampled on 3 dates in dry weather.
 - *DNA analysis will be completed by UNH researcher John Bucci.*
- ✧ **Final product:** Report documenting the watershed investigation, assessing the water quality results, and detailing next steps; drainage map; watershed map with bacteria results.

TASK 5: Project Management and Reporting

- ✦ FBE = will track budget and match, develop summary of work for invoices, and submit progress reports on 12/31/2015, 6/30/2016, and 12/31/2016. Will develop a final progress report, case study, and match documentation to be submitted to the State no later than 1/13/2017.
- ✦ Town of Ogunquit = will submit invoices every 4 months with work summary.

TASK 6: Spatial Data

- ✦ All spatial data created through this project will be maintained by the town in an easily accessible format to the public.
- ✦ FBE will develop a list of spatial data created during this project and process by which these data can be accessed for the final report.

5. WRAP-UP / QUESTIONS

Actions: L. Bizzari will follow up with all contacts in January 2016 to begin data acquisition for septic database, will send a list of parcel #s within the watershed for each town. The watershed map with town boundaries is attached.

Source: MEGIS
Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 19N
Created by FB Environmental
September, 2013

OGUNQUIT RIVER WATERSHED

Ogunquit, Wells, York & S. Berwick, Maine

	Ogunquit		Wells		Town Boundary
	South Berwick		York		Streams
	Ogunquit River Watershed				Waterbody

