

Shutesbury Stormwater Task Force Recommendations, September 2025.

1. The Task Force has endorsed FRCOG's recommendation to adopt a systems-approach to addressing issues and to begin by **conducting a hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) engineering study of the watershed as well as a fluvial geomorphic (FGM) study of Fiske Brook** in order to determine flow dynamics, to model future flow possibilities in light of increasing storm intensity, and to propose mitigation measures for the Town and LWA to pursue.
2. Continue to **research alternative funding for engineering as well as for infrastructure implementation.**
3. Plan and conduct **periodic public education sessions and create literature** on sedimentation conditions and best management practices (BMPs) for stormwater management.
4. Develop a **coordinated Town and LWA "Operation and Management Plan"** for existing and proposed stormwater erosion mitigations, one that also identifies parties responsible for assessment, implementation and updates. **Such a plan would be developed with input from the Highway Dept., LWA, LWAC, ConCom, and the Planning Board as well as the Community Preservation Committee and the Board of Health, as appropriate, and would follow all relevant permitting requirements.** See ConCom comments in Attachment #10.
5. In order to ensure the continuation of work begun by the Task Force and in light of the Task Force's expected dissolution in the future, it is recommended to **create a coordinated stormwater management/maintenance process either through an existing committee or a new body.** Such a mechanism would have the responsibility: (a) to be the liaison between the Town and LWA representatives, (b) to coordinate with ConCom & LWAC, (c) to provide information and assistance to the firms conducting engineering studies, (d) to research additional funding sources, (e) to help develop and review annual projects proposed under the Operation and Management Plan and to follow up on their implementation, (f) to develop water quality testing plans, and (g) to follow-up on other FRCOG recommendations (see Attachment #8).
6. **Follow up with the Highway Department and LWA on short-term maintenance projects as recommended by FRCOG and Task Force site visits** (see Attachment #9). Some recommendations will need discussions/permitting with the Conservation Commission. The ConCom is happy to meet with the Highway Department and/or Lake Wyola Association at these locations to brainstorm stormwater improvements. See ConCom comments, Attachment #10.
7. FRCOG's "Dirt Road Management" handbook (page 47, Excess Road Material Management) recommends that municipal highway departments **develop a designated area for storing sandy soil.** The LWA would like to work with the Town on this issue.
8. **Historically Fiske Brook has been a large source of sedimentation. Infrastructure recommended by the FGM study should be implemented where possible.**