

**CURRENT CONDITION REPORT** (Baseline Report)

**Wesquage Pond  
Narragansett, Rhode Island**



**Prepared April 2018  
By  
Kyle R. Hess  
Conservation Assistant  
Audubon Society of Rhode Island**

**Author's Signature:**

*Kyle R. Hess*

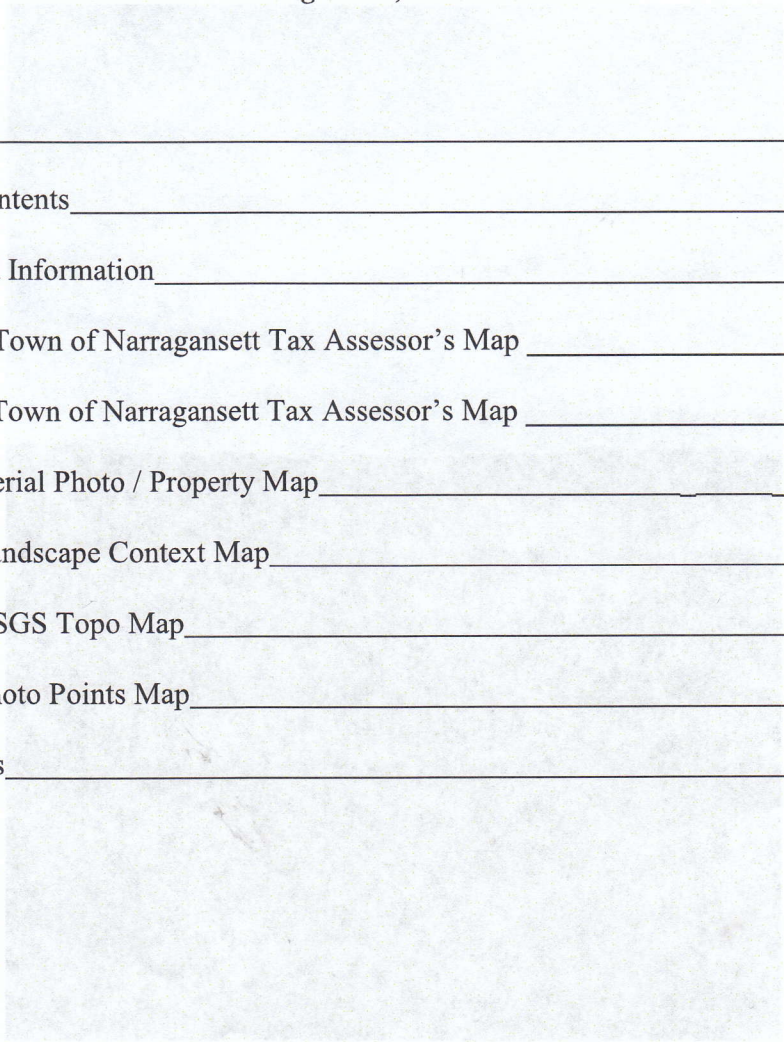


(7/20/08) (Bentley report)

# CURRENT CONDITION REPORT

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Prepared April 2013  
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*[Handwritten signature]*

## CURRENT CONDITION REPORT

### Background Information Wesquage Pond Narragansett, Rhode Island

#### **Current Land Owner:**

Audubon Society of Rhode Island

#### **Location of Protected Property:**

Street Address:

Municipality: Narragansett

County: Washington

State: Rhode Island

#### **Plat/Lot Information:**

Town of Narragansett Tax Assessor's Plat NR, Lots 22-24, 26, 28, 30, 206, 208, 210, 211, 213, 216, 218, 227, 230, 232, 234, 236, 239, 244, 246, 248, 250, 256A, 536, 573, 724, 734, 872, 911, 921, 936, 938, 940, 943, 946, 948, 970, and 973 (Figure 1A).

Town of Narragansett Tax Assessor's Plat NS, Lots 112 and 112A (Figure 1B).

#### **Acreage:**

81.5 acres ±

#### **Introduction:**

This document is a description of land owned by the Audubon Society of Rhode Island. This report describes in general terms the vegetation and wildlife observed on the property during a survey conducted on April 18, 2018.

#### **General Description:**

Wesquage Pond is a 65 acre ± barrier pond located within the Bonnet Shores Fire District. The Wesquage Pond refuge was acquired in five tracts and consists of most of Wesquage Pond as well as vacant lots N of the pond.

The Belton Tract, Parcel 1 was donated to the Audubon Society of Rhode Island on September 2, 1971 by the Belton Corporation. Included in the deed were specific restrictions to housing development on the land adjacent to the pond (see deed for detail).

The Belton Tract, Parcel 2 was donated to the Audubon Society of Rhode Island on December 18, 1974 by the Belton Corporation with no legal restrictions (see deed for detail).

The combined acreage of the Belton Tract parcels is 68 acres ±.

The Cardi Tract was donated to the Audubon Society of Rhode Island on December 22, 1993 by Roland (Ron) P. Cardi, Nicholas Cardi, Jr., Peter D. Cardi, Arthur Zompa, and Sandra Zompa.

This tract consists of vacant house lots to the NW of Wesquage Pond and totals 9.2 acres ±.

There are no legal restrictions stated in the deed (see deed for detail).

The Corona Tract was donated to the Audubon Society of Rhode Island on December 20, 1984 with no restrictions stated in the deed. This tract totals 3.23 acres ±.

The Francisco Tract was donated to the Audubon Society of Rhode Island on December 21, 1981 by Mary V. Francisco. There was some confusion regarding Mrs. Francisco's ownership of this parcel due to her husband, Pasco Francisco, being the only name on the deed. According to ASRI records, the Francisco's assumed that the entirety of Mr. Francisco's estate would be transferred to Mrs. Francisco and no challenges had been made to the will (see Property Record Form filed at ASRI headquarters, Smithfield, RI). The Francisco tract totals 0.1 acres ±.

### **Topography and Hydrology**

Elevations of the Wesquage Pond refuge range from approximately sea level to 50 feet above sea level. The highest elevations are found at the NW of the property at the end of Clara Lane and Lily Lane. The landscape slopes downward from approximately W to E to Wesquage Pond and then rise to the E again. The lowest elevations are found to the SE at Wesquage Pond (Figure 4).

Two unnamed streams run through the property from approximately NW to SE, join to the NW of Wesquage Pond, and connect to the pond at Lake Road (Figure 2 and Figure 4).

### **Vegetation and Wildlife Value**

The species listing below is only a partial list to provide a baseline of the more common species present at the time of this survey. The property likely supports diverse flora and fauna throughout the year not observed during these surveys.

**Table 1.** Vegetation observed on the Wesquage Pond refuge on April 18, 2018. (Species in **bold** are listed as invasive by the USDA National Invasive Species Information Center (NISIC)<sup>1</sup> and/or are listed in the Invasive Plant Atlas of New England<sup>2</sup>).

#### **A. Vegetation**

<sup>1</sup>USDA National Invasive Species Information Center (NISIC) Gateway to invasive species information; covering Federal, State, local, and international sources. <https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/index.shtml>

<sup>2</sup> Invasive Plant Atlas of New England (IPANE): <https://www.eddmaps.org/ipane/>

Common Name	Scientific Name
American trout-lily	<i>Erythronium americanum</i>
Black cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>
Canada-mayflower	<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>
Cattails	<i>Typha sp.</i>
Coastal sweet-pepperbush	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>
Eastern red cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>
Eastern white oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Eastern white pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
Grape	<i>Vitis sp.</i>
Gray birch	<i>Betula populifolia</i>
Green alder	<i>Alnus viridis</i>
Greenbrier	<i>Smilax sp.</i>
Highbush blueberry	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>
<b>Japanese knotweed</b>	<b><i>Fallopia japonica</i></b>
Mountain laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>
<b>Multiflora rose</b>	<b><i>Rosa multiflora</i></b>
Northern red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
<b>Oriental bittersweet</b>	<b><i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i></b>
Paper birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>
Princess pine clubmoss	<i>Dendrolycopodium obscurum</i>
<b>Privet</b>	<b><i>Ligustrum sp.</i></b>
Poison-ivy	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>
Pussy willow	<i>Salix discolor</i>
Red maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
Saltgrass	<i>Distichlis spicata</i>
Saltmarsh hay	<i>Spartina patens</i>
Sedges	<i>Carex spp.</i>
Skunk cabbage	<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>
Smooth cordgrass	<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>

**Table 2.** Wildlife observed on the Wesquage Pond refuge on April 18, 2018.

**A. Amphibians**

Common Name	Scientific Name
Spring peeper	<i>Pseudacris crucifer</i>

**B. Birds**

Common Name	Scientific Name
American goldfinch	<i>Spinus tristis</i>
American robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>
Black-capped chickadee	<i>Poecile atricapillus</i>
Blue jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>

Canada goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>
Carolina wren	<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>
Common grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>
Cooper's hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>
Dark-eyed junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>
Double-crested cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>
Eastern phoebe	<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>
Fish crow	<i>Corvus ossifragus</i>
Great black-backed gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>
Great egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>
House finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>
<b>House sparrow</b>	<b><i>Passer domesticus</i></b>
Mourning dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>
Northern cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>
Red-winged blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>
Ring-necked duck	<i>Aythya collaris</i>
Song sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>
Tufted titmouse	<i>Baeolophus bicolor</i>
White-breasted nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>
White-throated sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>

#### **B. Mammals**

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>
Cottontail rabbit	<i>Sylvilagus sp.</i>
Eastern gray squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>
White-tailed deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>