



Nature-Based Solutions Expert Work Group

Work Group Lead

Sara Burns

The Nature Conservancy

sara.burns@tnc.org

Member/Presenter

Julia Knisel

MA Office of Coastal Zone
Management

julia.knisel@mass.gov

Nature-Based Solutions

Draft Definition

- Projects that preserve, enhance/recreate or mimic natural ecosystems or processes to provide a range of benefits to both people & the environment
- Address a range of issues including public health & safety, property damages & impaired water quality associated with floods, droughts & heat waves
- Can provide important habitat services, carbon sequestration & improved air quality



Work Group Mission & Members

- Identify state-wide challenges/barriers to nature-based solutions
- Understand & address key barriers to broader implementation across 351 communities
- Convened 2 conference calls since kick-off of work group in July

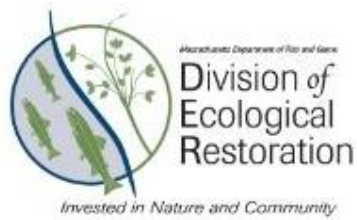


MASSACHUSETTS
ECOSYSTEM
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NETWORK



Charles River Watershed Association

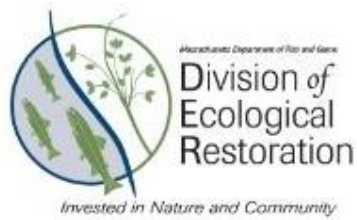
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Member Expertise

- Planning, design, permitting, implementation & monitoring of stormwater management, living shoreline & natural area conservation/restoration projects
- Partnered with & assist a variety of stakeholders (e.g., local officials, landowners & design professionals)



Possible Challenges

- Community awareness & support
- Bias toward “grey” infrastructure
- Financing all stages of projects
- Policies/disincentives
- Environmental permitting standards
- Lack of successful examples & case studies across sectors & regions → low awareness & support
- Lack of green design standards & performance metrics



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Next Steps

- Recruit additional members especially Federal agency representative & public health expert
- Develop a workplan
- Start assessing current green design standards, performance metrics, successful examples & case studies

Contact: sara.burns@tnc.org

