



## Early March likely for Herring River marsh project public hearing in Wellfleet

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WELLFLEET — The Cape Cod Commission’s development of regional impact hearings on the proposal to reintroduce tidal exchange into portions of the Herring River in Wellfleet and South Truro are expected to begin in early March, according to Cape Cod Commission Communications Manager Sarah Colvin.

The town of Wellfleet submitted its development of regional impact application in mid December, and the commission’s staff has been reviewing it since. A subcommittee of the commission will hold the initial public hearings on the project, with at least the first hearing to be held in Wellfleet. The subcommittee will ultimately make a recommendation to the full commission.

The members of the subcommittee have not yet been finalized, Colvin said.

The application to the commission is part of the implementation of the first phase of the \$50 million government-funded reintroduction of higher tides into the river upstream of an old dike at Chequessett Neck Road. The wetlands have degraded over the past century due to the 1909 construction of the dike, which blocks normal tidal flow, according to the project proponents, which includes the town of Wellfleet, the National Park Service, the nonprofit Friends of Herring River and several state and federal agencies.

Copies of the application are available to the public at Wellfleet Public Library at 55 West Main St., and the Wellfleet Health and Conservation Department at 220 West Main St. The complete application is posted at <https://www.wellfleet-ma.gov/home/news/herring-river-restoration-project>