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**I. Introduction and Description of the South County Watersheds Action Program:**

The South County Watersheds Region of Rhode Island includes the hydrological basins and coastal drainages within the nine towns of Washington County<sup>1</sup>, in addition to the western portion of West Greenwich (Kent County). The following major watersheds fall within this region: Pawcatuck River, Pettaquamscutt River, Annaquatucket River, Saugatucket River and the south shore coastal ponds (*See Figure 1 – Map of South County Watershed Region*).

The Rhode Island Watershed Approach Writing Group, a team formed by representatives of state, federal and non-governmental, defined the South County Watersheds region through a collaborative effort that culminated in the draft ‘RI Watershed Approach Framework’ in June 1999. For the purpose of this action program, the regional boundaries extend beyond the actual watershed boundaries to the town boundaries because a key concern identified by local officials is, to more effectively *plan for growth* in order to minimize impacts to the environment and community character. Effective land use planning in this region can only be accomplished by respecting political boundaries. In addition, there is a regional planning effort being spearheaded by the Washington County Regional Planning Council, which is comprised of town council representatives from each of the Washington County municipalities.

The purpose of this draft action program is to define DEM’s contribution to a broader partnership effort to establish an integrated watershed approach and in particular to make sure that DEM responds to, empowers and works in partnership with watershed stakeholders to address locally-based management objectives. This draft action program only serve as a starting point in coordinating a comprehensive action program. Through the continued input of watershed stakeholders and the public the management objectives and/or strategies contained in this action program will be revised to be as responsive as possible to local needs.

**II. DEM’s Mission with regard to the South County Watersheds Action Program:**

*To coordinate effective watershed resource management through community-based planning and implementation.*

**III. Program Highlights: Community Management Objectives and Strategies for Action**

This action program will support community-based management objectives. Local officials from the Pawcatuck watershed communities identified four management objectives in a recent survey. The remaining management objectives represent stakeholder interests in the area. The management objectives and/or strategies will be revised as additional watershed stakeholder and public input is received on this draft action program. The preliminary management objectives and strategies for this work plan are as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> Washington County consists of Charlestown, Exeter, Hopkinton, Narragansett, New Shoreham, North Kingstown, Richmond, South Kingstown and Westerly.

**MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE #1 –**        ***Coordinate Effective Management of Watershed Resources through Community-based Planning and Implementation.***

**STRATEGIES:**

1. Facilitate and encourage the development of Strategic Plans and Action Programs targeting community based watershed objectives.
2. Coordinate DEM and partner activities to address community-developed management objectives.
3. Develop incentives and provide technical assistance to encourage the implementation of watershed plans and action programs.
4. Assist watershed teams with education and outreach to increase public awareness of watershed management plans and strategies for implementation.
5. Assist watershed teams to acquire funds to implement watershed plans and action programs.
6. Improve the state purchasing system to more expeditiously deliver funds to towns and NGOs.

**MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE #2 –**        ***Protect & Restore the Quality of Surface and Groundwater***

**STRATEGIES:**

1. Identify specific actions to preserve, protect and restore watersheds by assessing and monitoring the quality of surface and groundwater.
2. Focus outreach to educate the public about their role in water protection and restoration.
3. Build capacity of communities to protect aquifers, public wellheads and surface waters through applicable land use and source water protection techniques.
4. Target regulatory compliance and inspection efforts and nonregulatory programs such as pollution prevention and land acquisition to protect water quality.
5. Remediate and revitalize Brownfields and other contaminated properties.
6. Preserve and restore wetlands.

**MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE #3 -**        ***Develop a Comprehensive Plan for Water Use Management and Conservation.***

**STRATEGIES:**

1. Assess existing water uses in the watershed and their current or potential impacts to wetlands and riverine ecosystems, beginning with the Queens River subbasin.
2. Increase awareness and understanding of communities, residents and primary water users about the complexities of water use issues in the watershed.
3. Build support for the development of a comprehensive water use and management plan for the South County Region.

4. Provide technical assistance to the PWP Water Use Stakeholders Group as it begins development of a comprehensive plan for the Queens River subbasin.
5. Explore the feasibility of developing “water quantity overlay districts” to complement local zoning ordinances.
6. Review, evaluate and reorganize, if necessary, current information on water availability to support new growth.

**MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE #4 -        *Plan for Growth***

**STRATEGIES:**

1. Support technical planning assistance to help towns develop more creative land use techniques to more effectively plan for and manage growth to minimize impacts to the environment and community character.
2. Develop training programs for local boards to increase their knowledge of basic and more creative land use techniques.
3. Prepare and distribute educational materials to increase awareness of the impacts of unplanned growth to the environment and community character.
4. Establish challenge grants to encourage the adoption and implementation of creative land use techniques and proactive planning.

**MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE #5 -        *Maintain and Restore Habitat for Fish & Wildlife***

**STRATEGIES:**

1. Preserve, protect and restore habitat and populations of game and non-game wildlife.
2. Maintain stream flow to protect aquatic habitat.
3. Focus funding programs for land acquisition to protect habitat within the watersheds.
4. Provide technical assistance and outreach to communities to preserve and protect habitat.

**MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE #6 -        *Protect and Sustain Farms, Forests & Open Space***

**STRATEGIES:**

1. Develop alternative crops/business opportunities for farm and forest landowners to provide economic incentives to preserve working landscapes.
2. Target existing funding to purchase development rights for farmland, forestland and open space within the South County Watershed region.
3. Build capacity of land trusts and communities to pursue more creative land acquisition funding sources and techniques to acquire land.
4. Continue efforts to revise the Farm, Forest and Open Space Act to establish uniform current-use taxation values.
5. Provide more assistance to landowners to market their locally grown products.
6. Explore possibility of transferring ownership of some state properties to local interests.

**MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE #7 –      *Enhance Management of Estuarine Waters***

**STRATEGIES:**

1. Develop comprehensive dredging and maintenance program for the coastal ponds and estuaries.
2. Develop action plan to address recreational and commercial user group conflicts on the coastal ponds.
  - ⌘ Refer to Management Objective #2 for water quality protection and restoration strategies.

**MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE #8 –      *Maximize Quality and Accessibility of Recreational Opportunities***

**STRATEGIES:**

1. Improve public safety and handicap accessibility for state parks and management areas.
2. Acquire new or expand existing recreational facilities to meet public demand.
3. Develop implementation strategy to handle user group conflicts.
4. Recruit and hire necessary seasonal staff to perform the maintenance needs of the state park facilities.

**IV.    Action Program Tables**

The following tables only include ongoing and proposed activities of RIDEM. The intent is ultimately to include the activities of all applicable partners.

**RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT**

| <p><b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br/> <b>Coordinate Effective Management of Watershed Resources Through Community-Based Planning And Implementation</b></p>                           |   | <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective local/regional partnerships</li> <li>• Community-based Watershed Action Plans</li> <li>• Impaired waters/habitats restored</li> <li>• Community priority natural resources preserved/protected</li> </ul> |
|--|---|--|
| <p><b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:</b><br/> <b>1. Facilitate and encourage the development of Strategic Plans and Action Programs to address community-based objectives.</b></p>                       |   |  |
| DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION<br>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY  | PERFORMANCE MEASURES  | PARTNERS   |
| a. Develop model formats for watershed Strategic Plans and Action Programs.  | ➤ Models developed by November 1999.  | South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, non-governmental organizations.   |
| b. With assistance from stakeholder groups, create a broad-based watershed stakeholder team building on the groups that already exist in order to prepare a watershed plan and action program. | ➤ Watershed team created by October 1999.   | South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, municipalities, non-governmental organizations.   |
| c. Assist communities within the South County Watersheds Region to prepare long-range watershed plans.   | ➤ Plan completed in conjunction with the communities; could take at least one year. | South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, non-governmental organizations.   |
| d. Determine where planning gaps exist and encourage other partners/resources into the process to address gaps.  | ➤ Planning gaps identified and addressed as an ongoing activity.                    | South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, municipalities, non-governmental organizations.   |
| e. Develop and coordinate a South County Watersheds action program – including DEM activities and those of other applicable partners.  | ➤ Complete action plan with partner review comments incorporated by November 1999.  | South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, municipalities, non-governmental organizations.   |
| f. Create a Watershed Community Council with assistance from partner groups to guide the watershed team. Members may include but not be limited to town councils and other local officials.    | ➤ Watershed Community Council created by November 1999.                             | South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, municipalities, non-governmental organizations.   |

# RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program **DRAFT**

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| <p><b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br/> <b>Coordinate Effective Management of Watershed Resources Through Community-Based Planning And Implementation</b></p>   | <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective local/regional partnerships</li> <li>• Community-based Watershed Action Plans</li> <li>• Impaired waters/habitats restored</li> <li>• Community priority natural resources preserved/protected</li> </ul> |  |
| <p><b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:</b><br/> <b>2. Coordinate DEM and partner activities to address community-developed management objectives.</b></p>  |  |  |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b>  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>  |
| <b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  |  |
| a. Coordinate and facilitate the development of DEM and partner activities into watershed specific work plans to more effectively focus resources to local needs.  | ➤ Coordination of all DEM activities by September 1999; partner activities - <i>ongoing</i> .  | South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, municipalities, non-governmental organizations. |
| b. Encourage new initiatives or changes to existing DEM programs and partner activities to implement watershed plans and action programs.  | <i>This is an ongoing activity.</i>  | South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, municipalities, non-governmental organizations. |
| <p><b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 3.</b> Develop incentives and provide technical assistance to encourage the implementation of watershed plans and action programs.</p>  |  |  |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b>  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>  |
| <b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  |  |
| a. Work with broad partnerships to develop incentives/assistance for the South County Watersheds Region based on specific management objectives. Examples would include but not be limited to the on-going planning for growth assistance in the South County Watersheds region. | ➤ Assistance provided and incentives developed as an ongoing activity.   | South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, municipalities, non-governmental organizations. |
| <p><b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 4.</b> Assist watershed teams with education and outreach to increase public awareness of watershed management plans and action programs.</p>   |  |  |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b>  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>  |
| <b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  |  |
| a. Assist the watershed team to perform educational outreach to communities regarding the watersheds' Action Program.  | ➤ Materials distributed and presentations given.   | South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, municipalities, non-governmental organizations. |
| b. Develop fact sheets, Power Point presentations, a Web Site, and other outreach materials to describe and promote the Rhode Island watershed approach.   | ➤ <i>Funding and staff has not been identified for this strategy.</i>  | South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, municipalities, non-governmental organizations. |

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| <p><b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br/> <b>Coordinate Effective Management of Watershed Resources Through Community-Based Planning And Implementation</b></p> | <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective local/regional partnerships</li> <li>• Community-based Watershed Action Plans</li> <li>• Impaired waters/habitats restored</li> <li>• Community priority natural resources preserved/protected</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

**MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 5. Assist watershed team to acquire funds to implement watershed plans and action programs.**

| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION<br/>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>                                | <b>PARTNERS</b>   |
|---|--|---|
| <p>a. Work with partnerships to seek grant funds to address specific watershed management objectives.</p>                     | <p>➤ Grant assistance provided as an ongoing activity.</p> | <p>South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, municipalities, non-governmental organizations.</p> |
| <p>b. In conjunction with other partners develop a stable source of funds to provide challenge grants to watershed teams.</p> | <p>➤ Stable source of funds developed.</p>                 | <p>South County watershed organizations, Washington County Regional Planning Council, Watershed communities, DEM divisions, state and federal agencies, municipalities, non-governmental organizations.</p> |

**MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:6. Improve the state purchasing system to deliver funds more expeditiously to towns and NGOs.**

| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION<br/>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b> | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b> | <b>PARTNERS</b> |
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**RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT**

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| <p><b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br/> <b>Protect &amp; Restore the Quality of Surface And Groundwater</b></p>   | <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High quality surface and groundwater protected</li> <li>• Impaired water quality restored</li> </ul>   |   |
| <p><b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 1. Identify specific actions to preserve, protect and restore watersheds by assessing and monitoring the quality of surface and groundwater.</b></p>  |   |   |
| <p><b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br/> <b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b></p>   | <p><b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b></p>  | <p><b>PARTNERS</b></p>  |
| <p>a. <b>Water Resources – Watersheds &amp; Standards</b><br/> <u>TMDL Program for South County Waterbodies</u><br/>                 To develop water quality restoration plans (Total Maximum Daily Loads) for the following waterbodies: Narrow River (Bacteria), Saugatucket River (Bacteria/Nutrients/Biodiversity Impacts), Ninigret &amp; Green Hill Ponds (Bacteria).</p>   | <p>➤ Preliminary Data Report completed; supplemental monitoring and stakeholder involvement initiated for TMDLS for: Saugatucket River, and Ninigret and Green Hill Ponds (FY2000). Completed TMDLs (including modeling and pollutant load allocations) submitted to EPA for Narrow River (FY2000), Saugatucket Ninigret/Green Hill (FY2001).</p> | <p>South County Watersheds Partnership, * Washington County Regional Planning Council, watershed communities, local governments, state and federal agencies</p> |
| <p>b. <b>Water Resources – Watersheds &amp; Standards</b><br/> <u>Baseline Chemical Water Quality Monitoring – Rivers: Ashaway, Beaver, Canonchet, Chipuxet, Fall, Meadow, Parris, Queens, Tomaquag, Wood</u><br/>                 To collect chemical water quality data on a quarterly basis during dry weather conditions for 22 water quality parameters.</p>  | <p>➤ Collection and analysis of water quality data on quarterly basis. (FY2000 - 2001).</p>   | <p>South County Watersheds Partnership, Washington County Regional Planning Council, watershed communities, local governments, state and federal agencies</p>   |
| <p>c. <b>Water Resources – Watersheds &amp; Standards</b><br/> <u>Benthic Macroinvertebrate Monitoring following EPA’s Rapid Bioassessment Protocol</u><br/>                 To collect and identify benthic macroinvertebrates and analyze community composition data as indicators of biological impairment and water quality. The following rivers from within the South County Watersheds Region will be sampled: Ashaway, Beaver, Canonchet Brook, Chipuxet, Fall, Meadow, Parris, Pawcatuck, Queens, Saugatucket, Tomaquag and Wood.</p> | <p>➤ Collection of biological monitoring data during summer months. (YR 00/01)</p>  | <p>South County Watershed Partnership, Washington County Regional Planning Council, watershed communities, local governments, state and federal agencies</p>    |

\* South County Watersheds Partnership includes, but is not limited in any way to, the Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership, Salt Ponds Coalition, Narrow River Coalition and the Saugatucket River Heritage Corridor Coalition.

***RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT***

| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION<br/>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>  | <b>PERFORMANCE<br/>MEASURES</b>   | <b>PARTNERS</b>  |
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| <p>d. <b><i>Agriculture – Pesticide Program</i></b><br/> <u>Pesticide and Nitrate Groundwater Sampling Project</u><br/>                     Working with the Office of Water Resources to determine the current status of nitrogen levels in groundwater within the Usquepaug-Queen River Sub-Basin in order to develop best management practices (BMPs) for the control of nitrogen and pesticide inputs to groundwater from potential sources such as turf farms.</p>                            | <p>➤ Increased monitoring activities and promulgation of BMPs in FY2000 to minimize pesticide contamination of groundwater in the region.</p>   | <p>Office of Water Resources<br/>                     Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership<br/>                     State and federal agencies<br/>                     NGOs<br/>                     Watershed communities</p> |
| <p>e. <b><i>Forest Environment – Intents to Cut Program</i></b><br/>                     Conduct site visits on forest harvesting operations in the South County Watersheds Region to insure compliance with Best Management Practices to minimize impacts to water quality from logging activity.</p>   | <p>➤ Throughout FY2000 conduct site visits of all cutting operations in the watersheds region to ensure compliance with BMPs in order to reduce nonpoint source pollution and soil erosion.</p> | <p>Private landowners</p>  |
| <p>f. <b><i>Technical &amp; Customer Assistance – Pollution Prevention</i></b><br/>                     Target local government facilities and private [small] businesses in the South County Watersheds Region to provide technical assistance on pollution prevention and compliance issues.</p>   | <p>➤ Establish partnerships within the watersheds region to target technical assistance for pollution prevention by April 2000.</p>   | <p>URI Center for P2<br/>                     DEM- Compliance &amp; Inspection<br/>                     Municipal Governments</p>  |
| <p>g. <b><i>Water Resources – Watersheds &amp; Standards</i></b><br/> <u>Nonpoint Source Pollution Abatement</u><br/>                     Utilizing 319, CWAP funds, administer grants for watershed restoration projects awarded in FY99 via RFP process. With continued CWAP funding (approx. \$450,000/year) solicit via RFP process and issue additional grant awards in FY00 and FY01.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Westerly farm BMP</li> <li>• Bradford farm BMP</li> </ul> | <p>➤ Constructed Best Management Practices at two farms in FY1999. With future funding create and implement BMPs at other selected sites in FYS 2000 and 2001.</p>                              | <p>Town of Westerly, farm owners and operators, Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership, NRCS, Southern RI Conservation District, URI</p>  |
| <p>h. <b><i>Water Resources – Watersheds &amp; Standards</i></b> <u>State Revolving Fund</u><br/>                     Provide technical assistance and review of projects submitted for SRF funding. Conduct inspections to monitor construction progress of SRF funded projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Babcock Road Sewer Project – Westerly</li> </ul>  | <p>➤ Completion of Babcock Road sewer project in Westerly in FY 2000 and with future funding, construction of pollution abatement facilities at other selected sites, also in FY2000.</p>       | <p>Town of Westerly Public Works<br/>                     Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership</p>  |

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Protect &amp; Restore the Quality of Surface And Groundwater</b>   |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b>   |  |
|   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High quality surface and groundwater protected</li> <li>• Impaired water quality restored</li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 2. Focused outreach to educate the public about their role in water protection and restoration.</b>   |  |  |  |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b>   |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  |  |
| <b>ACTIVITY NAME</b>  |  | <b>PARTNERS</b>  |  |
| <b>PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>  |  |  |  |
| <p>a. <b>Compliance &amp; Inspection – Solid Waste Enforcement Program</b><br/>                     Work with municipal representatives from within the watershed region to offer outreach meetings in order to explain our enforcement capabilities and to provide guidance where efforts can be shared to eliminate illegal disposal problems both by the municipality or property owners in the community.</p>   |  | <p>➤ At least one outreach meeting per community in the watersheds region by June 2000.</p>  |  |
| <p>b. <b>Law Enforcement – Education &amp; Outreach</b><br/>                     Reach out to watershed groups to determine how we might partner to further their goals and our enforcement efforts through educational efforts.</p>  |  | <p>➤ Encourage a watershed-based environmental ethic through increased understanding of law enforcement programs by conducting at least one outreach meeting per community by June 2000.</p> |  |
| <p>c. <b>Technical and Customer Assistance – P2 Program</b><br/> <u>Pollution Prevention and Regulatory Compliance Assistance for Small Business.</u><br/>                     To develop outreach and educational programs in coordination with the DEM Pollution Prevention Program and regulatory divisions to help small businesses understand and meet their regulatory responsibilities, and take advantage of opportunities to decrease pollution and regulatory burden. Work with the Pollution Prevention Program and Office of Compliance and Inspection to identify and address business sectors and compliance issues in the Wood-Pawcatuck watersheds.</p> |  | <p>➤ Encourage a watershed-based environmental ethic through increased understanding of law enforcement programs by conducting at least one outreach meeting per community by June 2000.</p> |  |

***RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT***

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| <p>d. <b><i>Water Resources – Watersheds and Standards Program</i></b><br/> <u>Watershed Protection Public Education Program for the Pawcatuck Watershed.</u><br/>                 To raise public awareness about State and local efforts to protect South County watersheds and prevent/mitigate nonpoint sources of pollution. Also, to bring together various nonprofit groups of the Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership, and others working on watershed/nonpoint issues, to share skills and coordinate in developing an outreach strategy.</p> | <p>➤ Public Service Announcements re. Watershed and NPS pollution issues completed by March 2000.</p>              | <p>URI, NRCS, Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership, EPA, Wood-Pawcatuck Assoc., Southern RI Conservation District</p> |
| <p>e. <b><i>RI Water Resources Board – Watersheds and Standards Program (w/USGS)</i></b><br/> <u>Queen-Usquepaug River Water Use Project.</u><br/>                 To enhance public awareness of the relationship between flow and aquatic habitat issues through the public presentation of the Water Use Project results.<br/>                 **New funding required.**</p>  | <p>➤ Power Point slide presentation to Water use stakeholder group and other community groups by October 2001.</p> | <p>Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership, Wood-Pawcatuck Association, Water Use Stakeholders Group</p>                 |

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| <p><b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br/> <b>Protect &amp; Restore the Quality of Surface And Groundwater</b></p>   | <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High quality surface and groundwater protected</li> <li>• Impaired water quality restored</li> </ul> |   |
| <p><b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 3. Build capacity of communities to protect aquifers, public wellheads and surface waters through applicable land use and source water protection techniques.</b></p>   |   |   |
| <p><b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br/> <b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b></p>   | <p><b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b></p>  | <p><b>PARTNERS</b></p>  |
| <p>a. <b>Forest Environment - Forest Legacy Program.</b><br/> Partner with the communities of the South County Watersheds Region to execute Forest Legacy acquisition projects within the region.</p>  | <p>➤ In FY2000, target and pursue forested lots within South County Watersheds Region for permanent protection.</p>   | <p>South County Watershed Partnership, watershed communities, The Nature Conservancy, RIDEM-Planning &amp; Development, RI Audubon Society</p>          |
| <p>b. <b>Water Resources – Watersheds and Standards Program</b><br/> <u>RI Wellhead Protection Program Implementation Grants – West Greenwich, North Kingstown, East Greenwich and Charlestown.</u><br/> To support implementation of projects to protect groundwater quality. These particular projects are focused on the development of groundwater educational materials and the development and adoption of groundwater protection overlay ordinances where applicable.</p>   | <p>➤ Enhanced protection of groundwater through public education and adoption of groundwater protection ordinances by March 2000.</p>   | <p>South County Watersheds Partnership, Towns of West Greenwich, North Kingstown, East Greenwich and Charlestown; state, federal &amp; local govts.</p> |
| <p>c. <b>Water Resources – Nonpoint Source Pollution Program</b><br/> <u>Wastewater Management Pilot Projects – Towns of Charlestown, Narragansett &amp; South Kingstown</u><br/> To develop and implement onsite wastewater management programs comprised of inspection programs, computerized wastewater management information systems and enhance access to homeowner assistance (i.e. Community Septic System Loan Program (CSSLP)) to prevent ISDS failure and untreated wastewater discharge to groundwater and surface water, especially the coastal ponds located within these towns.</p> | <p>➤ Minimized ISDS failure and pollution of groundwater and surface water pollution by successfully completing these pilot projects by FY 2001.</p>                                  | <p>South County Watersheds Partnership, URI, Towns of Charlestown, Narragansett and South Kingstown, Clean Water Finance Agency</p>                     |

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| <p>d. <b><i>Water Resources – Wastewater Planning &amp; Design Program</i></b><br/> Wastewater Planning &amp; Design - Town of Westerly<br/> To review and issue approval of the Westerly’s comprehensive 20-year wastewater facilities’ plan to address areas of failing ISDS and determine sewerage needs to minimize improperly treated wastewater discharges to groundwater and surface water.</p>   | <p>➤ Updated plan to address areas of failing ISDS and sewer extensions to meet water quality based permit limits by Winter 2000. Approved design plans for construction of selected facilities by end of 2001.</p> | <p>Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership<br/> Wood-Pawcatuck Association<br/> Town of Westerly</p> |
| <p>e. <b><i>Water Resources – Nonpoint Source Pollution Program</i></b><br/> <u>North Kingstown Wastewater Management Implementation Program – Proposed.</u><br/> To assist in the implementation of the recently adopted Wastewater Management District Ordinance, which requires that all property owners have their ISDS/cesspools, inspected on a periodic basis (once every three years) to prevent discharge of improperly treated sanitary wastewater into groundwater.</p> | <p>➤ Implementation of local wastewater management program to protect groundwater from improperly treated wastewater by June 2000.</p>  | <p>South County Watersheds Partnership<br/> Town of North Kingstown</p>                      |

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br><b>Protect &amp; Restore the Quality of Surface And Groundwater</b>   |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High quality surface and groundwater protected</li> <li>• Impaired water quality restored</li> </ul> |
| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 4. Target regulatory compliance and inspection efforts to protect water quality.</b>  |  |  |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>  |
| <p>a. <b>Agriculture – Pesticide Program</b><br/> <u>Pesticide Compliance Monitoring &amp; Assistance Program</u><br/>                     To regulate the use of pesticides throughout Rhode Island by conducting routine inspections of agriculture operations and commercial businesses involved in the sale, storage and/or application of pesticides.</p>  | <p>➤ Continue data collection throughout FY2000 and create BMPs to control agricultural inputs of nitrogen and pesticides to groundwater.</p>                    | <p>South County Watersheds Partnership<br/>                     Farmers<br/>                     Business owners</p>   |
| <p>b. <b>Air Resources – Compliance &amp; Inspection</b><br/>                     Collaborate with the Office of Compliance &amp; Inspection to evaluate the compliance status of air pollution sources both major industrial and smaller miscellaneous sources (i.e. drycleaning facilities and gas stations). Conduct a checklist inspection of storage and disposal practices at these facilities.</p>   | <p>➤ Locate all non-compliant sources of air pollution to minimize contamination of the atmosphere and water and reduce impacts to public health in FY 2000.</p> | <p>South County Watersheds Partnership<br/>                     RIDEM – Compliance &amp; Inspection</p>  |
| <p>c. <b>Compliance &amp; Inspection – UIC Permitting &amp; Closure Activities – Charlestown, Richmond.</b><br/>                     To verify that all active Underground Injection Control (UIC) discharges have been approved and all UIC systems that need to be closed have been effectively closed in order to prevent pollution in the area.</p>   | <p>➤ All active UIC discharges approved and all closed UICs verified by June 2000.</p>   | <p>South County Watersheds Partnership<br/>                     Towns of Charlestown and Richmond, EPA</p>   |
| <p>d. <b>Compliance &amp; Inspection – Various Proposed Activities.</b><br/>                     1) To focus RCRA hazardous waste generator compliance monitoring on auto body shops in the Wood/Pawcatuck River watershed, especially high-risk sites for water pollution in order to prevent hazardous waste contamination of water bodies in the watershed.<br/>                     2) To give priority enforcement consideration to failed septic systems identified adjacent to sensitive coastal ponds and wetlands.</p> | <p>➤ Identify and inspect high-risk water pollution sources in South County Watershed Region by end of FY2000.</p>   | <p>Local Governments<br/>                     Autobody Shop Owners<br/>                     Homeowners</p>   |

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| <p>e. <b>Waste Management –Underground Storage Tank Management, and Waste Facilities Management – LUST, CERCLA/NPL Sites within the South County Watersheds Region.</b><br/> <u>WASTE FACILITIES:</u> Charlestown Sanitary Landfill, Richmond Transfer Station, Westerly Transfer Station.<br/> <u>LUST:</u> Hope Valley State Garage, Hopkinton; NE Telephone, Charlestown; Hope Valley Sunoco, Hopkinton; Exxon Gas, Richmond; Chariho HS, Richmond; Carroll Products, Richmond; Mobil Gas, Richmond; Alpine Ski Shop, Westerly; Beach St. Tire, Westerly; School St. Realty, Westerly; red Sone Tire, Westerly; United Builders, Westerly; Dunns Corner Mobil, Westerly; Main St Gulf, Westerly; Bradford Motors, Westerly; Westerly Town Garage; Main St. Shell, Westerly; Exxon/Shell (Rt. 138), Richmond; Hendel Chevron, Hopkinton; Boyds Service Station, Westerly; Hopkinton/Woodville Rd., Hopkinton.<br/> <u>STATE:</u> Westerly DOT Garage, Bradford Dye Dump, Robin Hollow Rdl, Richmond Elementary School, Westerly Town Garage, ProvGas – Westerly, Carroll Products, Imperial Home Décor.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Monitor and oversee clean-up activities throughout FY 2000 to ensure no further pollution occurs and promote the redevelopment of these sites.</li> </ul> | <p>Watershed Communities<br/>                 Federal Partners<br/>                 Business Owners</p> |
| <p>f. <b>Water Resources – Operation &amp; Maintenance Program</b><br/>                 Approval of Biosolids Distribution Site in Richmond<br/>                 Issue approval to Richmond Sand &amp; Gravel for the distribution of a blend of biosolids and loam for use as a soil amendments for landscaping construction projects.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Site inspection and ongoing monitoring of site to ensure permit compliance in FY2000.</li> </ul>  | <p>South County Watersheds Partnership<br/>                 Business Owners</p>                         |

**RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT**

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br><b>Protect &amp; Restore the Quality of Surface And Groundwater</b>  |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High quality surface and groundwater protected</li> <li>• Impaired water quality restored</li> </ul> |  |
| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 5. Remediate and revitalize Brownfields and other contaminated properties.</b>   |  |  |  |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>  |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>  |
| a. <u>Waste Management – Site Remediation &amp; Brownfields Revitalization within the South County Region.</u><br>CERCLA: Studley Property, West Greenwich; South Kingstown Septage Disposal Area; Beaver River Dump, Richmond; Carrol Products, Inc., Richmond; United Nuclear, Charlestown; Kenyon Piece Landfill, Charlestown; Canob Park, Richmond; Pine Hill Road Dump, Richmond; Charlestown Sanitary Landfill; Westerly Landfill; Rose Hill Landfill, South Kingstown; Wakefield/URI Dump, South Kingstown. |  | > Remediation projects initiated and/or completed at all sites by the end of FY 2000.  | South County Watersheds Partnership<br>Local Governments<br>Federal Partners |

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br><b>Protect &amp; Restore the Quality of Surface And Groundwater</b>  |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High quality surface and groundwater protected</li> <li>• Impaired water quality restored</li> </ul> |
| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 6. Prevent and/or mitigate impacts to and loss of wetlands through proactive planning, inspection and compliance.</b>  |  |  |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>  |
| a. <b>Multiple Divisions – Wetland GIS Mapping</b><br>Develop enhanced wetland GIS coverage with higher resolution and aerial photography to map the presence of wetlands at the parcel level where possible.  | ➤ <i>No staff or funding exists for this activity at this time.</i>  | The Nature Conservancy, Statewide Planning – RIGIS, Planning & Development, Water Resources, URI, Local Land Trusts, RI Audubon Society  |
| b. <b>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program</b><br>Provide training to encourage local communities to use creative land use techniques to guide growth away from wetlands.  | ➤ <i>No staff or funding exists for this activity at this time.</i>  | URI- CE, Statewide Planning, Grow Smart, Watershed Communities   |
| c. <b>Multiple Divisions – Wetland Acquisition</b><br>Encourage land trusts and communities to acquire wetland sites with North America Conservation Act and other funding sources.  | ➤ Wetland sites acquired.  | The Nature Conservancy, Statewide Planning – RIGIS, Planning & Development, Water Resources, URI, Local Land Trusts, RI Audubon Society  |
| d. <b>Compliance &amp; Inspection – Wetlands Compliance Monitoring</b><br>Coordinate enforcement activities with the CRMC during their takeover of enforcement duties for coastal freshwater wetlands. Coordinate with the Office of Water Resources to prioritize projects that have notified of commencement of construction activities.           | ➤ Delineated enforcement activities to DEM and CRMC in FY2000. Prioritized project list for construction projects. | Coastal Resources Management Council, Office of Water Resources, South County Watersheds Partnership, watershed communities  |
| e. <b>Water Resources – Wetlands Permitting</b><br><u>Proposed Permits in the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed</u><br>Review and take action on wetlands permit applications in accordance with Freshwater wetlands regulations at following: Reserve at Brush Brook, Beaver River Golf Course and Classic Acres, Inc., and other proposed development sites | ➤ Actions taken on current wetlands permit applications in FY2000.   | Local Governments<br>Division of Compliance & Inspection, property owners, South County Watersheds Partnership   |

| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br>Develop a Comprehensive Plan for Water Use Management And Conservation  |   | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pending input from water use stakeholder group</li> </ul> |
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| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:</b> 1. Assess existing water uses in the watershed and their current or potential impacts to wetlands and riverine ecosystems, beginning with the Queens River subbasin.  |   |  |
| DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION<br>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY   | PERFORMANCE MEASURES  | PARTNERS   |
| a. <b>Water Resources – Watersheds and Standards Program</b><br><u>Water Use Stakeholders Group.</u><br>Ongoing communication and participation of diverse water users to create sustainable collaborative solutions to water use issues in the Pawcatuck Watershed.  | ➤ Active participation of water use stakeholder group in developing comprehensive water use and conservation plan for the Pawcatuck Watershed.  | Water Use Stakeholders Group   |
| b. <b>RIWRB – Watersheds and Standards Program</b><br><u>Hydrologic System Model for Queen –Usquepaug pilot area</u><br>Develop a model to understand the current surface and groundwater system and how it is affected by present and possible future human activities, such as withdrawals for irrigation and public drinking water supply. Utilize model to test various water management and basin development alternatives to determine their effect on flow in the river. | ➤ Understanding of hydrology of Queen-Usquepaug sub-watershed, and availability and demand for water. Evaluation of alternative water management scenarios and their effect upon stream flow by September 2001. | USGS<br>RI Water Resources Board<br>Water Use Stakeholders Group   |
| c. <b>RIWRB Streamflow and Aquatic Habitat in the Queen-Usquepaug pilot area</b><br>Working with volunteers, assess stream habitat to better understand the types and distribution of habitat in the Queen-Usquepaug River, the magnitude and patterns of habitat loss in response to changing flows, and the relation between model simulated flows and aquatic habitat.<br>**New funding required for Year II.**  | ➤ Understanding of stream habitat types and relationship with changes in stream flow by 2001.   | USGS<br>Water Use Stakeholders Group   |

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br>Develop a Comprehensive Plan for Water Use Management And Conservation  |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pending input from water use stakeholder group</li> </ul> |                 |
| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:2. Increase awareness and understanding of communities, residents and primary water users about the complexities of water use issues in the watershed. ** NRCS offered this strategy to the Action Program</b> |  |  |                 |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b> |
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| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:3. Build support for the development of a comprehensive water use and management plan for the South County Region. ** NRCS offered this strategy to the Action Program.</b>                                    |  |  |                 |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b> |
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**RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT**

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br>Develop a Comprehensive Plan for Water Use Management And Conservation | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b> |
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**MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:4.** Provide technical assistance to the PWP Water Use Stakeholders Group as it begins development of a comprehensive plan for the Queens River subbasin. **\*\* NRCS offered this strategy to the Action Program.**

| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME\PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b> | <b>PERFORMANCE</b><br><b>MEASURES</b> | <b>PARTNERS</b> |
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**MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:5.** Explore the feasibility of developing “water quantity overlay districts” to complement local zoning ordinances. **\*\* NRCS offered this strategy to the Action Program.**

| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME\PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b> | <b>PERFORMANCE</b><br><b>MEASURES</b> | <b>PARTNERS</b> |
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**MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:6.** Review, evaluate and reorganize, if necessary, current information on water availability to support new growth. **\*\* NRCS offered this strategy to the Action Program.**

| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME\PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b> | <b>PERFORMANCE</b><br><b>MEASURES</b> | <b>PARTNERS</b> |
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# *RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program*    **DRAFT**

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br><b>Plan For Growth</b>  |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creative land use techniques adopted</li> <li>• Environmental impacts of growth minimized</li> </ul> |  |   |  |
| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:</b><br><b>1. Support technical planning assistance to help towns develop more creative land use techniques to more effectively plan for and manage growth to minimize impacts to the environment and community character.</b>   |  |  |  |   |  |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  |  | <b>PARTNERS</b>   |  |
| a. <b><i>Fish &amp; Wildlife – Technical Assistance &amp; Outreach</i></b><br>Provide technical assistance to the communities of the South County Watersheds Region on land use decisions with regard to fish & wildlife habitat concerns.  |  | ➤ Conducted meetings with all local planning boards from within the watershed on habitat and local land use issues by the end of FY 2000.                                      |  | Local Governments<br>Land Owners  |  |
| b. <b><i>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program.</i></b><br><u>South County Watersheds Technical Planning Assistance Program.</u><br>Continue to work with the Rural Lands Coalition and Washington County Regional Planning Council to provide technical assistance to watershed communities to develop alternative land use ordinances, determine the feasibility of using a TDR system to protect farmland, forestland and open space and provide educational outreach to watershed communities. This project and the following two activities are part of an integrated approach to help towns plan for growth within the region. |  | ➤ Model Creative Land Use Ordinances Developed and presented to local planning boards and town members by August 2000.   |  | Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership<br>Rural Lands Coalition                |  |
| c. <b><i>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program.</i></b><br><u>South County Watersheds Greenspace Protection &amp; Implementation Strategy.</u><br>Work with the Rural Lands Coalition and the Washington County Regional Planning Council to create a watershed greenspace protection strategy with the watershed communities to establish priorities for acquisition and to help guide growth away from community and regional environmental, recreational and cultural protection priorities. Plan is part of Regional 2020 Vision being developed by the Regional Planning Council.   |  | ➤ Regional Greenspace Plan Developed presented to local planning boards, project partners and town members by January 2001.  |  | Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership<br>Rural Lands Coalition                |  |
| d. <b><i>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program.</i></b><br><u>South County Watersheds Vernal Pools Initiative.</u><br>Work with University of Rhode Island to produce comprehensive vernal pools information (GIS coverages and maps) for each watershed community to be used in the greenspace protection and implementation process.   |  | ➤ GIS coverage and maps of vernal pools within South County Watersheds Region distributed to watershed communities by Spring 2000.   |  | University of Rhode Island – EDC & NRS<br>The Nature Conservancy<br>EPA |  |

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| <p><b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br/><b>Plan For Growth</b></p>  | <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creative land use techniques adopted</li> <li>• Environmental impacts of growth minimized</li> </ul> |  |
| <p><b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 2. Develop training programs for local boards to increase their knowledge of basic and more creative land use techniques.</b></p>  |   |  |
| <p><b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br/><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b></p>   | <p><b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b></p>  | <p><b>PARTNERS</b></p>   |
| <p>a. <b>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program.</b><br/><u>Grow Smart Municipal Training Committee.</u><br/>To provide input and expertise to Grow Smart’s committee as assistance in the development of a smart growth training curriculum for planning boards.</p>   | <p>➤ Training Curriculum Developed.</p>   | <p>Grow Smart<br/>Statewide Planning</p>   |
| <p>b. <b>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program.</b><br/><u>Flexible Zoning Training Manual.</u><br/>To develop a training manual and course to assist towns, planners and developers to implement flexible zoning techniques.</p>  | <p>➤ Training Manual Developed and distributed to RI communities no later Summer 2000.</p>  | <p>Scituate Reservoir Watershed Communities<br/>Rural Lands Coalition</p>                                |
| <p><b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 3. Prepare and distribute educational materials to increase awareness of the impacts of unplanned growth to the environment and community character.</b></p>   |   |  |
| <p><b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br/><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b></p>   | <p><b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b></p>  | <p><b>PARTNERS</b></p>   |
| <p>a. <b>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program.</b><br/><u>South County Watersheds Technical Planning Assistance Program.</u><br/>To provide technical assistance to watershed communities to develop alternative land use ordinances, determine the feasibility of using a TDR system to protect farmland, forestland and open space and provide educational outreach to watershed communities.</p> | <p>➤ Model Creative Land Use Ordinances Developed and presented to local planning boards and town members by August 2000.</p>   | <p>South County Watersheds Partnership<br/>Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership<br/>Rural Lands Coalition</p> |
| <p>b. <b>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program.</b><br/><u>Conservation Development Slide Presentation.</u><br/>To present slide presentations and lectures to a wide audience, including RI Builders Association, planning boards, town councils, other state agencies, on conservation development techniques.</p>   | <p><i>No funding or staff exists for this activity at this time.</i></p>  |  |
| <p>c. <b>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy - Sustainable Watersheds Program.</b><br/><u>Conservation Development Website.</u><br/>To develop an interactive Website to demonstrate creative land use techniques.</p>  | <p><i>No funding or staff exists for this activity at this time.</i></p>  |  |

**RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT**

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br><b>Plan For Growth</b>  |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creative land use techniques adopted</li> <li>• Environmental impacts of growth minimized</li> </ul> |                 |
| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:</b><br><b>2. Establish challenge grants to encourage the adoption and implementation of creative land use techniques and pro-active planning.</b>         |  |  |                 |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b> |
| a. <i>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program. Challenge Grant Program – Proposed.</i><br>To locate funding sources to support challenge grants program. |  | <i>No funding or staff exists for this activity at this time.</i>  |                 |

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br><b>Maintain And Restore Habitat and Populations of Fish &amp; Wildlife</b>  |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced fish and wildlife populations</li> <li>• Key habitat protected and/or restored</li> </ul> |   |
| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:</b><br><b>1. Preserve, protect and restore habitat and populations of game and non-game wildlife.</b>   |  |  |   |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>   |
| a. <i>Compliance &amp; Inspection and Planning &amp; Development – Capital Development and Asset Protection</i><br><u>Dams Safety Program</u><br>To inspect dams in the South County Watersheds Region to determine safety and/or if the dam is a good candidate for removal to improve fish passage. |  | ➤ Inspect dams within South County Watershed Region and create action plan for dam repairs and/or demolition by the end of FY2000.   | Watershed communities, South County Watershed Partnership, USFWS, RIDEM-F&W, ACOE |
| b. <i>Fish and Wildlife – Freshwater Fisheries</i><br><u>Pond and Stream Survey</u><br>To compile a fisheries inventory of the State’s freshwater ponds and streams. The Pawcatuck River and coastal watersheds will be surveyed during the 1998-2002 segment of the study.                           |  | ➤ Complete inventory by FY2002 to better understand the species composition of these waters and to educate the public on the results of these inventories.                   | South County Watershed Partnership, Wood-Pawcatuck Association, USFWS             |
| c. <i>Fish and Wildlife – Freshwater Fisheries</i><br><u>Sea-Run Salmonid Studies</u><br>To establish a self-sustaining sea-run salmonid fishery by stocking Atlantic salmon fry, parr, and smolts into streams throughout the Pawcatuck River watershed.   |  | ➤ Raise brood of (Pawcatuck) Atlantic Salmon parr in Arcadia Hatchery (FY2000/2001). Release smolts to the Pawcatuck River in Summer 2001/2002.                              | USFWS, South County Watershed Partnership   |

***RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program* DRAFT**

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| <p>d. <b><i>Fish &amp; Wildlife – Technical Assistance &amp; Outreach</i></b><br/>Provide technical assistance to the communities of the South County Watersheds Region on land use decisions with regard to fish &amp; wildlife habitat concerns.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Conducted meetings with all local planning boards from within the watershed on habitat and local land use issues by the end of FY 2000.</li> </ul> | <p>Local Governments<br/>Land Owners<br/>South County Watershed Partnership</p>   |
| <p>e. <b><i>Fish &amp; Wildlife – Inter-jurisdictional management plans.</i></b><br/>Complete inter-jurisdictional management plans for three additional species: horseshoe crab, blue crab and eel. Add tautog and winter flounder to the list of regional management plans.</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Completed management plans by the end of FY 2000.</li> </ul>   | <p>RI Marine Fisheries Council</p>  |
| <p>f. <b><i>Fish &amp; Wildlife - Species of Concern.</i></b><br/>Collaborating with RI Natural Heritage and The Nature Conservancy to continue monitoring all known nesting sites of piping plover. Attempt to restore, by brush cutting, 10 acres of American Burying Beetle habitat on Block Island. Survey 65 colony nesting bird nesting sites.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Complete surveys and restoration projects by the end of FY2000.</li> </ul>   | <p>RI Natural Heritage Program<br/>The Nature Conservancy<br/>USFWS, RI Audubon, South County Watershed Partnership</p> |
| <p>g. <b><i>Fish and Wildlife – Freshwater Fisheries</i></b><br/>American Shad and River Herring Restoration and Enhancement<br/>To increase the number of American shad returning to the Pawcatuck River, to maximize river herring populations in coastal ponds, and to improve and to create fish passage to make additional spawning and rearing habitat available.</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Continue Shad &amp; Herring reintroduction into the Pawcatuck River during Spring &amp; Summer 2000.</li> </ul>                                    | <p>Planning &amp; Development<br/>Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership, South County Watershed Partnership</p>               |
| <p>h. <b><i>Fish &amp; Wildlife – Cooperative Anadromous Fish Restoration Plan (CAFRP) for the Pawcatuck River.</i></b><br/>In cooperation with USFWS, revise and improve the CAFRP for the Pawcatuck River. Includes fisheries surveys.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ By the end of FY2000, a revised, cooperative action plan for anadromous fish restoration in the Pawcatuck River.</li> </ul>                        | <p>USFWS<br/>Wood-Pawcatuck Association<br/>Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership</p>   |
| <p>i. <b><i>Fish &amp; Wildlife – Handicap Fishing Access.</i></b><br/>In collaboration with the Governor’s Commission on Disabilities. Work with Wood-Pawcatuck Association to develop a handicap dock access site at its headquarters in Westerly, as well as work with other partners for sites at Little Round Top Pond and Carolina Trout Pond. Collaborate with SCAT to construct a handicap accessible trail at Black Point Fishing Area.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Construction of handicap access structures commenced at the selected sites.</li> </ul>   | <p>Governor’s Commission on Disabilities<br/>Planning &amp; Development<br/>Watershed Communities</p>                   |
| <p>j. <b><i>Fish &amp; Wildlife – Shore Fishing Access.</i></b><br/>Develop a new shore fishing access area at Barberville Dam, Wood River and Black Point.</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Access points constructed by Summer 2000.</li> </ul>   | <p>Planning &amp; Development<br/>Watershed Communities<br/>South County Watershed Partnership</p>                      |

***RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT***

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| <p>k. <b><i>Fish &amp; Wildlife – Habitat Restoration.</i></b> <u>Galilee Bird Sanctuary Salt Marsh Restoration.</u><br/>Monitoring and data collection of large salt marsh restoration project to help guide future restoration efforts in the region.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Periodic monitoring reports until March 2000.</li> </ul>  | <p>University of Rhode Island-NRS<br/>US Fish &amp; Wildlife</p>   |
| <p>l. <b><i>Forest Environment – Intent to Cut Program</i></b><br/><u>Inspection of Intent to Cut</u><br/>Identify vernal pools and recommend to loggers Best Management Practices (BMPs) that prevent impacts from logging sites.</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Site visits conducted throughout FY2000.</li> </ul>   | <p>Land Owners</p>   |
| <p>m. <b><i>Forest Environment – Forest Stewardship Program</i></b><br/>Require forest management plans prepared under the Stewardship Incentives Program (which pays 75% of the cost of the plan) contact the Natural Heritage program regarding the presence of threatened and endangered species.</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Promulgate guidance for Stewardship Incentives Program for FY2000.</li> </ul>   | <p>Land Owners<br/>South County Watershed Partnership</p>  |
| <p>n. <b><i>Planning &amp; Development – Land Acquisition Program</i></b><br/>Working with The Nature Conservancy, local land trusts and local governments to permanently protect open space, farmland and recreational land throughout the South County Watersheds Region.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Protect between 500 and 1000 acres of land in the South County Watershed region in FY2000.</li> </ul>   | <p>The Nature Conservancy, local land trusts, local governments, Audubon Society, South County Watershed Partnership</p> |
| <p>o. <b><i>Planning and Development – Capital Development and Asset Protection</i></b><br/>Work with RIDEM and US Fish &amp; Wildlife to design &amp; supervise construction of improvements to the Perryville and Lafayette Hatcheries and the Barberville Fishing Pier (\$700,000).</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Design for the Perryville hatchery will be finished by 2/1/00 and construction will be finished by 9/1/00.</li> <li>➤ Design for the Lafayette Hatchery Hatch House will be finished by 4/1/01 and construction will be finished by 7/1/02.</li> <li>➤ Construction of Barberville Fishing Pier will be completed by 4/1/00.</li> </ul> | <p>USFWS<br/>RIDEM – Division of Parks &amp; Recreation</p>  |
| <p>p. <b><i>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program</i></b><br/><u>Alternative Forest-based Business Opportunities</u><br/>Work with Rural Lands Coalition to establish a WWW-based “marketplace” to buy and sell locally grown, alternative forest products such as, maple syrup, mushrooms and specialty furniture.</p>                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Website established and operating by December 2000.</li> </ul>  | <p>Rural Lands Coalition, South County Watershed Partnership, Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership</p>                        |
| <p>q. <b><i>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program</i></b><br/><u>Alternative Forest-based Business Opportunities</u><br/>Work with Rural Lands Coalition and RI Federation of Sportsman Club to increase awareness of landowners regarding non-traditional forest products, including hunting/fishing as well as recreational lease opportunities.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Perform outreach to land- owners and interest groups by December 2000.</li> </ul>   | <p>Rural Lands Coalition RI Federation of Sportsman Club<br/>South County Watershed Partnership</p>                      |

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br>Maintain And Restore Habitat and Populations of Fish & Wildlife   |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced fish and wildlife populations</li> <li>Key habitat protected and/or restored</li> </ul> |   |
| <b>management strategy:</b><br>2. Maintain stream flow to protect aquatic habitat.  |  |   |   |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>aACTIVITY NAME\PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>  |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>   | <b>PARTNERS</b>   |
| a. <b>Fish &amp; Wildlife and Water Resources - Queen-Usquepaug River Water Use Project w/Water Use Stakeholders Group.</b><br>To create sustainable collaborative solutions to water use issues in the Pawcatuck Watershed by monitoring flow and withdrawals, assessing macrohabitat and developing a watershed model to determine “natural” stream flows in the basin, to aid in determining “safe yields,” to evaluate water supply and irrigation management alternatives. |  | ➤ Published Study Report including action & implementation plan by October 2001.  | South County Watershed Partnership, Water Use Stakeholders Group, watershed communities |
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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br>Maintain And Restore Habitat and Populations of Fish & Wildlife   |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced fish and wildlife populations</li> <li>Key habitat protected and/or restored</li> </ul> |   |
| <b>management strategy:</b><br>3. Focus funding programs for land acquisition to protect habitat within the watersheds.   |  |   |   |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME\PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>   | <b>PARTNERS</b>   |
| a. <b>Fish and Wildlife – Proposed Land Acquisitions.</b><br>Working with Planning & Development to acquire: 1) Three hundred feet of frontage on the lower Wood River (Tefft Property) to protect habitat and provide access, 2) Thirty acres new the Great Swamp Mgt Area (LaChapelle), 3) Forty-five acres near Arcadia Mgt. Area (Richards).                                  |  | ➤ Land acquired by the end of FY2000.   | Planning & Development – Land Acquisition Program<br>Land Owners; Watershed Communities; South County Watershed Partnership |
| b. <b>Planning &amp; Development – Land Acquisition Program</b><br>Working with The Nature Conservancy, local land trusts and local governments to permanently protect open space, farmland, valuable habitat and recreational land throughout the South County Watersheds Region. <i>See Planning &amp; Development FY2000 Work Plan for a list of active site acquisitions.</i> |  | ➤ Complete ongoing acquisitions and target new properties during FY2000.  | The Nature Conservancy, local land trusts and local governments, South County Watershed Partnership                         |

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br>Maintain And Restore Habitat and Populations of Fish & Wildlife   |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced fish and wildlife populations</li> <li>Key habitat protected and/or restored</li> </ul> |   |
| <b>management strategy:</b><br>4. Provide technical assistance and outreach to communities to preserve and protect habitat.   |  |  |   |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>   |
| a. <b>Fish &amp; Wildlife – Technical Assistance &amp; Outreach</b><br>Provide technical assistance to the communities of the South County Watersheds Region on land use decisions with regard to fish & wildlife habitat concerns. |  | ➤ Conducted meetings with all local planning boards from within the watershed on habitat and local land use issues by the end of FY 2000.                                | Local Governments<br>Land Owners; South County Watershed Partnership<br>Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership |
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| <p><b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br/> <b>Protect &amp; Sustain Farms, Forests &amp; Open Space</b></p>  |  | <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased acreage of protected farmland, forestland and open space</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 1. Develop alternative crops/business opportunities for farm and forest landowners to provide economic incentives to preserve working landscapes.</b></p>   |  |  |
| <p><b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br/> <b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b></p>   |  | <p><b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b></p>   |
| <p>a. <b>Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program.</b><br/> <u>Alternative forest-based Business Opportunities.</u><br/>                     Work with Rural Lands Coalition to preserve healthy and sustainable forests by encouraging landowners to adopt and implement alternative forest uses to establish new forest businesses that meet changing landowner and community needs.</p> |  | <p>➤ Distribution of educational pamphlets, launched website and community presentations by December 2000.</p>   |
| <p>b. <b>Multiple Divisions – Alternative Forest-based Opportunities</b><br/>                     Expand alternative forest-based opportunities project to agricultural lands.</p>   |  | <p>➤ <i>No funding or staff exists for this activity at this time.</i></p>   |
| <p>c. <b>Agriculture – Good Agricultural Practices Program.</b><br/>                     Work with NRCS, RI Farm Bureau, local planning departments and the Office of Water Resources to develop, promote and encourage the use of good agricultural practices and conservation measures in farming operations.</p>  |  | <p>➤ In FY2000, increased number of farms committed to good agricultural practices to protect the natural resources of the region.</p>   |
| <p>d. <b>Agriculture – Marketing &amp; Promotion Program.</b><br/> <u>Agricultural Marketing &amp; Promotion Program.</u><br/>                     To promote, sustain and encourage agriculture and farmers in Rhode Island through marketing and promotion of farms, farm products and farmers’ markets.</p>   |  | <p>➤ Increased annual number of farmers participating in state-organized Year 2000 Farmers’ Market and sales rate increase by 5-12%/year to promote the solvency of local farmers and reduce farm and farmland loss in RI.</p> |
|  |  | <p>Rural Lands Coalition, Div. Of Forest Environment, Div. Of Agriculture, watershed communities, local governments, land owners, South County Watershed Partnership</p>   |
|  |  | <p>RI Farm Bureau, Div. Of Agriculture, local farmers, Agriculture Council, South County Watershed Partnership URI/CE</p>  |
|  |  | <p>NRCS, RI Farm Bureau, Local Planning Departments, Office of Water Resources</p>   |
|  |  | <p>RI Farm Bureau<br/>                     RIDEM – Parks &amp; Recreation<br/>                     Local Farmers</p>   |

**RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT**

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br><b>Protect &amp; Sustain Farms, Forests &amp; Open Space</b>  |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased acreage of protected farmland, forestland and open space</li> </ul>                         |   |
| <b>Management strategy: 2. Target existing funding to purchase development rights for farmland, forestland and open space within the South County Watershed region.</b>   |  |  |   |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>   |
| <b>a. Agriculture and Planning &amp; Development – Farmland Preservation Program.</b><br><u>Purchase of Farmland Development Rights (Statewide).</u><br>Work with the RI Agricultural Land Preservation Commission, TNC, local governments and land trusts to promote land preservation and to preserve productive farmland through the acquisition of farmland development rights.   |  | ➤ Increased number of FDR purchases in FY2000 to protect productive RI farmland in order to ensure a viable agriculture sector and to protect the rural character of the region. | RI Agricultural Land Preservation Commission, TNC, local governments and land trusts  |
| <b>b. Strategic Planning &amp; Policy – Sustainable Watersheds Program.</b><br><u>South County Watersheds Greenspace Protection &amp; Implementation Strategy.</u><br>Working with RIDEM Division of Forest Environment to create a watershed greenspace protection strategy with the watershed communities to establish priorities for acquisition and to help guide growth away from community and regional environmental, recreational and cultural protection priorities. |  | ➤ Regional Greenspace Plan Developed presented to local planning boards, project partners and town members by January 2001.  | Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership, South County Watershed Partnership, Rural Lands Coalition                                  |
| <b>c. Resource Protection Partners – Community Small Grants Program.</b><br><u>Economics of Preserving Land, Development and Property Taxes in Rhode Island.</u><br>Assist communities by developing a grant program to determine the relationship between permanent land conservation for open space or critical natural resources and its effect/relationship to property taxes and town revenue for all Rhode Island communities.  |  | ➤ Award grants to watershed communities in FY2000.   | South County Watershed Partnership<br>Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership<br>Rural Lands Coalition                              |
| <b>d. Resource Protection Partners – Community Small Grants Program.</b><br><u>Identifying Critical Lands for Conservation.</u><br>To develop a statewide inventory of critical GIS-based data for land conservation that would support community decision-making for prioritizing lands for protection, allowing towns to conduct co-occurrence analyses.<br><i>Time Frame – July 1999 to December 1999.</i>   |  | ➤ Town-specific GIS coverages delivered in December 1999.  | Watershed communities, South County Watershed Partnership, URI-Natural Resources Science & Environmental Data Center, RIGIS |
| <b>e. Planning &amp; Development – Land Acquisition Program</b><br>Working with The Nature Conservancy, local land trusts and local governments to permanently protect open space, farmland, valuable habitat and recreational land throughout the South County Watersheds Region. <i>See Planning &amp; Development FY2000 Work Plan for a list of active site acquisitions.</i>   |  | ➤ Complete ongoing acquisitions and target new properties during FY2000.   | The Nature Conservancy, local land trusts, South County Watershed Partnership and local governments                         |

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| <p>f. <b><i>Forest Environment - Forest Legacy Program.</i></b><br/>Partner with the communities of South County to execute Forest Legacy land acquisition projects within the region.</p> | <p>➤ Identified sites for permanent protection in South County Watersheds Region by the end of FY2000.</p> | <p>Local land trusts, local governments, The Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society, Rural Lands Coalition, South County Watershed Partnership SNEFCI</p> |
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**RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT**

| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br>Protect & Sustain Farms, Forests & Open Space   |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased acreage of protected farmland, forestland and open space</li> </ul>                         |   |
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| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 3. Build capacity of land trusts and communities to pursue more creative land acquisition funding sources and techniques to acquire land.</b>   |  |  |   |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION<br/>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>   |
| a. <i>Agriculture and Planning &amp; Development – Farmland Preservation Program. Purchase of Farmland Development Rights (Statewide).</i><br>Work with the RI Agricultural Land Preservation Commission, TNC, local governments and land trusts to promote land preservation and to preserve productive farmland through the acquisition of farmland development rights. |  | ➤ Increased number of FDR purchases in FY2000 to protect productive RI farmland in order to ensure a viable agriculture sector and to protect the rural character of the region. | RI Agricultural Land Preservation Commission, The Nature Conservancy, local governments and land trusts |
| b. Work with Planning & Development, The Nature Conservancy and local land trusts to explore land acquisition techniques such as planned giving.  |  | ➤ <i>No staff or funding exists for this activity at this time.</i>  |   |
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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br>Protect & Sustain Farms, Forests & Open Space  |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased acreage of protected farmland, forestland and open space</li> </ul> |   |
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| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 4. Continue efforts to revise the Farm, Forest and Open Space Act to establish uniform current-use taxation values.</b>                          |  |  |   |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION<br/>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>  |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>   |
| a. <i>Forest Environment – State Conservation Committee</i><br>Assist State Conservation Committee with determining taxation values for Farm, Forest and Open Space Act. |  | ➤ Attend meetings and provide assistance beginning June 2000.  | RI Farm Bureau, Divs. Of Agriculture and Forest Environment, Agriculture Council, Rural Lands Coalition, SNEFCI |
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**RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT**

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br><b>Protect &amp; Sustain Farms, Forests &amp; Open Space</b>   |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased acreage of protected farmland, forestland and open space</li> </ul>   |   |
| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 5. Provide more assistance to landowners to market their locally grown products.</b>   |  |  |   |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>  |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>   |
| <p>a. <b>Agriculture – Marketing &amp; Promotion Program.</b><br/> <u>Agricultural Marketing &amp; Promotion Program.</u><br/>                     To promote, sustain and encourage agriculture and farmers in Rhode Island through marketing and promotion of farms, farm products and farmers’ markets.</p> |  | <p>➤ Increased annual number of farmers participating in state-organized Year 2000 Farmers’ Market and sales rate increase by 5-12%/year to promote the solvency of local farmers and reduce farm and farmland loss in RI.</p> | <p>Rural Lands Coalition, RI Farm Bureau<br/>                     RIDEM – Parks &amp; Recreation<br/>                     Local Farmers</p> |
| <p>b. <b>Agriculture – Farmers’ Markets</b><br/>                     Establish farmers’ markets at a state park and/or beach within the South County Watersheds Region.</p>  |  | <p>➤ <i>No funding or staff exists for this activity at this time.</i></p>   | <p>Division of Agriculture<br/>                     RI Farm Bureau<br/>                     Division of Parks &amp; Recreation</p>          |
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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br><b>Protect &amp; Sustain Farms, Forests &amp; Open Space</b>   |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased acreage of protected farmland, forestland and open space</li> </ul> |   |
| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: 6. Explore possibility of transferring ownership of some state properties to local interests.</b>                          |  |  |   |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>  |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>  | <b>PARTNERS</b>   |
| <p>a. <b>Planning &amp; Development.</b> Determine local interest in state properties that are acceptable to be transferred to local entities.</p> |  |  | <p>South County Watershed Partnership, watershed communities, State Properties Committee, land trusts</p> |
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***RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT***

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| <p>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:<br/> <b>Enhance Management Of Estuarine Waters</b></p>   |  | <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced estuarine water quality</li> <li>• Restored estuarine habitats</li> <li>• Enhanced management of recreational and commercial user group conflicts</li> </ul> |                        |
| <p><b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:</b><br/> <b>1. Develop comprehensive dredging and maintenance program for the coastal ponds and estuaries.</b></p> |  |  |                        |
| <p><b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br/> <b>ACTIVITY NAME\PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b></p>  |  | <p><b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b></p>   | <p><b>PARTNERS</b></p> |
| <p>a. Seek funds to assess dredging needs, disposal locations, and implementation of dredging program.</p>                                    |  | <p><i>No funding or staff exists for this activity at this time.</i></p>   |                        |
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**RIDEM Contribution to the South County Watersheds Action Program DRAFT**

| <p>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:<br/> <b>Enhance Management Of Estuarine Waters</b></p>   |  | <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced estuarine water quality</li> <li>• Restored estuarine habitats</li> <li>• Enhanced management of recreational and commercial user group conflicts</li> </ul> |   |
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| <p><b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:</b><br/> <b>2. Develop action plan to address recreational and commercial use group conflicts on the coastal ponds.</b></p>  |  |  |   |
| <p><b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br/> <b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b></p>  |  | <p><b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b></p>   | <p><b>PARTNERS</b></p>  |
| <p>a. <b>Fish &amp; Wildlife – Fisheries Management – Coastal Ponds Fisheries</b><br/>                     Conduct winter flounder research in the coastal ponds. Work with watershed partnerships on shellfish management issues in the salt ponds and estuaries.</p>  |  | <p>➤ Create winter flounder management plan by the end of FY2000.</p>  | <p>South County Watersheds Partnership<br/>                     USFWS</p>   |
| <p>r. <b>Fish &amp; Wildlife – Inter-jurisdictional management plans.</b><br/>                     Complete inter-jurisdictional management plans for three additional species: horse-shoe crab, blue crab and eel. Add tautog and winter flounder to the list of regional management plans.</p>  |  | <p>➤ Completed management plans by the end of FY 2000.</p>   | <p>RI Marine Fisheries Council</p>  |
| <p>b. <b>Law Enforcement – Public Safety</b><br/>                     Investigate possibility of banning personal watercraft (PWC) on all waterways less than 400 feet wide (by regulation). Partner with the Office of Legal Services to investigate legislation banning PWC on all constricted bodies of water in the South County Watersheds Region.</p> |  | <p>➤ Recommend regulations [in FY2000] to curb user group conflicts involving PWC on the coastal ponds to provide a safe and enjoyable environment.</p>  | <p>Watershed Communities<br/>                     CRMC<br/>                     South County Watersheds Partnership</p> |
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| <p><b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br/> <b>Maximize Quality &amp; Accessibility Of Recreational Opportunities</b></p>   | <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased public safety and handicap accessibility at state parks and recreational facilities</li> <li>• Improved quality of state parks and recreational facilities</li> </ul> |   |
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| <p><b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:</b><br/> <b>1. Improve public safety and handicap accessibility for state parks and management areas.</b></p>   |  |   |
| <p><b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br/> <b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b></p>   | <p><b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b></p>   | <p><b>PARTNERS</b></p>  |
| <p>a. <b>Fish &amp; Wildlife – Handicap Fishing Access.</b><br/>                 In collaboration with the Governor’s Commission on Disabilities. Work with Wood-Pawcatuck Association to develop a handicap dock access site at its headquarters in Westerly, as well as work with other partners for sites at Little Round Top Pond and Carolina Trout Pond. Collaborate with SCAT to construct a handicap accessible trail at Black Point Fishing Area.</p> | <p>➤ Construction of handicap access structures commenced at the selected sites.</p>   | <p>Governor’s Commission on Disabilities<br/>                 Planning &amp; Development<br/>                 Watershed Communities</p>                       |
| <p>b. <b>Planning and Development – Capital Development and Asset Protection</b><br/>                 Complete the Misquamicut Beach parking lot (Final element of the Misquamicut Improvement Program - \$3.5 million).</p>   | <p>➤ Construction will begin at Misquamicut on 9/15/99 and finish 4/1/00.</p>  | <p>Watershed communities,<br/>                 South County Watersheds Partnership, USFWS<br/>                 RIDEM – Division of Parks &amp; Recreation</p> |
| <p>a. <b>Planning &amp; Development – Land Acquisition Program</b><br/>                 Working with The Nature Conservancy, local land trusts and local governments to permanently protect open space, farmland, valuable habitat and recreational land throughout the South County Watersheds Region. <i>See Planning &amp; Development FY2000 Work Plan for a list of active site acquisitions.</i></p>   | <p>➤ Complete ongoing acquisitions and target new properties during FY2000.</p>  | <p>The Nature Conservancy,<br/>                 local land trusts, South County Watersheds Partnership and local governments</p>                              |

| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br><b>Maximize Quality &amp; Accessibility Of Recreational Opportunities</b>   |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased public safety and handicap accessibility at state parks and recreational facilities</li> <li>Improved quality of state parks and recreational facilities</li> </ul> |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:</b><br><b>2. Acquire new or expand existing recreational facilities to meet public demand.</b>  |  |   |  |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME/PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>   | <b>PARTNERS</b>  |
| <b>a. Fish &amp; Wildlife – Shore Fishing Access.</b><br>Develop a new shore fishing access area at Barberville Dam, Wood River and Black Point.  |  | > Access areas constructed by Summer 2000.  | Planning & Development Watershed Communities   |
| <b>b. Parks &amp; Recreation – Capital Improvements and Expansion.</b><br>Seek support and funding of possible acquisition and expansion of camping facilities at Fisherman’s Memorial State Park, Narragansett.  |  | > Target funding sources and parcels for acquisition by the end of FY2000.  | Watershed communities<br>Local governments   |
| <b>c. Planning &amp; Development – Land Acquisition Program</b><br>Working with The Nature Conservancy, local land trusts and local governments to permanently protect open space, farmland, valuable habitat and recreational land throughout the South County Watersheds Region. <i>See Planning &amp; Development FY2000 Work Plan for a list of active site acquisitions.</i> |  | > Complete ongoing acquisitions and target new properties during FY2000.  | The Nature Conservancy, local land trusts and local governments  |
| <b>d. Planning &amp; Development – Greenways &amp; Recreational Trails Grant Program</b><br>Encourage and assist local communities, environmental agencies and nonprofit organizations to identify and protect locally significant open space and greenways to develop and improve local recreation opportunities.  |  | > Identify and target acquisition and protection efforts for new recreational opportunities in FY2000.  | South County Watersheds Partnership, Rural Lands Coalition, Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership, local governments, local land trusts. |
| <b>e. Parks &amp; Recreation – Program Enhancement</b><br>Re-establish seasonal environmental education/interpretive program through public/private partnerships with non-profit environmental groups. Promote special events and activities at state facilities.   |  | > <i>No funding or staff exists for this activity at this time.</i>   | Pawcatuck Watershed Partnership, South County Watershed Partnerships, The Nature Conservancy, RI Audubon Society                   |

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| <b>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:</b><br><b>Maximize Quality &amp; Accessibility Of Recreational Opportunities</b>   |  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased public safety and handicap accessibility at state parks and recreational facilities</li> <li>• Improved quality of state parks and recreational facilities</li> </ul> |  |
| <b>MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:</b><br><b>3. Recruit and hire necessary seasonal staff to perform the maintenance needs of the state park facilities.</b>   |  |   |  |
| <b>DIVISION – PROGRAM/SECTION</b><br><b>ACTIVITY NAME\PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY</b>   |  | <b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>   | <b>PARTNERS</b>                                  |
| a. <i>Parks &amp; Recreation</i> – <b>Seasonal Hiring and Maintaining Operational Levels.</b><br>Recruit and hire the necessary staff (including seasonals) to operate and maintain state beaches and recreational areas. |  | ➤ Assess hiring needs and target funds for the Maintenance and Operations of state parks and recreational facilities.   | <i>No partners identified for this activity.</i> |
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