

Protected Interests, Resource Areas and Jurisdiction

The Wetlands Protection Act and the regulations recognize eight important public values or functions provided by wetlands, water bodies and other areas "subject to protection." These are referred to in the regulations as "interests" and listed in 310 CMR 10.01 (2). Work in such areas is regulated to protect these values.

The eight interests of the Wetlands Protection Act are:

- Protection of public and private water supply
- Protection of groundwater supply
- Flood control
- Storm damage prevention
- Prevention of pollution
- Protection of land containing shellfish
- Protection of fisheries
- Protection of wildlife habitat

Types of Resource Areas Subject to Protection

- Any bank, beach, dune, flat, marsh, swamp, freshwater or coastal wetland which borders on the ocean or any estuary, creek, river, stream, pond or lank, Land under water bodies, Land subject to tidal action, Land subject to coastal storm flowage, Land subject to flooding (including isolated wetlands), Riverfront area.

Coastal Resource Areas:

- Land Under the Ocean, Designated Port Areas, Coastal Beaches, Barrier Beaches, Coastal Banks, Rocky Intertidal Shores, Salt Marshes, Land Under Salt Ponds, Land Subject to Tidal Action, Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, Anadromous/Catadromous Fish Runs.

Inland Resource Areas:

- Land Under the Ocean, Banks, Land Under Water Bodies or Waterways, Land Subject to Flooding, Bordering Vegetated Wetlands, Riverfront Areas.

Additional Resource Areas Protected by the Provincetown Wetlands Bylaw:

- any freshwater or coastal wetlands; vegetated and unvegetated wetlands; marshes; flats; wet meadows; bogs; swamps; vernal pools; banks; reservoirs; lakes; ponds of any size; rivers; streams; creeks; beaches; dunes; estuaries; the ocean; lands under water bodies; lands subject to flooding or inundation by groundwater or surface water; lands subject to tidal action, coastal storm flowage, or flooding; and the one-hundred (100) foot Buffer Zone to any of the aforementioned resource areas or lands abutting any of the aforesaid resource areas as set out in §12-7 (collectively the "resource areas protected by this bylaw"). Said resource areas shall be protected whether or not they border surface waters.