

# 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:** Andrew Mahoney, VHB  
2 Bedford Farms Drive Suite 200  
Bedford, NH 03103

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

**Date:** 5/24/2023 (valid until 05/24/2024)

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

**Permits:** NHDES - Alteration of Terrain Permit, NHDES - Wetland Standard Dredge & Fill - Major

**NHB ID:** NHB23-1568      Town: Campton, Thornton, Woodstock      Location: X178-1 Right-of-Way  
**Description:** PSNH d/b/a Eversource Energy proposes to reconstruct approximately 14 +/- miles of the X178-1 115 kV transmission line with new weathering steel, direct embed, horizontally configured H-Frame structures along the existing centerline. The proposed project will pass through the towns of Campton, Thornton, and Woodstock, NH.

**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: No comments at this time.

**F&G:** Please refer to NHFG consultation requirements below. Please indicate proposed project timing.

Vertebrate species	State <sup>1</sup>	Federal	Notes
Sensitive species	E	T	Contact the NH Fish & Game Dept (see below).
Sensitive species	E	E	Contact the NH Fish & Game Dept (see below).
Smooth Green Snake ( <i>Opheodrys vernalis</i> )	SC	--	Contact the NH Fish & Game Dept (see below).
Wood Turtle ( <i>Glyptemys insculpta</i> )	SC	--	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.

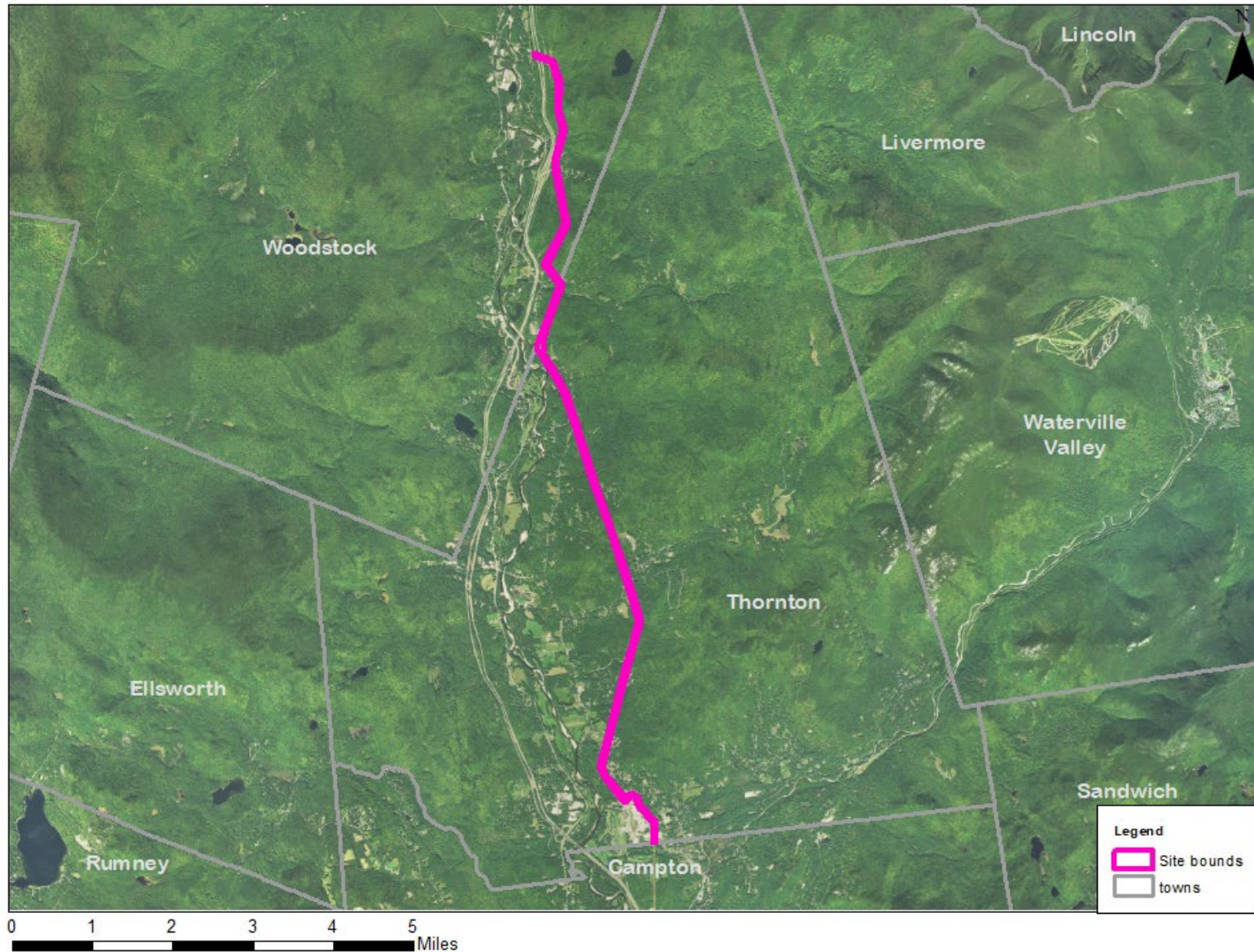
If this NHB Datacheck letter includes a record for a threatened (T) or endangered (E) wildlife species, consultation with the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department under Fis 1004 may be required. To review the Fis 1000 rules (effective February 3, 2022), please go to <https://wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/environmental-review.html>.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

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

**CONFIDENTIAL – NH Dept. of Environmental Services review**

**NHB23-1568**



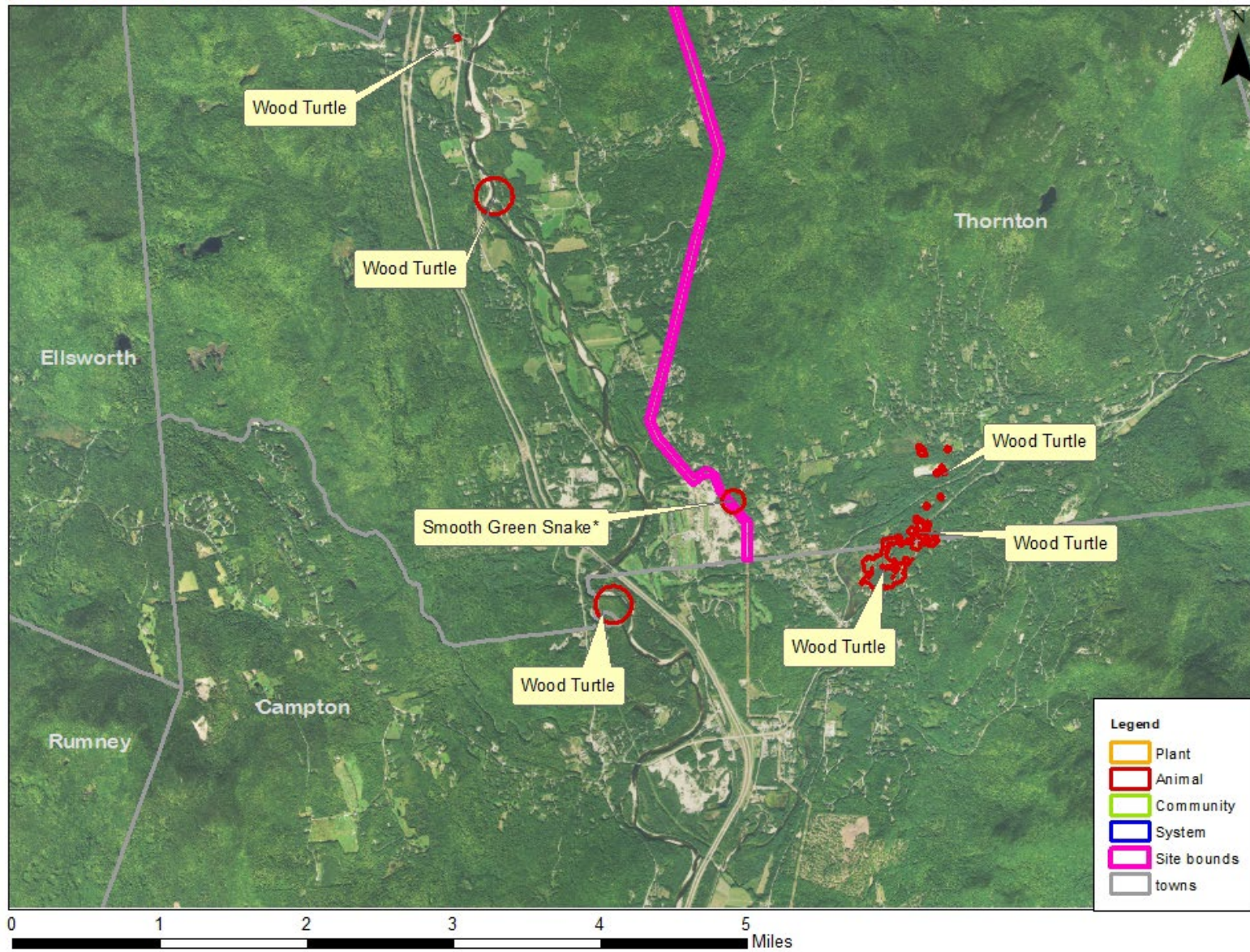
CONFIDENTIAL – NH Dept. of Environmental Services review

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## New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau - Animal Record

**Smooth Green Snake (*Opheodrys vernalis*)****Legal Status**

Federal: Not listed  
State: Special Concern

**Conservation Status**

Global: Demonstrably widespread, abundant, and secure  
State: Rare or uncommon

**Description at this Location**

Conservation Rank: Not ranked  
Comments on Rank: --

Detailed Description: 2009: Area 12316: 1 observed.  
General Area: 2009: Area 12316: Railroad tracks.  
General Comments: --  
Management: --  
Comments:

**Location**

Survey Site Name: Beaver Brook  
Managed By:

County: Grafton  
Town(s): Woodstock  
Size: 4.2 acres Elevation:

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

Directions: 2009: Area 12316: Along RR tracks, about 1 mile north of North Station Road crossing.

**Dates documented**

First reported: 2009-11-01 Last reported: 2009-11-01

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.

### New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau - Animal Record

### Smooth Green Snake (*Opheodrys vernalis*)

<u>Legal Status</u>	<u>Conservation Status</u>
Federal: Not listed	Global: Demonstrably widespread, abundant, and secure
State: Special Concern	State: Rare or uncommon

<u>Description at this Location</u>
Conservation Rank: Not ranked
Comments on Rank: --
Detailed Description: 1992: 2 seen. Adults. (Obs_id 1992.0498).
General Area: 1992: Sand near fields, birch/pine scrub (Obs_id 1992.0498).
General Comments: --
Management: --
Comments:

<u>Location</u>	
Survey Site Name: Rte. 175 Gravel Pit	
Managed By:	
County: Grafton	
Town(s): Thornton	
Size: 11.4 acres	Elevation:
Precision: Within (but not necessarily restricted to) the area indicated on the map.	
Directions: 1992: Pemi River Valley. Rte. 175- 1/2 mile north of Campton on west (river) side of road. In backyard (Obs_id 1992.0498).	

<u>Dates documented</u>	
First reported: 1992-06-07	Last reported: 1992-06-07

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# New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau - Animal Record

## Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*)

**Legal Status**

Federal: Not listed  
 State: Special Concern

**Conservation Status**

Global: Rare or uncommon  
 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: 2015: Spring 2015 Survey: 4 turtles observed: 1 adult male, 2 adult females, and 1 juvenile, sex unknown. 2007: MJ07\_1001-MJ07\_1009, MJ07\_1011: 10 radiotracked adults, 5 male and 5 female. MJ07\_1010, MJ07\_1012-MJ07\_1019, MJ07\_1021-MJ07\_1026: 17 individuals observed, 9 male, 5 female, and 3 juvenile (not sexed). 2005: Area 11680M: Adult male and female seen. 2004: Area 11673M: 1 adult male seen on 2004-06-09. 1 adult female seen on 2004-06-10. 2003: 6 male, 7 female, 4 sub adult, 8 hatchlings, two nests found. Data from 1996 to 2003 (Area 11680M).

General Area: 2007: MJ07\_1001-MJ07\_1026: Multiple habitats, including river, riverbanks, wetlands, and upland forest. 2005: Area 11680M: Wetland complex in campground area. 2004: Area 11673M: In Mad River. 2003: No details (Obs\_id 2003.0186).

General Comments: --  
 Management: --  
 Comments:

**Location**

Survey Site Name: Campton Pond  
 Managed By: White Mountain National Forest

County: Grafton  
 Town(s): Campton  
 Size: 55.4 acres Elevation:

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

Directions: 2004: Area 11673M: Area of USFS campground on Mad River. 2003: Campton pond near Campton campground. (Area 11680M).

**Dates documented**

First reported: 1996 Last reported: 2015-06-21

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## New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau - Animal Record

**Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*)****Legal Status**

Federal: Not listed  
State: Special Concern

**Conservation Status**

Global: Rare or uncommon  
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: 2003: 2 male, 3 female seen. Data from 1996 to 2003 (Obs\_id 2003.0187).

General Area: 2003: No detail (Obs\_id 2003.0187).

General Comments: --

Management: --

Comments:

**Location**

Survey Site Name: Sunset Hill, west of  
Managed By: Pemigewasset WMA

County: Grafton

Town(s): Campton

Size: 30.8 acres

Elevation:

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

Directions: 2003: On island in Pemigewasset River, right at Campton/Thornton town line. (Obs\_id 2003.0187).

**Dates documented**

First reported: 1996 Last reported: 2003

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## New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau - Animal Record

### **Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*)**

#### **Legal Status**

Federal: Not listed  
 State: Special Concern

#### **Conservation Status**

Global: Rare or uncommon  
 State: Rare or uncommon

#### **Description at this Location**

Conservation Rank: Not ranked  
 Comments on Rank: --

Detailed Description: 2005: Area 11679: 1 adult seen. DOR. 2003: 1 male, 3 female, 2 sub adult, 8 hatchling, and nest site. Data from 1996 to 2003 (Obs\_id 2003.0189). 2003: 3 male, 4 female, and nest site. Data from 1996 to 2003 (Obs\_id 2003.0188).

General Area: 2003: Nest site (Obs\_id 2003.0189, 2003.0188).

General Comments: --

Management: --

Comments:

#### **Location**

Survey Site Name: Pemigewasset River, at Burleigh Brook

Managed By:

County: Grafton

Town(s): Thornton

Size: 62.1 acres

Elevation:

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

Directions: 2005: Rte. 3 in Thornton, next to Hubbard Brook. 2003: North of Livermore (Cross) Rd. on the Pemigewasset River (Obs\_id 2003.0189). 2003: Pemigewasset River, between Thornton and Livermore (Cross) Rd. (Obs\_id 2003.0188).

#### **Dates documented**

First reported: 1996

Last reported: 2005-07-13

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