Herring River Restoration Project

"Return of the Tide"

High Toss Road

0% Design

Public Meeting

February 12 2015

www.friendsofherringriver.org

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Purpose of the meeting
- Overview of the Herring River Restoration Project and Key Features of the Plan
- High Toss Road – What needs to be changed and why
- Discussion and public input
- Summary and Next Steps

Purpose of the Meeting

- To present information on the project
- To describe why changes to High Toss Road are needed
- To hear public concerns, needs and questions for consideration during the design phase
- To prepare for developing concepts and the start of engineering and design of High Toss Road to accommodate tidal restoration

Why are we doing the restoration project?

- To restore self-sustaining tidally influenced natural habitats
- To achieve ecological and social benefits of a healthy and productive tidal marsh
- To stop the degradation of the marsh. With the restricted tidal flow we have today, the marsh will not stay the same
- To replace the deteriorating Chequessett Neck Road tide gates with an improved tide control structure

Ecological Benefits

- Restore nutrients that are needed for the productivity of the marsh, Wellfleet Harbor and Bay and coastal waters
- Improve water quality through tidal flushing
- Restore finfish and shellfish habitat and eel and herring runs
- Deposit sediment in the estuary to compensate for sea-level rise
- Replace existing degraded habitats with healthy tidally dependent vegetation

Social Benefits

- Reduce pollution (nitrogen, coliform bacteria)
- Improve water quality
- Restore harvestable finfish & shellfish areas lost when the dike was constructed 100 years ago
- Provide public access
- Enhance opportunities for recreation, boating, birding, fin and shellfishing
- Reestablish natural control of nuisance mosquitoes

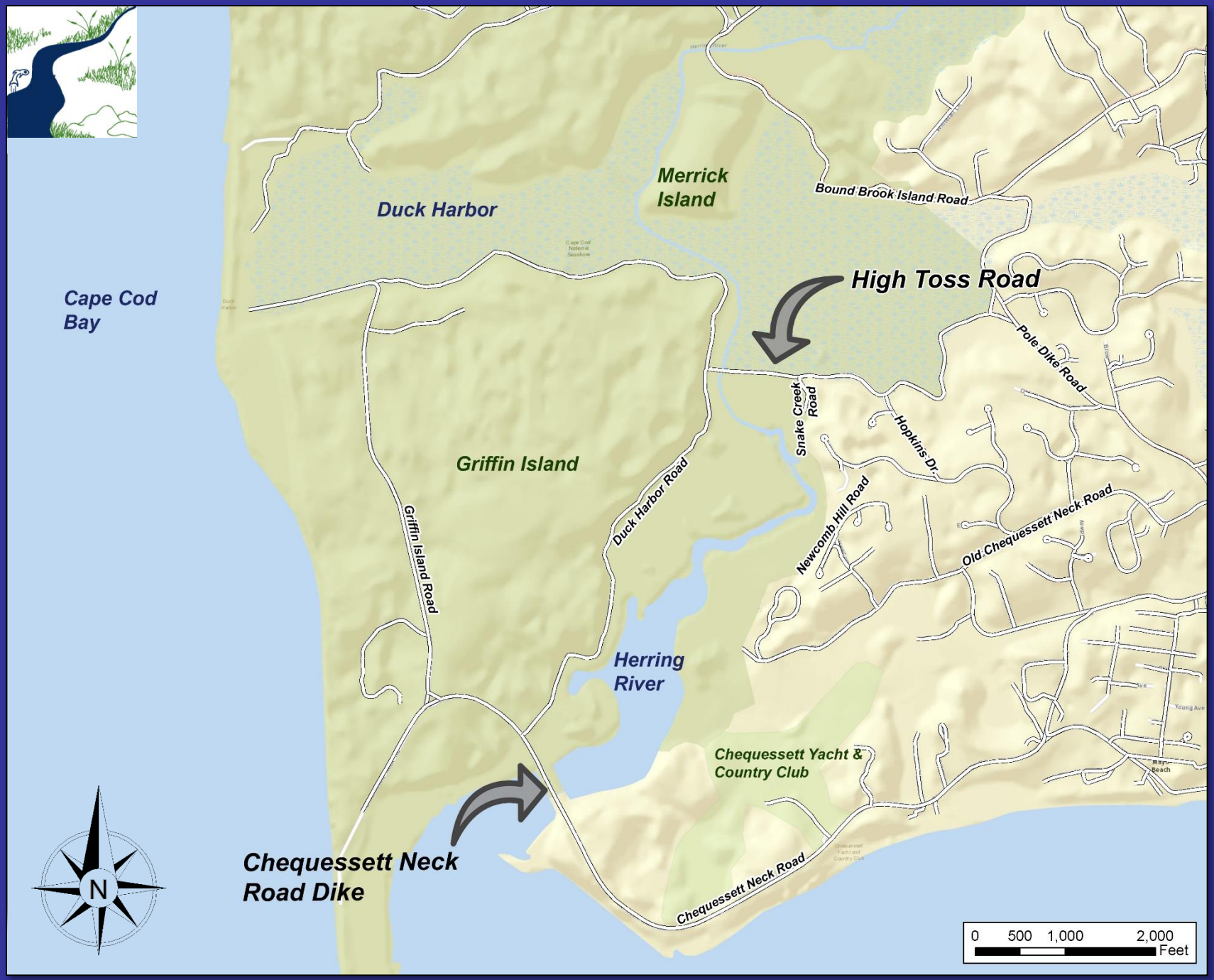
Tidal Restoration

The removal of existing restrictions in the river and its tributaries to allow controlled incremental return of natural tidal flow to and from the estuary.

Major Projects

General Schedule

- 2015 – Final EIS & Record of Decision
- 2015 – Mitigation planning with owners of low lying property
- 2015 / 2016 – Continue engineering & prepare permit ready designs
- 2016 / 2017 – Obtain local, state and federal permits
- 2016 / 2017 – Secure project funding
- 2018 / 2020 – Construction


Duck Harbor
Merrick Island
Bound Brook Island Road
High Toss Road
Cape Cod Bay
Pole Dike Road
Snake Creek Road
Hopkins Dr.
Griffin Island
Duck Harbor Road
Newcomb Hill Road
Old Chequessett Neck Road
Griffin Island Road
Herring River
Chequessett Yacht & Country Club
Chequessett Neck Road Dike
Chequessett Neck Road
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Feet

Discussion & Public Input

Current Conditions

High Toss Road Viewing East

High Toss Road Viewing West

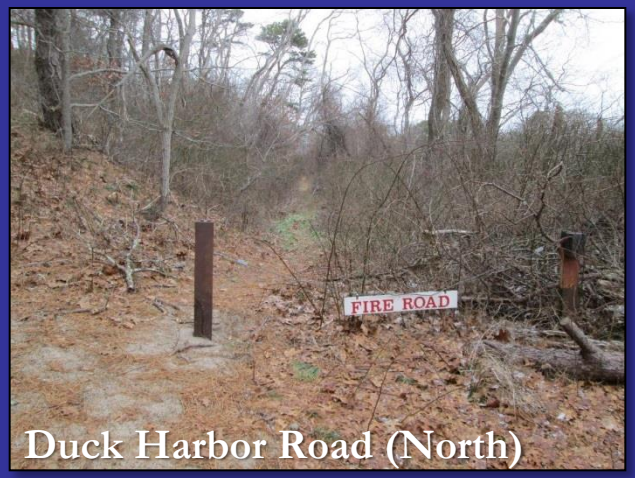
Craig Wood, Principal Scientist, ESS Group

Martha Rheinhardt, Project Manager, Friends of Herring River, Herring River Restoration Project

Discussion & Public Input

Current Conditions

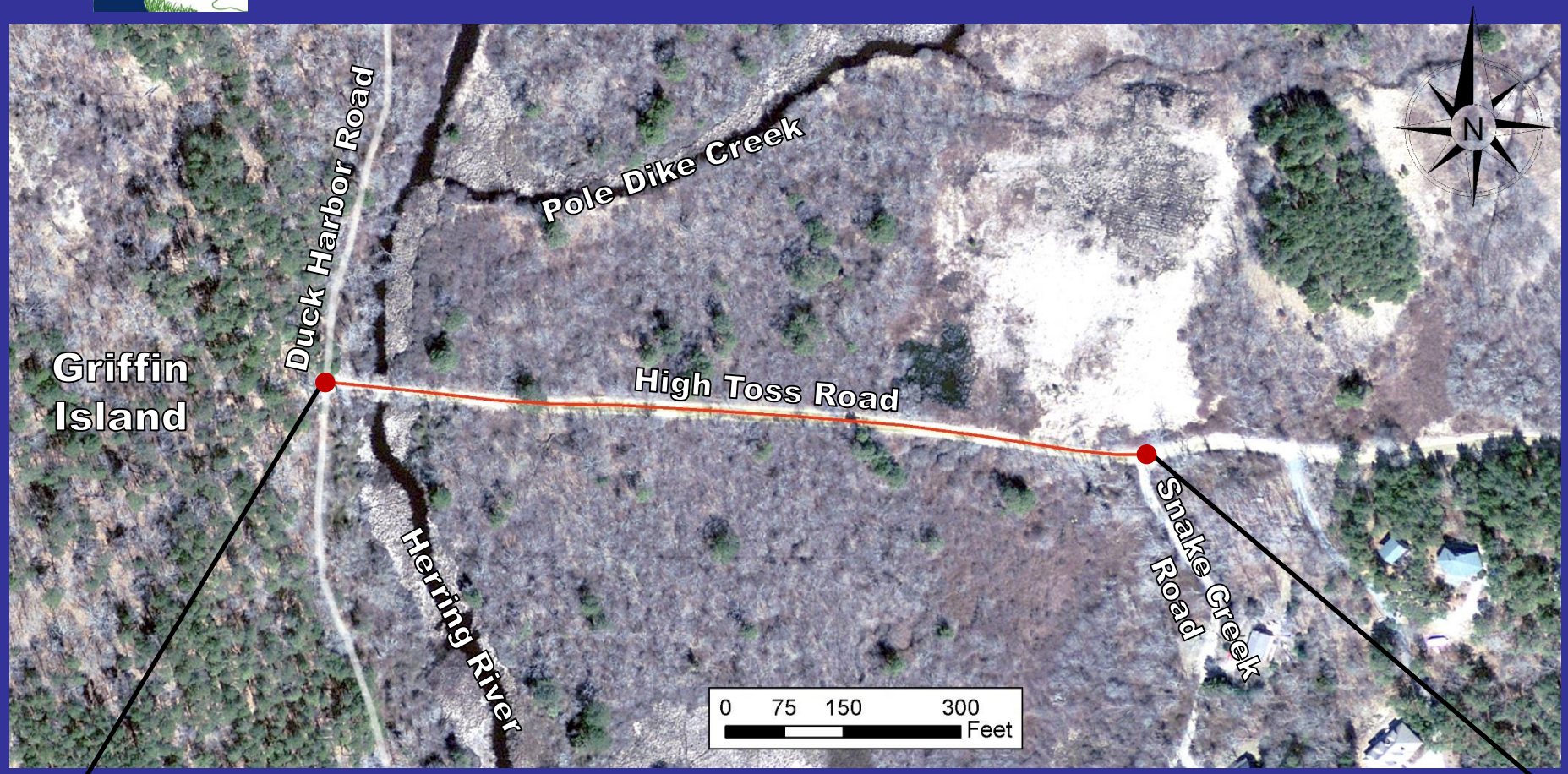
Herring River (South)

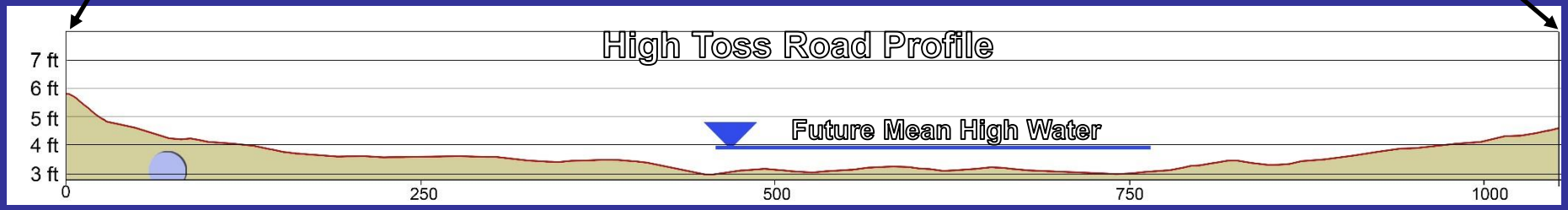


Duck Harbor Road (North)

High Toss Road West End

Discussion & Public Input





Discussion & Public Input

Purpose: To hear public concerns, needs and questions for consideration in the design phase

- ✓Who uses High Toss across to Griffin Island?
- ✓Types of use – walking, birding, etc.
- ✓How often, when, seasonal, alternative routes, etc.
- ✓What needs to be considered, other concerns?

Friends of Herring River Board of Directors

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- Debby Freeman
- Joel Fox
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