

## TOWN COUNCIL

### STAFF REPORT

#### Projects and Watershed Resilience Department



<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	January 14, 2025
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Projects and Watershed Resilience Department Monthly Report
<b>PROJECT MANAGER:</b>	Kimberly Washok-Jones, Director of Projects and Watershed Resilience

### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM (CIP) UPDATE**

#### **PATHWAYS**

##### **1. New River Linear Trail**

- Bathroom, well, safety cameras and entry gate **completed**.
- **Next Steps**
  - Continue engineering design and permitting for Phases 1 and 2.
  - Negotiations with Central Electric and Santee Cooper for cost sharing terms and bridge maintenance continue.
  - Continue coordination of boardwalk connection for Four Seasons.
  - Submit Encroachment Permit and Phase 1 construction contract to Town Council for approval winter 2025.

#### **SEWER & STORMWATER**

##### **1. Buck Island-Simmons ville Sewer (Phases 5A-D)**

- Sewer mainlines and laterals are constructed.
- **Next Steps**
  - BJWSA completes review and accepts the system as their asset.

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

- Design for Phases 4, 5, & 6 received BJWSA review.
- DRC reviewed on 9/18/24.
- **Next Steps**
  - BJWSA to submit to SCDES for permit to construct.
  - Construction implementation is pending permit approvals and easement acquisitions.
  - Prepare and issue an IFB/RFP in January.

### 3. **May River Watershed Action Plan Impervious Restoration Water Quality Projects**

- Initial site investigations including geotechnical investigations and reports are complete for 8 of the 11 participating project sites.
- Fee-in-Lieu Fund establishment/administration Policy Document has been completed. Comments from Finance have been incorporated into Final Draft. Master Fee Schedule updates have been drafted.
- Initial Property Owner contacts for 15 Additional Sites within municipal limits have been made and concept plan development is in process.
- **Next Steps**
  - Preliminary design of each of the 8 original sites has been made, under review, and being utilized for proposed FY26 CIP Projects.
  - Fee-in-Lieu discussion proposed for January Town Council Workshop.
  - Adoption of Fee-in-Lieu as part of FY26 Master Fee Schedule.

### 4. **Comprehensive Drainage Plan Improvements**

- Consultant field work to identify and assess condition of stormwater assets in Crooked Cove and Guerrard Cove **completed** 5/12/24.
- Processing of field data **complete**.
- Development of 2D Hydrologic/Hydraulic Model has been completed and pending flow data calibration.
- Flow monitors at each Cove location have been installed. Data collected will be used to calibrate 2D Hydrologic/Hydraulic model.
- **Next Steps**
  - Final review of Individual Stormwater Asset Reports for Heyward Cove identifying results and needed work by asset owner (SCDOT, County, School District, Town and private) **completed**. Letter to accompany report to Asset Owners being drafted for review, approval, and issuance.
  - Following Council feedback on 10/31/24 Strategic Planning, staff is developing the scope for assessment of the Rose Dhu Creek drainage area.

### 5. **Stoney Creek/Palmetto Bluff Sewer Partnership**

- BJWSA's 2022 updated cost-estimate for the project from BJWSA increased to \$7.2 million + contingencies.
- BJWSA is the Project Manager as the awardee of the RIA-SCIIP grant.
- **Next Steps**
  - BJWSA updates can be found at: <https://bjwsa.org/251/Go2Sewer-for-a-Cleaner-Stoney-Creek>.

## **HISTORIC DISTRICT IMPROVEMENTS**

### 6. **Boundary Street Lighting**

- Dominion to install street lighting on the west side of Boundary Street.
- **Next Steps**
  - Dominion installation of street lighting in FY25.

**7. Squire Pope Carriage House Welcome Center**

- Building construction and landscape improvements **complete**.
- Staff furniture was installed.
- **Next Steps**
  - COO department has moved into the building.
  - Ribbon cutting tentatively scheduled for February 2025.

**8. Bridge Street Streetscape**

- Phase 1 **complete**.
- Initial stakeholder meeting with Montessori and Hargray for Phase 2 **complete**.
- Easement donations approved by Town Council 11/12/24.
- **Next Steps**
  - Continue engineering design for SCDOT permitting.
  - Continue stakeholder meetings.
  - Continue planning and design for underground power and lighting plan.

**9. Boundary Street Streetscape**

- Engineering design is 80% complete and submitted agencies for review. Land disturbance permit approved by SCDES.
- Approved change order with Thomas and Hutton for additional structural design services for the Lawrence Street outfall.
- Completed geotechnical services with GHD for the Lawrence Street outfall.
- **Next Steps**
  - Evaluate alternative outfall locations at Green Street and Lawrence Street.
  - Continue coordinating with Dominion Energy to obtain underground power layout and facility locations.
  - Continue with engineering design and permitting.
  - Prepare easement exhibits and begin appraisals in FY25.
  - Construction begins in calendar year 2025, subject to acquisition of required easements.

**10. Calhoun Street Streetscape**

- Completed ROW surveys.
- Preliminary engineering design is 45% complete.
- 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 through FY25.
  - Prepare easement acquisition plats for Phase 1 in FY25 and begin easement acquisition.
  - Phased construction is planned to begin in CY26 pending budget approval and acquisition of all required easements.

## 11. 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 **completed** on 1/23.
- Phase 2 design plans **completed** for the remainder of the Historic District.
- Acceptance of Phase 2 easement donations approved at 10/8/24 Town Council meeting
- Phase 2 contract award approved at 12/10/24 Town Council.
- Phase 3 analysis of areas outside of the Historic District finalized to identify sites for design.
- **Next Steps**
  - Execute contract and conduct pre-construction meeting for Phase 2 construction. Anticipated to begin March 2025.
  - Generate RFQu for Phase 3 design and construction drawings.

## 12. Pritchard Street Drainage Improvements

- Project scope includes streetscape elements, pedestrian connectivity, street lighting and traffic calming evaluation.
- Permit applications have been submitted. DRC Public Project was held on 3/28/2024.
- Met with school district on 9/6/24 to discuss project status, easements, schedule, project phasing needs, and parking lot Cost Share Agreement.
- Presented to School District Operations Committee on 9/19/24 to review project scope, easement acquisition needs, schedule, phasing, and parking lot cost share agreement (to be drafted, finalized and signed by parties). Easement exhibit has been reviewed by School District and comments incorporated.
- Project Public Meeting held October 24, 2024. Public meeting comments have been reviewed, finalized and update issued to Public Meeting attendees.
- **Next Steps**
  - Coordinate approval for proposed improvements with Beaufort County School District and Beaufort County on pool operation impacts.
  - Consultant responding to design and permit review comments for 100% design submittal.
  - Finalize easement acquisition needs to begin acquisition. Easement documents submitted and pending Legal review.
  - Follow-up/complete permitting submissions and bid document formulation.
  - Continue street lighting agreement coordination with Dominion.

## **PARK DEVELOPMENT**

### 1. Oyster Factory Park

- Civil construction and landscape of event area are **complete**.
- Ward Edwards providing bid documents for grading, drainage and paving for the food truck access drive.
- Contractor preparing quotes for additional services for the repairs to the existing pavilion and other drainage improvements.

- **Next Steps**
  - Bid pavilion, paving and drainage improvements in January 2025
  - Prepare plans for the restroom expansion and other FY25 improvements.
- 2. **Oscar Frazier Park**
  - Rotary Center hardscape improvements **complete** and under 1 year maintenance agreement.
  - Splash Pad opened October 2024 and additional improvements are planned for the winter of 2025.
  - **Next Steps**
    - Complete additional improvements to the splash pad and pavilion.
    - Obtain quotes for shade structure at the playground.
- 3. **New Riverside Barn/Park**
  - Restrooms and trellises are **complete**.
  - Playground equipment installation, P I P, synthetic turf and pavilions are **complete**. The playground landscape is **complete**. Barn framing **completed**. The building is dried in. The mechanical rough-in is well underway. Window and door installation is almost complete. Exterior trim and siding have started. Courtyard / firepit area have started.
  - **Next Steps**
    - Nix Construction to continue all the above.
    - Begin planning and design of PS maintenance facility in 2025.
- 4. **New Riverside Village**
  - Lighting contract approved at 4/9/24 Town Council.
  - Design plan approved by POA/Developer.
  - **Installed** trellis swings, dog stations, trash cans and lighting conduit.
  - **Installed** Rules sign and light poles and fixtures.
  - Wayfinding signage design completed.
  - **Next Steps**
    - Install wayfinding signage.
    - Punchlist items with Dominion Energy for light pole installations.
- 5. **Miscellaneous Park Improvements**
  - Shade sail installation **completed** at Buckwalter Place Park playground.
  - DuBois Park pavilion repair **completed** in October 2024.
  - **Next Steps**
    - Continue design of landscape and shade structure enhancements at various town parks in 2025.
    - Obtain quote to repair bulkhead at Wright Family Park.
- 6. **Buckwalter Place Park Improvements**
  - Plans presented to Town Council on 1/16/24 and update provided on 10/15/24.
  - Phase 1 **completed**.

- Conceptual landscaping plan and Sabal palm installation **complete**.
- Park and restroom construction documents **completed**.
- **Next Steps**
  - Phase 2 bid posting on 1/2/2025.

## **TOWN FACILITIES AND MISCELLANEOUS PLANNING**

### **1. Town of Bluffton Affordable Housing Project – The May**

- **Next Steps**
  - Provide financial assistance to joint venture partner, WorkForce State of Mind, to plan, design, permit and construct 12 Affordable/Workforce Housing units at 1095 May River Road.
  - Staff continues to review progress and applications for payment.

### **2. Law Enforcement Center Facility Improvements**

- PD **completed** improvements to evidence room.
- **Next Steps**
  - Begin design in FY25 for impound lot and canine facility.
  - Further work pending results of space needs assessment by Creech and Associates.

### **3. Sarah Riley Hooks Cottage**

- Meadors Architectural Design has been submitted for final review.
- Final site plan **complete** and distributed to engineers for final design.
- Presented plans for a pre-application meeting on 8/16/2024 and Public Project Review on 11/8/2024.
- Completed exempt plat approval and recording.
- **Next Steps**
  - Bid and begin restoration construction of cottage in mid-year FY25.
  - Begin site and landscape development construction in FY26.
  - Finalize lighting plan.

### **4. Ghost Roads**

- Surveying and easement exhibits are **complete**.
- Bridge Street, Pritchard, Colcock, Water, Pope and Allen Quit Claim Deeds are **complete**.
- **Next Steps**
  - Continue acquisition of remaining Quit Claim Deeds for Historic District Ghost Roads or have legal initiate quiet title proceedings.

### **5. Document Management**

- RFP contract was awarded in March 2022 and electronic Document Management System (DMS) is live.
- Documents for 9 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.
- Implemented ExecuTime to replace Intime.
- **Next Steps:**
  - Replacing two more VMWare hosts.

**WATERSHED MANAGEMENT UPDATE****1. Administrative Update**

- Beth Lewis attended the Beaufort County Stormwater Utility Board Meeting on behalf of Bill Baugher on 12/11/24.
- Beth Lewis participated in a Port Royal Sound Foundation Water Quality Monitoring Network Roundup Meeting on 12/12/24.
- Andrea Moreno and Beth Lewis volunteered with the Bluffton Self Help Toy Store as part of the Town's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Program on 12/16/24.
- Staff worked with IT to update the Town's Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) listserv used by BJWSA for critical overflow notifications.
- Dr. Tweel, the lead Principal Investigator on the "May River Baseline Assessment Update," provided a "May River Watershed Landcover Assessment Report" in December 2024. This data will inform future policies and programs considered by the Town.

**2. SC Department of Environmental Services 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***

- Water Environmental Consultants (WEC) is finalizing flow monitoring reports for the Rose Dhu Creek, Stoney Creek, and Palmetto Bluff subwatersheds.

**4. Resiliency**

- College of Charleston and SC Sea Grant are completing a Resiliency Analysis for the Town including modeling storms and sea level rise, reviewing the Town's UDO, Municode, SC Code of Ordinances, and Stormwater Design Manual, and stakeholder engagement through surveys and events. A final report is anticipated early 2025.
- Staff is coordinating with SC Sea Grant to discuss potential placement of a SECOORA water level sensor(s) at the Calhoun Street dock and other Town locations.
- Wetlands and Resiliency Ordinances:
  - January 2025: Town Council consideration of MSA task authorization for data gathering to develop Wetlands and Resiliency Ordinances.

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

- Staff presented proposed amendments to the Southern Lowcountry Stormwater Design Manual and Post-Construction Stormwater Ordinance to the May River

Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee on 12/05/24. These amendments will go in front of Town Council for adoption via resolution on 2/11/25.

- Staff have begun working on the 2024 MS4 Annual Report with an anticipated submittal to the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) in Spring of 2025.

**6. 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) meeting was held 12/05/24. The committee adopted quarterly 2025 meeting dates, recommended proposed updates to the Stormwater Design Manual, and recommended the Town develop wetland and resiliency ordinances in FY25 and a wetland restoration program in FY26. – **Attachment 3**

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

- Stormwater Infrastructure Inventory Map – **Attachment 4a**
- *E. coli* Concentrations Trend Map – **Attachment 4b**
- Monthly, Microbial Source Tracking (MST) Maps – **Attachments 4c and 4d**
  - SC Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) 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. December SCDES water quality sampling was cancelled by the department.
- Illicit Discharge Investigations – **Attachment 4e**

**8. MS4 MCM – #4 Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control – Attachment 5**

**9. MS4 MCM – #5 Stormwater Plan Review and Related Activity – Attachment 6**

**10. MS4 MCM – #6 Good Housekeeping (Staff Training/Education)**

- Nicole Wright and Konnor Harrell received their Post-Construction BMP Inspector certification on 12/12/24.
- Kim participated in the National Sea Grant Site Visit and evaluation of SC's Sea Grant program on 12/11/24.

**11. 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.

**12. Citizen Drainage, Maintenance, and Inspections Concerns Map – Attachment 7**

**13. Citizen Request for Watershed Management Services & Activities – Attachment 8**

**Attachments**

1. SCDES Shellfish Harvesting Monitoring Data Year-to-Date
  - a. SCDES May River Shellfish Harvesting Status Exhibit
2. May River Watershed Action Plan Implementation Summary
3. MS4 Minimum Control Measures #1 and #2 – WAPAC Agenda 12/5/24
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 – All Sources
  - d. Microbial Source Tracking Map – Human 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

	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	NS	49.0	49.0	33.0	NS	4.5	17.0	7.8	NS	17.0	49.0	13.0	NS	6.8	6.8	7.8	NS	7.8	13.0	17.0	NS
November	33.0	33.0	13.0	170.0	33.0	13.0	2.0	130.0	7.8	7.8	4.5	170.0	4.0	4.5	4.5	49.0	4.5	6.1	2.0	79.0	2.0	13.0	4.5	33.0
October	49.0	23.0	33.0	49.0	26.0	46.0	23.0	17.0	13.0	13.0	17.0	13.0	23.0	23.0	33.0	2.0	23.0	11.0	2.0	11.0	17.0	14.0	6.8	17.0
September	33.0	540.0	23.0	33.0	11.0	350.0	13.0	240.0	17.0	350.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	170.0	7.8	7.8	2.0	79.0	17.0	22.0	11.0	33.0	13.0	130.0
August	49.0	23.0	23.0	33.0	49.0	23.0	49.0	23.0	23.0	11.0	6.8	23.0	49.0	13.0	13.0	49.0	14.0	17.0	23.0	49.0	14.0	11.0	2.0	13.0
July	350.0	920.0	350.0	31.0	64.0	49.0	920.0	31.0	79.0	95.0	70.0	32.0	33.0	130.0	49.0	32.0	33.0	23.0	33.0	33.0	13.0	46.0	17.0	32.0
June	49.0	13.0	14.0	7.8	79.0	4.5	7.8	7.8	13.0	11.0	23.0	6.8	17.0	2.0	13.0	4.5	22.0	1.8	33.0	2.0	2.0	9.3	13.0	2.0
May	2.0	4.5	23.0	27.0	49.0	4.5	33.0	22.0	23.0	4.0	17.0	23.0	23.0	1.8	13.0	17.0	23.0	1.8	33.0	7.8	7.8	2.0	21.0	4.0
April	33.0	4.5	170.0	49.0	23.0	4.5	130.0	17.0	22.0	1.8	110.0	17.0	17.0	2.0	70.0	4.0	7.8	1.8	NS	11.0	2.0	1.8	7.8	23.0
March	33.0	33.0	23.0	49.0	11.0	23.0	49.0	31.0	17.0	2.0	17.0	11.0	13.0	4.5	17.0	4.5	2.0	2.0	17.0	22.0	2.0	2.0	17.0	4.5
February	79.0	23.0	540.0	49.0	70.0	31.0	350.0	49.0	79.0	17.0	240.0	11.0	23.0	22.0	240.0	22.0	7.8	2.0	33.0	7.8	6.8	11.0	33.0	11.0
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	30.0	18.0	18.0	17.0	16.0	15.0	14.0	16.0	14.0	10.0	9.0	9.0	10.0	8.0	9.0	8.0	10.0
** Truncated 90th Percentile	139.0	192.0	211.0	187.0	69.0	91.0	152.0	163.0	58.0	72.0	77.0	79.0	39.0	54.0	71.0	74.0	35.0	41.0	44.0	47.0	33.0	32.0	26.0	38.0

NS = No Sample

SCDES Regulatory Requirements:

Geometric Mean ≤ 14

90th Percentile ≤ 43

\*\* Town staff calculations utilizing SCDES statistics

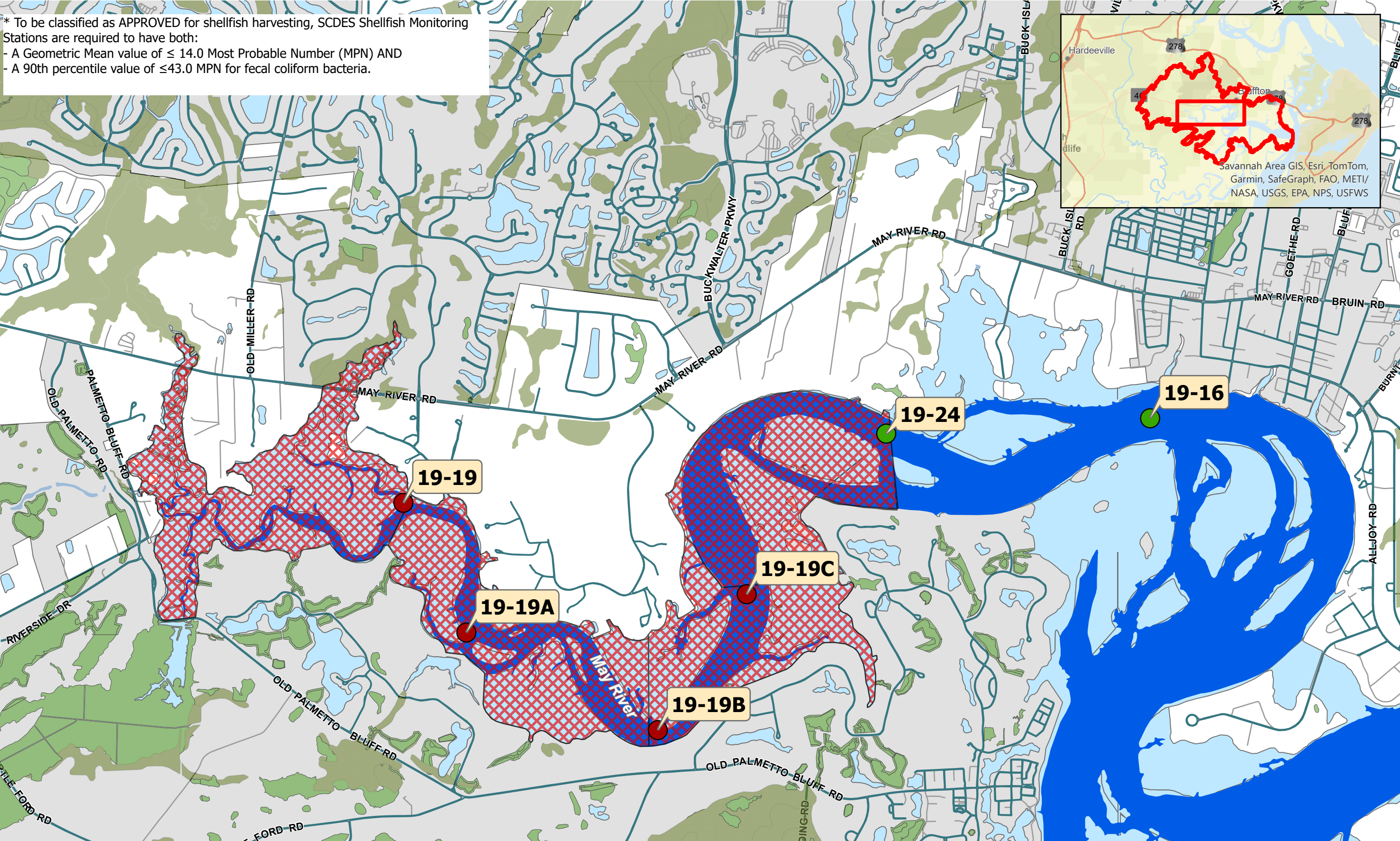
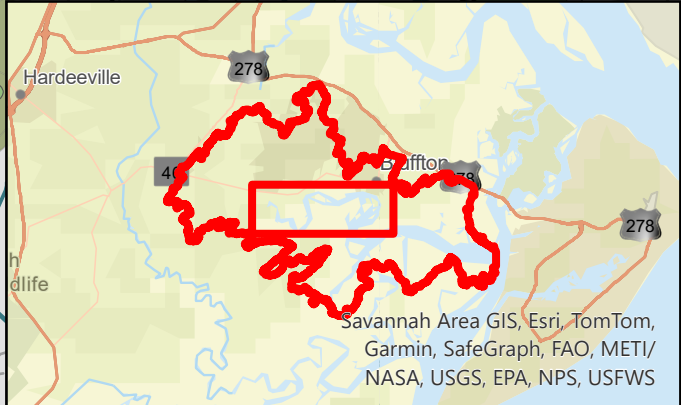
Note:

December 2024 ends the data collection period for 2025 shellfish harvesting season.

2024 fecal coliform data is part of the 2025 classification data collection period.

\* To be classified as APPROVED for shellfish harvesting, SCDES Shellfish Monitoring Stations are required to have both:

- A Geometric Mean value of  $\leq 14.0$  Most Probable Number (MPN) AND
- A 90th percentile value of  $\leq 43.0$  MPN for fecal coliform bacteria.



 Town Bluffton Jurisdiction

 Beaufort County Jurisdiction

 Restricted 2024/2025 Shellfish Season

 Streets

 Water

 Wetlands

 Open Shellfish Monitoring Station

 Closed Shellfish Monitoring Station

**Town of Bluffton**  
Beaufort County, SC  
**SCDES SHELLFISH  
HARVESTING STATUS**

00.170.350.7 Miles

Date: 7/22/2024 1:16 PM



## May River Watershed Action Plan Update & Modeling Report Implementation Summary

### **Background**

- *May River Watershed Action Plan Update & Modeling Report* (Action Plan Update & Modeling Report) was completed November 2020.
- Town Council adopted the Action Plan Update & Modeling Report as a supporting document to the Comprehensive Plan in February 2021.
- The Action Plan Update & Modeling Report included the development of watershed-water quality models (WQ Model) for the four (4) May River Headwaters subwatersheds (Stoney Creek, Rose Dhu Creek, Duck Pond, and Palmetto Bluff) where the shellfish impairments are located.
- The purpose of the modeling effort was to better understand fecal coliform (FC) fate and transport in the Headwaters subwatersheds to develop strategies ultimately intended to open all shellfish stations to harvesting. To capture the variety of storm events and environmental conditions, the Project Team developed a continuous simulation of both water quantity and quality.
- The Action Plan Update & Modeling Report included new water quality improvement projects resulting from the WQ Model. Additionally, the potential fecal bacteria reduction benefits of septic to sewer conversion in the four (4) Headwaters subwatersheds were modeled.

### **May River Watershed Action Plan Impervious Restoration Water Quality Projects**

- Initial site investigations including geotechnical investigations and reports are complete for 8 of the 11 participating project sites.
- Fee-in-Lieu Fund establishment/administration Policy Document has been completed. Comments from Finance have been incorporated into Final Draft. Master Fee Schedule updates have been drafted.
- Initial Property Owner contacts for 15 Additional Sites within municipal limits have been made and concept plan development is in process.
- **Next Steps**
  - Preliminary Design of each of the 8 original sites has been made, under review, and is being utilized for proposed FY26 Capital Improvement Projects (CIP).
  - Fee-in-Lieu discussion proposed for January Town Council Workshop.
  - Adoption of Fee-in-Lieu as part of FY26 Master Fee Schedule.

### **Septic to Sewer Project: Stoney Creek/Palmetto Bluff Sewer Partnership**

- 2022 updated cost-estimate for the project from BJWSA is \$7.2 million + contingencies.
- BJWSA is the Project Manager as the awardee of the RIA SCIIP grant.
- **Next Steps**  
BJWSA updates can be found at: <https://bjwsa.org/251/Go2Sewer-for-a-Cleaner-Stoney-Creek>.

### **May River Watershed Action Plan Water Quality Program Status**

- The Microbial Source Tracking (MST) Laboratory has completed the development of additional MST genetic markers for dogs, horses, deer, and birds in addition to humans. Preliminary implementation of these markers on a small number of historical South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) May River samples.
- Staff have completed data (precipitation, bacteria, continuous flow, and intermittent flow) collection of the four (4) May River Headwaters subwatersheds. Town of Bluffton is in procurement process for calibration of the Town's WQ Model in the May River Headwaters.
- Water Environmental Consultants (WEC) has deployed a water elevation gauge on the Palmetto Bluff Bridge for the Duck Pond subwatershed.
- WEC has provided a final report for the May River Headwaters (Stoney Creek, Rose Dhu Creek, and Palmetto Bluff subwatersheds). Staff submitted comments to WEC.
- **Next Steps**
  - Expand new MST markers in strategic water quality monitoring locations.
  - WEC Duck Pond water elevation data collection until January 2025. WEC final report following data collection.
  - WEC provides revised flow monitoring final reports for May River Headwaters to staff.
  - Review proposal for calibration of Town's WQ Model in the May River Headwaters.





## **May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, December 05, 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 MINUTES**

1. Adoption of July 25th, 2024 Minutes
2. Adoption of August 22nd, 2024 Minutes

#### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Introduction of New Stormwater Inspector - Andrea Moreno, MS4 Program Manager
2. Adoption of the 2025 Meeting Dates and Times - Beth Lewis, Water Quality Program Manager
3. Presentation of Proposed Updates to the Southern Lowcountry Stormwater Design Manual - Andrea Moreno, MS4 Program Manager
4. Presentation on Proposed Work to Develop Town Wetland and Resiliency Protections - Beth Lewis, Water Quality Program Manager
5. Progress Report on the May River Watershed Baseline Assessment - Beth Lewis, Water Quality Program Manager

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Proposed January 23, 2025**

*“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](mailto: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.*

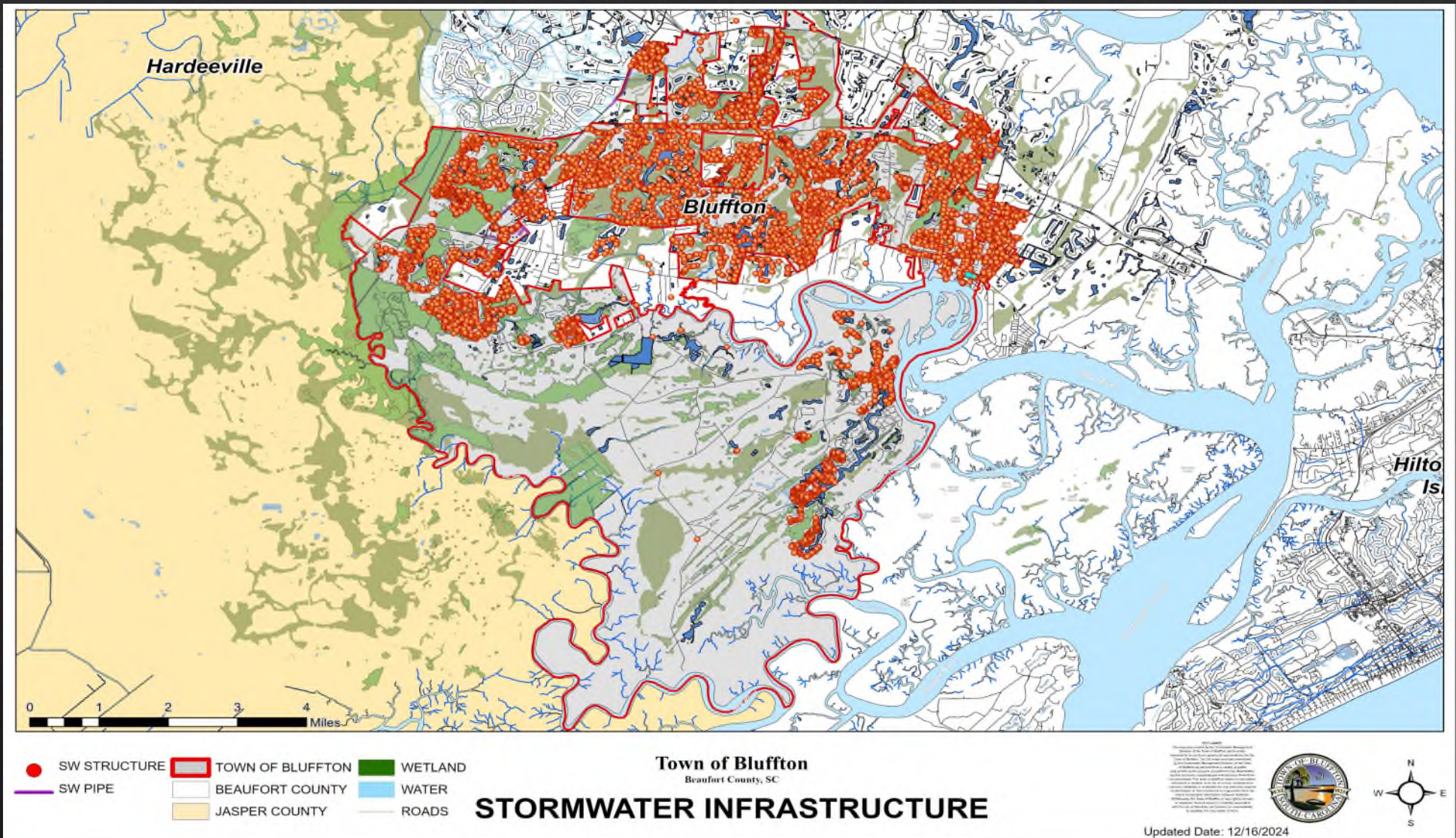
*\*Please note that each member of the public may speak at one public comment session and a form must be filled out and given to the Town Clerk. To submit a public comment online, please click here:*

*<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

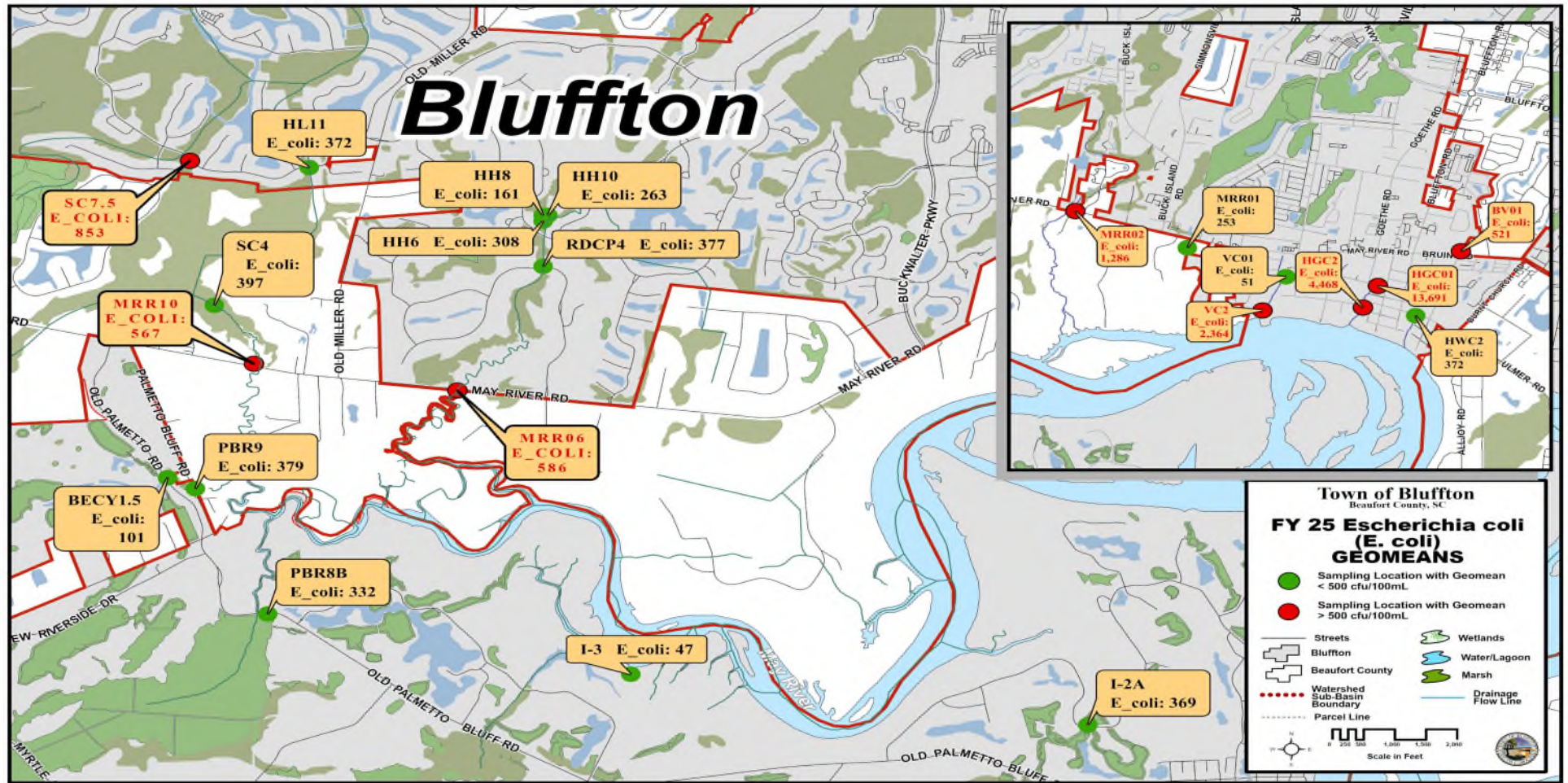
17,848

FY 2025 YTD

614



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

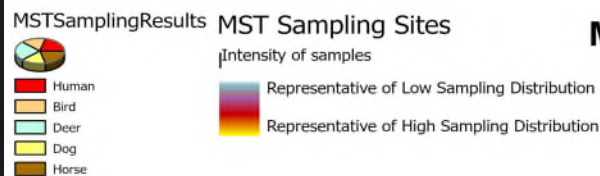
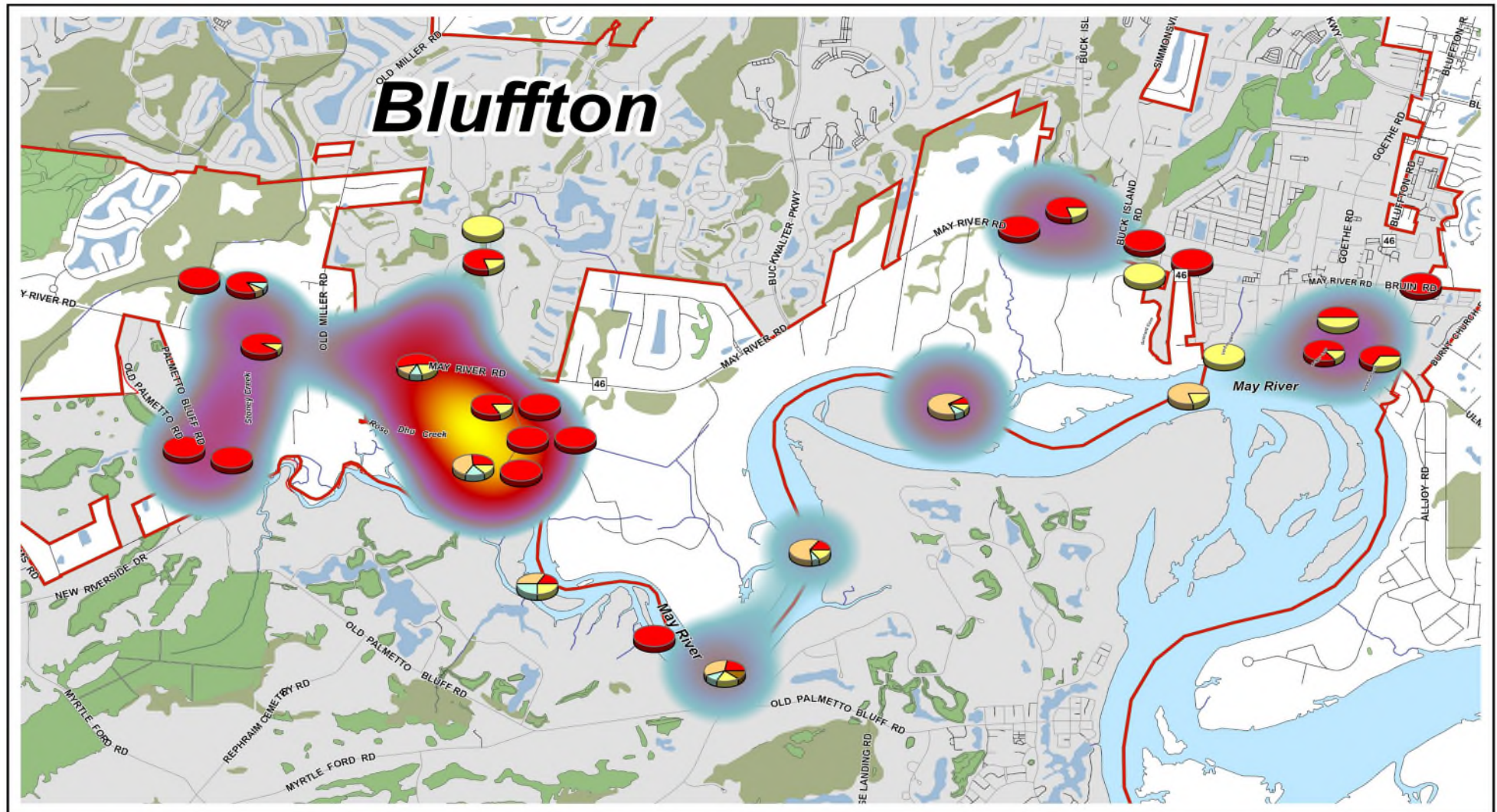


	USCB Water Quality Samples	Microbial Source Tracking Samples	MS4 Quarterly Samples Collected
FY 2025 YTD Totals	265	52	77
FY 2024 Totals	620	62	209
FY 2023 Totals	584	108	108

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



## 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

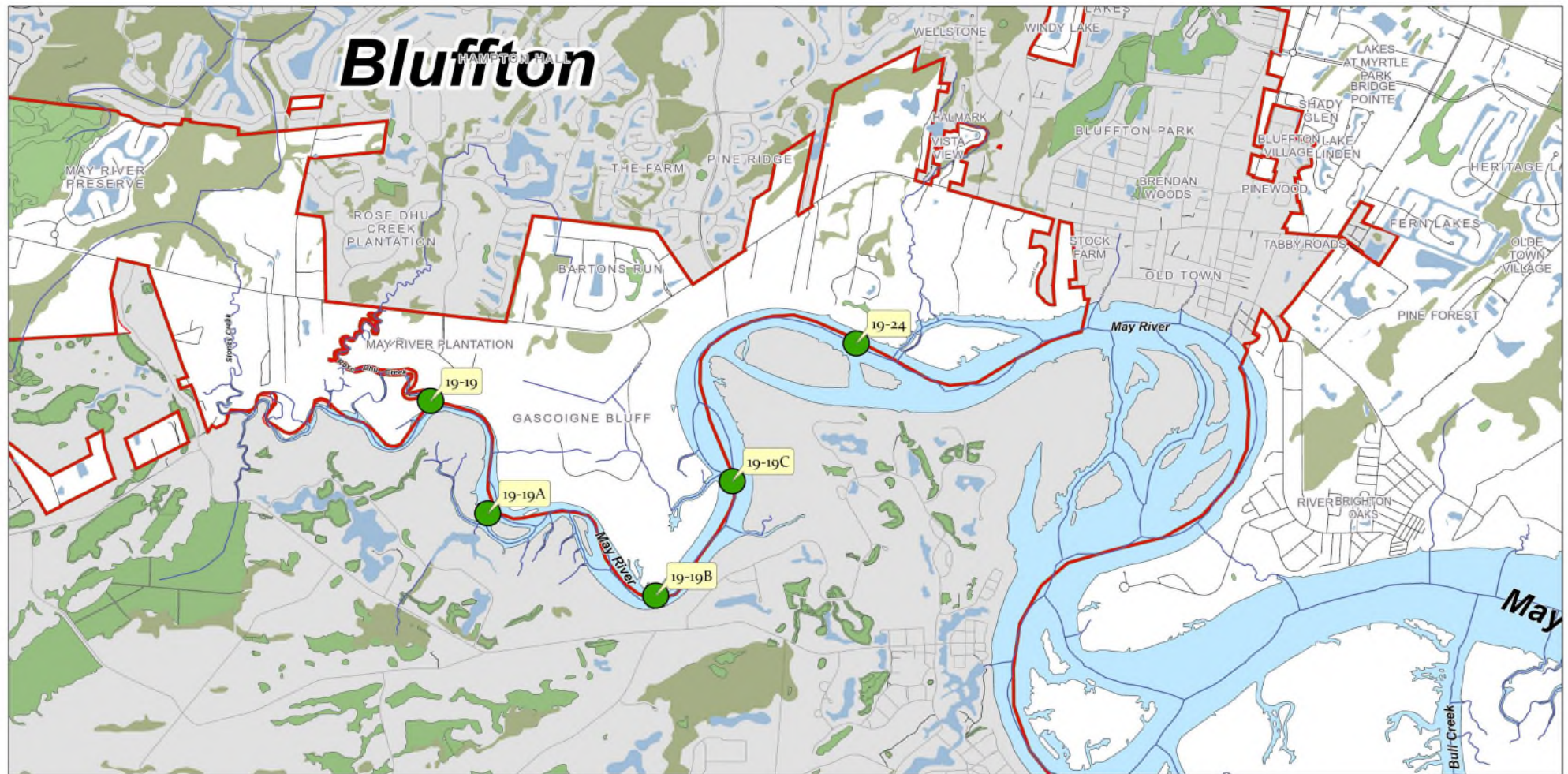
Drainage Flow Lines



Updated Date: 12/16/2024



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

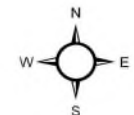


- MST Sampling Location Without Human Genetic Marker Detection
- MST Sampling Location With Human Genetic Marker Detection
- Flowline
- Street
- Town Jurisdiction
- County Jurisdiction

## MICROBIAL SOURCE TRACKING LOCATIONS SCDES Sampling Results From November 12, 2024

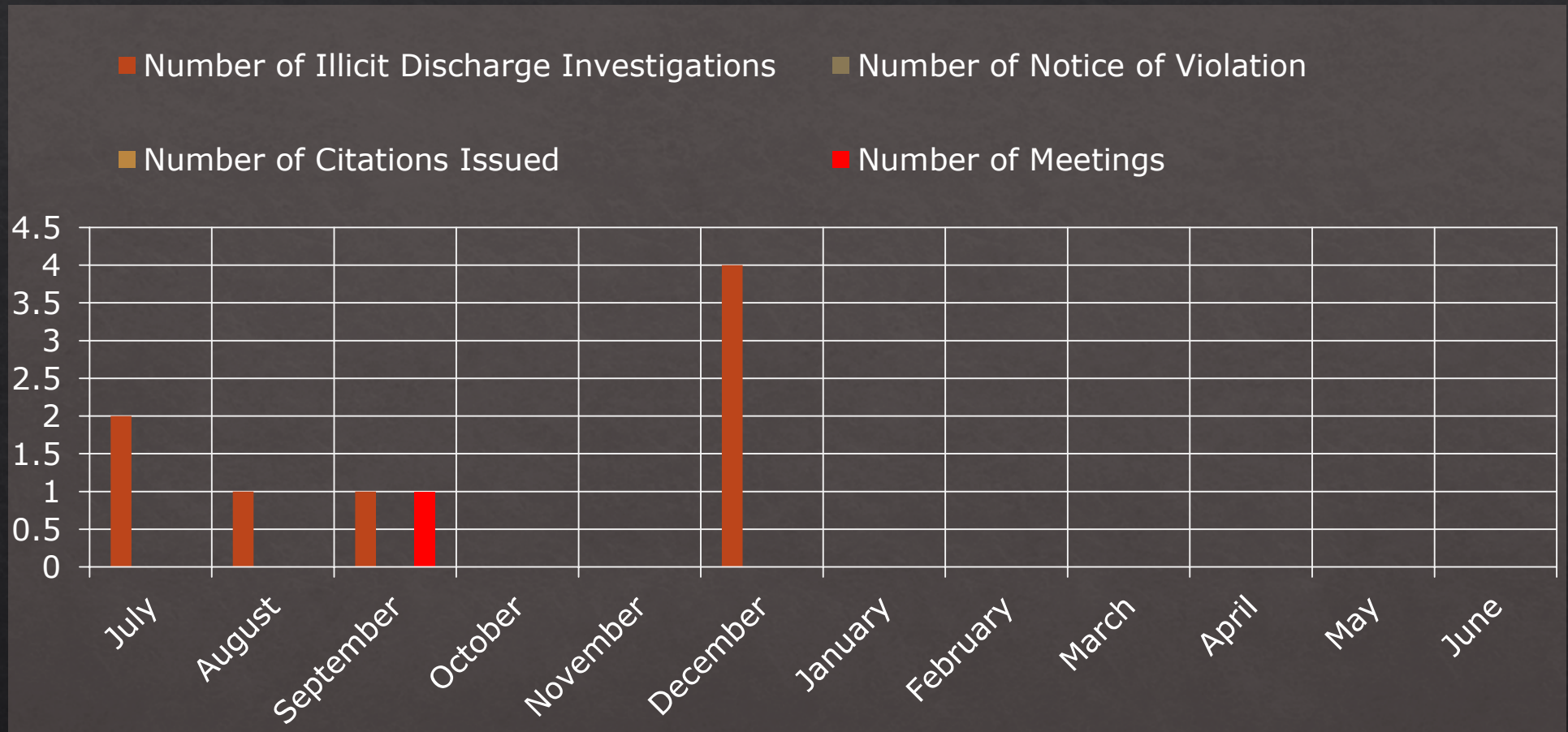
\* December SCDES sampling cancelled due to SCDES staff availability\*

**Town of Bluffton**  
Beaufort County, SC



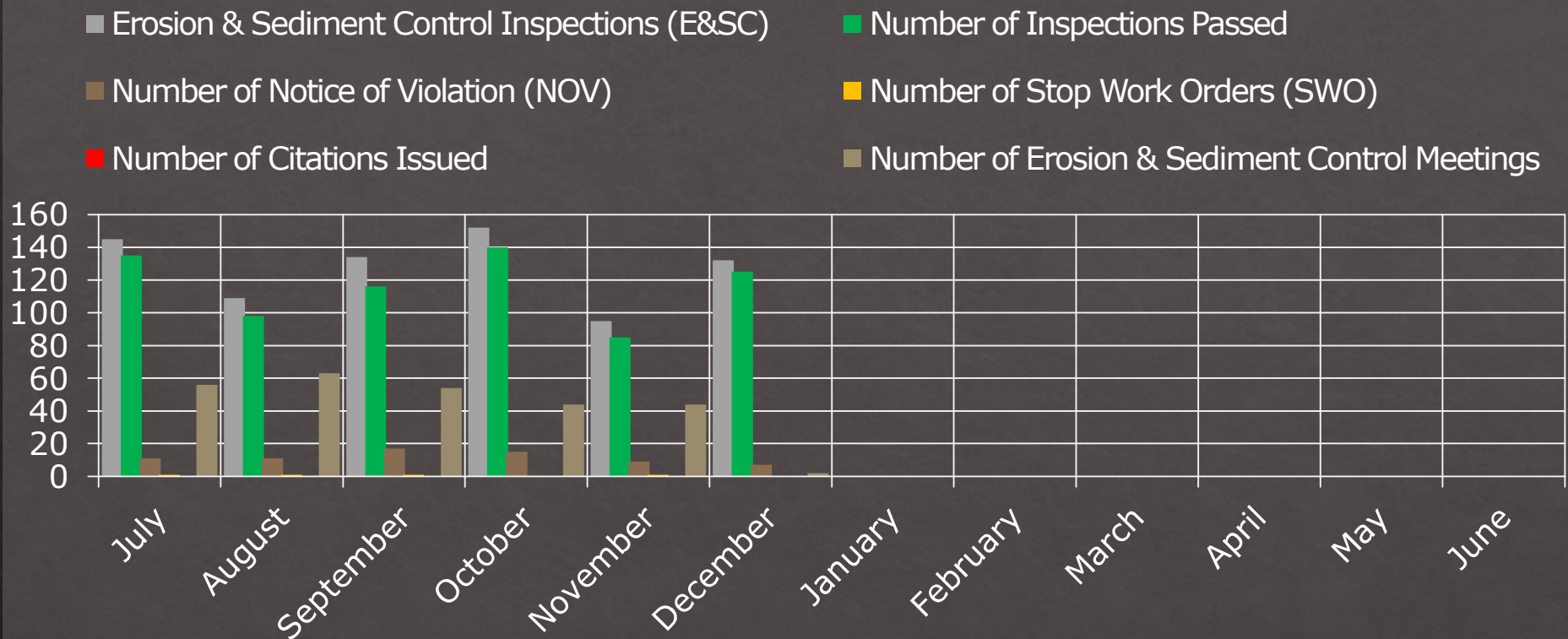


## MS4 Minimum Control Measure #3 – IDDE: Illicit Discharge Investigations



	Number of Illicit Discharge Investigations	Number of Notices of Violation Issued	Number of Citations Issued	Number of Meetings
FY 2025 YTD Totals	8	0	0	1
FY 2024 Totals	33	15	15	35
FY 2023 Totals	27	8	1	20

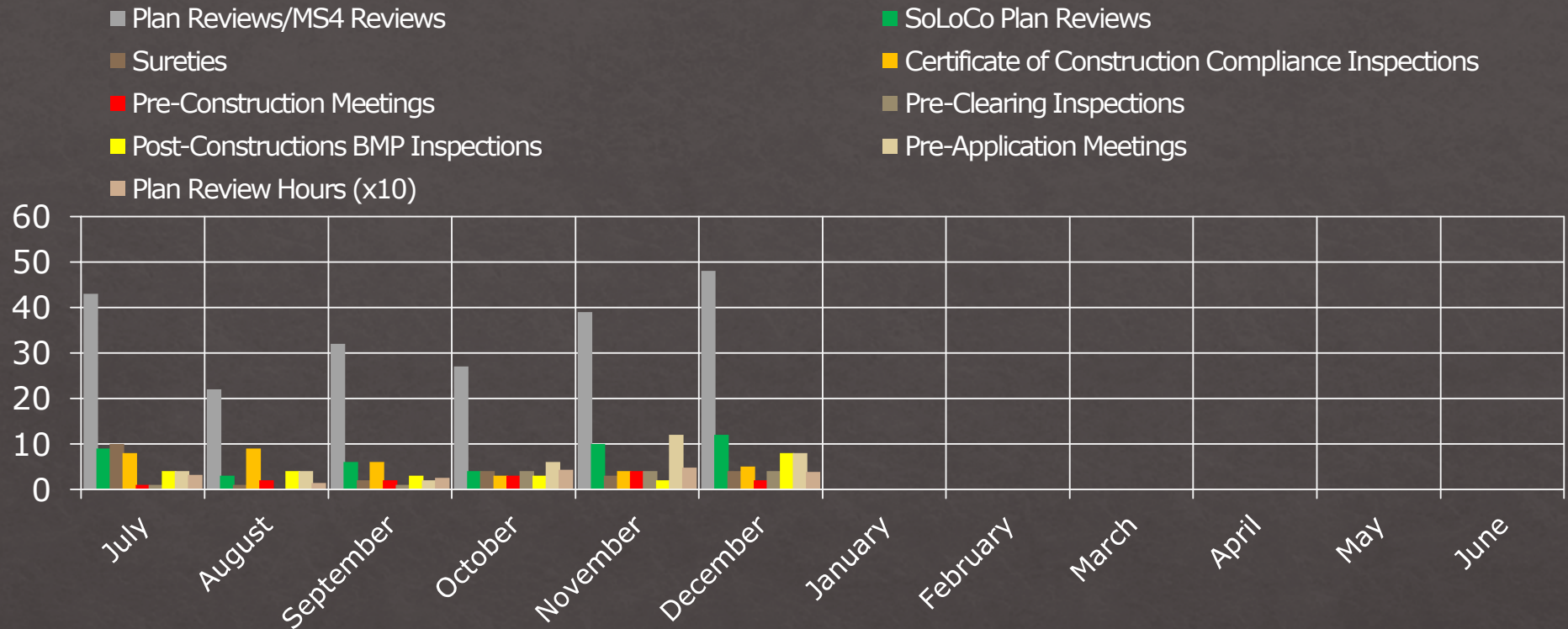
## MS4 Minimum Control Measure #4 - Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control



	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 2025 YTD Totals	767	699	70	4	0	263
FY 2024 Totals	1,875	1,767	103	10	0	526
FY 2023 Totals	2,321	2,030	266	26	0	577



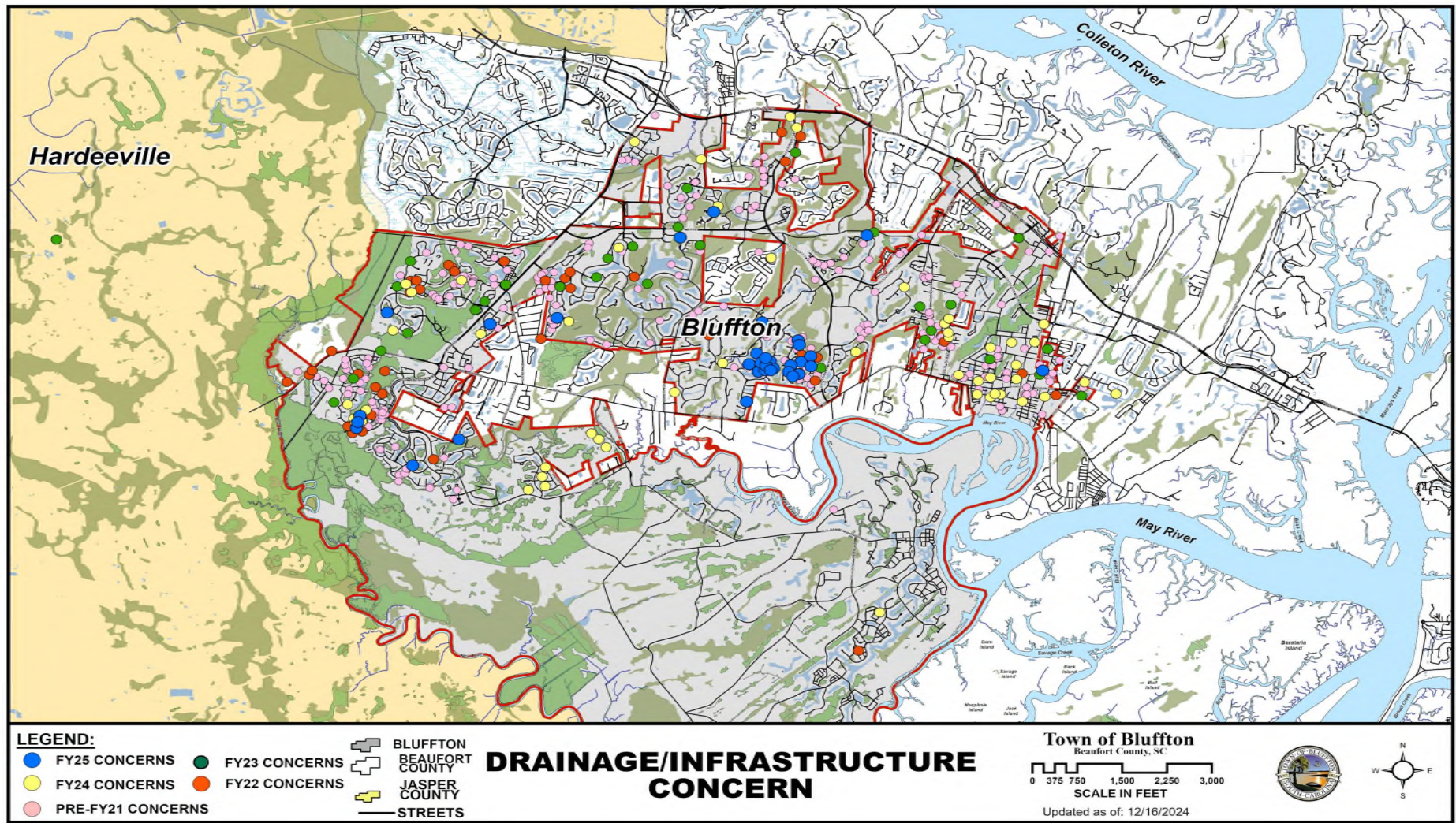
## MS4 Minimum Control Measure #5 Stormwater Plan Review & Related Activity



	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 2025 YTD	211	44	24	35	14	14	24	36	199 Hrs.
FY 2024 Totals	330	63	27	69	37	28	48	47	283 Hrs.
FY 2023 Totals	297	67	42	40	15	13	45	50	386 Hrs.



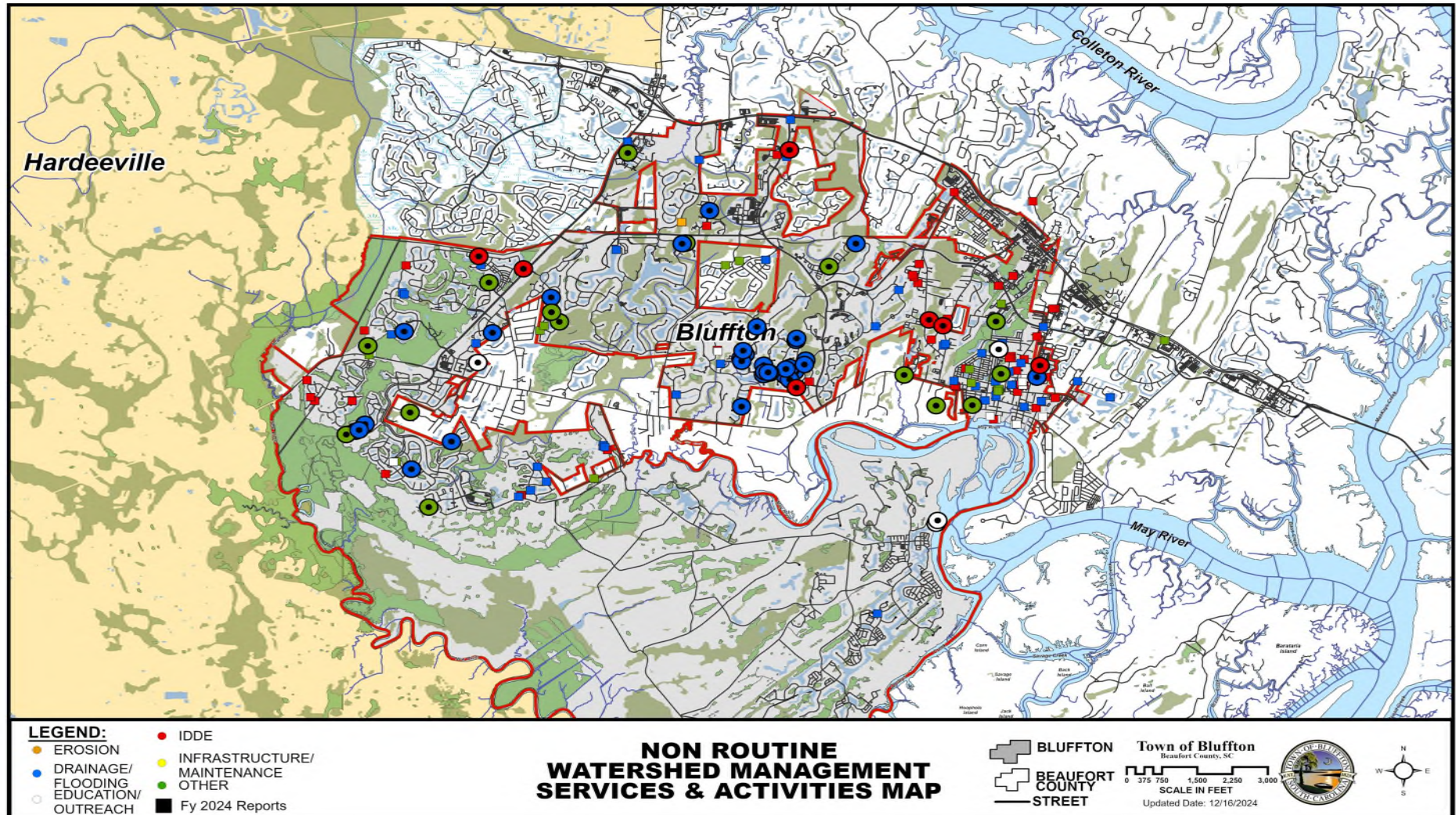
# Citizen Drainage, Maintenance and Inspections Concerns Map



	Number of Drainage Concerns Investigated	Number of Meetings
FY 2025 YTD Totals	8	0
FY 2024 Totals	47	13
FY 2023 Totals	61	52



# Citizen Request for Watershed Mngt. Services & Activities Map



	Number of Citizen Requests Investigated	Number of Meetings
FY 2025 YTD Totals	41	7
FY 2024 Totals	137	40
FY 2023 Totals	46	23

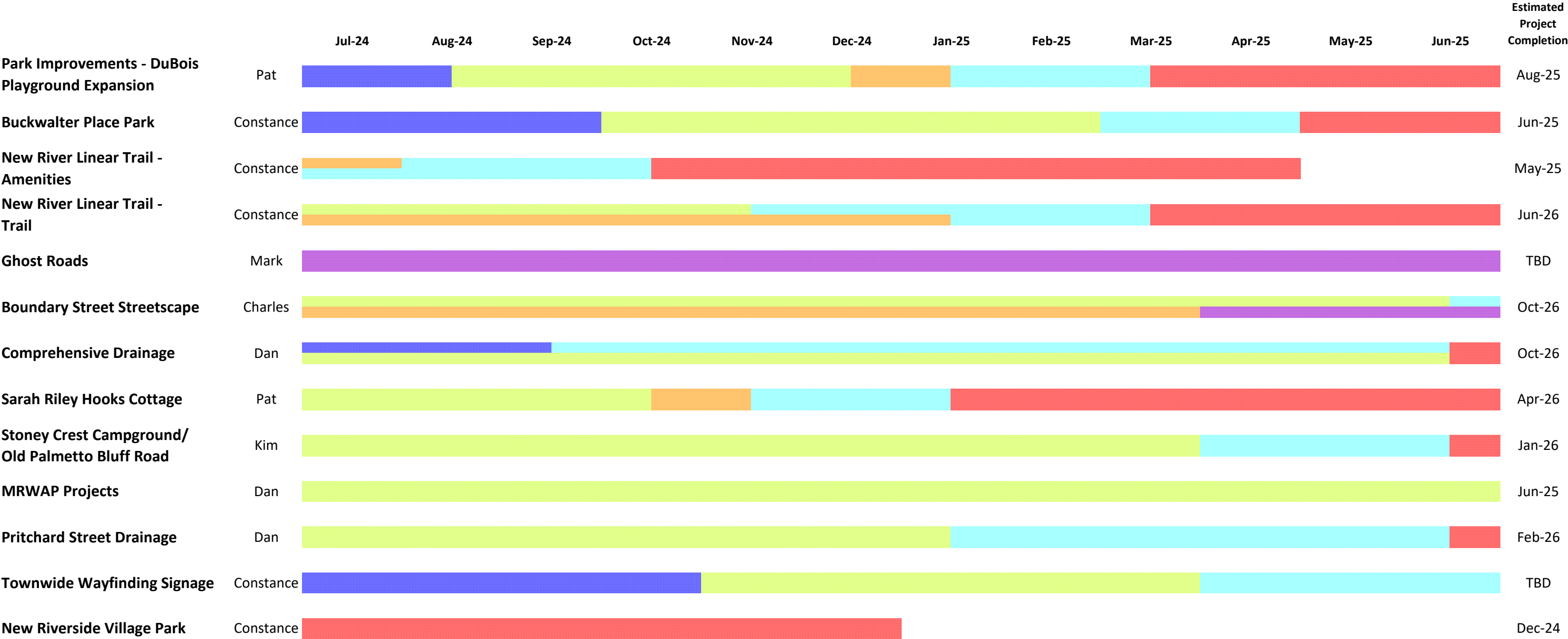


FY25  
CIP Master Project Schedule



\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*

FY25  
CIP Master Project Schedule



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

\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*