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Narragansett Bay Watershed SCP Little Creek (RI0010031R-02) Middletown, RI

Subwatershed Summary

- The subwatershed is located in Middletown and Portsmouth.
- The subwatershed is 1,071 acres and 10.2% impervious.
- The general land uses within the subwatershed are cropland, medium- to high-density residential, recreation (golf course), pasture, and deciduous forest.
- The subwatershed contains no RIDOT roadways or "Other RIDOT Roadways" and therefore no SCP was prepared.

Site Description

Little Creek (RI0010031R-02) is located within the Narragansett Bay Watershed. The subwatershed is located between Portsmouth and Middletown, on the eastern part of Aquidneck Island. Little Creek begins toward the north of the subwatershed, just south of Bramans Lane and east of Route 138 (East Main Road). The creek flows south past the Newport National Golf Club, continuing through residential neighborhoods before discharging to the Sakonnet River. RIDOT as-built plan Contract 33-06 indicates longitudinal drainage on Route 138 conveys water that would otherwise flow into Little Creek to RIDOT outfall 205, which discharges to an unnamed tributary of the Sakonnet River north of Sandy Point Avenue, outside of the subwatershed.

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) water quality classification for the Little Creek is Class B. Class B waters are designated for fish and wildlife habitat and primary and secondary contact recreational activities. According to RIDEM's Clean Water Act (CWA) Integrated List of Waterbodies – Appendix A 2016 Index of Waterbodies and Category Listing,¹ the impairment affecting this waterbody segment is enterococcus. RIDEM has classified Little Creek as a Category 5 waterbody that is not supporting primary and secondary contact recreation. The waterbody is fully supporting fish and wildlife habitat, and is not assessed for fish consumption. A TMDL is planned for 2030 for the enterococcus impairment.

According to 2011 land use data obtained from the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS),² the general land uses within the Little Creek subwatershed are medium- to high-density

¹ RIDEM, March 2018, 2016 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment List – Appendix A 2016 Index of Waterbodies and Category Listing. Available at: <http://dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/water/quality/surfwq/pdfs/iwr16.pdf>

² Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Rhode Island Department of Administration, Statewide Planning Program, Photo Science, Inc. www.rigis.org

residential, recreation (golf course), pasture, and deciduous forest. RIDEM data indicates the subwatershed is approximately 1,071 acres, 10.2% of which are impervious.

The Little Creek subwatershed (RI0010031R-02) does not contain any RIDOT roadways or any "Other RIDOT roadways; therefore an SCP was not prepared for Little Creek.