From: <u>Wadiak, Kathleen</u>
To: <u>Friend, Ashley C; wmccloy</u>

Cc: FGC: NHFG review; Winters, Melissa; Ford, Michelle T; Mauck, Ridgely

Subject: NHFG Review NHB22-2489 P106 Structure Replacement Goffstown Manchester

 Date:
 Monday, September 26, 2022 9:24:12 AM

 Attachments:
 P106 NHB NHFG BMPs 8-22-22.docx

racer flyer 2020.pdf

SEEKING REPORTS OF RARE TURTLES Wd sp Embl Aug2022.pdf

Ashley,

NHFG has completed its review of the materials submitted by William McCloy of Normandeau Associates 8/22/22 for NHB22-2488 and NHB22-2489. The proposed project is for sixteen structure replacements and overhead optical ground wire work on the P106 transmission line in Manchester and Goffstown.

Permit applications associated with this review:

• NHDES Alteration of Terrain

NHFG understands that this project is proposed to begin in October 2022 and continue for 6 months. If the timing of this project changes or work is proposed to continue into turtle nesting season (May 15th-June 30th), notify NHFG.

Notify NHFG of any changes in work areas or access that occur in response to NHB plant surveys.

Recommended BMPs shall apply to all work areas unless otherwise specified by NHFG.

Based on the NHB datacheck results letter and the information provided in the submission, we request the following recommended permit conditions be incorporated into the sheet plans as written below (updated highlighted text as applicable) and provided to NHDES and cc NHFG for final review.

New Hampshire Fish and Game AoT Permit Conditions in accordance with Env-Wq 1504.18 – Wildlife Protection Notes:

- BMPs in the document titled "P106_NHB_NHFG_BMPs_8-22-22" submitted to NHFG 9/23/22 (attached) shall be adhered to at all times during this project.
- Blanding's turtle (state endangered), spotted turtle (state threatened), and Northern black racer (state threatened) 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. See Plan Sheet xxxxxx. Include attached flyers to plan sheet set.
- Observations of Northern black racers in the months of April-May and September-October
 may indicate the potential for a den site on or near the project site. Observations of this
 species during this timeframe shall be reported <u>immediately</u> 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). Observations of
 this species outside of this timeframe can follow general reporting guidance. 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. <u>All
 turtle species nests and Northern black racer nests are protected by NH laws</u>. Be aware of
 the potential to encounter nesting wildlife in these areas.
- If a turtle or snake nest is observed or suspected, or a turtle is exhibiting nesting behaviors, operators shall contact Melissa Winters (603-479-1129) or Josh Megyesy (978-578-0802) at NHFG immediately for further consultation. <u>Turtle nests or turtles exhibiting nesting behavior shall not be disturbed.</u>
- Sweeps of work areas and access routes shall be conducted <u>immediately prior</u> to start of work and equipment movement in order to minimize the potential of animals entering a work area between the sweep and activity.
- 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.
- 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.

<u>Additional Recommendations:</u>

Wood turtles (state species of special concern) have the potential to occur within the
vicinity of the project area. Site operators should be informed of the potential presence of
these species and should be provided flyers that help to identity these species along with
NHFG contact information should they be encountered during project activities. See Plan
Sheet xxxxxx. Include attached flyer.

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 Wildlife Biologist Nongame & Endangered Wildlife Program NH Fish and Game 11 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301 603-271-3017

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 <u>kim.tuttle@wildlife.nh.gov</u>.