

TOWN COUNCIL

STAFF REPORT

Projects and Watershed Resilience Department



MEETING DATE:	May 13, 2025
SUBJECT:	Projects and Watershed Resilience Department Monthly Report
PROJECT MANAGER:	Kimberly Washok-Jones, Director of Projects and Watershed Resilience

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM (CIP) UPDATE

Administrative Update

- Jones and Maxwell presented the Town's Septic to Sewer policy, program and projects at the National Center for Watershed Protection Annual Conference on 4/10/25.

PATHWAYS

1. New River Linear Trail

- Bathroom, well, safety cameras, entry gate and permitting **completed**.
- Central Electric Encroachment Permit approved at 3/11/25 Town Council meeting.
- Bids closed on 5/1/25.
- **Next Steps**
 - Execute agreement with Central Electric and Santee Cooper for cost sharing terms and bridge maintenance.
 - Review bid submissions and start contract negotiations.

SEWER & STORMWATER

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

- Sewer mainlines and laterals **completed**.
- **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

- Contract with Jordan Construction approved at April Town Council.
- **Next Steps**
 - Pre-con meeting with BJWSA and TOB.
 - Public Meeting with residents for rights of entry and information on sewer connections and construction sequencing.

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 sites.
- 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 utilized for future CIP Projects.
 - Adoption of Fee-in-Lieu as part of FY26 Master Fee Schedule.
 - Collaborate with Director of Procurement for an agreement with BCSD to construct impervious restoration projects at school sites.

4. **Comprehensive Drainage Plan Improvements**

- Crooked and Guerrard Coves' stormwater assets inventory, condition assessment, field data processing and 2D Hydrologic/Hydraulic Model **completed**.
- Flow monitor data collected in each cove will be used to calibrate model.
- 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** and Asset Owner Reports **issued** to each Asset Owner.
- Notified by SC EMD that the Town's \$278,550 BRIC grant application was rejected due to change in Federal funding directives.
- **Next Steps**
 - 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 [here](#).

HISTORIC DISTRICT IMPROVEMENTS

6. **Boundary Street Lighting**

- Dominion **completed** installing street lighting on the west side of Boundary Street.
- **Next Steps**
 - Receive and pay final invoice from Dominion Energy.

7. **Bridge Street Streetscape**

- Stakeholder public meeting (3/6/25) and Montessori and Hargray meetings for Phase 2 **complete**.
- Lighting plan **complete**.
- **Next Steps**
 - Continue engineering design for SCDOT permitting.
 - Continue planning and design for underground power cost estimate.
 - Reply to DRC comments.
 - Streetscape easements for lighting and sidewalks out to property owners.

8. **Boundary Street Streetscape**

- Engineering design is 80% complete and submitted to agencies for review. Land disturbance permit approved by SCDES.

- **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 FY26, subject to acquisition of required easements and permitting.

9. Calhoun Street Streetscape

- **Completed** ROW surveys.
- Preliminary engineering design is 50% complete.
- Received conceptual 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.
 - Prepare easement acquisition plats for Phase 1 in FY26 and begin easement acquisition.
 - Phased construction is planned to begin in FY27 pending budget approval and acquisition of all required easements.

10. 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**.
- Phase 2 design plans **completed** for the remainder of the Historic District.
- Phase 3 analysis of areas outside the Historic District to identify sites for design **complete**.
- **Next Steps**
 - Phase 2 construction scheduled for May.
 - Traffic and pedestrian count results are pending along Bridge for Calhoun, Wharf and Thomas Heyward.
 - Generate RFQu for Phase 3 design and construction drawings.

11. Pritchard Street Drainage Improvements

- Project scope includes drainage, streetscape elements, pedestrian connectivity, street lighting and traffic calming evaluation.
- **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.
 - Easement acquisition documents have been finalized, and easement acquisitions have been initiated.
 - Follow-up/complete permitting submissions and bid document formulation.

- Awaiting street lighting agreement from 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.
- Structural engineer assessing pavilion post replacement options.
- **Next Steps**
 - Prepare plans and bid packages for the restroom expansion and other FY26 improvements.

2. Oscar Frazier Park

- Splash Pad opened in October 2024, and additional FY25 improvements are **complete**.
- **Next Steps**
 - Continue splash pad maintenance with Year Round Pool.
 - Staff studying shade umbrella feasibility at the playground.

3. New Riverside Barn/Park

- Barn framing and siding are **complete**. Doors, windows and roofing are installed. The mechanical rough-in are **complete**. Courtyard / firepit area have started.
- **Next Steps**
 - Nix Construction to continue all the above.
 - Begin planning and design of PS maintenance facility and event pavilion in 2025.

4. Miscellaneous Park Improvements

- Shade sail and pavilion installation **completed** at Buckwalter Place Park playground.
- **Next Steps**
 - Continue design and installation of remaining landscape, site furnishings and shade structures enhancements at various town parks in 2025 - 2026.

5. Buckwalter Place Park Improvements

- Town Council approved construction contract 3/11/25.
- **Next Steps**
 - Construction completion due 6/5/25.
 - Demo completed in all areas.
 - East and west sidewalks poured.
 - Raised crosswalk 90% complete.
 - Restroom framing, sheathing and plumbing 85% complete.
 - New northwest entrance columns started.

TOWN FACILITIES AND MISCELLANEOUS PLANNING

1. Town of Bluffton Affordable Housing Project – The May

- 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.

- Pre-construction meeting held 3/18/25 and site work continues.
- **Next Steps**
 - Staff continues to review progress and applications for payment.

2. Law Enforcement Center Facility Improvements

- **Next Steps**
 - Further work pending direction from Council resulting from Creech and Associates' space needs assessment.

3. Sarah Riley Hooks Cottage

- **Completed** exempt plat approval and recording and lighting plan.
- Provided Notice of Intent to award for cottage construction with Nix Construction.
- **Next Steps**
 - Submit Cottage Construction Contract at May 2025 TC for approval and begin construction in June.
 - Begin site and landscape development construction in FY26.

4. Ghost Roads

- Surveying and easement exhibits are **complete**.
- Bridge Street, Pritchard, Colcock, Water, Pope and Allen Quit Claim Deeds are **complete**.
- **Next Steps**
 - Based on TC and legal determination that the Town owns all Ghost Roads, acquisition of remaining Quit Claim Deeds for the remaining Ghost Roads paused.

5. Document Management

- RFP contract was awarded in March 2022 and electronic Document Management System (DMS) is live.
- **Next Steps:**
 - Historical documents for the remaining departments will transition through FY26.

6. Network Infrastructure

- Migration of Munis and Energov systems to a hosted environment **completed**.
- **Next Steps:**
 - Replacing more VMWare hosts.

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WATERSHED MANAGEMENT UPDATE

1. Administrative Update

- Staff are assisting the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) for a white goods pickup in the Buck Island/Simmonsville Neighborhood on 6/9/25.
- Staff submitted two (2) presentation abstracts for the Southeastern Stormwater Association (SESWA) Conference in October. If selected, Lewis and Moreno will present on the Town's wetland protection efforts and Rybak will present on the Town's impervious surface restoration program.
- Jones invited to participate in the Technical Planning Advisory Committee for 2026 Center for Watershed Protection's National Annual Conference in Charlotte.

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*

- RFQu for updating/calibrating the May River headwaters stormwater model closed on 4/28/25.
- Targeted Microbial Source Tracking (MST), fecal indicator bacteria, and nutrient monitoring starting with the Crooked Cove sub-basin of the May River Watershed is in progress. Follow-up inspections and focused stormwater education performed, as needed.

4. Resiliency

- College of Charleston and SC Sea Grant provided the DRAFT Resiliency Analysis final report. Staff submitted comments to lead researchers.
- The Shi Institute advertised a Shi Fellow to perform free work for the Town in the summer of 2025. This fellowship will support community engagement efforts to gauge the needs and interests of community members related to heat adaptation projects such as cooling centers, community solar projects, etc.
- Staff is coordinating with SC Sea Grant to place a water level sensor on the May River. SC Sea Grant will be conducting a site visit in May to determine if potential Town locations are suitable sites.
- Wetlands and Resiliency Ordinances:
 - Task 1: Review of Town policies is underway. An interim progress report has been received and is under staff review.
 - Standing meetings with the South Carolina Environmental Law Project (SCELP) and South Carolina Environmental Law Center (SELC).

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

- Staff submitted the 2024 MS4 Annual Report to the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES).

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

- The May River Cleanup was held on 5/3/2025.

- Moreno attended the Lowcountry Stormwater Partners (LSP) Consortium meeting on 4/9/25 to provide partner updates.
- The May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee (WAPAC) meeting was 4/24/25. Council and Senior Staff were invited to hear presentations on the Resiliency Analysis and May River Baseline Assessment Update. – **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. Samples were collected by SCDES on 4/22/25. Results are pending. – **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)

- Staff conducted two (2) municipally owned or operated facility inspections and found no deficiencies.
- Wright completed a Harmful Algal Bloom training offered by Clemson Extension.
- Jones and Moreno attended the Southeastern Stormwater Association (SESWA) Spring Seminar on 4/24/25-4/25/25.
- Crotty, Sease, and Harrell attended the International Erosion Control Association (IECA) Municipal Wet Weather Conference on 4/28/25-4/30/25.

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 04.24.25
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			
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022	2023	2024	2025
	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	33.0	33.0	NS		49.0	33.0	NS		17.0	7.8	NS		49.0	13.0	NS		6.8	7.8	NS		13.0	17.0	NS	
November	33.0	13.0	170.0		13.0	2.0	130.0		7.8	4.5	170.0		4.5	4.5	49.0		6.1	2.0	79.0		13.0	4.5	33.0	
October	23.0	33.0	49.0		46.0	23.0	17.0		13.0	17.0	13.0		23.0	33.0	2.0		11.0	2.0	11.0		14.0	6.8	17.0	
September	540.0	23.0	33.0		350.0	13.0	240.0		350.0	13.0	13.0		170.0	7.8	7.8		79.0	17.0	22.0		33.0	13.0	130.0	
August	23.0	23.0	33.0		23.0	49.0	23.0		11.0	6.8	23.0		13.0	13.0	49.0		17.0	23.0	49.0		11.0	2.0	13.0	
July	920.0	350.0	31.0		49.0	920.0	31.0		95.0	70.0	32.0		130.0	49.0	32.0		23.0	33.0	33.0		46.0	17.0	32.0	
June	13.0	14.0	7.8		4.5	7.8	7.8		11.0	23.0	6.8		2.0	13.0	4.5		1.8	33.0	2.0		9.3	13.0	2.0	
May	4.5	23.0	27.0		4.5	33.0	22.0		4.0	17.0	23.0		1.8	13.0	17.0		1.8	33.0	7.8		2.0	21.0	4.0	
April	4.5	170.0	49.0		4.5	130.0	17.0		1.8	110.0	17.0		2.0	70.0	4.0		1.8	NS	11.0		1.8	7.8	23.0	
March	33.0	23.0	49.0		23.0	49.0	31.0		2.0	17.0	11.0		4.5	17.0	4.5		2.0	17.0	22.0		2.0	17.0	4.5	
February	23.0	540.0	49.0	33.0	31.0	350.0	49.0	49.0	17.0	240.0	11.0	79.0	22.0	240.0	22.0	79.0	2.0	33.0	7.8	13.0	11.0	33.0	11.0	17.0
January	49.0	33.0	49.0	NS	22.0	33.0	23.0	NS	33.0	13.0	4.5	NS	7.8	33.0	4.5	NS	7.8	7.8	7.8	NS	7.8	4.5	2.0	NS
** Truncated GeoMetric Mean	40.0	38.0	39.0	41.0	28.0	30.0	30.0	36.0	18.0	17.0	16.0	19.0	14.0	16.0	14.0	15.0	9.0	9.0	10.0	14.0	9.0	8.0	10.0	10.0
** Truncated 90th Percentile	192.0	211.0	187.0	152.0	91.0	152.0	163.0	198.0	72.0	77.0	79.0	73.0	54.0	71.0	74.0	67.0	41.0	44.0	47.0	54.0	32.0	26.0	38.0	41.0

NS = No Sample

SCDES Regulatory Requirements:

Geometric Mean ≤ 14

90th Percentile ≤ 43

** Town staff calculations utilizing SCDES statistics

Note:

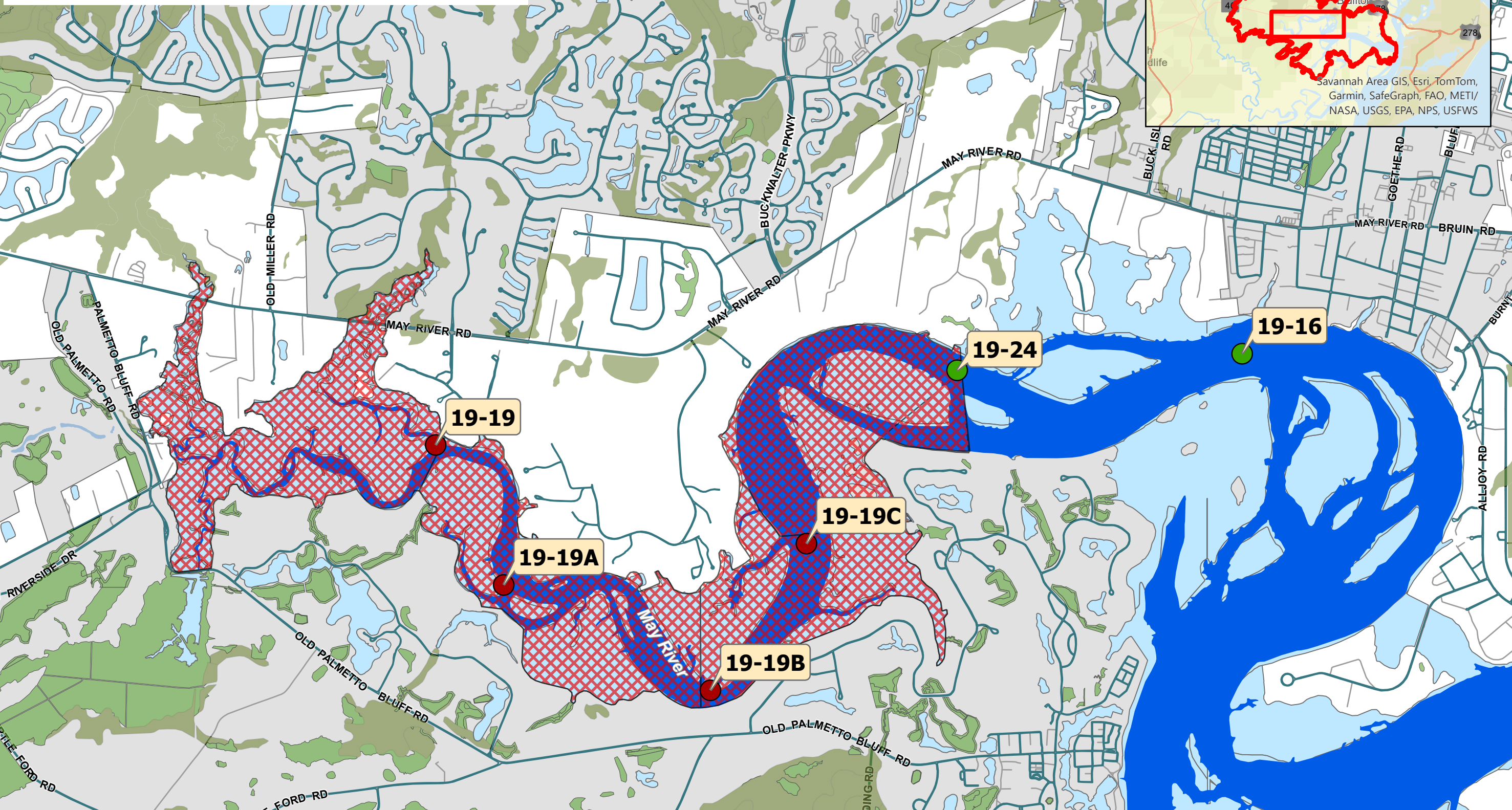
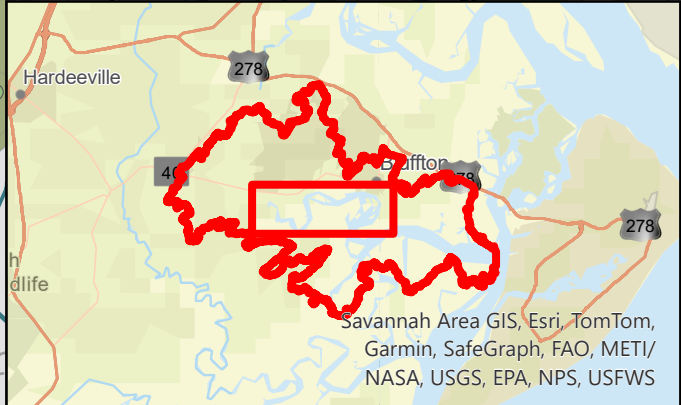
December 2024 ends the data collection period for 2025 shellfish harvesting season.

December 2025 ends the data collection period for 2026 shellfish harvesting season.

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

2025 fecal coliform data is part of the 2026 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 ≤ 14.0 Most Probable Number (MPN) AND
- A 90th percentile value of ≤ 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

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May River Watershed Action Plan Update & Modeling Report Implementation Summary

1. MRWAP Background

- *May River Watershed Action Plan Update & Modeling Report* (MRWAP) was completed November 2020.
- Town Council adopted the MRWAP 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 MRWAP 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.

2. Septic to Sewer Project Recommendations/Evaluations

Background:

- The MRWAP evaluated four (4) septic to sewer conversion projects 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.

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Update: 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>.

3. MRWAP Impervious Restoration Water Quality Projects

Task 1: MRWAP Eleven (11) Proposed Projects Background

- 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.
- 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 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.

Task 1: MRWAP Eleven (11) Proposed Projects Update

- Eleven (11) proposed project sites Rose Dhu Creek (6 projects) and Stoney Creek (5 projects):
 - All geotechnical work, evaluations, site assessments, planning and engineering is completed and preliminary Designs submitted.
 - 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).~~ **Declined to Participate.**
 - McCracken Middle School/Bluffton Elementary School (MMSBES).
 - May River High School.

- ~~One Hampton Lake Apartments (OHLA).~~ **Declined to Participate.**
- Pritchardville Elementary School (PES).
- ~~Palmetto Pointe Townes (PPT).~~ **Declined to Participate.**

Task 2: Identify Fifteen (15) New Project Sites Background

- 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).

Task 2: Identify Fifteen (15) New Project Sites Update

- Concept design development for the sites identified below ongoing:
 - 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 Site determined to be not feasible, low cost/benefit.
 - 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)~~ **Declined to Participate**

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Task 3: MRWAP Impervious Restoration Policy Documents Background

- MRWAP 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. Internal review, discussion and comments of Updated Draft Policy Document was completed and submitted to Consultant September 10, 2023. Initial discussion of comments and the path forward was held November 3, 2023. Additional discussions with the consultant forthcoming.

Task 3: MRWAP Impervious Restoration Policy Documents Update

- Policy Document Formulation has been initiated and includes research of similar Programs Nationwide.
- Fee-in-Lieu Program Policy Document Fee-in-Lieu inclusion in the FY26 Master Fee Schedule in process.
- ToB CIP Project Impervious Restoration Program & incentives – Draft document in process.
- ToB SWrv Credit Trading Program - (under evaluation)

4. Other, Related MRWAP Recommendations

Background:

- The Town should incorporate volume reduction BMPs (those that encourage infiltration) within existing and future CIP projects to the maximum extent practical (MEP), especially for project locations with well-drained soils (HSG A or B).

Other, Related MRWAP Recommendations Update:

- Town is in progress of incorporating volume reduction BMPs within existing and future CIP projects to the MEP. Specific projects currently in progress include:
 - Bridge Street Streetscape Project
 - Water quality monitoring has been completed

- Pritchard Street Drainage Improvement Project
 - 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.
 - On site visit with consultant to finalize items for bid ready for submittal occurred 4/1/25. Resubmittal to permitting agencies in process.
 - Project anticipated to be advertised for construction in Spring 2025.

5. MRWAP Water Quality Program Recommendations Update

Background:

- Section 5.0 of the MRWAP included recommendations for the Town of Bluffton to improve upon their existing monitoring program (concentration and source typing) and flow.

MRWAP Water Quality Program Recommendations Update:

- 5.1.1 In-House Microbial Source Tracking:
 - Staff have reviewed the Town’s MST Monitoring Program and developed a program to target areas of the May River Watershed in phases, beginning with the Crooked Cove subwatershed. Samples include all available MST markers, fecal indicator bacteria, and nutrients.
 -
- 5.1.2 Future (New) Bacteria Monitoring Locations & 5.1.3 Future (New) Water Flow Monitoring Locations
 - Town staff have finalized all bacteria and flow monitoring data collection efforts recommended in sections 5.1.2 and 5.1.3 of the May River Watershed Action Plan Model Report. These efforts aim to improve/calibrate the Town’s stormwater model with a comprehensive dataset.
 - The scope to update/calibrate the Town’s May River headwaters stormwater model has been completed. The Town has posted an RFQu for services related to the Town’s stormwater model.
 - The Town has Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) funding for this work, and it is expected to go before Town Council for consideration at the June 2025 Town Council meeting.



May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 24, 2025 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 January 23rd, 2025 Meeting Minutes

IV. PRESENTATIONS, CELEBRATIONS, AND RECOGNITIONS

1. South Carolina Department of Natural Resources May River Watershed Baseline Assessment Update Presentation - Dr. Andrew Tweel, Associate Marine Scientist, SC Department of Natural Resources
2. South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium and College of Charleston Resiliency Analysis Presentation - Dr. Levine, Professor | Director, Santee Cooper GIS Laboratory and Lowcountry Hazards Center, and Landon Knapp, Coastal Resilience Program Manager

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

VI. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE: July 24, 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 as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

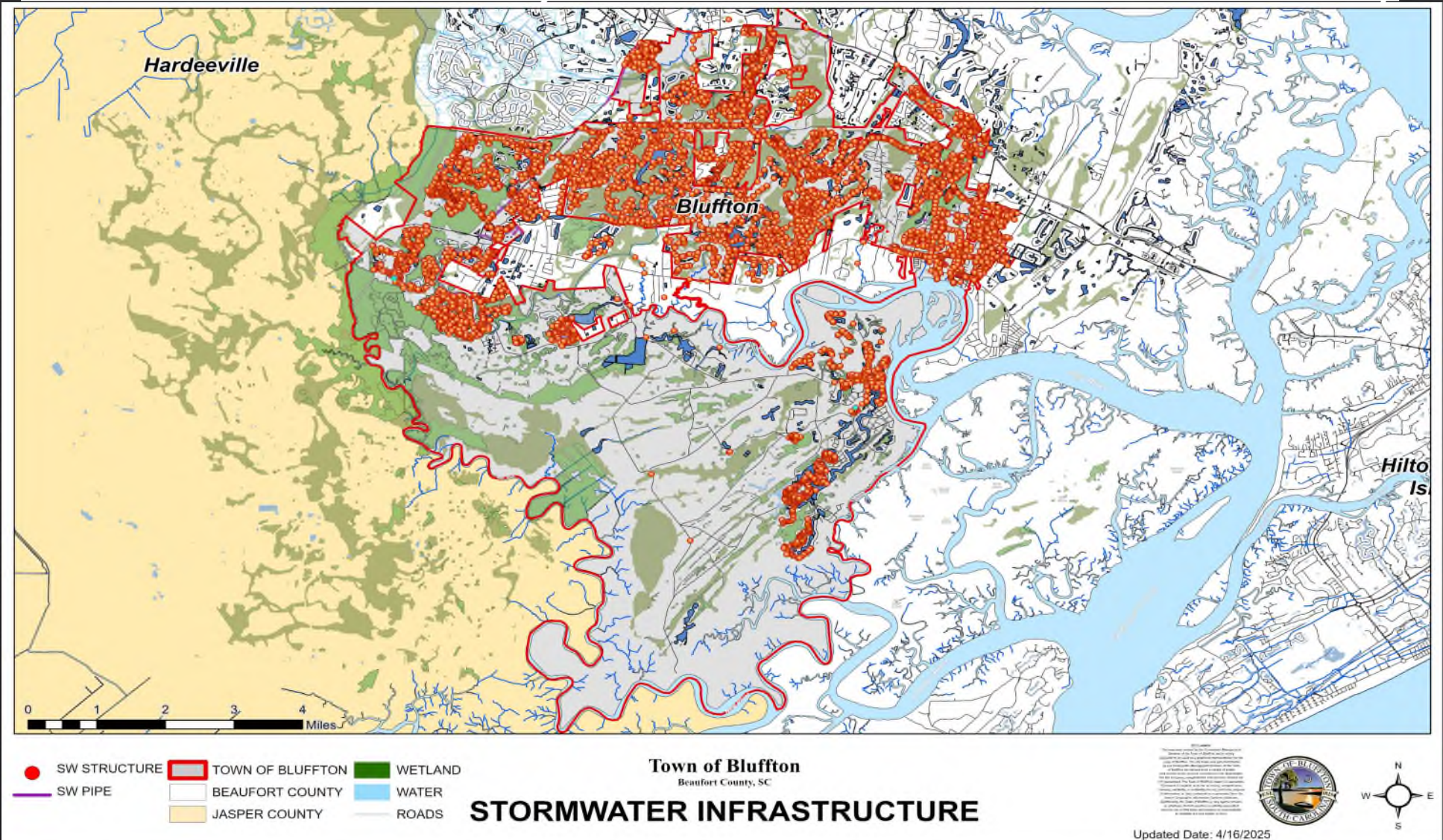
Executive Session – The public body may vote to go into executive session for any item identified for action on the agenda.

**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

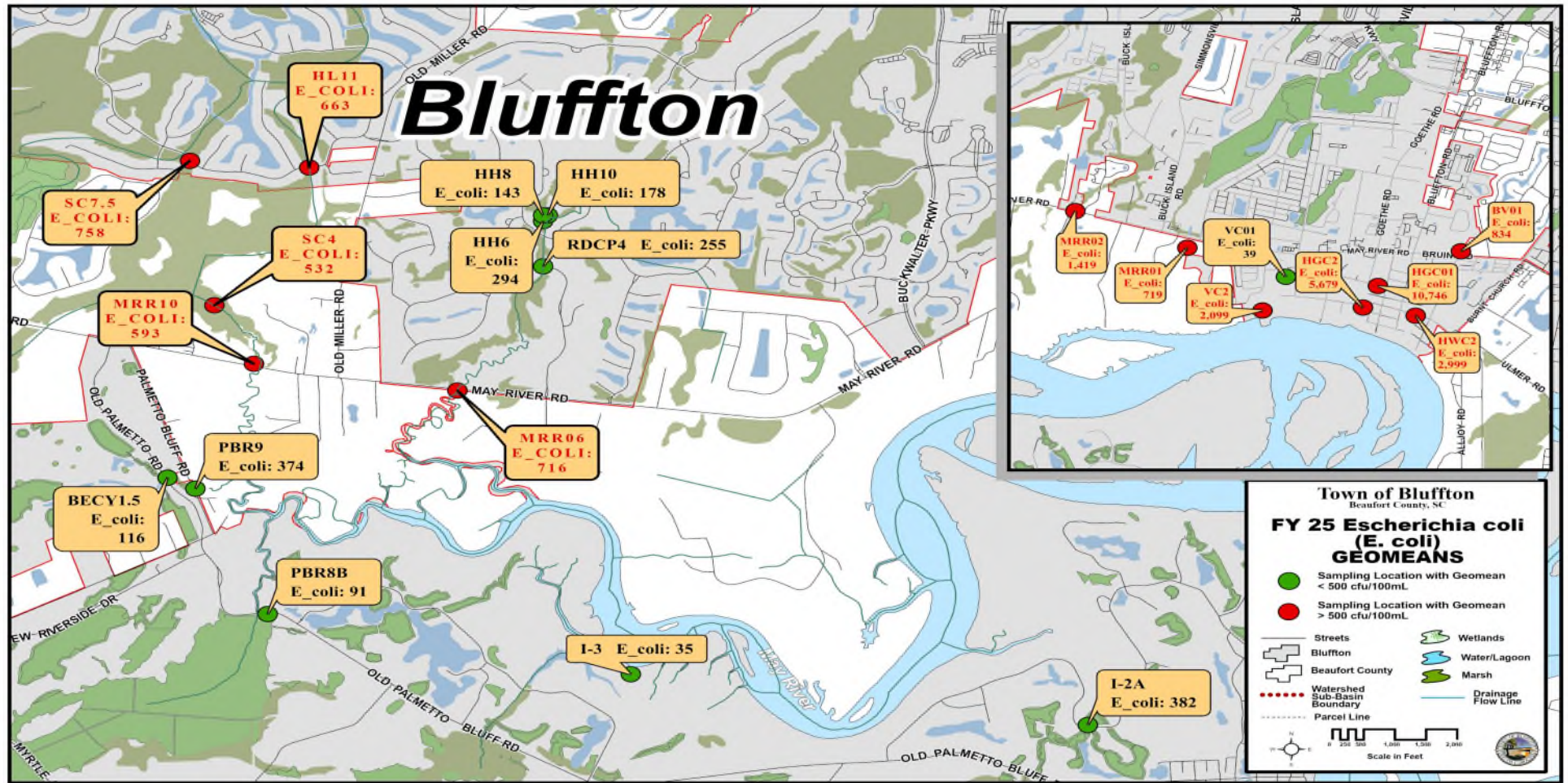
Collection Totals

17,963

FY 2025 YTD

729

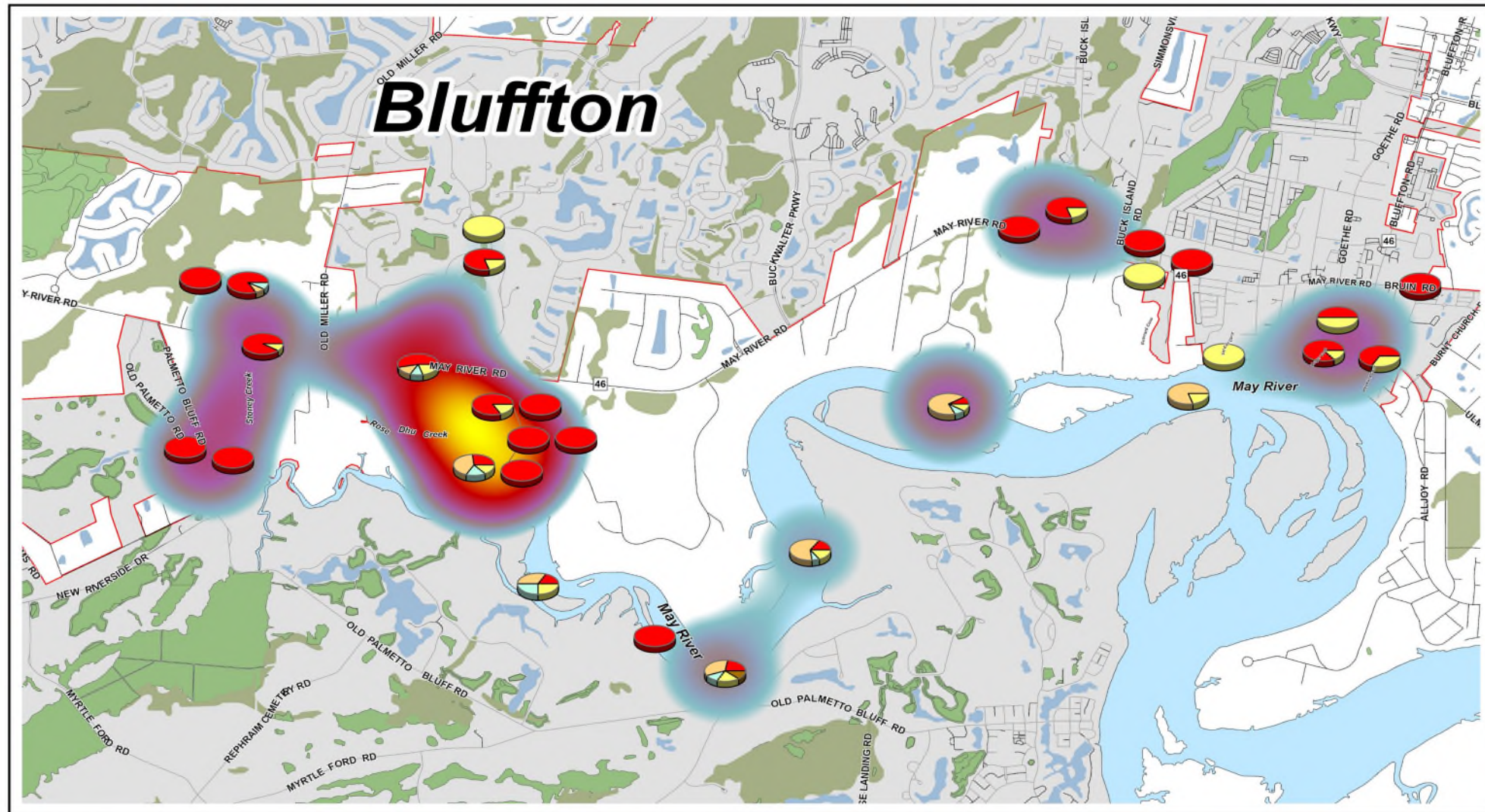
MS4 Minimum Control Measure #3 – IDDE: *E. coli* Concentrations Trend Map



	USCB Water Quality Samples	Microbial Source Tracking Samples	MS4 Quarterly Samples Collected
FY 2025 YTD Totals	506	95	206
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



MSTSamplingResults

MST Sampling Sites



Human
Bird
Deer
Dog
Horse

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

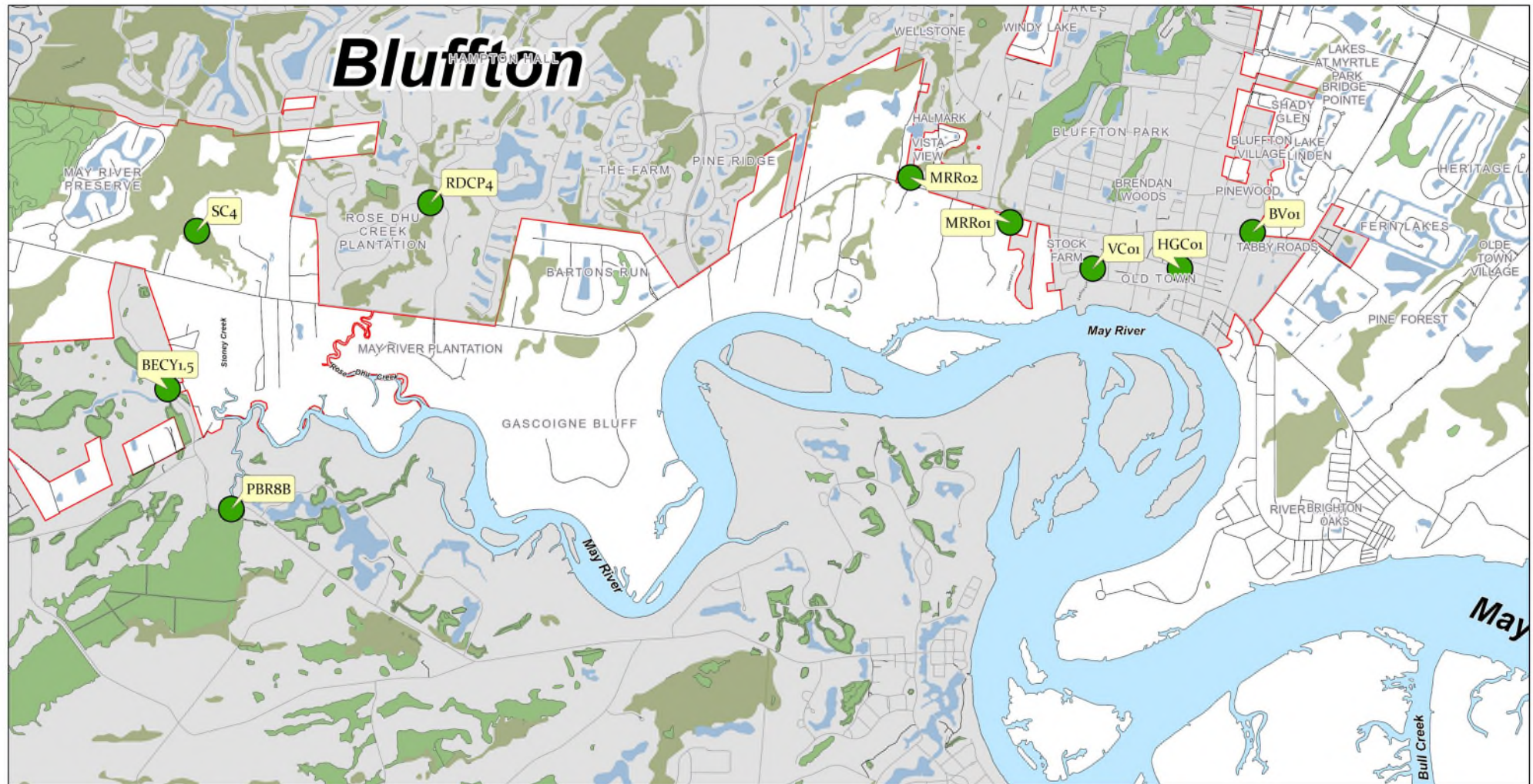
Town of Bluffton
Beaufort County, SC

Town Jurisdiction
Beaufort County
Drainage Flow Lines



Updated Date: 4/16/2025

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

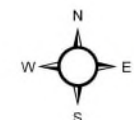


- MST Sampling Location Without Human Genetic Marker Detection
- MST Sampling Location With Human Genetic Marker Detection
- Flowline
- Street
- Town Jurisdiction
- County Jurisdiction

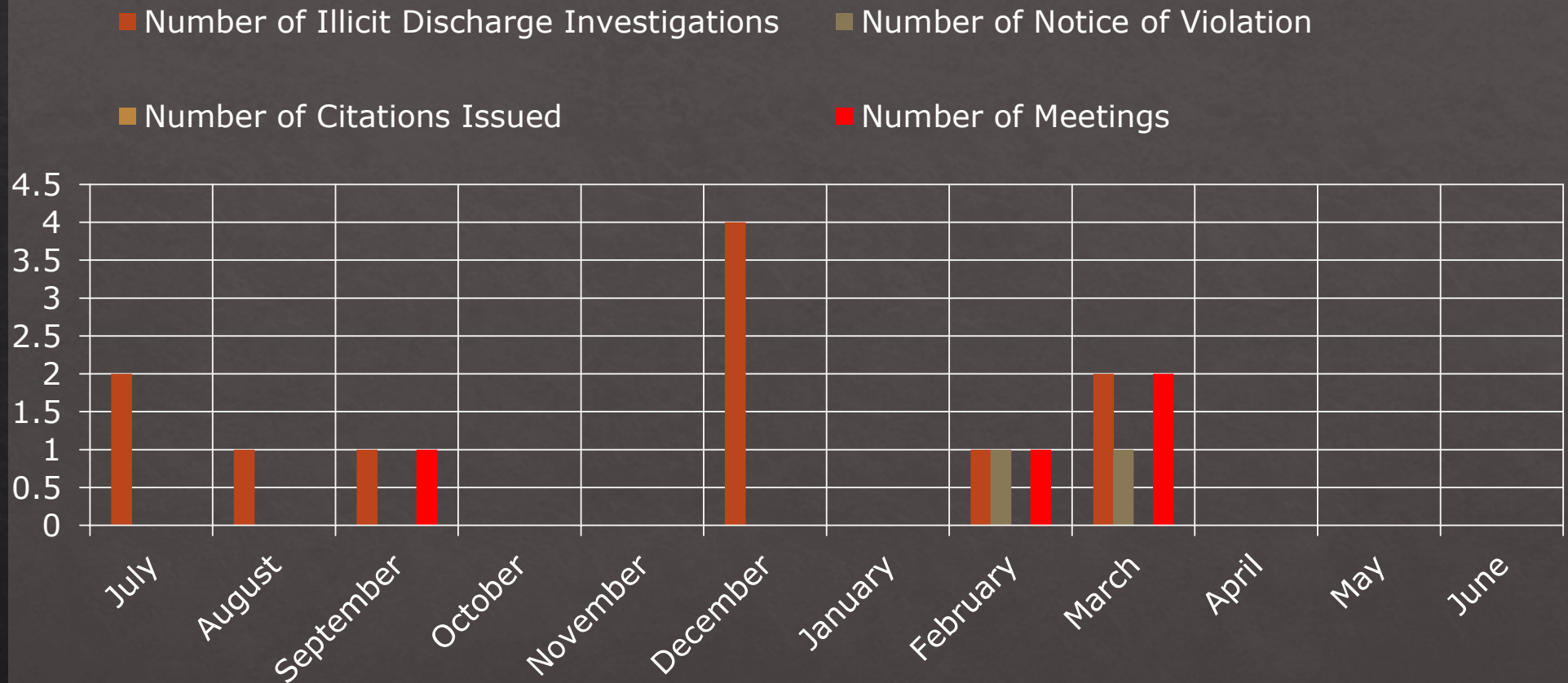
MICROBIAL SOURCE TRACKING LOCATIONS

MS4 Sampling from April 8th, 2025

Town of Bluffton
Beaufort County, SC

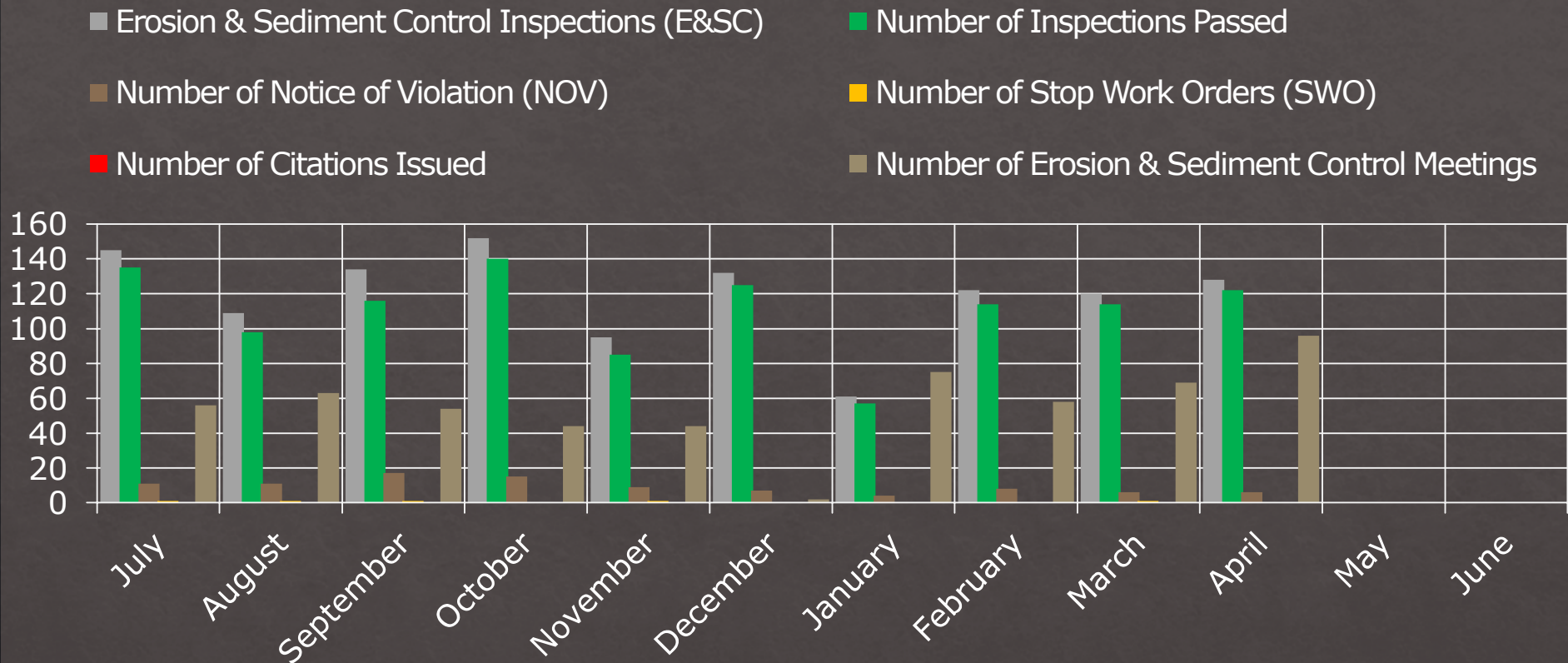


MS4 Minimum Control Measure #3 – IDDE: Illicit Discharge Investigations



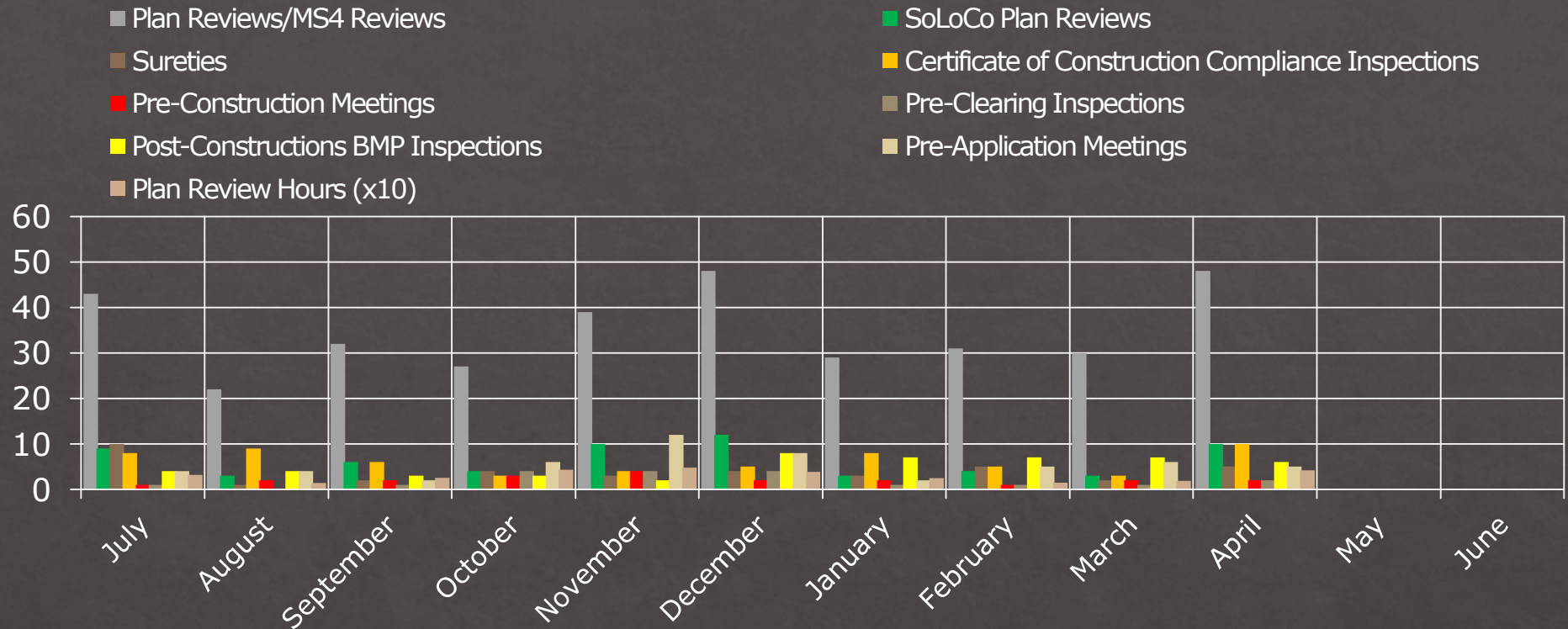
	Number of Illicit Discharge Investigations	Number of Notices of Violation Issued	Number of Citations Issued	Number of Meetings
FY 2025 YTD Totals	11	2	0	4
FY 2024 Totals	33	15	15	35
FY 2023 Totals	27	8	1	20

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



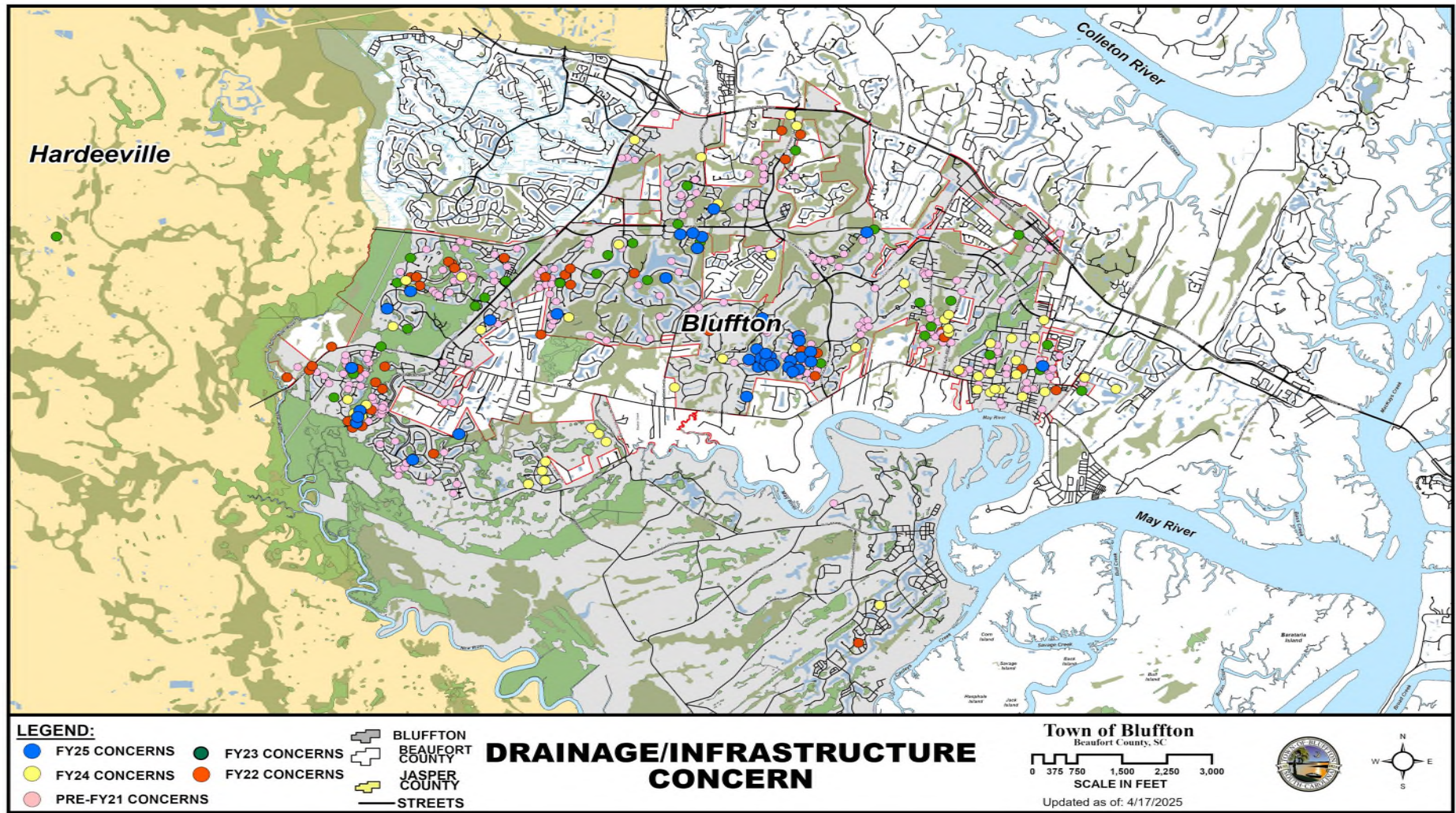
	Number of Sediment & Erosion Control Inspections	Number of Inspections Passed	Number of NOV's Issued	Number of SWO Issued	Number of Citations Issued	Number of E&SC Meetings
FY 2025 YTD Totals	1,198	1,106	94	5	0	561
FY 2024 Totals	1,875	1,767	103	10	0	526
FY 2023 Totals	2,321	2,030	266	26	0	577

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



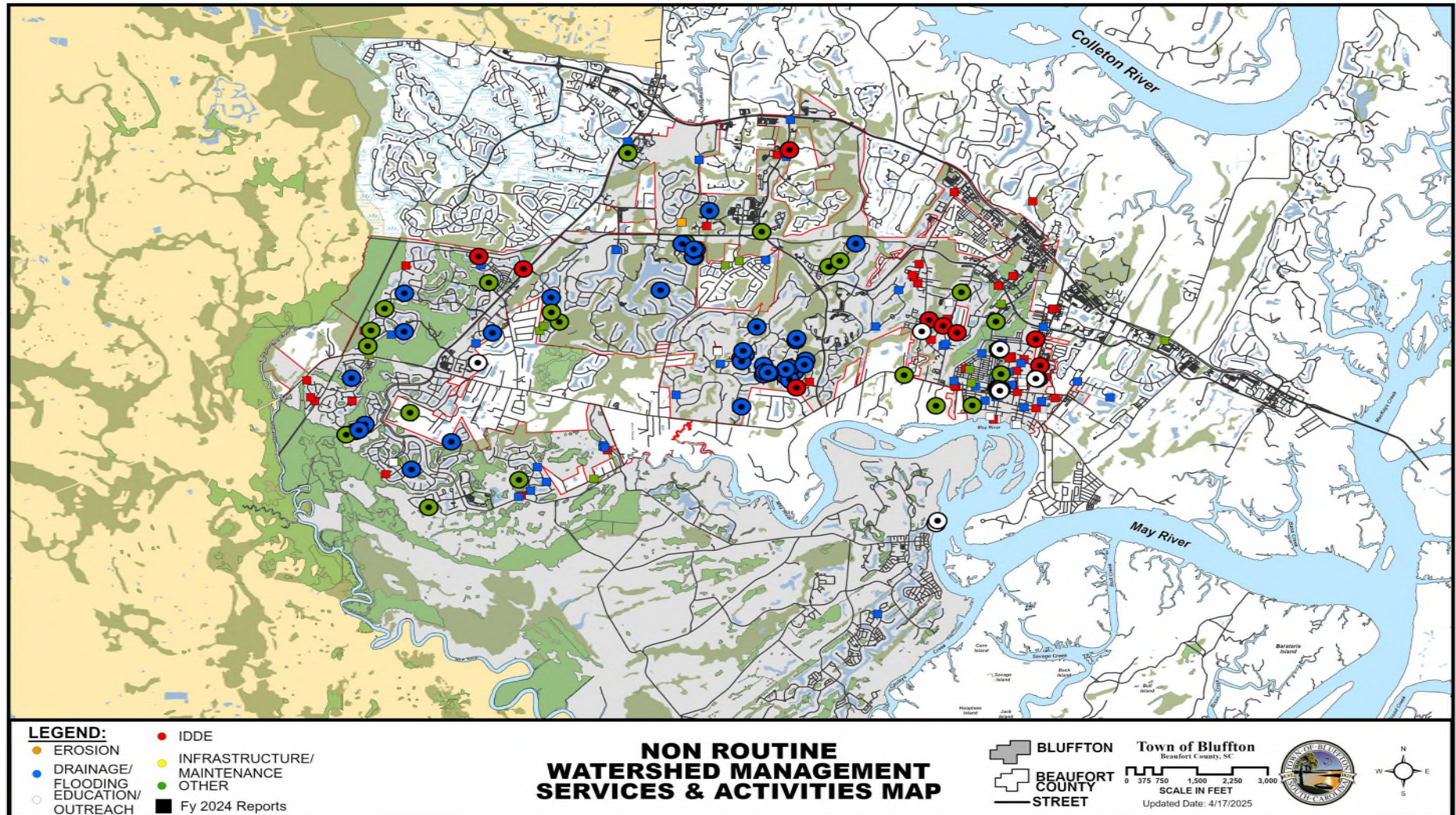
	Plan Reviews MS4 Reviews	SoLoCo Plan Reviews	Sureties	CCC Inspections	Pre-Construction Meetings	Pre-Clearing Inspections	Post Construction BMP Inspections	Pre-Application Meetings	Total Plan Review Hours
FY 2025 YTD	349	64	39	61	21	19	51	54	299 Hrs.
FY 2024 Totals	330	63	27	69	37	28	48	47	283 Hrs.
FY 2023 Totals	297	67	42	40	15	13	45	50	386 Hrs.

Citizen Drainage, Maintenance and Inspections Concerns Map



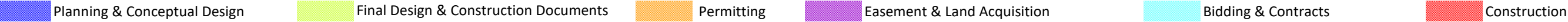
	Number of Drainage Concerns Investigated	Number of Meetings
FY 2025 YTD Totals	15	2
FY 2024 Totals	47	13
FY 2023 Totals	61	52

Citizen Request for Watershed Mngt. Services & Activities Map



	Number of Citizen Requests Investigated	Number of Meetings
FY 2025 YTD Totals	68	15
FY 2024 Totals	137	40
FY 2023 Totals	46	23

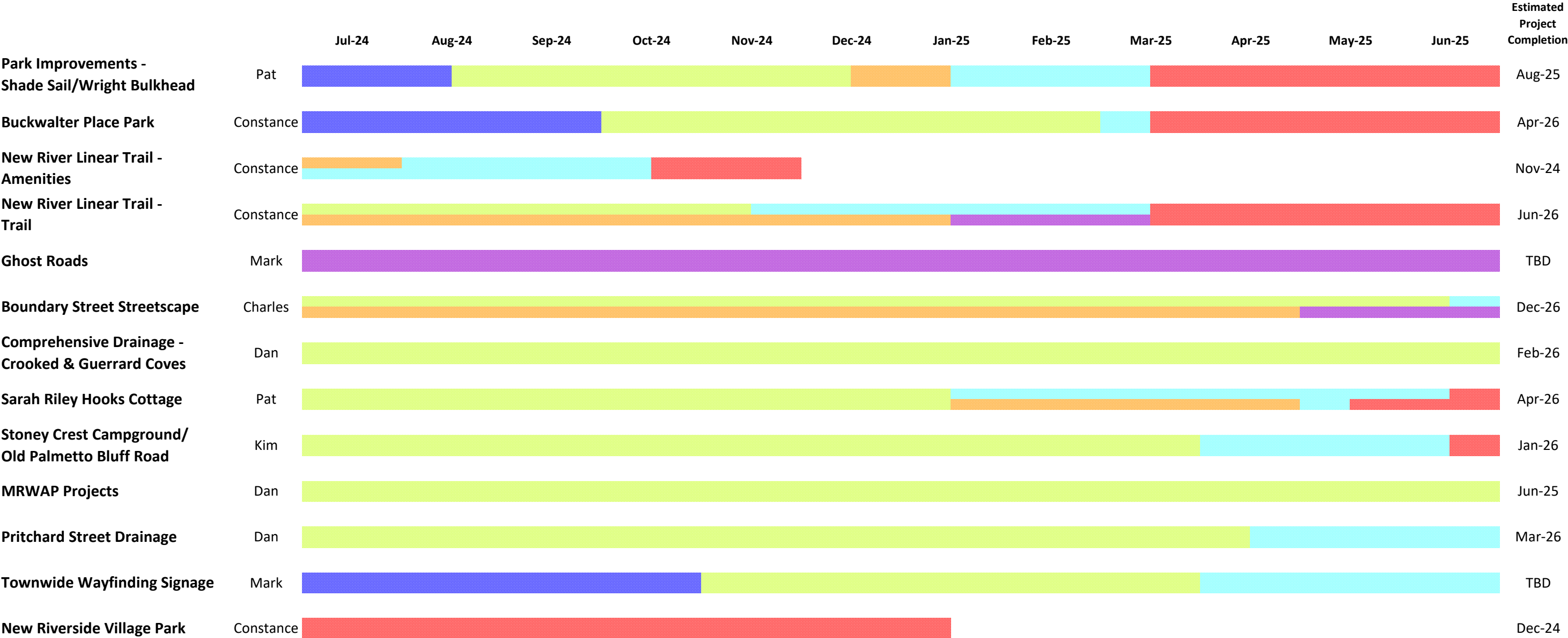
FY25
CIP Master Project Schedule



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