

**Agenda & Meeting Access Information
Herring River Executive Council (HREC)
Thursday, December 17, 2020, 3:00 pm
Virtual meeting via Zoom (information is provided below)**

-AGENDA-

- Welcome and introductions

- Approval of minutes: September 17, 2020

- Herring River Restoration Project Updates
 - Permitting
 - Construction Management Planning
 - Fecal coliform monitoring
 - Baseline well testing

- Updates on Land transfer between Town of Wellfleet and Cape Cod National Seashore
 - Duck Harbor Rd Parking Lot Management

- Adaptive Management Plan
 - Overview of Decision Support Tool
 - Results from Community Survey

- HREC member announcements

- Public comment (15 minutes) * *Any discussion of an issue not on the agenda that is raised in the public comment section shall be limited to whether that issue should be placed on a future agenda.*

- Next Meeting dates (proposed)
 - Thursday, April 15, 2021, 3:00 pm
 - Thursday, July 15, 2021, 3:00 pm
 - Thursday, September 16, 2021, 3:00 pm
 - Thursday, December 16, 2021, 3:00 pm

- Adjourn

Zoom Meeting Access:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96095536505?pwd=bitVMXIWOXlycjVKRXNsRkJMRHIPQT09>

Meeting ID: 960 9553 6505

Passcode: 552514

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,96095536505#,,,,,0#,,552514# US (Chicago)

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Meeting Minutes
Herring River Executive Council (HREC)
Thursday, September 17, 2020, 3:00 pm

Virtual meeting via Webex

HREC members participating: Janet Reinhart, Maria Broadbent, Brian Carlstrom, Geoff Sanders, Helen Wilson; Coordinator: Carole Ridley; Others present: Tim Smith, Martha Craig, Christine Odiaga, Beth Chapman, Denise Coffey, Suzanne Paton, Nils Wiberg

-Welcome and introductions

-Meeting minutes of August 26, 2020 were approved by unanimous consent of members present.

-Herring River Restoration Project –

HREC members agreed to take up the Duck Harbor Parking Lot agenda item first, with a presentation from Nils Wiberg, PE, of Fuss and O’Neill.

Duck Harbor Road Parking Lot:

Carole Ridley introduced the topic as related to the land transfer process. The Duck Harbor Road parking lot area will be the site of temporary construction staging, and then upon completion will provide ADA accessible parking and access to the portage and other public access features on the Chequessett Neck Road Bridge. A presentation of the temporary and permanent use of the site is intended to lay the groundwork for a discussion between the Seashore and Town about long-term ownership of the parking area.

Brian Carlstrom noted that the parking area is in the Seashore boundary. It would be possible for this feature of the bridge to remain in National Park Service (NPS) ownership, but it could be simpler and beneficial to the project if it could be included in the Town’s right of way. This would require that the site be accounted for in the land transfer process.

Nils Wiberg presented a series of slides that described the area. The Duck Harbor Road site is entirely within the Seashore boundary, but the town road right of way crosses a portion of the parking area and proposed walkway.

Mr. Wiberg showed the .97-acre limit of disturbance within which trees will be cleared and which will serve as a temporary construction staging area. Upon completion of the project, a parking area with six ADA accessible parking spaces will be built, with steel-backed timber guardrails and other required design features. The surface will be “gravel pave” which is a form of permeable pavement that is ADA compliant. The parking area will be supported by an embankment that has at 3:1 slope. Vegetation and erosion control blankets will stabilize the slope. An ADA accessible path will follow a 5% grade to the portage stages on the river-side of the bridge. The pathway will also be gravel pave.

Long-term maintenance issues include: stormwater runoff from Chequessett Neck Road onto the parking area and pathway, which could require maintenance. The gravel pave surface would require regular maintenance and could be damaged by snow plows. Biological growth could occur on the path and make it slick, and would need to be checked.

Helen Miranda Wilson suggested adding catch basins to deal with the stormwater issue. She asked if the river-side of the embankment was prone to scour. Mr. Wiberg said that extension of

the stone armoring of the bridge abutments could limit scour, but that could create an issue for permitting agencies that seek to minimize armoring.

Mr. Carlstrom noted that the temporary staging could easily be accommodated through NPS permitting requirements, but that the long-term use of the parking area would be more difficult. There could be benefits to having the parking, path and bridge all within the town right of way, which would require that additional parcels be included in the land transfer process.

Ms. Wilson noted that the Town and NPS can work this out collaboratively. It was agreed that the question of ownership would be incorporated in the ongoing land transfer discussions. Mr. Carlstrom requested that the total area used for parking, path and embankment be quantified. Mr. Wiberg will develop that information.

Land Transfer Update:

Mr. Carlstrom reported that work was ongoing. The parcels included in the areas of project encroachment have been identified, and the NPS and Town are sharing information about possible parcels the Town could transfer to the NPS.

Ms. Wilson noted that the Town and NPS are poised to work through the process collaborative. Mr. Carlstrom affirmed the collaborative nature of the process.

Permitting Update

Ms. Ridley reviewed PowerPoint slides regarding permit applications that are in development and are scheduled to be submitted in calendar 2020. These include:

- §401 Water Quality Certification – MA Department of Environmental Protection
- Ch. 91 Waterways – MA Department of Environmental Protection
- §404 Individual Permit – US Army Corps of Engineers
- Federal Consistency Review – MA Coastal Zone Management
- Wetlands Protection Act (Draft needed for §401 Water Quality Certification) – Wellfleet and Truro Conservation Commissions

The NPS is not required to file for Ch. 91 review, but would be working with the Town on the other permits listed.

Mr. Carlstrom noted that the Development of Regional Impact approval earlier in the year provided momentum and help to compile information that will be used in subsequent applications. He also noted that the NPS has additional internal permit requirements that are being pursued.

Janet Reinhart noted that she was encouraged by the degree of progress and thanked the project team members for their efforts.

-HREC member announcements

Ms Wilson asked if there was any information that could be shared on the status of Article 30, the High Toss Road right of way acquisition, which was pulled from the warrant. Maria Broadbent indicated that Town Council had advised that the article was not ready for Town Meeting because certain procedural steps had not been completed.

Ms. Ridley noted that it would not be a problem for the project if the article could be added to the 2021 Town Meeting.

-Public comment

There was no public comment

-Next Meeting dates

Thursday, December 17, 2020, 3:00 pm

-Adjourn

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at approximately 4:45 pm.

Draft

Herring River Executive Council

December 17, 2020

The meeting will be recorded by the HREC. Anyone else desiring to record the meeting may do so only after notifying the HREC and may not interfere with the conduct of the meeting in doing so.

Agenda

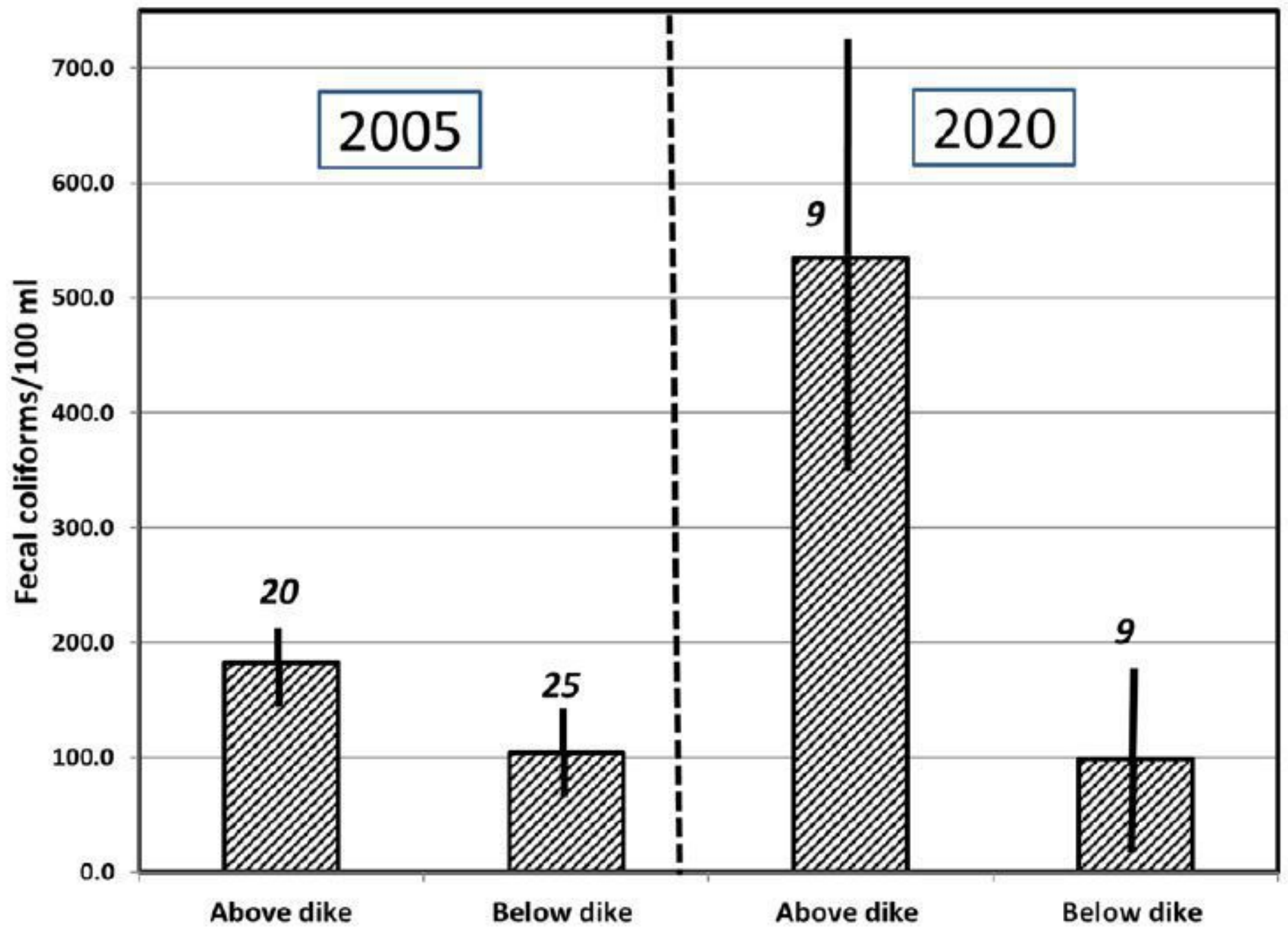
- Welcome and introductions
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- Public comment
- Next meeting dates
- Adjourn

Approval of Minutes

- September 17, 2020

Project Updates

- Permitting update - Next permit applications in 2021
 - §401 Water Quality Certification
 - Ch. 91 Waterways
 - §404 Individual Permit
 - Attachments: habitat management, O&M, stormwater management, fisheries
 - Subsequent applications
 - Federal Consistency Review
 - Wetlands Protection (Wellfleet, Truro)
- Construction management planning
- Baseline well testing
- Fecal coliform monitoring



Town & CCNS/NPS Land Transfer

- Duck Harbor Road Parking Area

Adaptive Management Plan

- Overview of Decision Support Tool
- Summary of community survey results

HERRING RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT
– ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AND
DECISION ANALYSIS PLAN

SUMMARY OF 2020 COMMUNITY SURVEY

SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS

- 286 Responses
- Male ~60%
- Female ~40%

- 18-35: 6%
- 36-64: 44%
- 65+: 44%

- Year-round Wellfleet Resident: 36%
- Wellfleet Non-Resident Taxpayer: 20%
- Year-round Truro Resident: 5%
- Seasonal Visitor: 13%
- Other Cape Resident: 10%

TOPIC: Public Safety at Chequessett Neck Road Dike

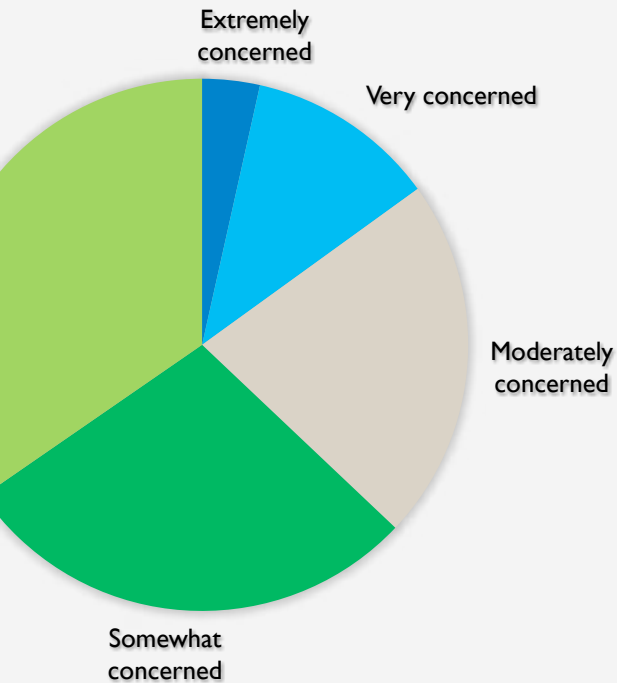
QUESTIONS:

What is your level of concern about public safety at the existing Chequessett Neck Road Dike?

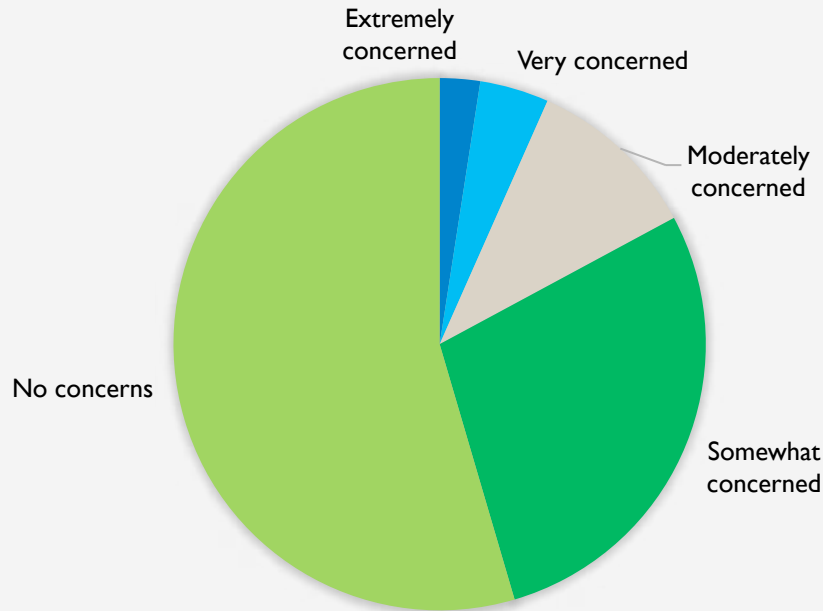
What would be your level of concern about public safety at the new bridge when the tide gates are partially open?

What would be your level of concern about public safety at the new bridge when the tide gates are completely open at the end of Phase I?

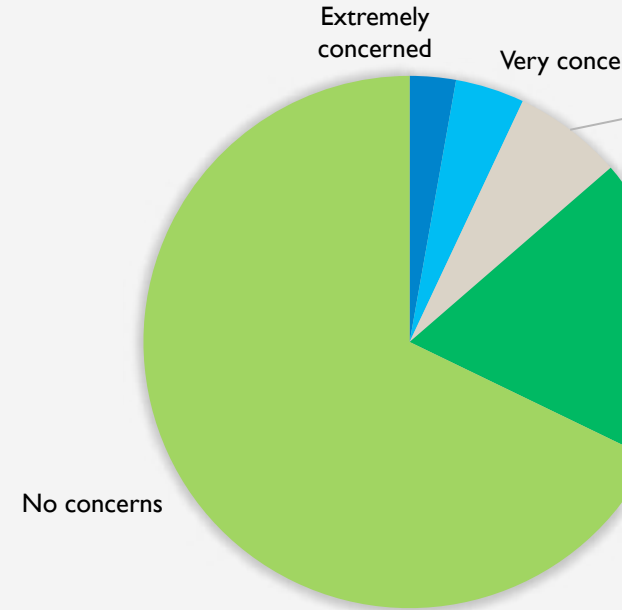
EXISTING CONDITION



PARTIAL OPENING



FULL PHASE I OPENING



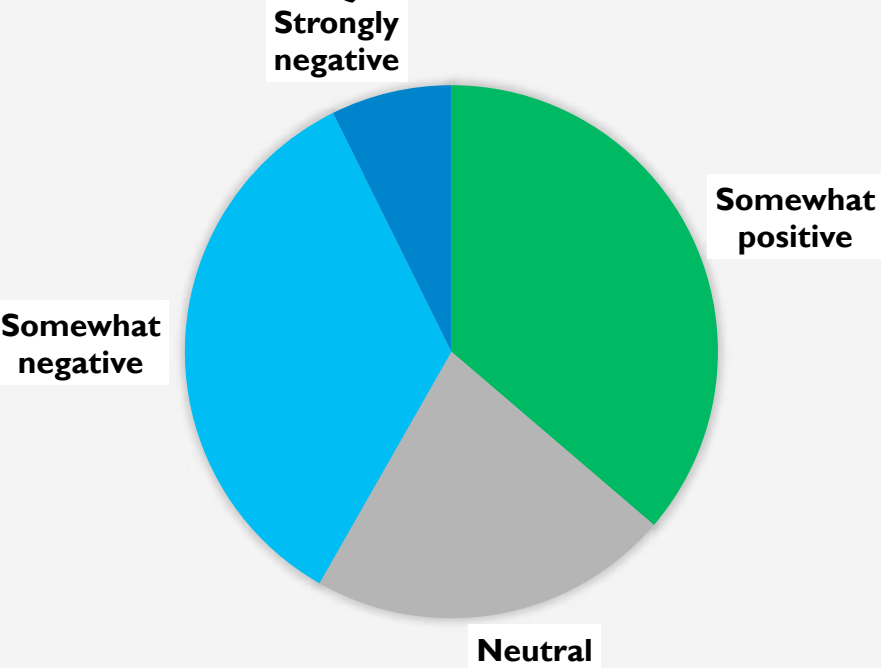
TOPIC: Public Safety in the River

QUESTIONS:

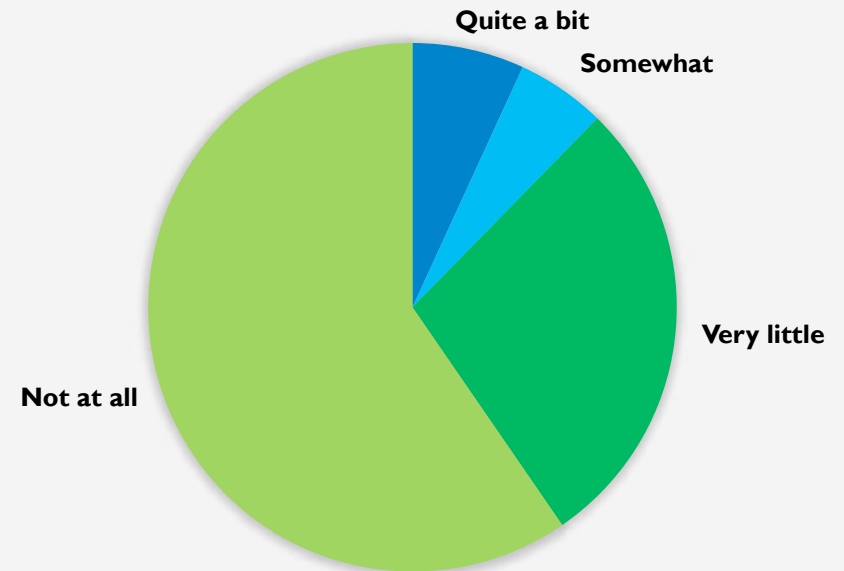
Do you think the Herring River project will impact public safety within and adjacent to the Herring River estuary? (Please consider typical daily tidal conditions only, not potential storm impacts.)

To what extent does water depth affect your concerns about public safety issues throughout the Herring River Project Area?

QUESTION 1



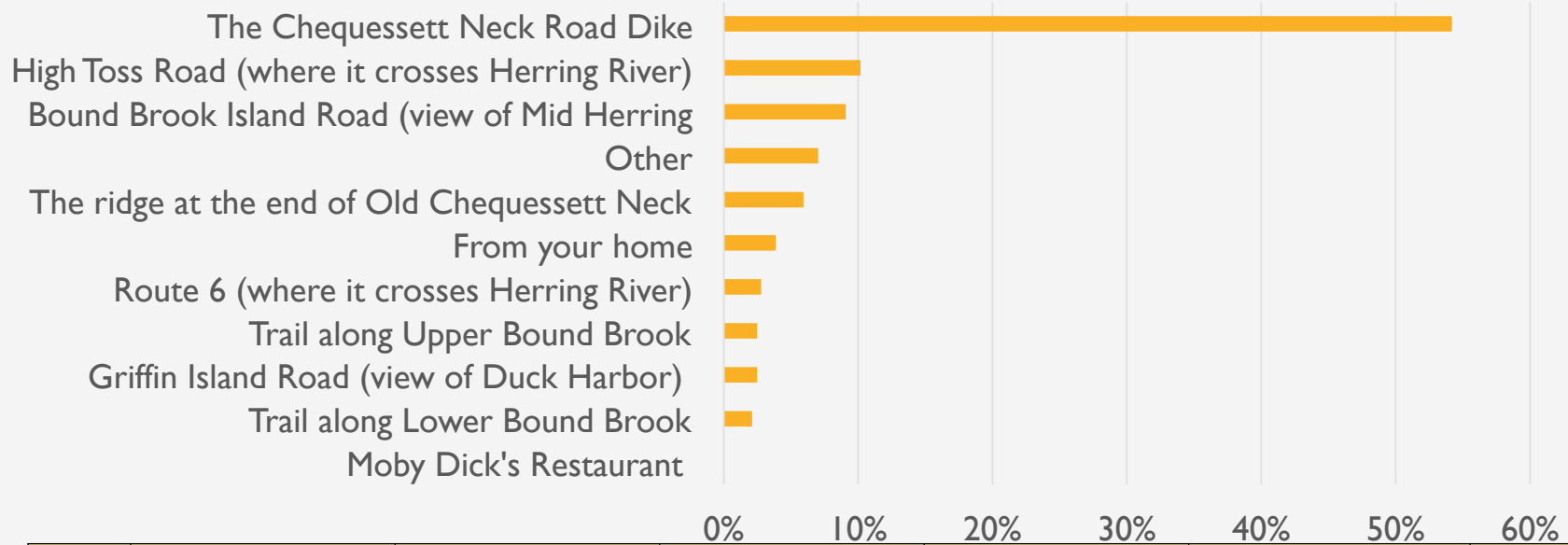
QUESTION 2



TOPIC: Viewscapes

QUESTIONS:
 What is your favorite location from which to view the Herring River estuary?
 From your favorite viewing point, how satisfied would you be with this viewscape?

QUESTION 1



QUESTION 2:

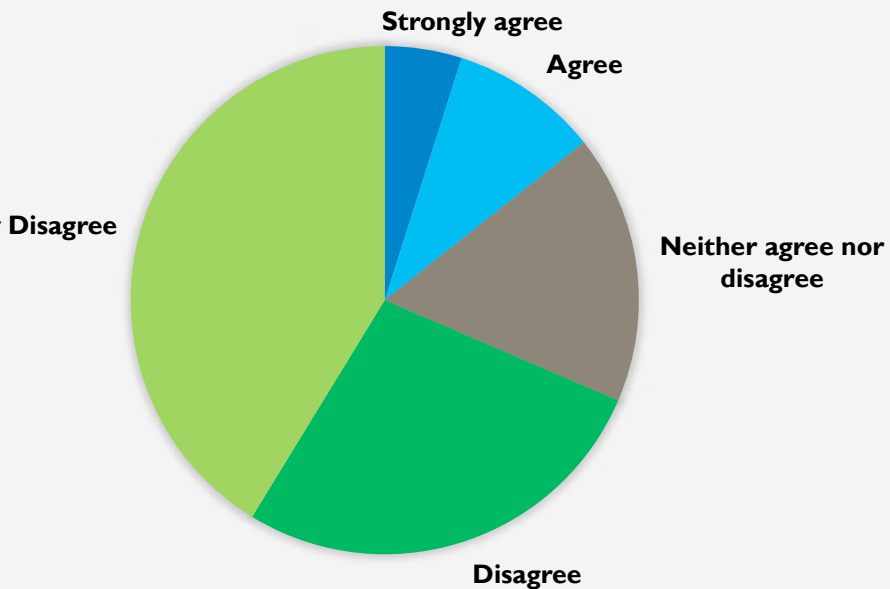
Rank	Lower Herring River	MHR/LPDC	Duck Harbor	Upper Herring Riv.	Lower Bound Brook	Upper Bound Brook
1	Salt Marsh	Salt Marsh	Salt Marsh	Salt Marsh	Salt Marsh	Salt Marsh
2	Open Water	Open Water	Open Water	Cattail	Open Water	Cattail
3	Cattail	Cattail	Mudflat	Open Water	Shrub Forest	Open Water
4	Mudflat	Mudflat	Cattail	Phragmites	Mudflat	Shrub Forest
5	Phragmites	Shrub Forest	Dead Trees	Dead Trees	Cattail	Phragmites
6	Dead Trees	Phragmites	Phragmites	Shrub Forest	Dead Trees	Dead Trees
7	Shrub Forest	Dead Trees	Shrub Forest	Mudflat	Phragmites	Mudflat

TOPIC: Changes in Public Access to Inter-tidal Areas

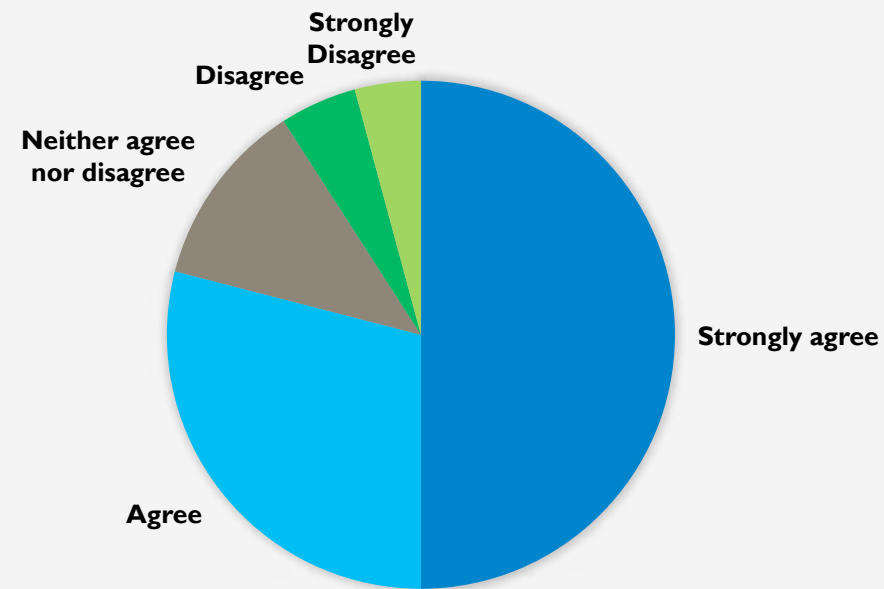
QUESTIONS

I am worried about the potential for expanded public access for fishing, shellfishing, kayaking, etc.
I am excited about the potential for expanded public access for fishing, shellfishing, kayaking, etc.

QUESTION 1



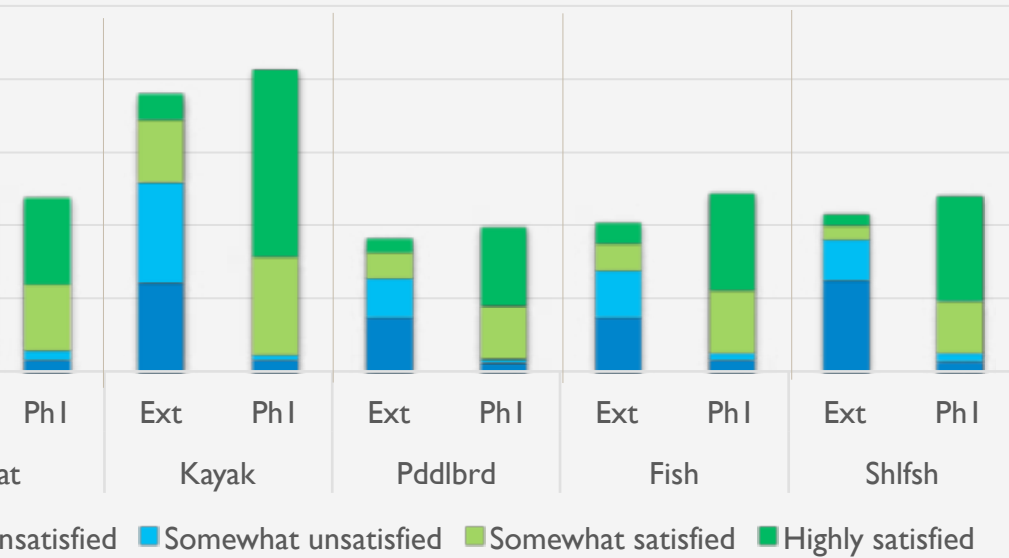
QUESTION 2



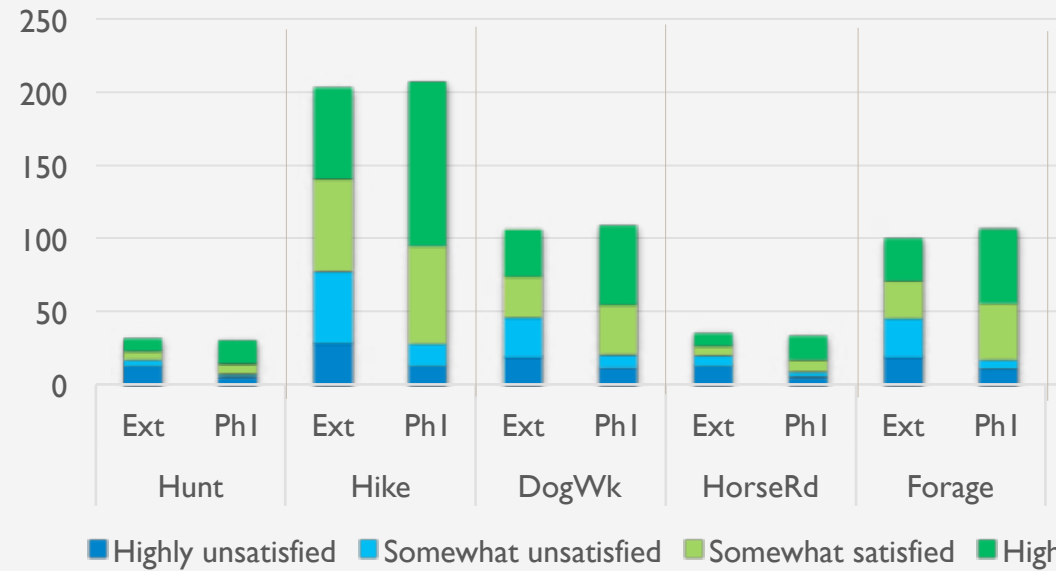
TOPIC: Recreation

Please indicate your level of satisfaction with your ability to participate in the following activities under present conditions and at the end of Phase 1 in the Herring River Project Area (north of Chequessett Neck Road only).

Water-based Recreation

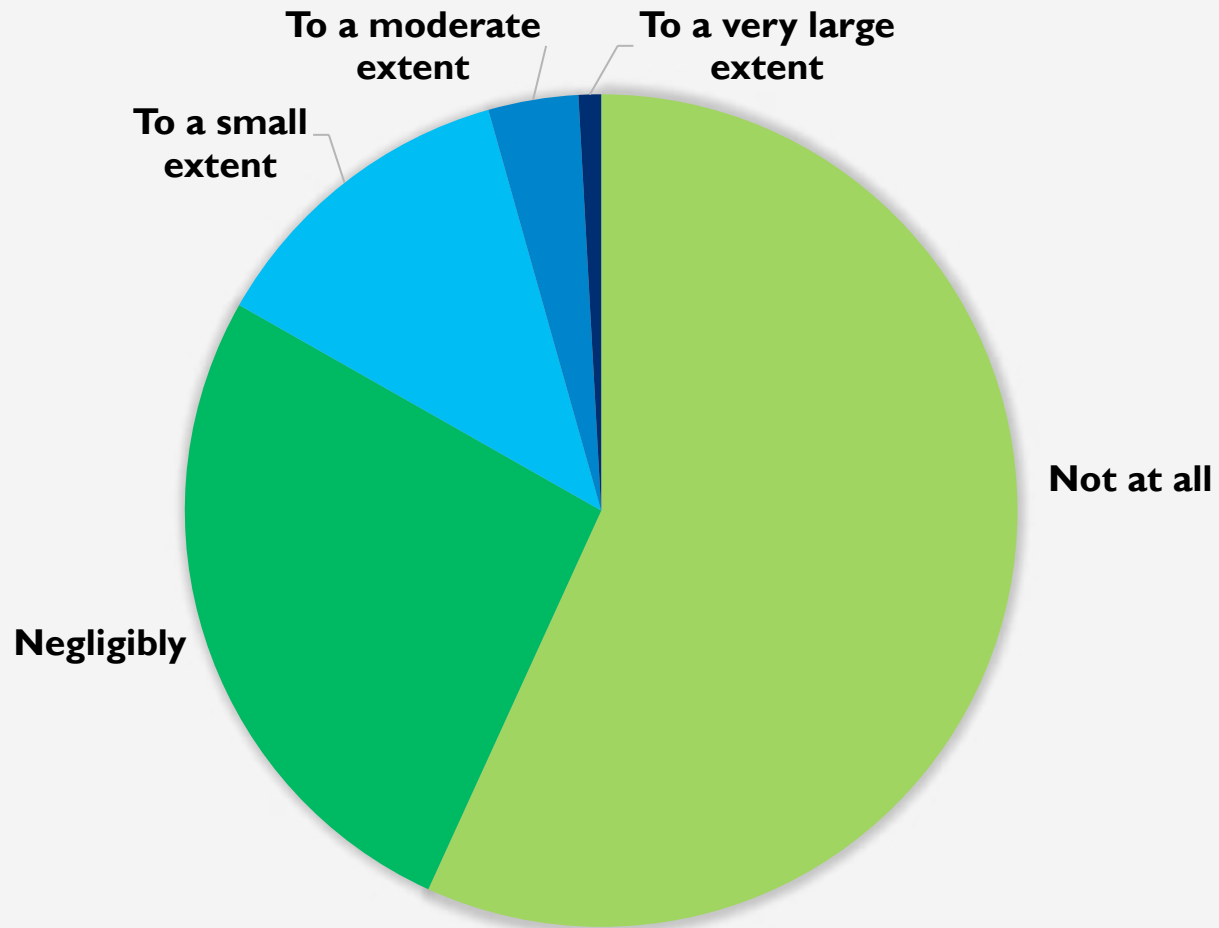


Non-Water Based Recreation



TOPIC: Salt Marsh Smells

QUESTION: To what extent do periodic salt marsh smells negatively impact your experience of the Herring River estuary?



HREC Member Announcements

Public Comments

- (15 minutes)
- *Any discussion of an issue not on the agenda that is raised in the public comment section shall be limited to whether that issue should be placed on a future agenda.*

Next Meeting Dates

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Adjourn