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Narragansett Bay Watershed SCP Sisson Pond (RI0007035L-10) Portsmouth, RI

Subwatershed Summary

- The subwatershed is located in Portsmouth, RI
- The subwatershed is 226 acres and 1.9% impervious.
- The general land uses within the subwatershed are deciduous forest and cropland.
- The subwatershed does not contain any RIDOT roads or any "Other RIDOT roadways"

Site Description

Sisson Pond (RI0007035L-10) is located within the Narragansett Bay Watershed. The subwatershed is located near the center of Aquidneck Island, in southern Portsmouth, just north of the Middletown border. The inflow to Sisson Pond is from St. Mary's Pond (RI0007035L-05) to the east, and the outflow is to Lawton Brook, which flows north to Lawton Valley Reservoir (RI0007035L-06). The majority of the subwatershed land area is the pond itself. The remaining land areas consist of cropland and forest.

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) water quality classification for the Sisson 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 Sisson 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 total organic carbon 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 Sisson Pond subwatershed are deciduous forest and

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/surfqw/pdfs/iwr16.pdf>

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

cropland. RIDEM data indicates the subwatershed is approximately 226 acres, 1.9% of which are impervious.

The Sisson Pond subwatershed (RI0007035L-10) has less than 10% impervious cover and no RIDOT roadways or "Other RIDOT roadways"; therefore, preparation of an SCP is not required for Sisson Pond.