

From: [Wadiak, Kathleen](#)
To: [Friend, Ashley C](#)
Cc: [FGC: NHFG review](#); [Winters, Melissa](#); [Lindsey White](#); [Erausquin, Richard](#); [Mauck, Ridgely](#)
Subject: NHFG Conditions NHFG Review NHB22-2059, NHB22-2060, NHB22-2061 Eversource B112 Structure Replacement Campton Sandwich Tamworth
Date: Friday, November 18, 2022 10:55:22 AM
Attachments: [B112 NHFG BMP Recommendations 11-1-22.docx](#)
[SEEKING REPORTS OF RARE TURTLES Wd sp Embl Sept2020.pdf](#)
[racer flyer 2020.pdf](#)
[CommonNighthawk_Apr2021.pdf](#)
[Smooth green snake flyer.pdf](#)

Ashley,

NHFG has completed its review of the materials submitted by Lindsey White of GZA 8/10/22 for NHB22-2059, NHB22-2060, NHB22-2061. The proposed project is for the replacement of 273 utility poles on the B112 transmission line in Campton, Sandwich, and Tamworth.

Permit applications associated with this review:

- NHDES Statutory Permit by Notification
- NHDES Shoreland Permit by Notification
- NHDES Alteration of Terrain Permit

Notify NHFG if/when phases (vegetation removal, structure replacements, restoration, etc.) on this project begin and finish. Please use subject line "NHB22-2059, NHB22-2060, NHB22-2061 Eversource B112 Work Start/End Notification"

Lindsey White of GZA requested clarification on some BMPs. If these questions are not answered in the below recommendations, contact NHFG for further explanation.

Based on the NHB datacheck results letter and the information provided in the submission, we request the following recommended permit conditions. These conditions are recommended to be included in the final wetlands permit if approved. For consideration in the AoT permit review process, please incorporate recommendations along with associated materials as detailed, into the sheet plans as written below (updated highlighted text as applicable) and provide to NHDES and cc NHFG for final review.

New Hampshire Fish and Game Permit Conditions

- BMPs in the document titled "GZA B112 NHFG BMP Recommendations 11-1-22" submitted to NHFG 11/1/22 (attached) shall be adhered to at all times during this project.
- Blanding's turtle (state endangered), spotted turtle (state threatened), common nighthawk (state endangered), Northern black racer (state threatened), and wood turtle (state species of special concern) occur within the vicinity of the project area. All operators and personnel working on or entering the site shall be made aware of the potential presence of these species and shall be provided flyers that help to identify these species, along with NHFG contact information. Rare species information (e.g. identification, observation and reporting of observations, when to contact NHFG immediately and NHFG contact information) shall be posted on site at all times and communicated during morning tailgate meetings prior to work

commencement. See Plan Sheet xxxxxx. *Include attached flyers to plan sheet set.*

- Observations of Northern black racers at any time shall be reported immediately to the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Environmental Review Program. Please contact Melissa Winters (603-479-1129) or Brendan Clifford (603-944-0885). Please include photograph with text if feasible.
- Turtles and snakes may be attracted to disturbed ground during nesting season. Turtle nesting season occurs approximately May 15th – June 30th. Nesting areas may include work pads and access roads that are not hard pack gravel and other sandy/gravel work areas. All turtle species nests and Northern black racer nests are protected by NH laws. Be aware of the potential to encounter nesting wildlife in these areas.
- If a nest is observed or suspected, operators shall contact Melissa Winters (603-479-1129) or Josh Megyesy (978-578-0802) at NHFG immediately for further consultation. The nest or suspected nest shall be marked (surrounding roped off or cone buffer) and avoided; this shall be communicated to all personnel onsite. Site activities shall not occur in the area surrounding the nest or suspected nest until further guidance is provided by NHFG.
- Vernal pools and potential vernal pools shall be flagged prior to work, and impacts shall be avoided. No disturb vegetative buffers of 50' shall be maintained.
- All matting which will be placed in waterbodies deemed suitable for hibernating rare turtles will be placed prior to the start of the inactive season (October 16-March 31) so as to prevent accidental placement atop hibernating turtles. Immediately prior to matting placement in these wetlands, the area shall be swept by a qualified biologist or herpetologist to ensure any turtles relocate away from the area to be matted. Areas identified as suitable hibernation habitat shall be identified on plan sheets and provided to NHFG prior to beginning work.
- Sweeps of work areas and access routes shall be conducted immediately prior to start of work and equipment movement in order to minimize the potential of animals entering a work area between the sweep and activity. Sweeps shall be conducted by staff trained in rare species identification and habitat.
- Common nighthawks nest on areas of bare ground. If common nighthawks are found nesting on the ground or are observed to display nesting behavior (on ground, hissing, broken wing display) in the vicinity of the project area, flag and rope off a 50 ft perimeter around the nest and immediately contact Melissa Winters at 603-479-1129. Project activities shall cease until there is further instruction by NHFG. Migratory bird nests are protected under NH and federal laws.
- All work activities shall be restricted to the defined roads, construction areas, and staging areas, with no equipment or materials staged or stored outside of the defined areas as shown on plan sheets.
- Minimize work pad areas, including matting, to the greatest extent possible, especially in wetlands and other sensitive areas.
- Works pads shall be reduced post-construction to 30' x 60' and restored with a native vegetation seed mix.
- All manufactured erosion and sediment control products, with the exception of turf reinforcement mats, utilized for, but not limited to, slope protection, runoff diversion, slope interruption, perimeter control, inlet protection, check dams, and sediment traps shall not contain plastic, or multifilament or monofilament polypropylene netting or mesh with an opening size of greater than 1/8 inches;
- All observations of threatened or endangered species on the project site shall be reported

immediately to the NHFG nongame and endangered wildlife environmental review program by phone at 603-271-2461 and by email at NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov, with the email subject line containing the NHB DataCheck tool results letter assigned number, the project name, and the term Wildlife Species Observation;

- Photographs of the observed species and nearby elements of habitat or areas of land disturbance shall be provided to NHFG in digital format at the above email address for verification, as feasible;
- In the event a threatened or endangered species is observed on the project site during the term of the permit, the species shall not be disturbed, handled, or harmed in any way prior to consultation with NHFG and implementation of corrective actions recommended by NHFG.
 - Site operators shall be allowed to relocate wildlife encountered if discovered within the active work zone and if in direct harm from project activities. Wildlife shall be relocated in close proximity to the capture location but outside of the work zone and in the direction the individual was heading. NHFG shall be contacted immediately if this action occurs.
- The NHFG, including its employees and authorized agents, shall have access to the property during the term of the permit.

Additional Recommendations:

- Smooth green snakes (state species of special concern) occur within the vicinity of the project site. Site operators should be informed of the potential presences of this species and shall be provided a flyer that helps to identify this species along with NHFG contact information. See Plan Sheet xxxxxx. *Include attached flyers to plan sheet set.*

There are known records of rusty blackbird (state species of special concern) in the vicinity of structures 80-95. If birds are observed to display nesting behavior (for example: calling, swooping, agitated/territorial behavior), contact the Wildlife Division at 603-271-2461 or NHFGReview@wildlife.nh.gov. Provide NHB number and Project name. Migratory bird nests are protected under NH and federal laws.

There are known records of Vesper sparrow (state species of special concern) in the vicinity of structures 182-188. If birds are observed to display nesting behavior (for example: calling, swooping, agitated/territorial behavior), contact the Wildlife Division at 603-271-2461 or NHFGReview@wildlife.nh.gov. Provide NHB number and Project name. Migratory bird nests are protected under NH and federal laws.

- Avoid clearing suitable spring staging and fall swarming habitat within a 5-mile radius (structures 1-64) of known or assumed northern long-eared bat hibernacula during the staging and swarming seasons (April 1 to May 15 and August 15 to November 14, respectively). Conduct tree removal activities for non-hazard trees outside of the northern long-eared bat pup season (June 1 to July 31) and/or the active season (April 1 to October 31). This will minimize impacts to pups at roosts not yet identified. Conserving trees around wetlands and riparian areas can provide both foraging and commuting habitats for bats.
- Retaining snags, cavity trees, and potential roost trees greater than 4" in diameter can provide roosting habitat for bats. Manage forests to ensure a continual supply of snags and other suitable maternity roost trees. Leaving these within a patch of trees will protect from windthrows.

NHFG has completed our review of materials submitted for consultation under FIS 1004. No further coordination with NHFG is requested, and the final recommendations have been transmitted to the applicable permitting agency. Questions or concerns on NHFG recommendations must follow FIS

1004.12. Note that NHFG recommendations may be withdrawn pursuant to FIS 1004.13.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Kat

Kat Wadiak
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As of February 3, 2022, New Hampshire Fish and Game requirements for environmental review consultation have changed. To review the new rules, please go to <https://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/environmental-review.html>. All requests for consultation and submittals should be sent via email to NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov or can be sent by mail. **The NHB datacheck results letter number needs to be included in the email subject line.**

The requirements for consultation (Fis 1004) shall not apply to the following: statutory permit by notification, permit by rule, permit by notification, routine roadway registration, docking structure registration, or conditional authorization by rule. Review requests for these projects can be sent directly to kim.tuttle@wildlife.nh.gov.