WETLAND DELINEATION

FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT

117 BEACHSIDE AVENUE
WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

REPORT PREPARED BY

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SITE DESCRIPTION

The property is located on the northern side of Beachside Avenue, approximately 35' west of the junction with Beachside Lane in Westport, CT. This 0.66-acre site supports a single-family residence with a driveway. The area slopes and drains towards the north. Vegetation wise the site is divided into southern portion maintained as lawn and northern section dominated by *Phragmites*.

METHODS

Wetland identification was performed on April 29, 2025, based on the presence of poorly drained, very poorly drained, alluvial, and/or floodplain soils and submerged land. The soil types were identified by observation of soil morphology including soil texture, structure, color, etc. Numerous soil samples were taken using an auger. Sampling began within the typical wetland area and continued toward the upland. Soil morphology was observed at soil sampling points along the transect lines perpendicular to the wetland boundary. At each transect, the boundary between the upland and wetland was marked with pink surveyor's tape labeled "*WET*." Each flag was numbered sequentially from 1-7 along the southern edge of the wetland/watercourse corridor.

Wetland markers were also coordinated with site elevations. The site was also evaluated in terms of vegetative cover. Due to wintertime, the identification of herbaceous plants was limited to the remnants found within the wetland area. The plants included: Common rush, Phragmites, swamp rose-mallow, winterberry, aster spp., golden rod spp., wild raspberry, coastal Joe-pye-weed, porcelain berry, etc.

WETLANDS/WATERCOURSES REGULATORY DEFINITION

The Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act (Connecticut General Statues section 22a-38) defines inland wetlands as *land, including submerged land…which consists of any soil types designated as poorly drained, very poorly drained, alluvial, and floodplain.*

Watercourses are defined in the statues as *rivers, streams, brooks, waterways, lakes, ponds, marshes, swamps, bogs and all other bodies of water, natural or artificial, vernal or intermittent, public or private, which are contained within, flow through or border upon the state or any portion thereof.*

Intermittent watercourse: is determined by a defined permanent channel and bank and the occurrence of two or more of the following characteristics:

- Evidence of scour or deposits of recent alluvium or detritus,
- Presence of standing or flowing water for a duration longer than a particular storm incident, and
- Presence of hydrophytic vegetation.

Tidal wetlands are "those areas which border on or lie beneath tidal waters, such as, but

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not limited to banks, bogs, salt marshes, swamps, meadows, flats, or other low lands subject to tidal action, including those areas now or formerly connected to tidal waters, and whose surface is at or below an elevation of one foot above local extreme high water; and upon which may grow or be capable of growing some, but not necessarily all, of [a list of specific plant species - see Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) section 22a-29(2)
]" [CGS section 22a-29, as referenced by CGS section 22a-93(7)(E)]. In general, tidal wetlands form in "low energy" environments protected from direct wave action. Low marsh areas are flooded by tidal waters twice a day, while high marsh areas are flooded a few times a month. All tidal wetlands support a diverse ecosystem of vegetation and wildlife.

TIDAL WETLAND DESCRIPTION

The area marked in the field consists of a wetland area associated with *Sasco Creek* which flows along the northern property line. The area is level and densely covered by Phragmites. Several native species were found growing along the edge of a lawn path cutting through the middle. The path provides access to the edge of the creek. The southern edge of the wetland and its buffer are maintained as a lawn.

This area of tidal creek was once openly connected to the tidal exchange. Over time the off-site portion of the creek was constrained by partial piping and installation of Susco Creek Road crossing to the northeast. In addition, a portion of the creek and associated wetlands were transformed into man-made ponds.

Vegetation found at the site within the *Phragmites* stand tolerates a small degree of salinity in soil. The vegetation includes goldenrod spp., hibiscus, aster spp., and porcelain berry vine.

WETLAND SOILS

The soil was classified using soil criteria and maps developed by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service.

99 - Westbrook mucky peat, 0 to 2 percent slopes, very frequently flooded, low salinity

This very poorly drained soil series occurs within tidal marches. The parent material consists of partly decomposed herbaceous organic material over loamy estuarine deposits. The depth to the restrictive layer is more than eighty feet. The groundwater table is found at the soil surface.

Typical profile

- 0 to 19 inches: mucky peat
- 19 to 79 inches: silt loam

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UPLAND SOILS

29B—Agawam fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes

The *Agawam* soil series is a well-drained soil occurring on outwash terraces. The parent materials consist of course loamy eolian deposits situated over sandy and gravelly glaciofluvial deposits derived from gneiss and/or granite and/or schist and/or phyllite. The depth to restrictive feature varied between 15 to 35 inches. The depth to the groundwater table exceeds eighty inches.

Typical profile

- *0 to 11 inches:* fine sandy loam
- *11 to 16 inches:* fine sandy loam
- *16 to 26 inches:* fine sandy loam
- *26 to 45 inches:* loamy fine sand
- *45 to 55 inches:* loamy fine sand
- *55 to 65 inches:* loamy sand

Certified by:

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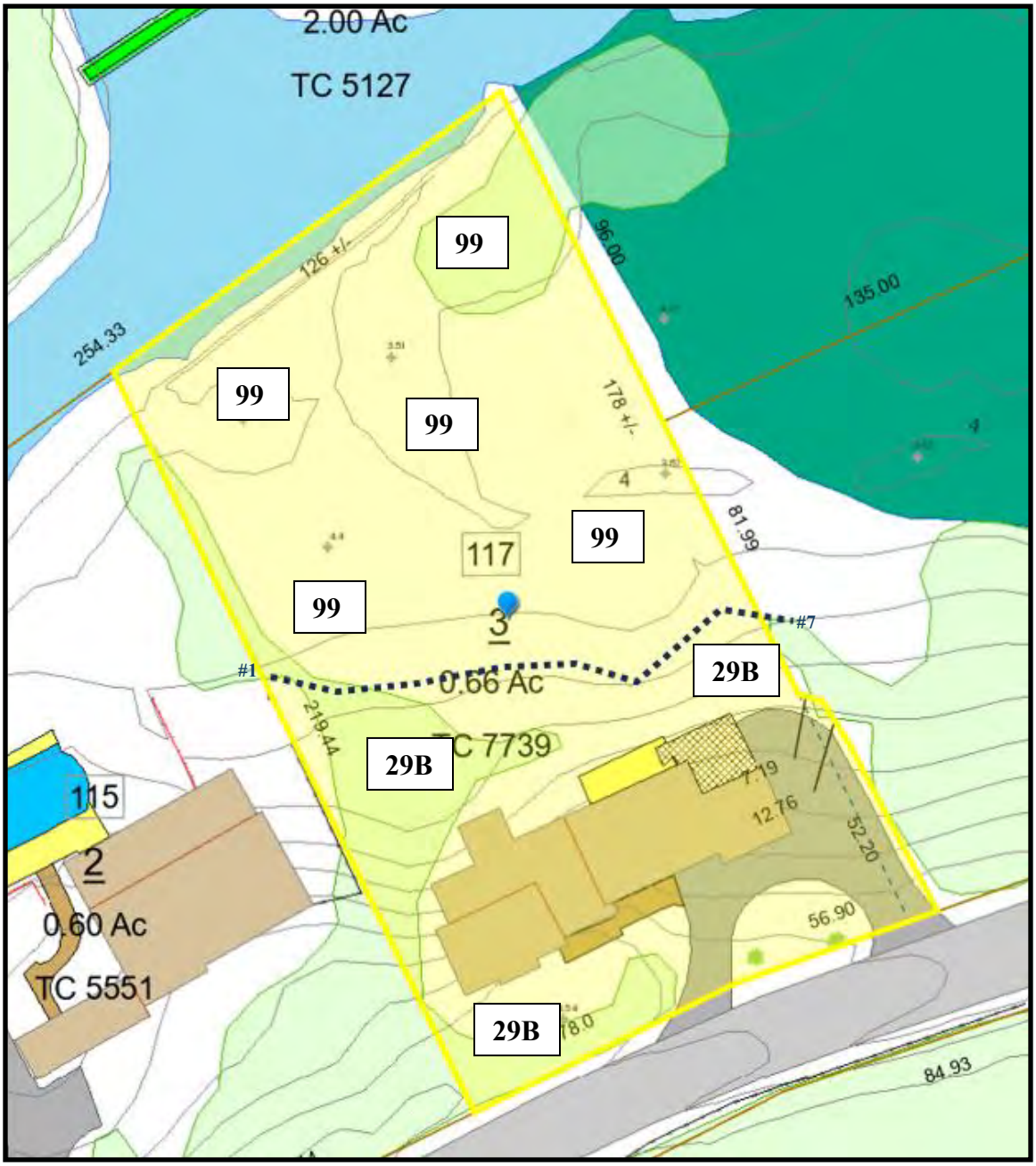

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