

**BASELINE DOCUMENTATION REPORT
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island**



**Prepared January 2011
by Carol Lynn Trocki
for the Weekapaug Foundation for Conservation**

Author's Signature:

Date:

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Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island

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**Acknowledgement of Condition Statement
Baseline Documentation Report
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island**

The Grantor and the Grantee hereby certify that this Baseline Documentation Report is an accurate representation of the property, described in Exhibit “A” of the Conservation Easement (hereinafter referred to as the “Premises”), at the time of the conveyance of the Conservation Easement. This Baseline Documentation Report contains the following: Cover Page; Table of Contents; Acknowledgement of Condition Statement; Background Information; Westerly Tax Assessor’s Plat 155; Location Map; Aerial Photo / Property Map; Landscape Context Map; USGS Topo Map; Soil Survey Map; Coastal Wetlands Map; Photo Point Map; Photo Point Description Sheet; and Photographs.

The Grantor further certifies that to the best of the Grantor’s knowledge, there are no structures or improvements on the Protected Property other than as described in this Baseline Documentation Report, and no activities are conducted on the Protected Property which are inconsistent with the terms contained in the Conservation Easement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Baseline Documentation Report this _____ day of _____ 2011.

WITNESS:

GRANTOR:
WEEKAPAUG FOUNDATION
FOR CONSERVATION

By: _____
Its: _____
Address: 366 Post Road
Westerly, RI 02891

WITNESS:

GRANTEE:
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS,
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT

By: _____
Its: _____
Address: 235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908-5767

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON

In _____, on this _____ day of _____, A.D. 2011,
then personally appeared _____, _____ of the
WEEKAPAUG FOUNDATION FOR CONSERVATION, to me known and known by
me to be the party executing the foregoing instrument, and s/he acknowledged said
instrument, by him/her so executed, to be his/her free act and deed in his/her said
capacity and the free act and deed of said WEEKAPAUG FOUNDATION FOR
CONSERVATION, before me,

Notary Public
Printed Name: _____
My Commission Expires: _____

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON

In _____, on this _____ day of _____, A.D. 2011,
then personally appeared _____, _____ of the
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS, DEPARTMENT
OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, to me known and known by me to be the
party executing the foregoing instrument, and s/he acknowledged said instrument, by
him/her so executed, to be his/her free act and deed in his/her said capacity and the free
act and deed of said STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE
PLANTATIONS, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, before
me,

Notary Public
Printed Name: _____
My Commission Expires: _____

BASELINE DOCUMENTATION REPORT
Background Information
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island

CURRENT LANDOWNER: The Weekapaug Foundation for Conservation

LOCATION OF PROPERTY:

Street Address: Atlantic Avenue and Winnapaug Pond

Municipality: Westerly

County: Washington

State: Rhode Island

Plat/Lot Information: Lot 148 of Westerly Tax Assessor's Plat 155 (Figure 1).

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:

Acreage: 14.9 acres ± in area (Figure 1).

Conservation Restrictions: The Ray Preserve is owned in fee by the Weekapaug Foundation for Conservation, a non-profit land trust dedicated to preserving and protecting open space and clean water in the watersheds of the Winnapaug and Quonochontaug salt ponds.

In addition, the Premises are further protected by a Conservation Easement with the State of Rhode Island, Department of Environmental Management (the complete Conservation Easement can be viewed in the Westerly Land Evidence Records, Book 1541, Page 45). It is the purpose of the Conservation Easement 'to assure that the Premises will be retained forever in their open, natural, scenic, agricultural, ecological, or educational condition and to prevent any use of the Premises that will significantly impair or interfere with the conservation values of the Premises. The Grantor intends that the Conservation Easement will confine the use of the Premises to a Conservation Area and that such uses are consistent with the purpose of the Conservation Easement to provide for the adequate maintenance of the Premises to preserve the natural values, public access and other matters as may be required for the preservation of the Premises.'

Land Use History: Based on the examination of historic aerial photography, it appears that the Premises have existed in a similar natural state since at least 1939. Periodic aerial photography from 1939, 1952, 1962, and the present show the Premises as a natural mix of coastal upland and wetland habitats characteristic of the area.

On July 28, 2005, Robert W. Ray and Polly P. Ray conveyed the property to the Weekapaug Foundation for Conservation (Warranty Deed can be found in the Westerly Land Evidence Records, Book 1433, Page 335). At the time of conveyance, the Ray family also negotiated a parking agreement that would allow designated family members to park two cars in a specified parking area on the Premises, at such time as they no longer own adjacent property (A.P. 155, Lots 15 &16). These parking rights are limited to an area 20' feet wide and 20' deep along the northerly side of Atlantic Ave. at the southeast corner of the Premises.

Current & Proposed Future Land Uses: Currently, the Premises exist in an undeveloped state, consisting of a mix of coastal upland and wetland habitats characteristic of a barrier beach in this region. The conservation values inherent to the Premises will be protected in perpetuity by the Weekapaug Foundation for Conservation and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management. The Conservation Easement specifically allows public access for all recreational uses, including hiking, nature observation and educational purposes.

Conservation Values:

The Premises are located between Atlantic Avenue and Winnapaug Pond in Westerly, Rhode Island (Figure 2). The Premises consist of coastal upland and wetland habitats on a barrier separating Block Island Sound, to the south, from Winnapaug Pond (a coastal salt pond) to the immediate north (Figures 2 and 3). The Premises are flanked by medium and medium-high density residential development to the south and southwest. To the east and northwest lie similar undeveloped areas with habitats similar to those found on the Premises.

Approximately 453 additional acres of conservation land exist within one mile of the Premises, including: 136 additional acres protected by the Weekapaug Foundation for Conservation (WFC), 108 acres protected by the WFC and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), 86 acres protected by the Audubon Society of Rhode Island (ASRI) and RIDEM, 86 acres protected exclusively by RIDEM, 20 acres protected by the Town of Westerly, 8 acres protected by the Westerly Land Trust, 7 acres protected by the Westerly Fire District, and 2 acres listed as privately protected (Figure 4).³

Topography

The Premises slope very gently from Atlantic Avenue to Winnapaug Pond with minimal change in elevation (Figure 5).

Soils

According to the Rhode Island Soil Survey, the Premises contain approximately eight acres of Matunuck mucky peat (Mk) and seven acres of Udipsamments, undulating (UAB; Figure 6).⁴

³ Rhode Island Geographic Information Systems, RIDEM Conservation Lands Datalayer, 4/2010.

⁴ Rhode Island Soil Survey, United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station, 1981.

Matunuck mucky peat is a nearly level, very poorly drained hydric soil found in tidal marshes. Permeability is rapid to very rapid, available water capacity is low, and runoff is very slow. This soil is unsuitable for most uses except as wetland wildlife habitat.

Undulating Udipsamments consist of sand dunes and depressional or level sandy areas that have been stabilized by vegetation. These areas occur along beaches and are typically long and narrow. The permeability of this soil is very rapid, available water capacity is very low, and runoff is very slow. Most areas are used for summer recreational activities; this soil is not suited to trees or most other uses.

Water Resources

The Premises are located entirely within the Block Island Sound sub-basin of the Ninigret Pond – Frontal Block Island Sound drainage basin.⁵ The entire Premises fall within a designated FEMA VE Zone, which is defined as an area subject to inundation by the 1-percent-annual-chance flood event with additional hazards due to storm-induced velocity wave action.⁶

The Premises are mapped as containing approximately 7.1 acres of salt marsh, 4.8 acres of upland, 2.7 acres of estuarine shrub-shrub wetland, and 0.5 acres of estuarine *Phragmites* marsh.⁷ Adjacent waters in Winnapaug Pond are designated as Type 2 waters by the Rhode Island Coastal Management Council, indicating low intensity use.⁸

Wildlife Habitat/Conservation Resources

The entire Premises are coastally influenced. Estuarine habitats include salt marsh, estuarine scrub-shrub wetland, and estuarine *Phragmites* marsh as detailed above. Upland habitats would best be described as beach heather dune and dune shrub associations. A single site visit to the Premises was conducted on October 22, 2010. During this site visit the following species were observed:

FAUNA

Birds

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)
Great Blue Heron (*Ardea Herodias*)
American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*)
Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*)
Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*)
Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*)
Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*)
Saltmarsh Sparrow (*Ammodramus caudacutus*)
American Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*)

⁵ USDA-NRCS HUC 12 Drainage Basins for Rhode Island datalayer, 2003 (from RIGIS).

⁶ FEMA Washington County datalayer (from RIGIS); FEMA zone definitions available at http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/floodplain/nfipkeywords/flood_zones.shtm

⁷ South Coast Estuarine Habitat datalayer, RIDEM and RICRMC, 4/15/2003 (from RIGIS).

⁸ RICRMC Coastal Water Type Use datalayer, 4/2008 (from RIGIS)

Mammals (detected by sign)
Cottontail Rabbit (*Sylvilagus* species)
Coyote (*Canis latrans*)
White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)

FLORA

(*species in bold are considered to be ‘widespread and invasive’ by the Rhode Island Invasive Species Council*)⁹

Upland / Maritime Scrub-Shrub

Asiatic Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)
Aster species (Family *Asteraceae*)
Beach Heather (*Hudsonia tomentosa*)
Beach Plum (*Prunus maritima*)
Beach Rose (*Rosa rugosa*)
Blackberry (*Rubus* species)
Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*)
Dune Grass (*Ammophila breviligulata*)
Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)
Goldenrods (*Solidago* species)
Marsh Elder (*Iva frutescens*)
Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*)
Northern Bayberry (*Morella pensylvanica*)
Poison Ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*)
Shadbush (*Amelanchier* species)
Smooth Sumac (*Rhus glabra*)
Spike Grass (*Distichlis spicata*)
Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*)
Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)
Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*)

Phragmites Marsh

Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*)

Salt Marsh

Glasswort (*Salicornia* species)
Marsh Elder (*Iva frutescens*)
Salt Hay (*Spartina patens*)
Sea Lavender (*Limonium nashii*)
Smooth Cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*)
Spike Grass (*Distichlis spicata*)

⁹ Rhode Island Invasive Species Council, List of Invasive Plants, 2005.

Only a single site visit was conducted on the Premises, therefore there is a limited likelihood that uncommon species or species present or visible during other portions of the year could be detected. The species list above represents those species detected during this visit, but should not be viewed as a complete inventory for the property.

Saltmarsh Sparrows are recognized by Partners in Flight as a species of high continental conservation priority, with a high level of regional responsibility falling on the Southern New England region, while American Black Ducks are recognized as a species experiencing a high degree of threat in the region.¹⁰ Northern Harriers are listed as state endangered in Rhode Island, and Great Blue Heron and Great Egret are both recognized as species of conservation concern.¹¹ All five of these species rely on salt marsh habitats.

During an avian study conducted on the intertidal shoal areas of Winnapaug Pond (just north of the Premises) for the Army Corps of Engineers in 1999, 34 bird species were detected during fall migration (N=35 surveys).¹² Given the available habitat, the Premises are likely used by many additional species of migratory and resident birds, including a variety of songbirds as well as wetland dependent species.

Mammals detected during the site visit were identified by sign only (tracks, scat, burrows). It is extremely likely that a wider variety of medium and small mammals also use the Premises.

In general, the habitats and natural community types present on the Premises are characteristic of a barrier beach setting. Native plants predominate. Though several common invasive species do occur on the Premises, they were primarily located along the roadside. Although no rare plant species were observed, the State's 'Christmas Green's Law' protects a variety of plants (including Winterberry and Sea Lavender) from being removed from the property without written permission from the landowner.¹³

Scenic, Historic, Educational, and Recreational Resources

The Premises contain approximately 738 feet of frontage on Atlantic Avenue and comparable frontage on Winnapaug Pond, providing scenic views to the public. The Premises lie within a state-designated greenway and within the Winnapaug Pond Scenic Area.^{14 15} The Conservation Easement with RIDEM specifically allows public access for all recreational uses, including hiking, nature observation and educational purposes.

Human Made Features:

Human-made features on the Premises are limited to the WFC sign pictured on the front of this document and several telephone poles, presumably placed as vehicle barriers,

¹⁰ Partners in Flight Landbird Conservation Plan: Physiographic Area 9: Southern New England, Dettmers and Rosenberg, 2000; http://www.blm.gov/wildlife/plan/pl_09_10.pdf

¹¹ Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program, Rare Native Animals of Rhode Island, 2006: http://www.rinhs.org/wp-content/uploads/ri_rare_animals_2006.pdf

¹² Unpublished feasibility report for the Army Corps of Engineers, Rhode Island South Coast Restoration Project, Paton & Trocki, 12/29/1999.

¹³ Section 2-15-12 of the General Laws in Chapter 2-15, Rhode Island General Assembly, 1989.

¹⁴ Greenways datalayer, RIDEM, 1989 (from RIGIS)

¹⁵ Scenic Area Datalayer, RIDEM, 1989 (from RIGIS)

lying in the sand parallel to Atlantic Avenue. Salt marsh habitat on the Premises contains limited historic mosquito ditching, but appears to have been unaltered in recent history.

Figure 1.
Westerly Tax Assessor's Plat 155
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island

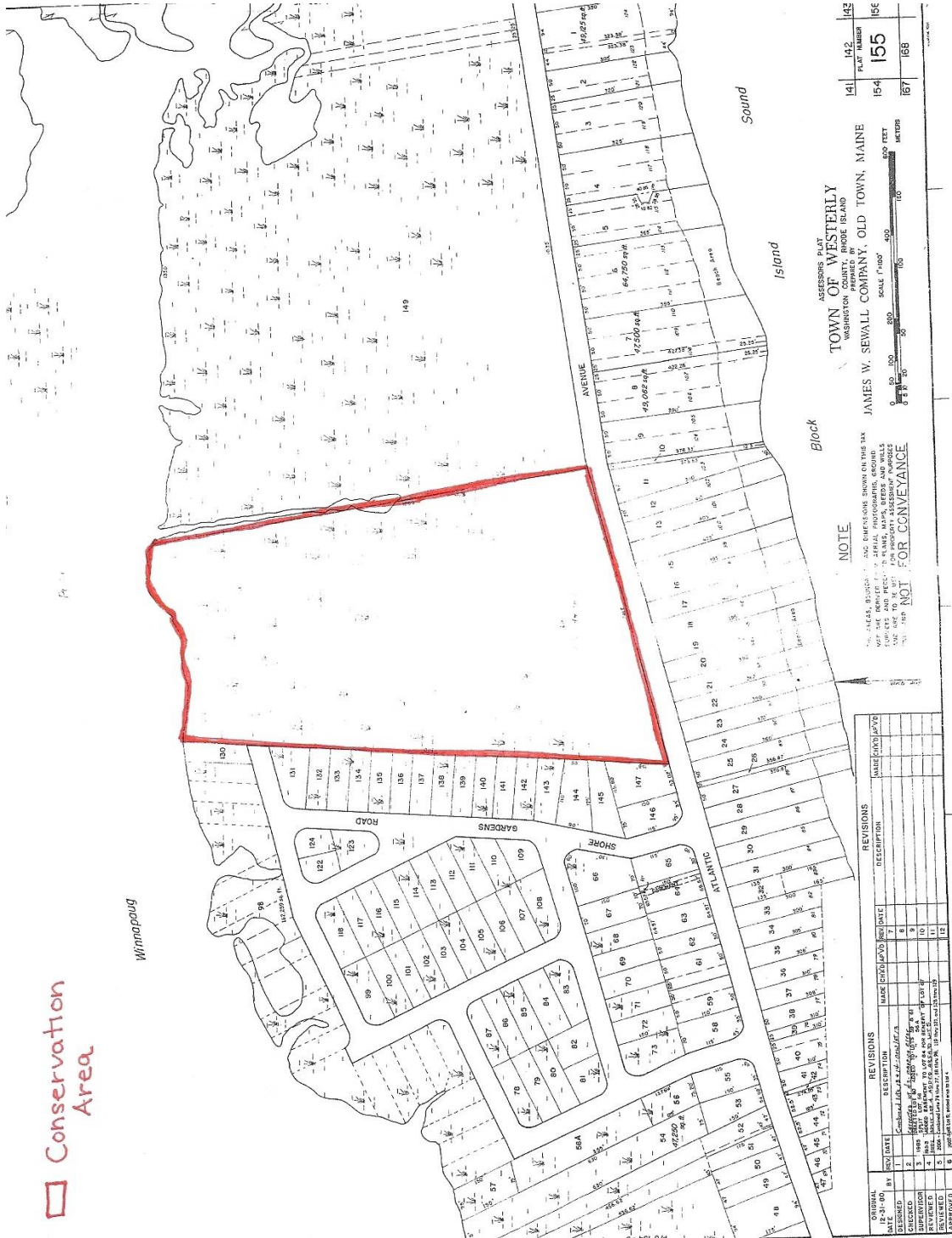


Figure 2.
Location Map
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island



Ray Preserve
 Conservation Area
 Roads



0 0.125 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

Datalayers: Rhode Island E911 Uniform Emergency Telephone System, Pictometry International Corporation, 2008 (URI-Environmental Data Center); Roads (RIGIS). CLT 1/11

Figure 3.
Aerial Photo / Property Map
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island



Ray Preserve

 Conservation Area



0 80 160 320 480 640 Feet

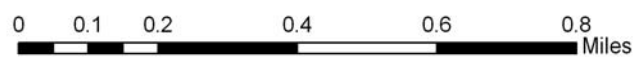
Datalayers: Rhode Island E911 Uniform Emergency Telephone System, Pictometry International Corporation, 2008 (URI-Environmental Data Center); CLT 1/11

Figure 4.
Landscape Context Map
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island



Ray Preserve

- Conservation Area
- Nearby Conserved Land
- Roads



Datalayers: Rhode Island E911 Uniform Emergency Telephone System, Pictometry International Corporation, 2008 (URI-Environmental Data Center); RIDEM Conservation Lands, 4/10 (RIDEM/RIGIS); Roads Datalayer (RIGIS). CLT 1/11

Figure 5.
USGS Topo Map
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island



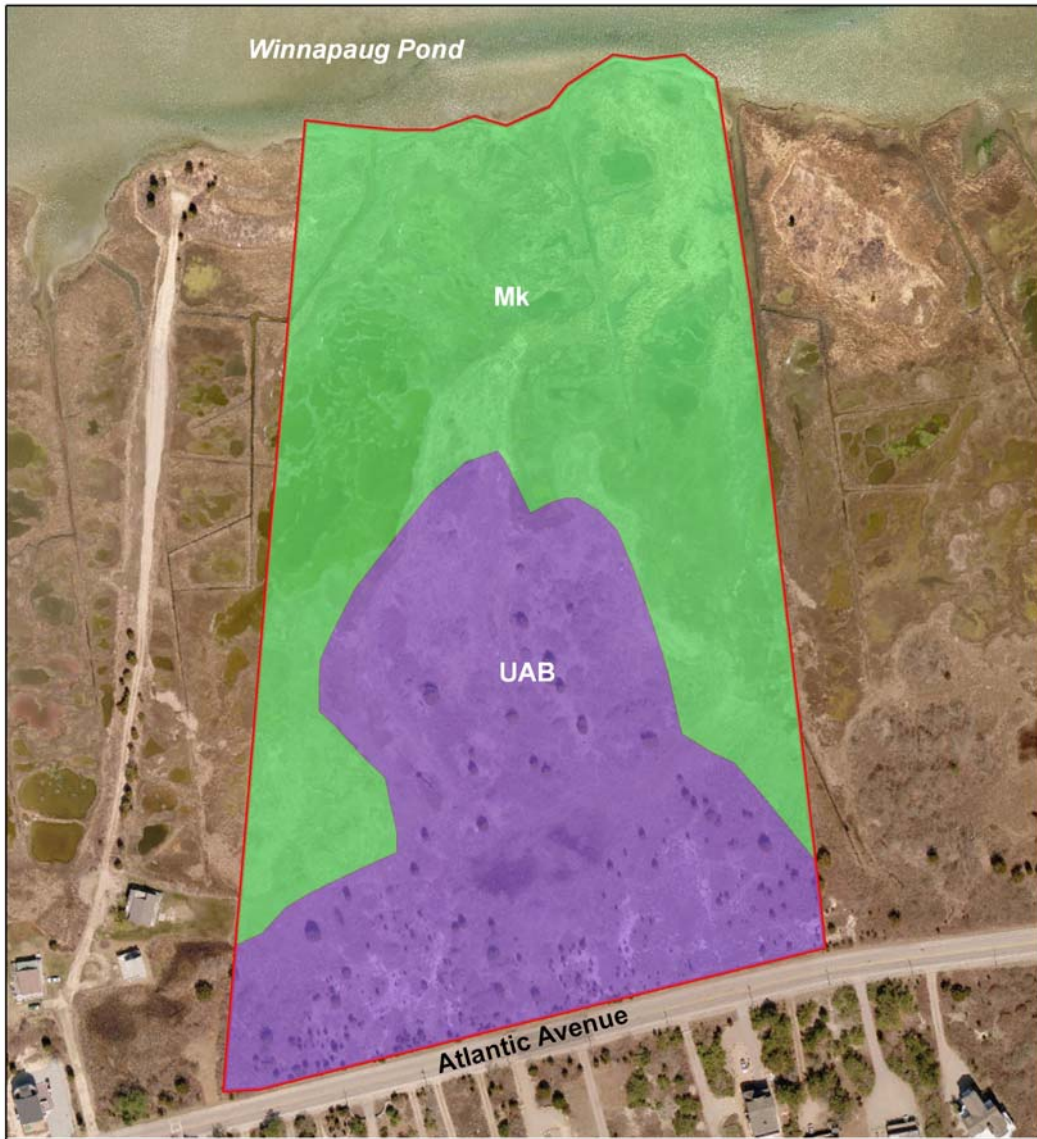
Ray Preserve
Conservation Area



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 Miles

Datalayers: USGS 7.5 Minute Topographic Quadrangle,
Watch Hill Quad (RIGIS). CLT 1/11

Figure 6.
Soil Survey Map
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island



Ray Preserve

- Conservation Area
- Soils**
- Matunuck mucky peat (Mk)
- Udipsamments (UAB)



0 80 160 320 480 640 Feet

Datalayers: Rhode Island E911 Uniform Emergency Telephone System, Pictometry International Corporation, 2008 (URI-Environmental Data Center); USDA-NRCS RISSURGO datalayer, 2008 (from RIGIS). CLT 1/11


**Figure 7.
Coastal Wetlands Map
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island**




Ray Preserve

 Conservation Area

Coastal Wetlands

 Salt Marsh (EEM)

 Phragmites Marsh (EPM)

 Scrub-Shrub Wetland (ESS)

 Upland (UPL)



0 85 170 340 510 680 Feet

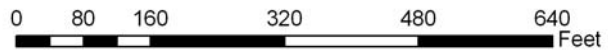
Datalayers: Rhode Island E911 Uniform Emergency Telephone System, Pictometry International Corporation, 2008 (URI-Environmental Data Center); South Coast Estuarine Habitat, RIDEM & CRMC, 4/3003 (from RIGIS). CLT 1/11

Figure 8.
Photo Point Location Map
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island



Ray Preserve

-  Conservation Area
-  Photo Stations



Datalayers: Rhode Island E911 Uniform Emergency Telephone System, Pictometry International Corporation, 2008 (URI-Environmental Data Center). CLT 1/11

Photo Point Description Sheet
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island

Photo No.	Photo Description
1A	Looking N along the eastern boundary of the property from the southeast corner.
1B	Looking WSW along the southern boundary of the property from the southeast corner.
1C	Looking NW into property from the southeast corner.
2	Looking N into the property from Atlantic Avenue.
3A	Looking ENE along the southern boundary of the property from the southwest corner.
3B	Looking NNE along the western boundary of the property from the southwest corner.
4	Looking down a wildlife trail through the <i>Phragmites</i> marsh located on the Premises.
5	Continuation of the wildlife trail through the <i>Phragmites</i> marsh.
6A	Looking NE across the Premises from the marsh edge.
6B	Looking SE across the Premises from the marsh edge.
7A	Looking N across the Premises from the northern marsh edge.
7B	Looking SE across the Premises from the northern marsh edge.
7C	Looking SW across the Premises from the northern marsh edge.
7D	Looking NW across the Premises from the northern marsh edge.
8	Looking S across the Premises from the interior.
9A	Looking NNE along the western boundary from the marsh edge.
9B	Looking NE into the Premises from the western boundary at the marsh edge.
9C	Looking E into the Premises from the western boundary at the marsh edge.

**Photographs
Ray Preserve
Westerly, Rhode Island**



Photo 1A

Looking N along the eastern boundary of the property from the southeast corner.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

10/22/10



Photo 1B

Looking WSW along the southern boundary of the property from the southeast corner.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 1C

Looking NW into property from the southeast corner.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 2

Looking N into the property from Atlantic Avenue.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 3A

Looking ENE along the southern boundary of the property from the southwest corner.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

10/22/10



Photo 3A

Looking NNE along the western boundary of the property from the southwest corner.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 4

Looking down a wildlife trail through the *Phragmites* marsh located on the Premises.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 5

Continuation of the wildlife trail through the *Phragmites* marsh.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 6A

Looking NE across the Premises from the marsh edge.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 6B

Looking SE across the Premises from the marsh edge.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 7A

Looking N across the Premises from the northern marsh edge.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 7B

Looking SE across the Premises from the northern marsh edge.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 7C

Looking SW across the Premises from the northern marsh edge.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 7D

Looking NW across the Premises from the northern marsh edge.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 8

Looking S across the Premises from the interior.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

10/22/10



Photo 9A

Looking NNE along the western boundary from the marsh edge.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 9B

Looking NE into the Premises from the western boundary at the marsh edge.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
10/22/10



Photo 9C

Looking E into the Premises from the western boundary at the marsh edge.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

10/22/10

Appendix 1.

CAROL LYNN TROCKI

95 Clinton Avenue, Jamestown, RI 02835
Phone: (401) 423-2633, E-mail: cltrocki@verizon.net

GRADUATE EDUCATION: University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI

- Master of Science in Environmental Science, Wildlife and Conservation Biology
- Thesis title: Patterns of salt marsh and farmland use by wading birds in southern Rhode Island.
- Degree Conferred: December 2003

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI

- Bachelor of Science, Environmental Science and Management, with highest distinction, May 1999
- Bachelor of Science, Secondary Science Education, with highest distinction, May 1999

RELEVANT PROFESSION EXPERIENCE:

Research Associate II - URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science / Ocean SAMP Avian Research
28 hrs/wk Jun 2009-current

- Explore avian use of RI offshore waters to inform potential future wind development siting

Research Associate II - URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science / US National Park Service
28 hrs/wk Jan 2006-current

- Develop biotic synthesis reports for northeast coastal parks to help inform management and prioritization efforts, beginning with Fire Island National Seashore

Contract Biologist - URI Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resources Economics, 2005-2008

- Involved in an innovative experimental market for ecosystem services, using hayfields as a demonstration
- Work with area farmers to better understand the effects of hayfield and cattle grazing on grassland nesting birds
- Conduct field surveys of breeding grassland bird on project area farm fields

Undergraduate Course Instructor – University of Rhode Island, Spring Semester 2005-current

- Teaching a junior-level course, Principles of Wildlife Management, within the Dept of Natural Resources Science

Conservation Biologist – Aquidneck Island Land Trust and assorted land conservation organizations
Contract Basis, November 2004 - present

- Provide conservation value assessment of prospective properties; create Baseline Documentation Reports and design Management Plans for protected properties

Contract Research Associate - URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science / US National Park Service
Approx 28hrs/wk, Jan. 2003–Dec. 2003; Variable, Jan. 2004 – 2007

- Developing coastal breeding bird monitoring protocol for Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area that uses volunteers for implementation (2007)
- Conducted mammal, reptile, and amphibian inventory in Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area (2005, 2006)

- Created a grassland bird conservation strategy for Saratoga National Historical Park, taking into account the Park's primary designation for historic purposes, current literature and best management recommendations, and park-specific history of research and management (2003 - 2005)
- Oversaw breeding season avian monitoring in the Northeast Temperate Network of the National Park Service: recruited, screened, and hired local point count surveyors at seven regional parks, created documentation of survey protocol and instructions, managed collected data, prepared final report (2003) and database documentation to NPS specifications (2004)
- Conducted breeding waterbird surveys in the Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area, managed collected data, collaborated on a manuscript outlining current and historic avian records from the park and providing specific recommendations for future management (2003, 2005-2007)

Avian Ecology Independent Contractor – US Environmental Protection Agency, Atlantic Ecology Division, May 2005-2007

- Involved in a collaboration between the USEPA National Health and Environmental Effects Laboratory and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology to examine the extent to which acid and mercury deposition interact, resulting in factors that influence avian population declines in the eastern US

Contract Biologist – US Geological Survey Pawtuxent Wildlife Research Center through Johnson Controls Inc.

Approx 25hrs/wk, November 2004 - 2006

- Field sampling medium-sized mammals on Cape Cod National Seashore using a variety of methods for development of a monitoring protocol

Stewardship/Trail Manager (Conservation Biologist) - Aquidneck Island Land Trust (AILT)

Full Time, Jan. 2004 – Nov. 2004;

- Created Baseline Documentation Reports and Management Plans; provided input and support in determining the conservation value of prospective properties; designed and implemented a strategic conservation mapping project to identify conservation priorities on Aquidneck Island
- Stewarded and managed AILT-owned properties and trail projects; conducted annual monitoring visits on all properties, managed volunteer monitoring program, and maintained positive landowner relations

Graduate Research Assistant - URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science

25-30 hrs/wk., Jan. 2001 – Dec. 2004

- Designed a research project to fill a critical information gap in the current understanding of the habitat needs of nesting wading birds in Narragansett Bay
- Monitored wading bird use of salt marshes in southern Rhode Island during the breeding and the post-breeding season (2001 and 2002)
- Used photo-interpretation and GIS to create habitat maps of coastal wetland study sites
- Acquired complete project funding through competitive small grants for field assistance and travel
- Mentored and supervised undergraduate field research assistants
- Provided management recommendations to organizations and agencies interested in preserving and restoring salt marshes and active agricultural lands for foraging wading bird use

Program Coordinator - URI Coastal Fellows Program

Full Time, May 1999-Jan. 2003

- Mentored undergraduate research and outreach fellows, developed student opportunities, monitored student progress, and evaluated program success; developed and team-taught an

undergraduate fall seminar in the communication and presentation of scientific research and outreach projects

Research Assistant – URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science

Approx. 15 hrs/wk, Aug. 1999 – Jan. 2000

- Conducted shorebird surveys of three coastal ponds in southern Rhode Island
- Designed and carried out project protocol to meet Army Corps specifications, with a focus on habitat use by endangered species; responsible for data acquisition, entry and analysis, budget tracking, drafting final report and presentation

Field Research Assistant - URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science

30hrs/wk, May - Aug. 1999

- Conducted research on avian community structure at a recently restored salt marsh in Galilee, Rhode Island
- Performed point count surveys, spot-mapping, nest searching, and tracking of color-banded birds throughout the breeding season to correlate bird use to habitat change occurring with restoration

COMMUNITY & VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation, Board of Directors, April 2003–09, Board President 2005-09

Jamestown Conservation Commission, November 2004 –present

Jamestown Farm Viability Committee, May 2003 - present

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:

Trocki, C. L. and P. C. W. Paton. 2006. Assessing habitat selection by foraging egrets in salt marshes at multiple spatial scales. *Wetlands* 26(2):307-312.

Trocki, C. L. and P. C. W. Paton. 2006. Comparison of two foraging habitats used by Glossy Ibis during the breeding season in Rhode Island. *Northeastern Naturalist* 13(1):93-102.

Paton, P. W. C., R. J. Harris, and C. L. Trocki. 2005. Distribution and Abundance of Birds during the Breeding Season in Boston Harbor. *Northeastern Naturalist*. 12 (Special Issue 3):145-168.

TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS:

Trocki CL. 2011. Biotic synthesis of Fire Island National Seashore. National Park Service, Natural Resource Program Center. Fort Collins, Colorado. Natural Resource Report. NPS/NCBN/NRR—2011/292. Published Report-2167695.

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