

From: Doperalski, Melissa
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 2:57 PM
To: Laurin, Marc
Cc: Benedict, Karl; Mauck, Ridgely
Subject: NHB19-3453 (NHB18-2355) Derry-Londonderry, 13065 - Exit 4A
Attachments: racer flyer Winchester.pdf; Derry-Londonderry, 13065 - Exit 4A; Spotted_Blandings Flyer_Feb2020.pdf

Marc,
NHFG has reviewed the information provided for the proposed project that includes a new interchange one mile north of Exit 4 on Interstate 93 in Londonderry and Derry. The project would consist of an easterly only new construction access that would connect with Folsom Road and traverse along Folsom and Tsienneto Roads. It appears that Preferred Alternative A is the alternative moving forward although I do not have confirmation. In either scenario, all alternatives would be within the same vicinity that the NHB datacheck was completed. The NHB Datacheck Results Letter (NHB19-3453 – former NHB18-2355) resulted in the following species records within the project area: Blanding’s turtle (state endangered), spotted turtle (state threatened), Northern black racer (state threatened), New England cottontail (state endangered), smooth green snake (species of special concern) and Jefferson/Blue-spotted salamander complex (tracked) species.

The FEIS for the project included specific state T&E mitigation “impact minimization and mitigation” for all species listed on the NHB datacheck results letter (section 4.17.3 Mitigation). This includes (note there are additional details within section 4.17.3 that apply – below is a summary) * denotes addition information that NHFG wishes to be included but was not detailed in the FEIS:

- The project area will be searched prior to project construction for Northern black racers as well as other reptiles as noted above prior to construction and before heavy machinery is brought onsite.
- Surveys would be conducted by a qualified biologist during appropriate weather conditions and all areas that may be impacted would be thoroughly searched.
- Note that multiple surveys may be needed depending on sequence and timing of ground-disturbing activities.
- All species encountered during the survey will be moved to an area outside of the active construction zone but nearby and in the direction they are moving in (if applicable).
- NHFG would be contacted immediately if any of the species encountered are threatened or endangered species.
 - *The following language should be included on site plans:
 - **Contact NHFG immediately if state threatened or endangered species are encountered during site surveys or during project construction. Melissa Doperalski 603-479-1129 or NHFG Wildlife Administration at 603-271-2461. Photographs of animals should be taken if feasible to help in identification.**
- *Contact NHFG immediately if a potential Northern black racer hibernacula is found (this applies to spring surveys (April – May). If project construction may occur prior to June, please contact NHFG for additional information on potential hibernacula.
- Wildlife exclusionary fencing will be installed prior to September 15th to exclude snakes from returning to potential hibernacula. Wildlife exclusion fencing will be installed to include the work area as well as any material storage areas.
- Wildlife exclusionary fencing will be maintained and kept on site through the duration of the project and removed once the project has been completed.
- *Northern black racers are good climbers and can likely climb exclusionary fence measures. Site personnel shall be provided information that helps to identify Northern black racers and other species as listed above in addition to NHFG contact and communication during the life of the project. (flyer and factsheet information provided by NHFG that are currently available for use). New England cottontail information and reporting can be found on the NHFG website at <https://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/profiles/ne-cottontail.html>. Smooth green snake information can be found at <https://wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/profiles/smooth-green-snake.html>.
- *Wildlife exclusionary fence installation: If using a traditional silt fence NOTE that the wood posts should be placed such that they are located on the INSIDE of the project site. This is opposite to how they are installed if they are used for water quality measures. In addition, the fencing should be buried 8-12 inches below grade as several animals can burrow

underneath fencing. (note not for permitting – there is a company that offers fencing that is specifically designed for wildlife exclusion – Animex.)

- All erosion control materials will be wildlife-friendly. *We request that the type of material be specified on site plans.*

It is understood that Compensatory mitigation will be primarily an ARM fund payment, but may include other local infrastructure improvement projects through SPIP program.

Just for future reference, we would prefer the locational discussion (Table 4.17-2; column “Observations within the last 25 years”) not be included. This information isn’t necessary for this type of review and can often be confusing for the reader or misinterpreted. Locational data is considered confidential and should not be included in any public documents and is protected from right-to-know requests. Only the top letter portion of the NHB letter can be included in a public document.

Thank you for your patience in our review. Please let me know if there are additional questions you may have or are in need of addition information or clarification for the comments above.

Melissa

Melissa Doperalski

Certified Wildlife Biologist®

Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program

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<http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/nongame/index.html>



Check out reptiles and amphibians of NH!

<http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/nongame/reptiles-amphibians.html>

Report your sightings of reptiles and amphibians in 3 ways:

1) Email details of observation or completed form to RAARP@wildlife.nh.gov

2) Enter your observation online at <http://nhwildlifesightings.unh.edu>.

3) Mail your reporting slip <http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/nongame/documents/raarp-report-form.pdf>

From: Laurin, Marc <Marc.Laurin@dot.nh.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2020 7:50 AM

To: Doperalski, Melissa <Melissa.Doperalski@wildlife.nh.gov>

Subject: Re: Derry-Londonderry, 13065 - Exit 4A

Melissa,

The FEIS Section 4.17 can be accessed on the Exit 4A web site at

[http://www.i93exit4a.com/assets/FEIS_ROD/Volume_I/Section_4.17 - Threatened and Endangered Species.pdf](http://www.i93exit4a.com/assets/FEIS_ROD/Volume_I/Section_4.17_-_Threatened_and_Endangered_Species.pdf)