

TOWN COUNCIL

STAFF REPORT

Projects and Watershed Resilience Department



MEETING DATE:	April 9, 2024
SUBJECT:	Projects and Watershed Resilience Department Monthly Report
PROJECT MANAGER:	Kimberly Washok-Jones, Director of Projects and Watershed Resilience

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM (CIP) UPDATE

PATHWAYS

1. **Buck Island-Simmons ville Neighborhood Sidewalks and Lighting**
 - Construction of the Phase 6B sidewalks, drainage and lighting is complete.
 - **Next Steps**
 - Complete Phase 6B closeout with SCDOT.
2. **New River Linear Trail**
 - Received \$26,000 PARD grant award and \$2 million in SC appropriations.
 - Easement donation from New Riverside Community Association, Inc. approved at 3/14/23 Town Council.
 - Restroom purchase agreement approved at 7/11/23 Town Council.
 - Well installed and tested.
 - Dominion utility easement approved at 10/10/23 Town Council.
 - Bathroom 100% plans approved. Bathroom fabrication in progress.
 - **Next Steps**
 - Continue engineering design and permitting for Phases 1 and 2.
 - Negotiations are ongoing with Central Electric and Santee Cooper for cost sharing terms.
 - Install bathroom, entry gate and security cameras this Spring.

SEWER & STORMWATER

1. **Buck Island-Simmons ville Sewer (Phases 5A-D)**
 - Permits/Contracts are complete, the project is under construction.
 - Mainlines have been constructed.
 - **Next Steps**
 - Inspection, punch list and approval by BJWSA.

2. Historic District Sewer Extension Phases 2 & 3 - Bridge & Colcock Streets

- Jordan Construction of Hilton Head, Inc. continues construction.
- Main line testing is complete and waiting on approvals to operate.
- Road crossing repaving is underway.
- **Next Steps**
 - Finalize installation of grinder pumps and house connections.

3. Historic District Sewer Extension Phases 4 through 6 – Lawrence, Green and Water Streets

- Design for Phases 4, 5, & 6 were submitted to BJWSA for initial review.
- **Next Step**
 - Incorporate BJWSA comments into final construction documents.
 - Construction implementation is pending permit approval.

4. May River Watershed Action Plan Impervious Restoration Water Quality Projects

- Initial site investigations are complete for 8 of the 11 participating project sites.
- Palmetto Pointe Towns, Lowcountry Community Church and Apartment One declined to participate in the Program at this time.
- Began work to finalize Draft on Section 1 of 3, Fee-in-Lieu and Enterprise Fund establishment/administration. Geotechnical investigations for all sites have been completed.
- Initial Property Owner contacts for the selected 15 Additional Sites within municipal limits have been made.
- **Next Steps**
 - Update of site concepts based on geotechnical data a complete and field walks of each site being scheduled.
 - Based on comments received from the school district, finalize preliminary design plan for School sites.

HISTORIC DISTRICT IMPROVEMENTS

1. Boundary Street Lighting

- Complete contract revisions with Dominion to install street lighting on the west side of Boundary Street.
- **Next Steps**
 - Dominion to install street lighting in FY24.

2. Squire Pope Carriage House Preservation

- The contract with Huss Inc. was executed and construction began on 1/16/23.
- All exterior siding, windows and doors have been refinished and reinstalled. New roofing has been installed. Exterior painting is ongoing. Handicap ramp has been installed. Handrails to follow. Exterior shutters are almost complete. Interior trim has been reinstalled. Floor refinishing has begun. Casework is installed. Interior painting is ongoing.

- **Next Steps**
 - Complete building construction in May 2024.
 - Obtain FY25 budget approval for Welcome Center and office upfit.
 - Landscape design is complete and planned to be installed this summer.

3. Bridge Street Streetscape

- Phase 1 lighting completed.
- Stakeholder meeting with Montessori completed.
- SCDOT approved additional storm drainage was completed at Martins Place.
- **Next Steps**
 - Continue phase 2 engineering design for SCDOT permitting.
 - Continue Phase 2 stakeholder meetings.
 - Meet with Dominion for Phase 2 lighting plan.
 - Close out Phase 1 with SCDOT.

4. Boundary Street Streetscape

- Engineering Design is 70% complete and submitted to Watershed for stormwater for initial review.
- Met with Dominion Energy on 5/17/23. Completion of underground conversion plans from Dominion Energy is subject to the Town obtaining easements for May River Transmission line and proposed switch gear locations.
- **Next Steps**
 - Continue with engineering design, underground power coordination, and permitting.
 - Prepare easement exhibits and begin appraisals in FY24.
 - Construction to begin in FY25, subject to acquisition of all required easements.

5. Calhoun Street Streetscape

- Preliminary engineering design is 40% complete.
- Met with Dominion Energy on 5/17/23. Awaiting underground conversion plans from Dominion Energy.
- **Next Steps**
 - Continue negotiations with May River Road property owners for main transmission line easements. Once the main transmission line easements have been completed, then continue with engineering design into FY25.
 - Prepare easement acquisition plats for Phase 1 in FY24 and begin easement acquisition.
 - Phased construction is planned to begin in FY26 pending budget approval and acquisition of all required easements.

6. Pathway Pedestrian Safety Improvements

- Completed Historic District crosswalk study identifying and prioritizing future intersection/crosswalk improvements to meet ADA compliance.
- Phase 1 ADA sidewalk improvements along Goethe Road were completed on 1/2023.
- Contract with ICE approved at 9/12/23 Town Council meeting.
- **Next Steps**
 - 90% design plans.
 - Obtain easements and exhibits and prepare to meet with property owners.

7. Comprehensive Drainage Plan Improvements

- Heyward Cove Work Completed. Working on preparing individual Asset Owner reports identifying work, results and needed work. FY24 scope of work finalized.
- Consultant proposal finalized and MSA Task Authorization to be presented at April 9, 2024 Town Council meeting.
- **Next Steps**
 - Review consultant proposal, negotiate cost and scope items, determine award.

8. Pritchard Street Drainage Improvements

- Project scope has increased to include streetscape elements, pedestrian connectivity, street lighting and traffic calming evaluation. Growth Management and Stormwater Pre-Application meeting held October 17, 2023. Updated 95% design received from consultant and under review. Permit applications have been submitted. DRC Public Project held March 28, 2024.
- **Next Steps**
 - Coordinate approval for proposed improvements with Beaufort County School District and Beaufort County on Pool operation impacts.
 - Complete 95% design review, follow-up/complete permitting submissions and bid document formulation.
 - Identification of easement and street lighting needs.

PARK DEVELOPMENT**1. Oyster Factory Park**

- Civil construction and landscape of parking area is complete.
- Design of the event area and reconfigured boat trailer parking is underway.
- Construction of the event area site development is underway.
- **Next Steps**
 - Construction of the event area is planned to be complete by May.
 - Prepare alternate kayak launch plan for the east side of the park.

2. Oscar Frazier Park

- Started construction of Rotary Center improvements in June. Construction to be complete in April.
- Executed contracts for design/build of the splash pad.
- Posted bid solicitation for landscape construction in March.

- **Next Steps**
 - Complete Rotary Hardscape construction in late April.
 - Preconstruction utility relocations are complete. Begin construction of Splash Pad in April 2024 and complete in July

3. New Riverside Barn/Park

- Phase 2 Design is complete.
- JS Construction completed phase 1 site construction in November 2023.
- JS has started additional parking area phase two.
- The contract has been executed with Nix Construction for Construction Manager at Risk Services with a GMP for Phase 2 (barn, restroom, playground, and common areas).
- Nix Construction has all permits moving forward.
- Nix has procured all future playground equipment.
- Nix has installed security fencing around park for safety.
- Nix has formed up foundations at restrooms and installed underground plumbing. Restroom foundations are poured.
- Nix started pavilion foundations and blockwork at playground area.
- Dominion installed transformer, power to park and pulled power to transformer. restrooms.
- **Next Steps**
 - JS to continue additional parking area phase two.
 - JS will install all hand holes for future light poles and IT infrastructure.
 - Nix to start restroom construction.
 - Nix to start pavilion construction.
 - Nix will install future well for irrigation and landscape.

4. New Riverside Village

- Partial order of site furnishings received.
- Bid opportunity posted for trellis swing construction and installation of site furniture.
- Trellis swing construction and installation of site furniture contract awarded.
- **Next Steps**
 - Installation of trellis swings, dog stations and trash cans by 6/30/24.
 - Lighting contract to be presented at 4/9/24 Town Council.
 - Design wayfinding signage plan.

5. Miscellaneous Park Improvements

- Construction of the DuBois playground addition is complete.
- Executed contract for Shade Sail at Buckwalter Place Park
- Posted bid solicitation for tree plantings at Buckwalter Place Park West
- **Next Steps**
 - Continue landscape and hardscape enhancements at various town parks in 2024.

6. **Buckwalter Place Park Improvements**

- Plans presented to Town Council on 1/16/24.
- Conceptual landscaping plan complete.
- **Next Steps**
 - Finalize hardscape plans for FY25 scope.
 - Finalize lighting plan and contract.
 - Continuing design, CDs of bathroom renovation.

TOWN FACILITIES AND MISCELLANEOUS PLANNING

1. **Town of Bluffton Housing Projects**

- **Next Steps**
 - Provide financial assistance to joint venture partner for planning, design and permitting of Affordable/Workforce Housing at 1095 May River Road.
 - PM staff to review progress and applications for payment.

2. **Law Enforcement Center Facility Improvements**

- Construction of the challenge course and impound lot is complete.
- PD to complete improvements to evidence room
- PS to add AON system to HVAC.
- **Next Steps**
 - Begin design for FY25 construction of a possible storage of Public Service maintenance equipment, impound lot and canine facility.

3. **Sarah Riley Hooks Cottage**

- Executed design contracts with Meadors Inc., JK Tiller and Shearlock Engineering for design services of the cottage restoration and site development.
- **Next Steps**
 - Complete design of cottage and grounds in 2024.
 - Begin restoration construction of cottage in FY25.
 - Begin landscape development construction in FY26.

4. **Ghost Roads**

- Surveying and easement exhibits are complete.
- Bridge Street Quit Claim Deeds are complete. Pritchard and Colcock Streets Quit Claim Deeds are 99% complete. Staff is currently working with Lawrence, Lawton, Green, Pope, Allen, and Water Street property owners to obtain Quit Claim Deeds.
- TC member Frazier and Staff met with Maiden Lane and DuBois Lane property owners to raise awareness of the acquisition efforts and communicate next steps.
- **Next Steps**
 - Continue acquisition of remaining Quit Claim Deeds for Historic District Ghost Roads or initiate quiet title proceedings.

5. Document Management

- RFP contract was awarded in March 2022.
- Electronic Document Management system is live.
- Documents for 6 departments have been transitioned to DMS.
- **Next Steps:**
 - Historical documents for the remaining departments will transition through FY26.

6. Network Infrastructure

- Replaced core switches at Town Hall and the Law Enforcement Center.
- Replaced two VMWare hosts for a more stable server environment.
- Migration of Munis and Energov systems to a hosted environment completed.
- Replaced phone system to a more modern system.
- Implemented Executime to replace Intime.
- **Next Steps:**
 - Replacing two more VMWare hosts.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT UPDATE

1. Stoney Creek/Palmetto Bluff Sewer Partnership

- 2022 updated cost-estimate for the project from BJWSA is \$7.2 million + contingencies. BJWSA has agreed to be the Project Manager.
- Awarded the RIA SCIPP grant in support of Stoney Creek/Palmetto Bluff Sewer Extension with BJWSA and Beaufort County.
- Met with partners to address BJWSA IGA concerns on 3/2/23. A draft 3-party Intergovernmental Agreement was discussed at a follow up meeting on 5/30/23.
- Finalized IGA with Town, County, and grant splitting sewer extension costs and BJWSA funding water extension costs.
- **Next Steps**
 - IGA with Town, County, and grant splitting sewer extension costs and BJWSA routed for signatures.

2. SC Department of Health and Environmental Control May River Shellfish Harvesting Monitoring Data Year-to-Date and May River Shellfish Harvesting Status Exhibit – *Attachments 1 and 1a*

3. May River Watershed Action Plan Implementation Summary - *Attachment 2*

- Staff continue to work with Water Environmental Consultants (WEC) to review continuous flow data from the Stoney Creek, Rose Dhu Creek, and Palmetto Bluff subwatersheds. WEC is reviewing continuous and intermittent flow data in real time. WEC provided recommendations on the Town's water quality grab sampling program to ensure sufficient data for model calibration. Staff began implementing these recommendations on 7/31/23. The flow data monitoring review period will end on 04/24/24. Final reports are expected to be completed in FY25. Staff continue to implement grab sampling water quality program recommendations.
- The Town's Calhoun Street Dock tidal elevation gauge was repaired and is recording tidal elevation data. Water Environmental Consultants (WEC) established two (2) additional tide gauges near the Stoney Creek and Rose Dhu Creek model boundaries as part of a 4-week headwaters tidal gauge study. The Calhoun Street dock and headwaters tidal elevation data will be used to establish a relationship between tidal amplitude and timing in the headwaters of the May River. A final report on the 4-week tidal gauge study is expected in FY25 with all other WEC flow monitoring final reports.
- The SC Sea Grant Consortium and College of Charleston have submitted a proposed scope of work for a Town Resiliency Analysis. This analysis was approved as part of the FY24 budget adoption. SC Sea Grant has provided a revised scope of work to the Town based on staff comments. The Town and the College of Charleston have executed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to conduct the Resiliency Analysis. This analysis will include modeling storms and sea level rise throughout Town watersheds, a review of the Town's UDO, Municode, SC Code of Ordinances, and Stormwater Design Manual, and stakeholder engagement through surveys and events.

- Staff met with newly appointed WAPAC member, Chris Kehrer, on 2/19/24 to review all necessary on-boarding materials.

4. **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program Update**

- Staff are currently editing the 2022-2023 MS4 Annual Report in preparation for the April 1, 2024, deadline for submittal to SCDHEC.
- Staff are currently editing the Stormwater Management Plan with an anticipated date of April 1, 2024, for submittal to SCDHEC.
- Staff met with Beaufort County Stormwater staff to discuss upcoming renewals of Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs) specific to MS4 compliance on 02/27/24.

5. **MS4 Minimum Control Measure (MCM) - #1 Public Education and Outreach, and MS4 MCM - #2 Public Participation and Involvement**

- The May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee (WAPAC) was held 03/28/24. - **Attachment 3**
- Staff worked with the Communications Department to have the pet waste handout and the 'Big 6' handout which outlines the common types of household stormwater pollutants, hung in the bulletin board at Dubois Park.
- Staff provided training on proper disposal of fats, oils, and grease (FOGs) to restaurant staff in the Promenade on 02/26/24.
- Staff is assisting Congregation Beth Yam with supplies and logistics for their first Annual Reverse Tashlich litter cleanup scheduled for 10/6/24 in the Bluffton Historic District.
- Staff continue to coordinate the May River Cleanup, which will be held on 05/04/24, from 9:00am-11:30am at Oyster Factory Park.

6. **MS4 MCM – #3 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination**

- Stormwater Infrastructure Inventory Map - **Attachment 4a**
- *E. coli* Concentrations Trend Map - **Attachment 4b**
 - Staff conducted MRWAP water quality sampling on 02/13/24. Twenty-four (24) fecal indicator bacteria samples and two (2) intermittent flow measurements were collected from the May River headwaters.
 - Staff collected water quality samples at Historic District monitoring sites Bridge Street post-construction sites, and May River Watershed Action Plan SonTek IQ sites on 03/6/24. Twenty-two (22) fecal indicator bacteria samples, eight (8) nutrient, and one (1) TSS sample were collected.
 - Staff conducted MRWAP water quality sampling on 03/11/24. Twenty-two (22) fecal indicator bacteria samples, twelve (12) nutrient, and two (2) intermittent flow measurements were collected from the May River headwaters.
- Monthly, Microbial Source Tracking (MST) Maps - **Attachments 4c and 4d**
 - SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) collects MST samples for the Town concurrently with their routine shellfish harvesting water quality sampling at stations 19-19, 19-19A, 19-19B, 19-19C, and 19-24. SCDHEC collected samples on 02/15/24. The human genetic marker was not detected in any of the samples collected.

- Illicit Discharge Investigations – ***Attachment 4e***
7. **MS4 MCM – #4 Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control – Attachment 5**
 8. **MS4 MCM – #5 Stormwater Plan Review and Related Activity – Attachment 6**
 9. **MS4 MCM – #6 Good Housekeeping (Staff Training/Education)**
 - Staff attended the South Carolina Association of Stormwater Managers (SCASM) First Quarter Meeting on 03/07/24.
 10. **MS4 MCM – #6 Good Housekeeping (Ditch, Drainage and Roadside Maintenance)**
 - Public Services performed weekly street sweeping on Calhoun Street, Highway 46, Bruin Road, May River Road, Pin Oak Street, and curbs and medians on Simmonsville and Buck Island Roads.
 - Performed ditch inspections.
 - Arrow ditch (2,569 LF)
 - Red Cedar ditch (966 LF)
 - Buck Island roadside ditch (15,926 LF)
 - Simmonsville roadside ditch (13,792 LF)
 - Ongoing roadside mowing, litter clean-up and maintenance of Masters' Way, McCracken Circle, Hampton Parkway, Buck Island and Simmonsville Roads, Goethe Road, Shults Road, Jason and Able Streets, Whispering Pine Road, May River Road, and Eagles Field.
 11. **Citizen Drainage, Maintenance, and Inspections Concerns Map – Attachment 7**
 12. **Citizen Request for Watershed Management Services & Activities – Attachment 8**

Attachments

1. SCDHEC Shellfish Harvesting Monitoring Data Year-to-Date
 - a. SCDHEC May River Shellfish Harvesting Status Exhibit
2. Quarterly Update – May River Watershed Action Plan Implementation Summary*
3. MS4 Minimum Control Measures #1 and #2 – WAPAC Agenda 01/25/24
4. MS4 Minimum Control Measure #3 – Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
 - a. Stormwater Infrastructure Inventory Map
 - b. *E. coli* Concentrations Trend Map
 - c. Microbial Source Tracking Trend Map – Human Source
 - d. Microbial Source Tracking Map – All Sources
 - e. Illicit Discharge Investigations
5. MS4 Minimum Control Measure #4 – Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control
6. MS4 Minimum Control Measure #5 – Stormwater Plan Review and Related Activity
7. Citizen Drainage, Maintenance, and Inspections Concerns Map
8. Citizen Request for Watershed Management Services and Activities Map
9. CIP Master Project Schedules

* Attachment noted above includes the latest updates in blue.

	19-19				19-19A				19-19B				19-19C				19-24				19-16			
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)
December	79.0	33.0	33.0		49.0	49.0	33.0		4.5	17.0	7.8		17.0	49.0	13.0		6.8	6.8	7.8		7.8	13.0	17.0	
November	33.0	33.0	13.0		33.0	13.0	2.0		7.8	7.8	4.5		4.0	4.5	4.5		4.5	6.1	2.0		2.0	13.0	4.5	
October	49.0	23.0	33.0		26.0	46.0	23.0		13.0	13.0	17.0		23.0	23.0	33.0		23.0	11.0	2.0		17.0	14.0	6.8	
September	33.0	540.0	23.0		11.0	350.0	13.0		17.0	350.0	13.0		13.0	170.0	7.8		2.0	79.0	17.0		11.0	33.0	13.0	
August	49.0	23.0	23.0		49.0	23.0	49.0		23.0	11.0	6.8		49.0	13.0	13.0		14.0	17.0	23.0		14.0	11.0	2.0	
July	350.0	920.0	350.0		64.0	49.0	920.0		79.0	95.0	70.0		33.0	130.0	49.0		33.0	23.0	33.0		13.0	46.0	17.0	
June	49.0	13.0	14.0		79.0	4.5	7.8		13.0	11.0	23.0		17.0	2.0	13.0		22.0	1.8	33.0		2.0	9.3	13.0	
May	2.0	4.5	23.0		49.0	4.5	33.0		23.0	4.0	17.0		23.0	1.8	13.0		23.0	1.8	33.0		7.8	2.0	21.0	
April	33.0	4.5	170.0		23.0	4.5	130.0		22.0	1.8	110.0		17.0	2.0	70.0		7.8	1.8	NS		2.0	1.8	7.8	
March	33.0	33.0	23.0		11.0	23.0	49.0		17.0	2.0	17.0		13.0	4.5	17.0		2.0	2.0	17.0		2.0	2.0	17.0	
February	79.0	23.0	540.0		70.0	31.0	350.0		79.0	17.0	240.0		23.0	22.0	240.0		7.8	2.0	33.0		6.8	11.0	33.0	
January	17.0	49.0	33.0	49.0	17.0	22.0	33.0	23.0	13.0	33.0	13.0	4.5	23.0	7.8	33.0	4.5	17.0	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	4.5	2.0
** Truncated GeoMetric Mean	36.0	40.0	38.0	39.0	26.0	28.0	30.0	29.0	18.0	18.0	17.0	16.0	15.0	14.0	16.0	15.0	10.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.0	9.0	8.0	8.0
** Truncated 90th Percentile	139.0	192.0	211.0	231.0	69.0	91.0	152.0	184.0	58.0	72.0	77.0	88.0	39.0	54.0	71.0	88.0	35.0	41.0	44.0	41.0	33.0	32.0	26.0	29.0

NS = No Sample

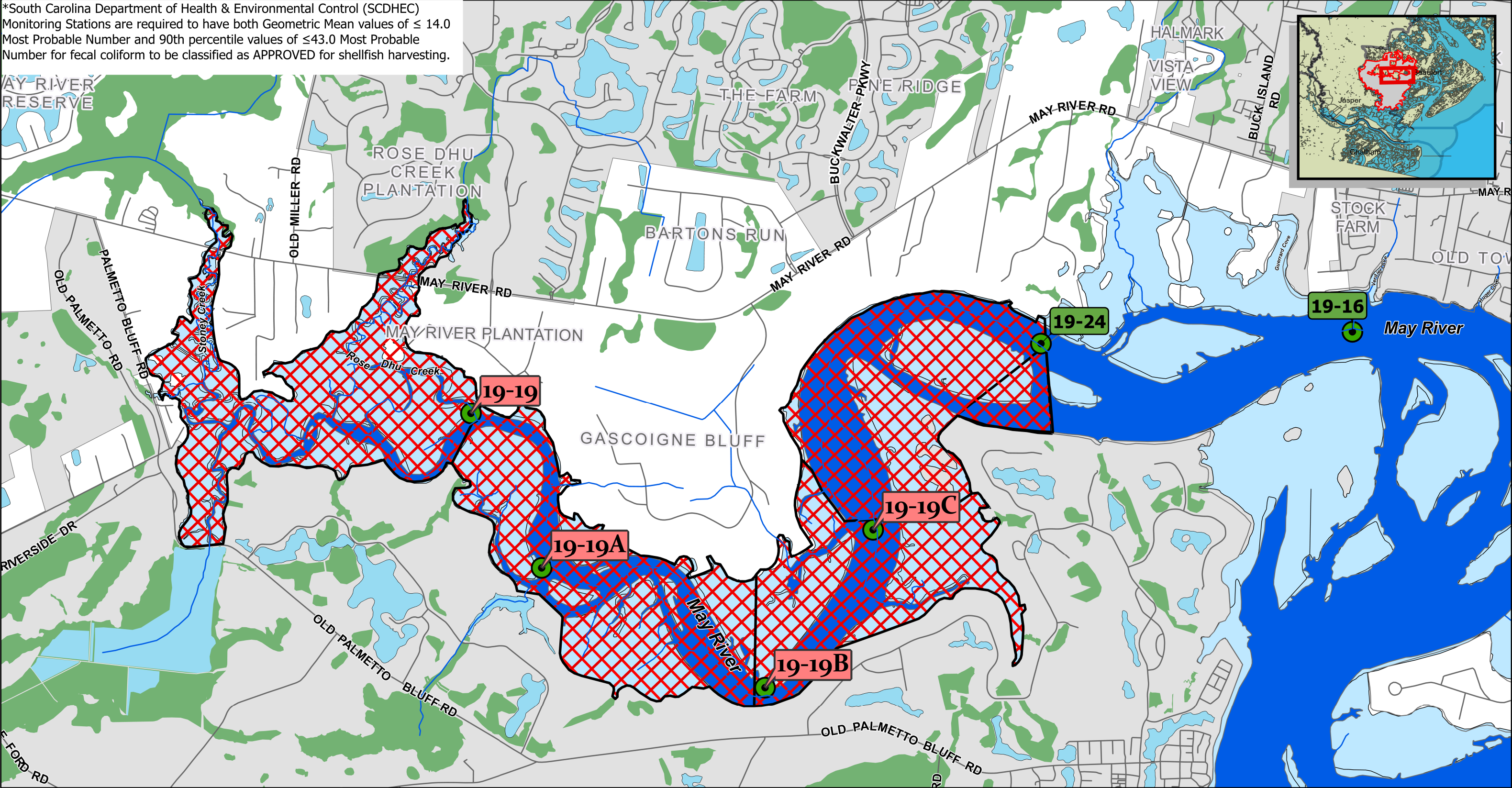
SCDHEC Regulatory Requirements:

Geometric Mean ≤ 14


90th Percentile ≤ 43


** Town staff calculations utilizing SCDHEC statistics


*South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control (SCDHEC)
Monitoring Stations are required to have both Geometric Mean values of ≤ 14.0
Most Probable Number and 90th percentile values of ≤ 43.0 Most Probable
Number for fecal coliform to be classified as APPROVED for shellfish harvesting.





SCDHEC Shellfish Monitoring Stations


 Restricted 2022/2023 Shellfish Season


 Open SCDHEC Shellfish Monitoring Stations


 SCDHEC Shellfish Monitoring Station Classification Change


 Streets

 Drainage

 Town Jurisdiction

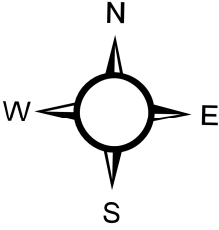
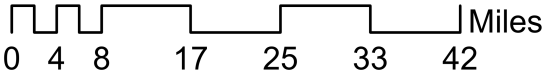
 County Jurisdiction

 Water

 Wetlands

Town of Bluffton
Beaufort County, SC

SCDHEC SHELLFISH HARVESTING STATUS



WAPAC Meeting Presentation
May River Watershed Action Plan Update & Modeling Report
Quarterly Overview and Status
Created: August 25, 2022
Updated: January 25, 2024

Overview

- May River Watershed Action Plan Update & Modeling Report completed November 2020.
- Town Council Adoption of May River Watershed Action Plan Update as a Supporting Document to the Comprehensive Plan completed February 2021.
- May River Watershed Action Plan Update & Modeling Report Summary:
 - **Executive Summary** provides an overview of the project background, findings and interpretation, current state of knowledge concerning fecal coliform fate and transport, and an overview of proposed recommendations for the Town.
 - **1.0 Introduction** includes more detailed project background including the purpose of the document and the Project Team's tasks to 1) develop water quality models to compare current conditions (2018) to pre-shellfish impairment conditions (2002) to develop pollutant load reduction estimates, and 2) evaluate 2011 Action Plan BMPs for appropriateness under current conditions and provide up to eleven (11) alternative projects and preliminary cost estimates.
 - **2.0 Model Setup; 3.0 Model Calibration, and 4.0 Water Quality Model Results** details the methodology used by the Project Team to establish and calibrate the models and the model outputs. This highly technical information is necessary for future Water Quality (WQ) Model calibration and use for consistency.
 - **5.0 Recommendations** includes strategies to improve the Town's monitoring efforts to calibrate the WQ Model further (§5.1), strategies and BMPs for bacteria reduction (§5.2), an evaluation of 2011 Action Plan BMP projects (§5.3), and methodology used to develop 2020 Action Plan Update recommended projects (four septic to sewer conversion projects and eleven stormwater BMP retrofit projects) with cost-estimates and ranking/prioritization (§5.4).
 - **6.0 Conclusions** offers a summary of the WQ Model results in context of current state of knowledge.
 - **7.0 References** documents the prior research findings used to inform recommendations.
 - **Appendices** reference supporting materials:
 - Montie et al. (2019) "Technical Report: Historical Analysis of Water quality, Climate Change Endpoints, and Monitoring in Natural Resources in the May River,"
 - Technical Memo from Dr. Rachel Noble,
 - Watershed Treatment Model Spreadsheets, and
 - Detailed Project Cost Estimate Spreadsheets.

MRWAP 2020 Update Septic to Sewer Project Recommendations/Evaluations:

- Four (4) septic to sewer conversion projects were evaluated in the Rose Dhu Creek and Stoney Creek subwatersheds:
 - Cahill
 - Gascoigne
 - Stoney Creek
 - Pritchardville
 - These projects overlap with 42 subcatchments in the Stoney Creek watershed and 11 in Rose Dhu Creek. Based on WQ Model outputs, these projects alone may potentially reduce FC loading by 3.46×10^{13} FC per year.
- The estimated septic to sewer conversion costs of these projects is \$5.5 million.

Work Performed and Current Status as of August 25, 2022 Meeting

Discussions with the Town, Beaufort County and BJWSA have been held about future Septic to Sewer Program projects identified above. Stoney Creek Septic to Sewer Project has been identified as the next priority project to pursue under the Septic to Sewer Program.

- The Town and Beaufort County are finalizing Funding and Cost share elements relative to the project and a letter to BJWSA will be developed and sent to BJWSA regarding project funding, capital outlay and schedule for implementation.

Update for WAPAC February 23, 2023 Meeting:

The Town, Beaufort County and BJWSA continue to work on details to draft a proposed Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) to be presented to each respective approving authority for review, finalization, and approval. It is anticipated that this process is months away from final approval/adoption of the respective parties.

Update for WAPAC July 27, 2023 Meeting:

Stoney Creek/Palmetto Bluff Sewer: Three-party agreement is being finalized by BJWSA legal team now. BJWSA's RFP for water and sewer design services was supposed to close 6/30/23. Due to RIA protocol, they must review and approve an RFP prior to posting, thus the RFP was canceled. BJWSA anticipates receiving RIA approval and reposting the RFP on 7/17/23. BJWSA received RIA approval and reposted the RFP on 7/17/23 with a closing of 8/1/23.

Update for WAPAC January 25, 2024 Meeting:

Stoney Creek/Palmetto Bluff Sewer: All parties agreed to the IGA in October. The IGA will be presented to TC at the November TC meeting for review and approval. Beaufort County will present the IGA at their December meeting.

MRWAP Update Eleven Impervious Restoration (stormwater retrofit) Project Recommendations/Evaluations:

- Eleven (11) project sites (incorporating various individual BMPs) were selected in consultation with the Town (prioritizing subcatchments with FC bacteria hotspot and/or large impervious areas). These sites were evaluated in terms of the potential benefits gained by retrofitting to meet the 95th percentile storm retention, to the maximum extent possible, under the proposed Impervious Area Restoration/Stormwater Retrofit Program.

Eleven (11) proposed project sites Rose Dhu Creek (6 projects) and Stoney Creek (5 projects):

- Bluffton Early Learning Center (BELC)
- Boys and Girls Club of Bluffton (BGC)
- Benton House (BH)
- Bluffton High School (BHS)
- Buckwalter Recreation Center (BRC)
- Lowcountry Community Church (LCC)
- McCracken Middle School/Bluffton Elementary School (MMSBES)
- May River High School
- One Hampton Lake Apartments (OHLA)
- Pritchardville Elementary School (PES)
- Palmetto Pointe Townes (PPT)
- Based on WQ Model outputs, these projects alone may potentially reduce FC loading by
 - 2.99×10^{14} FC reduction for the Full SWRv (entire sub-basin drainage area catchment).
 - 2.53×10^{14} FC reduction for the Reduced SWRv projects (impervious area drainage area of sub-basin catchment).
- The estimated of Full SWRv projects costs is \$32.7 million and the estimated cost of Reduced SWRv projects is \$22.6 million.
- Currently the Towns' Impervious Restoration Program is targeting Reduced SWRv for future projects.

Example of Impervious Restoration Project evaluation from May River Watershed Action Plan Update & Modeling Report:



Figure 52. McCracken Middle School/Bluffton Elementary School Proposed Stormwater BMP Retrofits

**Work Performed and Current Status as of August 25, 2022 Meeting
Update for WAPAC July 27, 2023 Meeting:**

Work performed for this project is being performed by MSA Consultant Engineering Firm:

- Drafted a detailed scope of work for Engineering Consultant Firm review and cost proposal (Expression of Interest) regarding performance of the work elements presented herein and related to MRWAP Update recommendations for implementation.
- The Expression of Interest was submitted to 3 consultant firms under existing Master Service Agreements with the Town for review and a request for response.
- All 3 Firms responded. Their respective responses were evaluated, scored and discussed internally.
- A recommendation for Award was made and the Consulting Firm of Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood selected.
 - Phase I of this work performed under existing FY 22 funding from Watershed Management Division.
 - Phase II of this work be presented for Town Council review and approval in the August 2022 Town Council Meeting and FY23 funding.

Update for WAPAC February 23, 2023 Meeting:

Phase II work was approved by Town Council and work has been initiated and reported herein.

Task 1 : MRWAP Update 11 site locations

Update for WAPAC January 25, 2024 Meeting

Eleven (11) proposed project sites Rose Dhu Creek (6 projects) and Stoney Creek (5 projects):
Yellow and Blue highlight indicates geotechnical evaluations complete.

- Bluffton Early Learning Center (BELC). Participating in preliminary design development phase.
- Boys and Girls Club of Bluffton (BGC). Participating in preliminary design development phase.
- Benton House (BH). Participating in preliminary design development phase.
- Bluffton High School (BHS). Participating in preliminary design development phase.
- Buckwalter Recreation Center (BRC). Participating in preliminary design development phase.
- Lowcountry Community Church (LCC). Declined to Participate.
- McCracken Middle School/Bluffton Elementary School (MMSBES). Participating in preliminary design development phase.
- May River High School. Participating in preliminary design development phase.
- One Hampton Lake Apartments (OHLA). Declined to Participate.
- Pritchardville Elementary School (PES). Participating in preliminary design development phase.
- Palmetto Pointe Townes (PPT). Declined to Participate.
- Evaluate 11 sites and proposed BMPs. Complete.

- Update concept plans for 11 sites based on site evaluations, recommendations and discussions. **Complete.**
- Perform geotechnical evaluations at each site at locations related to BMP locations of updated concept plans. Completed for **the 5 school sites**. Geotechnical evaluations for the remaining **3** participating partner sites are being schedule based on recent property owner participation status being known/confirmed.
Coordinating geotechnical work approval with property owners and schedule for Benton House (BH), Buckwalter Recreation Center (BRC) and Boys and Girls Club of Bluffton (BGC). **Geotechnical field work for Benton House (BH), Buckwalter Recreation Center (BRC) and Boys and Girls Club of Bluffton (BGC) completed, and data being analyzed and geotechnical report in development.**
- Refine updated concepts and use for presentations to Property Owner to discuss Impervious Restoration Program goals, objectives and gain support for Program and their participation. Based on geotechnical investigation results, updated Concept plans for the 5 school sites have been refined. A meeting will be scheduled with School District to discuss the updated concept plans to get their feedback prior to beginning Preliminary Design task. **Based on geotechnical investigation results, updated Concept plans for Benton House (BH), Buckwalter Recreation Center (BRC) and Boys and Girls Club of Bluffton (BGC) sites will be refined. A meeting will be scheduled with School District to discuss the updated concept plans to get their feedback prior to beginning Preliminary Design task.**
 - Develop list of “incentives” to secure Property Owner participation (see Policy Document Formulation below).
- Based on geotechnical information and Property Owner feedback further refine concept plans to Preliminary Design:
 - Determine BMP types and location to maximize SWRv/WQ treatment in cost effective approach. Estimated impervious area treated and SWRv capture based on refined Concept plans developed for the 5 school sites.
 - Determine estimated pollutant load reductions.
 - Develop site specific BMP details.
 - Develop preliminary BMP maintenance schedule and cost for each site.
- Preliminary Design development plans will be presented to the Property Owner for review and discussion. Other Restoration Program details (maintenance responsibilities, easements, incentives, etc.) developed as part of the Program (see Policy Document Formulation below) will also be discussed in hopes of establishing a commitment from the Property Owner to participate in the Program. Once a “commitment” is secured from the Property Owner, the project site will be moved to Final design, permitting, and ultimately construction. **A meeting was held with the School District on September 28, 2023 to discuss initial Preliminary Design development. Comments were noted and to be incorporated for final preliminary design plan development.**

Task 2 : Identify 15 new project sites for Town of Bluffton Impervious Restoration/BMP Retrofit Projects.

- The Town wishes to identify an additional 15 project sites located within the municipal limits of Bluffton for the Impervious Restoration/BMP Retrofit Program. However, the criteria for site selection will be considered to be more “low hanging fruit” based on the following:
 - Within Town of Bluffton Municipal limits.
 - Soils – sandy soils with high infiltration rates offer the biggest bang for the buck for water quality treatment/improvement. Utilizing soil survey and other information target sites where infiltration can be maximized on-site.
 - Public or governmental agency land/property owner (not SCDOT RoW).

Update for WAPAC February 23, 2023 Meeting:

Desktop analysis and field work performed to develop a list of 45 sites that potentially meet the criteria above. This list of potential sites is under review/evaluation.

Update for WAPAC July 27, 2023 Meeting:

Finalized the list of 15 additional sites (and 5 alternates) to be considered/evaluated within the municipal limits of Bluffton for Impervious Restoration feasibility and concept plan development. Site evaluations will be performed as property owner approvals for access to property to perform site assessment is obtained.

Update for WAPAC January 25, 2024 Meeting:

Data search for these sites is ongoing in terms of existing plan information, current property owner and contacts.

Yellow Highlight indicate field investigations, drainage pattern evaluations and hand auger soil samples completed.

Green Highlight indicate contact made and coordination in process.

Initial concept plans are being developed for these sites for review. Other site evaluations will be performed as property owner approvals for access to property to perform site assessment is obtained.

- **Dominion Energy Engineering Office**
- Rose Dhu Equestrian Center
- St. Gregory Catholic Church/School
- **River Ridge Academy**
- **MC Riley Early Childhood Center**
- **MC Riley Elementary School**
- **MC Riley Sports Complex**
- **Bluffton Middle School**
- **Red Cedar Elementary School**
- Seagrass Station Road
- **Bluffton Pkwy West (170 to Buckwalter)**
- **Buckwalter Pkwy (Hampton Hall to May River Road)**
- Persimmon St/Sheridan Park Cir/Pennington Dr
- Vaden Nissan Hilton Head
- NHC Healthcare/Bluffton (Healthcare, Rehab, Assisted Living)

Town of Bluffton Impervious Restoration/BMP Retrofit Policy Documents.

Task 3 : Section 5.4.4. Stormwater BMP Retrofit Projects of the May River Watershed Action Plan Update and Model Report identifies potential Impervious Restoration/BMP Retrofit projects located on Public and Private Land. As mentioned earlier, one of the primary site selection criteria, at time of report development, was to identify sites with large impervious areas so that pollutant load reductions could be estimated and the benefits of such projects on stormwater quality quantified/estimated, if implemented into construction. Generally, Public Funds are not expended to improve private property nor is Town of Bluffton funding generally expended on Public Land owned by another government entity. In order for such projects identified in Section 5.4.4. to move forward in the interest of improved water quality and for the overall benefit and welfare of the constituents of the Town of Bluffton, Policy Documents need to be formulated that establishes the parameters of such a Program to be initiated and implemented.

- Policy Document Formulation has been initiated and includes research of similar Programs Nationwide.

Update for WAPAC February 23, 2023 Meeting:

2 *DRAFT* Policy Documents have been submitted for review and comment. Comments are being evaluated and addressed by consultant and an update *DRAFT* Policy Document is expected by April 2023.

Update for WAPAC July 27, 2023 Meeting:

- Updated Draft Policy Document was completed and submitted in June for review and comments are being finalized.
- Upon Policy Document Final Draft development, the Policy Document will be presented to WAPAC with a request for recommendation to Town Council for adoption.

Update for WAPAC January 25, 2024 Meeting:

- **Internal review, discussion and comments of Updated Draft Policy Document was completed and submitted to Consultant September 10, 2023. Initial discussion of comments and path forward held November 3, 2023. Additional discussions with Consultant to be held in December 2023.**

Other, Related MRWAP Update Recommendations

- Adopt proposed regional Southern Lowcountry Post Construction Stormwater Ordinance and Design Manual - complete September 2021.
- The Town should incorporate volume reduction BMPs (those that encourage infiltration) within existing and future CIP projects to the maximum extent practical, especially for project locations with well-drained soils (HSG A or B) – [in progress](#), see below.
 - **Work Performed and Current Status as of August 25, 2022 Meeting**
 - Bridge Street Streetscape Project
 - Project design/permitting is complete, and Construction Contract has been awarded.

- Incorporated Infiltration BMPs within the project to capture and treat 1.95" of rainfall over impervious surfaces within the project area, prior to discharge into the May River.
- Received Section 319 Grant from DHEC to cost-share cost of construction of proposed BMPs.

Update for WAPAC February 23, 2023 Meeting

Construction was initiated by JS Construction in early December 2022. Construction considered 65% complete.

Update for WAPAC July 27, 2023 Meeting:

- Project work is Substantially Complete.
- Partial reimbursement from DHEC for construction cost supported by 319 Grant requested and received.

Update for WAPAC January 25, 2024 Meeting

- Project and Grant work is complete and closed out.
- Total Grant funding for this project \$228,165.15
- Water Quality Monitoring Results

Water Quality Monitoring Summary: Based on monitoring and rainfall data for the period of July 1-October 11, 2023, the only rainfall event that produced a stormwater outfall/discharge was an intense rain event on September 10, 2023 which produced 3.82" of rain in a 4 hour period. The next most intense storm happened on July 10, 2023 which produced 1.46" of rain in 1 hour and no stormwater outfall/discharge occurred. Based on this data, we estimate the BMP treatment train constructed with this project could accommodate a 10 year storm event (6.9" of rain in 24 hours) with little or zero runoff. Zero runoff equals zero pollutants, and zero freshwater being discharged to Huger Cove and the May River.

From 319 Grant Project Final Report: Pre-construction water quality monitoring was performed on October 19, 2022, which can be found in Appendix C. So, prior to project construction a simulated rain event was performed to provide an indication of the amount of rainfall prior to direct a discharge occurring into Heyward Cove and then water samples were collected and tested by USCB to determine pollutants present and their concentrations. The rainfall simulation was performed because there was no way to get a water sample once stormwater entered the BMP and was treated by BMP via infiltration into ground.

Table 1 below is the Pre Construction Water Quality Monitoring Table of Pollutants:

Date	Time of Sample	TKN (mg/L)	Nitrate/Nitrite (mg/L)	Total Nitrogen (TN)	Total Phosphorus (TP)	TSS (mg/L)
10/19/2022	9:41	0.85	0.290	1.10	0.68	220.00

Three underground storage/infiltration and four pervious paver parking areas with underground storage were installed. After the completion of the BMPs, water quality monitoring was conducted to determine the reduction in pollutants with the newly installed BMPs. The installation of the Auto samplers were located at the two stormwater pipe outfalls into Heyward Cove, FES-1 and FES-2. Post-

construction water quality monitoring occurred on September 11, 2023, which can be found in Appendix C. Based off the post-construction pollutant values, all values analyzed were reduced greatly, including TSS.

Table 2 below is the Post Construction Water Quality Monitoring Table of Reduced Pollutants:

Date	Time of Sample	TKN (mg/L)	Nitrate/Nitrite (mg/L)	Total Nitrogen (TN)	Total Phosphorus (TP)	TSS (mg/L)
9/11/2023	16:46	0.64	0.14	0.78	0.19	8.4

Rainfall monitoring took place between July 1, 2023, and October 11, 2023, at the Watershed Building Office, 1261 May River Road. There were eight rainstorm events that had over an inch of water in 24 hours. In particular, there was one rainstorm on September 10th, 2023, where there was 3.82 inches of rain over the extent of four hours. This was the only recorded rain event, during the monitoring period, which produced a discharge of stormwater runoff into outfall FES-2 at Heyward Cove.

Table 3 below are the eight storm events over an inch.

Rainstorms over and inch	
Rainstorm Event	Rainfall (in)
July 5 th	1.46 inches over 1 hour
July 10 th	1.17 inches over 7 hours
July 28 th	1.28 inches over the whole day
August 28 th	1.23 inches over 1 hour
August 30 th	1.23 inches over the whole day
September 1 st	1.1 inches over 3 hours
September 10 th	3.82 inches over 4 hours
September 17 th	1.09 inches over 6.5 hours

Table 4 shows the monthly rain mounts in inches, with October only accounting for the first eleven days of the month and then monitoring stopped.

Monthly Rain Amounts	
Month	Rainfall (in)
July	7.35
August	5.3
September	7.56
October*	0.0
TOTAL	20.21

*only accounted for October 1 – October 11, 2023

There are many benefits that come from the constructed/installed stormwater best management practices, that include: 1) reducing the concentrations of pollutants that are associated with stormwater runoff, 2) the amount and frequency of direct stormwater/freshwater discharges into Heyward Cove has greatly reduced. and 3) temporarily detain large portions of the runoff volume and then release it a slower rate to decrease the amount of flooding on the roads. With the BMPs that were used for Bridge Street Streetscape, the BMP benefits include the decrease in TSS and other pollutants, but also retrofitting the existing area that had no prior stormwater management in the surrounding area.

- Pritchard Street Drainage Improvement Project
 - Project in Design Phase and considered 30% complete.
 - Incorporated Infiltration BMPs within the project to capture and treat 1.95" of rainfall over impervious surfaces within the project area, prior to discharge into Heyward Cove.
 - Submitted Section 319 Grant proposal to DHEC to cost-share cost of construction of proposed BMPs. Pre-proposal was accepted, and Full Proposal was requested by DHEC. Under Review.
Update for WAPAC February 23, 2023 Meeting
 - 70% design plan submitted, reviewed and comments presented to consultant.
 - 319 Grant was awarded by DHEC to the Town.
 - **Update for WAPAC July 27, 2023 Meeting:**
 - Project Scope of Work and budget increase approved for FY24 to include streetscape elements of lighting, sidewalk, traffic calming and ADA compliance.
 - Updated survey received.
 - Updated 70% design drawings received in July and under review.
 - **Update for WAPAC January 25, 2024 Meeting**
 - **Updated 70% Streetscape Design submittal made and review comments provided to Consultant for 90% Design development and permit acquisitions.**
 - **Pre-Application meeting for Project held with Growth Management and Stormwater Management.**
- In-House Microbial Source Tracking – [in progress](#), see below
 - The Town entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of South Carolina Beaufort (USCB) in July 2021 to establish and fund a regional Microbial Source Tracking (MST) laboratory capable of accepting environmental water quality samples.
 - Analytical services are provided by the USCB-MST laboratory for all environmental samples collected by the Town.

- **Update for WAPAC February 23, 2023 Meeting** Staff has collected additional fecal samples needed for dog, bird, and deer. The USCB-MST Laboratory is conducting the assessment on additional fecal samples and Dr. Pettay will provide a final report to the Town once all fecal markers in regional watersheds have been analyzed.
- **Update for WAPAC July 27, 2023 Meeting:** Additional genetic fecal markers continue to be analyzed by Dr. Pettay and the MST Laboratory.
- **Update for WAPAC January 25, 2024 Meeting: Dr. Pettay is now the Lead Principal Investigator (PI) for both the MST and Water Quality Laboratories. Dr. Pettay, Town staff, and County staff met to discuss regional water quality monitoring needs. The MST Laboratory is still processing scat samples, and a final report is forthcoming.**
- Future (new) Bacteria Monitoring Locations - **in progress**, see below
 - Staff increased sampling frequency and implemented additional monitoring sites and parameters in the May River headwaters based upon recommendations in the 2020 May River Watershed Action Plan Update and Model Report.
 - **Update for WAPAC February 23, 2023 Meeting** Staff is collecting intermittent flow data at SonTek IQ sites in conjunction with grab FIB samples.
 - **Update for WAPAC July 27, 2023 Meeting** Staff is working with the consultant to identify recommended strategies for intermittent flow data collection and a review of the Town's FIB grab sample schedule.
 - **Update for WAPAC January 25, Meeting: Staff continues to collect MRWAP bacteria grab samples twice per month at fourteen (14) monitoring locations in the May River headwaters study area. Intermittent flow measurements are collected at six (6) of these monitoring locations at the time of grab sampling.**
- Future (new) Water Flow Monitoring Locations.
 - **Work Performed and Current Status as of August 25, 2022 Meeting**
 - The MRWAP Update included recommendations for the Town to perform certain rainfall and flow data measurements in May River Headwater Watersheds in order to "calibrate" and make more accurate Model predictions. These recommendations were evaluated and a game plan to address recommendations to calibrate model developed.
 - Utilizing existing flow and rainfall data collected over past years with rain gauges, IQ Plus and Sontek measuring instruments in Stoney Creek, Rose Dhu Creek, Palmetto Bluff, Duck Pond and Heyward Cove, the Town hired a consultant to review the data and determine:
 - Useful data obtained to gain the required information to calibrate model.
 - The data obtained from Stoney Creek and Heyward Cove was deemed sufficient for Model calibration and Final report for this work is in process.
 - Duck Pond was deemed inconsequential, not needed due to drainage area size and proximity/outfall to tidal waters.

Update for WAPAC February 23, 2023 Meeting

- Consultant Final Report delivered, and Model Calibration Data for Stoney Creek and Heyward Cove identified.
- If data review resulted in insufficient data, develop a monitoring program that would produce the data needed.
 - Rose Dhu Creek and Palmetto Bluff flow data review resulted in data that was insufficient to calibrate Model.
 - Final report identifying recommended strategies to gain required data is in process.
 - Potential purchase of telemetry stations to equip continuous flow monitoring stations with real-time data access.

Update for WAPAC February 23, 2023 Meeting

- Final Report delivered. Based on recommendations of data and process needed, staff has procured needed telemetry station equipment and has hired a consultant to assist in getting the intermittent and continuous flow data and producing a Final Report. The field work installation of equipment is being scheduled. Once installed and operational, data collection will last 6 months.

Update for WAPAC July 27, 2023 Meeting

- The Town of Bluffton procured and installed two (2) SonTek Turnkey Systems that enable real-time continuous flow data review to a cloud-based service. These systems are deployed in the Rose Dhu Creek and Palmetto Bluff subwatersheds.
- A SonTek IQ remains deployed in the Stoney Creek subwatershed. The consultant's first data review determined there was sufficient flow data for model calibration in the Stoney Creek subwatershed. However, staff determined it would continue to collect continuous flow data at this location so that continuous flow, intermittent flow, bacteria samples, and rainfall data were collected for three (3) of the four (4) Modeling Report subwatersheds simultaneously.
- Consultant is reviewing data and identifying power, beam, or possible maintenance issues weekly.
- Intermittent flow measurements, utilizing the FlowTracker2, will be conducted at the time of grab sampling at the three (3) SonTek IQ flow stations beginning 7/31/23.

Update for WAPAC January 25, 2024 Meeting:

- Staff continue to operate and maintain three (3) SonTek IQ continuous flow monitoring stations in the May River headwaters. Staff expect these systems to be in place for approximately one (1) full year to account for seasonality.
- The Duck Pond subwatershed has no channelized flow entering or exiting the system. The Town's consultant suggested that the Town monitor water elevation in the Duck Pond for approximately 6 months to ensure water elevations are accurately depicted by future modeling. Staff has requested permission to site a water elevation logger in the Duck Pond, near or attached to the Palmetto Bluff bridge.
- Clarification from the consultant determined that due to limited staff time, intermittent flow measurements would be most valuable at six (6) of the Town's water quality monitoring locations upstream of the SonTek IQ flow stations.
- Staff is working diligently to collect samples following wet weather conditions which have been defined as ≤ 0.50 inches of rainfall within 24 hours of sampling. The USCB Water Quality Laboratory has been assisting the Town with ensuring samples can be analyzed on short notice.



May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 3:00 PM

**Theodore D. Washington Municipal Building, Henry "Emmett" McCracken Jr. Council Chambers,
20 Bridge Street, Bluffton, SC**

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. Adoption of the March 28, 2024, Agenda

IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Adoption of the February 22, 2024, Minutes

V. PRESENTATIONS, CELEBRATIONS, AND RECOGNITIONS

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Development of the Strategic Plan Priority Five (5) to Establish an Agreement with Beaufort County to Implement the May River Watershed Action Plan within the County's Jurisdiction of the Watershed for Both Structural Stormwater Projects and Non-Structural Programs such as Implementing the Green Print Map within the Rural & Critical Lands Program - Beth Lewis, Water Quality Program Manager

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. DISCUSSION

X. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE: April 25th, 2024

“FOIA Compliance – Public notification of this meeting has been published and posted in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Bluffton policies.”

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the Town of Bluffton will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities. The Town of Bluffton Council Chambers are ADA compatible. Auditory accommodations are available. Any person requiring further accommodation should contact the Town of Bluffton ADA Coordinator at 843.706.4500 or adacoordinator@townofbluffton.com as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

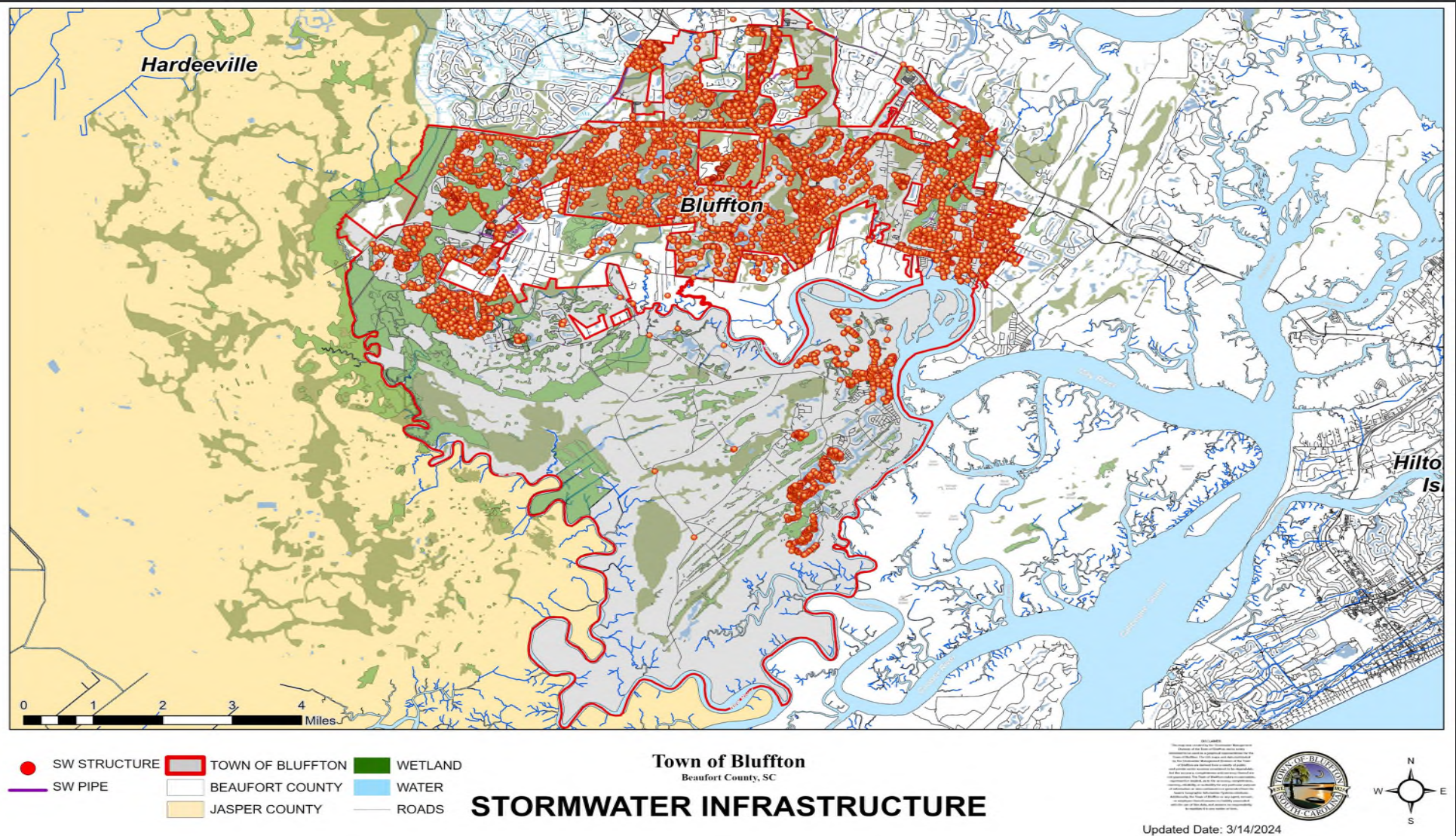
Executive Session – The public body may vote to go into executive session for any item identified for action on the agenda.

**Please note that each member of the public may speak at one public comment session and a form must be filled out and given to the Town Clerk. To submit a public comment online, please click here:*

<https://www.townofbluffton.sc.gov/FormCenter/Town-15/Public-Comment-60>

Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per speaker.

MS4 Minimum Control Measure #3 – IDDE (Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination): Stormwater Infrastructure Inventory



Stormwater Infrastructure Inventory Collection Status

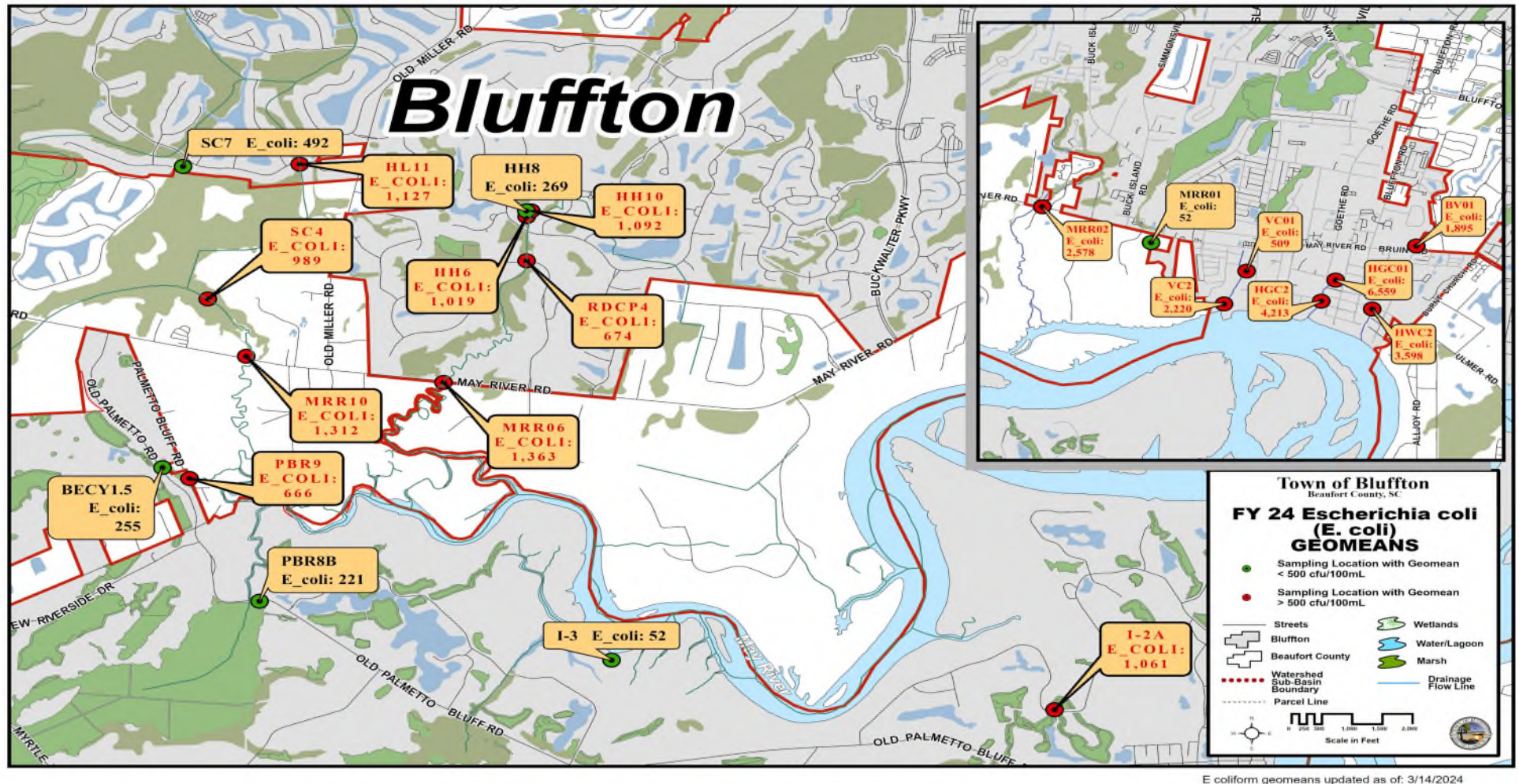
Collection Totals

17,173

FY 2024 YTD

516

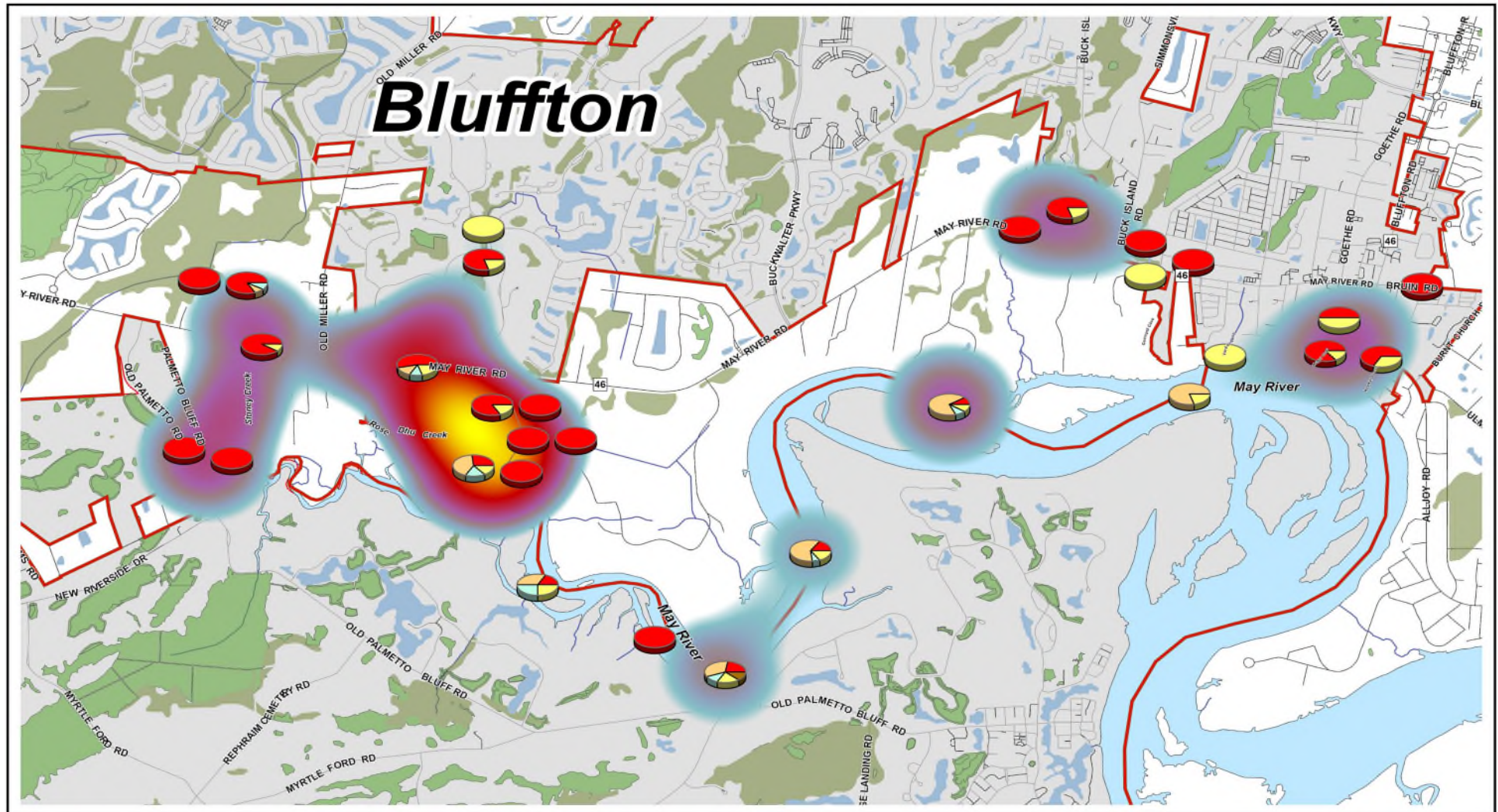
MS4 Minimum Control Measure #3 – IDDE: *E. coli* Concentrations Trend Map



	USCB Water Quality Samples	Microbial Source Tracking Samples	MS4 Quarterly Samples Collected
FY 2024 YTD Totals	458	49	173
FY 2023 Totals	584	108	108
FY 2022 Totals	447	78	119

Totals include only samples submitted for laboratory analysis, and not *in situ* parameters.

MS4 Minimum Control Measure #3 – IDDE: Microbial Source Tracking (MST) Trend Map



MST Sampling Results



- Human
- Bird
- Deer
- Dog
- Horse

MST Sampling Sites

Intensity of samples

- Representative of Low Sampling Distribution
- Representative of High Sampling Distribution

MICROBIAL SOURCE TRACKING (MST) LOCATIONS

Samples at Sites With Positive Detection
and the Intensity of Positive Hits

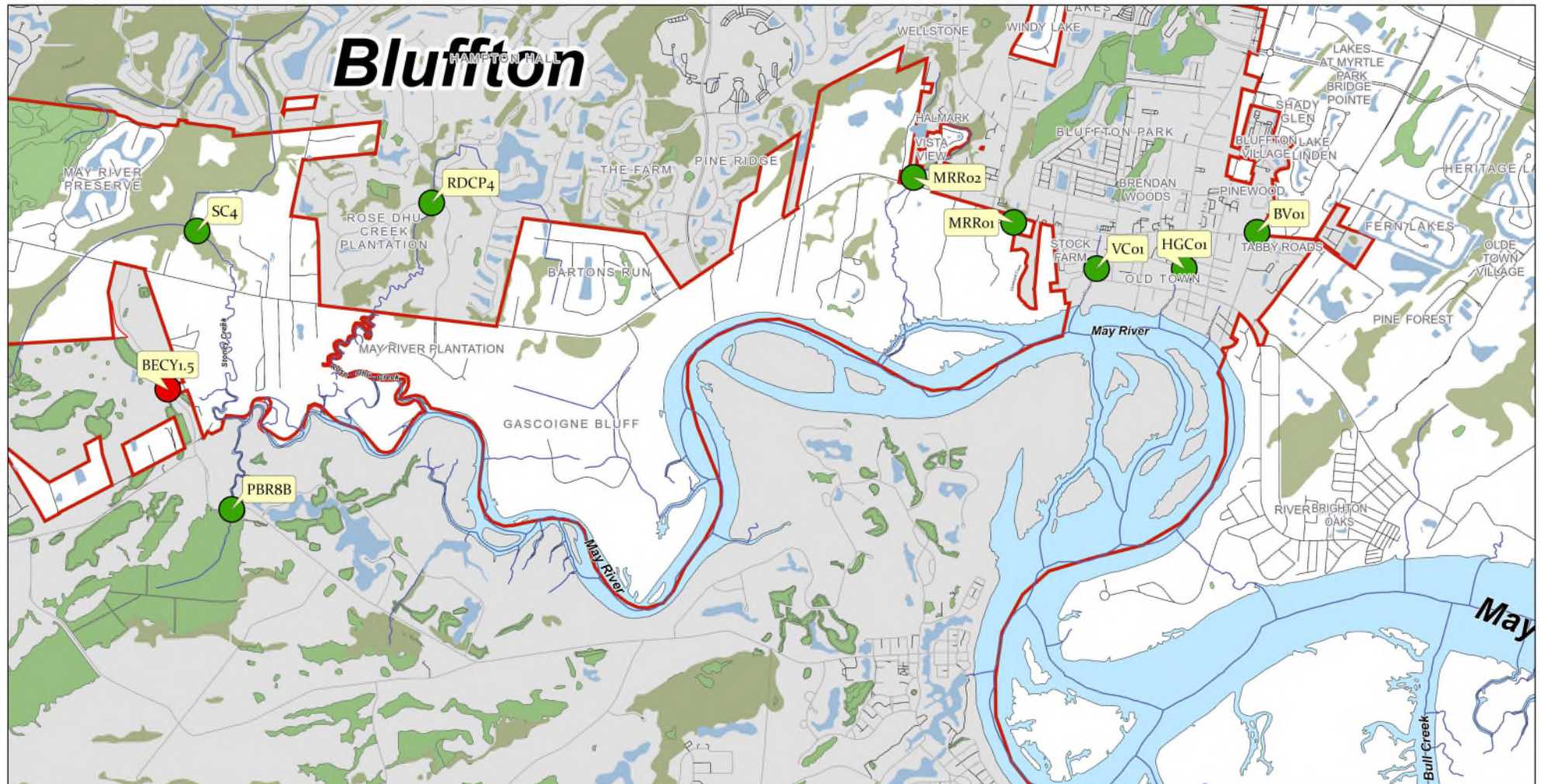
Town of Bluffton
Beaufort County, SC

- Town Jurisdiction
- Beaufort County
- Drainage Flow Lines



Updated Date: 3/14/2024

MS4 Minimum Control Measure #3 – IDDE: Microbial Source Tracking (MST) Map – Human Sources

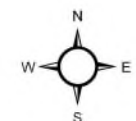


- MST Sampling Location Without Human Genetic Marker Detection
- MST Sampling Location With Human Genetic Marker Detection
- Flowline
- Street
- Town Jurisdiction
- County Jurisdiction

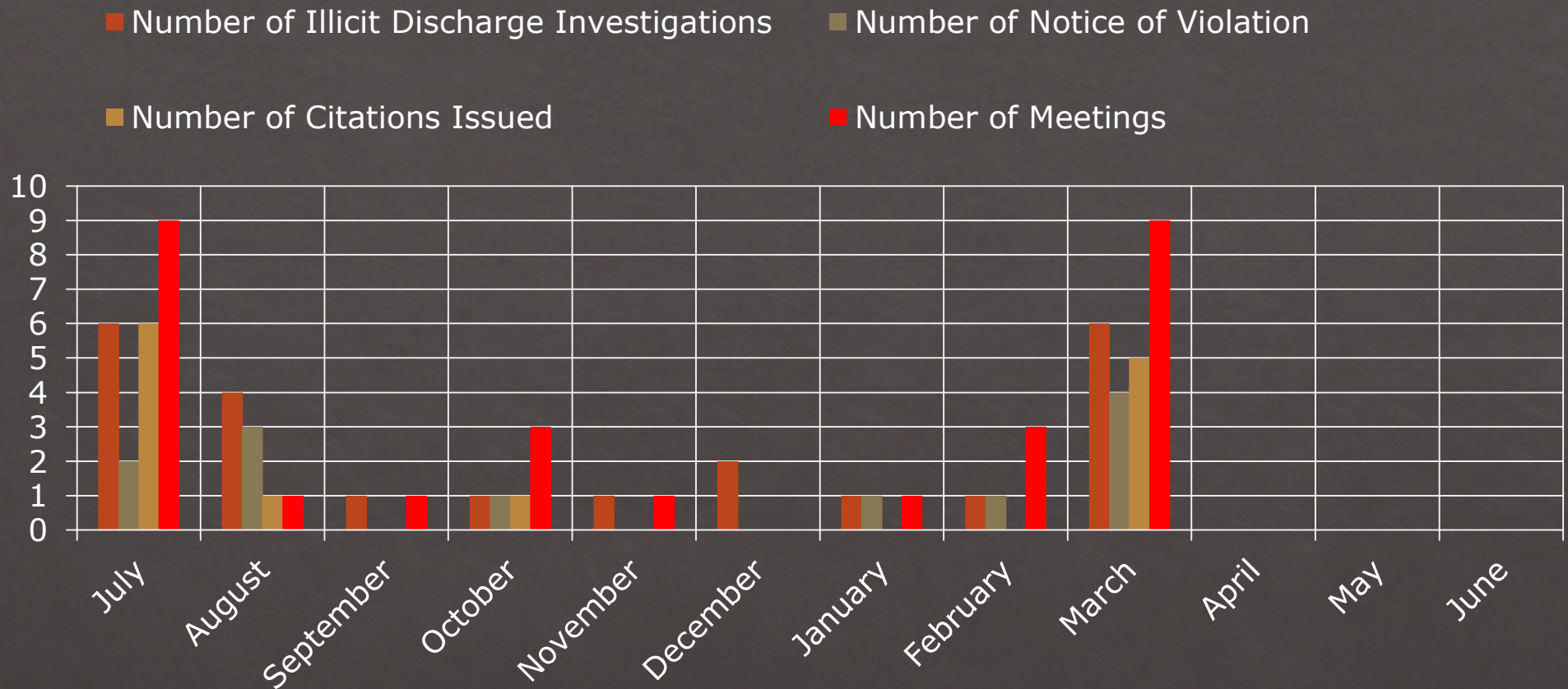
MICROBIAL SOURCE TRACKING LOCATIONS

Sampling Results February 19, 2024 MS4 Sampling

Town of Bluffton
Beaufort County, SC



MS4 Minimum Control Measure #3 – IDDE: Illicit Discharge Investigations



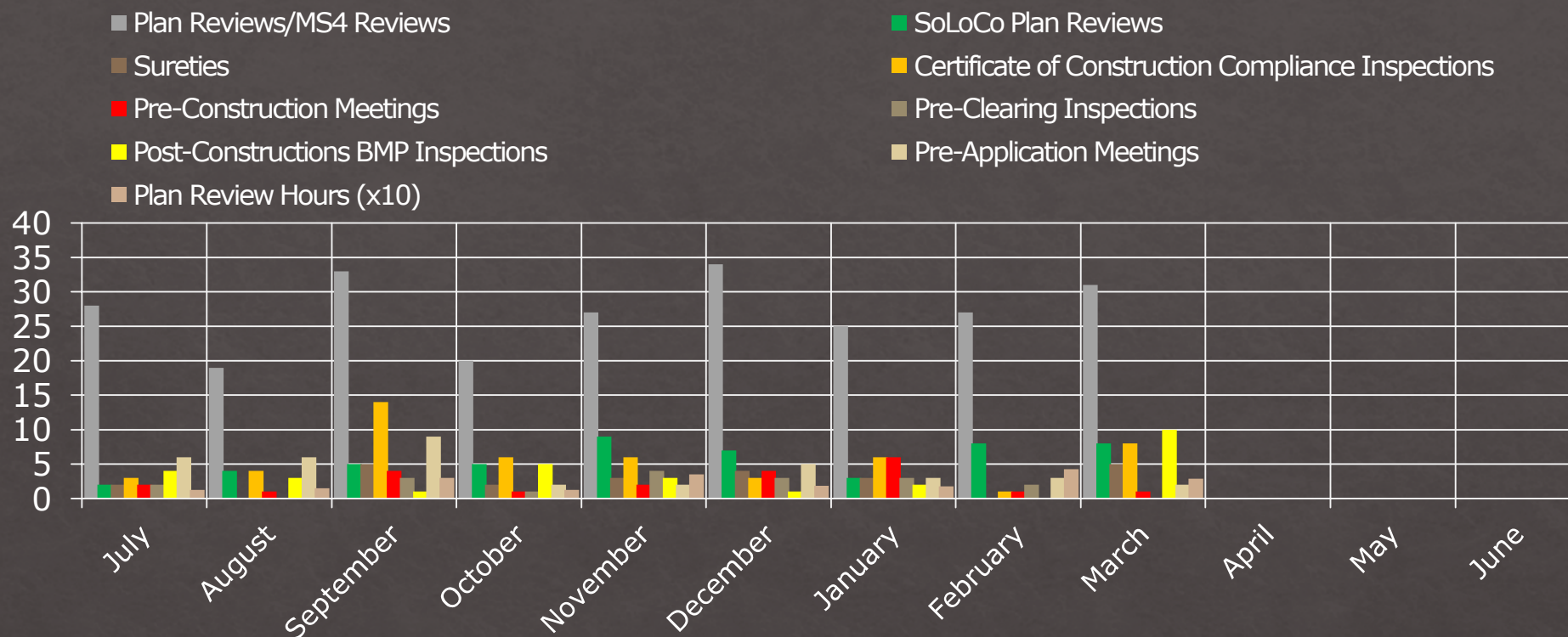
	Number of Illicit Discharge Investigations	Number of Notices of Violation Issued	Number of Citations Issued	Number of Meetings
FY 2024 YTD Totals	23	12	12	28
FY 2023 Totals	27	8	1	20
FY 2022 Totals	30	5	3	17

MS4 Minimum Control Measure #4 - Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control



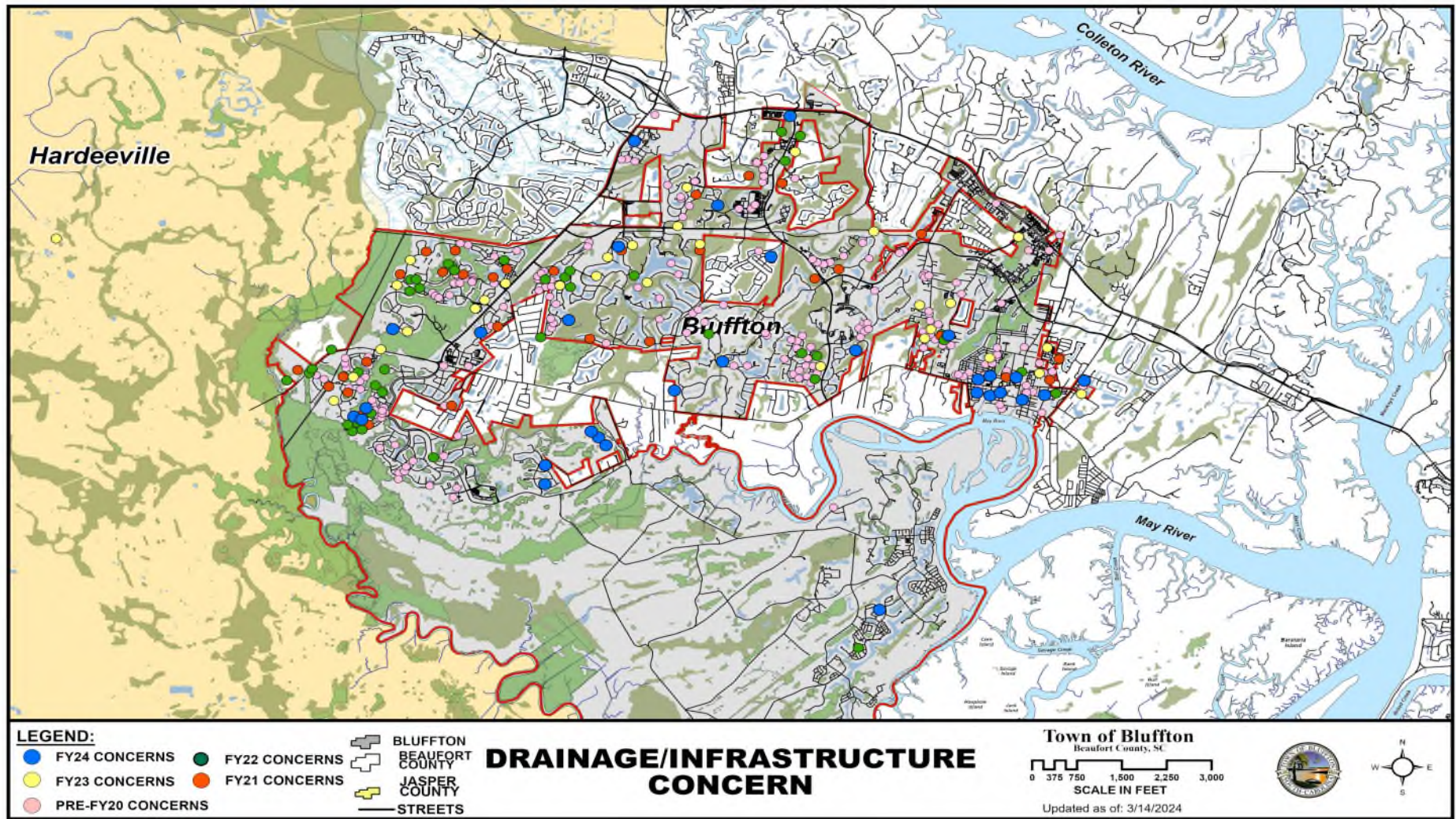
	Number of Sediment & Erosion Control Inspections	Number of Inspections Passed	Number of NOV's Issued	Number of SWO Issued	Number of Citations Issued	Number of E&SC Meetings
FY 2024 YTD Totals	1410	1325	80	9	0	329
FY 2023 Totals	2,321	2,030	266	26	0	577
FY 2022 Totals	3,127	2,701	392	49	0	673

MS4 Minimum Control Measure #5 Stormwater Plan Review & Related Activity



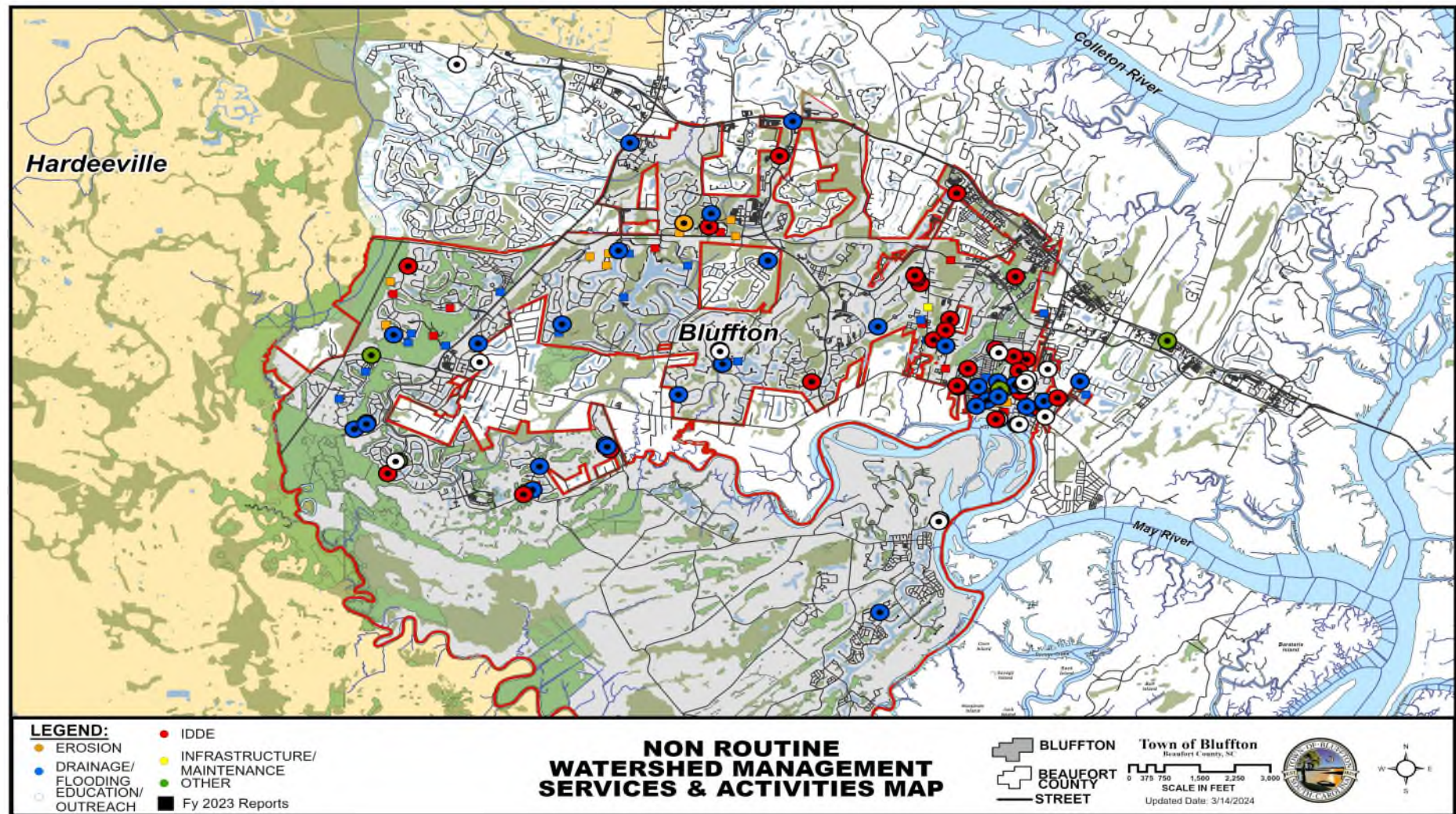
	Plan Reviews MS4 Reviews	SoLoCo Plan Reviews	Sureties	CCC Inspections	Pre-Construction Meetings	Pre-Clearing Inspections	Post Construction BMP Inspections	Pre-Application Meetings	Total Plan Review Hours
FY 2024 YTD	244	51	24	51	22	18	29	38	212 Hrs.
FY 2023 Totals	297	67	42	40	15	13	45	50	386 Hrs.
FY 2022 Totals	231	13	42	26	30	23	44	26	454 Hrs.

Citizen Drainage, Maintenance and Inspections Concerns Map



	Number of Drainage Concerns Investigated	Number of Meetings
FY 2024 YTD Totals	29	5
FY 2023 Totals	61	52
FY 2022 Totals	38	34

Citizen Request for Watershed Mngt. Services & Activities Map



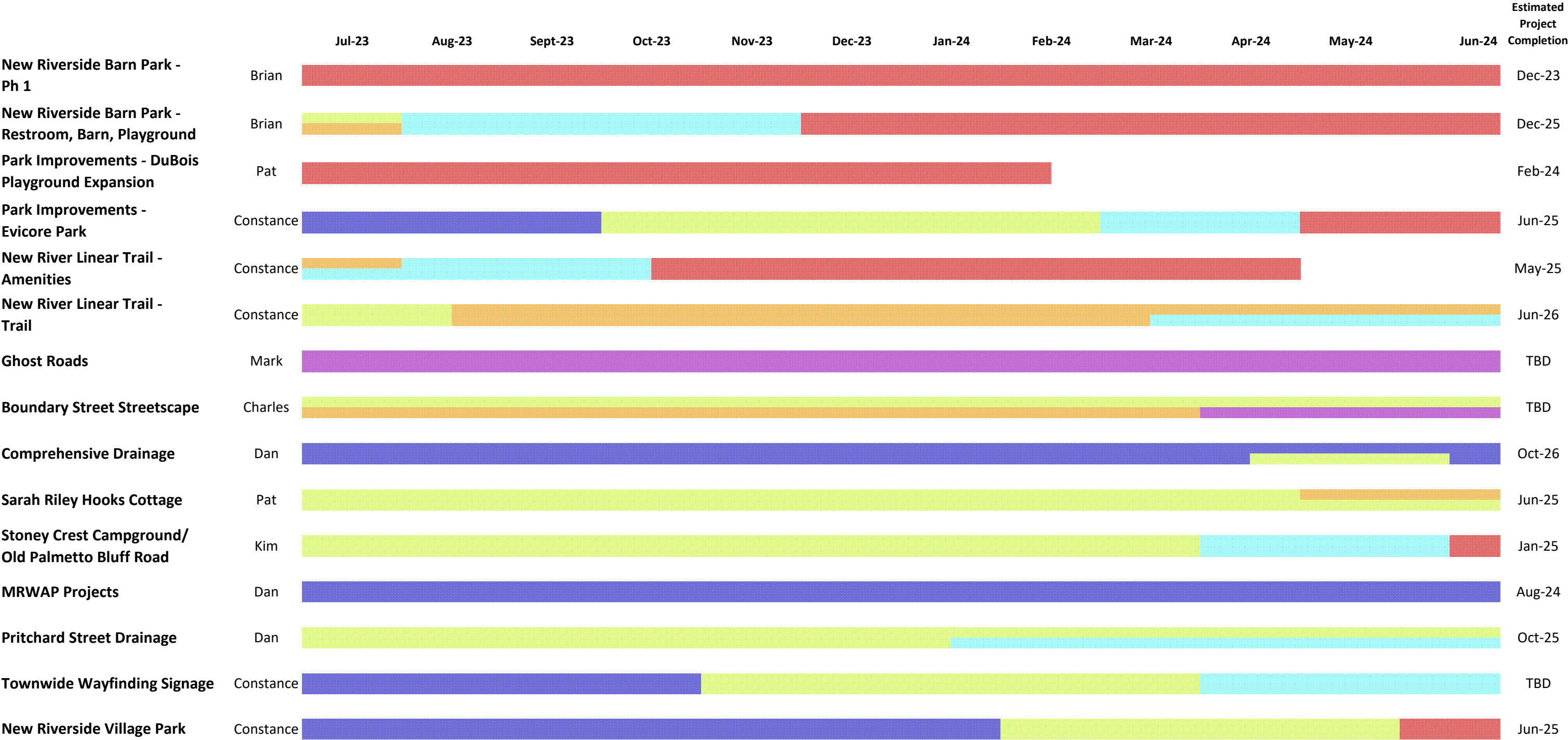
	Number of Citizen Requests Investigated	Number of Meetings
FY 2024 YTD Totals	84	30
FY 2023 Totals	46	23
FY 2022 Totals	33	21

FY24 CIP Master Project Schedule



SUBJECT TO CHANGE

FY24 CIP Master Project Schedule



Planning & Conceptual Design Final Design & Construction Documents Permitting Easement & Land Acquisition Bidding & Contracts Construction

SUBJECT TO CHANGE