

GREAT POND FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2019





Annual Message from the Foundation



Dear Neighbors, Friends and Supporters,

In this perilous and challenging time, we wish good health and safety for all of you and yours, and reflect as to our shared good fortune in having the Great Pond and its environs available to all of us, our families, and to the larger community. The Foundation has much to say in this annual report, almost all positive you'll be happy to learn.

Our friend and long-time colleague, Dave Luening, stepped down as President but remains on the Board and its Executive Committee. The two of us, as Chair and President, hope together we'll be able to prove able successors, and will of course continue to lean on his counsel and advice. Bob Rukeyser remains as Treasurer, and Anne Mazar has graciously agreed to serve as Clerk. A newly formed nominating committee, headed by Will Darman, sources and suggests candidates for the Board. A planned-giving program is in formation, and thought is being given to an intermediate- and long-term strategic plan as well as beginning to build an endowment.

The Town of Edgartown has agreed to resume its historic responsibility for regular dredging of the Great Pond, following a decade-long experiment in which the Foundation undertook from the Town such efforts and gathered data illustrating the importance of dredging to successful cuts to the barrier beach. There is no longer much serious, fact-based, disagreement with the science underpinning the need for consistent Great Pond dredging, and correlating improved Pond and ecosystem health. The most recent delisting of the pond from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's impairment list, for the first time since 1992, further demonstrates the collective efforts of all those who have been working to preserve and protect EGP.

Data collection and scientific analysis continues as a major focus, and the Foundation is delighted that Julie Pringle joins the staff to work full-time on such matters under Executive Director Emily Reddington's able direction. Measurements as to water-quality are always underway from 12 locations on the Pond at varying depths. The Foundation is focused increasingly on data collection, analysis, and dissemination, as well as educational and collaborative efforts. The Town of Edgartown recognizes the value of the Foundation's contributions and has been receptive, strengthening coordination between the Foundation and the Town representatives responsible for Pond matters. We work closely with Town Administrator James Hagerty and Shellfish Constable Paul Bagnall, and we greatly value their counsel.

The template the Foundation is creating has attracted the interest of other pond communities on the Vineyard, and the Foundation, with the Advisory Council mentioned below, are building the Island Ponds Coalition. The Coalition will pool human and other resources and science to address in common coastal ponds' challenges. The Foundation has a lengthening list of collaborative partners here on the Vineyard including BiodiversityWorks, Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group, and Sherri's Meadow Foundation. Off-island we are working with the MBL and

WHOI; the Massachusetts DEP; and the regional office of the EPA, with which the Foundation has co-authored scientific papers.

The Foundation seeks grants to further its goals –the Edey Foundation now funds drone-mapping of eelgrass in Slough Cove –and 5 grant-funded projects are underway. 2019 revealed the generosity of the Foundation's donors, as well as increased participation by many members of the Foundation's community. A Pond Advisory Council has sprung into being, now with eight members with a variety of suggestions and initiatives for the Foundation – and an exciting willingness to lend their hands to cause things to happen. You'll find the list of Council members in this Annual Report. The Foundation couldn't appreciate more the interest and energies of the Council members.

Nor could the Foundation appreciate more the interest and support of all of you. Continue to be well and thank you very much.

AC Greer
Chair of the Board of Directors

Michael Shalett
President

GREAT POND FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP

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Robert Rukeyser
Anne Mazar
William Darman
David Luening
Brendan O'Neill
Kristina West

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Tony Hull
Terry Kassel
Brian McCaslin
Melani Nardone
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Melissa Vail

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Robert Rukeyser, Treasurer
Anne Mazar, Clerk
Emily Reddington, Executive Director
Barbara Conroy, Chief Financial Officer
Julie Pringle, Scientific Program Manager

Director Emeritus

Robert Hughes



Dredging Keeps the Great Pond Alive

By Emily Reddington, Executive Director

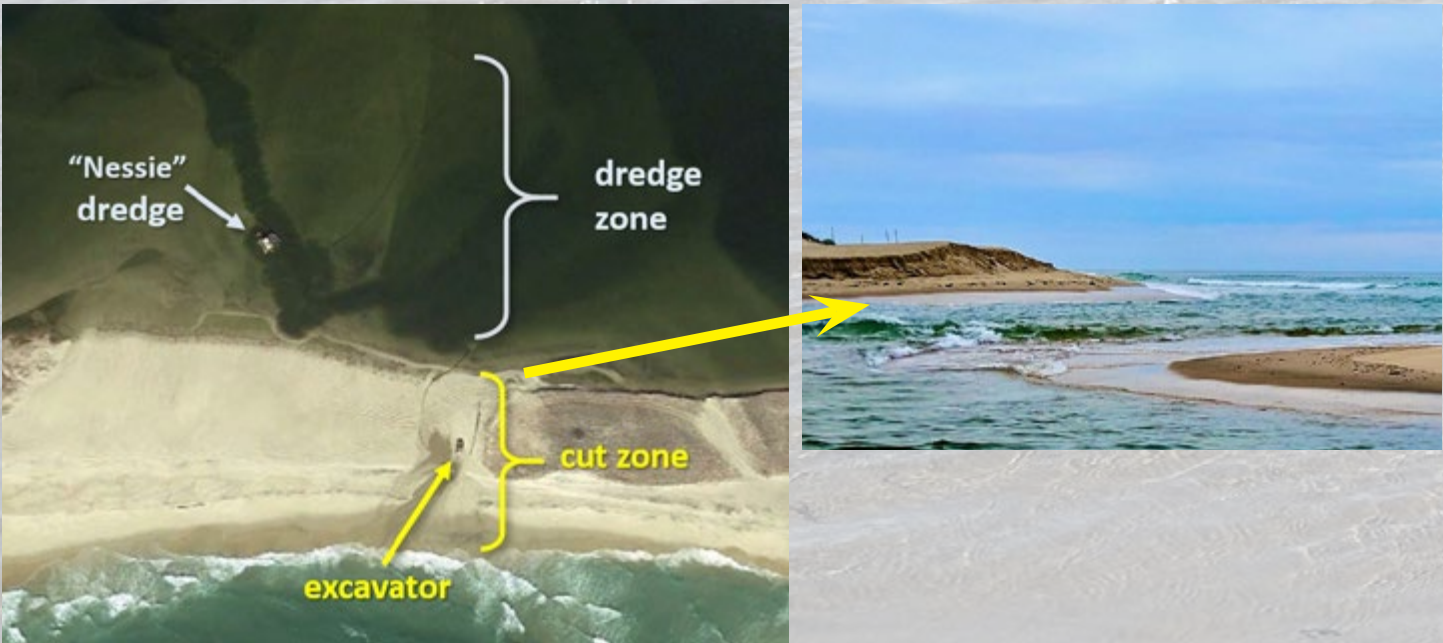
Edgartown Great Pond (EGP) is a living ecosystem that depends on regular and effective seawater flushes for its survival. When the pond is open to the ocean, cool, clean, and salty seawater infuses the Great Pond with salt, exchanges organisms between ocean and estuary, and reduces the nutrient load of the system.

Regular exchanges of water between the ocean and the Great Pond keep it healthy and teeming with life. Dredging of the sand that builds up in the pond north of the barrier beach increases the circulation and flushing capacity of each opening. The Great Pond is breached or cut open to the Atlantic Ocean 3-4x per year when an excavator creates a channel through the barrier beach that allows the exchange of water between pond and ocean. Without dredging, to remove the delta of sand in the pond north of the breach, the seawater does not reach all regions of the pond during a cut.

In response to a series of studies that recommended dredging EGP to improve its health (Gaines, 1993; and 2008 MEP Report), GPF conducted a decade-long (2009-2019) dredging project that increased the circulation of seawater throughout the Pond during openings and resulted in measurable improvements to water quality and ecosystem health. Before annual dredging began in 2009, EGP had impaired water quality, frequent algal blooms, and a struggling oyster population. The Town of Edgartown has committed to dredging EGP this fall because it is essential to maintaining Pond health.

“An ecosystem is a geographic area where plants, animals, and other organisms, as well as weather and landscape, work together to form a bubble of life. Ecosystems contain biotic or living, parts, as well as abiotic factors, or nonliving parts.”
– National Geographic Society

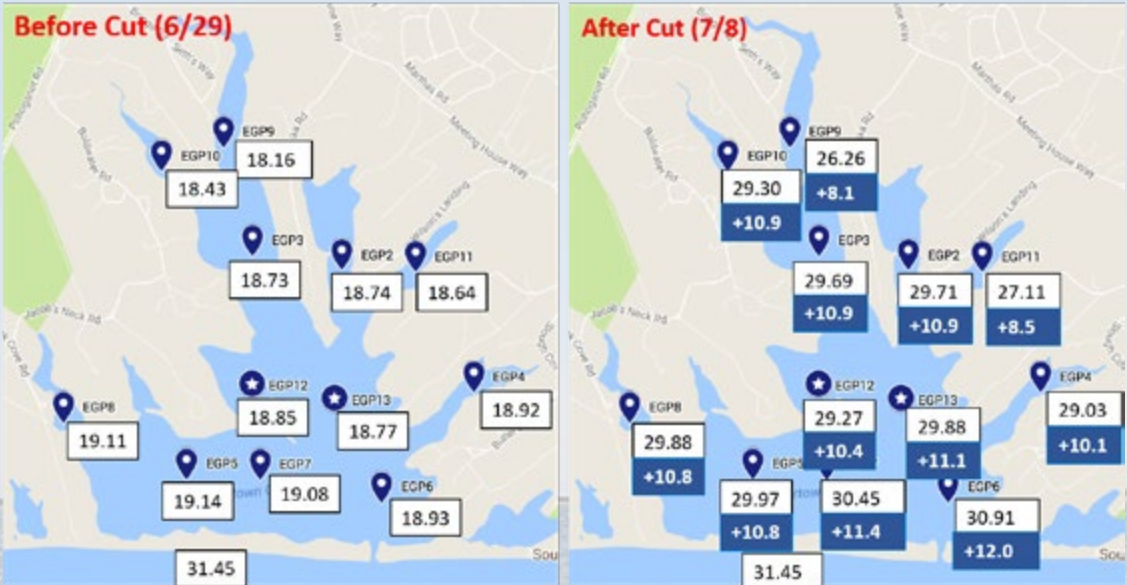
With regular dredging, pond openings allow seawater from the Atlantic Ocean to reach all corners and coves of the Pond. In ideal conditions (good tidal flow, post-dredging) EGP needs to be open a minimum of 9-11 days to flush all regions of the Pond and maximize salinity. In order to preserve the eelgrass ecosystem that has been established in the Pond, the salinity should not drop below 15 parts per thousand (ppt; per EPA eelgrass scientist Phil Colarusso; see report pg. 14-15).



“Successful openings of the Pond occur when the volume of Pond water exchanged with seawater is maximized such that the salinity increases pond-wide.”
– The Impacts of Dredging on the Ecosystem Health of Edgartown Great Pond
GPF Flash Report, April 2020

Ideally the salinity would stay above 20 ppt, but that has not been possible for EGP where the cut is a short-term event and therefore only intermittently tidal. Other Edgartown Ponds that have consistent tidal exchange are dredged to maintain good tidal flow and circulation.

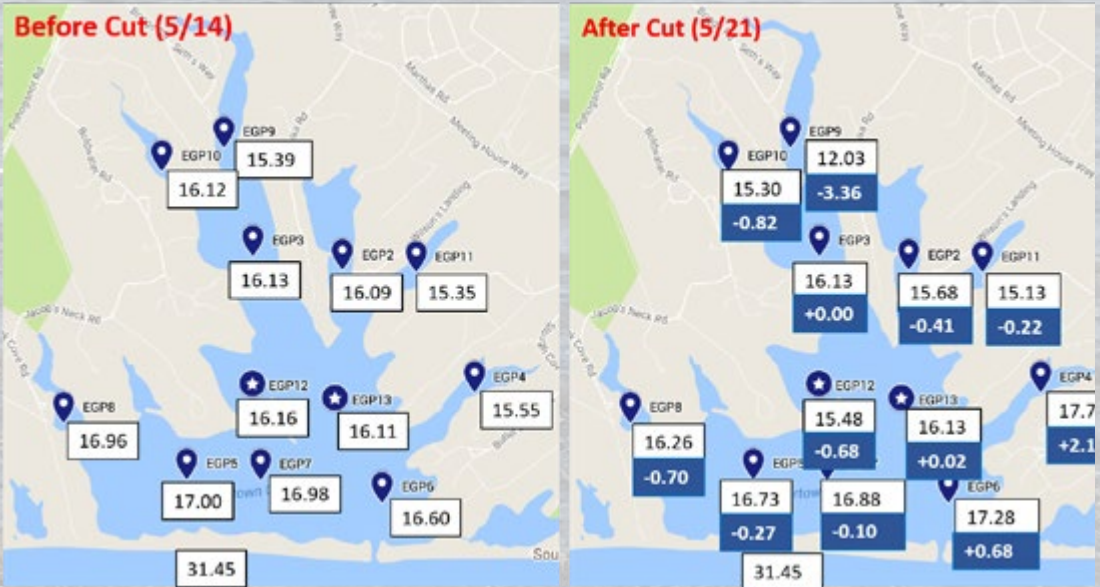
2019 Summer Cut – POST DREDGING



Bottom salinity (white box) shown in parts per thousand (ppt), with the change after the cut indicated in blue. Good pond flushes cause salinity to increase pond-wide 8-12 ppt.

Following a year when winter dredging was skipped (2019/2020), the circulation within the Pond decreased and volume of tidal flow during an opening also probably decreased. The two pond cuts in 2020 have closed quickly (<11 days) and have not increased the salinity pond-wide. These less than ideal circulation and flushing conditions put the eelgrass ecosystem at risk because salinity is critically low, and the pond has not been adequately flushed of nitrogen and phosphorus.

2020 Late Spring Cut – NO DREDGING



Bottom salinity (ppt) before and after the spring 2020 cut. The circulations of seawater throughout the pond was so inadequate that we only saw a marginal salinity increase 4 days post cut.

Sustainable Leadership

In an effort to maintain strong board leadership with a commitment to sustaining the health of the Great Pond, we have formed a Nominating Committee to identify directors that will carry forward the GPF’s legacy of science-based stewardship. The committee will initially be chaired by Will Darman, whose father, Dick Darman, was one of our founding Directors.

In July of 2020, the committee nominated and the board elected Kristina West to join the GPF Board of Directors. Kristina’s family has been on Martha’s Vineyard for



Will Darman

11 generations, and she is deeply connected to the island community and environment. Kristina currently serves as the Executive Director of the Martha’s Vineyard Agricultural Society. We are confident that she will contribute meaningfully to GPF’s future and the sustainability of the Great Pond for future generations.



Kristina West

Education & Outreach

In 2019 GPF invited the Island community to gather and learn about the science and management of our local waters. Scientists from the EPA, WHOI, and the MBL joined Island leaders, scientists, and managers for a series of Saturday morning talks and a speaker panel at the Edgartown Public Library. Topics included Understanding Algal Blooms, Eelgrass Ecosystems & Blue Carbon, and the History of Science & Conservation on Edgartown Great Pond.

WHOI Engineer and STEM educator extraordinaire, Megan Carroll, led another incredible ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle) building summer camp. Students worked in teams to build underwater robots they raced at the YMCA pool on the final day.



Introducing the GPF Advisory Council

The Great Pond Foundation Advisory Council works to supplement the work of the GPF, by outreach, amplification and action. We aim to build familiarity with the work of the Foundation more widely in the community and on the island; we want our neighbors to appreciate the science and policy issues involved in overseeing this important body of water; we are proud of the progress that has been made – recently recognized in the removal of the Pond from the Impairment List of the Mass DEP – and we know that there is a lot more work to be done. We welcome your interest and support.

Mike Corbo
Tony Hull
Terry Kassel

Brian McCaslin
Melani Nardone
Zeev Pearl

Richard Saltzman
Melissa Vail

Announcing Summer 2020 Zoom Speaker Series: Cocktails and Conversations

Presented by the GPF Advisory Council

Join us for online conversations with local experts about important Pond management topics. You supply the cocktails; we supply the conversation! For more details and a formal invitation please email info@greatpondfoundation.org

August 13 at 5:30 : Nitrogen: Too Much of a Good Thing - Emily Reddington
August 20 at 5:30 : Transforming Nitrogen in Your Own Backyard - John Smith
August 27 at 5:30: Green Practices for Greenscapes - Kevin Banks



Pond Reflections: Over Fifty Years on the Great Pond with Dave Luening

Lately we have been receiving happy reports from pond friends about the bountiful blue crabs, schools of striped bass, and general appreciation for the health of Edgartown Great Pond. We are able to enjoy the profound natural beauty and vibrant living ecosystem of Edgartown Great Pond today because of the forethought of our pond community that began decades ago. There are many people who have contributed to the conservation, restoration, and protection of this 890-acre salt pond, but few have spent as much time working to ensure its health as David Luening.

Dave, Doris, and their children first visited Edgartown Great Pond in the 1960's, when the Great Pond and the Island were vastly more remote and undeveloped. Dave has a long history as a steward of pond preservation, having served on Edgartown's Ponds Advisory Committee and as a founder, past President, and current a Director of Great Pond Foundation. For those of us lucky enough to have worked alongside Dave, we know him to be an eloquent writer, a peacemaker, a gentleman, and a keeper of the knowledge and history that weave our pond community together. As we think about ways to sustain the Great Pond for future generations, it is important to understand our history. **The following are some of Dave Luening's reflections over the last 5 decades on Edgartown Great Pond:**

Early Years on the Great Pond, a Place Like No Other

From Princeton, NJ in 1966, with a brand-new pilot's license and a single engine plane just big enough for our young family, we embarked upon a series of week-end trips to explore the New England coastline. My sister, who had connections to Turkeyland Cove, asked if we had been to Martha's Vineyard. My response: "What is Martha's Vineyard," to which she replied, "a little island off the coast of Massachusetts." Being an island, it had natural boundaries and an identity of its own. It felt less like a resort and more like a community of small towns where real people live their lives doing tangible work while accommodating summer visitors, all in an incredibly beautiful natural setting with an intense awareness of weather and the sea.

When we arrived, the Pond was largely undeveloped, other than few duck blinds and fishing camps. Most of the land surrounding the Pond was owned by a couple of families - Flynn's to the west and MacKentys to the East - and none was for sale. For generations, there were only family homes, used year-round or for the entire season. Outdoor activities were focused on hunting and fishing. Changes began to occur with the fruition of Tom Wallace's vision for development in Boldwater: less density with housing setbacks from the Pond and undeveloped common land. This type of development has later been modeled other neighborhoods such as Kanomika. As land came up for sale, individual families acquired and conserved large tracts of native habitat around the Pond. This large amount of protected and intact habitat has contributed to the sustainability and health of the Great Pond.

Original Foundation Goals & Future Directions

Our goals in creating the Foundation are as put forth in the mission statement, focusing initially on nitrogen reduction through upgraded wastewater treatment and education. Knowing that the health of the Pond would come under increasing pressure in the years ahead, we saw the need for a cohesive voice to represent those who live on and around the Pond, as well as others who value it as an environmental resource for the Island. GPF's effectiveness and future success will require scientific monitoring of the ecosystem, setting measurable data-driven management targets, modeling and planning for future challenges, and a focus on collaboration with others working to protect local waters.

The Roots of Great Pond Foundation

The key players included **Jerry Kohlberg**, who relocated from Chilmark, where the pond ecosystem was struggling. Jerry wanted a fresh start with more effective riparian influence, and he advocated for the

broad engagement of all stakeholders around Edgartown Great Pond. Another leader was **Burt Fleming**, a Philadelphian who had to abandon the family summer home in the Poconos after its pond became nitrified. He too was seeking a second chance and was deeply committed to preserving EGP. Burt's family with six children, all swimmers, sailors, and cyclists, became increasingly committed over the years. **John MacKenty**, a highly respected year-round resident with a mission to preserve the family heritage, recorded pond levels on the pilings of his dock. For years, John was the sole recorder of pond height data. **Dick Darman**



Dave in his boat enjoying a beautiful day on the Pond.

had an exceptional capacity for listening—really listening patiently—and coming up with the essence of collective views. Not to leave it there, he would produce an action plan with specific end product and clear accountability. His contributions were invaluable. A cornerstone of understanding the history and value of the pond was **Michael Wilde**, a lifetime shell fisherman and generational pond dweller. His spirit was proudly displayed on his hard-working pick-up truck "Forever Wild". **Rob Hughes**, from a multigenerational family of property owners in Herring Creek, represented an enthusiastic & charismatic force, but was unable to unify the neighborhood due to complicated and protracted litigation about the fate of the land. Finally, **Tom Wallace**' personal contacts with many property owners and throughout Town Government helped to knit it all together.

Impact of GPF on the Great Pond

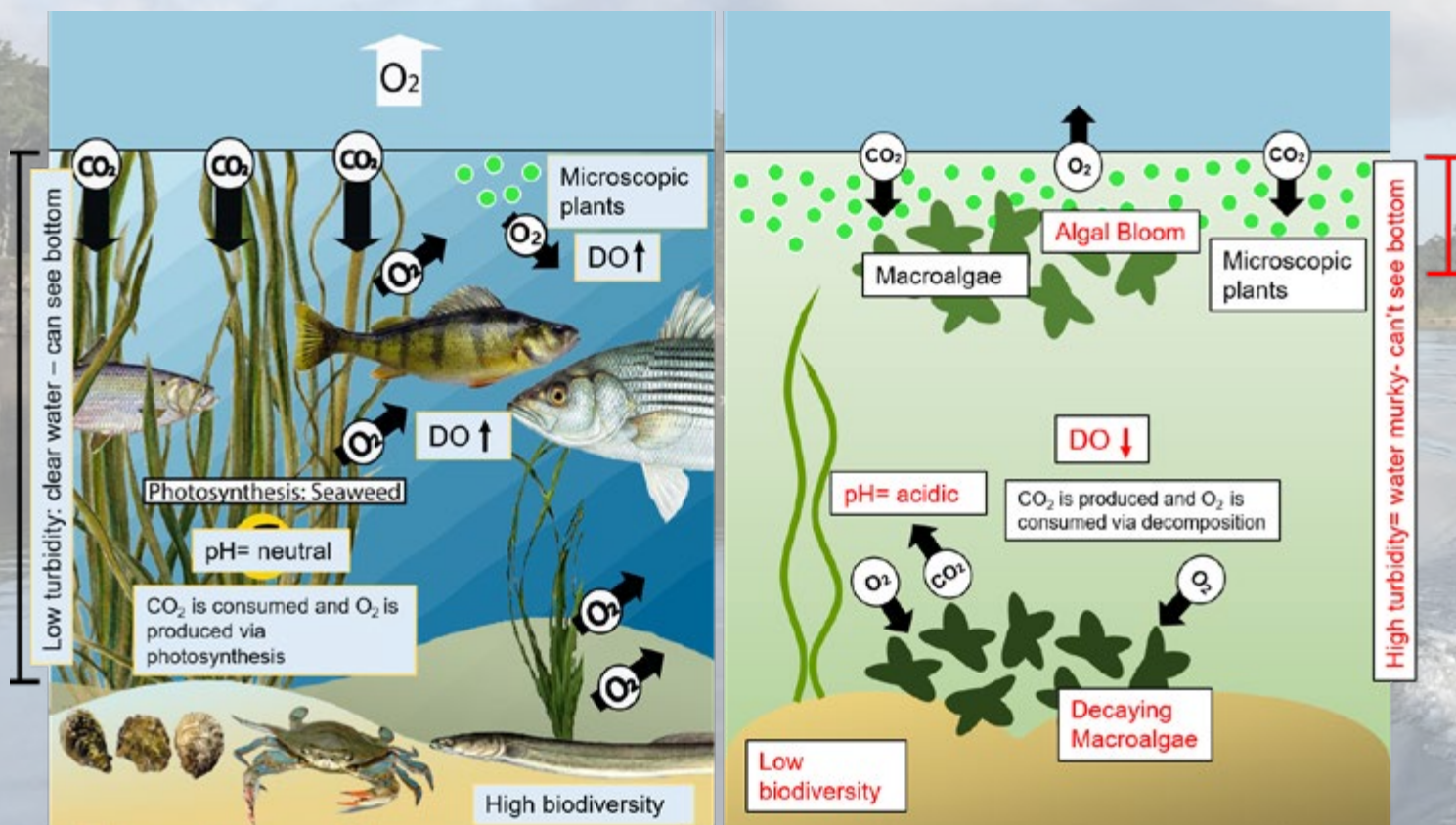
Looking back, it is gratifying to see that the Foundation has played a leading role in profound improvements in pond management through the early recognition of the damaging effects of nitrogen, identification of its sources and the actions that could be taken by the stakeholders (Town, property owners, public) to reduce input, and finally find ways to most effectively remove excess nitrogen and rebalance salinity. For many years, the best tool to both reduce nitrogen and increase salinity was opening the Pond to the sea. Effectiveness of these openings, however, was sometimes impaired by timing and increasingly by incoming material accumulating inside the opening and interfering with future openings. GPF and generous investors took the bold step of acquiring a dredge designed specifically for EGP and operating a dredge program for the next decade—demonstrating that regular dredging improves Pond health. Scientific monitoring has become increasingly important, for it serves the role of informing the timing of management activities and increasing their effectiveness. As we plan for the next 50 years on the Pond it is essential that we accept that there will never be a "mission accomplished," since science and human activity are evolutionary processes.

How To Protect the Pond

Accept our responsibility as stewards of this magnificent natural resource. Be environmentally responsible in your property management and use of the Pond. Become informed. Be aware of impact on the Pond and observant of changes that may occur. Provide financial support to GPF and others whose objectives you support. Get out there and ENJOY this special body of water in all of its moods, times of day and kinds of weather!

Visualizing Pond Health

Both of these photos were taken in different parts of EGP, illustrating the different conditions that can arise depending on season and location. With increasing temperatures and excess nutrients, the Pond is at risk for algal blooms and associated reductions in water quality (depicted in the right panel below). One of GPF's management goals is to reduce the nitrogen entering the Pond, so that algal blooms are avoided and water quality remains excellent year round. It is necessary to have frequent, extensive water sampling to detect occurrences such as algal blooms or low oxygen events, while providing the data needed to understand why changes in Pond health may be occurring.



Field Team 2020

Summer is an exciting and busy time on Edgartown Great Pond. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic has thrown a wrench into our plans for the 2020 field season. New projects are now delayed while we focus on water quality monitoring and reduce the need for additional staff and volunteers. GPF is committed to studying the health of EGP while maintaining a safe environment for our staff and our community.

GPF's Scientific Program Manager: Julie Pringle

After her first full year of working for GPF, Julie is excited for her second summer on Edgartown Great Pond running the field program. Her goal for this summer is to frequently update EGP stakeholders on the water quality status with informative graphs and figures published online. Julie has a B.S from Tufts University and an M.S. from UConn, Avery Point.



GPF's Summer Science Intern: Ben Emery



Ben Emery is a rising senior at the Noble and Greenough School near Boston. Ben recently attended the Island School, which is a semester program in the Bahamas. At the Island School, he deepened his passion for marine biology, learned to scuba dive and free dive, and completed a research project on the Caribbean Spiny Lobster, which is an important species harvested for food and economic exports. He hopes to study marine biology in college. Ben grew up spending summers on the Vineyard in Katama, and has fond memories of crabbing in the Great Pond with his brothers. He is excited to learn more about the Pond, contribute to its health, and get involved with GPF. We are excited to have you, Ben!



Ben sporting his face mask while taking notes.



Justine Cassel, our 2019 intern, collecting CTD data.

Science is Key to Pond Health

By Julie Pringle, Scientific Program Manager



The 2019 field season was our longest and most intensive since Great Pond Foundation began monitoring water quality in 2016, exemplifying our continued and growing commitment to monitoring Pond health. Water sampling began on May 28, 2019 and continued until November 26. Collectively we generated over 8,000 discrete data points from 12 different sampling locations across 34 days on the Pond. Sampling with this frequency allows us to detect rapidly changes in the Pond's condition and more accurately understand seasonal and annual trends. This intensive sampling effort could not have been done without help from our Summer Science Intern, Justine Cassel.

2019 Pond Health: Water quality reports will now be published annually. To summarize, Edgartown Great Pond was in good health the majority of 2019. The Pond was cut 3 times, and each opening was considered successful based on duration and the increase in salinity seen throughout the Pond. During July and August, record high temperatures contributed to algal blooms, which subsequently decayed and created areas with low dissolved oxygen. Algal blooms are a natural part of the seasonal cycle of the ecosystem, however these blooms are exacerbated by nutrient levels and high temperatures. Despite some concerning dissolved oxygen measurements, EGP remains one of the healthiest estuaries on Martha's Vineyard. Full details can be found in the 2019 Ecosystem Monitoring Report, which is available online at <https://greatpondfoundation.org/2019-emr-egp/>

After decades of careful management, EGP is a restoration success story. Much of this success lies in the collaborative management efforts that have become cornerstones of successful Pond restoration. Yet, this restoration success does not make the Pond immune to future impairment. Hotter summer temperatures combined with nutrient pollution from septic systems and fertilizer fuel algal blooms and can lead to poor water quality. It is necessary to have frequent, extensive water sampling to detect occurrences such as algal blooms or low oxygen events, which may be missed with less frequent sampling. A robust sampling regime also maintains and ensures data integrity, which provides confidence in our conclusions and allows us to understand why changes in Pond health may be occurring.



In addition to water sampling, 2019 saw continued collaborations with numerous partners. In September, we hosted two EPA scientists who performed SCUBA surveys to document the recovery of EGP eelgrass (but observed at lesser densities than other ponds with more consistently elevated salinity: pages 14-15 of this report).

GPF was awarded a grant from the Edey Foundation to produce aerial maps of eelgrass in Slough Cove using drone technology in collaboration with Chris Seidel at the Martha's Vineyard Commission. GPF will also produce educational materials about the importance of protecting eelgrass and the atmospheric carbon it sequesters.

GPF was also awarded an Impact Grant from the Permanent Endowment for Martha's Vineyard to expand our Ecosystem Monitoring Program. With their generous support, we will begin studying biodiversity in the Pond. Observing which plants and animals live within the Pond will elucidate links in the food chain, providing important data on the food sources of fish and shellfish. Over time, this project will help us understand how Martha's Vineyard's ponds shift in response to climate change. With support from grants and our donors, GPF is committed to being a leader in science and management of coastal ecosystems within the Martha's Vineyard community.

Science Program Grants in Progress

Permanent Endowment for Martha's Vineyard: *Documenting Diversity in the Depths of Edgartown Great Pond*

Edey Foundation: *Conservation Can Combat Climate Change: Using eelgrass monitoring data on Edgartown Great Pond to educate and advocate for Blue Carbon*

Bronner Family: *Determining Microbial Community Composition Across the Environmental Gradients of Edgartown Great Pond*

Additional support for science initiatives comes from: Vineyard Vision Foundation, Sheriff's Meadow Foundation and the Holt Family.



Justine and Julie checking out the cut in July, 2019.

2019 at a Glance

- > 8,000 data points
- 34 sampling days
- Peak water temp: 88 °F
- Salinity: 15 - 31 ppt



We are thrilled to have support from the Permanent Endowment for Martha's Vineyard!

Eelgrass in Edgartown Great Pond

By Phil Calarusso and Eric Nelson, Eelgrass Scientists from Boston EPA



We quantitatively sampled 3 locations within Edgartown Great Pond (EGP), measuring eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) shoot density, and tunicate presence and relative abundance. EGP currently does not have a natural permanent connection to the ocean, but is periodically connected by a man-made channel excavated through the sand dunes on the southern edge of the pond. The current hydrological regime results in EGP having lower salinities than most of the other coastal ponds on the Vineyard. Salinities during our visit were 20 ppt, and have been known to get as low as 15 ppt. The biological community we observed reflected the lower salinities as brackish water species (e.g., American oysters, Widgeon grass) were very abundant.

Blades of eelgrass with visible seeds.

Status of eelgrass: Eelgrass occurs throughout most of the pond, except for some of the deepest points. In some locations (mostly shallow water), eelgrass co-occurs with Widgeon grass and an unidentified brown drift algae. Eelgrass shoot density in areas where it co-occurred with other plant species tended to be less than 100 shoots/m². In slightly deeper water, eelgrass was the dominant plant species and shoot density peaked at 240 shoots/m². Shoot density does vary by season and annually, but we have sampled other coastal ponds on Martha's Vineyard and have found densities more consistently in the 300-400 shoots/m² range.

In the main body of the pond, tunicate abundance on eelgrass was low to non-existent. However, in Slough Cove, tunicate coverage was extensive, primarily by *Molgula manhattensis*. We have observed this in other ponds on Martha's Vineyard during late summer and fall, as well. Stonewall Pond and Farm Pond have both experienced similar colonization of these tunicates on eelgrass. Slough Cove, Stonewall Pond and Farm Pond all have limited flushing which may contribute to their high tunicate abundance.

Eelgrass abundance in EGP is lower than other similar coastal ponds on Martha's Vineyard, though the amount of fouling by tunicates and other epiphytes is similar to what we have



A juvenile winter flounder observed among widgeon grass in Lyle's Bay.

"In Edgartown Great Pond, some level of source reduction within the watershed, coupled with increasing the flushing, would go a long way to ameliorate the observed negative effects of too much nitrogen."



Drone aerial photo showing eelgrass (dark spots) in Slough Cove. Photo taken by Chris Seidel.



Phil Calarusso and Eric Nelson after an underwater survey of eelgrass.

observed elsewhere on the island. The substantial presence of drift algae and Widgeon grass in EGP is somewhat unique and represents a more brackish water system compared to other coastal ponds on the island.

Other Observations: Oysters and oyster shells were fairly common throughout the pond. We did not observe any extensive reef formation, but small clumps of multiple oysters were fairly common. These clusters of oyster shells do provide some habitat value for crabs and other invertebrates. We observed a substantial number of spider crabs, mud crabs, a single blue crab, and evidence of lady crabs. Observations of fish were fairly limited to 1 juvenile winter flounder (pictured on previous page), sticklebacks and small schooling fish likely to be silversides.

Conclusions: We were told that water column concentrations of nitrogen have been measured in the 0.5 mg/l range. This level of water column nitrogen represents a marginal condition for eelgrass and likely is contributing to the nuisance brown algae proliferation in the pond. These levels of nitrogen are somewhat unexpected due to the large lot sizes in the watershed and the large number of filter-feeding oysters within the system.

There are 2 factors which determine the effect nitrogen has on a coastal system: first, the absolute concentration, and second, the residence time. Ponds with large flushing rates can tolerate higher concentrations of nitrogen without experiencing negative effects. In Edgartown Great Pond, some level of source reduction within the watershed, coupled with increasing the flushing, would go a long way to ameliorate the observed negative effects (e.g., reduced eelgrass abundance, proliferation of brown nuisance algae, etc.) of too much nitrogen.

Thank you for your generous support in 2019!

Financial Highlights

Thanks to generous support from existing and significant new donors as well as a strategic shift in operating mission, the Great Pond Foundation completed 2019 with strong financial results.

Contributions reached a record \$493,560 up 55%

- This includes the full proceeds from 5 grants, 3 of which are multi-year totaling \$100,110
- Expenses for activities supported by these grants will be reported as incurred in the future
- Total income, including investment income, was up 48% to \$578,600

Total expenses rose 3% to \$316,599

- Dredging expense declined \$22,635, or 20%, reflecting a transition in dredging activities from the Foundation to the Town of Edgartown
- That transition is supporting increased investment in science and education programs, up \$29,244, or 21%, and has garnered the interest of new donors
- The full financial impact of the transition will be apparent in 2020

Looking ahead

- We are encouraged by the second annual solid financial surplus, following two years of deficits
- COVID-19 has created disruption and uncertainty; the Foundation did (in 2020) obtain a forgivable federal \$40,000 PPP grant, offering some protection to our employees
- Our ability to continue our programs to enhance and protect the Great Pond always depends on the generosity of our donors; that is particularly true in this uncertain year

A full list of 2019 donors appears on the facing page. All figures are subject to audit. Detailed financial information appears in our Form 990s at:

<https://greatpondfoundation.org/gpf-990s/>

Leadership Circle - \$10,000 +

- Anonymous (2)
- Lisa & Michael Bronner
- Emilia Fazzalari & Wycliffe Grousebeck
- Herring Creek Farm Landowners Association
- Kohlberg Foundation
- Pamela Kohlberg & Curt Greer
- Jacqui & Jeffrey Morby
- MV Vision Fellowship
- Permanent Endowment for MV
- Catherine Samuels & Jeremy Henderson
- Slough Farm Foundation
- John & Inge Stafford Foundation

Blue Carbon Society - \$5000 to \$9999

- Lisa Berkower & Mitchell Rubin
- Christine Campbell & William Massa
- Jennifer & Michael Corbo
- Deborah & Joseph Loughrey
- Doris & David Luening
- Anne & Brian Mazar
- Kimberly & Brian McCaslin
- Mrs. & Dr. Muney
- Elizabeth Potter & Joseph Bower
- Leah & Robert Rukeyser
- Sheriffs Meadow Foundation
- Melissa Vail & Norman Selby

Ecosystem Sustainers - \$2500 to \$4999

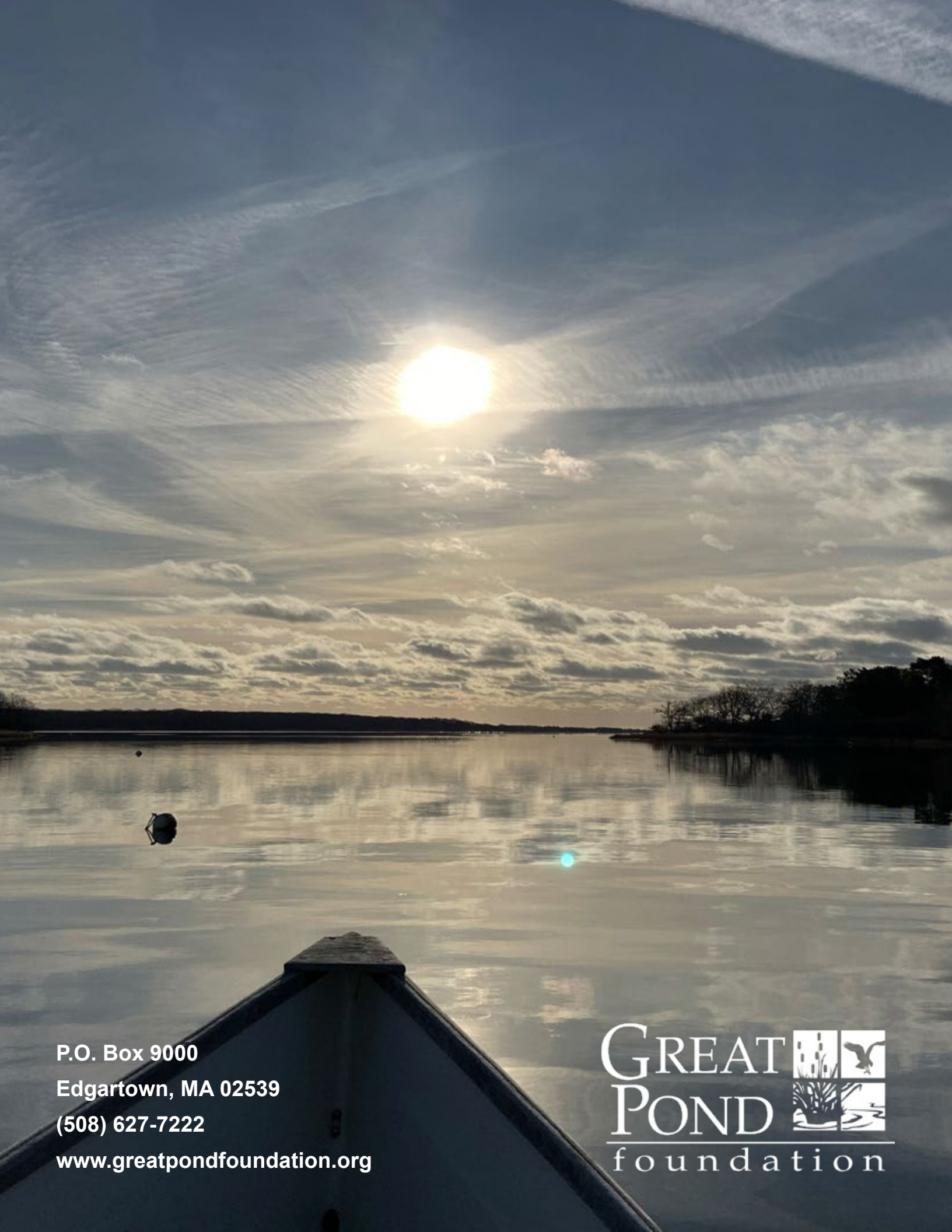
- Elizabeth & Andrew Forrester
- Irina & Patrick Gage
- Ellen & Edward Harley
- Sarah & Fergus Henderson
- Shelley & Allan Holt
- Caroline & Robert Maruska
- Yael & Zeev Pearl
- Linda & Michael Purvis
- Bette & Richard Saltzman
- Michael Shalett
- Marie & Craig Vought
- Gail & John Wasson

Clean Water Coalition - \$1000 to \$2499

- Anonymous
- Toni Chute & John O'Keefe
- Stephanie & Douglas Cronin
- Susan & Michael Grenert
- Sonja & Thomas Hout
- Rebecca & Anthony Hull
- Linda & Gerald Jones
- Yvonne Kwauck & William Reinfeld
- Deborah & Glenn Larsen
- Gabriella Morizio & Robert McLaughlin
- Elizabeth & Frank Newman
- Jill & Paul Ruddock
- Elizabeth & Eric Schlager
- Amy & Howard Seife
- Carol & Bruce Tomason
- Heidi & Alex Wason

Blue Crab Crew

- Anonymous (2)
- George Clark
- Leanne Cowley & Steven Galante
- Jim Cranston
- Katherine & John Culbert
- Shelley Edmundson & Mark Cronin
- Angela and Robert Egerton
- Robert Gagel
- Anne Josephson
- Charlotte & John Klein
- Alison Larsen *in honor of Terry Kassel*
- Megan Lindberg
- Elizabeth & Michael MacKenty
- Lisa Rechtschaffen & David Apfel



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