

May 31, 2023

**Attention: Joshua Sjostrom, District Ranger**

United States Forest Service  
Androscoggin Ranger District Office  
300 Glen Road  
Gorham, NH 03581-1399

**Reference: Eversource Energy Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project, Jefferson, Randolph, and Gorham, New Hampshire - Screening for Special Use Permit**

Dear Joshua,

On behalf of the Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource), I am writing to initiate the screening process with the United States Forest Service (USFS) for a proposed Special Use Permit (SUP) to cross White Mountain National Forest (WMNF) lands in Jefferson, Randolph, and Gorham, New Hampshire. Eversource is in the process of conducting necessary structure replacements on the Whitefield to Berlin (S136) transmission line and has identified 214 existing wooden structures that need to be replaced within the existing transmission line corridor (the Project; see Attachment 1).

Our understanding of the screening process and associated SUP is based on our previous work along the Whitefield to Berlin (S136) transmission line within the WMNF in 2020 (Decision Memo signed July 2, 2020). This letter, along with the Application for Transportation and Utility Systems and Facilities on Federal Lands, Standard Form 299 (see Attachment 2), provides information to initiate the screening process for Project activities occurring on WMNF land inside and outside of the transmission line right-of-way (ROW). The Project proposes to use portions of two existing roads outside of the ROW for access. Grading and the addition of gravel may be necessary to make the off-ROW access roads passable by construction equipment.

*Project Overview*

The proposed structure replacement work will involve replacing wooden H-frame structures with new, steel H-frame structures. All work will follow the Best Management Practices Manual for Utility Maintenance in and Adjacent to Wetlands and Waterbodies in New Hampshire published by the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. Vehicles and equipment that will need to access the transmission line corridor include mobile cranes to set poles, flatbed trucks to deliver materials, and other mobile equipment such as drill rigs, frontend loaders, and excavators. The proposed Project is scheduled to be constructed in the winter of 2023/2024, pending issuance of necessary permits and approvals, through spring 2025.

*Initial Agency Consultations*

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) tool was used to generate an initial list of Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed species and designated critical habitat potentially present within the Project area. Pursuant to section 7(c) of the ESA, a USFWS Official Species List was generated on April 12, 2023 (Attachment 3). Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), an endangered species, and Canada lynx (*Lynx canadensis*), a threatened species, may occur within the Project area. No tree clearing will be required during any phase of construction, and all work will occur within the existing, cleared transmission line ROW and access roads. Therefore, the Project will not affect northern long-eared bat. Canada lynx typically inhabit spruce-fir forests. All work will occur within the existing, cleared transmission line ROW and access roads and, therefore, will

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not impact spruce-fir forests. Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) is likely present within the Project area, foraging on the flowering plants found throughout the transmission line ROW. The structure replacement work is not anticipated to significantly reduce the available habitat and food sources for monarch butterfly. Following completion of the work, the transmission line ROW will continue to provide habitat and food sources for monarch butterfly.

The Project area was reviewed using the New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB) DataCheck tool. The NHB review of Project activities in Jefferson WMNF land identified that there are no rare natural communities, plant species, or vertebrate species documented on WMNF land within the vicinity of the Project area.

The NHB review of Project activities in Randolph WMNF land identified one rare natural community (hemlock-spruce-northern hardwood forest) on WMNF land within the vicinity of the of the Project area. All work will occur within the existing, cleared transmission line ROW and access roads and therefore will not impact hemlock-spruce-northern hardwood forests.

The NHB review of Project activities in Gorham WMNF land identified the following records on WMNF land within the vicinity of the Project area: high-gradient rocky riverbank system rare natural community, moderate-gradient sandy-cobbly riverbank system rare natural community, and dwarf blueberry (*Vaccinium cespitosum*; state threatened). The high-gradient rocky riverbank system and moderate-gradient sandy-cobbly riverbank system are associated with the Moose River. The NHB concluded that dwarf blueberry may be present in the Project area along the Moose River. The Project will not impact the Moose River or the riverbanks; therefore, there will be no impact to high-gradient rocky riverbank systems, moderate-gradient sandy-cobbly riverbank systems, or dwarf blueberry.

#### *Eversource Background*

Eversource employs 9,200 people committed to providing safe, reliable, and sustainable utility service in New Hampshire and the rest of its New England territory. Operations trace its roots back to the middle of the 19th century. Through the decades, many companies have come together to form Eversource, New England's largest energy delivery company. Today, Eversource is proud to serve 4.4 million customers. Like its predecessor companies, Eversource is focused on supporting its communities served and providing reliable power to New England.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information to aid in the screening process for the activities proposed. Thank you for your review.

Regards,

**Eversource Energy**



**Jeremy Fennell**  
Senior Environmental Specialist  
jeremy.fennell@eversource.com

Attachments: Attachment 1 – Structure Replacement Map Set

Attachment 2 – Application for Transportation and Utility Systems and Facilities on Federal Lands, Standard Form 299

Attachment 3 – Agency Consultation

May 31, 2023

Attention: Joshua Sjostrom, District Ranger

Attachment 1: Structure Replacement Map Set

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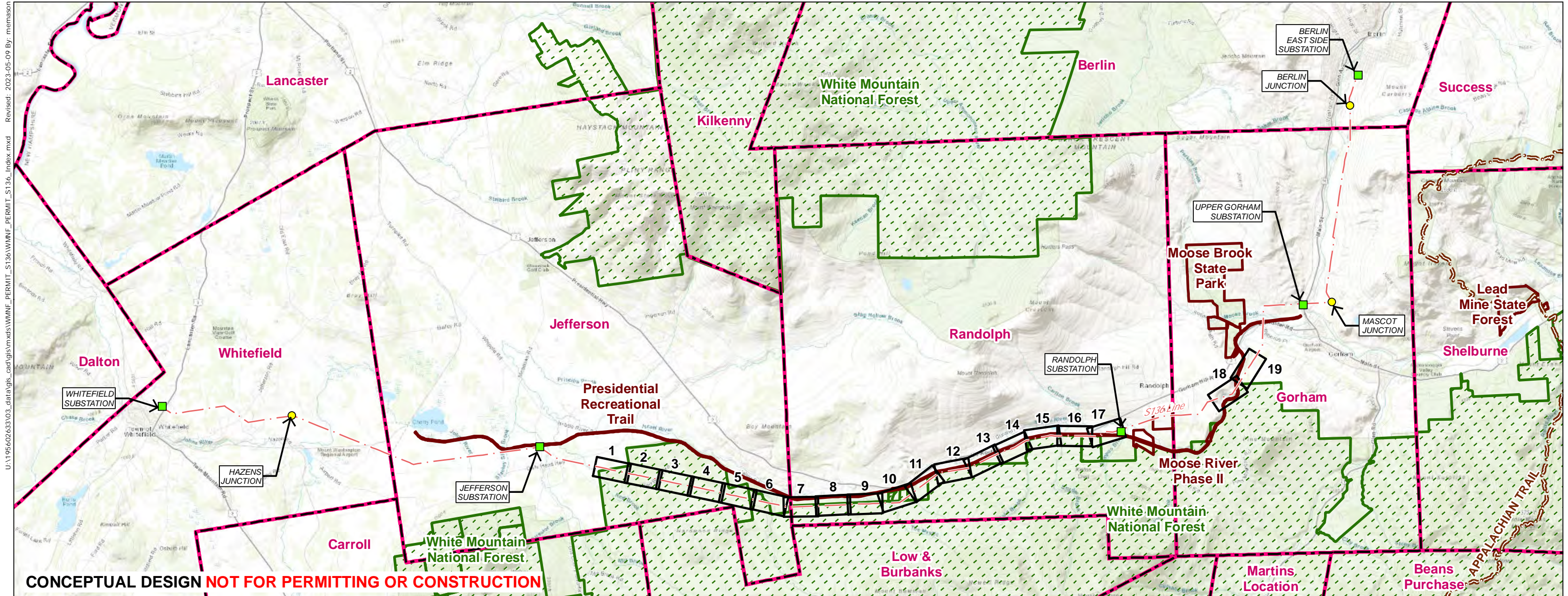
**Attachment 1: Structure Replacement Map Set**

# Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project

Jefferson, Randolph, and Gorham, New Hampshire  
Environmental Resources Map

White Mountain National Forest - Permit Map Set

Date: May 09, 2023



### Legend

- Substation
- Junction
- Overhead Eversource Line
- Appalachian Trail (Centerline)
- Map Sheet
- State-Owned Property
- Municipal Boundary
- US National Forest Lands



0 1 2 Miles

### INDEX OF FIGURES

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Map Sheets 1-19

PREPARED FOR:



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Berlin, CT 06037

PREPARED BY:

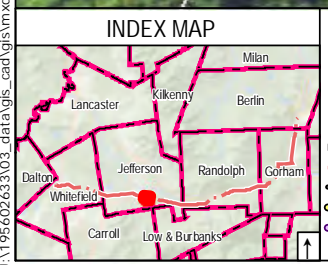


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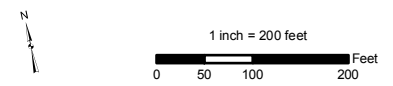
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**CONCEPTUAL DESIGN NOT FOR PERMITTING OR CONSTRUCTION**



Legend	
● Proposed Structure	■ Temporary Construction Matting
● Existing Structure	■ Stone Work Pad
● Existing Structure To Be Removed	■ Eversource Fee-Owned Property
● Existing Structure to Remain	■ State-Owned Property
— Existing Right-of-Way (ROW)	— Parcel Boundary
— Overhead Eversource Line	— Municipal Boundary
— Existing	— 2' Contour
— Proposed Access	— 10' Contour
— Off-Row Access Pending	
● Previously Identified Potential Vernal Pool	■ US National Forest Lands
— Previously Delineated Watercourse	— Hiking Trail
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— Previously Field Delineated Wetland	— Railroad
— FEMA 100-Year Flood Zone	● Culvert
— FEMA Floodway	● GAS - Approximate Gas Pipeline



**Map Notes:**  
 Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane New Hampshire FIPS 2800 Feet  
 Data source: Eversource easement lines, structures, transmission lines by Eversource Energy, Wetland, watercourse, and potential vernal pools delineated by Stantec in 2016. Verification is needed.  
 Additional sources include: FEMA, NH Grant.  
 Basemap: NAIP 2021

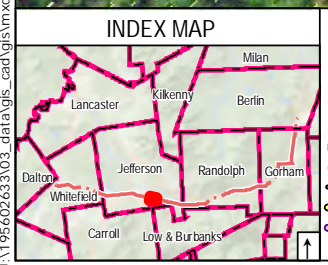


<b>EVERSOURCE ENERGY</b>	
<b>Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project WMNF Permit Map Set</b>	
Jefferson, NH	MAP SHEET 1 of 19
Date: May 09, 2023	

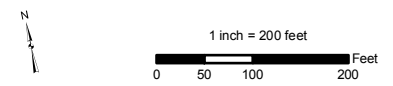
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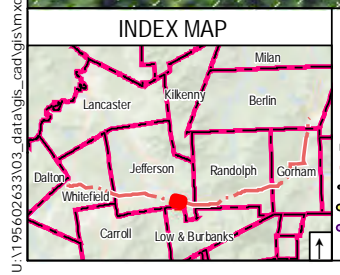
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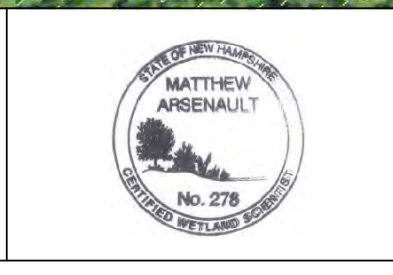


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1 inch = 200 feet  
 0 50 100 200 Feet

This mapping product has been created to comply with submittal requirements to obtain certain regulatory approvals and, as such, there is no reliance on the information contained herein for any other purpose.



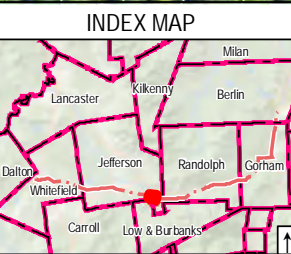
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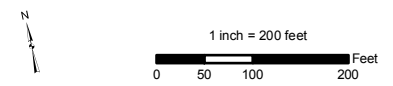


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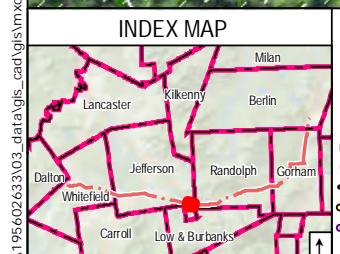
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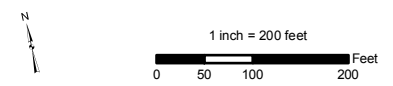


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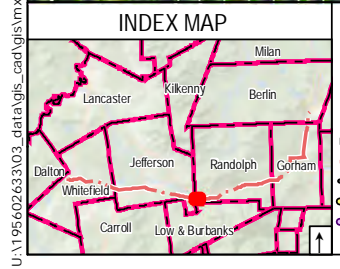


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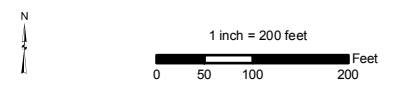


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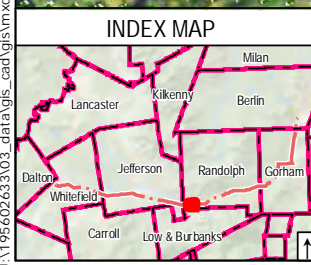
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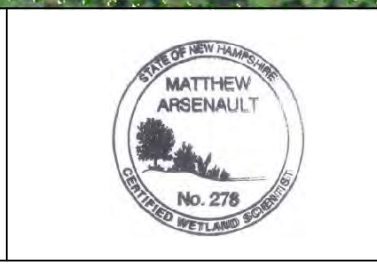
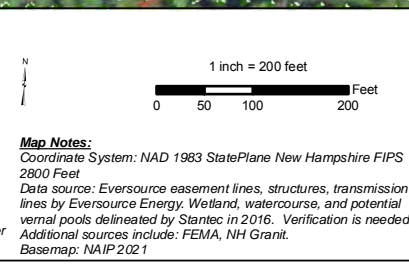
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Jefferson & Randolph, NH	MAP SHEET 7 of 19
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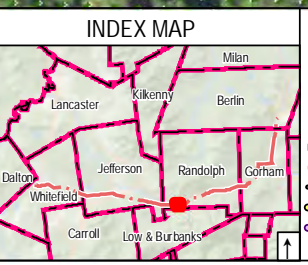
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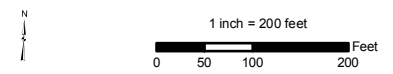
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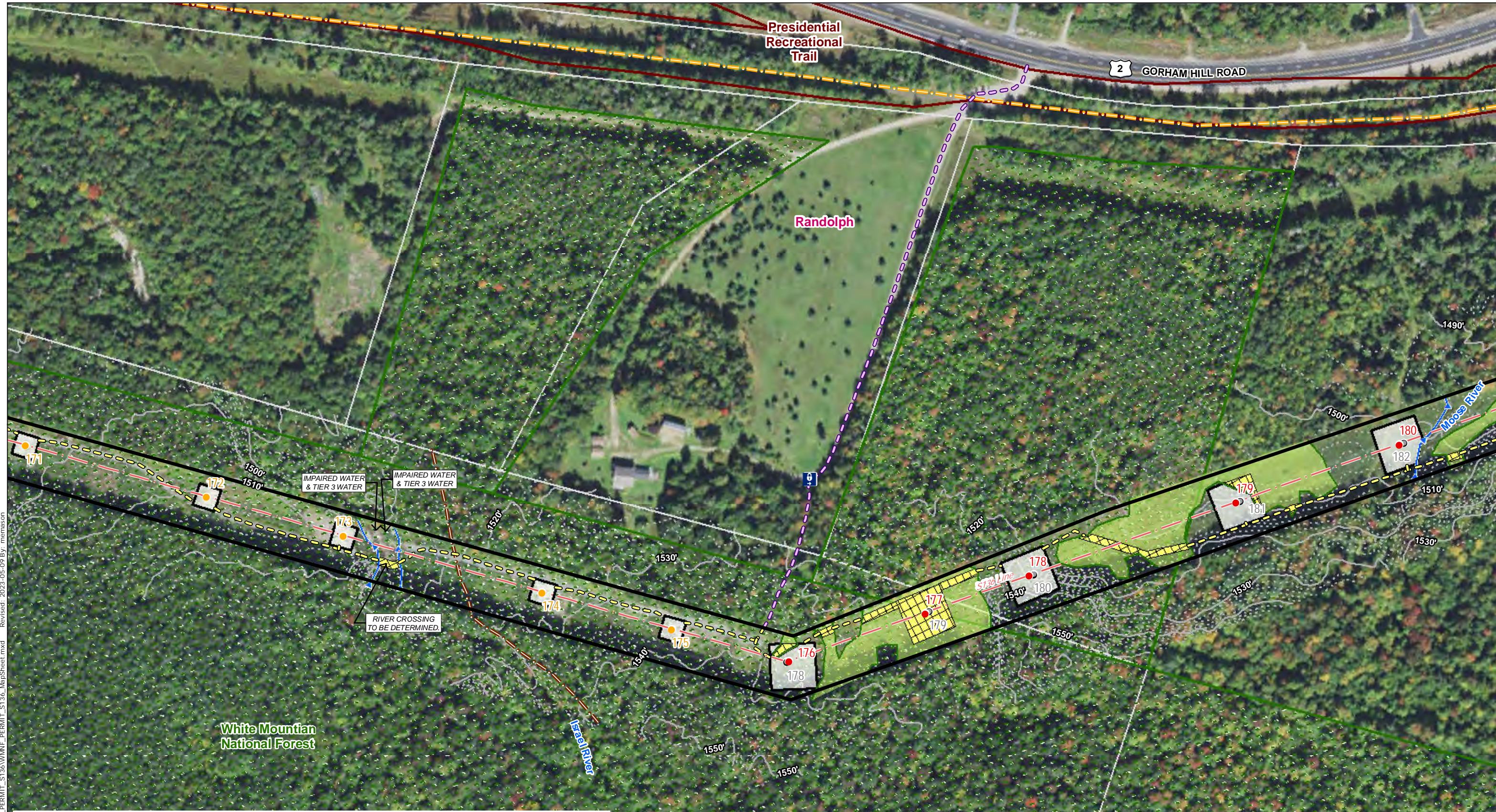
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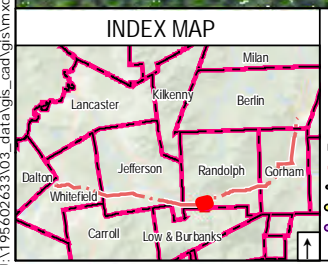


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Randolph, NH	MAP SHEET 9 of 19
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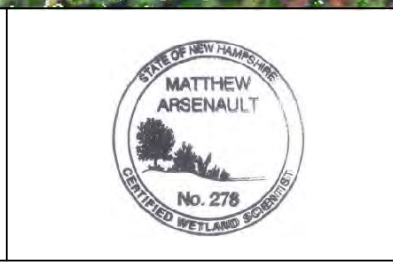
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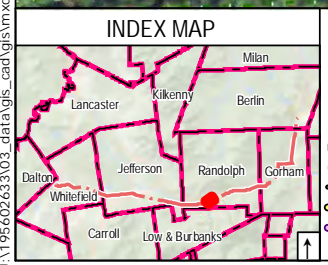
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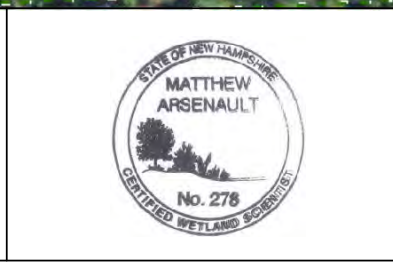


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- State-Owned Property
- Parcel Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- 2' Contour
- 10' Contour
- Previously Identified Potential Vernal Pool
- Previously Delineated Watercourse
- Previously Delineated Wetland Boundary Outline
- Previously Field Delineated Wetland
- FEMA 100-Year Flood Zone
- FEMA Floodway
- US National Forest Lands
- Hiking Trail
- Snowmobile/ATV Trail
- Railroad
- Culvert
- GAS - Approximate Gas Pipeline

**Map Notes:**  
 Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane New Hampshire FIPS 2800 Feet  
 Data source: Eversource easement lines, structures, transmission lines by Eversource Energy, Wetland, watercourse, and potential vernal pools delineated by Stantec in 2016. Verification is needed.  
 Additional sources include: FEMA, NH Grant.  
 Basemap: NAIP 2021

1 inch = 200 feet  
 0 50 100 200 Feet



**EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

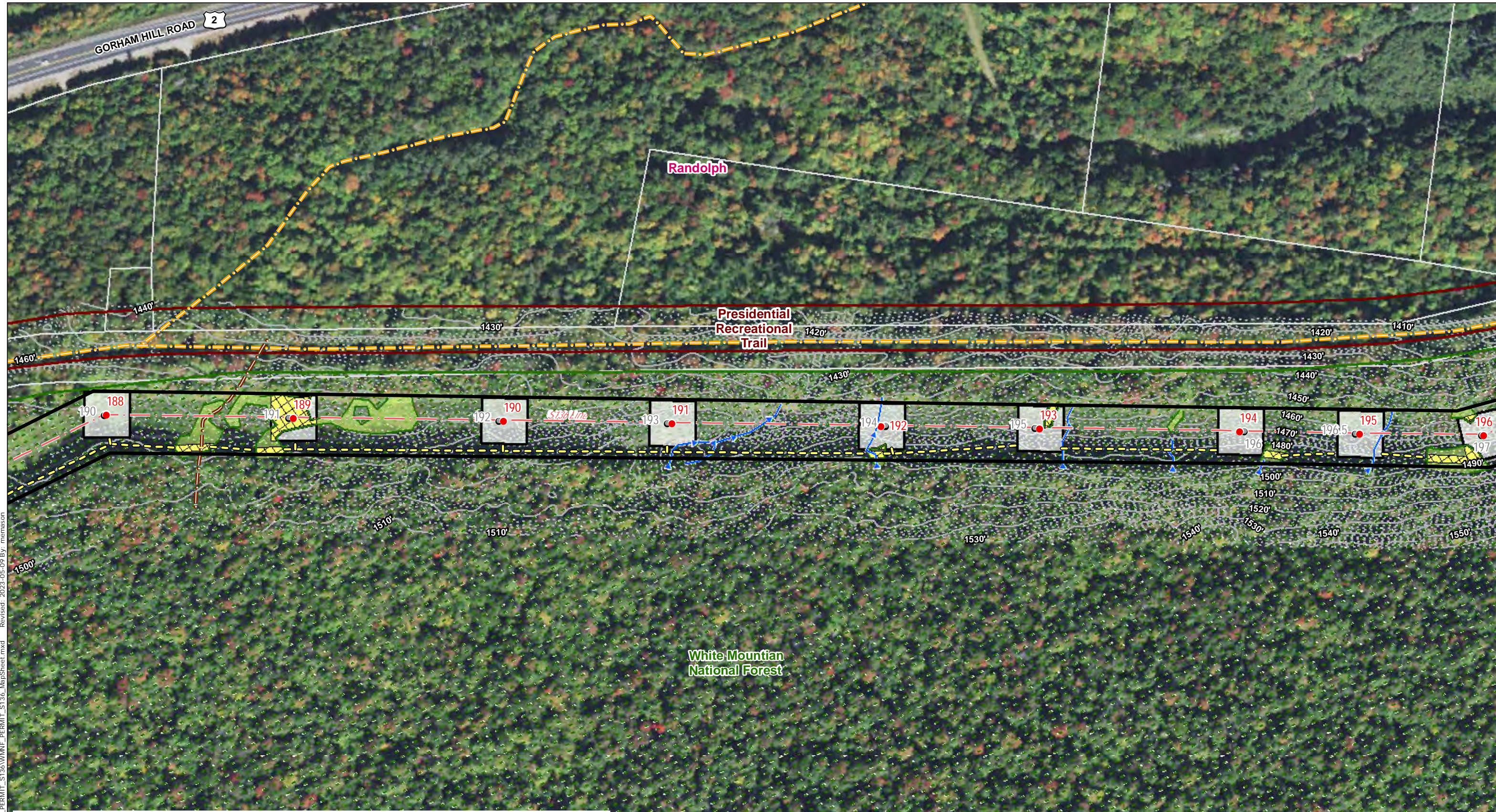
**Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project  
 WMNF Permit Map Set**

Randolph, NH      MAP SHEET 11 of 19

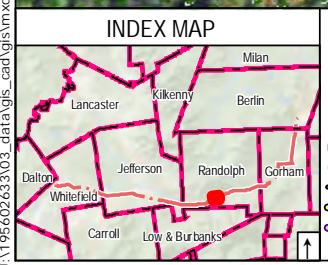
Date: May 09, 2023

**Stantec**

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**CONCEPTUAL DESIGN NOT FOR PERMITTING OR CONSTRUCTION**



Legend	
● Proposed Structure	■ Temporary Construction Matting
● Existing Structure	■ Stone Work Pad
● Existing Structure To Be Removed	■ Eversource Fee-Owned Property
● Existing Structure to Remain	■ State-Owned Property
— Existing Right-of-Way (ROW)	— Parcel Boundary
— Overhead Eversource Line	— Municipal Boundary
— Existing	— 2' Contour
— Proposed Access	— 10' Contour
— Off-Row Access Pending	
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— FEMA Floodway	● GAS - Approximate Gas Pipeline

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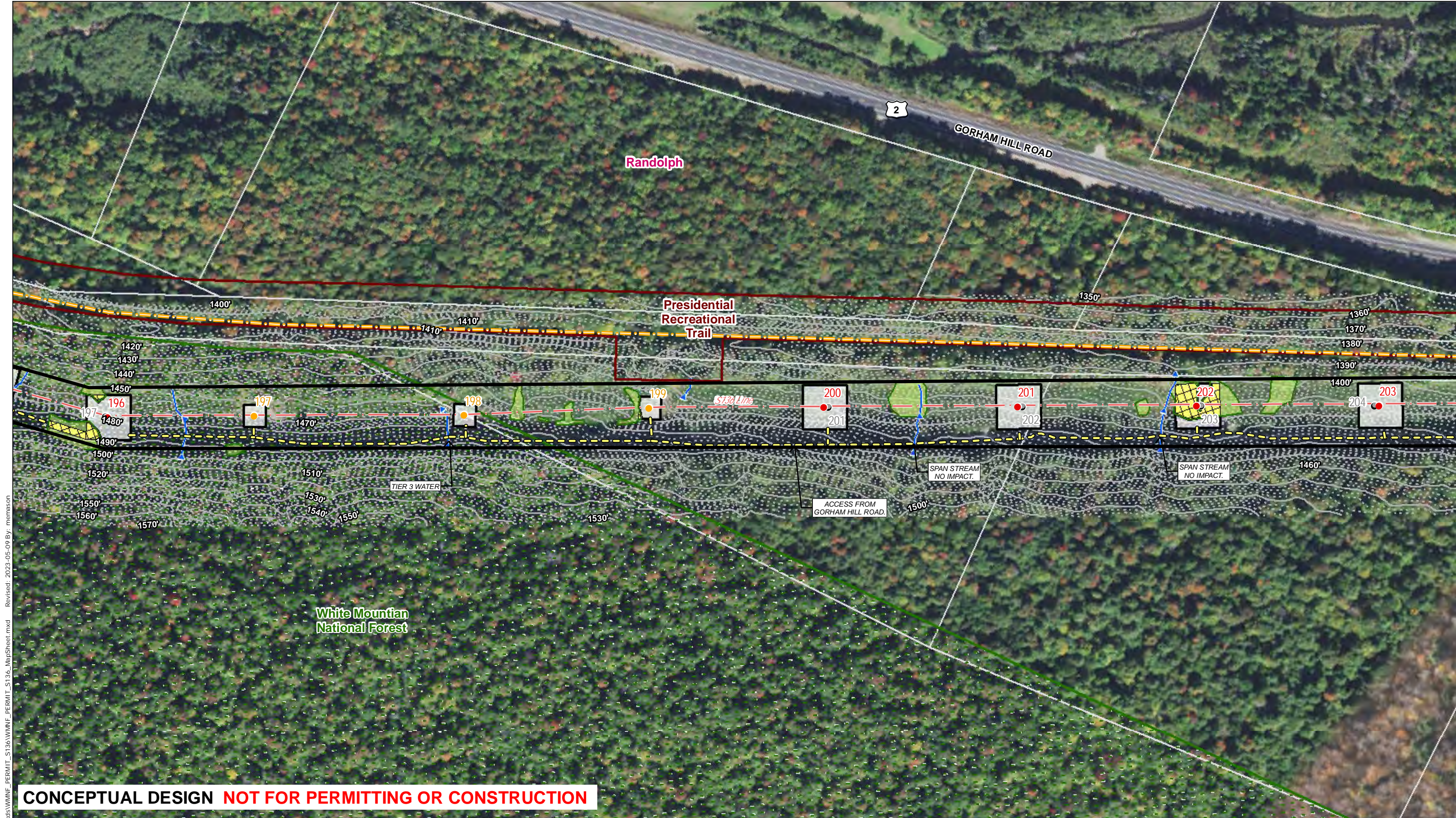
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<b>EVERSOURCE ENERGY</b>	
<b>Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project WMNF Permit Map Set</b>	
Randolph, NH	MAP SHEET 12 of 19
Date: May 09, 2023	

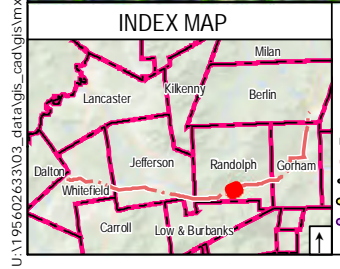
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**CONCEPTUAL DESIGN NOT FOR PERMITTING OR CONSTRUCTION**

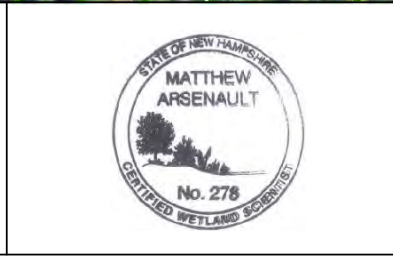
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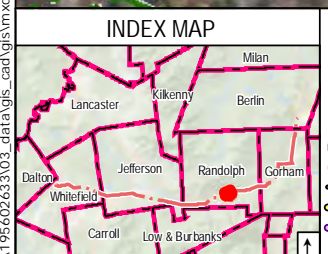
**Map Notes:**  
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<b>EVERSOURCE ENERGY</b>	
<b>Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project WMNF Permit Map Set</b>	
Randolph, NH	MAP SHEET 13 of 19
Date: May 09, 2023	



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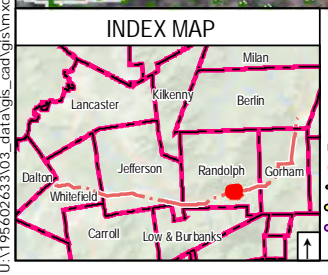


<b>EVERSOURCE ENERGY</b>	
<b>Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project WMNF Permit Map Set</b>	
Randolph, NH	MAP SHEET 14 of 19
Date: May 09, 2023	

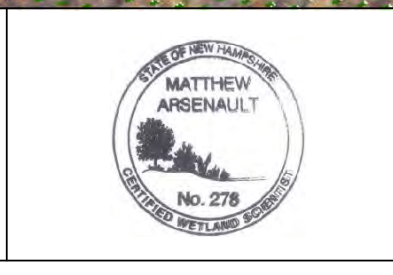
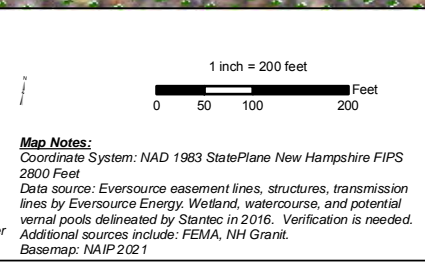
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**CONCEPTUAL DESIGN NOT FOR PERMITTING OR CONSTRUCTION**



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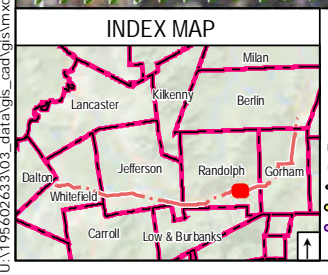


<b>EVERSOURCE ENERGY</b>	
<b>Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project WMNF Permit Map Set</b>	
Randolph, NH	MAP SHEET 15 of 19
Date: May 09, 2023	

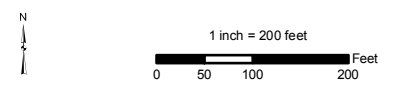
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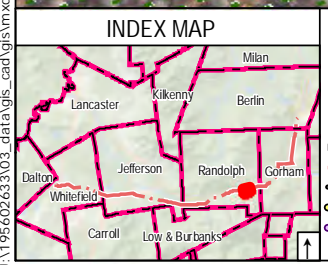
<b>EVERSOURCE ENERGY</b>	
<b>Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project WMNF Permit Map Set</b>	
Randolph, NH	MAP SHEET 16 of 19
Date: May 09, 2023	

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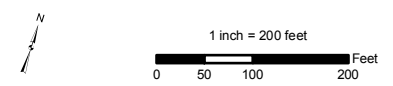


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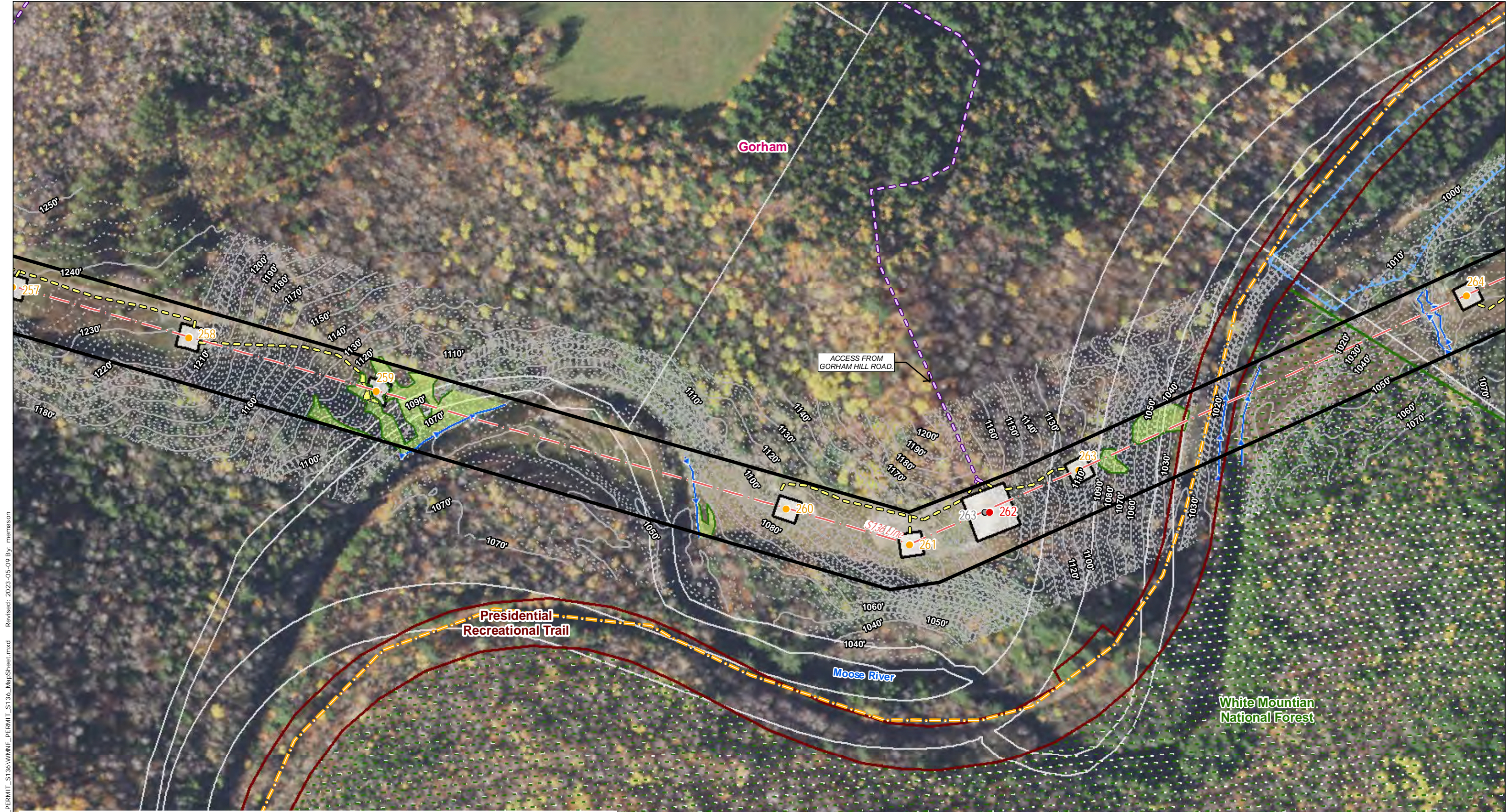
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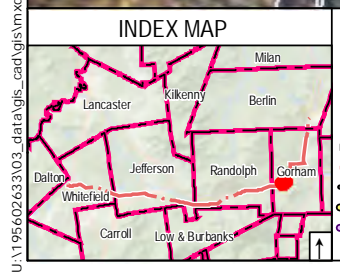


<b>EVERSOURCE ENERGY</b>	
<b>Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project WMNF Permit Map Set</b>	
Randolph, NH	MAP SHEET 17 of 19
Date: May 09, 2023	



**CONCEPTUAL DESIGN NOT FOR PERMITTING OR CONSTRUCTION**

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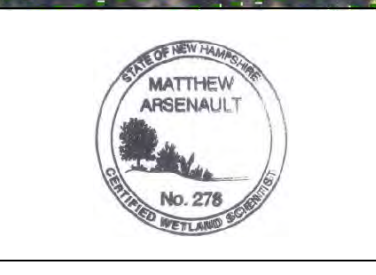


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ACCESS FROM GORHAM HILL ROAD



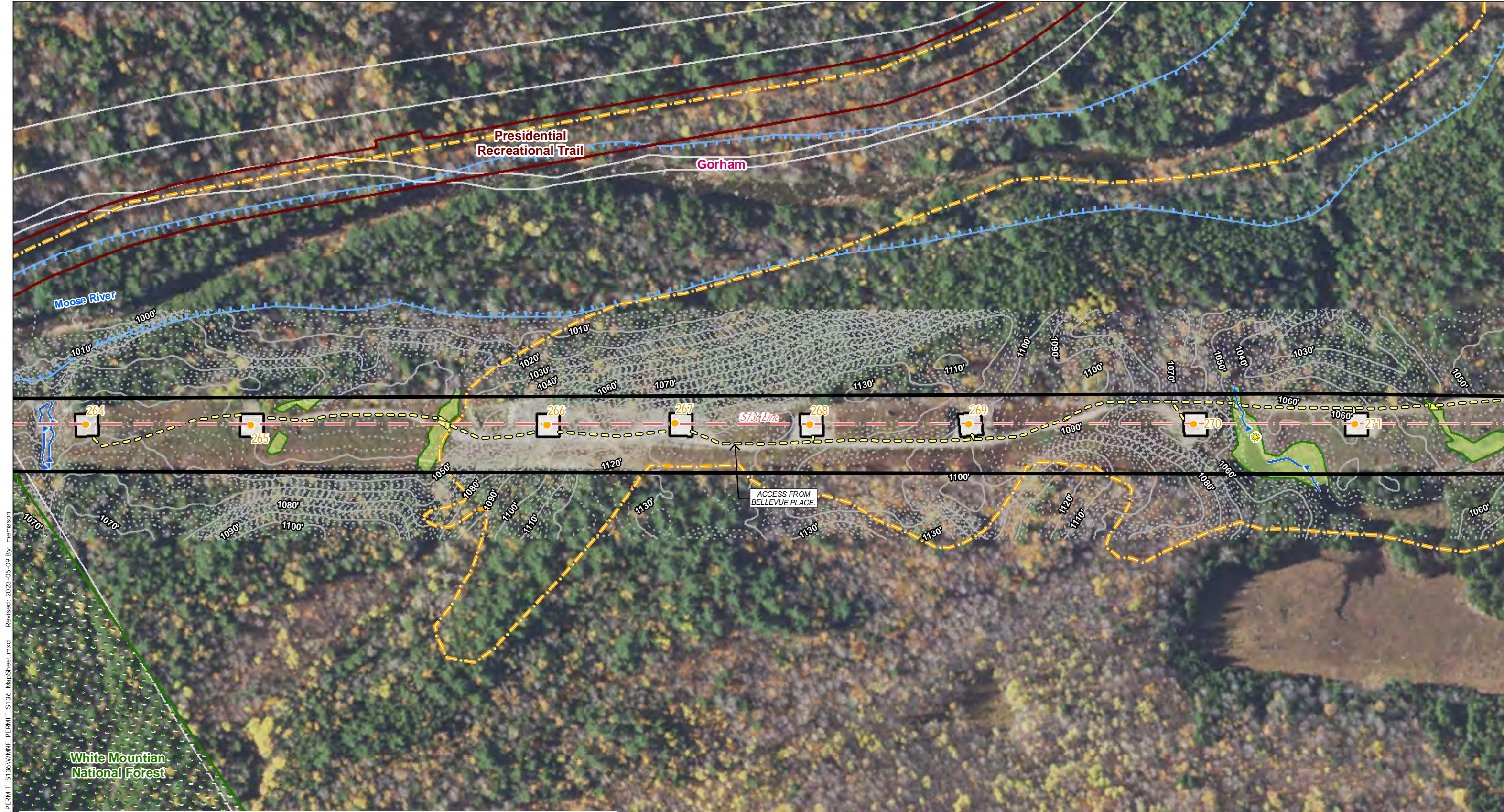
**EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

**Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project  
 WMNF Permit Map Set**

Gorham, NH      MAP SHEET 18 of 19

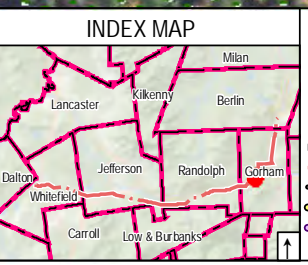
Date: May 09, 2023

**Stantec**

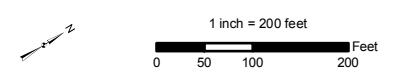


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<b>EVERSOURCE ENERGY</b>	
<b>Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project WMNF Permit Map Set</b>	
Gorham, NH	MAP SHEET 19 of 19
Date: May 09, 2023	

*This mapping product has been created to comply with submittal requirements to obtain certain regulatory approvals and, as such, there is no reliance on the information contained herein for any other purpose.*

May 31, 2023

Attention: Joshua Sjoström, District Ranger

Attachment 2: Application for Transportation and Utility Systems and Facilities on Federal Lands, Standard Form 299

**Reference: Eversource Energy Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project, Jefferson, Randolph, and Gorham, New Hampshire - Screening for Special Use Permit**

**Attachment 2: Application for Transportation and Utility Systems and Facilities on Federal Lands, Standard Form 299**



**APPLICATION FOR TRANSPORTATION AND  
UTILITY SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES  
ON FEDERAL LANDS**

FORM APPROVED  
OMB Control Number: 0596-0082  
Expiration Date: 4/30/2017

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

NOTE: Before completing and filing the application, the applicant should completely review this package and schedule a preapplication meeting with representatives of the agency responsible for processing the application. Each agency may have specific and unique requirements to be met in preparing and processing the application. Many times, with the help of the agency representative, the application can be completed at the preapplication meeting.

Application Number

Date Filed

1. Name and address of applicant (*include zip code*)

2. Name, title, and address of authorized agent if different from item 1 (*include zip code*)

3. Telephone (area code)

Applicant

Authorized Agent

4. As applicant are you? (*check one*)

- a.  Individual
- b.  Corporation\*
- c.  Partnership/Association\*
- d.  State Government/State Agency
- e.  Local Government
- f.  Federal Agency

*\* If checked, complete supplemental page*

5. Specify what application is for: (*check one*)

- a.  New authorization
- b.  Renewing existing authorization No.
- c.  Amend existing authorization No.
- d.  Assign existing authorization No.
- e.  Existing use for which no authorization has been received \*
- f.  Other\*

*\* If checked, provide details under item 7*

6. If an individual, or partnership are you a citizen(s) of the United States?  Yes  No

7. Project description (describe in detail): (a) Type of system or facility, (*e.g., canal, pipeline, road*); (b) related structures and facilities; (c) physical specifications (*Length, width, grading, etc.*); (d) term of years needed; (e) time of year of use or operation; (f) Volume or amount of product to be transported; (g) duration and timing of construction; and (h) temporary work areas needed for construction (*Attach additional sheets, if additional space is needed.*)

8. Attach a map covering area and show location of project proposal

9. State or Local government approval:  Attached  Applied for  Not Required

10. Nonreturnable application fee:  Attached  Not required

11. Does project cross international boundary or affect international waterways?  Yes  No (*if "yes," indicate on map*)

12. Give statement of your technical and financial capability to construct, operate, maintain, and terminate system for which authorization is being requested.

---

13a. Describe other reasonable alternative routes and modes considered.

---

b. Why were these alternatives not selected?

---

c. Give explanation as to why it is necessary to cross Federal Lands.

---

14. List authorizations and pending applications filed for similar projects which may provide information to the authorizing agency. (Specify number, date, code, or name)

---

15. Provide statement of need for project, including the economic feasibility and items such as: (a) cost of proposal (construction, operation, and maintenance); (b) estimated cost of next best alternative; and (c) expected public benefits.

---

16. Describe probable effects on the population in the area, including the social and economic aspects, and the rural lifestyles.

---

17. Describe likely environmental effects that the proposed project will have on: (a) air quality; (b) visual impact; (c) surface and ground water quality and quantity; (d) the control or structural change on any stream or other body of water; (e) existing noise levels; and (f) the surface of the land, including vegetation, permafrost, soil, and soil stability.

---

18. Describe the probable effects that the proposed project will have on (a) populations of fish, plantlife, wildlife, and marine life, including threatened and endangered species; and (b) marine mammals, including hunting, capturing, collecting, or killing these animals.

---

19. State whether any hazardous material, as defined in this paragraph, will be used, produced, transported or stored on or within the right-of-way or any of the right-of-way facilities, or used in the construction, operation, maintenance or termination of the right-of-way or any of its facilities. "Hazardous material" means any substance, pollutant or contaminant that is listed as hazardous under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq., and its regulations. The definition of hazardous substances under CERCLA includes any "hazardous waste" as defined in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA), as amended, 42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq., and its regulations. The term hazardous materials also includes any nuclear or byproduct material as defined by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq. The term does not include petroleum, including crude oil or any fraction thereof that is not otherwise specifically listed or designated as a hazardous substance under CERCLA Section 101(14), 42 U.S.C. 9601(14), nor does the term include natural gas.

---

20. Name all the Department(s)/Agency(ies) where this application is being filed.

---

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I am of legal age and authorized to do business in the State and that I have personally examined the information contained in the application and believe that the information submitted is correct to the best of my knowledge.

---

Signature of Applicant



Date 5/31/2023

---

Title 18, U.S.C. Section 1001, makes it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

GENERAL INFORMATION  
ALASKA NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS

This application will be used when applying for a right-of-way, permit, license, lease, or certificate for the use of Federal lands which lie within conservation system units and National Recreation or Conservation Areas as defined in the Alaska National Interest lands Conservation Act. Conservation system units include the National Park System, National Wildlife Refuge System, National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, National Trails System, National Wilderness Preservation System, and National Forest Monuments.

Transportation and utility systems and facility uses for which the application may be used are:

1. Canals, ditches, flumes, laterals, pipes, pipelines, tunnels, and other systems for the transportation of water.
2. Pipelines and other systems for the transportation of liquids other than water, including oil, natural gas, synthetic liquid and gaseous fuels, and any refined product produced therefrom.
3. Pipelines, slurry and emulsion systems, and conveyor belts for transportation of solid materials.
4. Systems for the transmission and distribution of electric energy.
5. Systems for transmission or reception of radio, television, telephone, telegraph, and other electronic signals, and other means of communications.
6. Improved right-of-way for snow machines, air cushion vehicles, and all-terrain vehicles.
7. Roads, highways, railroads, tunnels, tramways, airports, landing strips, docks, and other systems of general transportation.

This application must be filed simultaneously with each Federal department or agency requiring authorization to establish and operate your proposal.

In Alaska, the following agencies will help the applicant file an application and identify the other agencies the applicant should contact and possibly file with:

Department of Agriculture  
Regional Forester, Forest Service (USFS)  
Federal Office Building,  
P.O. Box 21628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1628  
Telephone: (907) 586-7847 (or a local Forest Service Office)

Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)  
Juneau Area Office  
Federal Building Annex  
9109 Mendenhall Mall Road, Suite 5  
Juneau, Alaska 99802  
Telephone: (907) 586-7177

Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
222 West 7th Avenue  
P.O. Box 13  
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599  
Telephone: (907) 271-5477 (or a local BLM Office)

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS)  
Office of the Regional Director  
1011 East Tudor Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
Telephone: (907) 786-3440

National Park Service (NPA)  
Alaska Regional Office, 2225  
Gambell St., Rm. 107  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502-2892  
Telephone: (907) 786-3440

Note - Filings with any Interior agency may be filed with any office noted above or with the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, Regional Environmental Office, P.O. Box 120, 1675 C Street, Anchorage, Alaska 9513.

Department of Transportation  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Alaska Region AAL-4, 222 West 7th Ave., Box 14  
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7587  
Telephone: (907) 271-5285

NOTE - The Department of Transportation has established the above central filing point for agencies within that Department. Affected agencies are: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Coast Guard (USCG), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

OTHER THAN ALASKA NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS

Use of this form is not limited to National Interest Conservation Lands of Alaska.

Individual department/agencies may authorize the use of this form by applicants for transportation and utility systems and facilities on other Federal lands outside those areas described above.

For proposals located outside of Alaska, applications will be filed at the local agency office or at a location specified by the responsible Federal agency.

SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS  
(Items not listed are self-explanatory)

- 7 Attach preliminary site and facility construction plans. The responsible agency will provide instructions whenever specific plans are required.
- 8 Generally, the map must show the section(s), township(s), and range(s) within which the project is to be located. Show the proposed location of the project on the map as accurately as possible. Some agencies require detailed survey maps. The responsible agency will provide additional instructions.
- 9, 10, and 12 The responsible agency will provide additional instructions.
- 13 Providing information on alternate routes and modes in as much detail as possible, discussing why certain routes or modes were rejected and why it is necessary to cross Federal lands will assist the agency(ies) in processing your application and reaching a final decision. Include only reasonable alternate routes and modes as related to current technology and economics.
- 14 The responsible agency will provide instructions.
- 15 Generally, a simple statement of the purpose of the proposal will be sufficient. However, major proposals located in critical or sensitive areas may require a full analysis with additional specific information. The responsible agency will provide additional instructions.
- 16 through 19 Providing this information in as much detail as possible will assist the Federal agency(ies) in processing the application and reaching a decision. When completing these items, you should use a sound judgment in furnishing relevant information. For example, if the project is not near a stream or other body of water, do not address this subject. The responsible agency will provide additional instructions.

Application must be signed by the applicant or applicant's authorized representative.

EFFECT OF NOT PROVIDING INFORMATION: Disclosure of the information is voluntary. If all the information is not provided, the application may be rejected.

DATA COLLECTION STATEMENT

The Federal agencies collect this information from applicants requesting right-of-way, permit, license, lease, or certification for the use of Federal lands. The Federal agencies use this information to evaluate the applicant's proposal. The public is obligated to submit this form if they wish to obtain permission to use Federal lands.

**SUPPLEMENTAL**

NOTE: The responsible agency(ies) will provide instructions	CHECK APPROPRIATE BLOCK	
<b>I - PRIVATE CORPORATIONS</b>	ATTACHED	FILED*
a. Articles of Incorporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Corporation Bylaws	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. A certification from the State showing the corporation is in good standing and is entitled to operate within the State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Copy of resolution authorizing filing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The name and address of each shareholder owning 3 percent or more of the shares, together with the number and percentage of any class of voting shares of the entity which such shareholder is authorized to vote and the name and address of each affiliate of the entity together with, in the case of an affiliate controlled by the entity, the number of shares and the percentage of any class of voting stock of that affiliate owned, directly or indirectly, by that entity, and in the case of an affiliate which controls that entity, the number of shares and the percentage of any class of voting stock of that entity owned, directly or indirectly, by the affiliate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. If application is for an oil or gas pipeline, describe any related right- of-way or temporary use permit applications, and identify previous applications.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. If application is for an oil and gas pipeline, identify all Federal lands by agency impacted by proposal.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>II - PUBLIC CORPORATIONS</b>		
a. Copy of law forming corporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Proof of organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Copy of Bylaws	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Copy of resolution authorizing filing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. If application is for an oil or gas pipeline, provide information required by item "I - f" and "I - g" above.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>III - PARTNERSHIP OR OTHER UNINCORPORATED ENTITY</b>		
a. Articles of association, if any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. If one partner is authorized to sign, resolution authorizing action is	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Name and address of each participant, partner, association, or other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. If application is for an oil or gas pipeline, provide information required by item "I - f" and "I - g" above.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\*If the required information is already filed with the agency processing this application and is current, check block entitled "Filed." Provide the file identification information (e.g., number, date, code, name). If not on file or current, attach the requested information.

## NOTICES

Note: This applies to the Department of Agriculture/Forest Service (FS)

This information is needed by the Forest Service to evaluate the requests to use National Forest System lands and manage those lands to protect natural resources, administer the use, and ensure public health and safety. This information is required to obtain or retain a benefit. The authority for that requirement is provided by the Organic Act of 1897 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, which authorize the secretary of Agriculture to promulgate rules and regulations for authorizing and managing National Forest System lands. These statutes, along with the Term Permit Act, National Forest Ski Area Permit Act, Granger-Thye Act, Mineral Leasing Act, Alaska Term Permit Act, Act of September 3, 1954, Wilderness Act, National Forest Roads and Trails Act, Act of November 16, 1973, Archeological Resources Protection Act, and Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to issue authorizations or the use and occupancy of National Forest System lands. The Secretary of Agriculture's regulations at 36 CFR Part 251, Subpart B, establish procedures for issuing those authorizations.

### **BURDEN AND NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENTS**

*According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0082. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 8 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.*

*The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720- 2600 (voice and TDD).*

*To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice). TDD users can contact USDA through local relay or the Federal relay at (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (relay voice). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) govern the confidentiality to be provided for information received by the Forest Service.

May 31, 2023  
Attention: Joshua Sjostrom, District Ranger  
Attachment 3: Agency Consultation

**Reference: Eversource Energy Whitefield to Berlin (S136) Line Rebuild Project, Jefferson, Randolph, and Gorham, New Hampshire -  
Screening for Special Use Permit**

### **Attachment 3: Agency Consultation**



# United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
New England Ecological Services Field Office  
70 Commercial Street, Suite 300  
Concord, NH 03301-5094  
Phone: (603) 223-2541 Fax: (603) 223-0104

In Reply Refer To:  
Project Code: 2023-0068035  
Project Name: S136 Transmission Line

April 12, 2023

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

*Updated 3/8/2023 - Please review this letter each time you request an Official Species List, we will continue to update it with additional information and links to websites may change.*

## **About Official Species Lists**

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Federal and non-Federal project proponents have responsibilities under the Act to consider effects on listed species.

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested by returning to an existing project's page in IPaC.

## **Endangered Species Act Project Review**

Please visit the “**New England Field Office Endangered Species Project Review and Consultation**” website for step-by-step instructions on how to consider effects on listed

species and prepare and submit a project review package if necessary:

<https://www.fws.gov/office/new-england-ecological-services/endangered-species-project-review>

**\*NOTE\*** Please do not use the **Consultation Package Builder** tool in IPaC except in specific situations following coordination with our office. Please follow the project review guidance on our website instead and reference your **Project Code** in all correspondence.

**Northern Long-eared Bat - (Updated 3/8/2023)** The Service published a final rule to reclassify the northern long-eared bat (NLEB) as endangered on November 30, 2022. The final rule will go into effect on **March 31, 2023**. After that date, the current 4(d) rule for NLEB will be invalid, and the 4(d) determination key will no longer be available. New compliance tools will be available in March 2023, and information will be posted in this section on our website and on the northern long-eared bat species page, so please check this site often for updates.

Depending on the type of effects a project has on NLEB, the change in the species' status may trigger the need to re-initiate consultation for any actions that are not completed and for which the Federal action agency retains discretion once the new listing determination becomes effective. If your project may result in incidental take of NLEB after the new listing goes into effect, this will need to be addressed in an updated consultation that includes an Incidental Take Statement. Many of these situations will be addressed through the new compliance tools. If your project may require re-initiation of consultation, please wait for information on the new tools to appear on this site or contact our office for additional guidance.

#### *Additional Info About Section 7 of the Act*

Under section 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 et seq.), Federal agencies are required to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat. If a Federal agency, or its non-Federal representative, determines that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Federal agency also may need to consider proposed species and proposed critical habitat in the consultation. 50 CFR 402.14(c)(1) specifies the information required for consultation under the Act regardless of the format of the evaluation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<https://www.fws.gov/service/section-7-consultations>

In addition to consultation requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA, please note that under sections 7(a)(1) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 et seq.), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species. Please contact NEFO if you would like more information.

**Candidate species** that appear on the enclosed species list have no current protections under the ESA. The species' occurrence on an official species list does not convey a requirement to

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consider impacts to this species as you would a proposed, threatened, or endangered species. The ESA does not provide for interagency consultations on candidate species under section 7, however, the Service recommends that all project proponents incorporate measures into projects to benefit candidate species and their habitats wherever possible.

### **Migratory Birds**

In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see:

<https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit>

<https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/bald-and-golden-eagle-management>

Please feel free to contact us at **newengland@fws.gov** with your **Project Code** in the subject line if you need more information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat.

Attachment(s): Official Species List

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
-

## **OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST**

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**New England Ecological Services Field Office**

70 Commercial Street, Suite 300

Concord, NH 03301-5094

(603) 223-2541

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## PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2023-0068035  
Project Name: S136 Transmission Line  
Project Type: Transmission Line - Maintenance/Modification - Above Ground  
Project Description: Rebuild of existing transmission line in existing cleared ROW. Work limited to existing ROW and existing access roads. Scheduled to occur between Winter 2023 and Winter 2024.

### Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@44.409569950000005,-71.19106261759592,14z>



Counties: Coos County, New Hampshire

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## ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 3 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

- 
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

## MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Canada Lynx <i>Lynx canadensis</i> Population: Wherever Found in Contiguous U.S. There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3652">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3652</a>	Threatened
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>	Endangered

## INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>	Candidate

## CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

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## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Stantec

Name: Tom Tetreau

Address: 30 Park Drive

City: Topsham

State: ME

Zip: 04086

Email: tom.tetreau@stantec.com

Phone: 2075047231

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**Memo**

NH Natural Heritage Bureau  
NHB DataCheck Results Letter

Please note: portions of this document are confidential.  
Maps and NHB record pages are confidential and should be redacted from public documents.

**To:** Tom Tetreau, Stantec  
30 Park Drive  
Topsham, ME 04086

**From:** NHB Review, NH Natural Heritage Bureau

**Date:** 4/6/2023 (valid until 04/06/2024)

**Re:** Review by NH Natural Heritage Bureau

**Permits:** NHDES - Alteration of Terrain Permit, NHDES - Shoreland Standard Permit, NHDES - Utility Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN), USACE - General Permit, USEPA - Stormwater Pollution Prevention

**NHB ID:** NHB23-1031

**Town:** Jefferson

**Location:** existing ROW from Whitefield town line, north of airport road to Randolph town line, near Jefferson Notch Road

**Description:** Eversource is preparing to perform field surveys and maintenance on the existing S136 transmission line. The existing S136 line and ROW is approximately 27 miles long and 150-200 feet wide and runs between Whitefield and Berlin. Temporary wetland impacts (matting) are anticipated to access work areas in the existing ROW.

**cc:** NHFG Review

As requested, I have searched our database for records of rare species and exemplary natural communities, with the following results.

**Comments NHB: Surveys for red goosefoot should occur when it is in fruit which is the whole month of September. Surveys should focus within a half-mile of the known occurrence in appropriate habitat including ditches and disturbed sites.**

**Please contact NHB with results when surveys are complete. If located, please document plants with GPS, diagnostic photos, and one of the reporting forms posted on our website at: <https://www.nh.gov/nhdf/ reports/rare-plant-list.htm>**

**F&G: Please refer to NHFG consultation requirements below. Please describe what equipment will be used on right-of-ways for surveys.**

Plant species	State <sup>1</sup>	Federal	Notes
red goosefoot ( <i>Oxybasis rubra</i> var. <i>rubra</i> )*	E	--	Threats are primarily alterations to the hydrology of the wetland, such as ditching or tidal restrictions that might affect the sheet flow of tidal waters across the intertidal flat, activities that eliminate plants, and increased input of nutrients and pollutants in

# Memo

## NH Natural Heritage Bureau NHB DataCheck Results Letter

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storm runoff.

Vertebrate species	State <sup>1</sup>	Federal	Notes
American Marten ( <i>Martes americana</i> )*	SC	--	Contact the NH Fish & Game Dept (see below).
Canada Lynx ( <i>Lynx canadensis</i> )	E	T	Contact the NH Fish & Game Dept and the US Fish & Wildlife Service (see below).
Northern Harrier ( <i>Circus hudsonius</i> )	E	--	Contact the NH Fish & Game Dept (see below).

<sup>1</sup>Codes: "E" = Endangered, "T" = Threatened, "SC" = Special Concern, "--" = an exemplary natural community, or a rare species tracked by NH Natural Heritage that has not yet been added to the official state list. An asterisk (\*) indicates that the most recent report for that occurrence was more than 20 years ago.

For all animal reviews, refer to 'IMPORTANT: NHFG Consultation' section below.

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Disclaimer: A negative result (no record in our database) does not mean that a sensitive species is not present. Our data can only tell you of known occurrences, based on information gathered by qualified biologists and reported to our office. However, many areas have never been surveyed, or have only been surveyed for certain species. An on-site survey would provide better information on what species and communities are indeed present.

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### **IMPORTANT: NHFG Consultation**

If this NHB Datacheck letter DOES NOT include ANY wildlife species records, then, based on the information submitted, no further consultation with the NH Fish and Game Department pursuant to Fis 1004 is required.

If this NHB Datacheck letter includes a record for a threatened (T) or endangered (E) wildlife species, consultation with the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department under Fis 1004 may be required. To review the Fis 1000 rules (effective February 3, 2022), please go to <https://wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/environmental-review.html>. All requests for consultation and submittals should be sent via email to [NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov) or can be sent by mail, and **must include the NHB DataCheck results letter number and "Fis 1004 consultation request" in the subject line.**

If the NHB DataCheck response letter does not include a threatened or endangered wildlife species but includes other wildlife species (e.g., Species of Special Concern), consultation under Fis 1004 is not required; however, some species are protected under other state laws or rules, so coordination with NH Fish & Game is highly recommended or may be required for certain permits. While some permitting processes are exempt from required consultation under Fis 1004 (e.g., *statutory permit by notification, permit by rule, permit by notification, routine roadway registration, docking structure registration, or conditional authorization by rule*), coordination with NH Fish & Game may still be required under the rules governing those specific permitting processes, and it is recommended you contact the applicable permitting agency. For projects not requiring consultation under Fis 1004, but where additional coordination with NH Fish and Game is requested, please email [NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov), and include the NHB DataCheck results letter number and "review request" in the email subject line.

## **Memo**

## **NH Natural Heritage Bureau NHB DataCheck Results Letter**

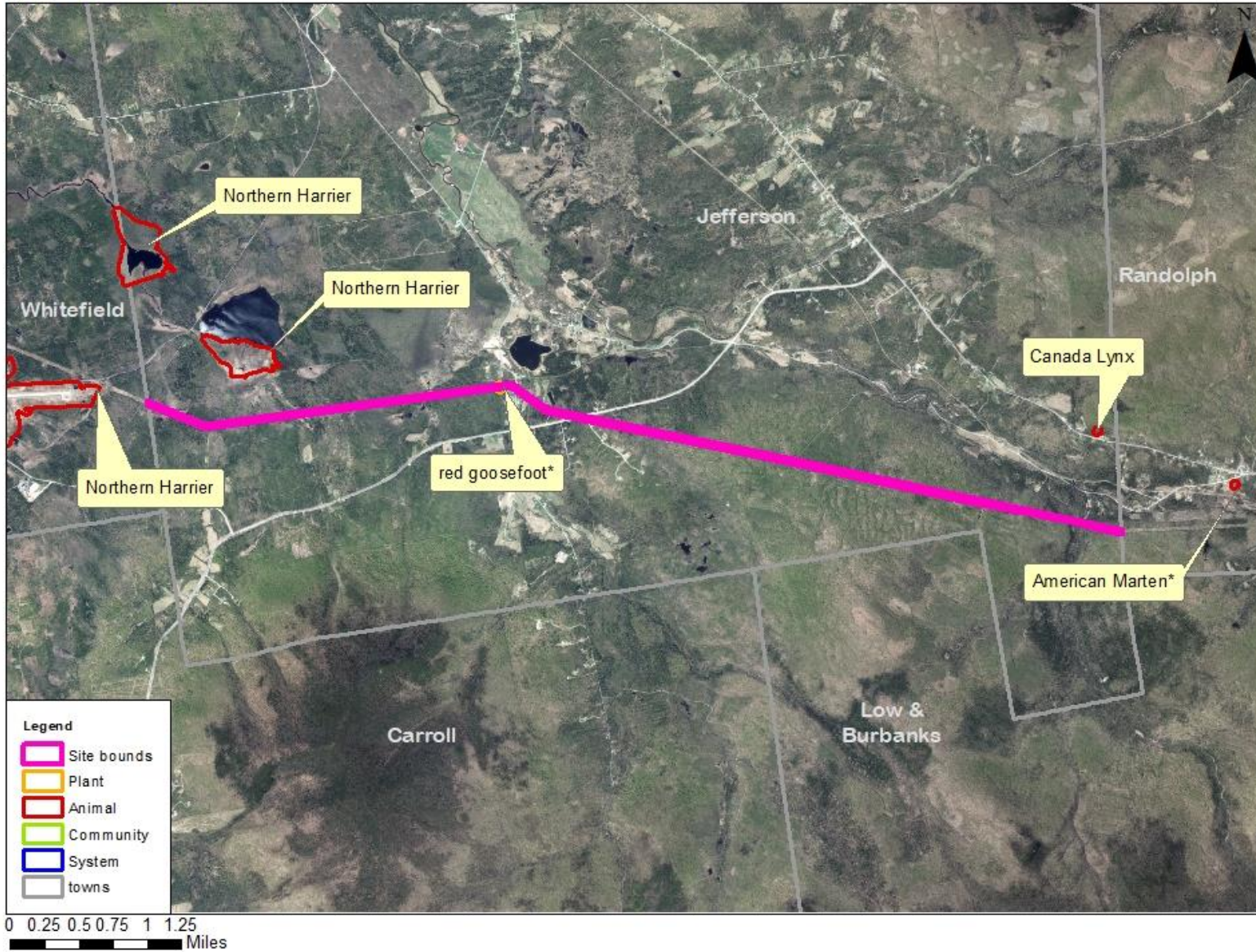
Please note: portions of this document are confidential.  
Maps and NHB record pages are confidential and should be redacted from public documents.

Contact NH Fish & Game at (603) 271-0467 with questions.



CONFIDENTIAL – NH Dept. of Environmental Services review

NHB23-1031









## New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau - Animal Record

### Northern Harrier (*Circus hudsonius*)

#### Legal Status

Federal: Not listed  
State: Listed Endangered

#### Conservation Status

Global: Demonstrably widespread, abundant, and secure  
State: Not ranked (need more information)

#### Description at this Location

Conservation Rank: Not ranked  
Comments on Rank: --

Detailed Description: 2018: 2 observed between 6/6 and 7/25. 2016: 2 observed between 5/14 and 7/19. 2015: Area 341M: pair. 2014: Area 341M: pair. 2013: Area 341M: 1 observed. 2012: Area 341M: pair. 2011: Area 341M: 2 observed. 2010: Area 341M: 3 observed. 2009: Area 341M: 1 adult. 2008: Area 341M: pair. 2007: Area 341M: pair. 2006: Area 341M: pair. 2005: Area 341M: pair. 2004: Area 341M: pair. 2002: Area 341M: pair, 2 young. 2001: Area 341M: adult male. 2000: Area 341M: birds present. 1999: Area 341M: pair, 2 young. 1998: Area 341M: pair. 1997: Area 341M: pair, 4 young. 1996: Area 341M: pair, 2 young. 1995: Area 341M: pair. 1994: Area 341M: birds present. 1992: Area 341M: pair. 1991: Area 341M: pair, 4 young. 1990: Area 341M: pair, 2 young. 1988: Area 341M: adult female. 1987: Area 341M: 1 young. 1986: Area 341M: nesting evidence. 1985: Area 341M: nest, 1 young. 1984: Area 341M: no young. 1983: Area 341M: 2 young. 1981: Area 341M: pair.

General Area: --

General Comments: 2016: Exact location within territory not specified. 1999: Harriers regularly seen at wetlands around Cherry Pond and (less often) Little Cherry Pond (both in Jefferson). These are probably foraging habitat for the birds nesting at the airport.

Management: --

Comments: --

#### Location

Survey Site Name: Whitefield Airport  
Managed By:

County: Coos  
Town(s): Whitefield  
Size: 411.3 acres

Elevation:

Precision: Within (but not necessarily restricted to) the area indicated on the map.

Directions: --

#### Dates documented

First reported: 1981-05-03                      Last reported: 2018-07-25

The New Hampshire Fish & Game Department has jurisdiction over rare wildlife in New Hampshire. Please contact them at 11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301 or at (603) 271-2461.

**Memo**

NH Natural Heritage Bureau  
NHB DataCheck Results Letter

Please note: portions of this document are confidential.  
Maps and NHB record pages are confidential and should be redacted from public documents.

**To:** Tom Tetreau, Stantec  
30 Park Drive  
Topsham, ME 04086

**From:** NHB Review, NH Natural Heritage Bureau

**Date:** 4/6/2023 (valid until 04/06/2024)

**Re:** Review by NH Natural Heritage Bureau

**Permits:** NHDES - Alteration of Terrain Permit, NHDES - Shoreland Standard Permit, NHDES - Utility Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN), USACE - General Permit, USEPA - Stormwater Pollution Prevention

**NHB ID:** NHB23-1032

**Town:** Randolph

**Location:** existing ROW from Jefferson town line, near Jefferson Notch Road to Gorham town line, near Gorham Heights Road

**Description:** Eversource is preparing to perform field surveys and maintenance on the existing S136 transmission line. The existing S136 line and ROW is approximately 27 miles long and 150-200 feet wide and runs between Whitefield and Berlin. Temporary wetland impacts (matting) are anticipated to access work areas in the existing ROW.

**cc:** NHFG Review

As requested, I have searched our database for records of rare species and exemplary natural communities, with the following results.

**Comments** **NHB: The hemlock - spruce - northern hardwood forest exemplary natural community is included for informational purposes. When work is proposed to occur in this line, please avoid building access roads, or widening the ROW in the vicinity of this natural community.**  
**F&G: Please refer to NHFG consultation requirements below. Please describe what equipment will be used on right-of-ways for surveys.**

Natural Community	State <sup>1</sup>	Federal	Notes
Hemlock - spruce - northern hardwood forest	--	--	Threats include logging, introduction of invasive species, and direct destruction due to development.
Vertebrate species	State <sup>1</sup>	Federal	Notes
American Marten ( <i>Martes americana</i> )*	SC	--	Contact the NH Fish & Game Dept (see below).

# Memo

## NH Natural Heritage Bureau NHB DataCheck Results Letter

Please note: portions of this document are confidential.

Maps and NHB record pages are confidential and should be redacted from public documents.

Canada Lynx (*Lynx canadensis*)

E T

Contact the NH Fish & Game Dept and the US Fish & Wildlife Service (see below).

<sup>1</sup>Codes: "E" = Endangered, "T" = Threatened, "SC" = Special Concern, "--" = an exemplary natural community, or a rare species tracked by NH Natural Heritage that has not yet been added to the official state list. An asterisk (\*) indicates that the most recent report for that occurrence was more than 20 years ago.

*For all animal reviews, refer to 'IMPORTANT: NHFG Consultation' section below.*

---

Disclaimer: A negative result (no record in our database) does not mean that a sensitive species is not present. Our data can only tell you of known occurrences, based on information gathered by qualified biologists and reported to our office. However, many areas have never been surveyed, or have only been surveyed for certain species. An on-site survey would provide better information on what species and communities are indeed present.

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### **IMPORTANT: NHFG Consultation**

If this NHB Datacheck letter DOES NOT include ANY wildlife species records, then, based on the information submitted, no further consultation with the NH Fish and Game Department pursuant to Fis 1004 is required.

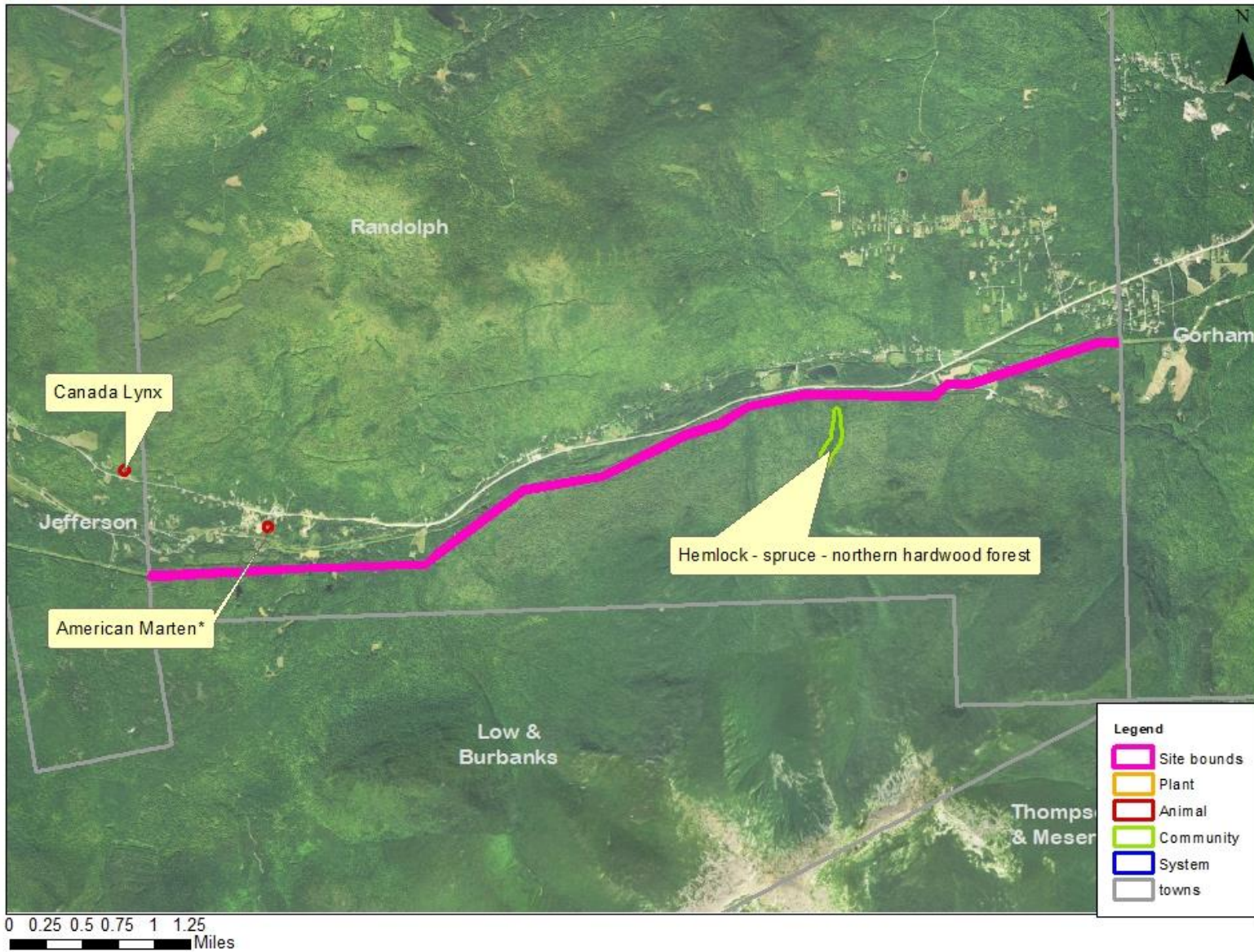
If this NHB Datacheck letter includes a record for a threatened (T) or endangered (E) wildlife species, consultation with the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department under Fis 1004 may be required. To review the Fis 1000 rules (effective February 3, 2022), please go to <https://wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/environmental-review.html>. All requests for consultation and submittals should be sent via email to [NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov) or can be sent by mail, and **must include the NHB DataCheck results letter number and "Fis 1004 consultation request" in the subject line.**

If the NHB DataCheck response letter does not include a threatened or endangered wildlife species but includes other wildlife species (e.g., Species of Special Concern), consultation under Fis 1004 is not required; however, some species are protected under other state laws or rules, so coordination with NH Fish & Game is highly recommended or may be required for certain permits. While some permitting processes are exempt from required consultation under Fis 1004 (e.g., *statutory permit by notification, permit by rule, permit by notification, routine roadway registration, docking structure registration, or conditional authorization by rule*), coordination with NH Fish & Game may still be required under the rules governing those specific permitting processes, and it is recommended you contact the applicable permitting agency. For projects not requiring consultation under Fis 1004, but where additional coordination with NH Fish and Game is requested, please email [NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov), and include the NHB DataCheck results letter number and "review request" in the email subject line.

Contact NH Fish & Game at (603) 271-0467 with questions.

CONFIDENTIAL – NH Dept. of Environmental Services review

NHB23-1032





## New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau - Community Record

### Hemlock - spruce - northern hardwood forest

#### Legal Status

Federal: Not listed  
State: Not listed

#### Conservation Status

Global: Not ranked (need more information)  
State: Rare or uncommon

#### Description at this Location

Conservation Rank: Excellent quality, condition and landscape context ('A' on a scale of A-D).  
Comments on Rank: --

Detailed Description: 2006: Community observed and photographed. 1993: In this old-growth remnant, large hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) and red spruce (*Picea rubens*) dominate a rocky stream corridor. Yellow birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*) mixes with these conifers within a few meters of the streambank. Many of the hemlock have hollow centers and have dropped large dead branches. Others have snapped off twenty feet aboveground leaving large rotting snags. A large hemlock trunk that recently fell across a trail had approximately 350 rings at 20 feet above ground.

General Area: 1993: Occurs along a rocky stream corridor.

General Comments: --

Management 1993: No new trails should be constructed.

Comments:

#### Location

Survey Site Name: Snyder Brook  
Managed By: White Mountain National Forest

County: Coos

Town(s): Randolph

Size: 17.6 acres

Elevation:

Precision: Within (but not necessarily restricted to) the area indicated on the map.

Directions: Randolph. South of Rte. 2 along Snyder Brook in Snyder Brook Scenic Area. Easy walk up Valley Way Trail from parking lot at Appalachia / Durand Lake. Also accessible from the Brookbank and Fallsway Trails, on either side of the brook. Several scenic waterfalls along the way.

#### Dates documented

First reported: 1993-09-16

Last reported: 2006-08-03





**Memo**

NH Natural Heritage Bureau  
NHB DataCheck Results Letter

Please note: portions of this document are confidential.  
Maps and NHB record pages are confidential and should be redacted from public documents.

**To:** Tom Tetreau, Stantec  
30 Park Drive  
Topsham, ME 04086

**From:** NHB Review, NH Natural Heritage Bureau

**Date:** 4/6/2023 (valid until 04/06/2024)

**Re:** Review by NH Natural Heritage Bureau

**Permits:** NHDES - Alteration of Terrain Permit, NHDES - Shoreland Standard Permit, NHDES - Utility Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN), USACE - General Permit, USEPA - Stormwater Pollution Prevention

**NHB ID:** NHB23-1033

**Town:** Gorham

**Location:** existing ROW from Randolph town line, near Gorham Heights Road, to Berlin town line, south of Berlin water treatment

**Description:** Eversource is preparing to perform field surveys and maintenance on the existing S136 transmission line. The existing S136 line and ROW is approximately 27 miles long and 150-200 feet wide and runs between Whitefield and Berlin. Temporary wetland impacts (matting) are anticipated to access work areas in the existing ROW.

**cc:** NHFG Review

As requested, I have searched our database for records of rare species and exemplary natural communities, with the following results.

**Comments** **NHB:** Climbing hempvine and dwarf blueberry may be present in and along where Moose River crosses the ROW. If this river and its banks are proposed to be impacted then surveys for these species may be needed. Please contact NHB if this river is proposed to be impacted. The other listed rare plants and systems are not expected to be in the ROW and are included for information. When work is proposed to occur in this line, please avoid building access roads, or widening the ROW in the vicinity of rare plants and exemplary natural community systems.  
**F&G:** Please refer to NHFG consultation requirements below. Please describe what equipment will be used on right-of-ways for surveys.

**Natural Community**

**State<sup>1</sup> Federal Notes**

High-gradient rocky riverbank system\*      --      --      Threats are primarily changes to the hydrology of the river, land conversion and fragmentation, introduction of invasive species, and increased input of nutrients and

# Memo

## NH Natural Heritage Bureau NHB DataCheck Results Letter

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Moderate-gradient sandy-cobbly riverbank system\* -- -- pollutants.  
Threats to this natural community are changes in the river's hydrology and human disturbance of the riverbank (such as bulldozer activity).

Plant species	State <sup>1</sup>	Federal	Notes
climbing hempvine ( <i>Mikania scandens</i> )*	E	--	Threats include changes to the hydrology (e.g., water levels) of its habitat and increased sedimentation or nutrients and pollutants in stormwater runoff.
dwarf blueberry ( <i>Vaccinium cespitosum</i> )*	T	--	Primary threat is trampling or use of herbicides.
fragrant wood fern ( <i>Dryopteris fragrans</i> )*	T	--	This species occurs on cliffs and ledges. Threats would primarily be recreational activities that could trample the plants or disturb their habitat.
smooth cliff fern ( <i>Woodsia glabella</i> )	E	--	This species occurs cliffs and ledges. Threats would primarily be recreational activities that could trample the plants or disturb their habitat.

Vertebrate species	State <sup>1</sup>	Federal	Notes
Sensitive species	E	T	Contact the NH Fish & Game Dept (see below).
Sensitive species	E	T	Contact the NH Fish & Game Dept (see below).

<sup>1</sup>Codes: "E" = Endangered, "T" = Threatened, "SC" = Special Concern, "--" = an exemplary natural community, or a rare species tracked by NH Natural Heritage that has not yet been added to the official state list. An asterisk (\*) indicates that the most recent report for that occurrence was more than 20 years ago.

For all animal reviews, refer to 'IMPORTANT: NHFG Consultation' section below.

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Disclaimer: A negative result (no record in our database) does not mean that a sensitive species is not present. Our data can only tell you of known occurrences, based on information gathered by qualified biologists and reported to our office. However, many areas have never been surveyed, or have only been surveyed for certain species. An on-site survey would provide better information on what species and communities are indeed present.

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### **IMPORTANT: NHFG Consultation**

If this NHB Datacheck letter DOES NOT include ANY wildlife species records, then, based on the information submitted, no further consultation with the NH Fish and Game Department pursuant to Fis 1004 is required.

If this NHB Datacheck letter includes a record for a threatened (T) or endangered (E) wildlife species, consultation with the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department under Fis 1004 may be required. To review the Fis 1000 rules (effective February 3, 2022), please go to <https://wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/environmental-review.html>. All requests for consultation and submittals should be sent via email to

## Memo

## NH Natural Heritage Bureau NHB DataCheck Results Letter

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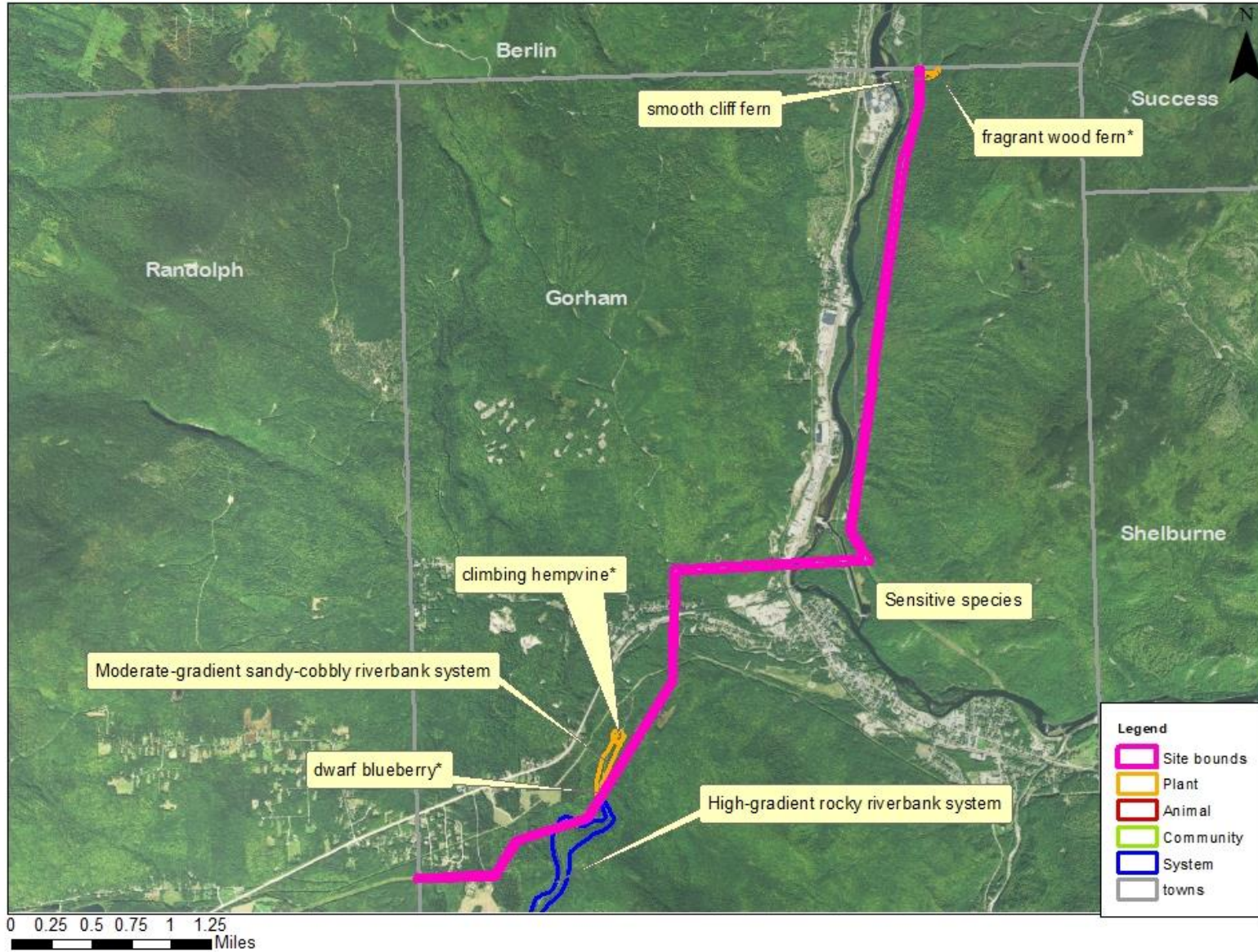
[NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov) or can be sent by mail, and **must include the NHB DataCheck results letter number and “Fis 1004 consultation request” in the subject line.**

If the NHB DataCheck response letter does not include a threatened or endangered wildlife species but includes other wildlife species (e.g., Species of Special Concern), consultation under Fis 1004 is not required; however, some species are protected under other state laws or rules, so coordination with NH Fish & Game is highly recommended or may be required for certain permits. While some permitting processes are exempt from required consultation under Fis 1004 (e.g., *statutory permit by notification, permit by rule, permit by notification, routine roadway registration, docking structure registration, or conditional authorization by rule*), coordination with NH Fish & Game may still be required under the rules governing those specific permitting processes, and it is recommended you contact the applicable permitting agency. For projects not requiring consultation under Fis 1004, but where additional coordination with NH Fish and Game is requested, please email [NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov), and include the NHB DataCheck results letter number and “review request” in the email subject line.

Contact NH Fish & Game at (603) 271-0467 with questions.

CONFIDENTIAL – NH Dept. of Environmental Services review

NHB23-1033







## New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau - System Record

### Moderate-gradient sandy-cobbly riverbank system

#### Legal Status

Federal: Not listed  
State: Not listed

#### Conservation Status

Global: Not ranked (need more information)  
State: Rare or uncommon

#### Description at this Location

Conservation Rank: Good quality, condition and landscape context ('B' on a scale of A-D).  
Comments on Rank: --

Detailed Description: 1999: Well-vegetated and dominated by *Osmunda claytoniana* (interrupted fern) with scattered *Alnus incana* var. *americana* (speckled alder). No impact from the 1998 ice storm. 1984: Characteristic flora of northern acidic soils: *Vaccinium cespitosum* (dwarf bilberry), *Viburnum alnifolium* (hobblebush), *Eupatorium maculatum* (spotted Joe-Pye weed), and *Osmunda claytoniana* (interrupted fern).

General Area: 1999: Old railroad bed nearby. Downstream, river flows through Gorham. 1984: Northern hardwoods and *Tsuga canadensis* (hemlock) dominate along the shallow fast-flowing river often cutting through deep ravines and laden with boulders.

General Comments: 1984: Old record of *Listera auriculata* not relocated.

Management: --

Comments:

#### Location

Survey Site Name: Moose River  
Managed By: White Mountain National Forest

County: Coos

Town(s): Gorham

Size: 12.6 acres

Elevation:

Precision: Within (but not necessarily restricted to) the area indicated on the map.

Directions: [From Gorham, take Rte. 2 west ca. 1.5 miles to a railroad crossing. Follow tracks south ca. 0.3 mile.]

#### Dates documented

First reported: 1984-07-14

Last reported: 1999-08-26





## New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau - Plant Record

### fragrant wood fern (*Dryopteris fragrans*)

#### Legal Status

Federal: Not listed  
State: Listed Threatened

#### Conservation Status

Global: Demonstrably widespread, abundant, and secure  
State: Imperiled due to rarity or vulnerability

#### Description at this Location

Conservation Rank: Fair quality, condition and/or landscape context ('C' on a scale of A-D).  
Comments on Rank: --

Detailed Description: 1982: Very few plants. 1901: Eggleston specimen #2375 (NYBG 2535) at NY. 1899: Eggleston specimen #1770 at NY. 1872: Gillman Specimen #7 at NY. 1964: Listed in Pease, A Flora of Northern New Hampshire.

General Area: Cliffs of waterfall gorge.

General Comments: --

Management: --

Comments:

#### Location

Survey Site Name: Alpine Cascade

Managed By:

County: Coos

Town(s): Gorham

Size: .3 acres

Elevation:

Precision: Within (but not necessarily restricted to) the area indicated on the map.

Directions: Gorham/Berlin. Alpine Cascade (see AMC White Mtns. Guide for directions).

#### Dates documented

First reported: 1867

Last reported: 1982-09

## New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau - Plant Record

### smooth cliff fern (*Woodsia glabella*)

#### Legal Status

Federal: Not listed  
State: Listed Endangered

#### Conservation Status

Global: Demonstrably widespread, abundant, and secure  
State: Critically imperiled due to rarity or vulnerability

#### Description at this Location

Conservation Rank: Fair quality, condition and/or landscape context ('C' on a scale of A-D).  
Comments on Rank: --

Detailed Description: 2017: 32 plants on one 30-meter section of flume wall.<br/>1982: Rawinski visit. Very small, scattered population.<br/>1882: Specimen of unknown collector at MO.<br/>1899: Specimen of E.F. Williams at GH.<br/>1872: Specimen of Faxon at VT and of E.W. Whorf at GH.

General Area: 2017: Northern rock wall of cascade flume above lower falls. Fragrant wood fern (*Dryopteris fragrans*) more common than *Woodsia glabella* at this site.<br/>1982: On calcareous rocks on south facing ravine of the falls.

General Comments: First collection here since 1908. Only site in state, a few botanists could wipe it out.  
Management: --  
Comments:

#### Location

Survey Site Name: Alpine Cascade  
Managed By:

County: Coos  
Town(s): Gorham  
Size: 1.2 acres

Elevation:

Precision: Within (but not necessarily restricted to) the area indicated on the map.

Directions: 2017: Alpine Cascades. Climb up side of waterfall (try when water is low) or head up powerline cut to north. Powerline cut meets up with trail that goes to small pond on stream above the cascades. Head down from there. Wet rock and steep bank climbing. Bring binoculars for the count, as plants are on northern rockface above cascades.<br/>1982: Gorham. Berlin. Alpine Cascade. Climb up Falls Ravine, plants are on south facing rocks. AMC book gives good directions to get to area.

#### Dates documented

First reported: 1870  
Last reported: 2017-09-02