

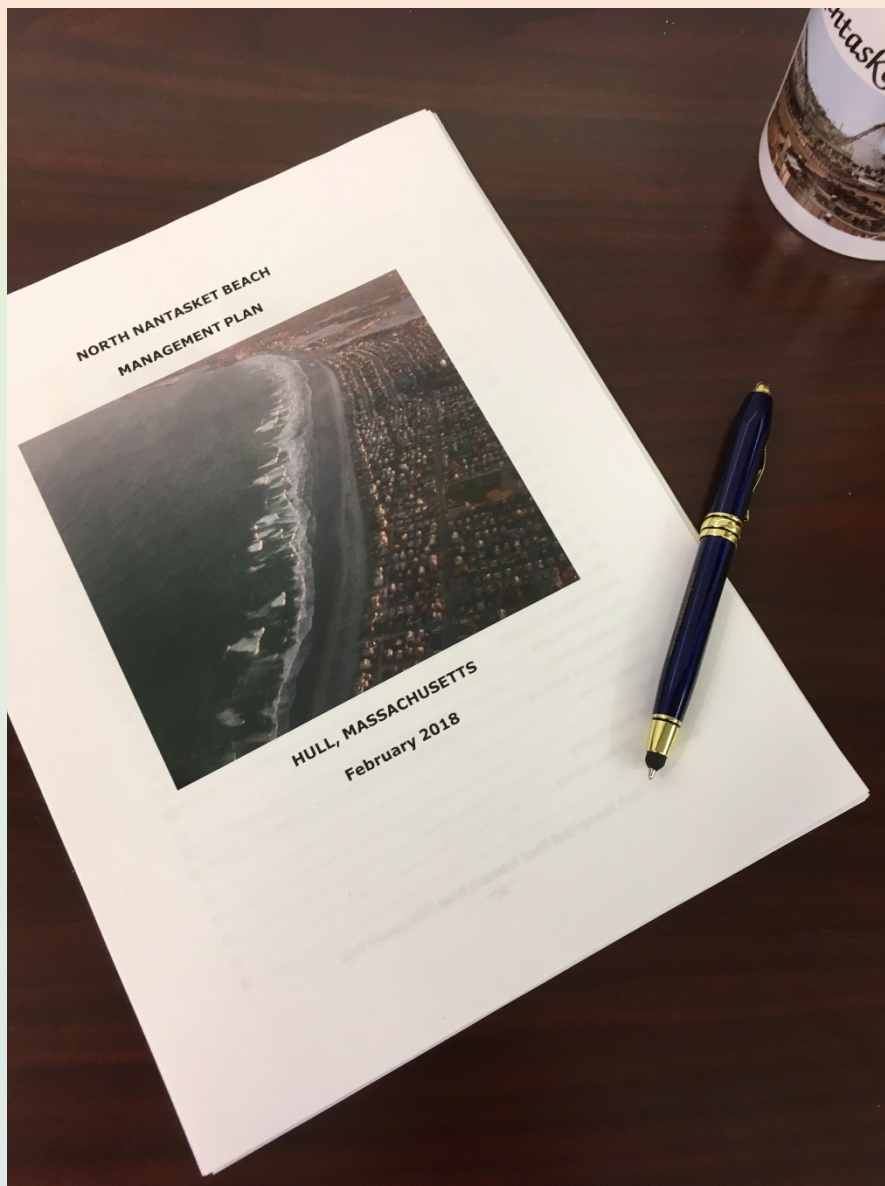
# NORTH NANTASKET BEACH MANAGEMENT PLAN

**2018 update**



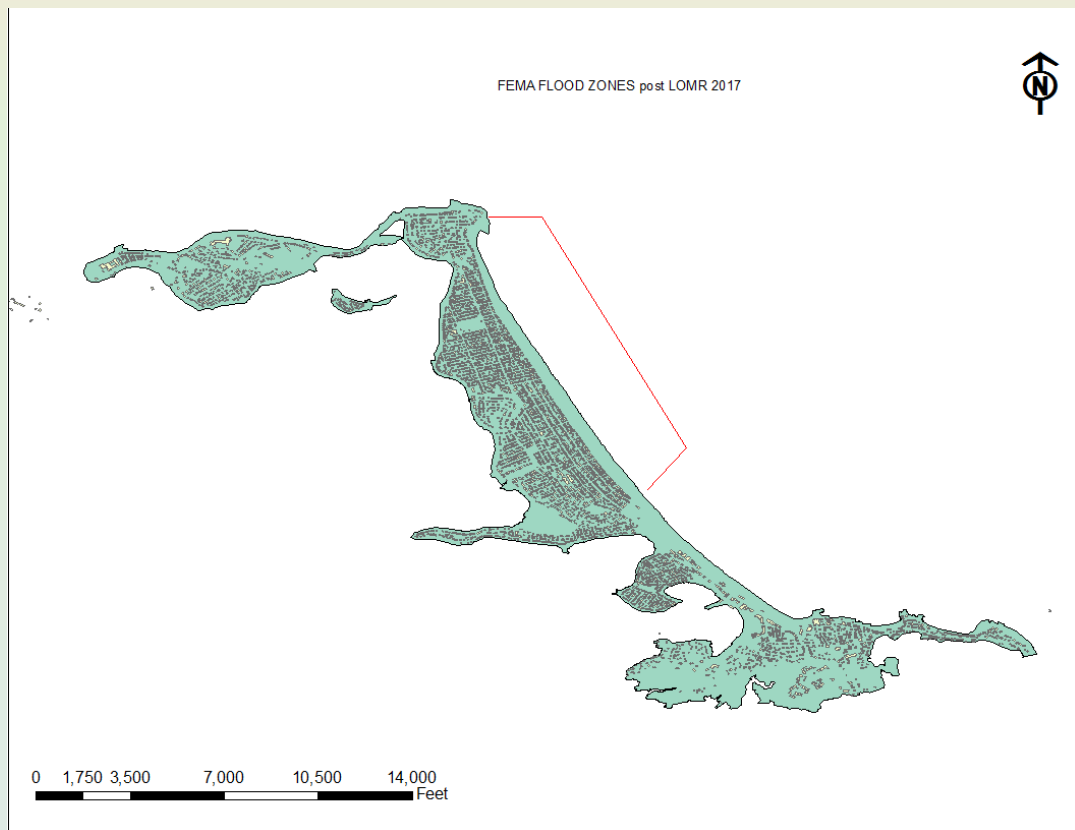
The Beach Management Plan reflects the best management practices for the stewardship of the beach.

The Town will make every effort to comply with the BMP. Notwithstanding the use of the terms "shall" or "will", nothing contained in this plan shall be construed to create an obligation or responsibility on the part of the Town to take any particular action on the beach; however, any actions that the Town takes on the beach will be in accordance with this Plan and applicable law.



Participants in the 2018 update to the North Nantasket Beach Management Plan include:

- **Conservation Commission;** Sheila Connor, Chair
- **Department of Public Works;** Jim Dow, Director
- **Beach Management Committee;** Rhoda Kanet, Chair, Paul Epstein, Rob Gilman, Peter Larson, David MacDougall
- **Mass Audubon;** Sue MacCallum, Director, South Shore Sanctuaries
- **Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program,** Amy Hoenig
- **Town of Hull Management;** Phil Lemnios, Town Manager, and James Lampke, Town Council
- **Conservation Department;** Sarah Clarren and Christian Krahforst



This BMP addresses the Beach and Primary Dune Area (Phipps St north to Allerton Point). For the purposes of this plan, the Beach and Primary Dune Area mostly lies between the western boundary of Beach Avenue (where Beach Avenue is unpaved), or the eastern edge of the pavement of Beach Avenue, and the extreme low water of the Atlantic Ocean

- Need (for Plan *and* Update)
- Overview of BMP Activities
- Update Changes







Photo provided by Sheila Connor

Adult breeding piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*),  
N. Nantasket Beach 2015





Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program –  
designated *priority and estimated habitats* for Nantasket  
Beach (August 2017)



Photo provided by Jenny M.



# **BMP Contents**

## INTRODUCTION

## WETLANDS PROTECTION ACT/BARRIER BEACH RESOURCES

## MONITORING

Shorebird Management and Conservation

Biological Monitoring

Guidelines, and USFWS Guidelines.

Enforcement by Voluntary Compliance

Beach Maintenance Coordination

Dune and Beach Profiling

## MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

## BEACH ACCESS

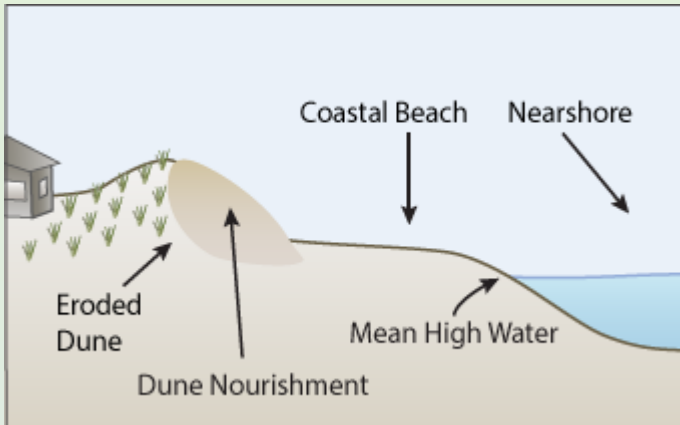
## EMERGENCY CONDITIONS

## REQUIRED BEST PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

## EFFECT OF PLAN

## REGULATIONS

# Beach Dune Openings



In order to protect public and private property the primary dune should provide as continuous and as unbroken a barrier for the entire length of N. Nantasket Beach as possible.

Controlled and managed access points – maintained by the Town

-through the application to, and subsequent issuance of a valid Order of Conditions by the Hull Conservation Commission (every 3 years – renewed)

Other activities that need consultation with the Conservation Commission include, but not limited to:

- Storm drain cleaning
- Dune nourishment
- Beach Ave maintenance

# Dune openings add to storm damage and flooding





# Maintenance Activities:

## General:

- Oversight and care of man-made structures (e.g., access points, fencing, beach grass planting, filling of primary dune escarpments)
- Removal of debris
- Removal of excessive amounts of debris and seaweed that has been declared a health hazard
- Emergency measures conducted in the wake of severe weather events
- Maintenance and cleaning of the paved portion of Beach avenue (see page 10 of the BMP)

## Dune Maintenance:

- (may) Erect suitable fencing at the seaward toe of the primary dune (zig-zag configuration)
- Dune repair: may occur at any time of the year
- Small dune openings – resulting from the creation of unpermitted access paths, other human alterations, or natural damage from storms – *under the supervision of the Conservation Administrator (or in absence – the Commission)*  
Larger dune repair projects must be permitted through the Conservation Commission

## Emergency Access

- Beach Avenue Width – 18 feet (measured from the western edges of Beach Ave utility poles)
- DPW may remove sand, gravel, cobble as necessary to maintain legal width.
- Beach material removed should be stored for future use or be deposited as state in ***Major Storm and Hurricane Emergency Procedures***
- Widening of Beach Ave shall be conducted in accordance with the *Order of Conditions* issued by the Conservation Commission

### Spring Activities

- Annual Beach Clean
- Annual Beach Grass Planting

### Summer Activities

- Debris Management
- Seaweed Management

### Fall Activities

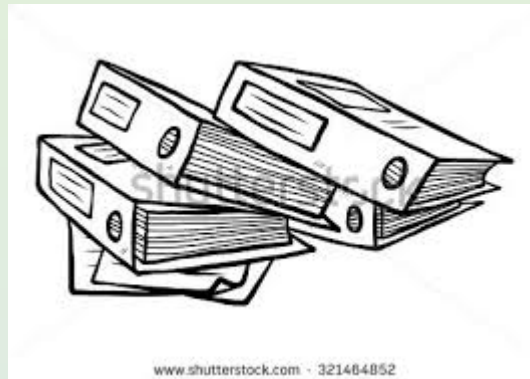
- Review of Maintenance Procedures

Conducted by Conservation Administrator and Beach Management Committee and invitees

If modification/recommendations – written summary to Selectmen and Town Manager (and others as necessary)

# Town of Hull

## Beach Management Plan Training



**Purpose:** Defines how the Town of Hull will manage N. Nantasket Beach in accord with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act so that the Town may protect and *maximize wetland values* while providing *access* and preserving *recreational value*

The Department of Public Works (DPW) shall review this plan and the Required Best Practices and Procedures described within, with the Conservation Administrator (or in her/his absence, the Conservation Commission) before each seasonal cleanup and maintenance of the beach. The DPW shall always keep this plan on hand, and review it periodically keeping in mind the understanding of conservation principles.

The Police Department shall review this Plan as well as the Wetlands Protection Act with the Conservation Commission (or their designee) in order to understand how the plan affects the use of the beach in the Town of Hull.

General Public and Private Landowners have responsibilities too.





## Rules for machinery (truck and front-end loaders):

- Stay 10 feet seaward of the toe of the dune at all times.
- Vary your daily path so you do not create one single rut along the beach.
- Stay above mean high water much as possible.
- 15 mph speed limit on the beach.
- Access points are at the DCR beach near Phipps St., at A St. and at X St. only.
- Removal of sand and cobble from the beach, and grading of sand and cobble, is not allowed without a permit from the Conservation Commission. No removal or regrading should take place as part of regular beach cleaning.



## Significant Changes are:

- Including language, where needed, that essentially states when management activities are needed *“for areas near or in NHESP-designated Priority and Estimated Habitats during the critical habitat season will include consultation with the Coastal Waterbird Program (Mass Audubon).”*
- For **Regulations**, the following language is added:

Part of 9.3: *“No removal of man-made debris is to occur in designated shorebird breeding areas during critical habitat periods without consultation of the Conservation agent (or designee)”*

**9.4** No person, dog, or other domestic animal (e.g., cat) shall enter restricted areas of shorebird breeding areas as designated by symbolic fencing and signage.

# 9. REGULATIONS

**9.1** The Hull Select Board and the Town Manager shall enforce this Plan.

**9.2** Construction is prohibited on the primary dune except for access control structures if permitted by the Conservation Commission.

**9.3** No person shall be on the primary dune unless:

- One is on an access control structure or walkway, or
- For the purpose of constructing or maintaining the dune or allowed structures with the permission of the Town of Hull and permitted by the Conservation Commission, or
- For the purpose of removing anthropogenic debris, which shall be done with great care not to damage the dune, or beach grass. **No removal of man-made debris is to occur in designated shorebird breeding areas during critical habitat periods without consultation of the Conservation agent (or designee), or**
- For the purpose of enforcement of this Plan, or
- For emergencies as deemed necessary by Town of Hull Police and/or Fire Departments and/or the Town Manager and/or Select Board.

**9.4** No person, dog, or other domestic animal (e.g., cat) shall enter restricted areas of shorebird breeding areas as designated by symbolic fencing and signage.



- **9.5** Christmas trees may not be discarded or placed on the beach.
- **9.6** The removal, cutting, burning, or destruction of natural vegetation, sand fence, or such other types of dune protection devices is prohibited, except as necessary for construction or maintenance authorized pursuant to the Plan and permitted by the Conservation Commission.
- **9.7** The removal or relocation of sand, cobbles and other naturally occurring sediments either from or within the Beach and Primary Dune Area is strictly prohibited, except as permitted by the Conservation Commission.
- **9.8** Sand, gravel, and cobbles which are transported by action of wind, tides, storms or any combination thereof to Beach Avenue or other public roads, or other locations off of the beach that pose a safety hazard, shall be returned to the Beach and Primary Dune Area only after consultation with the Conservation Administrator or designee and must be free of foreign material and debris including, .....
- **9.9** No primary dune shall be directly or indirectly altered to cause adverse effects on the coastal dune by the action or inaction of any person or entity. The Town may cause the dune to be restored to its pre-existing condition. The Town may also maintain and replace, on a routine basis, sand fencing, other access control structures, signs, and beach grass (at appropriate planting time) that have been significantly damaged or destroyed.
- **9.10** Vendors shall conduct their business in a manner that will not damage existing dunes and only in areas designated by the Town of Hull. Vendors shall not park on the primary dune or park in such a way as to require patrons to stand on or traverse the primary dune.

**9.11** There shall be no open or closed fires permitted on dunes. Fires on the beach are prohibited except with permission from public safety officials.

**9.12** No dog or other domestic animals (e.g., cats) shall be allowed on the beach from June 1st through September 15th. At all other times animals on the beach must be on a leash under control of the owner or caretaker who shall be held liable for the animal's behavior. Dogs are not allowed on the dunes or near areas identified as protective to nesting shorebirds (e.g., symbolic fences indicating piping plover breeding territory). All animal excrement must be picked up by the owner or caretaker immediately, removed from the beach, and disposed of properly in accordance with Town By-Laws.

**9.13** North Nantasket Beach is a “Carry In/Carry Out” area. No person shall drop, throw, or place any litter, garbage, or other refuse, including cigarette butts and household waste materials on the Beach or Primary Dune Area. Clean up and removal of all refuse is the responsibility of the visitor.

**9.14** Suitable, regulatory, and cautionary signs shall be erected regarding beach policies and relevant town By-Laws.

**9.15** Whoever violates any of the provisions of this Plan shall be deemed to have violated the provisions of the Code of the Town of Hull authorizing this Plan. Violators shall be subject to a fine of up to \$300.00, or such maximum fines as may be otherwise provided by law, whichever is greater. A violation of this Plan may also be penalized by a non-criminal disposition as provided for in M.G.L. C. 40, section 21 D and as provided for under Chapter 1 of the Code of the Town of Hull. Each day's violations shall constitute a separate violation. If any person or entity violates the provisions of this Plan, or causes damage to the dune or beach, including but not limited to physically damaging or destroying the access control structures, signs, and beach grass, or lowering the elevation of the dune, the Town may initiate civil action against such person or entity to protect the dune and beach system, and to restore the same. Nothing contained herein shall however, operate to limit civil actions or criminal prosecutions which the Town may take under this Plan, or any other applicable law, rule, regulation or right.

## Effect of Plan

This Plan is declared to be an exercise of the police power in the interest of safety and welfare for the protection of persons, property and wildlife.

Its adoption is also pursuant to the authority to adopt same as provided for under Chapter 81 of the Code of the Town of Hull.

This Plan shall take effect upon its final adoption by the Select Board.



The *updated* Beach Management Plan will be available at  
[http://www.town.hull.ma.us/Public\\_Documents/HullMA\\_conservation/homepage](http://www.town.hull.ma.us/Public_Documents/HullMA_conservation/homepage)