

To: Mass DEP and Attorney General's Strike Force

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From: Save the Pine Barrens, Plymouth MA, Meg Sheehan, Coordinator
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Date: April 21, 2022

Re: Request for Chapter 21E Investigation

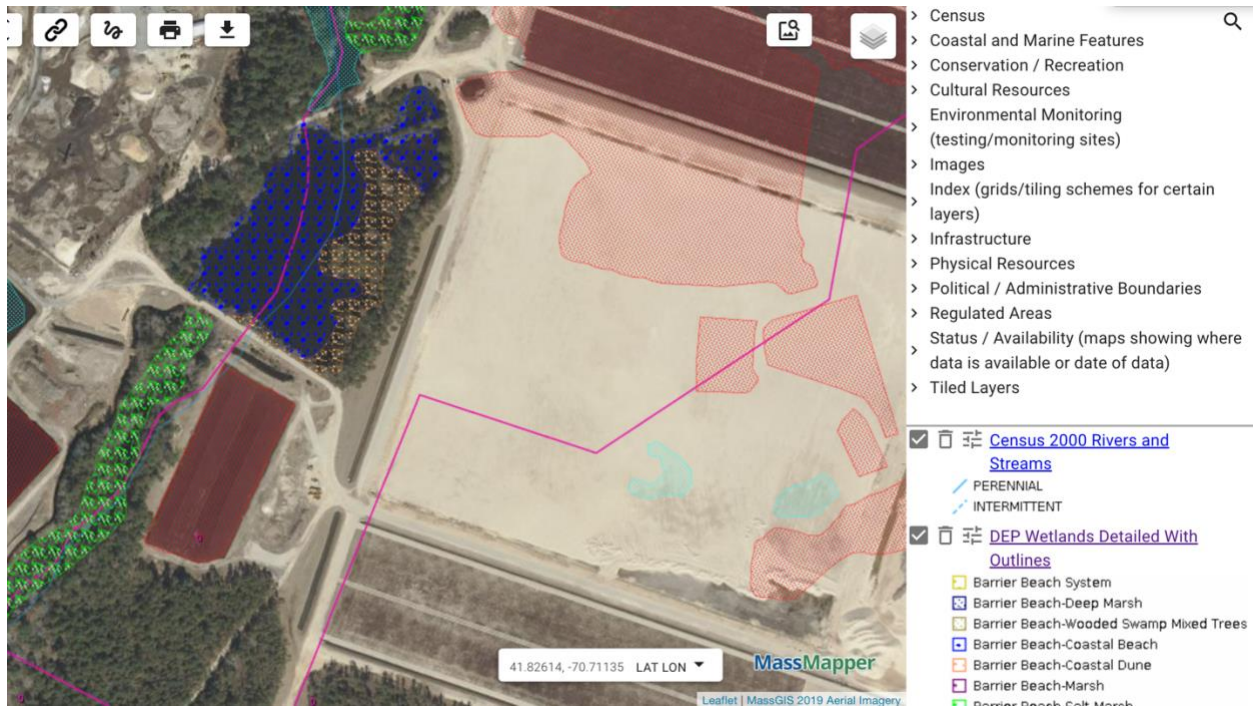
AD Makepeace Carverside Bogs, Plymouth Assessor's Map 126, Lots 7 and 11

This is to report a release or threat of release of hazardous materials within the meaning of MGL c. 21E at the site of AD Makepeace lands in Plymouth MA. The site is identified as Plymouth Assessor's Map 126, Lots 7 and 11

Filling and dumping appears to have started in 2010 after a forest clear-cut and earth removal starting in about 2004. The earth removal was not permitted by the Town of Plymouth. It continued until the 93 acre site that had been cleared and mined was covered over with cranberry bogs.

The disposal location is adjacent to the Wankinko River, wetlands including a Deep Marsh wetland and wetland cranberry bogs. Based on our review of Mass Mapper wetlands on the site have been filled. See, MassMapper DEP Wetlands Detailed with Outlines, below. Accessed 4/21/22.

The site is located over the Plymouth Carver Sole Source Aquifer.



This request is based on Google Earth photos with a timeline from March 1995. These show the area where the disposal occurred was wooded as of 1995. Mass Mapper shows varied topography with hills. As of December 2004, the area was cleared of trees, vegetation and stumps and mining was occurring.

By 2010, there is disposal occurring on the site. Satellite images appear to show woody debris, logs, stumps and liquid waste.

The Google Earth images of the disposal of debris and liquid waste has been corroborated by eye witness testimony of person(s) who made personal observations of the site at the time the disposal occurred. It was reported that sewage waste was disposed of on the site, based on visual observations and odors.

During the period of mining operations, it appears there was ponded water that may indicate mining entered into the groundwater.

In 2012 images, debris continues to be present, along with mining. By 2014, four years after the dumping appears to have started, the disposal area appears to be filling in.

In 2014, mining is continuing on the east side of the site, debris appears in the center and the west side appears to be filling in. In 2016 mining continues and a tractor trailer truck is visible on the site. The site is beginning to be covered over with sand. By 2021 the site was covered over with sand and earth materials and 93 acres of cranberry bog were built. It is reported that the bogs are not producing marketable cranberries as of 2021 for an unknown reason.

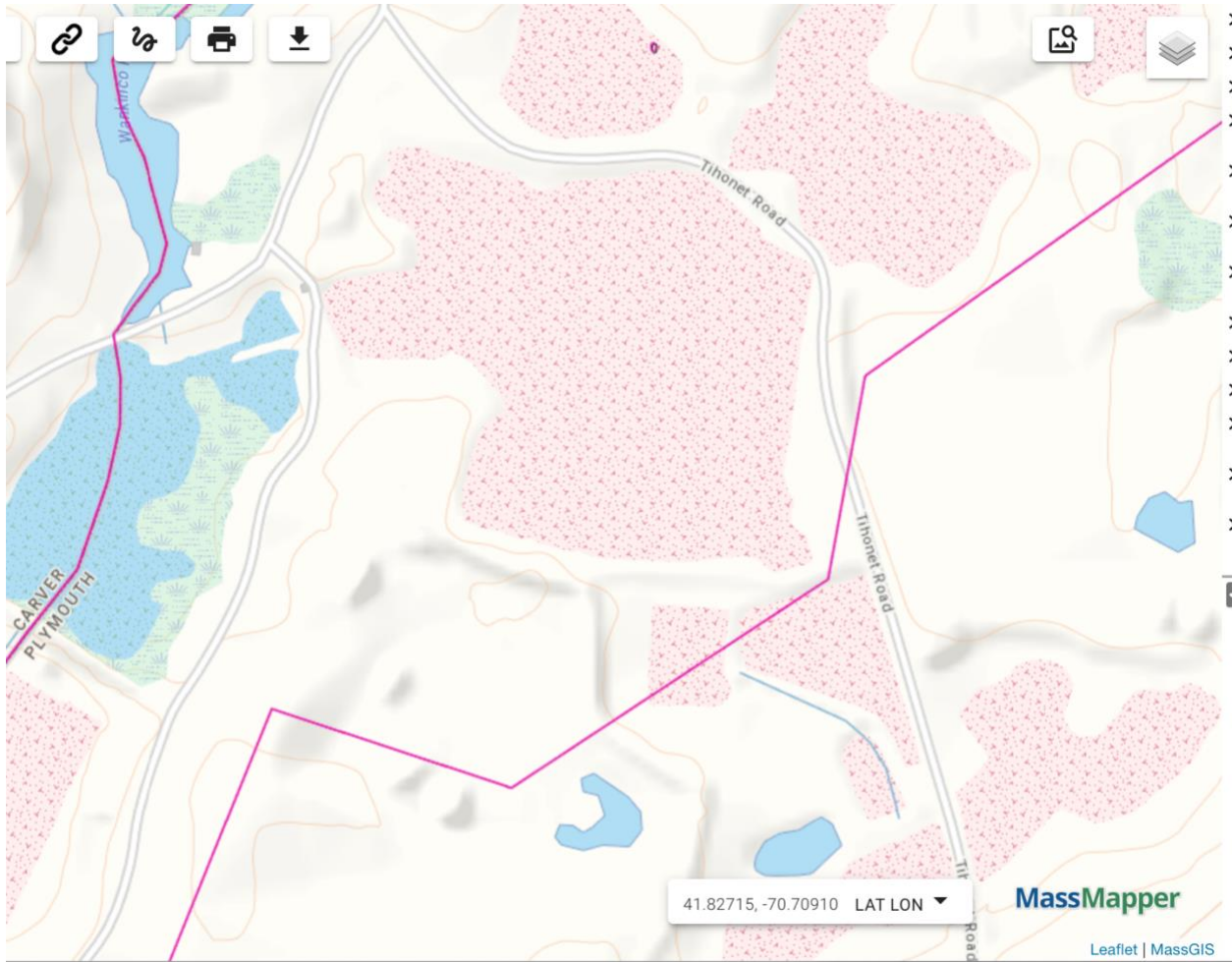
Please feel free to contact me at 508 259 9154 or environmentwatchesoutheasternma@gmail.com if you require an further information.

The chronology with photos is below.

March 1995: site is wooded with varying topography.



Mass Mapper GIS base map shows hills on the site.



Below: December 2004: trees have been cleared, excavation is occurring.



Below: May 2010: disposal of debris, what appears to be liquid waste. Sand mining occurring.



Below: 2012: Debris on the site.



Below: 2014: mining, site filling in

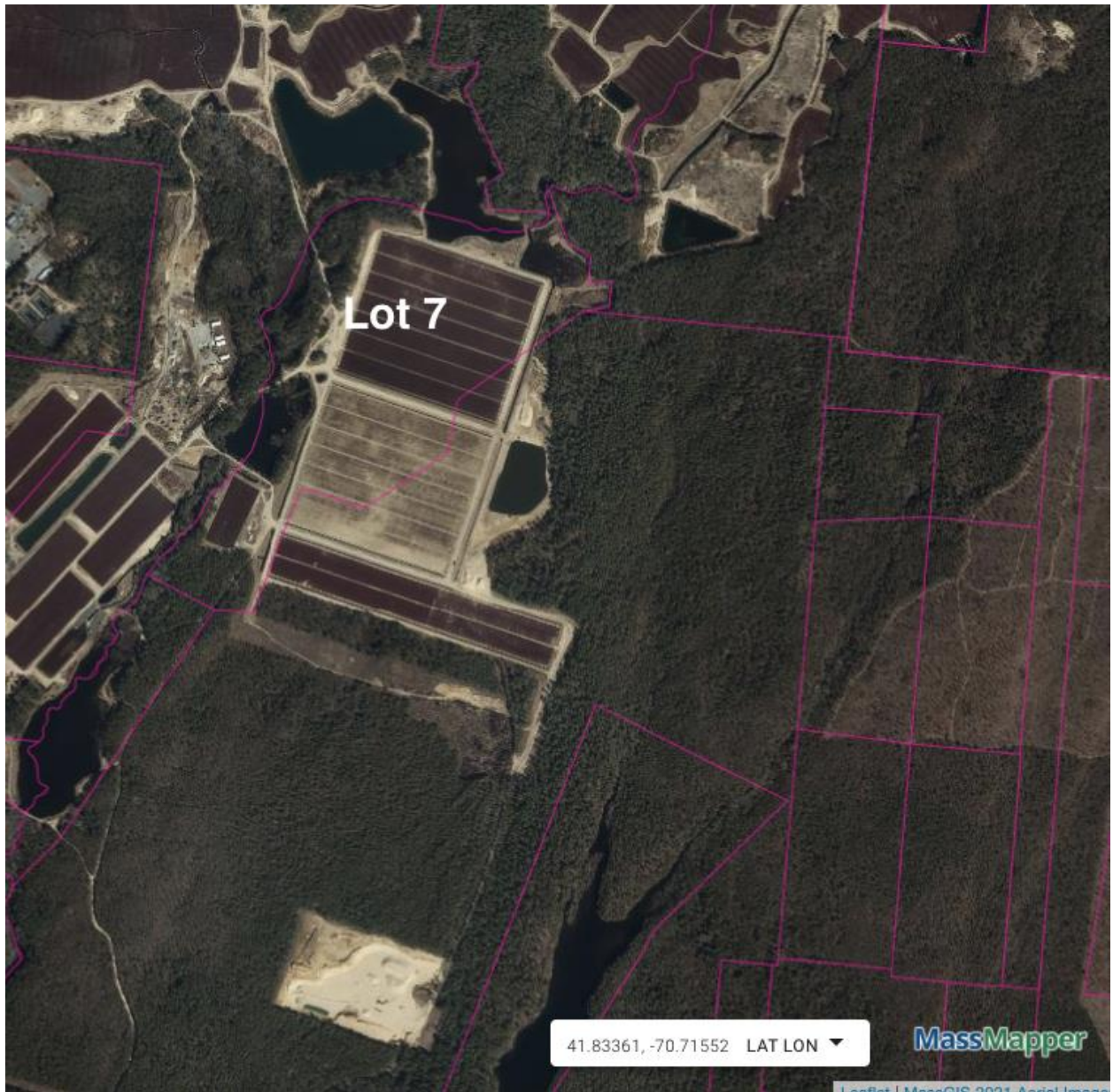


Below: 2016 sand being placed on the site

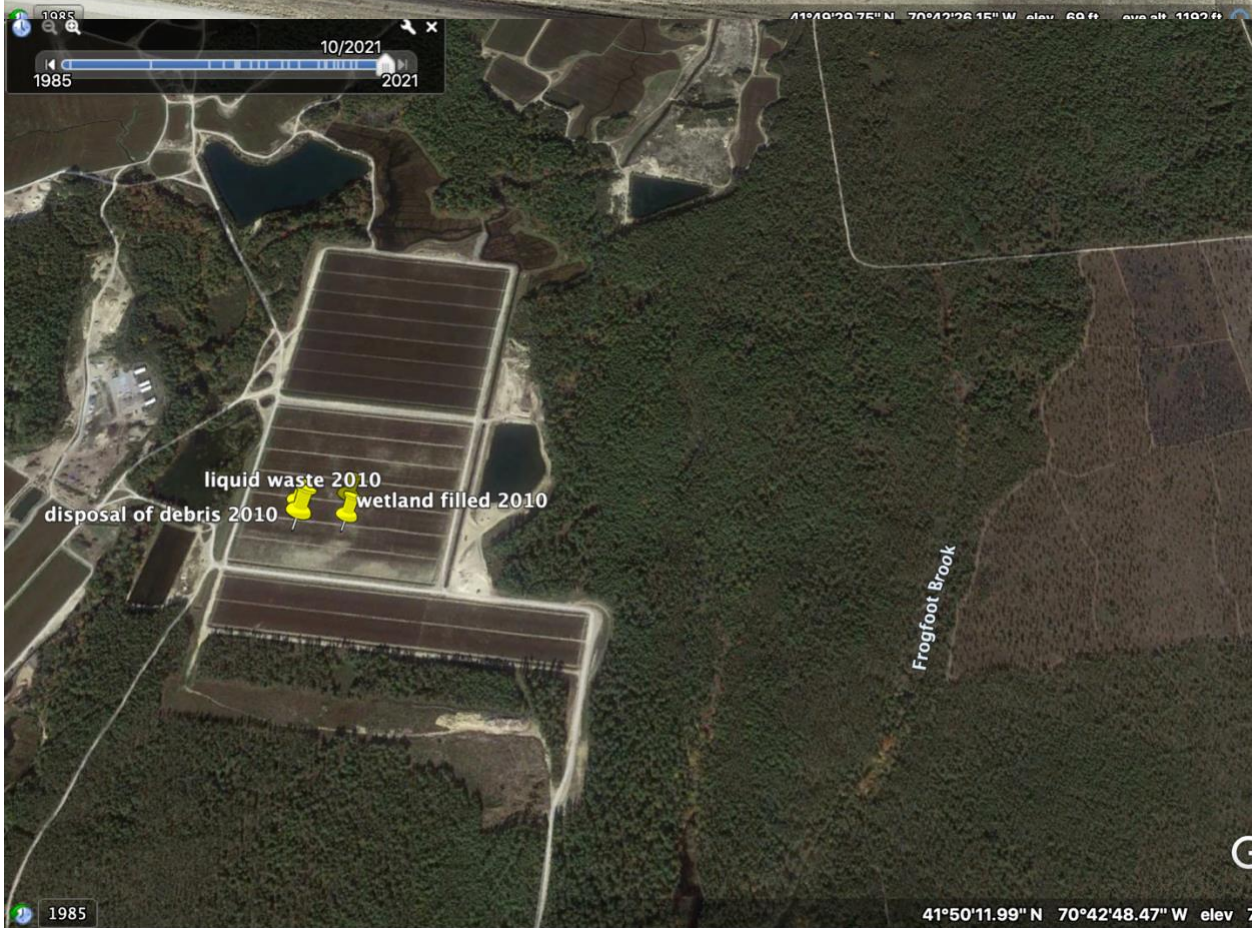




Below: 2021 cranberry bogs in the area where dumping and sand mining occurred from 2010 to about 2016



October 2021: most recent image of the site



END