

Coastal Barrier Resources System Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project

Summary of Final Recommended Changes for Massachusetts

In 2014, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) initiated the Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project to comprehensively modernize the maps for the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources (CBRS) units in the nine states most affected by Hurricane Sandy: Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York (Long Island), Rhode Island, and Virginia. This fact sheet summarizes the final recommended changes to the CBRS units in Massachusetts resulting from this project. The revised maps produced through this project will only become effective once they are adopted by Congress through legislation. For additional information on the Coastal Barrier Resources Act and the Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project, please visit: <https://www.fws.gov/project/hurricane-sandy-remapping-project>.

Number of Units

Total Recommended Massachusetts Units: 106

System Units: 62

Otherwise Protected Areas (OPAs): 44

The Service has prepared comprehensively revised final recommended maps for all of the 86 existing CBRS units in Massachusetts. Two existing units in Massachusetts

have no recommended changes. The Service identified 24 recommended new units in Massachusetts. Ten of the 24 recommended new units in Massachusetts are comprised either partially or entirely of areas that are currently contained within the CBRS, but are recommended for reclassification from System Unit to OPA (or vice versa). Fourteen of the 24 recommended new units in Massachusetts are comprised entirely of areas that are not currently contained within the CBRS. Thirty-four percent of the acreage in the 24 recommended new Massachusetts units is not currently within the CBRS. Four of the existing 86 units are recommended for reclassification from System Unit to OPA (or vice versa), and therefore their current unit numbers are retired, resulting in 106 total recommended units.

Public Review and Comments

The Service held a 120-day public review and comment period on the proposed boundaries in Massachusetts from March 12 through July 10, 2018 (83 FR 10739). The Service received ten comments affecting eight units in Massachusetts. For a summary of the comments received and the Service's responses, see [chapter 3](#) and [appendix C](#) of the 2022 *Report to Congress: John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project*.

Changes between Proposed and Final Recommended Boundaries

The aerial imagery initially used to prepare the proposed boundaries for the Massachusetts units in this project was dated 2016. When preparing the final recommended boundaries, the Service reviewed the proposed boundaries against the updated imagery and made necessary adjustments to better follow the intended features visible on the updated imagery. The imagery used for the final recommended maps is dated 2018. The Service also made changes to four units in response to comments received during the public comment period, and created one new recommended unit that was not initially proposed. The changes made between the proposed and final recommended boundaries for each Massachusetts unit are summarized in [appendix D](#) of the 2022 *Report to Congress: John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project*.

Final Recommended Acreage and Structure Changes

The final recommended maps for the Massachusetts units would remove 309 acres from the CBRS (161 acres of fastland and 148 acres of associated aquatic habitat) and add 32,746 acres to the CBRS (2,615 acres of fastland and 30,131 acres of associated aquatic habitat). The final recommended maps

for the Massachusetts units would remove 131 acres of privately owned lands not held for conservation/recreation from the CBRS and add 1,038 acres of privately owned lands to the CBRS.

The final recommended boundaries would remove 168 structures (mostly private residential) from the CBRS and add 77 structures (mostly park-

related) to the CBRS. Information about the recommended changes for each of the individual Massachusetts units (including acreage and structure changes) is available in [appendix D](#) of the 2022 *Report to Congress: John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project* and at: <https://www.fws.gov/project/hurricane-sandy-remapping-project>.

Final Recommended Acreage and Structure Changes for Massachusetts

	<i>Fastland Acres¹</i>		<i>Associated Aquatic Habitat Acres²</i>		<i>Total Acres</i>		<i>Total Structures³</i>	
	<i>System Unit</i>	<i>OPAs</i>	<i>System Unit</i>	<i>OPAs</i>	<i>System Unit</i>	<i>OPAs</i>	<i>System Unit</i>	<i>OPAs</i>
Added to the CBRS	1,047	1,568	8,945	21,186	9,992	22,754	23	54
	Total: 2,615		Total: 30,131		Total: 32,746		Total: 77	
Removed from the CBRS	111	50	136	12	247	62	116	52
	Total: 161		Total: 148		Total: 309		Total: 168	
Net Reclassified ⁴	(702)	702	(6,375)	6,375	(7,077)	7,077		
Net Change	Total: 2,454		Total: 29,983		Total: 32,437		Total: (91)	

¹ Land above mean high tide.

² Associated aquatic habitat includes wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and open water landward of the coastal barrier, but does not include open water seaward of the shoreline. This information is derived from National Wetlands Inventory data.

³ Approximate structure count derived from base map imagery. Gas and liquid storage tanks, structures without walls and a roof (e.g., picnic shelters), structures with fewer than 200 square feet, structures that are not affixed to a permanent site (e.g., recreational vehicles), and structures that are not located principally above ground are not included in this structure count because they do not meet the statutory definition of a "structure" (16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(2)).

⁴ Reclassified area are areas currently with the CBRS that are recommended for reclassification from System Unit to OPA or vice versa.

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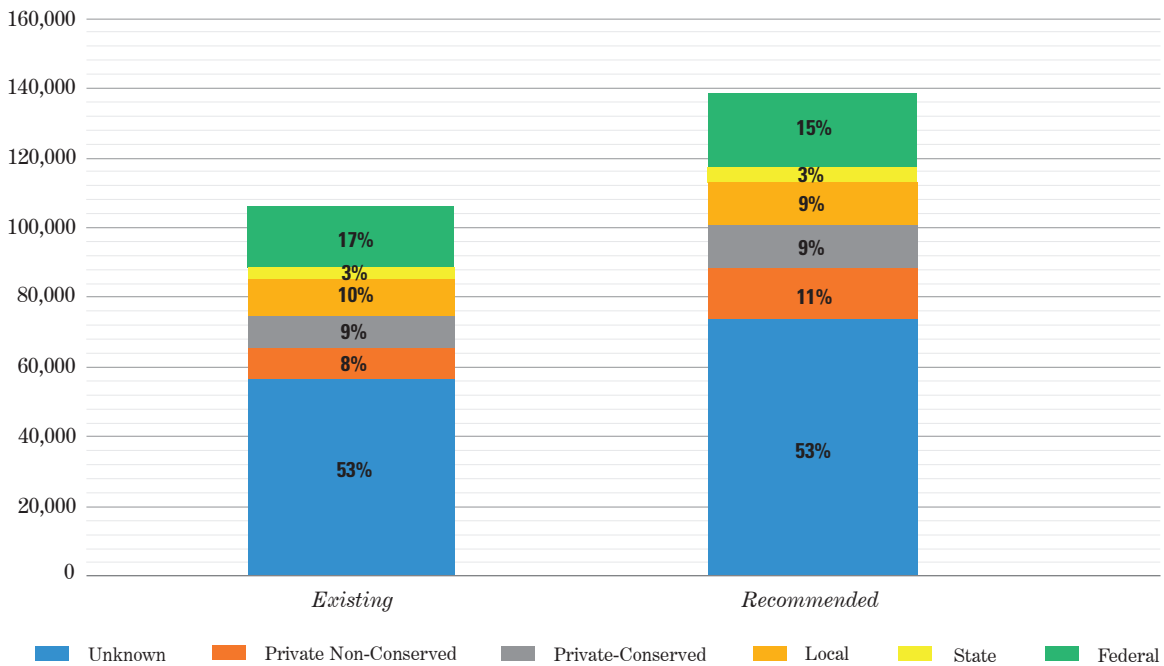
Final Recommended Changes by Land Ownership

The ownership type of the existing and final recommended CBRS units in Massachusetts is depicted in the graph below. In conducting this project, the Service relied heavily on

publicly available state and local GIS data, which did not contain ownership information for certain areas (mostly large swaths of wetlands and open water) that are within the project area; and therefore such areas are categorized as “unknown.” “Private conserved” indicates areas that

are owned by private individuals or organizations (e.g., The Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society, etc.) and held specifically for conservation and/or recreation purposes, including privately owned areas that are subject to conservation easements.

Ownership Type and Percent Acreage¹ of Existing and Final Recommended Coastal Barrier Resources System Units for Massachusetts



¹Ownership data was acquired from local, state, federal, and non-governmental organizations between 2014 and 2017

Massachusetts Units in Project

<i>County</i>	<i>Congressional District</i>	<i>Unit Number</i>	<i>Unit Name</i>	<i>Unit Status</i>
Essex	MA-6	C00	Clark Pond	Existing Unit
Essex	MA-6	C01	Wingaersheek	Existing Unit
Essex	MA-6	C01A	Good Harbor Beach/ Milk Island	Existing Unit
Essex	MA-6	C01B	Brace Cove	Existing Unit
Suffolk	MA-7	C01C	West Head Beach	Existing Unit
Suffolk	MA-7	C01CP	West Head Beach	New Unit
Plymouth	MA-8	C02	North Scituate	Existing Unit Reclassified to Unit C02P and Unit Number Retired
Plymouth	MA-8	C02P	North Scituate	New Unit—Partially Reclassified
Plymouth	MA-8, MA-9	C03	Rivermoor	Existing Unit
Plymouth	MA-8, MA-9	C03A	Rexhame	Existing Unit
Plymouth	MA-9	C04	Plymouth Bay	Existing Unit
Plymouth	MA-9	C06	Center Hill Complex	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C08	Scorton	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C09	Sandy Neck	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C09P	Sandy Neck	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C10	Freemans Pond	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C11	Namskaket Spits	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C11A	Boat Meadow	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C11AP	Boat Meadow	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C11P	Namskaket Spits	New Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C12	Chatham Roads	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C12P	Chatham Roads	New Unit—Mostly Reclassified
Barnstable	MA-9	C13	Lewis Bay	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C13P	Lewis Bay	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C14	Squaw Island	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C15	Centerville	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C15P	Centerville	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C16	Dead Neck	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C17	Popponeset Spit	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C18	Waquoit Bay	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C18A	Falmouth Ponds	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	C18P	Waquoit Bay	Existing Unit reclassified to Unit C18 and Unit Number Retired
Barnstable	MA-9	C19	Black Beach	Existing Unit
Plymouth	MA-9	C19A	Buzzards Bay Complex	Existing Unit
Plymouth	MA-9	C19AP	Buzzards Bay Complex	New Unit—Mostly Reclassified
Barnstable	MA-9	C19P	Little Sippewisset Marsh	New Unit
Nantucket	MA-9	C20	Coatue	Existing Unit
Nantucket	MA-9	C20P	Coatue	New Unit—Mostly Reclassified
Nantucket	MA-9	C21	Sesachacha Pond	Existing Unit

Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project

Massachusetts Units in Project —Continued

<i>County</i>	<i>Congressional District</i>	<i>Unit Number</i>	<i>Unit Name</i>	<i>Unit Status</i>
Nantucket	MA-9	C22	Cisco Beach	Existing Unit Reclassified to Unit C22 and Unit Number Retired
Nantucket	MA-9	C22P	Cisco Beach	New Unit-Mostly Reclassified
Nantucket	MA-9	C23	Esther Island Complex	Existing Unit
Nantucket	MA-9	C23P	Esther Island Complex	New Unit-Mostly Reclassified
Nantucket	MA-9	C24	Tuckermuck Island	Existing Unit
Nantucket	MA-9	C25	Muskeget Island	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	C26	Eel Pond Beach	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	C27	Cape Poge	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	C28	South Beach	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	C29	Squibnocket Complex	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	C29A	James Pond	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	C29B	Mink Meadows	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	C29P	Squibnocket Complex	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	C31	Elizabeth Islands	Existing Unit
Bristol	MA-9	C31A	West Sconticut Neck	Existing Unit
Bristol	MA-9	C31AP	West Sconticut Neck	New Unit
Bristol	MA-9	C31B	Harbor View	Existing Unit
Bristol	MA-9	C32	Mishaum Point	Existing Unit
Bristol	MA-9	C33	Little Beach	Existing Unit
Bristol	MA-9	C34	Horseneck Beach	Existing Unit
Bristol	MA-4	C34A	Cedar Cove	Existing Unit
Bristol	MA-9	C34P	Horseneck Beach	Existing Unit
Bristol	MA-9	C35	Richmond/Cockeast Ponds	Existing Unit
Essex	MA-6	MA-01P	Salisbury Beach	Existing Unit
Essex	MA-6	MA-02P	Plum Island	Existing Unit
Essex	MA-6	MA-03	Castle Neck	Existing Unit
Essex	MA-6	MA-04	West Beach	Existing Unit
Essex	MA-6	MA-06	Phillips Beach	Existing Unit
Suffolk	MA-5, MA-7	MA-08P	Snake Island	Existing Unit
Norfolk	MA-7, MA-8	MA-09P	Squantum	Existing Unit
Norfolk	MA-8	MA-10P	Merrymount Park	Existing Unit
Plymouth, Suffolk	MA-7, MA-8	MA-11	Peddocks/Rainsford Islands	Existing Unit
Plymouth	MA-8	MA-11P	Peddocks/Rainsford Islands	New Unit-Entirely Reclassified
Norfolk, Plymouth	MA-8	MA-12	Cohasset Harbor	Existing Unit
Plymouth	MA-9	MA-13	Duxbury Beach	Existing Unit
Plymouth	MA-9	MA-13P	Duxbury Beach	New Unit-Mostly Reclassified
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-14P	Town Neck	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-15P	Chapin Beach	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-16	Nobscusset	Existing Unit

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Massachusetts Units in Project —Continued

<i>County</i>	<i>Congressional District</i>	<i>Unit Number</i>	<i>Unit Name</i>	<i>Unit Status</i>
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-17AP	Lieutenant Island	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-17P	Griffin/Great ISlands Complex	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-18	Pamet Harbor	Existing Unit Reclassified to Unit MA-18P and Unit Number Retired
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-18AP	Pamet Harbor	New Unit-Mostly Reclassified
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-18P	Ballston Beach	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-19P	Provincetown	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-20P	Nauset Beach/ Monomoy	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-23P	Davis Beach	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	MA-24	Naushon Island Complex	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	MA-25P	Penikese Island	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	MA-26	Harthaven	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	MA-27	Edgartown Beach	New Unit-Partially Reclassified
Dukes	MA-9	MA-27P	Edgartown Beach	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	MA-28P	Norton Point	Existing Unit
Dukes	MA-9	MA-29P	Nomans Land	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-30	Herring Brook	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-31	Squeteague Harbor	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-32	Bassetts Island	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-33	Phinneys Harbor	Existing Unit
Plymouth	MA-9	MA-35	Planting Island	Existing Unit
Bristol	MA-9	MA-36	Round Hill	Existing Unit
Bristol	MA-9	MA-37P	Demarest Lloyd Park	Existing Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-38P	Scusset Beach	New Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-40P	Harding Beach	New Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-41P	Red River Beach	New Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-42P	Quissett Beach/ Falmouth Beach	New Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-43	Chapoquoit Beach	New Unit
Barnstable	MA-9	MA-43P	Chapoquoit Beach	New Unit
Bristol	MA-9	MA-45P	Round Hill Point	New Unit
Bristol	MA-9	MA-46	Teal Pond	New Unit
Plymouth, Bristol	MA-9	MA-47P	Little Bay	New Unit
Essex	MA-6	MA-48	Cape Hedge Beach	New Unit

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