NEW ENGLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
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May 23, 2022

Mr. Todd M. Penney, P.E.
Town Engineer/Wetlands Agent
Town of Coventry
1712 Main Street
Coventry, CT 06238

Re: Breton Parcel
Plains Road
Coventry, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Penney:

On May 2, 2022, I evaluated the central wetland which drains to the proposed wetland driveway crossing. The wetland is wooded. The dominant tree species in the wetland is Red Maple. Other tree species present include Red Oak and Eastern White Pine. The shrub species in the wetland include Japanese Barberry, Multiflora Rose, Highbush Blueberry, Winterberry, Spicebush and Pepperbush. The exotic invasive plants, Japanese Barberry and Multiflora Rose, are very abundant in the wetland.

The herbaceous plant species in the wetland include Lurid Sedge, Soft Rush, Violet, Mayflower, Cinnamon Fern, New York Fern, Trout Lily, Jewelweed, Skunk Cabbage, and Wool Sedge. The vine species include Fox Grape and Asiatic Bittersweet.

The soil type in the wetland is Ridgebury extremely stony. Ridgebury is a poorly drained soil formed in a compact glacial till. The topsoil and subsoil has a fine sandy loam texture. The substratum (unweathered glacial till) has a gravelly sandy loam texture. Surface water in the wetlands drain to two culverts at an existing wetland crossing.

The wetland has a high value for groundwater discharge. The wetland also has a high value for sediment trapping due to the dense vegetation and stones. The wetland has a moderate value for pollutant renovation and a low value for flood storage due to the slope of the land.

The wetland has a low value for groundwater recharge due to the low permeability of the glacial till. The wildlife habitat value for wetland dependent animal species is low. There are no vernal pools in the wetland. Several small ponded water areas in the southern section of the wetland may provide habitat for spring peepers and the American Toad.

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The proposal is to construct two houses with on-site sewage disposal systems. The driveway to the two house sites is proposed in an area where two wetland crossings presently occur.

The existing culvert at the first wetland crossing will be replaced with a 75 lf 24-inch HDPE. The installation of the new culverts and rip-rap at the inlet and outlet will fill 2,086 ft^2 of the intermittent watercourse and wetland.

The existing culvert at the second wetland crossing will be replaced with a 12-inch HDPE. The installation of the new culvert will fill 2,195 ft^2 of intermittent watercourse and wetland.

The vegetation in the wetland proposed to be filled at the first wetland crossing is dominated by Multiflora Rose, which occupies 80-90% of the wetland. The vegetation in the wetland proposed to be filled at the second wetland crossing is dominated by Japanese Barberry and Multiflora Rose, which are both exotic invasive plants.

The wetlands and intermittent watercourses proposed to be filled have a low function and value because they are dominated by exotic invasive plant species. I believe the filling of the two wetland/intermittent areas and the construction of the two house sites will not have a significant impact on the function and values of the wetlands.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Respectively Submitted,

New England Environmental Services

R. Richard Snarski

R. Richard Snarski
Professional Wetlands Scientist #1391
Registered Professional Soil Scientist
Consulting Botanist

RRS/srh