



Lester B. Smith, Jr.

Principal

EDUCATION

Doctoral Studies in Geography (Coastal Geomorphology), Rutgers University

M.S. Oceanography (Geological), Texas A&M University

B.S. Geology, Syracuse University

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Erosion Control Association (Member, 2007-present)

American Shore and Beach Preservation Association (Member, 2007-present)

Duxbury Beach Reservation, Inc., Vice President (1986-2004), Trustee (1986-present) (non-profit group that owns and manages the 7-mile long Duxbury Beach, Duxbury, MA)

New England Association of Environmental Professionals (Vice President, 1995)

Boston Society of Civil Engineers, Waterways Executive Committee (1995-2003)

CZM's Coastal Resources Advisory Board (1987-1995)

CZM/DEP Non-Point Source Advisory Board (1995-1996)

CZM/DEP Advisory Board on Coastal Bank Policy (1988-1990)

Mr. Smith is a founding Principal of Epsilon Associates. He is an environmental scientist with a specialization in coastal geology. His broad range of experience includes coastal permitting projects, erosion/coastal change analysis, coastal wetland delineation, waterways jurisdiction analysis, dredging/disposal analysis, coastal science/ management studies, expert witness testimony on coastal wetland/ erosion issues, utility permitting, large commercial and government projects involving environmental assessment/ impact report preparation and projects involving complex environmental regulatory analysis. Mr. Smith has managed environmental science departments and groups at prominent environmental consulting firms in the Boston area.

Mr. Smith has unique regulatory experience as early in his career he directed the scientific & engineering staff at the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Office where he co-authored the Massachusetts Coastal Wetlands Regulations and assisted in the writing of the CZM policies. He has also served as project manager of several Army Corps of Engineers contracts for environmental services with the New England Division including the development of workshops and educational information on the Programmatic General Permit program.

Mr. Smith's experience also includes serving in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Commissioned Officer Corps conducting marine surveys on the NOAA Ship Surveyor and research throughout the Great Lakes, working out of the NOAA Great Lakes Research Center.

Mr. Smith has recently been the project manager of the Cape Cod to Martha's Vineyard Hybrid Cable Project, which is the first major project to undergo permitting under the new state Ocean Management Act and regulations. The project received the New England Environmental Business Council of New England's Nicholas Humber Environmental-Energy Award for Outstanding Collaboration.

Mr. Smith has also served as an Adjunct Professor in Marine Science at Suffolk University teaching courses in Coastal Marine Science and Coastal Field Studies at Suffolk University's R.S. Freidman Field Station, Cobscook Bay, Maine

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- ◆ *Beach Management Plan, Town of Swampscott Beaches.* Prepared a Beach Management Plan for the Town's five public beaches which comprise most of the coastal area of the town. Worked with town officials to describe and document existing and proposed methods of beach use and management. Interacted with them to ensure that activities would be consistent with the state coastal wetland regulations and good scientific practices for beach use and management.
- ◆ *Beach Management Plan, Smith Point, Nantucket, MA.* Served as a consultant to the Board of Selectmen, Town of Nantucket for the public input process and preparation of a Beach Management Plan for Smith Point on the southwest shoreline of Nantucket Island. This report included an evaluation of coastal processes, wetland resource areas and endangered species, and use patterns at the beach. A management plan was developed in consultation with a technical advisory committee consisting of local, state and federal resource agencies and the public.
- ◆ *Beach Management Plan, Duxbury Beach, Duxbury and Plymouth, MA.* Primary author and preparer of the first comprehensive beach management plan for the 7-mile long Duxbury Beach in the towns of Duxbury and Plymouth. The management plan development involved coordination with the Town of Duxbury's Endangered Species Program and Coastal Natural Resources Department staff, Town Beach Committee, Duxbury Beach Reservation, Massachusetts Audubon Society's Coastal Waterbird Program, Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program and many local groups involved in the use of this beach. Duxbury Beach has become a model for beach and endangered species management.
- ◆ *Massachusetts Barrier Beach Study.* Identified and delineated all barrier beaches in Massachusetts for the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Office including field research to map the beach and dunes of these systems. The map products from this project are the definitive delineations of barrier beach coastal wetland resource areas that are used by MassDEP and local Conservation Commissions for barrier beach identification.
- ◆ *National Park Service Scientific Literature Study, National Park Service.* Prepared the geomorphology section of the scientific literature study for all coastal National Parks and Seashores. This effort involved researching all relevant journals and technical reports involving research conducted in US National Parks and Seashores involving *coastal properties*.
- ◆ *Provincelands Dunes Study National Park Service.* Directed scientists in monitoring vegetation and geomorphic changes for 3-year study in the high dunes of the Provincelands of the Cape Cod National

Seashore. This involved conducting elevation and vegetation monitoring transects across sections of closed vehicle trails through the dunes. Analyses of the collected data consisted of the calculation of volumetric changes and statistical parameters to assess recovery of dune environments from off-road vehicle impacts.

- ◆ *Sconset Beach Nourishment Project, Siasconset, Nantucket, MA.* This large-scale shoreline nourishment project on Nantucket's eastern shoreline aimed to protect public infrastructure, historic structures, and private properties. Mr. Smith, as the Project Manager, managed the preparation of Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) office and permit applications to local, state, and federal agencies. He coordinated the permitting effort of a project team that included coastal engineers, dredging industry experts, marine resource scientists, and endangered species consultants. He also managed the preparation of a comprehensive Alternatives Analysis submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and managed the permitting associated with a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 10/404 Permit, Chapter 91 License, Section 401 Water Quality Certification, Wetlands Protection Act Order of Conditions, and CZM consistency certification.
- ◆ *Kline Wetland Adjudicatory Hearing, Truro, MA.* Directed the Epsilon Associates team analysis and presentation of expert testimony and professional opinion on behalf of the project applicant relative to whether the Kline site on the Cape Cod Bay shore consists of coastal bank or coastal dune, and whether a barrier beach is present. This was a hotly debated adjudicatory hearing with the abutters offering expert witnesses from four environmental consulting firms in opposition to the wetlands filing submitted by the applicant. The Epsilon team determined that the project site consists of a coastal bank, and presented analysis of sedimentary cores and historical evidence in support of this opinion. The opposition gave the opinion that the site consists of a coastal dune and barrier beach. The adjudicatory judge determined the Epsilon team's opinion that the project is a coastal bank is the valid opinion and approved the project.
- ◆ *Frost Wetland Adjudicatory Hearing – Residential Dwelling, Eel Point, Nantucket, MA.* Prepared expert testimony for a proposed residential dwelling, driveway, septic system, beach access walkway and private well. The project involved an evaluation of coastal wetlands and other landforms and whether the proposed project met state and local wetlands performance standards. Mr. Smith offered expert testimony that relict dunes on the property are not "coastal dunes" as defined by the state Wetlands Protection Act as these features do not currently border on the ocean and do not protect wetland interests. The adjudicatory judge determined in favor of the project.