

From: [Tracy Tarr](#)
To: [Faunce, Jasmin - FS, NH](#); ["Nelson, Kurt I"](#)
Cc: [Steven Riker](#)
Subject: RE: X178-2: non-ROW access routes
Date: Thursday, October 17, 2024 4:36:02 PM
Attachments: [image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[IMG_7666.JPEG](#)
[IMG_7665.JPEG](#)

Hi Jasmin,

Thank you for reaching out. Attached are updated photos for Wetland WS (the area referred to as the second crossing). There is an existing (albeit unmaintained) culvert with ponded water bordering the culvert.

Please note wetlands have been updated since preparation of the off-ROW plans. Please refer to the following plan for current wetlands and snowmobile trail labels: [X178 Permitting Plans Phase 2_081224 opt.pdf](#)

For the non-ROW access routes:

- You mentioned there is an existing snomo bridge crossing a stream.
 - I am guessing this bridge is located over Boles Brook (a perennial), around the first picture on the bottom left of the “Photo Log_Powerline Trail” pdf; Though the photo does not show a bridge.
 - Would they put their timber matting, or temp bridge, over the existing snomo bridge? Or reroute around this section of trail to cross elsewhere?
 - **There are three bridges, two of which are smaller snowmobile bridges. The large bridge is on page 4 near proposed Structure 196 and provides access over Moosilauke Brook. As you suspected, the two smaller snowmobile bridges are on page 7, one of which provides access over Gordon Pond Brook (Wetland WS-112) and is not proposed to be utilized. In addition, there is a second snowmobile bridge that provides access over Boles Brook (Wetland WS 112.4) and the proposed access road would border but not cross this unsuitable bridge. (It is not suitable for large construction vehicles.)**
 - Is this the only stream crossing?
We assume you are referring to off-ROW crossings. The linked plan depicts both in-ROW and off-ROW crossings. There are two off-ROW temporary stream crossings.
 - The rest of the proposed wetland matting, as seen in the “X178_WMNF_Wetland_Matting” shapefile, are crossing just wet areas? **Please see the linked plan set for wetland classifications. Wetlands with the classification R4SB are considered intermittent streams while R2UB areas**

are considered perennial streams.

- My understanding is that they are proposing to permanently “improve” the routes by widening and “building up” the trails.
 - Will the “build up” of trails only occur in dry areas and all wet areas would be crossed with wetland matting as mapped in the “X178_WMNF_Wetland_Matting” shapefile?
Correct – wetland crossings are temporary and accessed by matting. There is no additional permanent fill currently proposed in wetland crossings.
 - And any wetland matting would be removed once the complete work in this area?
Correct – matting will be removed as construction is completed in individual areas.
- How long and what time of year (e.g., non-winter?), do they anticipate work to be ongoing in this area? **The team anticipates that the DES Wetlands Bureau will likely require winter work in select areas (e.g. peatland habitats). Therefore, the schedule will be dictated by permit conditions and Eversource will re-coordinate with the WMNF once these conditions are known. If the Forest Service would prefer summer work, this feedback would be helpful to provide to DES in advance of submittal of the state wetlands application.**
 - If multi-year, would they be leaving all the temp wetland matting (and potential temp bridge) in year round or remove for winter? **In general, matting is installed for up to one growing season in individual areas. Given the remoteness of portions of the ROW, and unknowns related to agency permit conditions, there is a possibility that matting will need to remain in place for two growing in individual areas. This will be identified over the next three months. In general, this is limited wherever possible as it influences state and federal (USACE) mitigation requirements and construction costs.**

Thank you.

Tracy

Tracy L. Tarr, CWS, CWB, CESSWI

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From: Faunce, Jasmin - FS, NH <jasmin.faunce@usda.gov>

Sent: Thursday, October 17, 2024 12:58 PM

To: 'Nelson, Kurt I' <kurt.nelson@eversource.com>; Tracy Tarr <Tracy.Tarr@gza.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: X178-2: non-ROW access routes

Hi Kurt and Tracy,

Just checking into see if you have any thoughts on the questions from last week. I'm specifically looking for confirmation on the location of the stream crossing(s) highlighted below. Our hydro/soil scientist want to take a look at it (maybe on Tues) and having more information could be helpful for the field visit.

Thanks,
Jasmin

From: Faunce, Jasmin - FS, NH

Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2024 7:20 AM

To: 'Nelson, Kurt I' <kurt.nelson@eversource.com>; 'Tracy Tarr' <Tracy.Tarr@gza.com>

Subject: X178-2: non-ROW access routes

Hi Kurt and Tracy,

Some follow up questions came up regarding the non-ROW access routes that I was hoping you could help answer. In the photo log pdf that Steve sent last week, the "Photo Log_No name Trail – Crooked Pike" pdf has a repeat photo for the first two spots. We are especially curious about the second spot, as it looks like this may be crossing ponded water?

For the non-ROW access routes

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 - Would they put their timber matting, or temp bridge, over the existing snomo bridge? Or reroute around this section of trail to cross elsewhere?
 - Is this the only stream crossing?
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- My understanding is that they are proposing to permanently "improve" the routes by widening and "building up" the trails.
 - Will the "build up" of trails only occur in dry areas and all wet areas would be crossed with wetland matting as mapped in the "X178_WMNF_Wetland_Matting" shapefile?
 - And any wetland matting would be removed once the complete work in this area?
- How long and what time of year (e.g., non-winter?), do they anticipate work to be ongoing in

this area?

- If multi-year, would they be leaving all the temp wetland matting (and potential temp bridge) in year round or remove for winter?

As always, please reach out if any of these questions warrants further discussion.

Thanks,



Jasmin Faunce (she/her)
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