

## Christopher O. Mason, PWS

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### PRESIDENT & PRINCIPAL SCIENTIST

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### TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

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Environmental Impact Assessments  
Wetlands Evaluation & Analysis  
Site Assessment & Remediation  
Community Planning  
Permits & Environmental Compliance  
Public Participation Programs  
Training and Public Education

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### EXPERIENCE

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#### 1996 - Present

Mason & Associates, Inc.

#### 1993-1995

Treadwell & Rollo, Inc.

#### 1989-1993

Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

#### 1981-1989

Maguire Group, Inc.

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### EDUCATION

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1981/MCP/ City and Regional Planning  
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia  
With Distinction

1978/BA/Botany and

Human Ecology

Connecticut College, New London

Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude

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### PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

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#### Professional Wetland Scientist #795

Society of Wetland Scientists

#### Pesticide Applicator #O-38799

CTDEP

#### Registered Wetland Scientist

RI Association of Wetland Scientists

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### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

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American Planning Association

Association of MA Wetland Scientists

CT Association of Wetland Scientists

Society of Wetland Scientists

RI Association of Wetland Scientists

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### PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

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Mr. Mason is Principal Scientist and President of Mason & Associates, Inc. He has demonstrated expertise in the areas of wetlands and water resources, environmental impact studies, hazardous waste, litigation support and regulatory compliance. Mr. Mason has over twenty-eight years of experience managing a wide variety of large, multidisciplinary environmental projects for both private and public sector clients. He has provided on-call technical and management services to federal and state agencies / institutions including the EPA, Army Corps of Engineers, USDA, FAA, U.S. Postal Service, RIDEM, RIDOT, RIAC, University of Rhode Island and University of Connecticut. He also provides technical services to municipalities, utilities such as National Grid, private sector clients in land development, and non-profit organizations such as Save the Bay and the Aquidneck Land Trust.

Mr. Mason has conducted hundreds of wetland and water resource studies from New England to the Caribbean. These studies have included tasks such as wetland delineation, functional assessment, creation, remediation and restoration, hydrographic analysis, pollutant modeling, permitting, and compliance monitoring. He has developed and executed over 100 sampling plans for various environmental media pursuant to state and federal regulatory protocol and has also served as Quality Assurance Officer for environmental sampling pursuant to EPA Superfund regulations and directives. Mr. Mason recently served on the RIDEM Director's Wetlands Task Force to improve the state's wetland regulations. He chaired the Task Force's Watershed Approach subcommittee, drafting proposals for RIDEM to help integrate wetlands and water resource management into watershed planning. He is a part-time instructor in Wetland Ecology at URI and has represented the Department of Natural Resources Science on RIDEM's Wetland Restoration Advisory Group.

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### REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

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**University of Connecticut Wetland Restoration and Mitigation – Storrs, CT:** Mr. Mason has managed the wetland related studies in support of UConn's landfill closure and wetland restoration project. Work has involved wetland delineation and functional assessment; analysis of alternatives for restoration of wetlands contaminated with heavy metals; preparation of wetland restoration and creation plans; and associated support of permit applications to the CT Department of Environmental Protection (CTDEP) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The wetland mitigation plan prepared by Mr. Mason includes approximately: 3 acres of wetland restoration; 2 acres of wetland creation; 60 acres of upland and wetland preservation; control of invasive species over 45 acres, creation of a vernal pool, and development of education / recreation trails. Mr. Mason has overseen the construction of the wetland restoration/creation project and provides long term permit compliance monitoring.

**Aguntaug Swamp Water Quality Assessment – Westerly, RI:** Funded in part by a US EPA Clean Water Act grant, Mr. Mason assessed existing water quality conditions and identified specific recommendations for ongoing water quality sampling and monitoring in this sensitive area. Work included review and compilation of existing water quality data, stereoscopic analysis of aerial

photographs, site reconnaissance to determine point and non-point sources of pollution, GIS mapping and literature review. Mr. Mason has provided additional analysis of Aguntauag Swamp as part of an NRCS wetland restoration program, including research in Atlantic White Cedar ecological requirements, hydrologic impact assessment, and recommendations for culvert design and hydrologic monitoring.

**National Grid / Narragansett Electric Transmission Line Refurbishment Projects – RI:** Mr. Mason was project manager for environmental permitting of four transmission line refurbishment projects. Work included wetland delineation, identification of access routes, permitting assessment, and preparation of environmental permit applications/compliance documents. He managed the efforts of six field biologists who delineated wetlands and watercourses over 45 miles of transmission line corridor. Work included transcription of field data into a GIS and AutoCAD format T-sheets. Use of swamp mats and other BMP's for construction were identified. Mr. Mason prepared Notice of Intent applications and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans, and conducted compliance inspections and reporting throughout construction.

**Environmental Assessment – Stafford Springs, CT:** Mr. Mason conducted an environmental assessment in support of a Water Diversion Permit for a Tyco Printed Circuits Group facility in Stafford Springs, CT. Included in the assessment were natural resources mapping, wetland function and value assessment, fishery investigation, bathymetric mapping, and macro-invertebrate sampling. A water quality evaluation was performed using the macro-invertebrate data and EPA rapid bioassessment methods.

**Fore River 850 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant – Weymouth, MA:** Mr. Mason conducted hundreds of inspections of erosion and sedimentation controls at this electric generating facility and acted as an agent of the local Conservation Commission in the enforcement of an Order of Conditions for the project. Work involved inspection, reporting, and working with contractors to develop solutions for this five-year, 1 billion dollar construction project.

**EPA Wetlands Assessment – New Jersey:** Mr. Mason managed the evaluation of over 7,500 acres of wetlands in New Jersey's Hackensack Meadowlands. The study was funded by the U.S. EPA and carried out with the assistance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, and the Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission. Mr. Mason led the interagency team in field evaluations and functional assessment of nutrient retention and transformation, sediment and toxicant retention, floodflow alteration, and wildlife and aquatic life habitat functions. He was responsible for the development and use of an interactive database/functional assessment model for the U.S. EPA.

**Town-wide Wetlands Mapping and Conservation Project – North Kingstown, RI:** Mr. Mason lead a team of professional wetland scientists in the mapping and classification of wetlands throughout the Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island. The Town of North Kingstown funded the project with assistance from the U.S. EPA. Aerial photograph interpretation, field surveys, and GIS mapping were prepared for the Town to assist in their land use planning and open space preservation efforts. Mr. Mason also contributed to the public participation and land use planning components of the project.

**Superfund Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study – Salem, Massachusetts:** This 210-acre site was contaminated with heavy metals and volatile organic compounds. As project manager, Mr. Mason was responsible for the coordination and execution of the scope of work between the EPA and a potentially responsible party. This included: sampling of surface water, sediments, groundwater, biota (sampling program in excess of \$500,000); quality assurance, three dimensional modeling of contaminants, risk assessment, and alternatives for site remediation.

**Land Trust Trail System – Aquidneck Island:** Mr. Mason conducted field studies, interpretation of aerial photography, and GIS analysis in support of the Sakonnet Greenway Trail in Portsmouth and Middletown, RI. Alternative routing plans and construction techniques were developed in the context of environmental constraints and opportunities for trail system linkage to other trails and greenways. Mr. Mason secured the state and federal wetland permits for Phases 1A and 1B of the trail system which crosses large tracts of swamp and marsh.