Narragansett Bay Watershed SCP
Nelson Paradise Pond (RI0007035L-02)
Middletown, RI

Subwatershed Summary

- The subwatershed is located in Middletown, RI
- The subwatershed is 90 acres and 4% impervious.
- The general land uses within the subwatershed are mixed forest, low-density residential, and quarry.
- The subwatershed contains no RIDOT roadways or “Other RIDOT Roadways” and therefore no SCP was prepared.

Site Description

Nelson Paradise Pond (RI0007035L-02) is located within the Narragansett Bay Watershed. The subwatershed is located in the eastern part of Middletown. The inflow to Nelson Pond is from Paradise Brook (RI0007035R-03), and it is bordered to the west and south by the Maidford River (RI0007035R-02A) and to the east by Gardiner Pond (RI0007035L-01). The subwatershed is relatively small, only including the pond itself and a narrow corridor of land to the west of Paradise Brook. Nelson Pond receives runoff from this land.

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) water quality classification for the Nelson Paradise Pond is Class AA. Class AA waters are designated as a source of public drinking water supply (PDWS) or as tributary waters within a public drinking water supply watershed, for primary and secondary contact recreational activities, and for fish and wildlife habitat. According to RIDEM’s Clean Water Act (CWA) Integrated List of Waterbodies – Appendix A 2016 Index of Waterbodies and Category Listing,¹ the impairments affecting this waterbody segment are total phosphorus and total organic carbon (TOC). RIDEM has classified Nelson Pond as a Category 5 waterbody that is not supporting fish and wildlife habitat or public drinking water supply. The waterbody is fully supporting primary and secondary contact recreation, and is not assessed for fish consumption. A TMDL is under development for the phosphorus and TOC impairments and scheduled to be adopted in 2019.

According to 2011 land use data obtained from the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS),² the general land uses within the Nelson Paradise Pond subwatershed are mixed forest, low-


² Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Rhode Island Department of Administration, Statewide Planning Program, Photo Science, Inc. www.rigis.org
density residential, and quarry. RIDEM data indicates the subwatershed is approximately 90 acres, 4% of which are impervious.

The Nelson Paradise Pond subwatershed (RI007035L-02) has less than 10% impervious cover and does not contain any RIDOT Roadways or “Other RIDOT Roadways”, therefore an SCP was not prepared for Nelson Paradise Pond.