ECOTONES, INC.
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

PO BOX 1131
EAST GREENWICH, RI 02818
PHONE 401-256-5199
FAX 401-256-5191

Tom O'Gorman
162 Maplewood Drive
East Greenwich, RI 02818-2521

November 24, 2023
Project 23048/23021
via email: tomog63@verizon.net

RE: Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Assessment Letter of Findings
5 Snowberry Lane, AP 153 Lot 55 & 56, Westerly, RI

Mr. O'Gorman:

Ecotones, Inc. completed the Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) assessment on July 13, 2023. The work was performed in accordance with the latest version of the State of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) Coastal Resources Management Program (CRMP), Regulations Governing the Protection and Management of the Freshwater Wetlands in the Vicinity of the Coast (Rules), and the US Army Corps of Engineers Programmatic General Permit (PGP).

No SAV was observed. An approximately 3,600 ft^2 (335 m^2) study area was evaluated offshore. The area was approximately 40 ft (3 m) wide alongshore and extended approximately 90 ft (27 m) offshore. The study area is not within or adjacent to SAV areas previously mapped by others (RIGIS, 2013a, 2013b, 2017).

The absence of SAV and bottom type were recorded within a 10.8 ft^2 (1 m^2) area every 10 ft (3.1 m) within the study area. Nearshore the substrate was comprised of mud (silt loam) and cobble. Slightly further offshore the bottom was comprised of very fine sand (Photo 1). The middle of the study area was sand (Photo 2). Sediment became finer (very fine sand) offshore (Photo 3). Algae was observed throughout the study area. The study area, data points, substrate type, and photo location are depicted on the Study Area Sketch (Figure 1).

Please note that the presence, absence, and distribution of SAV and location of coastal features can vary from season to season and from year to year as a result of storms, seasonal variations, coastal processes, and/or site alterations. No long-term monitoring or lab analyses have been conducted. Accordingly, the results are limited to the observations on and valid for the specific date of the evaluation only. All evaluations and delineations are subject to review and/or verification by the CRMC and Federal agencies.

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If any portion of the project is within or has the potential to impact coastal features, coastal buffers/setbacks, wetlands, or SAV we recommend that a coastal Preliminary Determination (PD) be submitted to CRMC. This will help to prevent design or layout problems and/or required changes to those designs or layouts during permitting.

Please note that this letter does not consider every possible development scenario. Other Town, State, and/or Federal regulations may apply. Ecotones, Inc. offers no assurances or guarantees regarding the ability to, or likelihood of, receiving necessary approvals for any proposed project(s).

If you have any questions regarding this letter or require additional information, please contact us at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Joe Klinger, PWS, Principal Environmental Scientist
jklinger@ecotonesinc.com

enclosures: Figure 1. Study Area Sketch (1 page)

23048_SAV_LOF_OGormanSnowberryLnWesterly.docx

CITATIONS:

RIGIS, 2017. Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (2012); SAV16. Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) Data Distribution System, URL: http://www.rigis.org, Environmental Data Center, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island (last accessed: 28 November 2020).

RIGIS, 2013a. Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) in Rhode Island Coastal Waters (2012); SAV12. Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) Data Distribution System, URL: http://www.rigis.org, Environmental Data Center, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island (last accessed: 28 November 2020).

RIGIS, 2013b. Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) in Rhode Island Coastal Waters (2009); SAV09. Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) Data Distribution System, URL: http://www.rigis.org, Environmental Data Center, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island (last accessed: 28 November 2020).

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Photo 1. Very fine sand and algae typical of the nearshore. throughout the study area. ¼ m^2 quadrat with 10 cm bands.

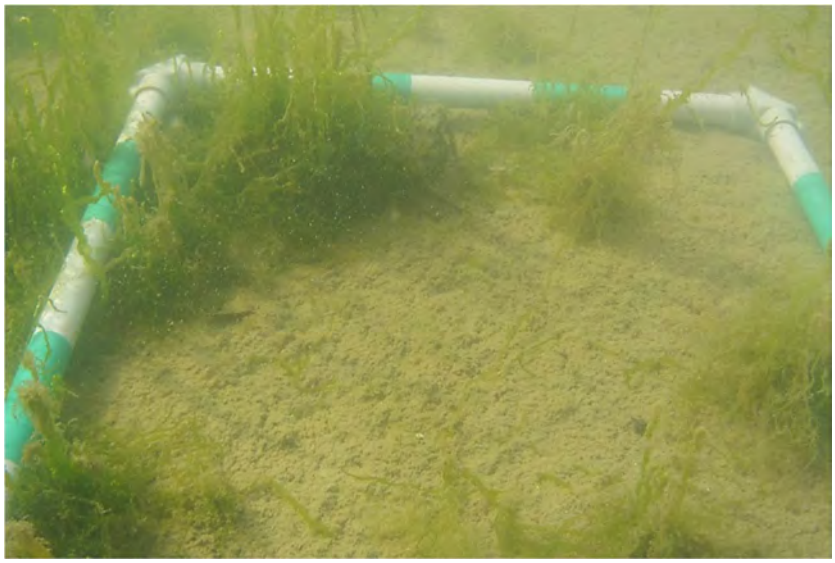

Photo 3. Sand substrate with algae typical of the middle of the study area. Long-clawed Hermit Crad (*Pagurus longicarpus*) lower right.

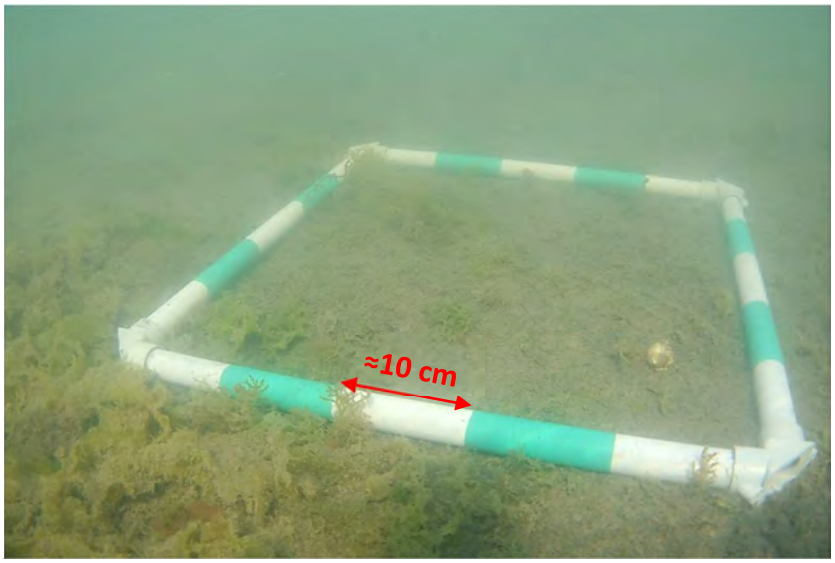

Photo 2. Very fine sand and algae offshore. Atlantic Silverside (*Menidia menidia*) school.

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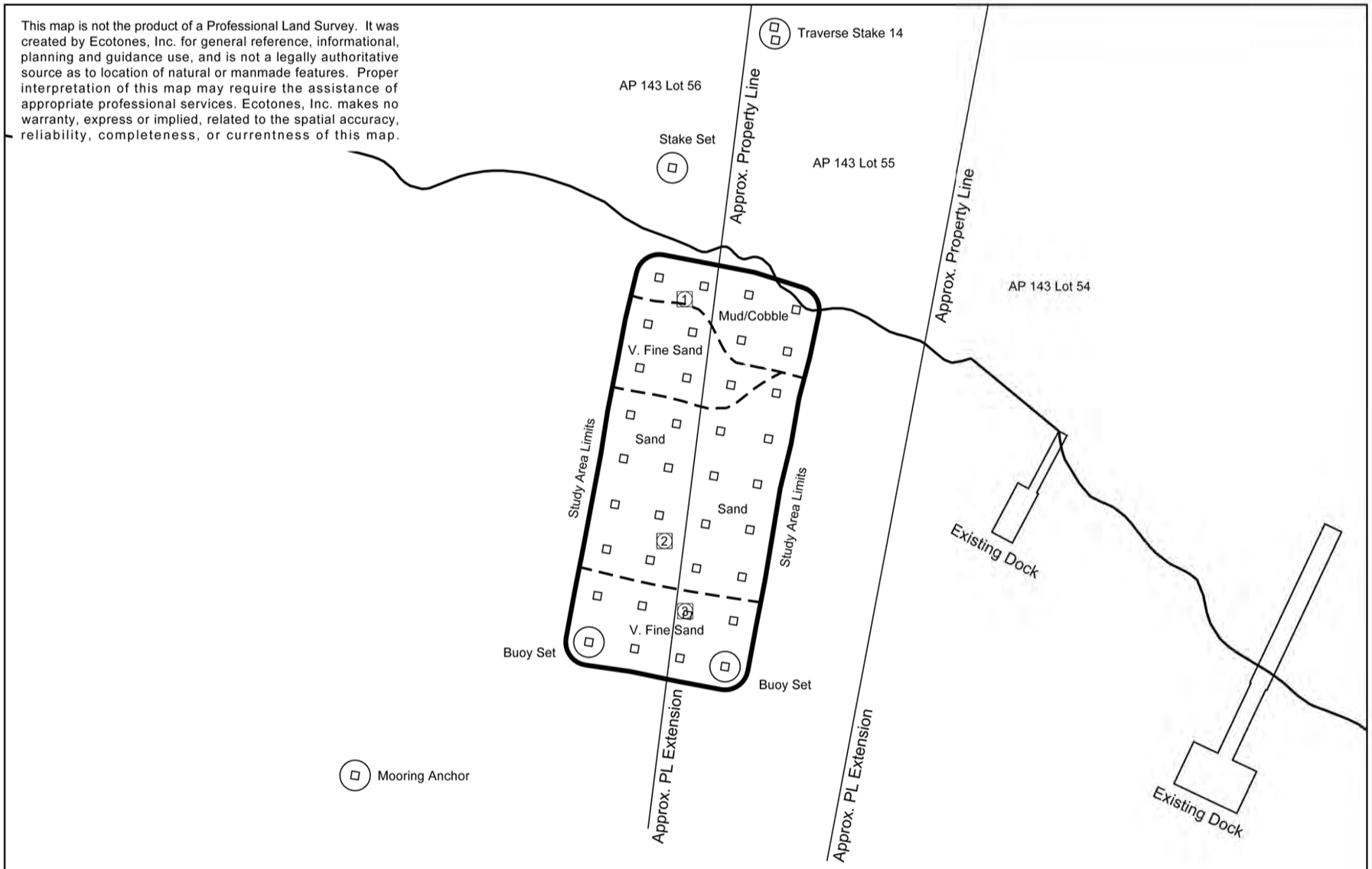
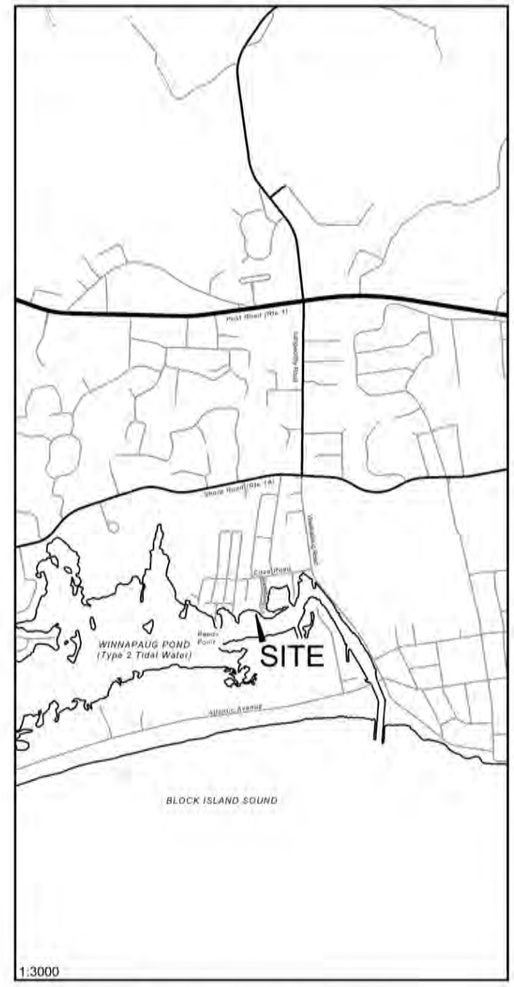
This map is not the product of a Professional Land Survey. It was created by Ecotones, Inc. for general reference, informational, planning and guidance use, and is not a legally authoritative source as to location of natural or manmade features. Proper interpretation of this map may require the assistance of appropriate professional services. Ecotones, Inc. makes no warranty, express or implied, related to the spatial accuracy, reliability, completeness, or currentness of this map.



COMPILED FROM:

1) Field data recorded 7/13/2023 with SOFTWEL (P) Ltd. SW Maps software using a Trimble DSM-232 GPS under manufacturer-specified conditions for sub-meter performance.
2) Features digitized from RIGIS April 2022 Digital Aerial Photographs. Statewide digital true color 3-inch spatial resolution aerial photographs of Rhode Island. Capture date range: Aprile 2 - 23, 2022. https://www.rigis.org/datasets/edc::2022-april-rhode-island-digital-aerial-photographs-spf. Environmental Data Center, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI.
3) Coventry Survey Co. 2023. Boundary & Topographic Survey of Land on Snowberry Lane in the City of Westerly, Rhode Island, Assessor's Plat 143 / Lot 55. Prepared for: Thomas O'Gorman. June 20, 2023.
4) RIGIS, 2021. RI E911 Road Centerlines; e911Roads22r1. Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) Data Distribution System, URL: https://www.rigis.org, Environmental Data Center, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI.
5) RIGIS, 2016. Municipal Boundaries (1997); muni97d. RI Geographic Information System (RIGIS) Data Distribution System, URL: http://www.rigis.org, Environmental Data Center, University of RI, Kingston, RI.

See November 24, 2023 Letter of Findings for additional details and limitations.



Substrate Boundary
Data Point
Photo Location
+/-1m
Reference Point

FIGURE 1. Study Area Sketch

Snowberry Lane
AP 143 Lot 55 & 56
Westerly, RI

Project 23048 November 24, 2023

ECOTONES, INC.
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS
East Greenwich ~ Wakefield
Phone 401-256-5199
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PO Box 1187

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