



June 30, 2025

Town of Hingham Conservation Commission
210 Central Street
Hingham, Massachusetts 02043-2759

ATTN: Ms. Shannon Palmer, Conservation Officer

RE: DEP File No. 034-1329 – Salt Marsh Monitoring Report
5 Bare Cove Lane, Hingham, Massachusetts

Dear Ms. Palmer:

SITEC Engineering & Environmental Consultants, Inc. (SITEC) conducted a site review of the salt marsh restoration area located at 5 Bare Cove Road in Hingham, MA on June 26, 2025. This restoration work was completed in response to an Enforcement Order issued by the Hingham Conservation Commission on January 31, 2024 addressing damage caused to the salt marsh during prior dock construction work by the previous property owner. The current review fulfills the requirements of Condition 3 of the Enforcement Order and documents the health and progress of the restoration since its completion in June 2024. This is the second monitoring report and reflects conditions at the beginning of the second growing season.

The following observations were made as a result of SITEC's site review:

- Overall Stability: The salt marsh restoration area appears stable, with no evidence of erosion or sloughing. Its visual and vegetative condition is consistent with adjacent undisturbed salt marshes.
- Coir Matting: Two sections of coir matting are no longer secured and have situated themselves on salt marsh vegetation. SITEC recommends these be removed by the homeowner to prevent potential damage to the salt marsh vegetation.
- Float-Damaged Area: The previously restored float-damaged area has experienced settlement and washout. The installed rock sill remains intact and stable. SITEC and the owner seek guidance from Conservation staff on how to handle this issue.
- Spartina alterniflora – North Side of Dock: Some of the Spartina alterniflora plantings on the north side of the dock are in good condition and have shown significant new growth. Most of the plantings, however, have not thrived due to the locations being too low in elevation.

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- *Spartina alterniflora* – South Side of Dock: The majority of plantings on the south side of the dock are in good condition with observed new growth, with the exception of the plantings that were clearly planted too low in the intertidal zone.
- Seaward Plantings: Many plantings along the seaward edge of the restoration area on the north and south sides of the dock were installed too low in elevation to survive the tidal cycle. These areas experience prolonged inundation, resulting in plant die-off. The current seaward limit of healthy vegetation appears consistent with that of adjacent undisturbed areas. SITEC estimates the die-off affects less than 25% of the total restoration area.
- Landward Dock Plantings: Plantings beneath the landward end of the dock are not thriving, with little to no new growth observed. Also, there were leaves covering the substrate. It is recommended that this area be raked out by hand. It is likely that this area will require additional plantings. New plantings should be species more tolerant of drier conditions.

In summary, the main portion of the restoration area continues to perform well as the second growing season begins. The observed die-off along the seaward edge is consistent with expectations, given the variability in tidal exposure. The area beneath the landward edge of the dock should continue to be monitored and may benefit from supplemental planting with more appropriate species.

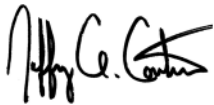
Photographs of the site have been included for reference.

In accordance with Condition 3 of the Enforcement Order, a final monitoring report will be submitted to the Conservation Office no later than December 1, 2025. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or for additional information.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

For SITEC Engineering & Environmental Consultants, Inc.



Jeffrey A. Couture
Project Manager

With Enclosure

C-1



Main area of salt marsh restoration area on south side of dock. Plantings are thriving.

C-2



Seaward edge of southern side of salt marsh restoration area. Plantings toward seaward edge too low to thrive.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC
DOCUMENTATION**
Salt Marsh Restoration
5 Bare Cove Lane
Hingham, Massachusetts

SITEC PROJ. NO.
SE18-1374

June 26, 2025



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C-3



Salt marsh restoration area on southerly side of dock.

C-4



Salt marsh restoration area on northerly side of dock. Float damage fill has washed out.

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C-5



Salt marsh restoration areas to the north of dock and beneath dock.

C-6



Salt marsh restoration area to the north of dock.

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