

1. WATERSHED CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 DEM and Watershed Delineation

The first step in watershed characterization is to determine the delineation of the area of study. This is completed using digital elevation model (DEM) information when available. However, the actual drainage area will be impacted by the stormwater pipe network. The watersheds delineated for this study are based on the 16-foot DEM provided by the City of Sandy Springs. Areas outside of the City limits were supplemented with the best available topography data from the National Elevation Dataset (NED), the 1/3-arc second topography, which is a 30-foot DEM. Because so much of the City is urbanized, there is a large proportion of stormwater for smaller storm events that is routed through pipe networks as opposed to overland or open channel flow. In an effort to capture the true movement of stormwater in the study area, burnlines were created using both the USGS streams coverage and the stormwater pipe network provided by the City of Sandy Springs. The DEM was reconditioned using these burnlines. Watersheds boundaries delineated for this study will vary slightly from watersheds delineated for other studies done for Sandy Springs.

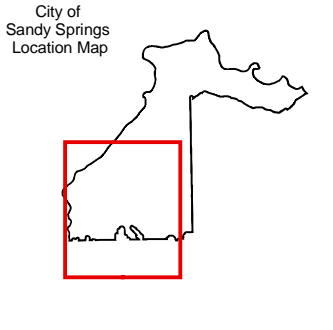
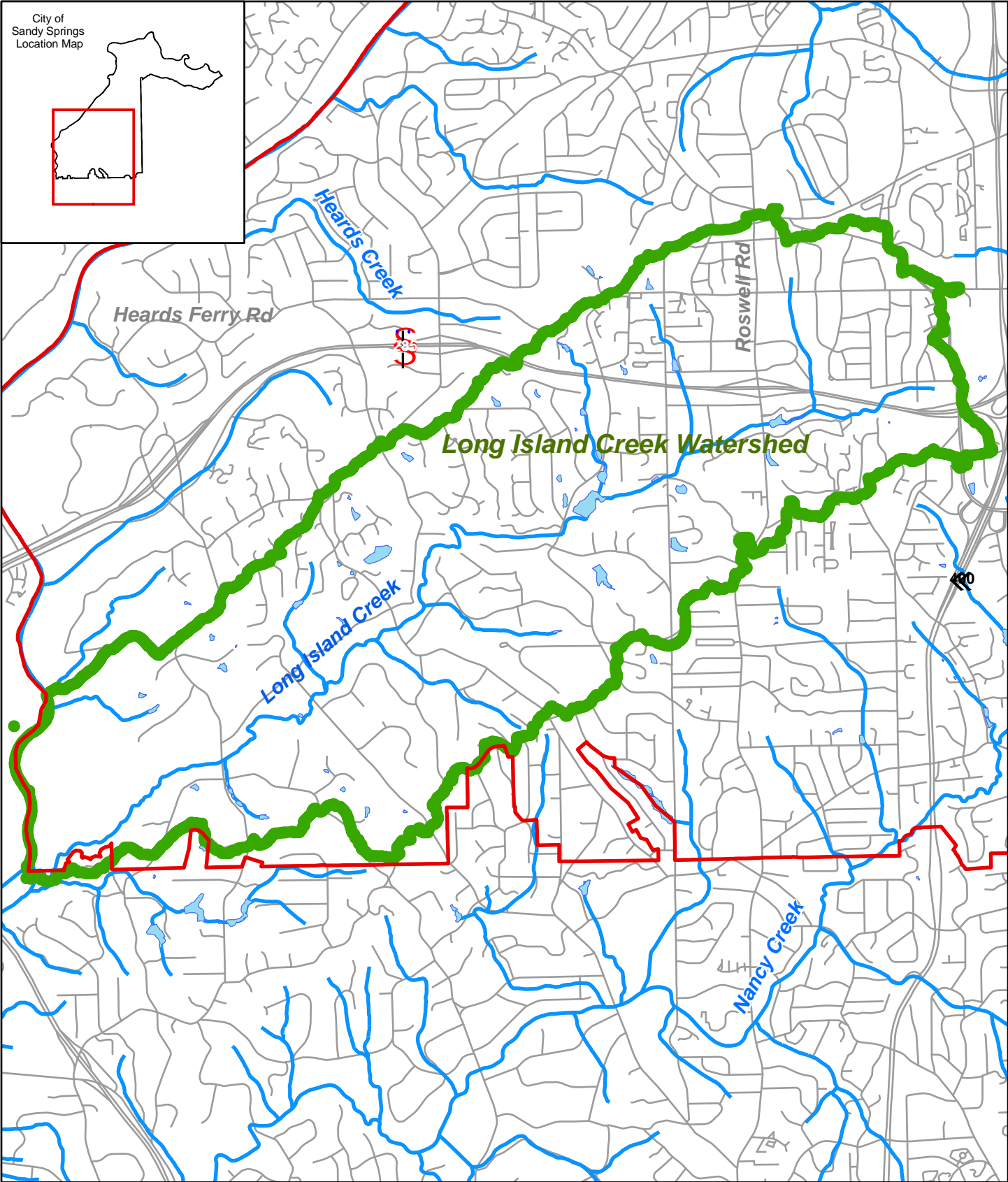
The study area watersheds were delineated based on the reconditioned DEM using the ArcHydro program, which is an extension for ArcGIS. This tool automatically delineated smaller watersheds based on a 100-acre drainage area. For this study, the smaller watersheds were then combined into the final watershed to form the Long Island Creek study area (Figure 1-1).

1.2 Impervious Cover






Impervious cover is one of the most important aspects in a watershed study. Impervious area relates to the amount of roads, rooftops, sidewalks and other areas that do not allow rainwater to soak into the ground. Watersheds with high impervious area have high runoff and velocity from stormwater that impair streams.

The impervious cover shown on Figure 1-2 was created from base data provided by the City of Sandy Springs. Street shapes were extracted from the existing zoning coverage provided by the City of Sandy Springs. Any street area shapes outside of the City Limits or not represented accurately in the zoning coverage were digitized by creating a 25-foot buffer around the centerlines of the streets coverage provided by the City. The City provided a building footprint coverage, and all of these shapes were included in the impervious cover file. Impervious cover in commercial areas and residential apartment and townhome complexes was digitized based on a combination of the most recent aerial photography provided by the City and the building footprint coverage.

Existing footprint shapes for commercial buildings, apartment buildings, and townhomes were included in the impervious cover, and the adjacent parking lots and driveway shapes for these complexes were digitized based on aerial photography. Impervious cover for single-family residential areas was created by buffering the house footprints based on average percents of impervious area per lot based on land use category as follows:



Legend

-  City Limit
-  Watershed Boundary
-  Lakes/Ponds
-  Streams
-  Streets

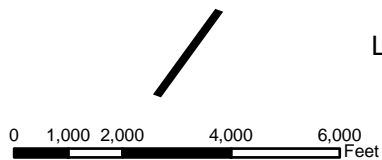


Figure 1-1. Watershed Delineation
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



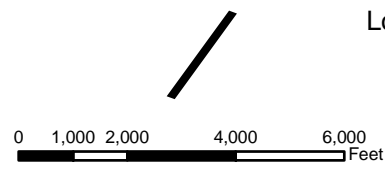
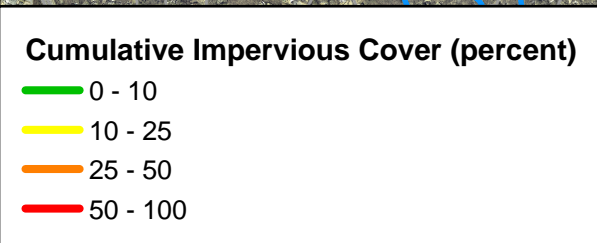
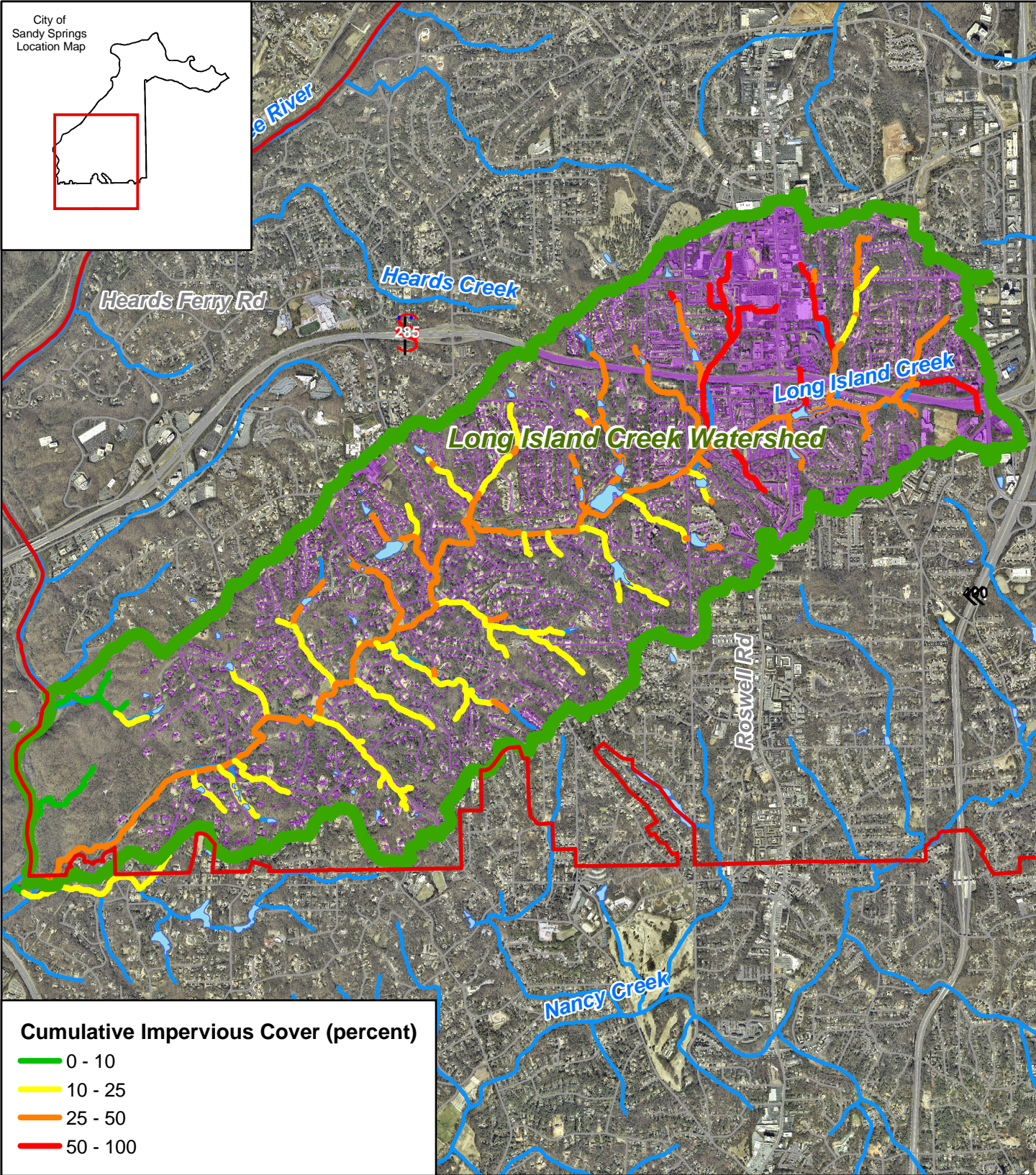
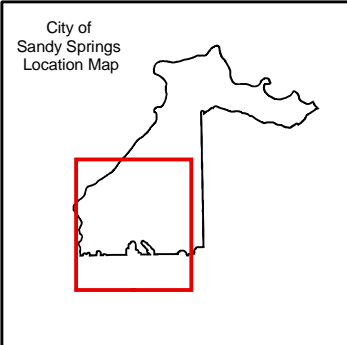


Figure 1-2. Impervious Cover
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



- Land Use Code R12 (2-acre lot size) – Buffered the home footprints by 25 feet. These are typically very large homes with pools, large terraces and very long driveways with ample yard and wooded areas.
- Land Use Code R20 (1-acre lot size) – Buffered the home footprints by 15 feet. These are typically large homes with pools and/or terraces and long driveways with ample yards.
- Land Use Code R25 (1/2-acre lot size) – Buffered the home footprints by 15 feet. These are typically moderate sized homes with medium sized yards, medium length driveways and most have pools or terraces.
- Land Use Code R30 (1/3-acre lot size) – Buffered the home footprints by 6 feet. These are typically +medium sized homes with moderate yards, driveways and very few pools or other large paved areas.
- Land Use Code R38 (1/4-acre lot sizes) – Buffered the home footprints by 4 feet. These are typically medium to large homes placed close together and occupying most of the lot with only a short driveway.
- Land Use Code R65 (1/8-acre lot sizes) – Buffered the home footprints by 4 feet. These are typically medium to large homes placed very close together occupying nearly all the lot with only a short driveway.

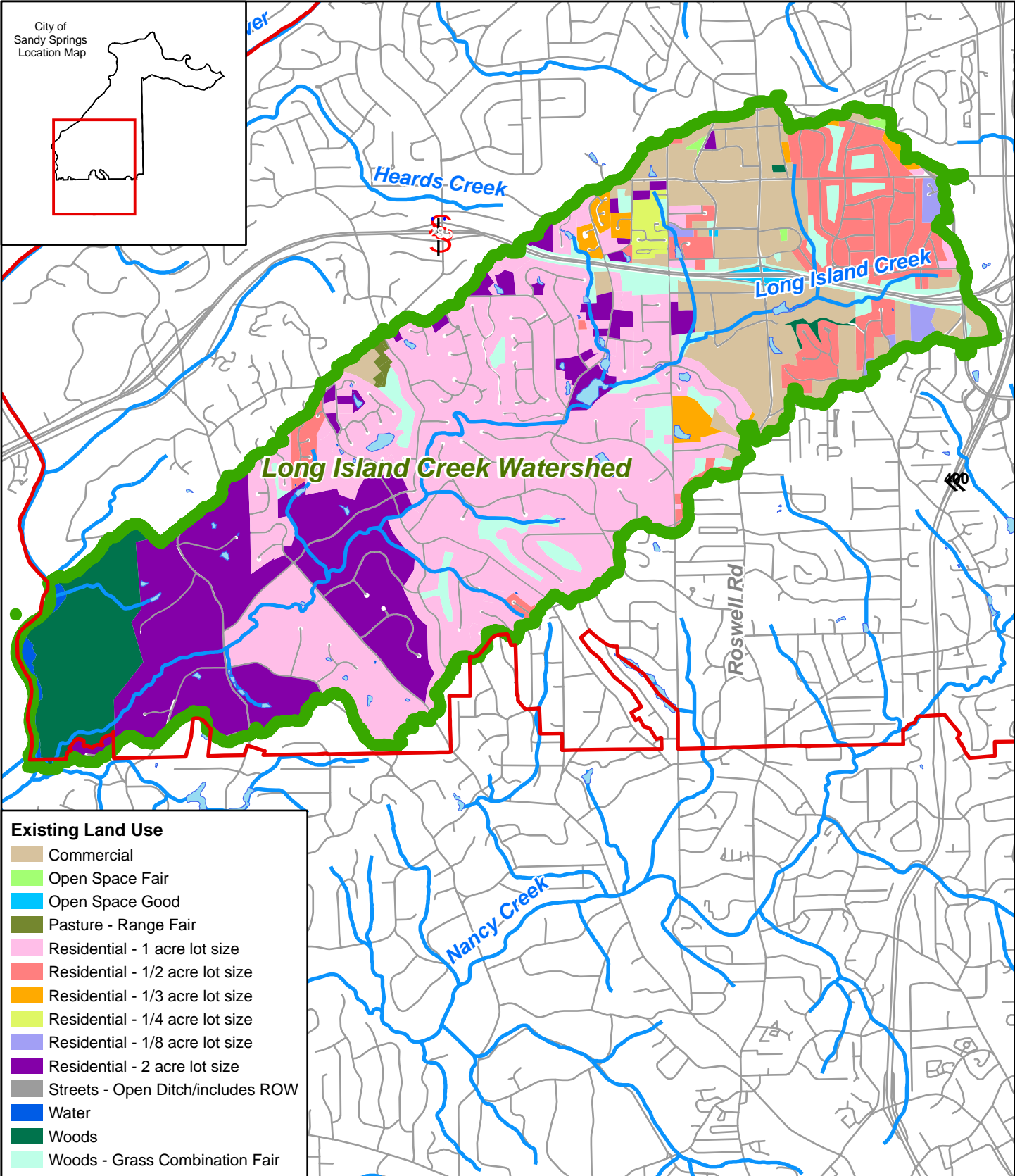
The impervious cover polygons were used in WIP Tools model (explained in more detail in Section 1.6.2) to generate the cumulative impervious cover for the study area. On Figure 1-2, the watershed streams are color coded based on the model results for cumulative impervious cover.

1.3 Existing Land Use

Existing land use is directly related to water quality in streams and is therefore a necessary input for the baseline conditions WIP Tools model. Table 1-1 provides the codes used to develop this land use coverage. The land use coverage, shown on Figure 1-3, was developed by reviewing the most recent aerial photography in combination with the current zonings codes for each parcel. The zoning codes shown on Table 1-2 were assigned the most applicable land use category based on the most similar use. Aerial photography was used to confirm this land use category assignment. However, in some cases, the aerial photography showed areas of recent development not captured in the zoning coverage. In these cases, the aerial photography was assumed to be the most recent representation of the current conditions in the City of Sandy Springs, so the land use was updated to reflect the current land uses in the aerial photography.

Table 1-1. Land Use Categories

Land Use Code	Land Use Description
C	Commercial
I	Industrial
PF	Open Space Fair
PG	Open Space Good
PRF	Pasture - Range Fair
R12	Residential - 2 acre lot size
R20	Residential - 1 acre lot size
R25	Residential - 1/2 acre lot size
R30	Residential - 1/3 acre lot size
R38	Residential - 1/4 acre lot size
R65	Residential - 1/8 acre lot size
SOD	Streets - Open Ditch/includes ROW
POND	Water
WGCF	Woods - Grass Combination Fair
W	Woods



Legend

- City Limit
- Study Area
- Lakes/Ponds
- Streams
- Streets



Figure 1-3. Existing Land Use
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan

The land use category SOD (Streets – open ditch/includes right-of-way) was created using a combination of the streets coverage file and the zoning coverage received from the City and the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) 2005 streets dataset obtained from Georgia Department of Transportation (GA DOT) records. Any street area shapes outside of the City Limits or not represented accurately in the zoning coverage were digitized by creating a 25-foot buffer around the centerlines of the ARC streets coverage. The land use category POND (Water) was created using a combination of a water bodies file obtained from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the aerial photography. All features in the USGS file were verified with the aerial photography, and any additional water bodies seen in the aerials were also included as POND shapes in the land use file. Finally, the open space and wooded land use categories, PF (open space fair), PG (open space good), PRF (pasture – range fair), WGCF (woods – grass combination fair), and W (woods) were digitized directly from the aerial photography provided by the City. Areas outside of the City limits were supplemented with the ARC existing conditions land use coverage. These areas were verified using the aerial topography and assigned the study-specific land use codes provided in Table 1-1.

Regions designated as PF (open space fair) were areas of open space, such as grass or dirt that were interspersed with shrubbery, trails or paths, and/or small out parcel buildings, as found at recreation fields or parks. Areas designated as PG (open space good) were regions where open space, such as grass or dirt, occupied more than 85 percent of the area. Comparably, areas designated as W (woods) were regions where trees occupied more than 85 percent of the area. Areas designated as WGCF (woods – grass combination fair) were areas that were an approximate 50/50 mix of open space and woods. Finally, areas designated as PRF (pasture-range fair) were areas with open space that appeared to be fertilized and possibly treated as agricultural areas. There were only four small regions assigned to this land use type in the study area.

1.4 Soils

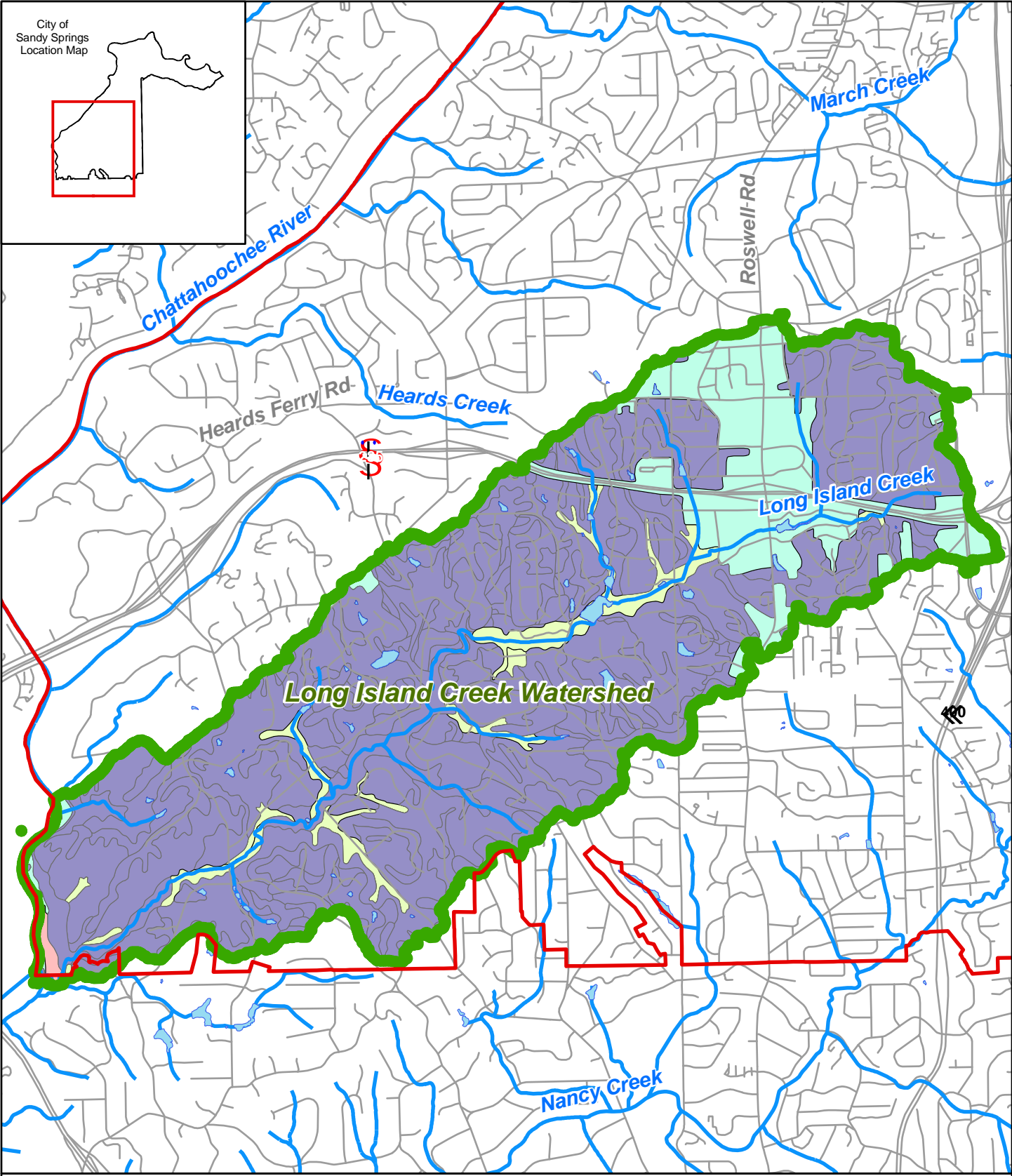
Determination of soil type is important when considering erosion rates, rainfall infiltration, building suitability, and many other factors. The soils data for this study was obtained directly from the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) by Manhard Consulting, Ltd, the floodplain mapping partner for the City of Sandy Springs. For this study, the soils file was updated to reflect all areas of open water identified during the digitizing of the land use. All areas of open water were assigned MUSYM 'W' and classified as type D, in accordance with NRCS standards. In addition, areas that were classified as urban lands in the NRCS soil survey were classified as type D because of the impervious nature or typically compacted soils common with these land uses. Figure 1-4 depicts the soil polygon file color coded by hydrologic soil group.

1.5 Lakes

The Long Island Creek has many small to medium size lakes. Lakes can provide water quality benefits and should be included in the development of the WIP Tools model. The surface area at the normal elevation or pool of lakes and ponds was determined by creating a polygon area. The USGS Hydro Area polygon was the starting basis for the lakes. For areas that appeared to have been developed since the USGS file was created or other lakes that were not included in the USGS file, the contours from the City and the aerial photos were used to create the a lake footprint at normal pool. Any polygons that appeared to be delineated in the USGS file due to damp soil and were not considered actual lakes (based on aerial photograph) were deleted from the model.

Table 1-2. Zoning Code Assignment of Land Use

Zoning Code and Label	Corresponding Land Use Code and Description	Notes
R-1 - Single Family	R12 - Residential – 2 acre lot size	
R-2 - Single Family	R20 - Residential – 1 acre lot size	
R-2A - Single Family	R20 - Residential – 1 acre lot size	
R-3 - Single Family	R25 - Residential – 1/2 acre lot size	
R-3A - Single Family	R25 - Residential – 1/2 acre lot size	
R-4 - Single Family	R30 - Residential – 1/3 acre lot size	
R-4A - Single Family	R30 - Residential – 1/3 acre lot size	
R-5 - Single Family	R38 or R64 - Residential - 1/8 or 1/4 acre lot size	Lot size taken from aerials to determine correct Land Use Code designation
R-5A - Single Family	R38 or R65 - Residential - 1/8 or 1/4 acre lot size	Lot size taken from aerials to determine correct Land Use Code designation
R-6 - Two family	R# - Residential	Lot size taken from aerials to determine correct Land Use Code designation
A - Medium Density Apartment	C - Commercial	
A-1 - Apartment Limited Dwelling	C - Commercial	
A-L - Apartment Dwelling	C - Commercial	
A-O - Apartment Office	C - Commercial	
TR - Townhouse Residential	R65 - Residential - 1/8 acre lot size	
O-I - Office and Institutional	C - Commercial	
C-1 - Community Business	C - Commercial	
C-2 - Commercial	C - Commercial	
MIX - Mixed Use	C - Commercial	
CUP - Community Unit Plan	R# - Residential	Lot size taken from aerials to determine correct Land Use Code designation
NUP - Neighborhood Unit Plan	R# - Residential	Lot size taken from aerials to determine correct Land Use Code designation
M-1 - Light Industrial	I - Industrial	
M-2 - Heavy Industrial	I - Industrial	
AG-1 - Agricultural	PRF - Pasture-Range Fair	



Legend

- City Limit
- Study Area
- Lakes/Ponds
- Streams
- Streets

- Soils**
Hydrologic Soil Group
- A
 - B
 - C
 - D

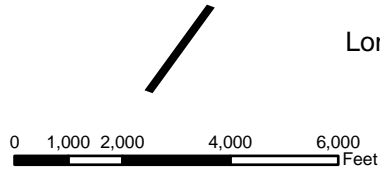


Figure 1-4. Soils
 Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



1.6 Urban/Rural Discharge Ratio

The urban/rural discharge ratio is used to classify stream segments by the amount of flow increase resulting from urbanization (Figure 1-5). The ratio is calculated as:

$$\text{Existing urban 1-year discharge/Undeveloped (rural) 1-year discharge}$$

The 1-year frequency is used because it is often characterized as the channel-forming streamflow. A modification of the formulas found in the *USGS Flood-Frequency Relations for Urban Streams in Georgia – 1994 Update* was used to calculate the urban/rural discharge ratio for all streams in the study area (USGS 1994). For Region 1 which includes the Chattahoochee River and tributaries, the USGS Regression equations for the 2-year event are:

$$Q_2 = 167A^{0.73}TIA^{0.31} \text{ (urban)}$$

$$Q_2 = 207A^{0.654} \text{ (rural)}$$

Where Q_2 is the 2-year peak discharge in cubic feet per second,

A is the drainage area in square miles, and

TIA is the total impervious area in percent.

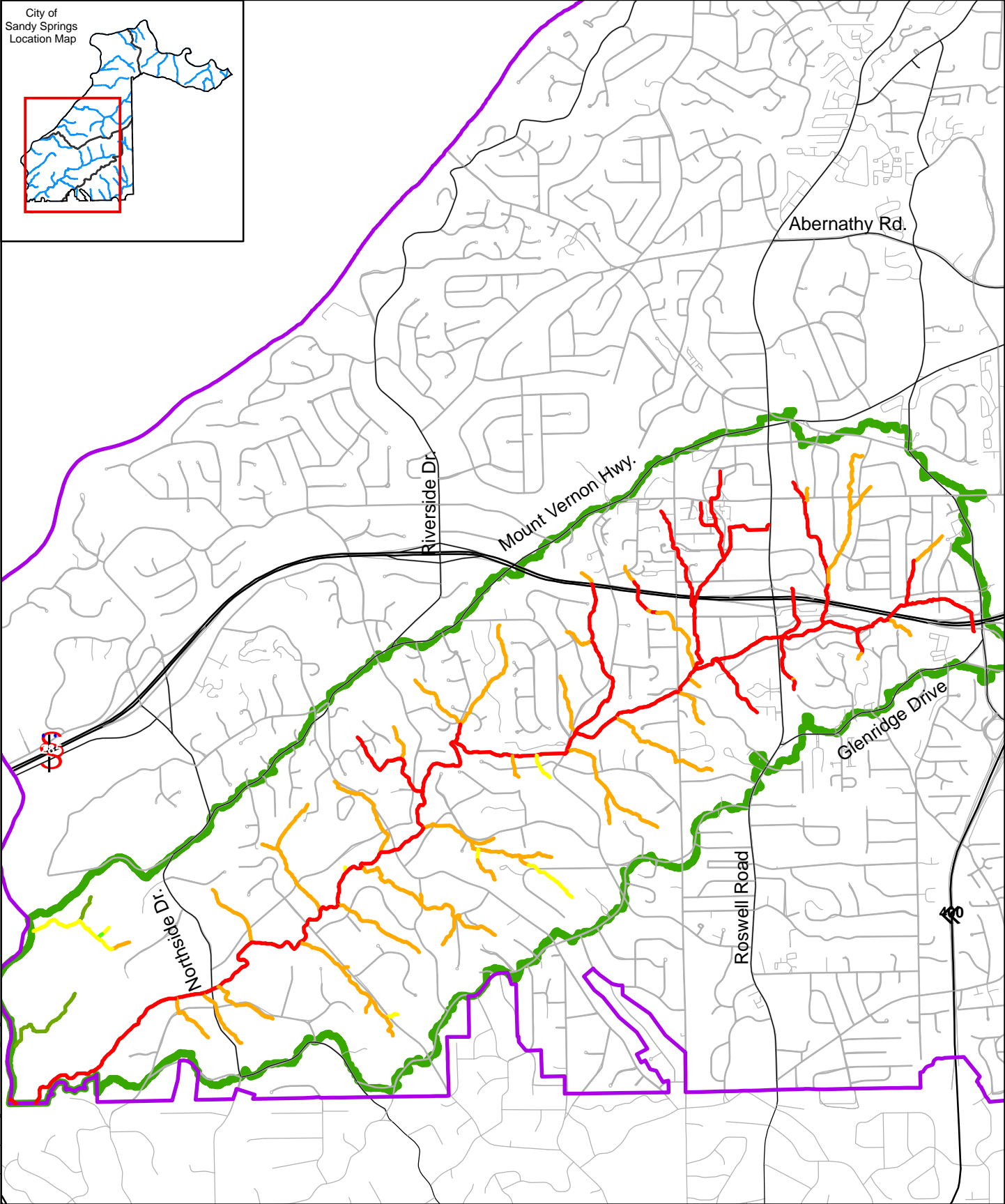
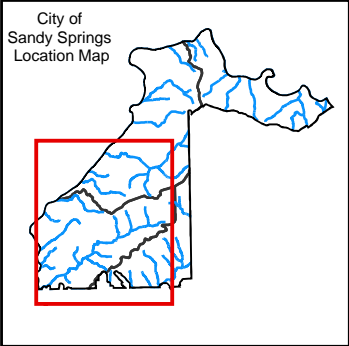
Where Q_2 is the 2-year peak discharge in cubic feet per second, A is the drainage area in square miles, and TIA is the total impervious area in percent. To estimate the 1-year rural condition flood peak, the above equations were reduced by a factor of 0.875 to calculate the 1-year discharge. The urban/rural discharge ratio is used in the erosivity calculation. Retrofitting or modifying BMPs will reduce the 1-year urban discharge, thus reducing the downstream erosivity. The factor of 0.875 is arrived at by dividing the total precipitation depth for a 2-year 24-hour storm event by the depth of the 1-year 24-hour storm event. As a result, the equation used to calculate the Urban-Rural Discharge ratio(Q_{ur}) is:

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{ur} &= Q_u / Q_r \\ &= 146A^{0.73} TIA^{0.31} / 181A^{0.654} \end{aligned}$$

Where Q_u is the urban 1-year discharge in cubic feet per second, and

Q_r is the rural 1-year discharge in cubic feet per second.

For Long Island Creek, the urban/rural discharge ratio ranged from 0.31 for streams in wooded areas to over 2.79 in some stream segments in heavily urbanized areas. The input parameters for the urban discharge were drainage area and percent impervious cover, whereas only drainage area was used to develop the rural discharge. As a result, areas with the highest amounts of impervious surface had the highest urban/rural discharge ratios. Generally, streams with higher urban/rural discharge ratios are expected to be more impacted due to urbanization causing changes in streamflow hydrology. However, this is not always the situation. For example, in some locations, bedrock outcrops may prevent stream down-cutting and enlargement even though streamflow has been substantially increased due to urbanization. Conversely, where stream conditions are degraded but a minimal hydrologic alteration is indicated by urban/rural ratios near 1.0, stream changes are likely the result of direct human actions such as bank vegetation removal or channel straightening. With these exceptions noted, the urban/rural discharge ratio provides a means to identify locations where hydrologic controls would be most useful at reducing streamflows to more natural channel-forming flows.



Legend

- Urban-Rural Ratio City Limit
- Ratio Roads
- Street Symbols
- Study Area
- 0.00 - 1.10
- 1.10 - 1.25
- 1.25 - 1.50
- 1.50 - 2.00
- 2.00 - 3.00
- 3.00 - 3.50

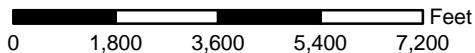


Figure 1-5. Urban-Rural Discharge Ratio
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



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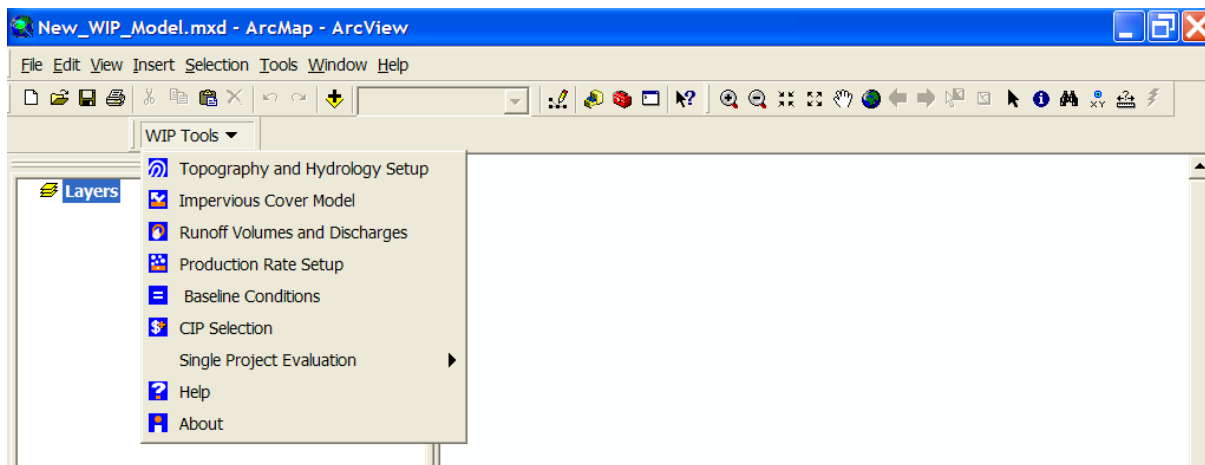
1.7 Impaired Streams

The primary reason for developing the Watershed Improvement Plan for Long Island Creek is to address water quality concerns. Five miles of Long Island Creek from the headwaters to the confluence with the Chattahoochee River, which are all located in Sandy Springs, are listed as not meeting the designated use of fishing based on the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) 2008 305(b)/303(d) list of waters. Long Island Creek is listed as impaired for fecal coliform and biota impacted (fish community) with the potential cause due to urban runoff or urban effects (Figure 1-6).

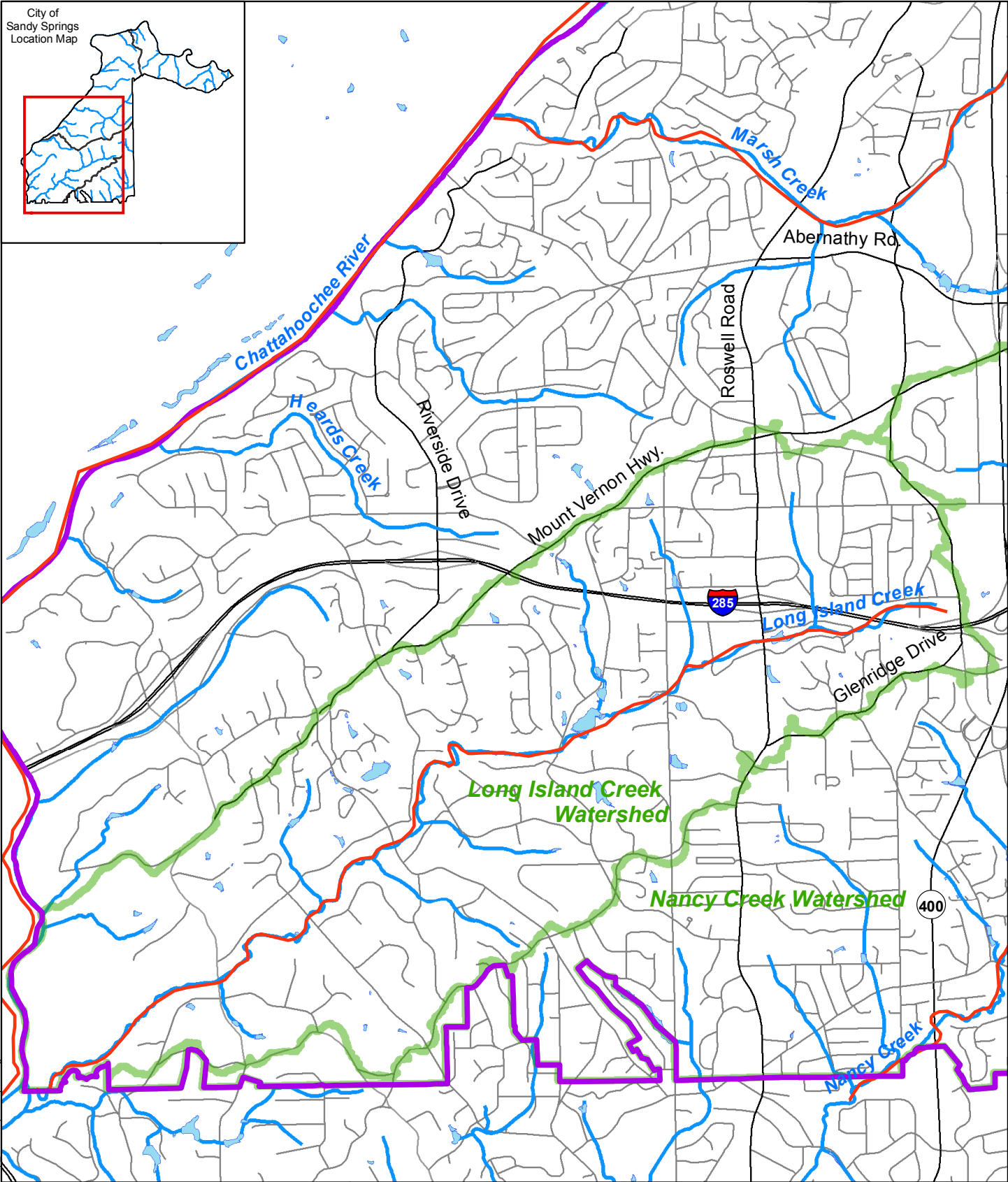
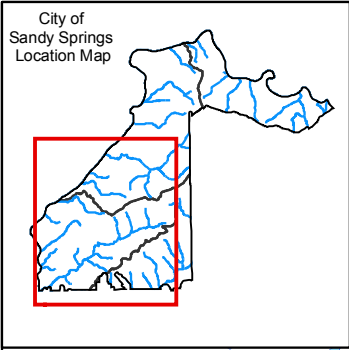
1.8 WIP Tools – Baseline Conditions Model

The baseline conditions model developed using WIP Tools represents the current or existing conditions within the Long Island Creek Study Area. Land use, soils, existing lakes, and other watershed inputs described above were used to develop the model. The model includes the effects of any existing best management practices (BMPs) that may provide water quality benefits such as stormwater detention ponds. The following section gives an overview of the development of the model and the model results.

WIP Tools is a raster based project evaluation and water quality model deployed as an extension in ArcGIS. It was created by Brown and Caldwell to aid in the development of a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for Watershed Improvement Planning. WIP Tools allows for the analysis of multiple ‘what-if’ scenarios in which a user can ‘turn-on’ projects, generated results and then try another set of projects. The raster based format allows projects to be placed and evaluated, and results to be extracted anywhere in the study area. The WIP Tools model works in a systematic manner starting at the top menu item and moving downward (see image below). Each of the following sections gives an overview of the key inputs and results by WIP Tools menu item. More details on the equations and methodology in the WIP Tools model may be found in the WIP Tools User’s Guide located in Appendix F.



WIP Tools Menu Items



- Legend**
- City Limit
 - Study Area
 - Lakes & Ponds
 - Streams
 - 303(d) Listed Streams
 - Roads



0 1,000 2,000 3,000 Feet

Figure 1-6. 305(b) / 303(d) Listed Streams
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



1.8.1.1 Topography and Hydrology Setup

The first menu item was the Topography and Hydrology Setup. The primary inputs for this tool are the watershed DEM and the threshold for stream formation. The development of the DEM was detailed earlier in this chapter. A 25-acre threshold was selected for stream formation. The outputs for this step include a cumulative drainage area raster, a stream raster and a stream vector.

1.8.1.2 Impervious Cover Model

The next step was the development of the impervious cover model. The inputs include the impervious cover polygon file (Section 1.2) and the lakes polygon file (Section 1.5). Output included an impervious cover raster, a cumulative impervious cover raster and a cumulative impervious cover vector (applied only to the stream segments). The cumulative impervious cover vector is included on Figure 1-2.

1.8.1.3 Runoff Volumes and Discharges

The runoff volumes and discharges tool requires three inputs: hydrologic region, land use and soil data. The hydrologic region specifies the USGS equations to use for calculating discharges. The land use data (Section 1.3) along with the hydrologic soil group (Section 1.4) was used to determine the SCS curve number for each raster cell. The curve numbers used for the WIP Tools model were the same as those used for the floodplain study in order to provide consistency. Table 1-3 lists the curve number by land use and soil group.

Land Use	Soil Group			
	A	B	C	D
Commercial	89	92	94	95
Industrial	81	88	91	93
Open Space Fair	49	69	79	84
Open Space Good	39	61	74	80
Pasture - Range Fair	49	69	79	84
Residential - 2 acre lot size	46	65	77	82
Residential - 1 acre lot size	51	68	79	84
Residential - 1/2 acre lot size	54	70	80	85
Residential - 1/3 acre lot size	57	72	81	86
Residential - 1/4 acre lot size	61	75	83	87
Residential - 1/8 acre lot size	77	85	90	92
Streets - Open Ditch/includes ROW	83	89	92	93
Water	100	100	100	100
Woods - Grass Combination Fair	35	56	70	77
Woods	36	60	73	79

The output for this tool includes the water quality volume, channel protection volume, 25-year flood storage volume, 1-year undeveloped (rural) discharge, 2-year urban discharge, 10-year urban discharge and 25-year urban discharge.

1.8.1.4 Production Rate Setup

This tool develops the production generated by each grid cell for each water quality constituent selected for modeling. The user may model one or many constituents. However, the constituents selected in this tool

were the only ones available for analysis in subsequent tools. The production included both upland production and stream production. The inputs include the stream bank erosion (Section 2.3), land use (Section 1.3), default in-stream production rate, other default stream parameters, and a die-off raster. For this study area total nitrogen, total phosphorus, total suspended sediment (TSS), fecal coliform and biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) were modeled.

The default in-stream production was assumed to be zero for all parameters except TSS. The value for TSS was set to 8 lb/ft². This value was based on stream erosion monitoring performed in the Chattahoochee Tributaries of Gwinnett County, Georgia. The default stream parameters include the hydraulic geometry coefficient, hydraulic geometry exponent, default roughness values and default percent exposed bank. For areas where no bank height information was available, a hydraulic geometry relationship was developed. Using the data points collected for both Long Island and Nancy Creek (in order to have a significant number of data points) the hydraulic geometry coefficient was 0.96 and the hydraulic geometry exponent was 0.20. A default roughness value of 0.05 was selected. The default percent exposed bank was determined by calculating the average percent bank exposed of all Long Island Creek stream walk data. The default percent of bank exposed for Long Island Creek was 19 percent.

The die-off raster was only required for parameters that implement the first order decay functionality. The best estimates of effective in-stream "die-off" rates for fecal coliform and similar microbes in fresh water point toward first-order decay rates of between 0.7 to 1.5 per day (Mancini 1978, EPA 1985 and CWP 2000). The overland component was more difficult to determine. The EPA (EPA 1985) stressed that an on-surface k rate be higher than what is used for in-stream. At first glance that seems to make sense in that there is more opportunity for exposure to ultraviolet light, infiltration into the ground, or entrapment. However, more recent studies have produced significantly lower estimates (Meals and Braun 2006). For the Long Island Creek WIP study a K raster was developed for fecal coliform with a value of 1.1/day for streams and 0.7/day for upland areas.

In addition, the user may edit some of the default tables that are installed as a part of the WIP Tools extension. This includes the table export coefficients by land use. This editing is done outside of the WIP Tools model. Table 1-4 list the values used for Long Island Creek.

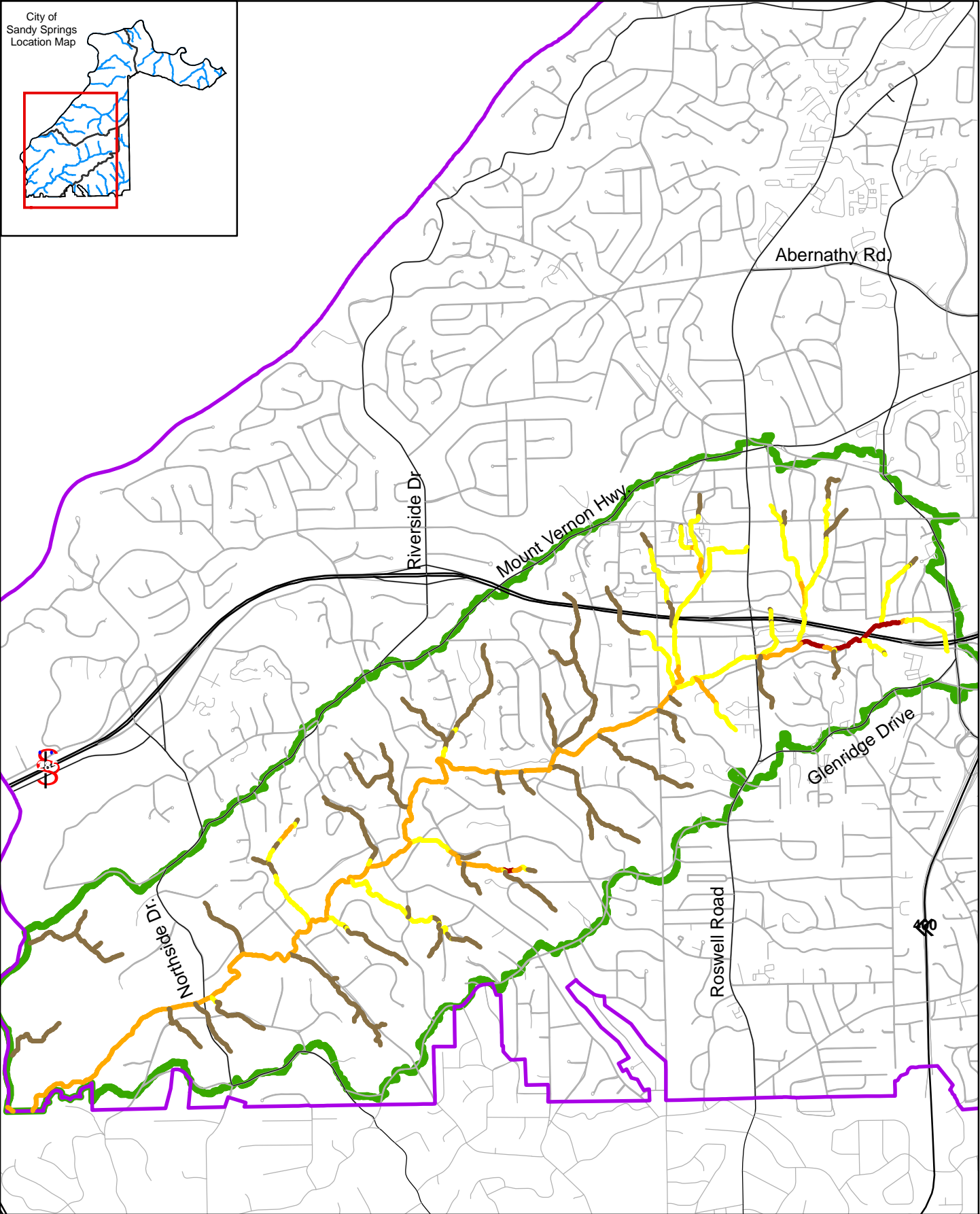
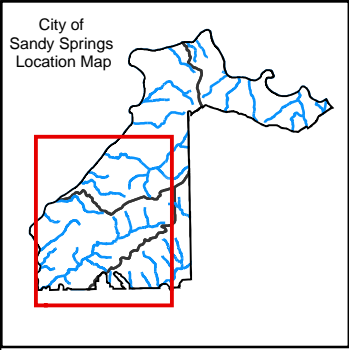
Land Use	Total Nitrogen lb/ac/yr	Total Phosphorus lb/ac/yr	TSS lb/ac/yr	Fecal Coliform cfu 10⁶/yr	BOD lb/ac/yr
Commercial	11	1.5	525	9.1	42
Industrial	9.9	1.3	690	2.7	54
Open Space Fair	2.7	0.3	35	7.9	3
Open Space Good	1.8	0.2	23	7.9	2
Pasture - Range Fair	7.5	1.1	200	8.7	15
Residential - 2 acre lot size	2.8	0.3	35	6.9	8
Residential - 1 acre lot size	3.5	0.4	50	6.9	9
Residential - 1/2 acre lot size	4.6	0.6	80	7.6	15
Residential - 1/3 acre lot size	5.8	0.8	110	8.5	20
Residential - 1/4 acre lot size	6.7	0.9	125	9.1	25
Residential - 1/8 acre lot size	10	1.5	525	9.1	42
Streets - Open Ditch/includes ROW	8.2	1.5	590	6.9	67
Water	5.5	0.5	18	10	10
Woods - Grass Combination Fair	2.4	0.3	25	12	13
Woods	2.5	0.3	30	15	15

1.8.1.5 Baseline Conditions

This tool generated the baseline conditions scenario for the study area. This was the current study area conditions prior to the implementation of proposed projects. The water quality benefits provided by existing BMPs may be included in the baseline conditions scenario. The parameter load and yield were developed by accumulating the production developed in the previous step. If an existing BMP was encountered, then the accumulated load was reduced by the BMP efficiency and then the accumulation continued moving downstream to the next raster cell. In addition, if first order decay was implemented the accumulation is multiplied by the decay at that raster cell and then the accumulation continued downstream. Figures 1-7 through 1-11 show the results of the baseline conditions model for each parameter modeled for the Sandy Springs study area.

1.8.1.6 Single Project Evaluation – Load Reduction

Once all the efficiencies and discharges were assigned to each BMP, the WIP Tools model was used to evaluate the benefit provided by each project. The Single Project Evaluation – Load Reduction Tool was used to determine TSS reduction and Fecal Coliform reduction provided by each project in isolation. This calculation ‘turns on’ just the project of interest and any existing BMPs that provide benefit and calculates the load reduction provided by that BMP. The load reduction was added to the attribute table of the project points file and the computation continues on for the next project. Information from project evaluation was used to create the final recommended CIP described in Chapter 4.



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Legend

- | | |
|------------------------|------------|
| TSS Yield Ratio | City Limit |
| 0 - 500 | Roads |
| 500 - 1,000 | Study Area |
| 1,000 - 1,600 | |
| > 1,600 | |

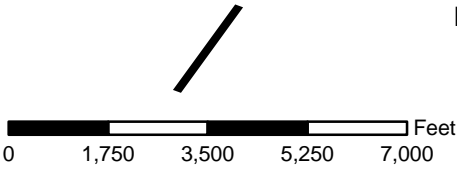
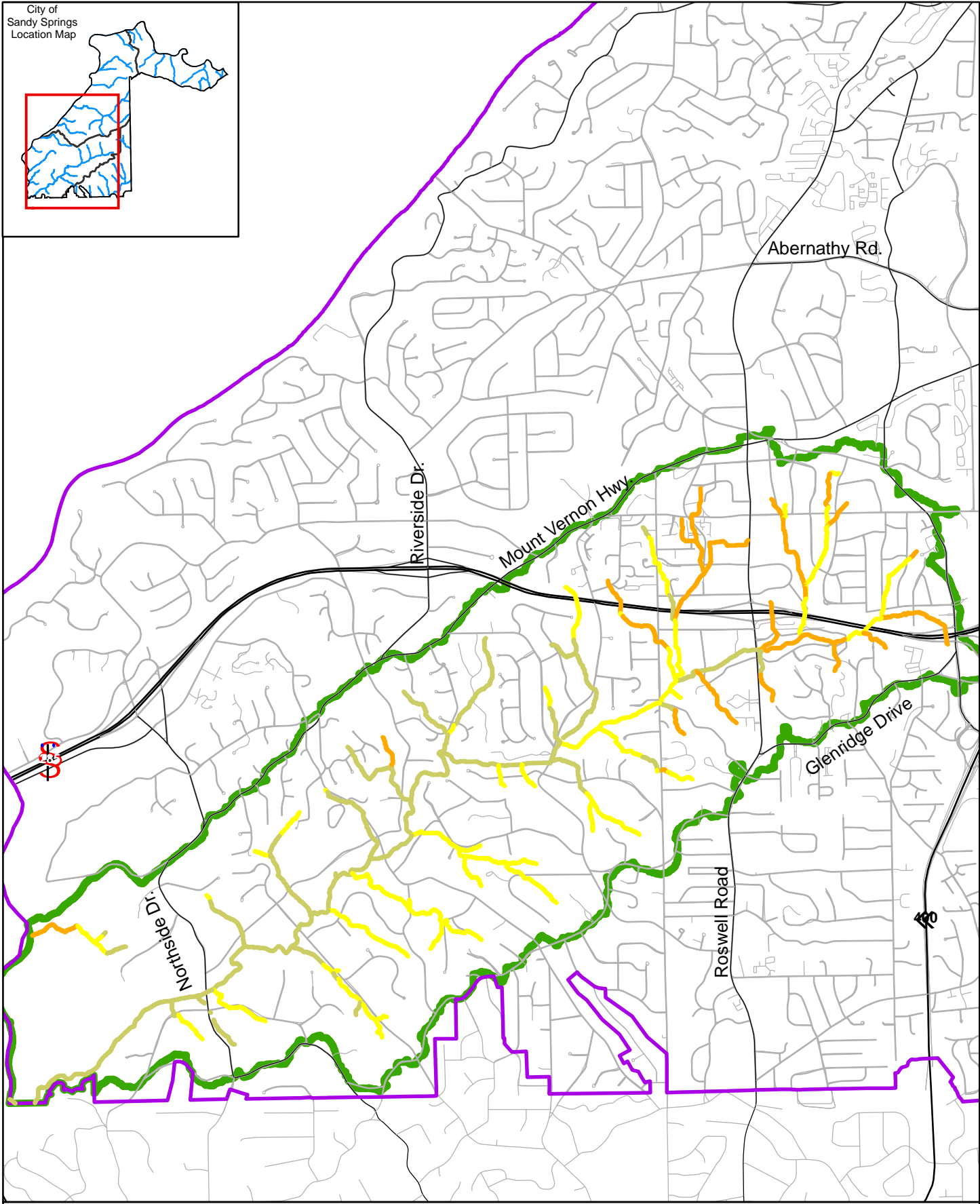
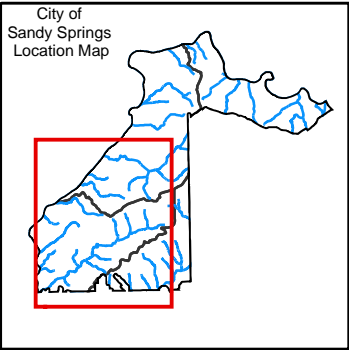


Figure 1-7. Baseline Conditions - TSS Yield
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan





- Legend**
- █ Fecal Yield 0 - 6.0
 - █ Fecal Yield 6.0 - 8.0
 - █ Fecal Yield 8.0 - 10.0
 - █ Fecal Yield >10.0
 - City Limit
 - Roads
 - Study Area

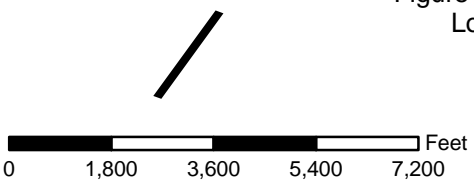
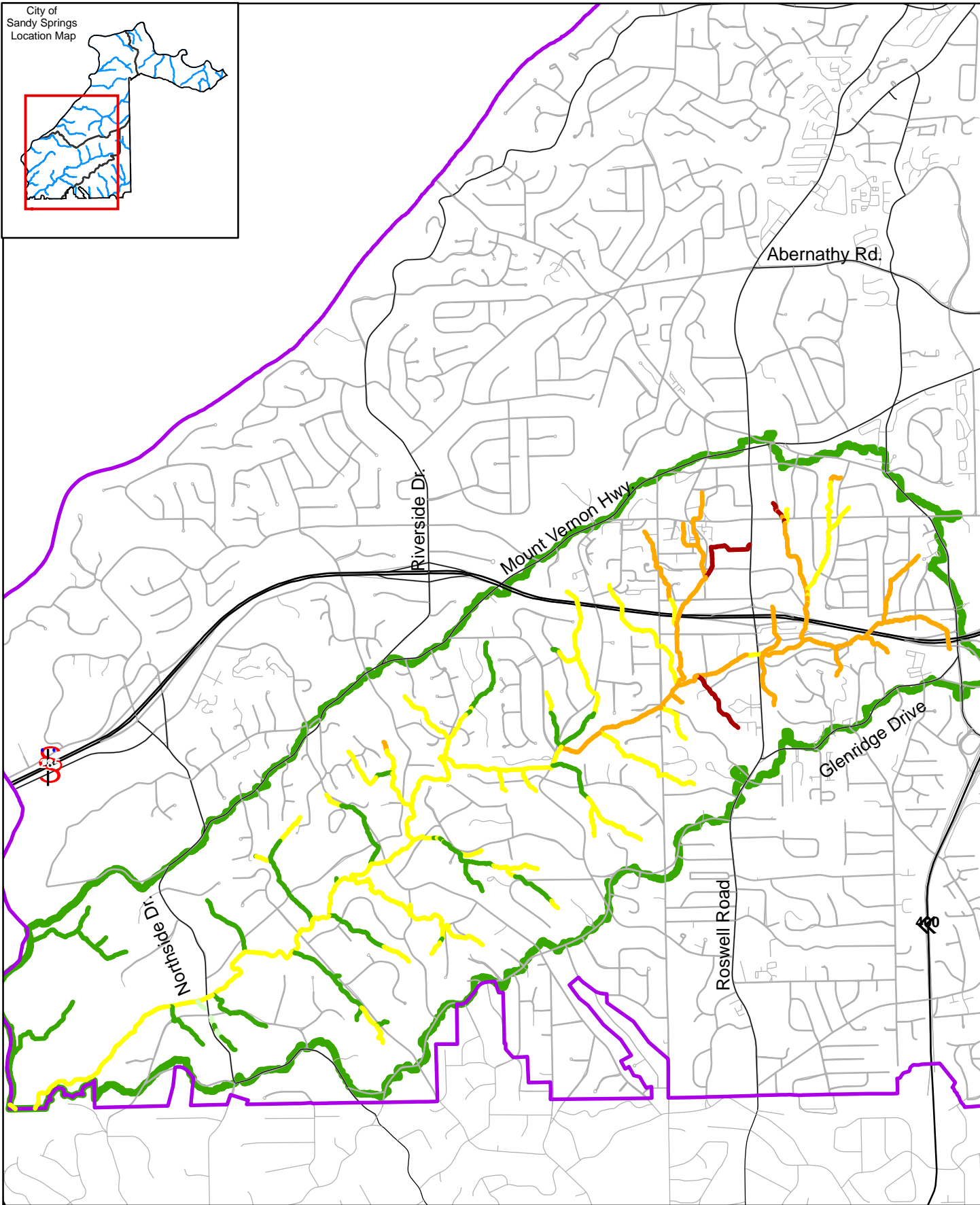
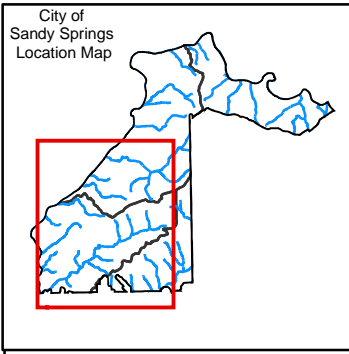


Figure 1-8. Baseline Conditions - Fecal Coliform Yield
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan

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Legend

- Total Nitrogen Yield
 - 0 - 2.2
 - 2.2 - 3.6
 - 3.6 - 6.0
 - 6.0 - 10.0
 - >10.0
- City Limit
- Roads
- Study Area

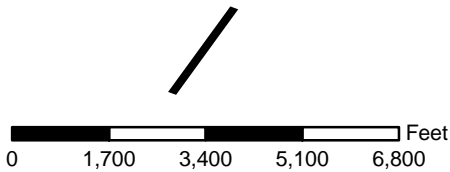
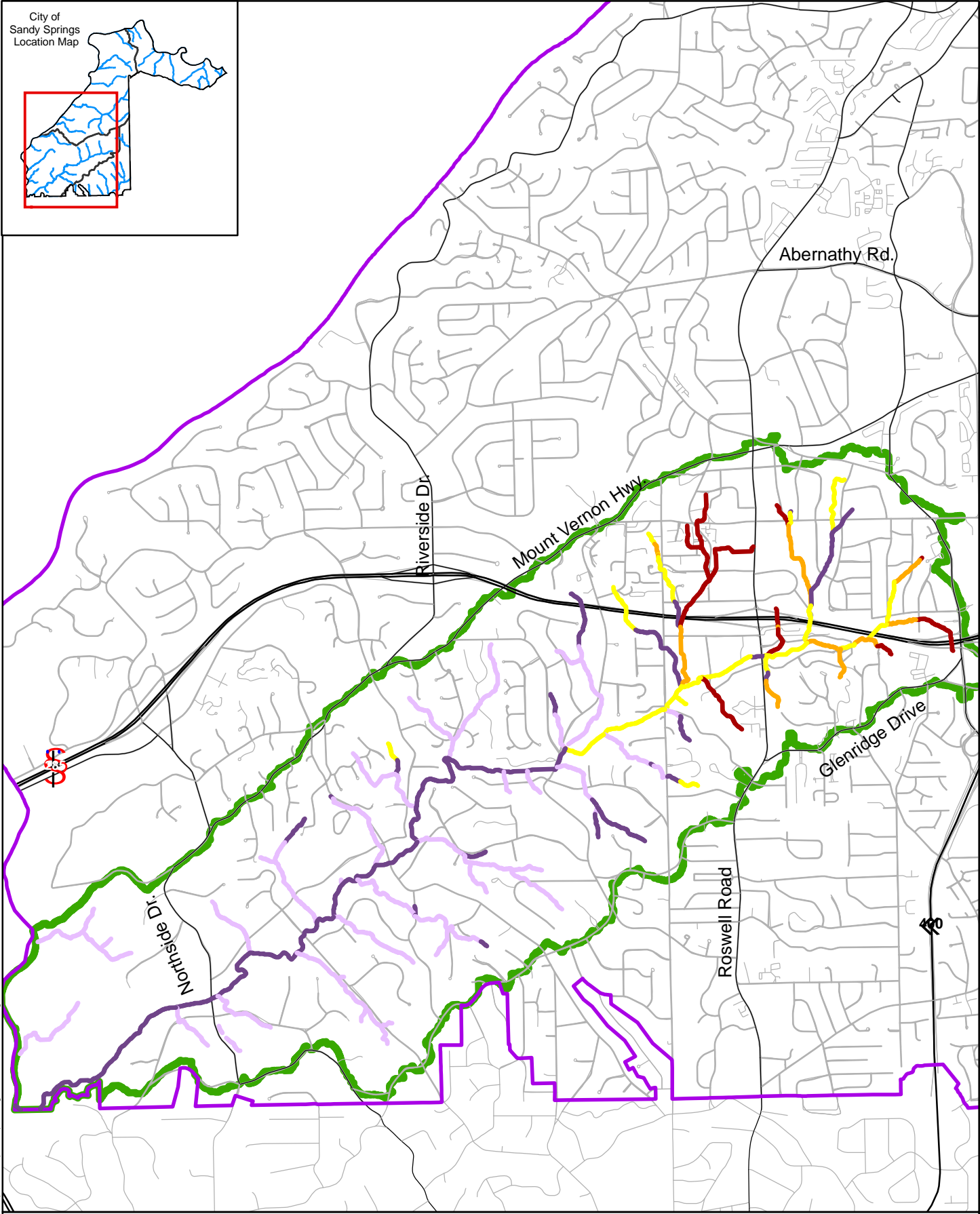
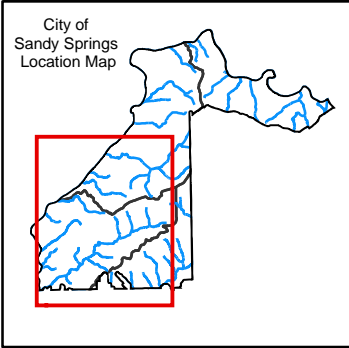


Figure 1-9. Baseline Conditions - Total Nitrogen Yield
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan

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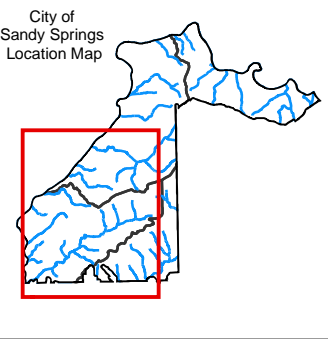
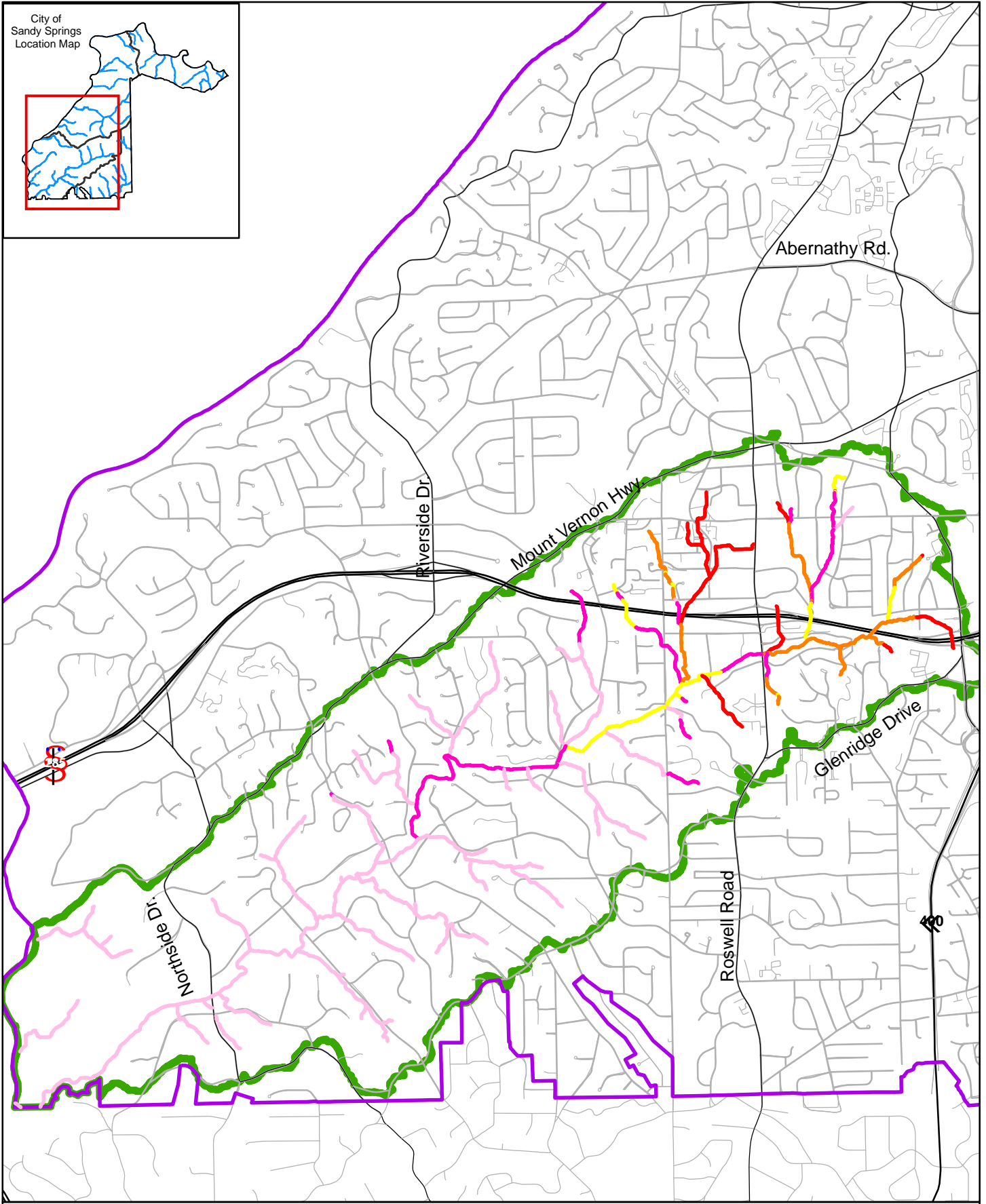


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Legend

Total Phosphorus Yield Ratio	City Limit
0 - 0.5	Roads
0.5 - 0.75	Study Area
0.75 - 1.0	
1.0 - 1.25	
>1.25	

Figure 1-10. Baseline Conditions - Total Phosphorous Yield
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



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Legend

- | | |
|---------|------------|
| 0 - 20 | City Limit |
| 20 - 25 | Roads |
| 25 - 30 | Study Area |
| 30 - 40 | |
| >40 | |

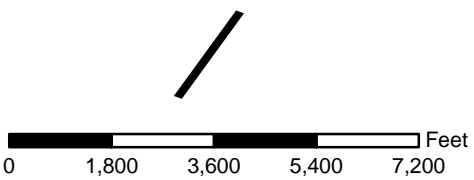


Figure 1-11. Baseline Conditions - BOD Yield
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan

2. LONG ISLAND CREEK STREAM CONDITIONS

2.1 Introduction

Brown and Caldwell assessed 11 miles of streams in the Long Island Creek Watershed within the City of Sandy Springs from January 26, 2009 to February 6, 2009 (Figure 2-1). Stream reaches were inventoried along the main stem of Long Island Creek and selected tributaries within the Sandy Springs city limits. Data were collected for man-made and hydrologic channel alterations, streambank erosion, riparian buffer zone encroachment, water quality issues, City maintenance problems, and other miscellaneous observations such as debris dams or braided channels/in-channel wetlands.

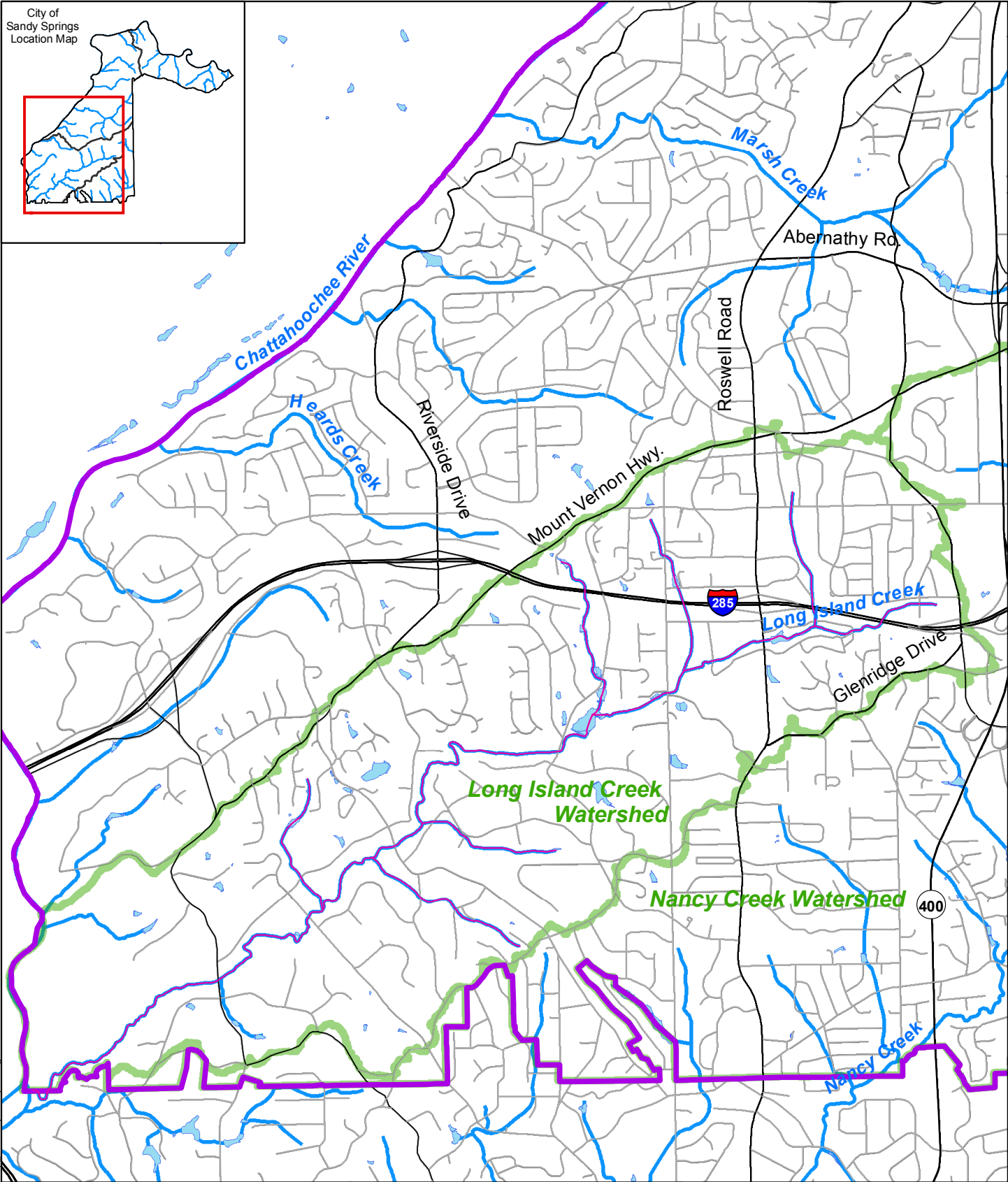
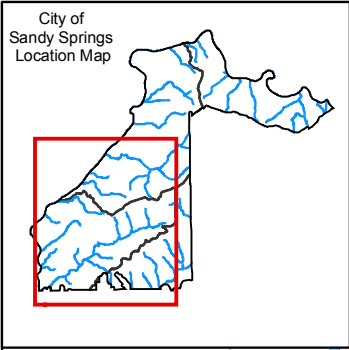
Habitat assessment and physical stream cross-section measurements were taken at representative reaches throughout the Long Island Creek Watershed. The cross-section measurements were used to determine the Rosgen Stream Classification, which is a measure of the relative stream stability based on its channel dimension. In addition, potential stream restoration projects were noted during the inventory based on condition of the stream channel, and these data were used to delineate projects evaluated further in the WIP.

Overall, 318 data points were collected by walking stream reaches from downstream to upstream. Data points were taken to represent the portion of the channel at that point and downstream over the length designated with the point. Data were collected using an integrated GPS and PDA loaded with the software *HGIS* that organized the database directly into a geographic information system (GIS) compatible file. Data were merged into a central database for the entire inventory. Some data were used in the WIP tools model (i.e., streambank erosion) and all data were used to evaluate the overall conditions and health of the stream reaches inventoried in the Long Island Creek watershed.

2.2 Channel Alterations

The dominant land use observed in the Long Island Creek Watershed in Sandy Springs was residential with commercial and retail corridors concentrated along Roswell Road. These established and changing suburban land uses were the drivers for channel alterations observed throughout the watershed. Channel alterations were divided into two categories – man-made and hydrologic. Man-made alterations can be defined as modifications to the channel that have altered the channel dimension, pattern, or profile and include channelized reaches, piped reaches, riprap lined reaches (toe or entire bank), concrete lined channels, or floodplains filled in for development along the channel. Hydrologic alterations can be defined as reaches that are self-adjusting their channel dimension, pattern, or profile due to changes in the impervious area from the watershed which changes the amount and timing of runoff received in the stream channel and include channel incision, channel widening, aggradation, dominant clay streambed substrate, ditch outfalls with direct connection to the stream, stable knickpoints (i.e., a stable vertical drop in the streambed such as a waterfall formed from a large rock outcropping), and unstable headcuts.

Approximately 22 percent of the streams inventoried had man-made channel alterations. Of those 22 percent of stream reaches, the majority were either piped reaches or riprap lined banks (Table 2-1 and Figure 2-2). Many of the riprap lined and channelized reaches were within residential areas and associated with stormwater and road culverts. Man-made alterations usually alter the local hydraulics of a stream reach and can cause localized problems, such as scour and bank erosion and can have cumulative effects downstream from the changed reach conditions.



- Legend**
- City Limit
 - Study Area
 - Lakes & Ponds
 - Streams
 - Streams Inventoried
 - Roads

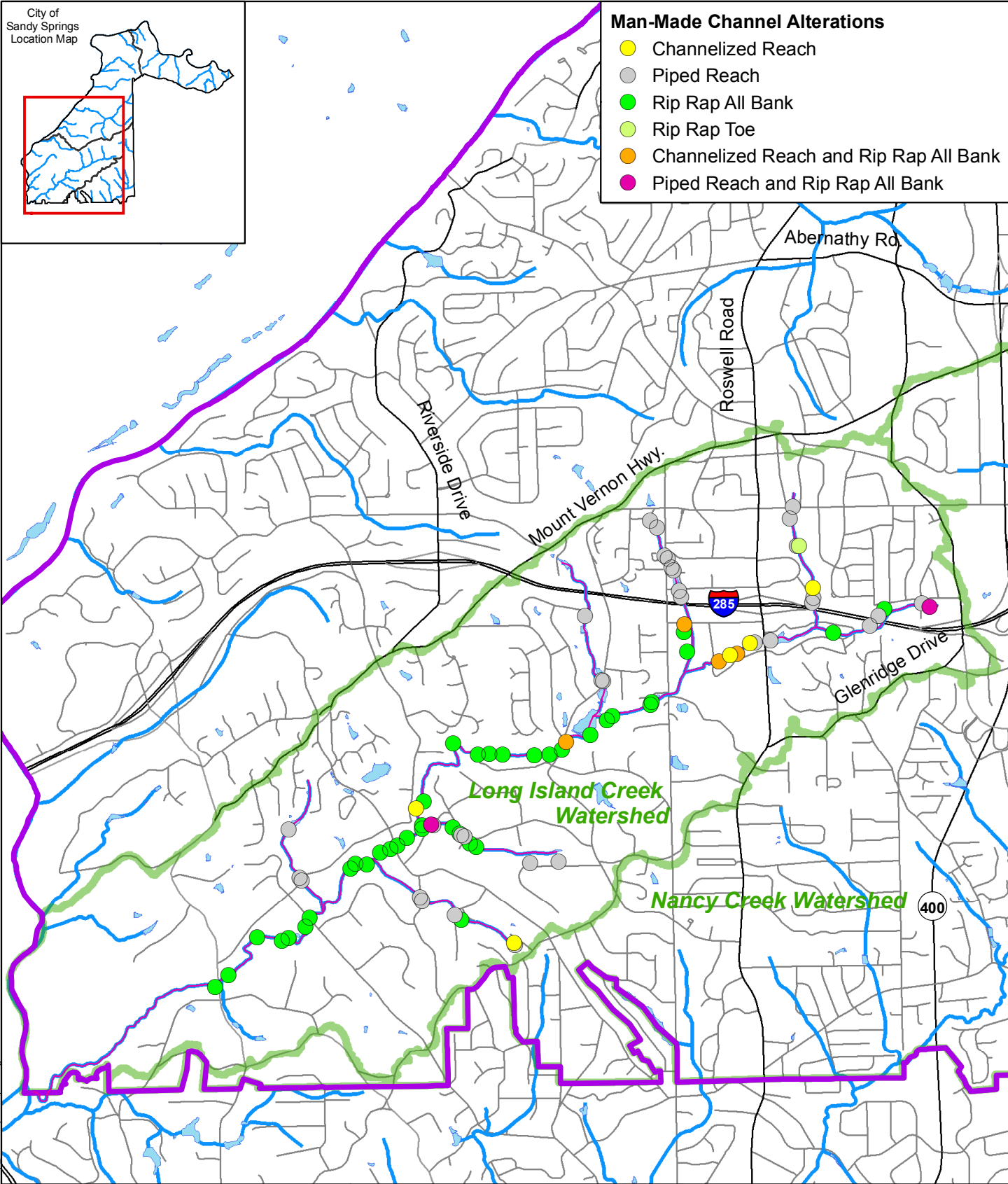
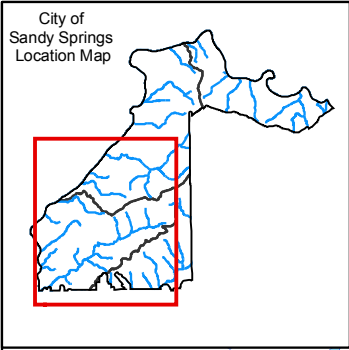


0 1,000 2,000 3,000 Feet

Figure 2-1. Overview Map
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



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- Man-Made Channel Alterations**
- Channelized Reach
 - Piped Reach
 - Rip Rap All Bank
 - Rip Rap Toe
 - Channelized Reach and Rip Rap All Bank
 - Piped Reach and Rip Rap All Bank

- Legend**
- City Limit
 - Study Area
 - Lakes & Ponds
 - Streams
 - Streams Inventoried
 - Roads

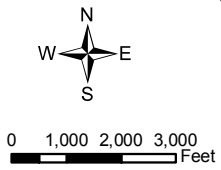


Figure 2-2. Man-Made Channel Alterations Field Data
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



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Table 2-1. Inventoried Observations of Man-made Alterations for Long Island Creek Watershed

Category	Number of Observations	Total Length (feet)*	Total Length (miles)*
Channelized reach	10	2,275	0.43
Piped reach	16	2,875	0.54
Riprap toe	1	75	0.01
Riprap all bank	46	7,650	1.45
Concrete lined channel	0	0	0
Floodplain build-up	0	0	0

* Estimates of lengths entered in the field – sum of each observation.

Only 1 percent of the streams inventoried had hydrologic channel alterations. The majority of hydrologic alterations observed in Long Island Creek were channel aggradation (build up of sediment) and channel incision and widening (Table 2-2 and Figure 2-3). In addition, several stream reaches of the tributaries had very steep banks and were encroaching into adjacent properties and yards. Channel aggradation is sign that the stream has a substantially increased sediment supply, either from the banks or the watershed, and the hydraulics of the stream cannot adequately transport the sediment downstream. Therefore, the stream will actively aggrade through increased sand and silt deposition along the channel. Although not observed very frequently, the areas where channel incision and widening were occurring indicated that the watershed hydrology has shifted, and peak flow and total runoff volume have increased and caused the stream to downcut and enlarge its cross-sectional area.



Riprap lined banks were the most common man-made alteration observed

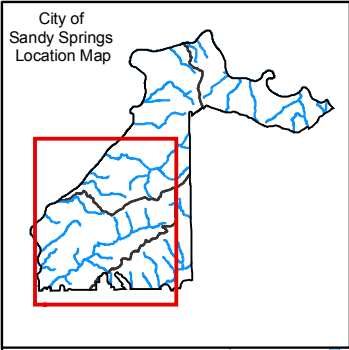


Example of channel aggradation, the most common hydrologic alteration

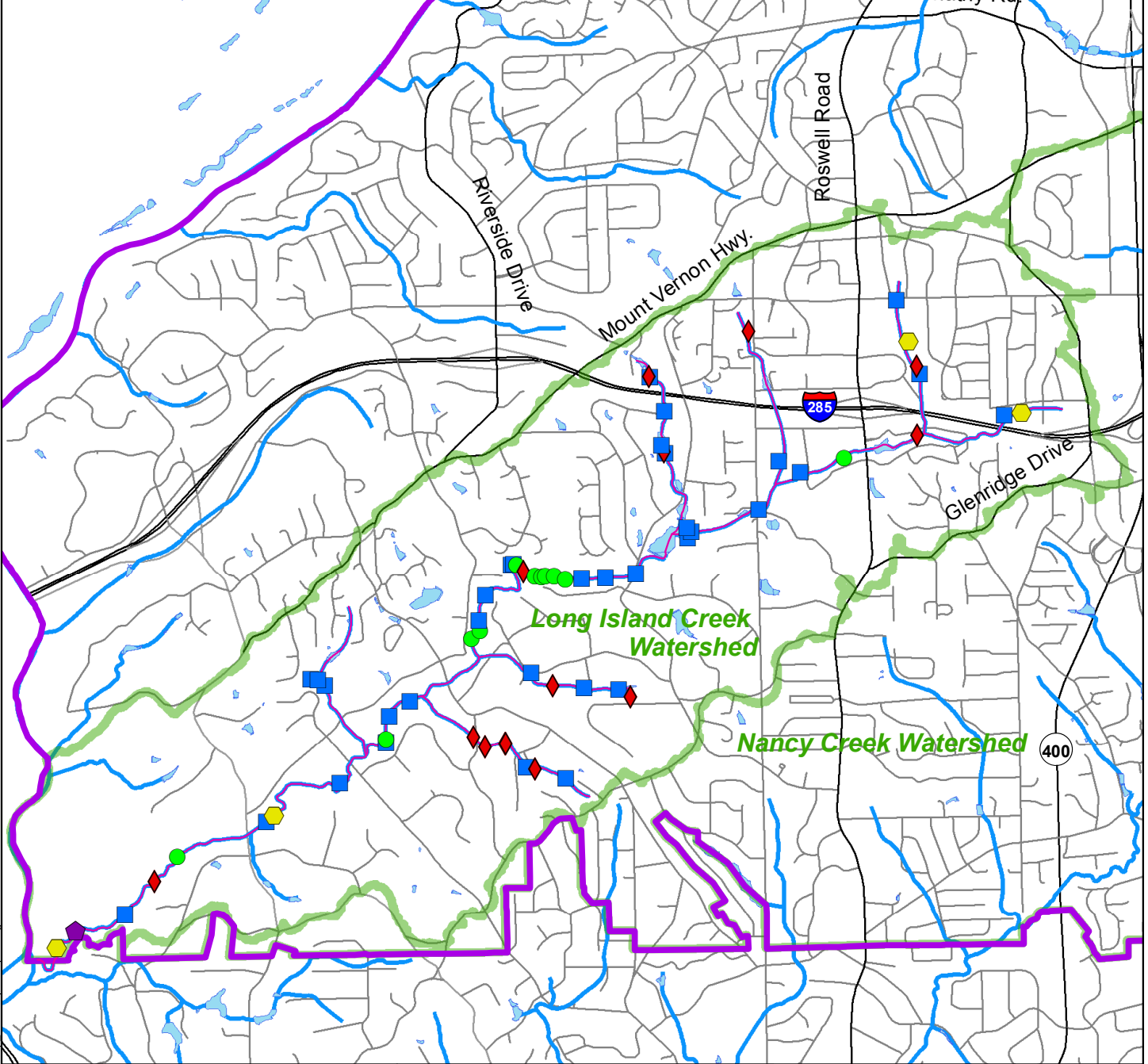
Table 2-2. Inventoried Observations of Hydrologic Alterations for Long Island Creek Watershed

Category	Number of Observations	Total Length (feet)*	Total Length (miles)*
Channel aggraded	11	2,550	0.48
Channel incised	0	0	0
Channel widened	1	400	0.08
Channel incised and widened	4	1,400	0.27
Clay-lined channel	0	0	0
Kinckpoint	14	56	0.01
Head cut	0	0	0
Drainage ditch	34	NA	NA

* Estimates of lengths entered in the field – sum of each observation.



- ### Hydrologic Alterations
- Aggraded
 - ▲ Incised
 - ◆ Widened
 - ◆ Insiced and Widened
 - Clay-lined Channel
 - Drainage Ditch
 - ◆ Knick Point



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- ### Legend
- City Limit
 - Study Area
 - Lakes & Ponds
 - Streams
 - Streams Inventoried
 - Roads



0 1,000 2,000 3,000
Feet

Figure 2-3. Hydrologic Channel Alterations Field Data
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



2.3 Streambank Erosion and Inadequate Buffers

Approximately 48 percent of the stream miles assessed had greater than 25 percent stream bank erosion (Table 2-3, Figures 2-4 and 2-5). The length and height were recorded with each erosion data point, and these data were used as a primary data set when building the WIP tools model. These data collected were on the high side of what is typical of suburban and urban streams in metro Atlanta and correspond with the amount of channel modifications that may be influenced by increased streambank erosion.

Table 2-3. Streambank Erosion by Reach Length and Magnitude for Long Island Creek Watershed*

Percentage of Bank Eroded (%)	Length of Streambank (feet)*	Length of Streambank (miles)*	Percentage of Total Streambank Miles**
<25%***	60,967	11.5	52
25-50	20,610	3.9	18
50-75	19,620	3.7	17
>75	15,080	2.9	13

* Estimates of lengths entered in the field – sum of each observation.

**Includes a summation of both left and right streambank observations. Total streambank mileage is twice the stream miles walked in the Long Island Creek Watershed.

***Not inventoried in the field. Total erosion lengths for 25 to 100 percent erosion were subtracted from total streambank miles (11 times 2 equals 22).

2.4 Riparian Buffer Zone Encroachment

Approximately 43 percent of the stream miles had riparian zones that were less than 25 feet wide (Table 2-4, Figures 2-6 and 2-7). Riparian buffers are important for water quality treatment, hydrologic improvements, and habitat cover and refuge. The majority of buffer encroachment observations were grassed lawns from residential areas mostly along the mainstem of Long Island Creek. Impervious buffer encroachment from commercial parking lots was observed along the two northernmost tributaries to Long Island Creek and the headwaters of Long Island Creek west of Lake Forest Drive flow.



Severe erosion was often observed along the streambank of an outside bend



Buffer encroachment was common in residential areas with grassed lawns directly up to the streambank

Table 2-4. Inventoried Observations of Inadequate Riparian Buffers for Long Island Creek Watershed

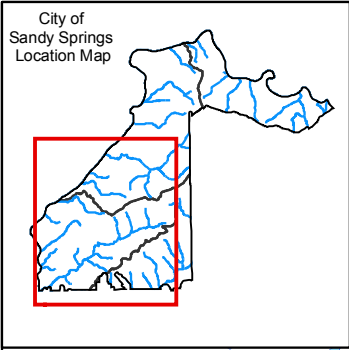
Encroachment Width (feet)*	Buffer Land Use	RB Total Length (feet)**	LB Total Length (feet)**	Total Length (feet)**	Total Length (miles)**
<10	Crops and Pasture	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Cleared and grubbed	NA	400	400	0.1
	Cleared and maintained parallel or perpendicular utility	150	150	300	0.1
	Impervious or structure	1,025	1,025	2,050	0.4
	Landscaped area	800	400	1,200	0.2
	Grassed lawn	9,200	4,325	13,525	2.6
	Old field	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Crops and Pasture	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Cleared and grubbed	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Cleared and maintained parallel or perpendicular utility	NA	NA	NA	NA
10-25	Impervious or structure	475	600	1,075	0.2
	Landscaped area	75	200	275	0.1
	Grassed lawn	2,675	3,350	6,025	1.1
	Old field	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Crops and Pasture	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Cleared and grubbed	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Cleared and maintained parallel or perpendicular utility	200	400	600	0.1
	Impervious or structure	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Landscaped area	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Grassed lawn	675	675	1350	0.3
>25	Old field	NA	NA	NA	NA

* Width of encroachment into the 50-foot riparian buffer (i.e., 10-foot encroachment equals a 40 foot buffer left intact).

** Estimates of lengths entered in the field – sum of each observation.

2.5 Point and Non-point Source Pollution

Both point and non-point source pollution sources were inventoried. Point sources included septic tank failures or leaks, sewer line leaks or breaks, chemical discharges, and other unknown illicit discharges. Non-point sources included livestock/feedlots, kennels and domestic animals, and urban runoff from stormwater conveyance pipes. Several water quality issues were observed throughout the Long Island Creek Watershed (Table 2-5 and Figure 2-8). Potential non-point source pollution included four greater than 36-inch urban runoff pipes on Long Island Creek and its northern tributary. Potential point source pollution included one broken sewer lines, strong sewer smells, and misaligned manhole lid. In addition, iron-oxidizing bacteria were observed in some locations, which is indicative of stagnant or slow moving water. Three of these issues were reported directly to the City and addressed by the City immediately following observation due to the severity of the problem. The remaining issues will be addressed by the City during routine inspections.

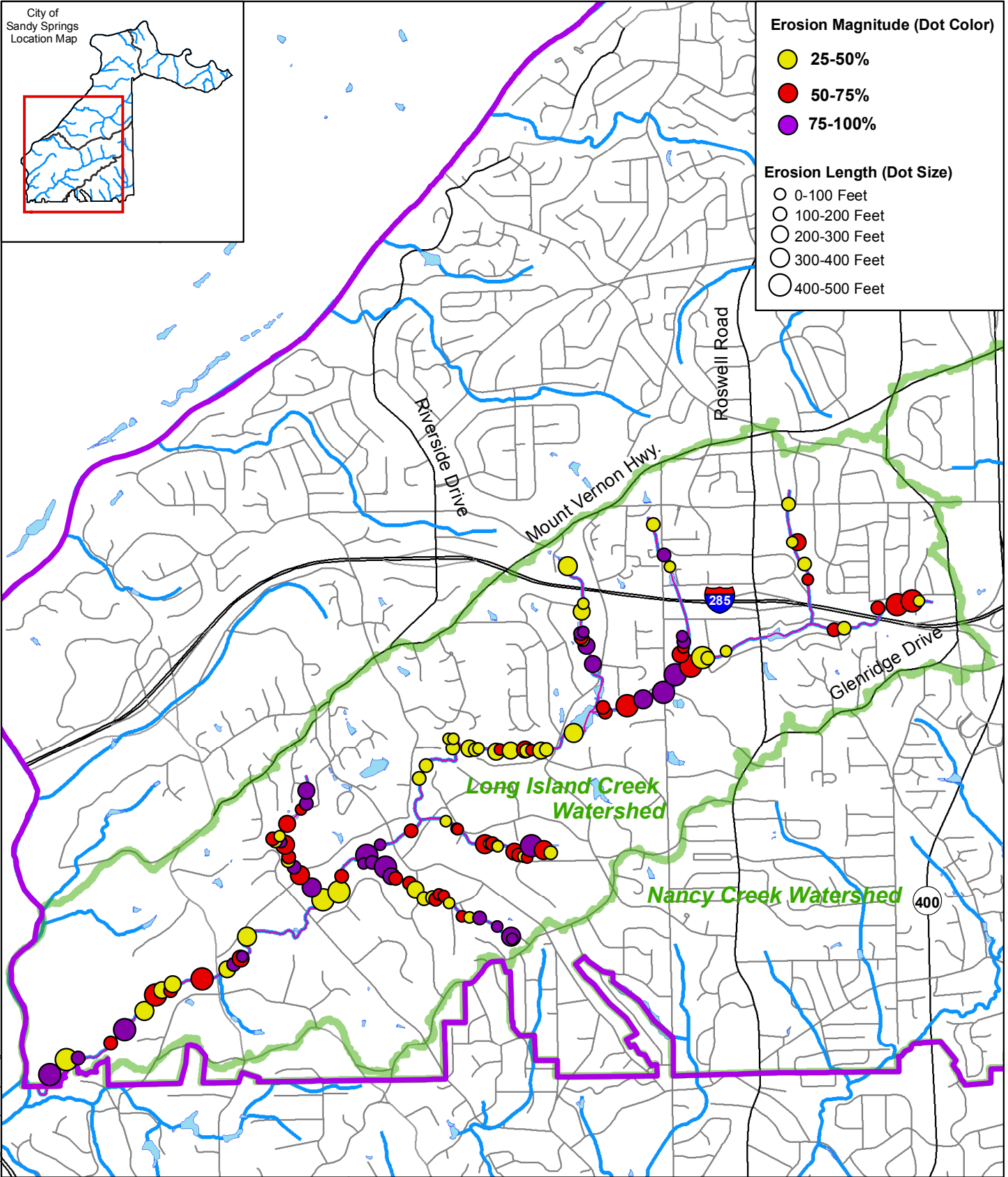


Erosion Magnitude (Dot Color)

- 25-50%
- 50-75%
- 75-100%

Erosion Length (Dot Size)

- 0-100 Feet
- 100-200 Feet
- 200-300 Feet
- 300-400 Feet
- 400-500 Feet



Legend

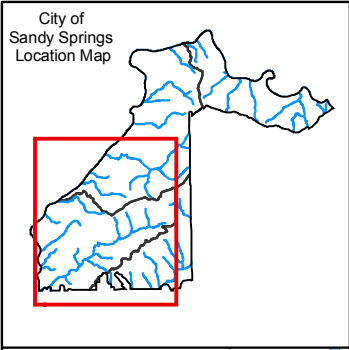
- City Limit
- Study Area
- Lakes & Ponds
- Streams
- Streams Inventoried
- Roads

N
E
S
W

0 1,000 2,000 3,000 Feet

Figure 2-4. Right Bank Erosion Field Data
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan

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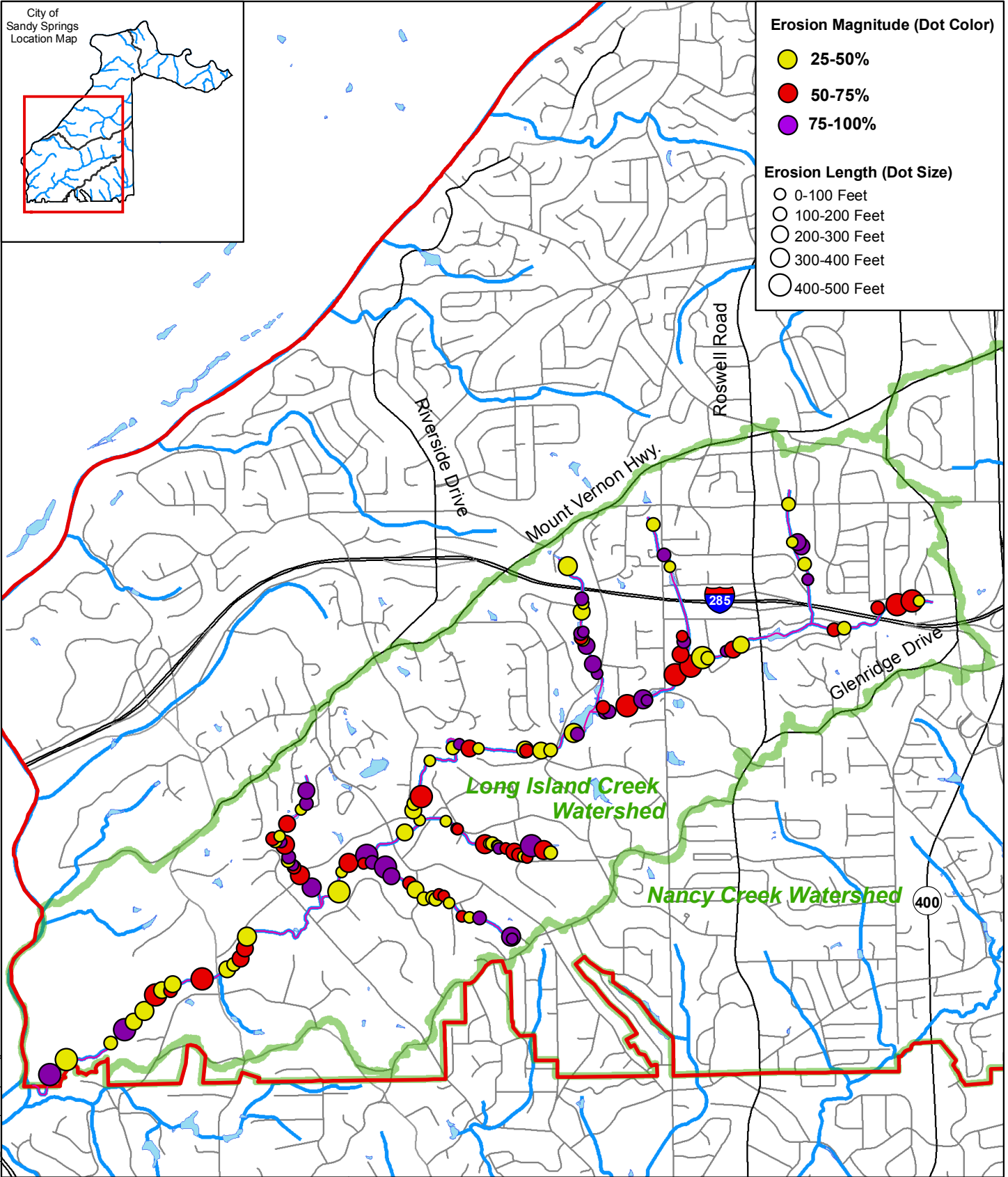


Erosion Magnitude (Dot Color)

- 25-50%
- 50-75%
- 75-100%

Erosion Length (Dot Size)

- 0-100 Feet
- 100-200 Feet
- 200-300 Feet
- 300-400 Feet
- 400-500 Feet



Legend

- City Limit
- Study Area
- Lakes & Ponds
- Streams
- Streams Inventoried
- Roads

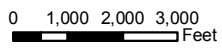
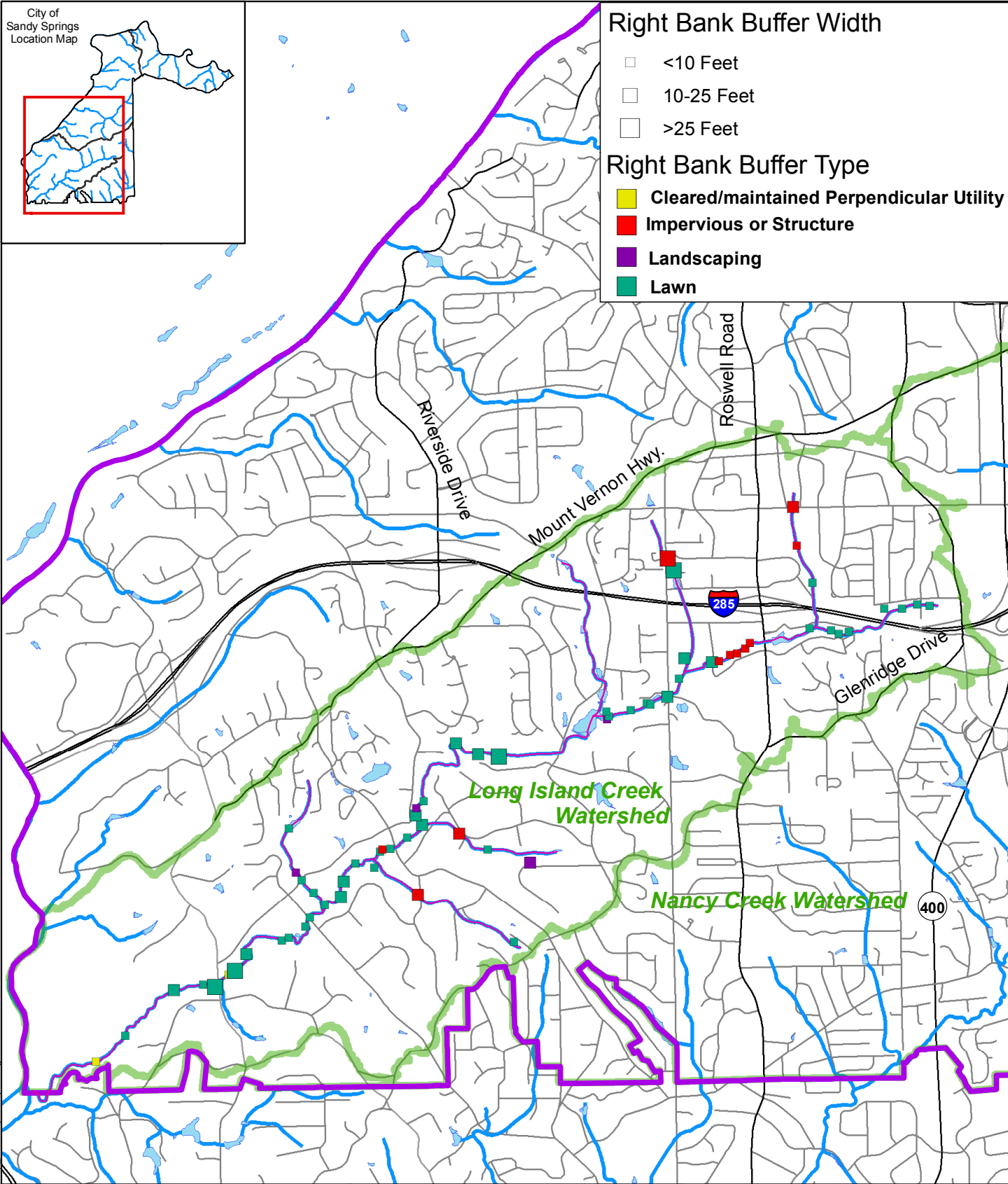
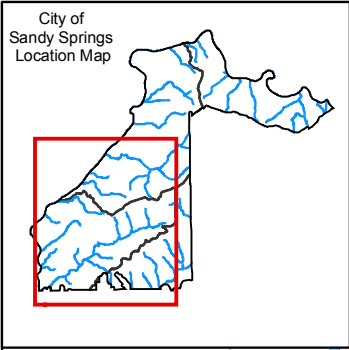


Figure 2-5. Left Bank Erosion Field Data
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



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- Legend**
- City Limit
 - Study Area
 - Lakes & Ponds
 - Streams
 - Streams Inventoried
 - Roads

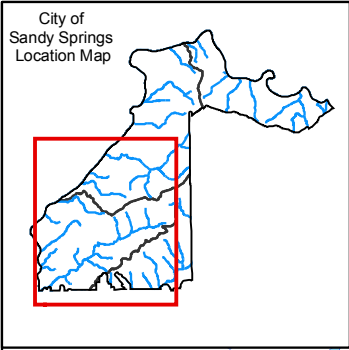


0 1,000 2,000 3,000 Feet

Figure 2-6. Right Bank Buffer Field Data
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



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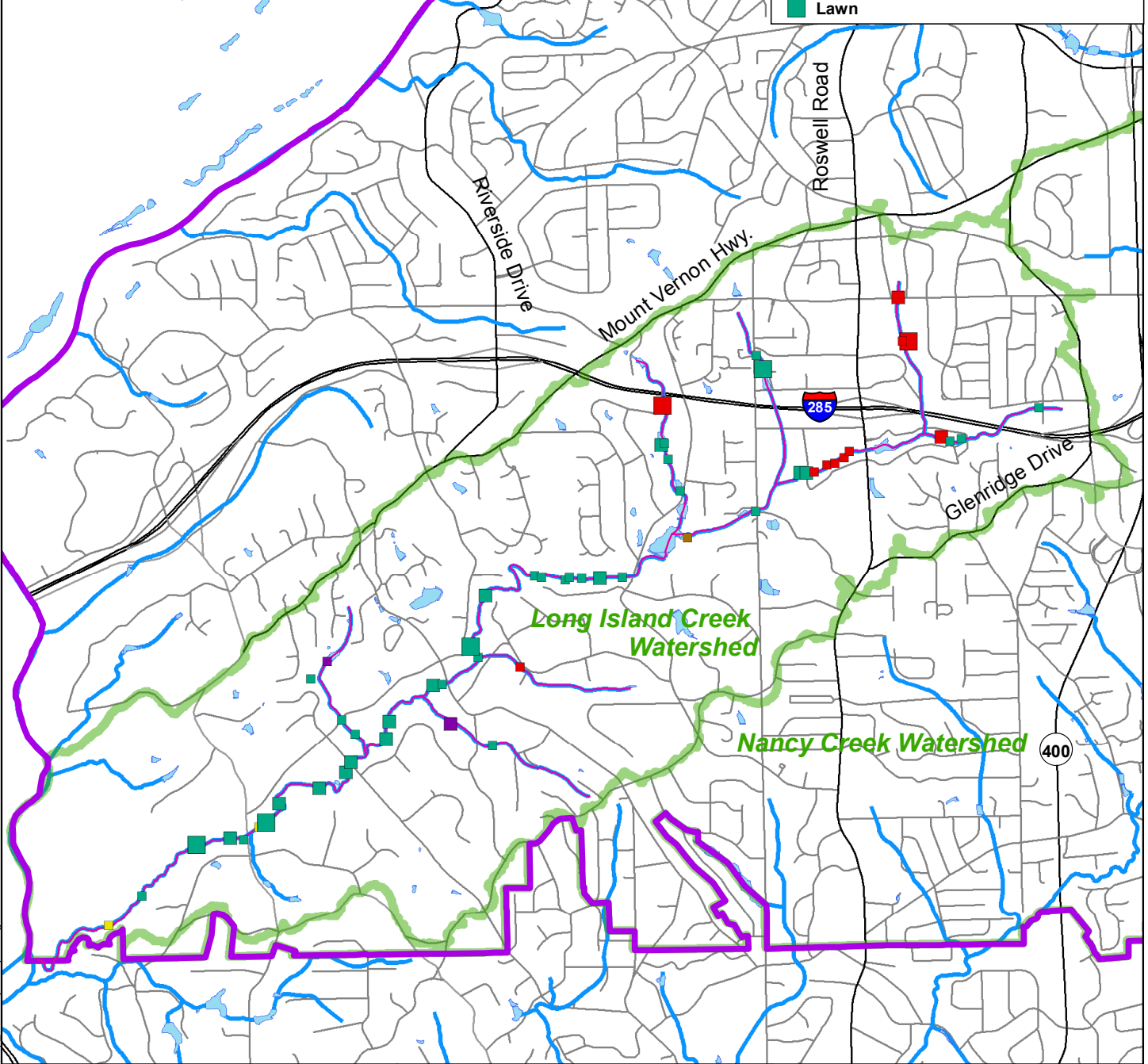


Left Bank Buffer Width

- <10 Feet
- 10-25 Feet
- >25 Feet

Left Bank Buffer Type

- Cleared and Grubbed
- Cleared/maintained Perpendicular Utility
- Impervious or Structure
- Landscaping
- Lawn



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Legend

- City Limit
- Study Area
- Lakes & Ponds
- Streams
- Streams Inventoried
- Roads

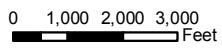


Figure 2-7. Left Bank Buffer Field Data
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



Table 2-5. Inventoried Observations of Water Quality Point and Non-point Source Discharges for Long Island Creek Watershed

Category		Number of Observations
Point source	Broken Sewer Line	1
	Sewer Smell	3
	Misaligned Manhole Lid	1
Non-point source	Urban run-off pipes >36 inches	4

2.6 Miscellaneous Observations

Other data were collected that did not fit the categories above, which included the following:

- Reference reach – stream reach that exhibits a stable stream and habitat diversity that could be considered a reference for a high quality stream in a suburban setting
- Invasive species – dense areas of kudzu, privet or bamboo along the stream in the riparian buffer
- Debris dams – debris build up around road culverts or in the stream channel that is substantial enough to cause scour around the debris and potentially cause local flooding due to the dam effect of debris
- Beaver dam – Beaver dams that have caused an impounding effect on the stream
- Water withdrawal – Pipe in the stream that withdraws water from the stream for irrigation or other purposes
- In-channel wetland – Braided stream system that mimics a wetland community more than a defined stream channel
- Off-channel wetland – Wetland system in the floodplain adjacent to the stream channel
- Backwater extent – Signs of backwater effect from a downstream dam structure into the stream channel;
- Unusual/Comment – Any unique or unusual observation worth noting and does not fit into any other category.

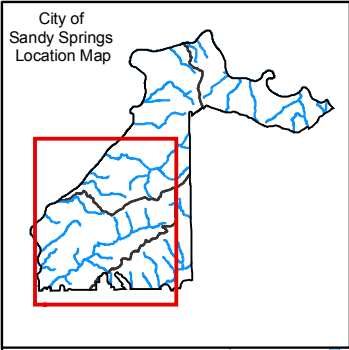
Debris jams were consistently found on the main branch of Long Island Creek and its tributaries. Most of the debris jams were caused by fallen trees although exposed sewer pipe crossings also caused debris buildup. Invasive species were seen throughout the watershed along the riparian corridor. The majority of the invasive species were privet, kudzu and bamboo (Table 2-6 and Figure 2-9).



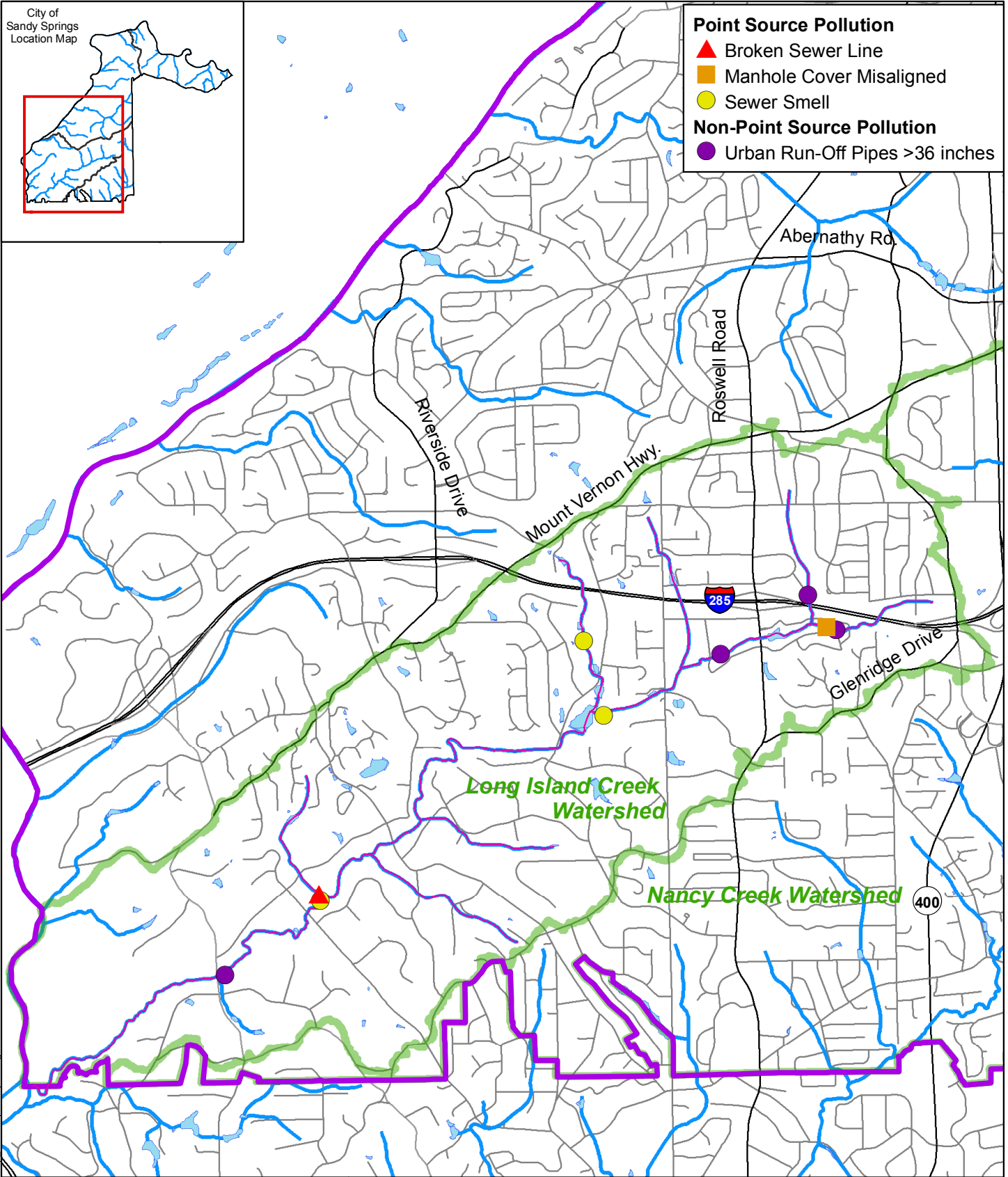
Broken sewer line on tributary of Long Island Creek



Example of a typical debris jam on Long Island Creek



- Point Source Pollution**
- ▲ Broken Sewer Line
 - Manhole Cover Misaligned
 - Sewer Smell
- Non-Point Source Pollution**
- Urban Run-Off Pipes >36 inches



- Legend**
- City Limit
 - Study Area
 - Lakes & Ponds
 - Streams
 - Streams Inventoried
 - Roads

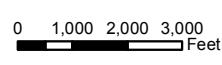


Figure 2-8. Pollution Source Field Data
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



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Table 2-6. Inventoried Observations of Miscellaneous Features for Long Island Creek Watershed

Category	Number of Observations
Beaver Dam	2
Debris Dam	50
Abundant privet, kudzu, or bamboo	3
In-channel Wetland	3
Unusual/comment	57
Water withdrawal	4

Exposed sanitary sewer pipe crossings were found throughout the watershed, frequently occurring on Long Island Creek's tributaries. Most of the unusual comments noted by the field crew were documenting these sewer crossings (Table 2-6 and Figure 2-9). Other unusual comments noted were high levels of silt, bacteria or algae covering the stream bed, evidence of vehicles crossing stream, and the spillway of a BMP entering Long Island Creek.



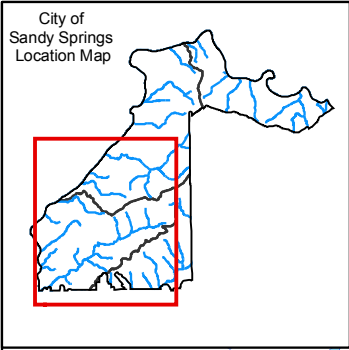
Evidence of vehicles driving through stream



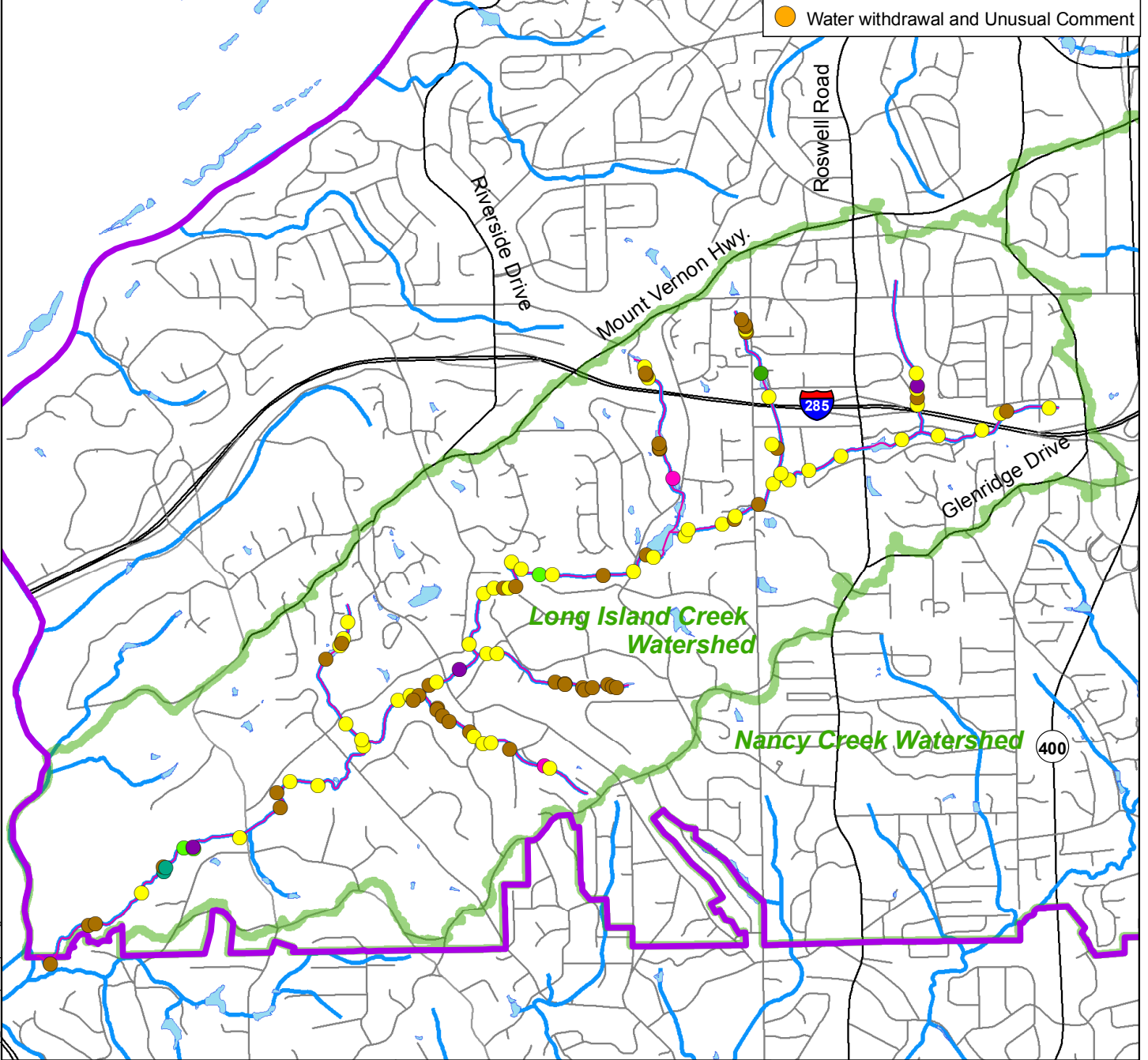
Algae growth observed in the stream

2.7 Habitat Assessment and Physical Measurements

During the stream inventory, the field crew collected information on the stream physical condition by completing a habitat assessment using the Georgia Department of Natural Resources SOP for Benthic Macroinvertebrates (GaDNR 2007) and collecting specific width and height measurements along a cross-section which were used to classify a stream reach using the and Rosgen Stream Classification methodology (Rosgen 1994). The habitat scores were compared to a theoretical score of 150, which is considered a high habitat score for an urban system. No sites were above 134 and 67 percent of the sites inventoried (2 of 3) were below 90 or less than 60 percent of the reference reach (Table 2-7 and Figure 2-10).



- Miscellaneous Type**
- Beaver Dam
 - Debris Dam
 - In-Channel Wetland
 - Invasive Species
 - Unusual Comment
 - Water Withdrawal
 - Debris Dam and Unusual Comment
 - In-Channel Wetland and Debris Dam
 - Water withdrawal and Unusual Comment



- Legend**
- City Limit
 - Study Area
 - Lakes & Ponds
 - Streams
 - Streams Inventoried
 - Roads

Figure 2-9. Miscellaneous Field Data
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan

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Table 2-7. Habitat Assessment Scores for Long Island Creek Watershed		
Habitat Assessment Score Range	Percent of Reference Reach*	Number of Scores
Less than 90	<60%	2
90 to 112	60-74%	1
113-134	75-89%	0
Greater than 134	>89%	0

*A reference score of 162 was determined from averaging the five reference site habitat scores found within the Southern Inner Piedmont Ecoregion.

According to the Rosgen Stream Classification method, two of the reaches were categorized as F Rosgen channel types, which are indicative of channel degradation (Table 2-8 and Figure 2-11). These channel types are deeply incised and disconnected from the floodplain and are considered “degraded” streams. The other stream reach was a C channel type. C-type channels are slightly entrenched channels with sinuous stable channels with well developed riffle-pool sequences. This stream reach can be considered a stable stream for the ecoregion and local conditions of Sandy Springs.

Table 2-8. Rosgen Channel Types for Long Island Creek Watershed		
Channel Type	Number of Stream Reaches	Channel Type Description*
C5	1	Slightly entrenched channels with a width/depth ratio greater than 12. C channels are very sinuous stable channels with well developed riffle-pool sequences and characterized by point bar formation on the inside of meander bends. C5 streams are composed mostly of sand. (Considered a stable reach in Sandy Springs)
F4	2	Deeply entrenched channels with a width/depth ratio greater than 12. F channels are characterized incised and widened channels that show signs of historic and/or current disturbance. F4 streams are composed mostly of gravel. (Degraded channel in Sandy Springs)

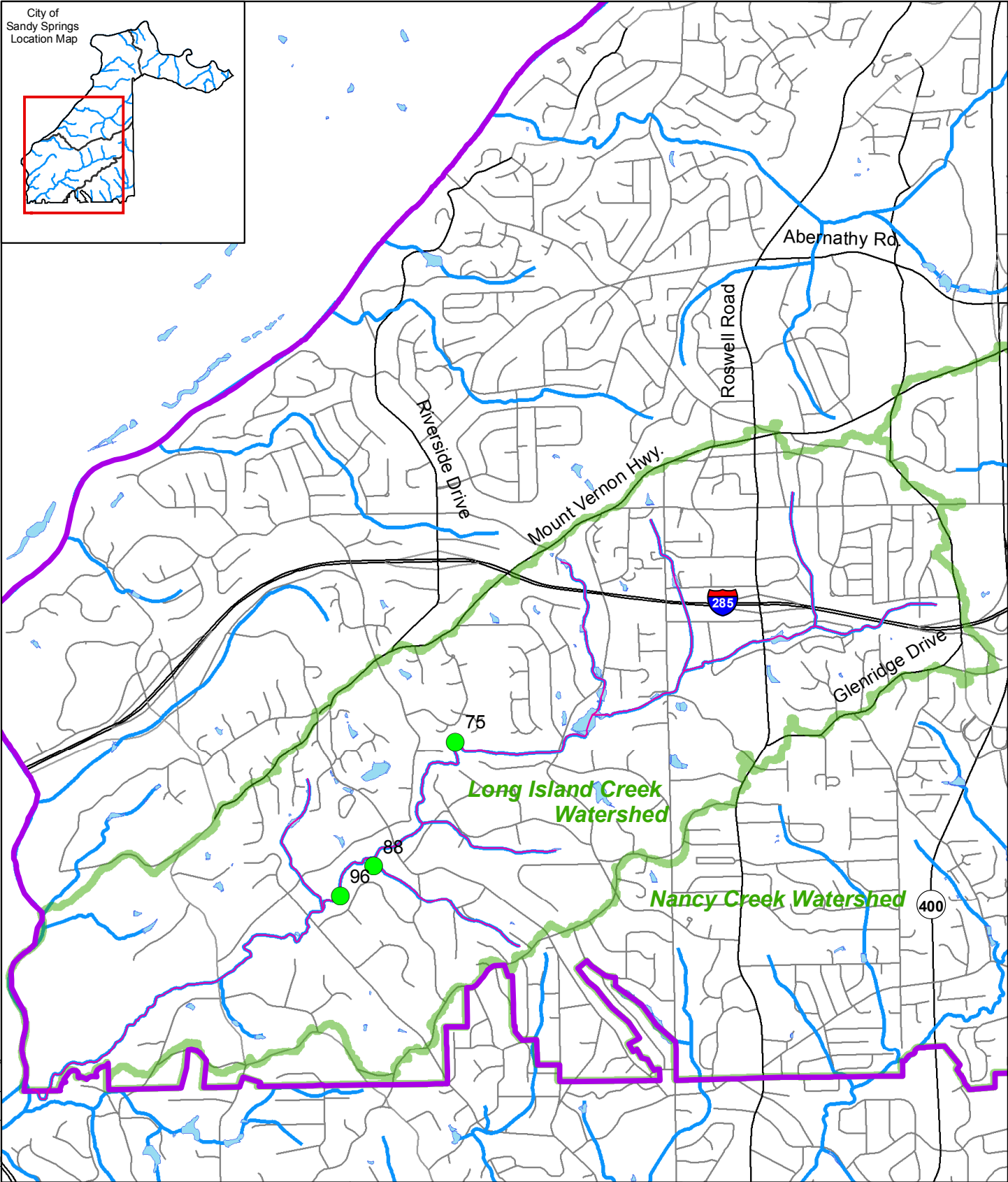
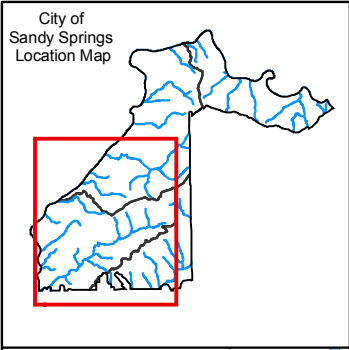
* Number connotation on channel type refers to type of substrate – 1= bedrock, 2= boulder, 3 = cobble, 4 = gravel, 5 = sand, 6 = silt/clay.



A potential restoration project observed along Long Island Creek



Another potential restoration project observed along Long Island Creek



Legend

- City Limit
- Study Area
- Lakes & Ponds
- Streams
- Streams Inventoried
- Roads

Habitat Assessment Point

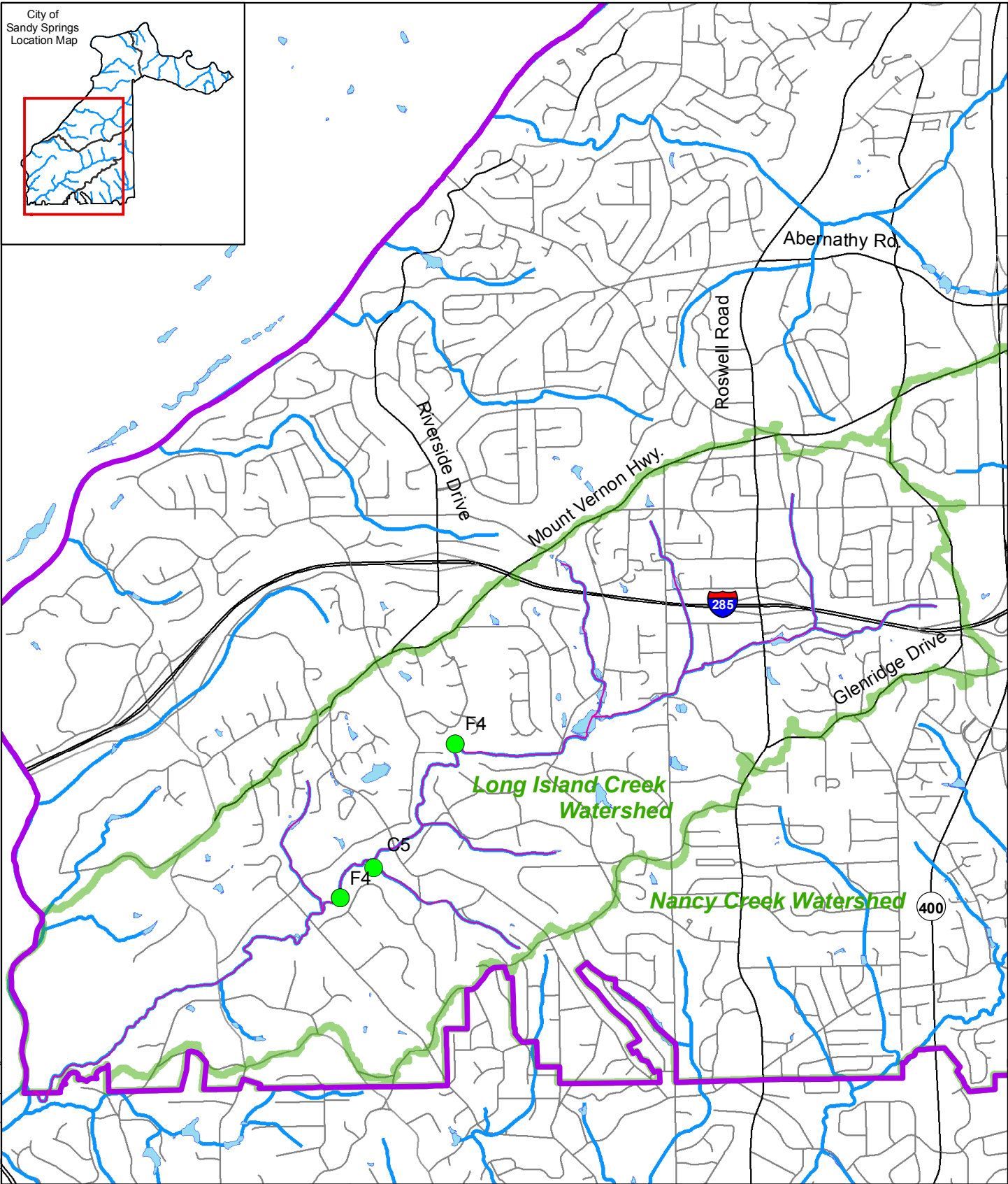
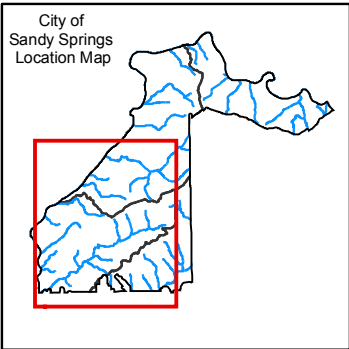


0 1,000 2,000 3,000 Feet

Figure 2-10. Stream Habitat Score Points
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan

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Legend

- City Limit
- Study Area
- Lakes & Ponds
- Streams
- Streams Inventoried
- Roads

Rosgen Classification



0 1,000 2,000 3,000 Feet

Figure 2-11. Rosgen Channel Classification
Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan



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3. WATERSHED PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Watershed Project Identification

For this plan, stormwater detention facilities are referred to as BMPs. The BMPs evaluated for the Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan come from two primary sources: the previously developed CIP and a desktop review of available GIS data. During the first phase of this project, the available historical data including reports, GIS, photos and models were reviewed and cataloged. Appendix A contains a technical memorandum that outlines the available historical data reviewed and used for this project.

Each project has an asset number and project number associated with it. The asset number is a City of Sandy Springs designation based on a numerical value assigned to each asset within the City and named ‘AGM_five digit number’. The project number is a combination of the parcel number, what type of project it is, and a numerical designation to represent the project within each parcel. If an asset number did not exist for a particular project, then the nearest asset was assigned to that project. If no asset was in close proximity, the code ‘BAC_five digit code’ was assigned to that project.

In some cases, assets were incorrectly assigned a city ownership designation. Four projects in the Long Island Creek watershed fell into this category – Project IDs 17 009 LL087-BMP-1, 17 0136 LL151-BMP-1, 170 136 LL089-BMP-1, and 17 0164 LL090-BMP-1. These projects have been re-assigned a designation of “9” or “to be determined”. An incorrect designation as city ownership would put the project within the City’s level of service, so these projects were closely screened. Working with city staff, these assets were reviewed and corrected. For example, if an asset had no number assigned it was routinely given the nearest asset number. In a few cases, the nearest asset was a city structure and these projects were corrected.

3.1.1 Historical Data for BMPs and Stream Restoration Projects

In the 2001-03 time frame, Fulton County prepared Water Resource Management Plans (WRMP) that covered all of the then unincorporated areas of the County. The WRMPs included a stormwater infrastructure and stream inventory, watershed modeling and the creation of a CIP. Data included in the WRMP reports include the storm sewer system infrastructure, stream survey cross-sections, SWMM modeling files, stream photos and associated photologs, and prioritized CIP projects with estimated implementation costs. Each of the WRMPs was performed by a different firm, and therefore the criteria for project evaluation were not consistent. The WRMP report for Long Island Creek was obtained for this project along with some GIS files.

Another source of BMP information was the 2006 CIP Priority Projects List report prepared by Brown and Caldwell for Fulton County (Brown and Caldwell 2006). This report was prepared to compile recommended CIP projects from all the WRMPs grouped by watershed management district. The area which is now the City of Sandy Springs was included in the Sandy Springs Stormwater Management District (SSSMD) report. These projects included flood control, BMP, and stream restoration projects. Data from the 2006 report included a Priority Projects table of the 151 identified CIP projects, a map with the location of all potential projects, and a 2-page project summary for each identified project which included a site map, photographs, and cost estimate. Using the SSSMD report, the Long Island WRMP and available GIS data, 94 historical CIP projects were identified for Long Island Creek as given in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1. Historical CIP Projects for Long Island Creek Watershed

Type	Number of Projects
Flood Control	11
Pond Retrofit	22
Detention Pond/Wetland	7
Check Dam	1
Stream Protection/Restoration	53
TOTAL	94

Each of the historical CIP projects was reviewed for use in the current study. Based upon the review, 67 projects were removed from the watershed CIP listing or will be evaluated by another study (flood control or infrastructure). The reason for removing each of the projects is listed in Table 3-2. By reviewing the Long Island WRMP it was found that the stream projects do not appear to have specific project information such as project number, length or other details. Due to this lack of information, all of the stream projects were lumped together as one project for the 2006 SSSMD report. As a result, these 53 stream projects were removed from CIP consideration. In addition, the project listed as a check dam in Table 3-1 was changed to be a new BMP.

Table 3-2. Historical CIP Projects Removed from CIP Consideration

Old Project ID	Reason	Project Type
SS-STM-LI	Little to no information available on the length or other details of these projects	Stream Restoration
SS-BMP-LI7	Culvert Replacement	Flood Control Project
SS-BMP-LI8	Culvert Replacement	Flood Control Project
SS-BMP-LI1	Bridge Replacement	Flood Control Project
SS-BMP-LI2	Bridge Replacement	Flood Control Project
SS-BMP-LI4	Bridge Replacement	Flood Control Project
SS-BMP-LI5	Bridge Replacement	Flood Control Project
SS-BMP-LI6	Bridge Replacement	Flood Control Project
SS-BMP-LI9	Bridge Replacement	Flood Control Project
SS-BMP-LI10	Bridge Replacement	Flood Control Project
SS-BMP-LI11	Bridge Replacement	Flood Control Project
SS-BMP-LI3	Siphon	Flood Control Project
SS-BMP-24320353	Doesn't appear to be existing; not enough room for New BMP	Pond Retrofit
SS-BMP-24320355	Doesn't appear to be existing; not enough room for New BMP	Pond Retrofit
SS-BMP-24320392	Online, too difficult to permit new facility	Detention Pond/Wetland

3.1.2 Desktop Identified BMP Projects

With only 27 viable projects from the previously developed CIP, a desktop GIS inventory was performed to locate additional projects. All of the projects identified were existing BMPs that, based on desktop information, have retrofit potential to provide water quality and perhaps channel protection benefits. Not every BMP in the study area was identified during this process. The focus was to find BMPs with retrofit potential based on available information. Due to the desktop nature of the process and lack of data underground detention was not included in this report.

The desktop inventory was performed in a systematic, grid-like fashion by reviewing GIS data obtained from the City of Sandy Springs. The GIS data used included the location of rivers and streams, parcel boundaries, topographical contours, aerial photographs and underground storm water conduits. Point and polygon files were developed to inventory the existing BMPs. As a BMP was located a point with a temporary unique four-digit ID was assigned to that particular BMP (the permanent ID was later assigned based on the parcel number). In addition, a polygon was developed for the BMP (identified with the same four-digit ID) that delineated the highest ponding elevation of the BMP. A total of 42 additional BMPs were identified during the desktop inventory, when combined with the historic projects the total number of BMP projects is 69. Figure 3-1 shows the locations of the historic CIP projects and the BMPs identified as a part of the desktop inventory.

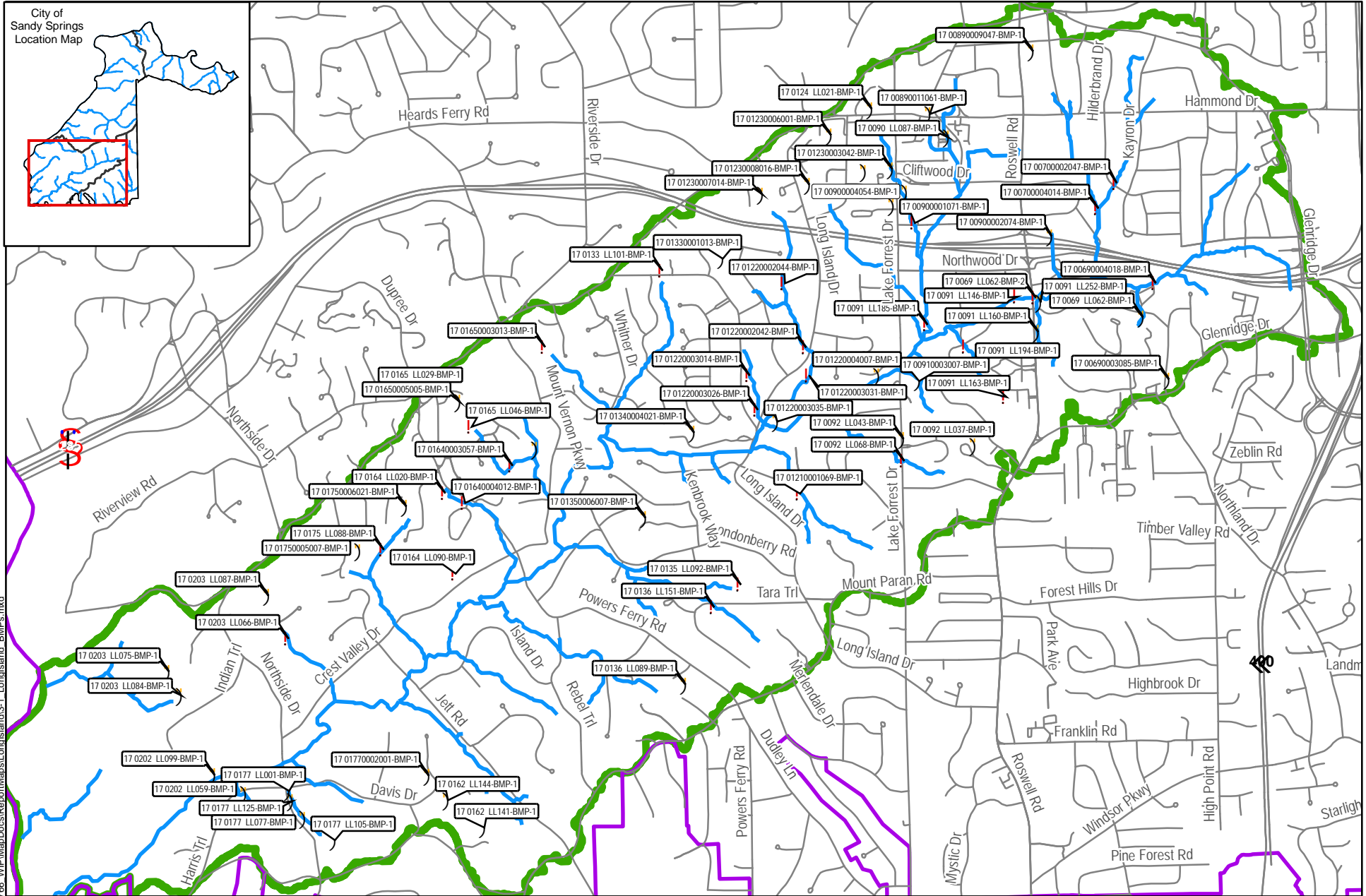
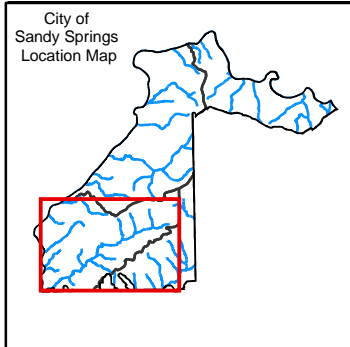
Also during the desktop inventory each BMP was assigned an existing project type. The project type included Dry Basin or Wet Pond. The project type was assigned based on aerial photography, photographs from prior studies or photographs obtained from the current infrastructure inventory. Each existing BMP type is explained below.

Dry Pond (DP) – A dry facility (no permanent pool) designed to collect and store storm water runoff and release the runoff at a reduced rate. The primary purpose of this facility type typically is flood control; however newer facilities may be designed to provide water quality and channel protection benefits. This designation also includes facilities such as a dry extended detention basin and micropool extended detention.

Wet Pond (WP) – A facility with a permanent pool of water. If designed using recent standards, the facility will have a permanent pool to store the water quality volume. In addition, the channel protection volume will be released over a 24-hour period, and the facility may provide additional storage for larger storm events. However, some facilities may have been developed for farm or recreational use without stormwater design considerations. This designation also includes facilities such as wet extended detention and constructed wetlands.

Table 3-3 shows a breakout of the project type for both the historic BMPs and the ones identified during the desktop inventory. It should be noted that this table only includes 59 projects, due to the fact that 8 of the historic BMPs were determined to not actually be existing BMPs but proposed locations for new BMPs and 2 of the additional BMPs were also determined not to be an existing BMPs, as a result these BMPs are not assigned as existing project type.

	Dry Pond (DP)	Wet Pond (WP)	Total
Historic CIP BMPs	2	17	19
Additional BMPs	20	20	40
Total	22	37	59



Legend

-) Desktop Identified BMPs
- ! Historic CIP BMPs
- Streams
- Roads
- City Limit
- Study Area

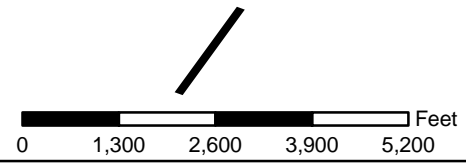


Figure 3-1 Historic and Desktop Identified BMPs
Long Island Watershed Improvement Plan



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3.2 BMP Project Development

In order to evaluate a potential BMP project for inclusion in the updated CIP, specific recommendations for retrofit were assigned to each project. No details on the proposed recommendations were available for the historic CIP projects. As a result, all of the projects (historic and desktop) were evaluated in this step.

Using the baseline conditions model (described in Section 1.8) the cumulative drainage area, required water quality volume, required channel protection volume were determined for each BMP. The highest ponding elevation polygon file was used to estimate the BMP storage volume (using GIS surface analysis). The following regression equation was used to estimate the wet volume:

$$y = 0.1731x^{1.3437}$$

Where,

x = lake surface area at normal pool (square feet)

y = wet volume (cubic feet)

The lakes file (described in Section 1.5) was used as input into the above equation, which was developed by Brown and Caldwell using data from hundreds of BMPs.

By comparing the existing estimated volumes (both dry storage and wet volume, if applicable) of the BMP to the required volumes and examining site constraints, proposed facility type and retrofit options were assigned. Table 3-4 lists each type of proposed facility and the number of BMPs for that type. The table includes both new and existing BMPs. Figure 3-1 shows the locations of the historic and additional BMPs listed in Table 3-4. Also, at this point in the review it was determined that some BMPs had design restrictions, making the BMP not suitable for retrofit. These BMPs were placed in the Not Recommended category and no further analysis was performed for these BMPs.

Table 3-4. Proposed BMP Project Type

BMP Type	Dry Extended Detention (DED)	Micropool Extended Detention (MED)	Wet Pond Extended Detention (WPED)	Wet Pond (WP)	Shallow Wetland (SW)	Not Recommended	Total
Historic CIP BMPs	0	3	2	19	2	1	27
Additional BMPs	1	15	3	17	0	6	42
Total	1	18	5	36	2	7	69

The retrofit options fall into three categories: outlet control structure retrofits, volume retrofits and additional (add-on) modifications. Each BMP must have at least one structure or volume modification and add-ons are optional (Table 3-5). Every volume modification must also have a corresponding volume increase which notes the amount of volume expansion to be provided by the volume modification. For example, if a 50 percent increase in volume is to be provided then the volume increase is noted by 1.5. All of the retrofit options are recorded in the GIS database.

Table 3-5. Retrofit Options

Code	Description
Outlet Control Structure Modification	
S1	Reduce the lower orifice area
S2	Lower pond level and modify structure
S3	Build/modify structure for wet detention
S4	Build/ modify structure for dry detention
S5	Build/modify structure and change dry to wet
Volume Modifications	
V1	Dredge wet pond within existing footprint
V2	Excavate dry pond within existing footprint
V3	Enlarge pond by building up berms
V4	Enlarge pond by expanding footprint
V5	Increase dam height
V6	Rebuild dam downstream
Additional Modifications	
A1	Build or replace outlet filtering device
A2	Build a sediment forebay
A3	Add baffle to prevent existing short circuiting
A4	Add erosion control measure at outlet
A5	Add erosion control measure at inlet
A6	Bank stabilization
A7	Remove trees from dam embankment

Next, pollutant removal efficiencies and proposed 1-year discharges were assigned to each BMP using a CIP Prioritization Tool. Pollutant removal efficiencies were used to determine the water quality removal benefits, and the 1-year discharge reduction calculations were used to determine the channel protection benefits. The CIP Prioritization Tool is a macro-based Excel spreadsheet that performs several functions, including calculating project costs, benefit/cost scores, generated two-page project summary sheets, proposed BMP pollutant removal efficiencies, and proposed channel protection discharges. The CIP Tool will be discussed in more detail in Chapter 4. Both existing and proposed efficiencies were assigned for each parameter to be modeled. Table 3-6 lists the efficiency for each parameter for each type of BMP facility.

Table 3-6. BMP Removal Efficiencies

Project Type	Total Nitrogen	Total Phosphorus	TSS	Fecal Coliform	BOD
Dry Extended Detention	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Micropool Extended Detention	15%	30%	80%	70%	30%
Shallow Wetland	30%	40%	80%	70%	40%
Wet Pond	30%	50%	80%	70%	50%
Wet Pond Extended Detention	25%	40%	80%	70%	40%
Dry Detention	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

For the existing efficiency, the current wet volume of a BMP was compared to the required water quality volume. If this volume was met then the BMP was assigned 75 percent of efficiency listed in Table 3-6. The maximum efficiency was reduced because it was assumed that BMPs were not optimally functioning due to lack of sediment forebay, or other design issues that limit the effectiveness of the facility. If the BMP only detains a portion of the water quality volume, then the assigned efficiency was assigned by linearly interpolating between 0 and 75 percent of the efficiency based on the portion of the volume provided. The proposed efficiency was assigned in a similar manner. However, the full efficiency listed in Table 3-6 may be achieved since the BMP will be designed to function effectively. The proposed wet volume (based on volume modifications if applicable) was compared to the required water quality volume. Once again linear interpolation was used to assign an efficiency if the full water quality volume is not obtained.

In addition, BMPs that provided some or all of the channel protection benefit were assigned existing and proposed 1-year discharges. The existing 1-year discharge was extracted from the WIP Tools model for each BMP. The proposed 1-year discharge was assigned using the CIP Tool. If a BMP received all of the channel protection volume (based on volume modifications if applicable), then the 1-year discharge equals the required channel protection volume divided by 24 hours detention time to get an estimate of the average discharge rate. If a BMP gets a portion of the channel protection, then similar to water quality efficiencies, a linear interpolation between the existing 1-year discharge and the channel protection discharge (channel protection volume/24 hours) was performed based on the portion of the channel protection volume obtained.

These projects moved on to the next step of evaluation, which includes evaluating project benefits using WIP Tools, and estimating project cost and scoring based on the Prioritization Matrix. Details of the WIP Tools evaluation process and the Prioritization Matrix are described in the next chapter.

3.3 Stream Restoration Project Development

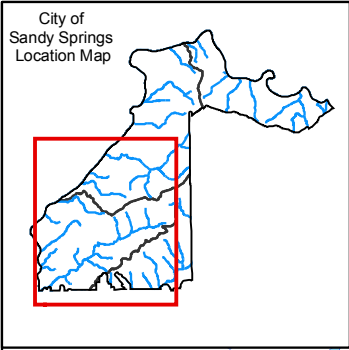
As potential stream restoration opportunities were found, they were inventoried into the database and were used as a starting point for project development in later phases. Field crews identified areas where channel morphology was unstable (i.e., channel incising and/or widening) or where bank erosion was severe. Restoration projects inventoried were categorized as Priority 1, 2, 3, and 4 Restoration (Table 3-7 and Figure 3-2). For natural channel stream restoration, there are general four levels of restoration. Priority 1 restoration involves re-establishing the stream channel on the previous floodplain using the relic channel (if known) or constructing a new bankfull discharge channel using design criteria for the dimension, pattern, and profile to create a new stable channel to match the watershed conditions (Figure 3-3). Priority 2 restoration involves constructing a new bankfull discharge channel in the bed of the existing channel by cutting a new floodplain bench at the current elevation of the stream channel in order to gain as much floodplain connectivity as space will allow. The pattern and profile are adjusted within the existing channel. This type of restoration is common in incised and widened channels (Figure 3-4). Priority 3 restoration is similar to Priority 2 but the level of grading to create a floodplain bench is minimized due to a variety of constraints (Figure 3-4). Priority 4 restoration involves streambank stabilization measures using a combination of grading, bioengineering, and/or hard structure reinforcement (Figure 3-5). These restoration measures are usually done when budget, space, or other constraints prevent a different restoration approach. The upstream limit of the restoration project was recorded with GPS in the field and this length and location was used as the starting point for developing stream restoration projects considered in the CIP.

Table 3-7. Potential Stream Restoration for Long Island Creek Watershed

Type of Stream Restoration	Number of Observations	Length of Stream (feet)*	Length of Stream (miles)*
Priority 2	5	2,414	0.46
Priority 3	12	9,657	1.83
Priority 4	7	1,726	0.33

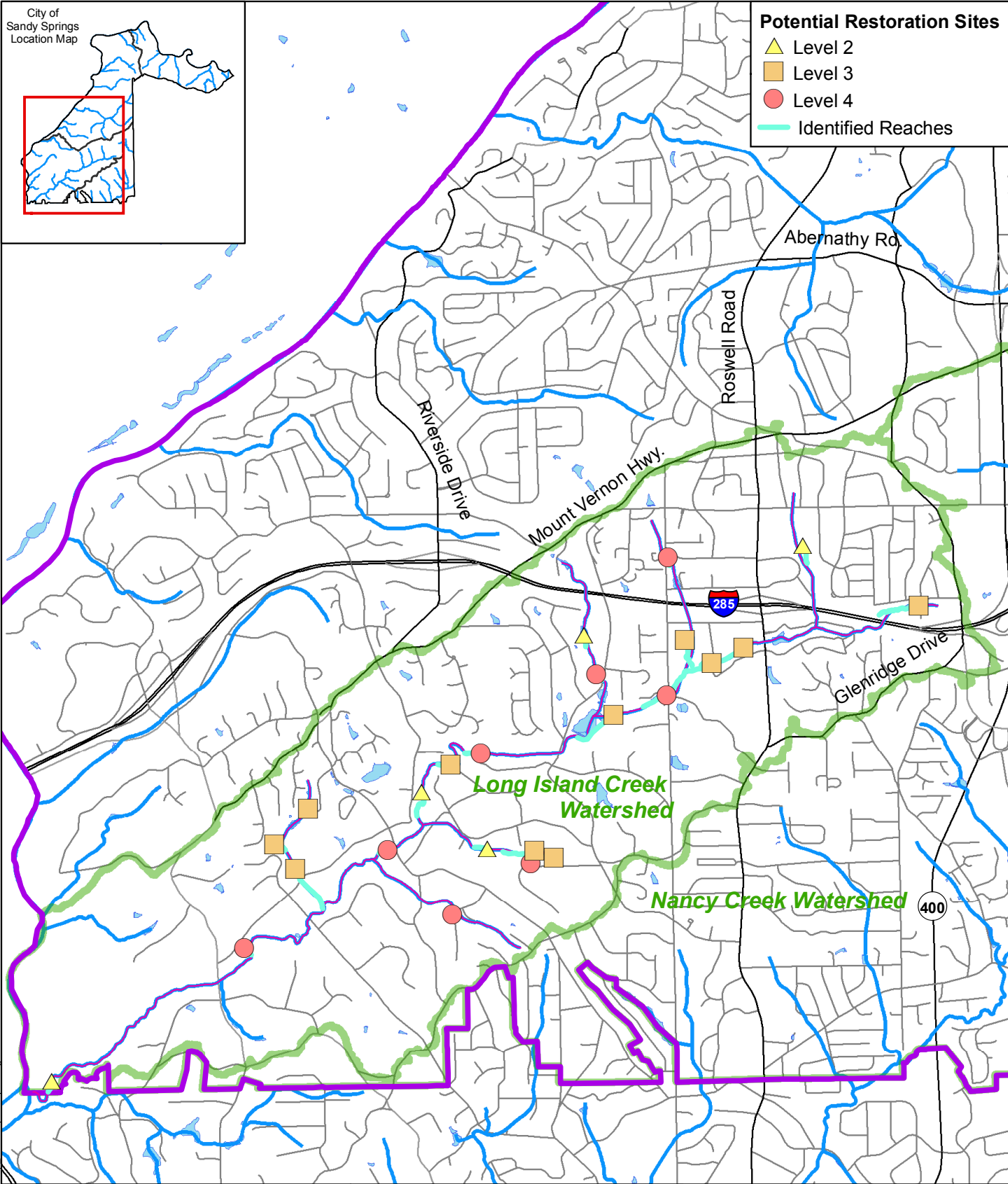
* Estimates of lengths entered in the field – sum of each observation.

A second field visit was made to a number of the identified stream projects for quality control purposes and to collect additional information to refine the recommended restoration project type. Aerial photography was used to determine if surrounding land use and the location of structures in proximity to the stream would affect the feasibility of a stream restoration project. The lengths and locations of potential stream projects were reviewed in the GIS and some projects were combined with others if there was less than 100 feet between identified stream projects. The historic Sandy Springs CIP stream projects were compared with the stream assessment data collected as part of this study. Four of the historic stream projects were merged with the newly identified stream projects and one project was removed from consideration. (Refer to Table 3-2 for more details.)



Potential Restoration Sites

- ▲ Level 2
- Level 3
- Level 4
- Identified Reaches



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Legend

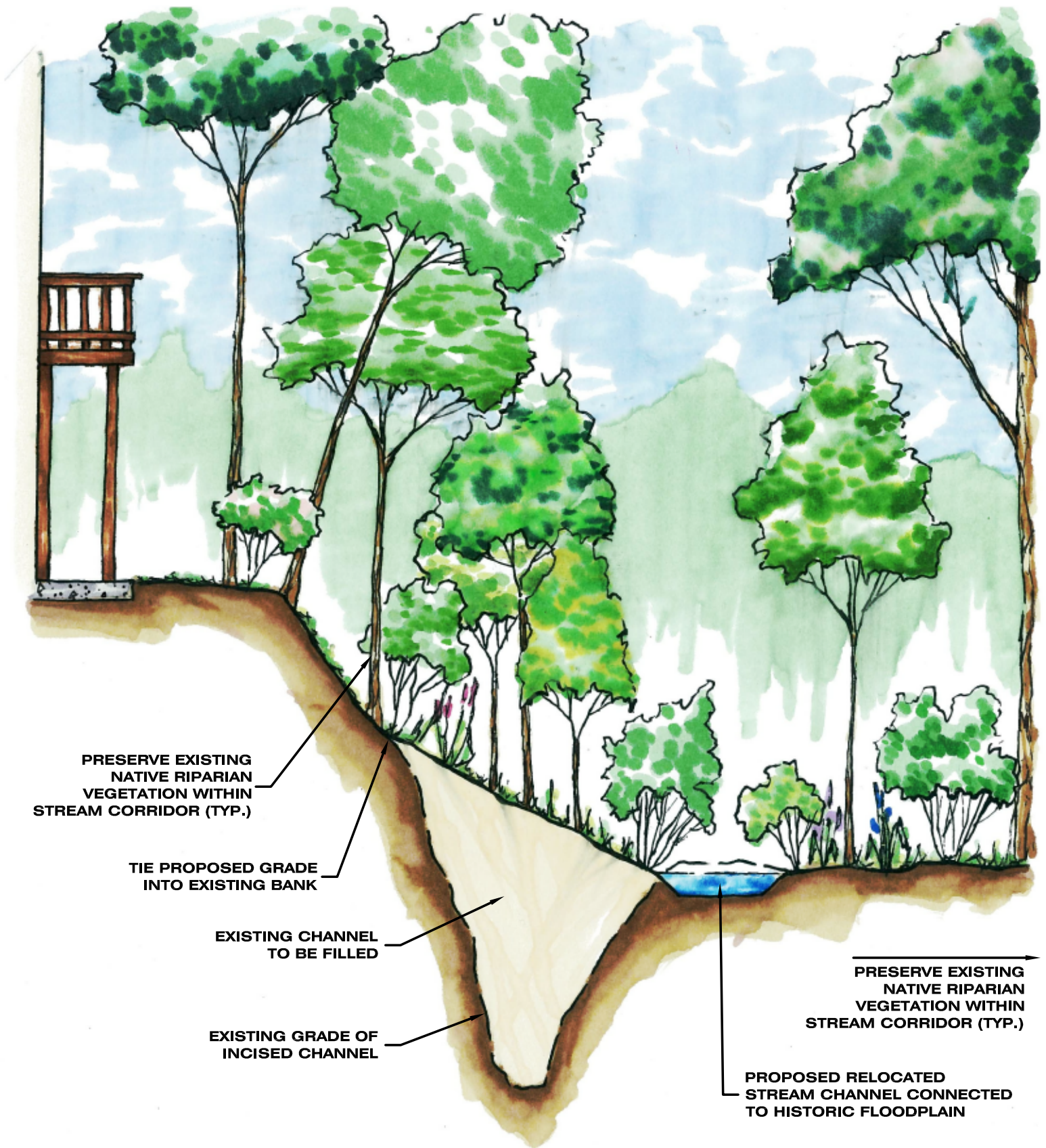
- City Limit
- Study Area
- Lakes & Ponds
- Streams
- Streams Inventoried
- Roads

N
W E
S

0 1,000 2,000 3,000 Feet

Figure 3-2. Potential Stream Restoration Projects Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan





PRESERVE EXISTING
NATIVE RIPARIAN
VEGETATION WITHIN
STREAM CORRIDOR (TYP.)

TIE PROPOSED GRADE
INTO EXISTING BANK

EXISTING CHANNEL
TO BE FILLED

EXISTING GRADE OF
INCISED CHANNEL

PRESERVE EXISTING
NATIVE RIPARIAN
VEGETATION WITHIN
STREAM CORRIDOR (TYP.)

PROPOSED RELOCATED
STREAM CHANNEL CONNECTED
TO HISTORIC FLOODPLAIN

FIGURE 3-3
STREAM RESTORATION (PRIORITY 1)

TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION

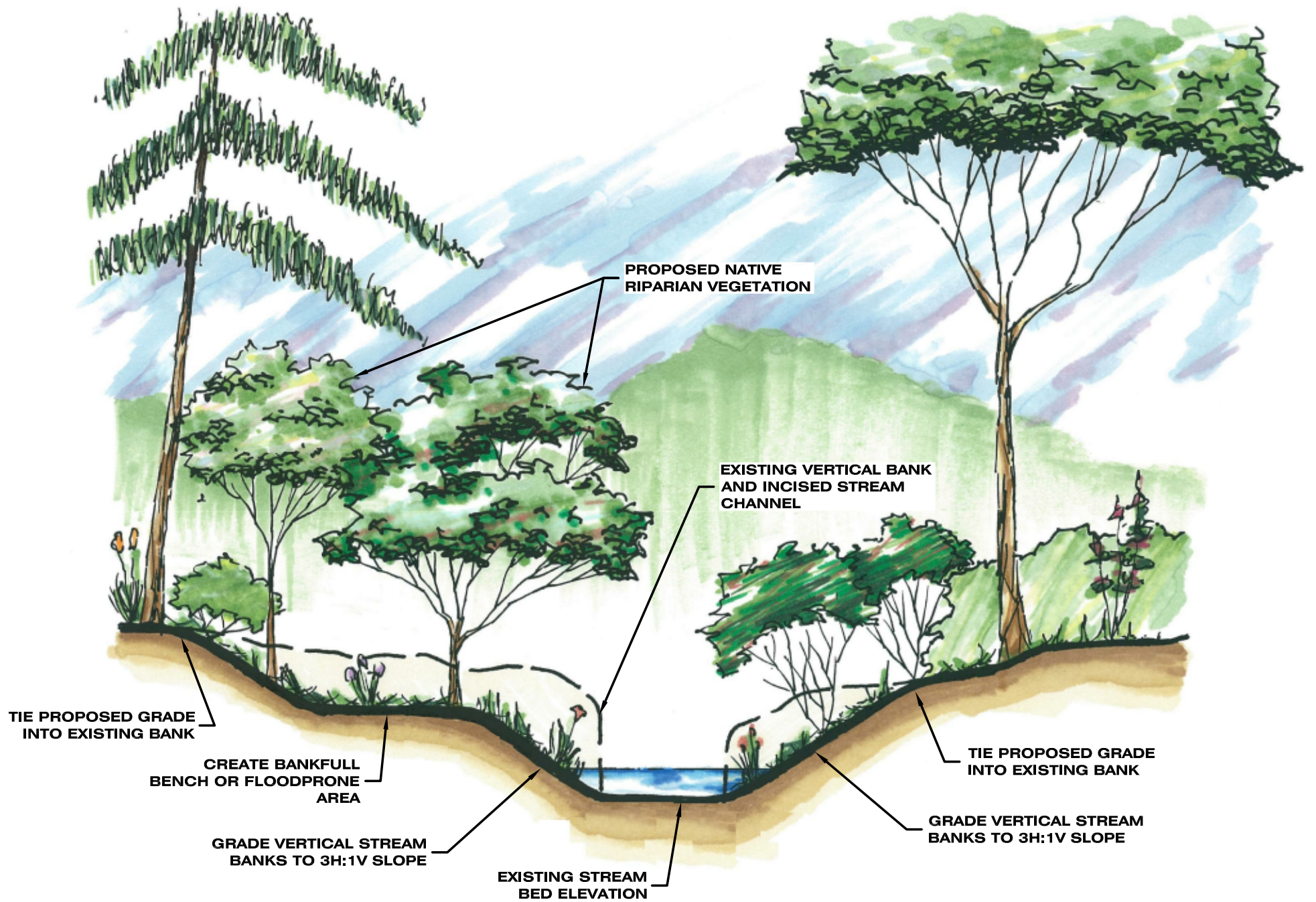
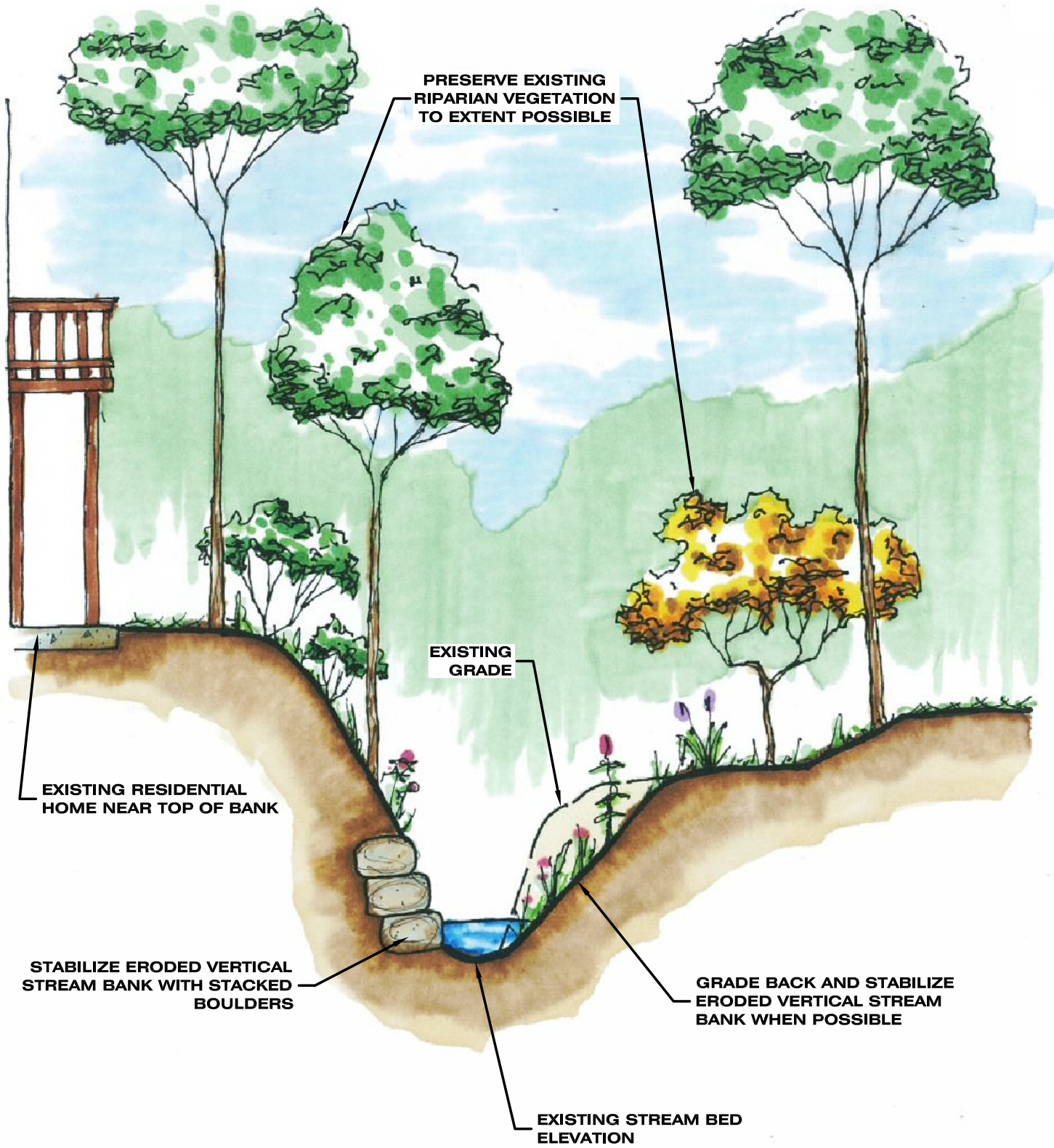


FIGURE 3-4
STREAM ENHANCEMENT (PRIORITY 2 &3)

TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION



**FIGURE 3-5
STREAM STABILIZATION (PRIORITY 4)**

TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION

4. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

4.1 Introduction

The goal of the Sandy Springs WIP is to improve and where possible restore watershed function. This goal is achieved by implementing a watershed CIP to meet specific water quality goals. A sound approach must be employed to evaluate and prioritize potential CIP projects.

A combination of tools was used in evaluating watershed projects. First, the watershed planning, water quality model, WIP Tools, was used to determine watershed-wide water quality conditions, and to assist in evaluating individual projects. Second, a spreadsheet with numerous functions called the CIP Prioritization Tool was used. The CIP Prioritization Tool was used to calculate removal efficiencies for new and retrofit projects, assign project scores based on the Sandy Springs Prioritization Matrix, generate project summary sheets and calculate total estimated project costs. Project costs included engineering, construction, easement value, and a contingency factor. The following section details the project evaluation process.

4.2 Project Evaluation

One of the key aspects of Watershed Improvement Planning is developing a CIP to meet specific water quality goals. This study used a robust approach to evaluate and prioritize potential projects including a Prioritization Matrix developed by the City of Sandy Springs. The prioritization criteria contained in the matrix cover a range of considerations that are important in the evaluation of potential watershed improvement projects. The City of Sandy Springs developed the Prioritization Matrix to evaluate watershed, infrastructure, and floodplain projects. The Prioritization Matrix was incorporated into the CIP Prioritization Tool.

The Prioritization Matrix was developed using an asset management approach that included the likelihood of failure or noncompliance of the project and the consequence of that failure. Each project was ranked for both the existing condition (likelihood of failure) and the proposed, improved condition (reduced likelihood of failure). The criteria used to rank watershed projects include the current condition of the BMP outlet structure or stream bank, the water quality and environmental benefits, permitting issues, as well as public acceptance of the project, among other factors. Table 4-1 outlines all of the prioritization criteria, possible scores and the weighting for each criterion. In addition, the technical memorandum in Appendix B details each of the prioritization criterion and the methods used to assign scores for the criterion.

The difference between the existing condition score and the proposed condition score was considered the change in risk score. The greater the change in the risk score was the greater the improvement to the watershed conditions. This final score was divided by a scaled project cost. The following equation is used to calculate the overall project score.

$$\text{Benefit Cost Score} = \frac{(\text{Existing Likelihood Score} \times \text{Existing Consequence Score}) - (\text{Proposed Likelihood Score} \times \text{Proposed Consequence Score})}{\text{Scaled Project Cost}}$$

Table 4-1. Prioritization Matrix – Likelihood and Consequence of Failure

Category	Criteria	BMPs			Stream Projects		
		Score Range	Weighting Factor	Score x Weighting Factor	Score Range	Weighting Factor	Score x Weighting Factor
Physical Condition (60%)							
	TSS Yield	1-10	0.2	0.2-2.0	1-10	0.25	0.25-2.5
	Bank Erosion	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,2,3,4,6,8,10	0.30	0.3-3.0
	Fecal Coliform Yield	1-10	0.2	0.2-2.0	1-10	0.05	0.05-0.5
	Condition of Structure	1,2,4,5,6,8,10	0.2	0.2-2.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Performance (40%)							
	Storage Volume	1-10	0.35	0.35-3.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Habitat Score	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,2,3,4,6,8,10	0.35	0.35-3.5
	Work Order Requests	1,5,10	0.05	0.05-0.5	1,5,10	0.05	0.05-0.5
	Likelihood of Failure Score		1.0	1.0-10.0		1.0	1.0-10.0
Environmental (30%)							
	Compliance with regulations	10	0.1	1.0	5	0.1	0.5
	Fecal Coliform TMDL	1,10	0.1	0.1,1.0	1,10	0.1	0.1,1.0
	Biota TMDL	1,10	0.1	0.1,1.0	1,10	0.1	0.1,1.0
Social (40%)							
	Public Impact	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,5,10	0.2	0.2-2.0
	City Property	1,5,10	0.2	0.2-2.0	1,5,10	0.2	0.2-2.0
	Urban/Rural Discharge Ratio	1,5,10	0.2	0.2-2.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Economic (30%)							
	Property Damage – based on field assessment	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,5,10	0.3	0.3-3.0
	Property Damage – BMP height	1,2,4,5,6,8,10	0.15	0.15-1.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Property Damage – BMP Volume	1-10	0.15	0.15-1.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Consequence of Failure		1.0	1.0-10.0		1.0	1.0-10.0

**Sandy Springs WIP
Table 4-3 Prioritization Matrix Results
for Stream Projects**

Category Weight		Existing Consequence							Existing Likelihood						Existing Risk	Proposed Consequence							Proposed Likelihood						Proposed Risk	Benefit				
		Environmental (30%)			Social (40%)		Financial (30%)	Consequence Score	Physical Condition (60%)			Performance (40%)				Environmental (30%)			Social (40%)		Financial (30%)	Consequence Score	Physical Condition (60%)			Performance (40%)				Change in Risk	Cost	Cost Scale	Benefit /Cost	
		0.10	0.10	0.10	0.20	0.20	0.30		0.25	0.30	0.05	0.35	0.05	1.00		0.10	0.10	0.10	0.20	0.20	0.30		1.00	0.25	0.30	0.05	0.35	0.05						1.00
Project ID	Asset Number	Reg comp.	Fecal TMDL	Biota TMDL	Public Impact	City Property	Property Damage	TSS Yield	Bank Erosion	Fecal Yield	Habitat Score	Work Orders	Likelihood Score	Reg comp.	Fecal TMDL	Biota TMDL	Public Impact	City Property	Property Damage	TSS Yield	Bank Erosion	Fecal Yield	Habitat Score	Work Orders	Likelihood Score	Change in Risk	Cost	Cost Scale	Benefit /Cost					
17 0135	LL059-STREAM-1	AGM_07211, AGM_07209	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	1.50	6.20	2.25	1.80	0.35	2.10	0.05	6.55	40.61	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	0.25	0.30	0.35	1.40	0.05	2.35	11.75	28.86	\$396,000	4	7.22
17 01220004001	STREAM-1	AGM_08127, AGM_08154	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	1.50	6.20	2.00	3.00	0.30	2.10	0.05	7.45	46.19	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	0.25	0.30	0.30	1.40	0.05	2.30	11.50	34.69	\$728,000	5	6.94
17 0164	LL068-STREAM-1	AGM_07128, AGM_06839	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	3.00	6.70	2.00	1.20	0.25	2.10	0.05	5.60	37.52	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	0.25	0.30	0.25	1.75	0.05	2.60	10.40	27.12	\$264,000	4	6.78
17 00900004052	STREAM-1	AGM_10749, AGM_10753	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	1.50	5.20	1.75	3.00	0.30	2.10	0.05	7.20	37.44	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	0.25	0.30	0.30	1.75	0.05	2.65	10.60	26.84	\$272,000	4	6.71
17 01640001023	STREAM-1	AGM_07247, AGM_06983	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	2.00	3.00	0.25	2.10	0.05	7.40	37.00	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	0.25	0.30	0.25	1.40	0.05	2.25	11.25	25.75	\$370,000	4	6.44
17 01770001023	STREAM-1	AGM_07476, AGM_07382	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	1.50	5.20	2.00	2.40	0.25	1.40	0.05	6.10	31.72	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	0.25	0.30	0.25	1.05	0.05	1.90	7.60	24.12	\$336,000	4	6.03
17 0070	LL059-STREAM-1	AGM_03871, AGM_04017	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	1.50	6.20	2.00	2.40	0.40	1.05	0.05	5.90	36.58	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	0.25	0.30	0.40	0.70	0.05	1.70	8.50	28.08	\$531,000	5	5.62
17 01350004002	STREAM-1	AGM_07309, AGM_07332	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	1.50	5.20	2.00	1.20	0.25	2.10	0.05	5.60	29.12	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	0.25	0.30	0.25	1.75	0.05	2.60	10.40	18.72	\$397,000	4	4.68
17 01750003021	STREAM-1	AGM_08319, AGM_08459	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	1.50	1.80	0.35	2.10	0.05	5.80	23.20	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	0.25	0.30	0.35	1.40	0.05	2.35	9.40	13.80	\$234,000	3	4.60
17 0175	LL086-STREAM-1	AGM_08460, AGM_07430	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	0.50	3.00	0.30	1.40	0.05	5.25	26.25	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	0.25	0.30	0.30	0.70	0.05	1.60	8.00	18.25	\$367,000	4	4.56
17 01220002040	STREAM-1	AGM_08237, AGM_08301	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	0.75	3.00	0.15	2.10	0.25	6.25	25.00	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	0.25	0.30	0.15	1.40	0.05	2.15	8.60	16.40	\$337,000	4	4.10
17 0176	LL079-STREAM-1	AGM_07474, AGM_07473	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	1.50	7.00	1.50	1.80	0.25	1.40	0.25	5.20	36.40	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	0.30	5.80	0.25	0.30	0.25	0.70	0.05	1.55	8.99	27.41	\$1,266,000	7	3.92
17 0091	LL003-STREAM-2	N/A, AGM_11670	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	2.00	2.40	0.35	2.10	0.05	6.90	34.50	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	0.25	0.30	0.35	1.40	0.05	2.35	11.75	22.75	\$782,000	6	3.79
17 0164	LL073-STREAM-1	AGM_07137, AGM_06995	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	1.50	6.20	2.00	0.90	0.25	2.10	0.05	5.30	32.86	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	0.25	0.30	0.25	1.40	0.05	2.25	11.25	21.61	\$870,000	6	3.60
17 0213	LL002-STREAM-1	BAC_00001	0.50	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.20	0.30	3.20	2.25	3.00	0.25	1.40	0.05	6.95	22.24	0.50	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.20	0.30	3.20	0.25	0.30	0.25	0.70	0.05	1.55	4.96	17.28	\$533,000	5	3.46
17 0136	LL222-STREAM-2	AGM_01102, AGM_01124	0.50	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.20	0.30	3.20	1.00	2.40	0.35	2.10	0.05	5.90	18.88	0.50	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.20	0.30	3.20	0.25	0.30	0.35	1.75	0.05	2.70	8.64	10.24	\$104,000	3	3.41
17 0136	LL222-STREAM-1	AGM_00438, AGM_01119	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	1.75	1.80	0.35	2.10	0.05	6.05	30.25	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	0.25	0.30	0.35	1.40	0.05	2.35	11.75	18.50	\$920,000	6	3.08
17 01220003035	STREAM-1	AGM_08167, AGM_08299	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	1.50	5.20	2.25	1.20	0.30	2.10	0.05	5.90	30.68	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	0.25	0.30	0.30	1.40	0.05	2.30	9.20	21.48	\$1,210,000	7	3.07
17 01220002042	STREAM-1	AGM_08248, AGM_08171	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	1.00	1.20	0.20	2.10	0.05	4.55	18.20	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	0.25	0.30	0.20	1.75	0.05	2.55	10.20	8.00	\$199,000	3	2.67
17 00700003010	STREAM-1	N/A, AGM_04032	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	1.75	1.80	0.40	2.10	0.05	6.10	30.50	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	0.25	0.30	0.40	1.40	0.05	2.40	12.00	18.50	\$1,193,000	7	2.64
17 0136	LL099-STREAM-1	AGM_01071, AGM_01150	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	1.00	0.90	0.35	2.10	0.25	4.60	18.40	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	0.25	0.30	0.35	1.75	0.05	2.70	10.80	7.60	\$222,000	3	2.53
17 0091	LL113-STREAM-1	AGM_11737, AGM_11735	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	1.50	6.20	1.75	0.60	0.25	1.05	0.05	3.70	22.94	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	0.25	0.30	0.25	0.70	0.05	1.55	7.75	15.19	\$824,000	6	2.53
17 0136	LL077-STREAM-1	AGM_00438, AGM_07291	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	0.50	0.90	0.30	2.10	0.05	3.85	15.40	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.30	4.00	0.25	0.30	0.30	1.40	0.05	2.30	9.20	6.20	\$237,000	3	2.07
17 00910001022	STREAM-1	N/A, AGM_08124	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	2.00	0.90	0.25	2.10	0.05	5.30	26.50	0.50	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.20	0.30	5.00	0.25	0.30	0.25	1.40	0.05	2.25	11.25	15.25	\$1,556,000	8	1.91

Many pieces of data were needed to generate the results for the Prioritization Matrix. Most of this data was generated in GIS, either through data analysis or the WIP Tools model. The structure of the GIS files was detailed in the GIS data structure technical memorandum located in Appendix C and includes information on how each piece of data is used, whether it is for the Prioritization Matrix, WIP Tools model, project summary sheet or some combination of the three. The four GIS files detailed in the technical memorandum were combined and exported as a database file, and the database file was imported into the CIP Prioritization Tool spreadsheet. The CIP Prioritization Tool then generated a summary of the Prioritization Matrix results (Tables 4-2 and Table 4-3), sorted by the benefit/cost score.

In addition, the CIP Prioritization Tool was used to generate project summary sheets, which can be found in Appendix D. These sheets included the project cost benefit score, key project information, a site map and site photographs.

Another key component of the CIP Prioritization Tool was the project cost development. The spreadsheet has tabs for retrofit BMPs, new BMPs and stream projects giving the user the ability to easily change or update unit costs or other components of the project cost development. Details of the methods used to generate the estimated project costs are included in a technical memorandum in Appendix E.

4.3 Capital Improvement Plan Summary

A CIP was developed using methods described above. A total of 62 BMP and 24 Stream projects were evaluated. This CIP is designed to be flexible, providing the City options to implement projects based on parcel ownership, benefit/cost ranking, cost or other factors. This section outlines those options and presents projects sorted by parcel ownership and benefit/cost score. A suggested implementation schedule is included in this section as well.

Projects can be sorted in various ways in order to prioritize projects for implementation. The CIP is presented below in the following categories: city owned parcels (1 project), “residential attached” parcels to the ROW (7 projects), projects scoring above a benefit/cost score of 5 (3 projects), and all 62 BMP projects and all 24 stream projects. At this time, the City of Sandy Springs is refining the level of service for the stormwater management program. The City will likely concentrate short-term on CIP projects on city property or within the ROW. If the City modifies its level of service in the future, a prioritized list of CIP projects is available to review and implement as needed. High ranking BMP projects typically include small stormwater BMPs that can be modified to meet water quality and/or channel protection volumes relatively inexpensively. All of these projects evaluated, however, are on private property.

Costs for implementation depend on which projects are selected. The total estimated cost to implement all 62 BMP projects evaluated is \$37,902,000. The cost to implement the one project on city owned property or within the ROW is approximately \$252,000. The three projects with a benefit/cost score above 5 have an estimated cost of \$1,181,000 to implement. The cost to implement the 7 projects that are residential attached is estimated to be \$6,679,000. The City can use these results to determine the appropriate projects to implement. Details on these projects are provided in Sections 4.3.1 and 4.3.2.

4.3.1 BMP Projects

Sixty-two BMP projects were evaluated within the Long Island Creek watershed. In order to improve water quality and aquatic habitat for fish, macroinvertebrates and other stream life, implementing watershed improvements such as stormwater BMPs have numerous benefits. Building new stormwater BMPs or retrofitting existing ones mitigate the negative impact of increased hydrologic runoff from impervious surfaces. Controlling the hydrology also decreases the sediment load and associated pollutants that enter City streams, ponds, and lakes. Stormwater BMPs can also be improved aesthetically to create an amenity for a neighborhood.

Projects can be sorted in various ways in order to prioritize projects for implementation. Currently, there is one stormwater BMP project that is considered the City's responsibility based on legal determination (Table 4-4). The City may also want to consider smaller, demonstration-type BMPs to implement on City facilities such as rain gardens or other low impact development projects.

Project ID	Type	Benefit/Cost	Cost
17 01340004021-BMP-1	Existing	3.02	\$252,000
Total			\$252,000

* Or, as legally determined by the City

Project 17 01340004021-BMP-1 includes retrofitting an existing dry pond into a micropool extended detention pond. The existing BMP is located in a residential area near South Brighton. In a micropool extended detention pond, only a small volume of water is maintained at the outlet from the pond. The outlet structure is sized to detain the water quality volume for 24 hours. Temporary storage may also be provided for channel protection and for larger storm events. This proposed retrofit will achieve greater water quality benefits by converting it into a micropool extended detention pond and redesigning the control structure.

In the future, the City of Sandy Springs may expand the level of service to "residential attached" assets. "Attached" is defined as having a piped network connection from the road right of way flowing onto private parcels. Thus, there is a connection from traditional stormwater road drainage right-of-way to a limited number of private parcels. There are seven CIP projects within the Long Island Creek Watershed that are part of this designation (Table 4-5).

Project ID	Type	Benefit/Cost	Cost
17 00700002047-BMP-1	New	2.56	\$1,719,000
17 00700004014-BMP-1	New	2.28	\$3,065,000
17 0092 LL043-BMP-1	Existing	1.78	\$274,000
17 0092 LL068-BMP-1	Existing	0.94	\$463,000
17 0133 LL101-BMP-1	Existing	1.33	\$472,000
17 0177 LL001-BMP-1	Existing	0.93	\$347,000
17 01770002001-BMP-1	Existing	0.96	\$339,000
Total			\$6,679,000

Another method used to review stormwater BMP projects is solely by the benefit/cost score. These projects would have the most benefit per dollar for environmental, social, and financial criteria as defined by the Prioritization Matrix. Table 4-6 presents the stormwater BMP projects that have a benefit/cost ratio score over 5. Asset ownership is excluded from this sorting procedure but included in the table for reference. Appendix D contains the projects sheets for more information.

Table 4-6. BMP Projects with Benefit/Cost Score Over 5

Project ID	Type	Benefit/Cost	Cost	Asset Ownership
17 0091 LL163-BMP-1	Existing	6.63	\$544,000	Non-Single Family Non-Attached
17 01750005007-BMP-1	Existing	5.46	\$367,000	To be determined
17 00890011061-BMP-1	Existing	5.42	\$270,000	Non-Single Family Residential Attached
Total			\$1,181,000	

Project 17 00890011061-BMP-1 is an example of a project that has a benefit/cost score above 5. It includes retrofitting an existing dry pond into a micropool extended detention pond. The existing BMP is located on a Commercial area near Sandy Springs Circle. In a micropool extended detention pond, only a small volume of water would be maintained at the outlet from the pond. The outlet structure would be sized to detain the water quality volume for 24 hours. Temporary storage could also be provided for channel protection and for larger storm events. This proposed retrofit would achieve both water quality and channel protection benefits by converting existing pond to a micropool extended detention pond and redesigning the control structure. There may be site constraints with steep slopes and private land ownership.



BMP Project 17 00890011061-BMP-1

The following table presents the list of all 62 BMP projects with type, cost, and benefit/cost score. As the City receives stormwater related service requests, this complete list of stormwater BMP projects can be compared to the service request to determine if there is a watershed benefit to the project.

Table 4-7. Complete BMP Project List for the Long Island Creek Study Area

Project ID	Type	Benefit/Cost	Cost
17 0091 LL163-BMP-1	Existing	6.63	\$544,000
17 01750005007-BMP-1	Existing	5.46	\$367,000
17 00890011061-BMP-1	Existing	5.42	\$270,000
17 01230006001-BMP-1	Existing	4.89	\$286,000
17 0165 LL029-BMP-1	New	4.73	\$269,000
17 01230003042-BMP-1	Existing	4.58	\$877,000
17 0069 LL062-BMP-1	Existing	4.50	\$536,000
17 00890009047-BMP-1	Existing	4.36	\$155,000
17 01640003043-BMP-1	Existing	3.87	\$755,000

Table 4-7. Complete BMP Project List for the Long Island Creek Study Area

Project ID	Type	Benefit/Cost	Cost
17 0136 LL089-BMP-1	Existing	3.76	\$420,000
17 0135 LL092-BMP-1	New	3.53	\$343,000
17 0092 LL037-BMP-1	Existing	3.18	\$271,000
17 01750006021-BMP-1	Existing	3.15	\$340,000
17 01340004021-BMP-1	Existing	3.02	\$252,000
17 0165 LL046-BMP-1	Existing	2.82	\$453,000
17 0136 LL151-BMP-1	New	2.66	\$1,075,000
17 00900001071-BMP-1	Existing	2.62	\$504,000
17 01230005005-BMP-1	Existing	2.57	\$418,000
17 00700002047-BMP-1	New	2.56	\$1,719,000
17 0091 LL160-BMP-1	Existing	2.54	\$483,000
17 01220002044-BMP-1	Existing	2.47	\$911,000
17 00700004014-BMP-1	New	2.28	\$3,065,000
17 01220003035-BMP-1	Existing	2.25	\$618,000
17 0175 LL088-BMP-1	Existing	2.21	\$466,000
17 01650005005-BMP-1	Existing	2.13	\$405,000
17 01220003031-BMP-1	Existing	2.06	\$380,000
17 0202 LL059-BMP-1	Existing	1.97	\$437,000
17 0091 LL252-BMP-1	Existing	1.88	\$353,000
17 0091 LL146-BMP-1	New	1.87	\$250,000
17 01220002042-BMP-1	New	1.87	\$398,000
17 0164 LL020-BMP-1	Existing	1.82	\$783,000
17 0092 LL043-BMP-1	Existing	1.78	\$274,000
17 0203 LL084-BMP-1	Existing	1.72	\$433,000
17 00900002074-BMP-1	New	1.71	\$264,000
17 0203 LL066-BMP-1	Existing	1.67	\$476,000
17 0124 LL021-BMP-1	Existing	1.66	\$470,000
17 01640003057-BMP-1	Existing	1.64	\$504,000
17 01230008016-BMP-1	Existing	1.63	\$358,000
17 0177 LL077-BMP-1	Existing	1.60	\$452,000
17 01220003014-BMP-1	Existing	1.59	\$713,000
17 01330001013-BMP-1	Existing	1.45	\$426,000
17 0091 LL194-BMP-1	Existing	1.43	\$540,000
17 0177 LL105-BMP-1	Existing	1.40	\$442,000
17 01210001069-BMP-1	Existing	1.33	\$605,000
17 00910003007-BMP-1	Existing	1.33	\$488,000
17 0133 LL101-BMP-1	Existing	1.33	\$472,000

Table 4-7. Complete BMP Project List for the Long Island Creek Study Area

Project ID	Type	Benefit/Cost	Cost
17 0091 LL185-BMP-1	New	1.24	\$2,545,000
17 00690004018-BMP-1	New	1.22	\$1,295,000
17 01220004007-BMP-1	Existing	1.13	\$340,000
17 0177 LL125-BMP-1	Existing	1.12	\$444,000
17 01650003013-BMP-1	Existing	1.11	\$478,000
17 0069 LL062-BMP-2	Existing	1.05	\$2,858,000
17 01220003026-BMP-1	Existing	0.99	\$1,273,000
17 01770002001-BMP-1	Existing	0.96	\$339,000
17 0092 LL068-BMP-1	Existing	0.94	\$463,000
17 0177 LL001-BMP-1	Existing	0.93	\$347,000
17 01230007014-BMP-1	Existing	0.90	\$319,000
17 0164 LL090-BMP-1	Existing	0.89	\$429,000
17 0123 LL159-BMP-1	Existing	0.85	\$292,000
17 0203 LL075-BMP-1	Existing	0.77	\$416,000
17 0162 LL141-BMP-1	Existing	0.73	\$438,000
17 0090 LL087-BMP-1	Existing	0.57	\$306,000
Total			\$37,902,000

4.3.2 Stream Restoration Projects

The City of Sandy Springs does not currently include stream restoration projects as part of its stormwater management program. However, for future reference, 24 stream projects were identified and evaluated within the Long Island Creek study area. Stream restoration projects provide numerous benefits including water quality, aquatic habitat, public safety, and infrastructure improvements within the watershed. In addition, aesthetics will be improved from many of these projects. Many of these projects are outside the City's LOS area and on private property.

Project 17 0164 LL068-STREAM-1 is a level 4 stream restoration project proposed along the right bank. The right bank has collapsed and has encroached onto private property. A residence is very near the edge of right bank where the bank angle is greater than 90 degrees. Level 4 restoration involves stabilizing the stream in place by grading the banks to a lesser slope and installing in-stream structures to hold the present streambed elevation and slope. Hard structures, such as riprap, and/or bioengineering techniques, such as livestaking, can be used to increase bank stability. An improved and wider riparian corridor could also be planted.



Stream Restoration Project 17 0164 LL068-Stream-1

Project 17 0135 LL059-STREAM-1 is a level 2 stream restoration proposed along approximately 350 feet of stream where the stream is actively widening. The right bank is eroding under a fence along private property. The stream can be moved toward the left bank and away from the encroached private parcel. A Level 2 approach is recommended. This approach involves restoring the stream and floodplain within the existing channel at the present elevation or a new channel adjacent to the old channel but at the same elevation. The new channel will be based on a stable dimension, pattern, and profile. The City may wish to establish a vegetated buffer along the stream.



Stream Restoration Project 17 0135 LL059-Stream-1

All stream projects and associated costs and benefit/cost scores are presented in Table 4-8.

Table 4-8. Complete Stream Project List for the Long Island Creek Study Area			
Project ID	Type	Benefit/Cost Score	Cost
17 0135 LL059-STREAM-1	stream	7.22	\$396,000
17 01220004001-STREAM-1	stream	6.94	\$728,000
17 0164 LL068-STREAM-1	stream	6.78	\$264,000
17 00900004052-STREAM-1	stream	6.71	\$272,000
17 01640001023-STREAM-1	stream	6.44	\$370,000
17 01770001023-STREAM-1	stream	6.03	\$336,000
17 0070 LL059-STREAM-1	stream	5.62	\$531,000
17 01350004002-STREAM-1	stream	4.68	\$397,000
17 01750003021-STREAM-1	stream	4.60	\$234,000
17 0175 LL086-STREAM-1	stream	4.56	\$367,000
17 01220002040-STREAM-1	stream	4.10	\$337,000
17 0176 LL079-STREAM-1	stream	3.92	\$1,266,000
17 0091 LL003-STREAM-2	stream	3.79	\$782,000
17 0164 LL073-STREAM-1	stream	3.60	\$870,000
17 0213 LL002-STREAM-1	stream	3.46	\$533,000
17 0136 LL222-STREAM-2	stream	3.41	\$104,000
17 0136 LL222-STREAM-1	stream	3.08	\$920,000
17 01220003035-STREAM-1	stream	3.07	\$1,210,000
17 01220002042-STREAM-1	stream	2.67	\$199,000
17 00700003010-STREAM-1	stream	2.64	\$1,193,000
17 0136 LL099-STREAM-1	stream	2.53	\$222,000
17 0091 LL113-STREAM-1	stream	2.53	\$824,000
17 0136 LL077-STREAM-1	stream	2.07	\$237,000
17 00910001022-STREAM-1	stream	1.91	\$1,556,000
Total			\$14,148,000

4.4 Implementation Recommendations and Schedule

The City of Sandy Springs has embarked on an extensive effort to better understand the scope and cost of developing a comprehensive stormwater program. The Long Island Creek Watershed Improvement Plan outlines dozens of projects that when implemented, will improve water quality and aquatic habitat, as well as comply with federal and state regulations. This section outlines a plan that will allow the City to move forward with implementation over the short- and long-term.

4.4.1 Year One

- Implement the one project that is within the City's level of service. This project is identified as project: 17 01340004021-BMP-1 and is discussed above.

Total Project Cost: Approximately \$252,000 (one BMP project)

4.4.2 Years Two through Five

- Implement one BMP project per year, starting with the highest scoring projects on the "attached" residential or highest benefit/cost score project lists. Project implementation will be determined by property owner cooperation and legal review
- Continue to review service requests that may overlap with a watershed protection project.
- Reevaluate level of service and adjust implementation schedule as needed.

Total Project Cost: Approximately \$1.0 million (one \$250,000 BMP project per year for 4 years)

4.4.3 Years Five through Ten

- Implement additional BMP projects where possible from residential attached or highest benefit/cost score lists. The City may wish to retrofit existing BMPs before looking at new construction.
- Continue to review service requests that may overlap with a watershed protection project.
- Reevaluate level of service and adjust implementation schedule as needed.

Total Project Cost: approximately \$1.25 million (one \$250,000 BMP project per year for 5 years)

This implementation recommendation and schedule should be revisited at least annually to ensure the watershed improvement plan is meeting the City of Sandy Springs goals.

4.4.4 Optional Tasks

In addition to the recommendations listed above, Sandy Springs may want to consider some optional tasks during years 1 through 10 as opportunities arise:

- Stream Restoration projects
- Identify and install a Low Impact Development (LID) demonstration project, such as a rain barrel or rain garden, sand filter, pervious pavers, or green roof on city-owned property. Installing in a high visibility area such as a park or area where customers pay bills will increase public outreach.
- Evaluate cost-share program for stormwater BMPs clean-outs and outlet modifications.
- Implement other educational and outreach efforts such as Adopt-A-Stream, stormdrain stenciling, informational brochures on stream buffers, etc.
- Buffer protection program
- Mitigation banking

Following this implementation recommendations plan will allow the City of Sandy Springs to protect and improve conditions in the Long Island Creek watershed. New opportunities may arise and should be evaluated in a similar manner to the projects above. Use of the prioritization matrix and the WIP Tools model will assist with this comparison.