Baker Cove Watershed Committee Meeting

December 4, 2019

Maura Robie, Conservation Technician
Eastern Connecticut Conservation District
The Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc.
A Not-For-Profit Natural Resource Conservation Organization

**Primary Activities:**

1. Conduct projects, watershed management investigations and test new conservation methods

2. Present workshops on natural resource topics

3. Assist Town Land Use Commissions with environmental reviews of development plans

4. Work with local citizens and towns to raise awareness of natural resource concerns
Agenda

• Introductions

• Review of committee purpose

• Baker Cove Watershed Work Plan Draft - partner input
  * Future development projects impact on the Baker Cove Watershed

• Choose at least 3 activities to work on in 2020

• Canada Goose Project Partner updates

• To Do’s for next meeting:
  ➢ ECCD-Baker Cove Watershed Committee webpage
  ➢ Share link with 2 colleagues
  ➢ Pick activity to work on and report on progress
Three watersheds drain into Baker Cove, a 31 square mile sub-estuary of...
2011
Baker Cove Trackdown Survey and Abbreviated Watershed-based Plan

- Baker Cove impaired for direct shellfish consumption (where permitted) due to elevated levels of fecal coliform bacteria.*
- Possible non-point sources: waterfowl, unspecified urban stormwater, marina/boating sanitary on-vessel discharges, and pet waste/other pollutants from residential districts.
- Carry out recommendation strategies to reduce fecal coliform bacteria in Baker Cove.

Groton 3
Classification Effective Date: 
05/01/14
Map Date: 9/29/2015

Shellfish Area Classifications

Shellfish Classification 08/13/15
- Approved
- Conditionally Approved
- Restricted
- Conditionally Restricted
- Prohibited

Sampling Stations

Class
- Prohibited
- Special Study
- Demarcation buoy or sign
- Flagpole/Tower/Piling/Pier
- Navigational buoy/Lighthouse
- Status signal disk

Map not intended for navigation

Department of Agriculture/Bureau of Aquaculture
tel: 203-874-0696 e-mail: dept.agriculture@snet.net
Baker Cove Watershed Work Plan Draft – partner input

- Baker Cove WS work plan

- Committee name
- Prioritize Goals (#’s and H, M, L)
- Status (timeline)
- Completed Activities – missing?
- Other: create new goal or add to other goals?
Baker Cove WBP

Baker Cove WBP – Recommended Mgmt strategies

2016 TMDL – New London/Groton Estuary

Baker Cove WBP – Management Objectives

Adobe Acrobat Document
## Canada Goose Project Partner Updates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site location</th>
<th>Geese usage</th>
<th>Current Management</th>
<th>Management Recommendation/ Improvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shennecossett Golf course</td>
<td>Feeding in Winter &amp; Spring. Gone in summer. No water features on course - no nests observed.</td>
<td>Continued harassment with dog &amp; noisemakers by Golf course Manager (Town of Groton)</td>
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</table>
| Claude Chester Elementary School | Feeding in Winter & Spring. Gone in summer. | Continued harassment with dog & noisemakers by Golf course Manager (Town of Groton) | 1. Radio-controlled model Truck  
2. Chemical repellant Anthranquinone (AQ) or Chemical repellant Methyl anthranilate.                  |
| Poquonnock Plains Park         | Feeding in Winter & Spring. Gone in summer. | Continued harassment with dog & noisemakers by Golf course Manager (Town of Groton) | 1. Radio-controlled Model Truck  
2. Chemical repellant Anthranquinone (AQ) or Chemical repellant Methyl anthranilate.                  |
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<td>Groton-New London Airport</td>
<td>Nesting sites nearby – goslings observed</td>
<td>Noisemakers</td>
<td>1. Continue harassment with noisemakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Depredation permit</td>
<td>2. Carry out depredation permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3. Apply for CT DEEP permit for Goose Round-Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4. Deer/goose fence being installed along water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groton Utilities - Water Filtration Plant grounds</td>
<td>Feeding, nesting</td>
<td>Egg addling, modified mowing practices on dams (minimum 4” – max 1’)</td>
<td>1. Apply for CT DEEP permit for Goose Round-Up for summer 2019.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Past Practices</td>
<td>Continue Egg addling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Depredation permit</td>
<td>2. Post CT DEEP educational signage &amp; replace “do not feed geese” signage at strategic locations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hunting discontinued</td>
<td>3. Post educational “Do not feed wildlife” brochure on City of Groton &amp; GU websites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Balloons/ glass eyes</td>
<td>4. Work with ECCD for location of vegetative buffer within GU watershed when new filtration plant is complete - 2021.</td>
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## Canada Goose Project Partner Updates

### Non-Migratory Canada Goose Management Matrix

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| Eastern Point beach & Washington Park (Lake George) | Feeding, no known nesting.                       | City hires trained dog contractor.            | 1. Educational signage posting Lawn & ballfield areas:  
2. Radio-controlled Model Truck  
3. Chemical repellant Anthranquinone or Methyl anthranilate |
| UCONN – Avery Point                                | Feeding                                          | None                                          | 1. Radio-controlled Model Truck  
2. Chemical repellant Anthranquinone or Methyl anthranilate |
| UCONN – Eastern Point Road pond                    | Feeding, nesting                                 | Vegetative buffer around pond.                | 1. Education – Do Not Feed waterfowl signs  
2. Chemical repellant Anthranquinone or Methyl anthranilate |
| Pfizer                                             | Feeding, Nesting in past / Current observations on Pfizer campus | Harassment Past - Effigies (swan) in Koi Pond | 1. Habitat modification where practicable.  
2. Goose Round-up or depredation permit |
| Electric Boat                                      | Feeding, nesting                                 | Hire trained dog contractor                   | 1. At new construction site - add vegetative buffers along Thames River where practicable.  
2. Goose Round-up or depredation permit |
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<td>Fitch High School - Football field</td>
<td>Feeding</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>1. Radio-controlled Model Truck 2. Chemical repellant Anthranquinone or Methyl anthranilate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private homeowners in the neighborhoods of Jupiter Point, Shennecossett Road, Beach Pond Road, Shore Avenue, and Circle Avenue</td>
<td>Potential is high with lawns close to water and very few buffers.</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Recruit local daisy or girl scout troop to canvass neighborhoods handing out literature door-to-door. 2/6 Reached out to Groton area girl scouts, may be interested, attend a monthly leaders meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All areas within Baker Cove watershed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Create a Baker Cove watershed committee to address other sources of non-point pollution to have a larger impact in reducing fecal coliform bacteria in and around Baker Cove.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To Do's for next meeting:

- ECCD-Baker Cove Watershed Committee webpage
  conservect.org/eastern
- Share link with 2 colleagues
- Pick activity to work on and report on progress

Meeting dates for 2020: March 4, June 3, Sept. 9, Dec. 2 (10-11:30)
**Table 6: Estimated Bacteria Load Reduction of Potential Management Measures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Management Measures</th>
<th>Potential Bacterial Load Reductions</th>
<th>Other Pollutants</th>
<th>Number of Occurrences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban Sources/Pets</td>
<td>Public and Municipal Good Housekeeping Practices</td>
<td>high</td>
<td>Sediment, nutrients, metals, other chemicals</td>
<td>50% impervious cover, est. 231 dogs licensed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm Water Outfalls</td>
<td>Water quality retrofits</td>
<td>high</td>
<td>NPS, thermal pollution, sediments</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry weather storm drain flow</td>
<td>Disconnection of house drains</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewer/Septic Systems</td>
<td>Sewer inspections Homeowner education</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Nutrients, household chemicals, pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>No known failures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degraded Riparian Buffer</td>
<td>Buffer restoration</td>
<td>low</td>
<td>Sediment, nutrients</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marinas/Private Water Craft</td>
<td>Public Education, Participation in Clean Marina and Vessel programs</td>
<td>Moderate to low</td>
<td>Boat maintenance waste</td>
<td>2 marinas, multiple private crafts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geese/Waterfowl</td>
<td>Public education, flock mgnt</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td></td>
<td>&gt;28 geese, 10 swans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trash/Debris</td>
<td>Public education, town ordinances and enforcement</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Multiple</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erosion</td>
<td>Vegetative buffer restoration</td>
<td>Moderate to low</td>
<td>Sediment, nutrients</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modified Channel</td>
<td>Properly sized culverts, reconnect to flood plains</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Sediment, thermal pollution</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>