



Wetland Consulting Services

October 24, 2014

WCS Job # Lummus-1

Mr. Dan Lummus
108 Georgetown Road
Boxford, MA 01921-2113

RE: Wetland Delineation, 108 Georgetown Road, Boxford, MA

Dear Dan:

As requested, Wetland Consulting Services (WCS) visited your 108 Georgetown Road property on October 20, 2014. The purpose of the site visit was to conduct a wetland delineation in accordance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131 S40) and the Boxford Wetlands By-law. This delineation was done in anticipation of a garage you would like to build where an existing shed now stands (see Photos 1 and 2).

The 4.8 acre residential house lot has a single family residence with a concrete driveway, a separate shed and chicken coop located at the rear of the backyard. The backyard area exists mostly as lawn although the perimeter of the lot remains as upland forest. Pye Brook, a perennial flowing stream, flows through a large wetland area that borders the northern end of the property (see Photos 3 and 4). The MA Natural Heritage Inventory has included this lot in their inventory of estimated habitat of rare wildlife¹. The MA Endangered Species Program should be contacted when the project plans are completed to evaluate whether this project requires a MA Endangered Species Act (MESA) filing.

The criteria² used to identify the limits of the wetlands corresponds with the procedures used to delineate a Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW) resource area pursuant to 310 CMR 10.55 (2). In addition to vegetation, soils and hydrologic indicators were used to aid in the delineation of the vegetated wetlands. The following alpha-numeric series were used to identify the limits of the delineated wetland:

A1 through A11

The delineation effort was limited to a length of approximately 250 ft to 300 ft of the wetland located just north of the shed (see Photo 1). The wetland delineated with the A series flags exists mostly as a permanently flooded, mixed palustrine, aquatic bed/persistent emergent wetland (PAB3H/EM1H)³ bordered by a narrow band of saturated, palustrine, broad-leaved deciduous scrub/shrub wetland (PSS1B). The permanently flooded portion of the wetland is vegetated with a mix of white water lily (*Nymphaea odorata*) and pickerel weed (*Pontederia cordata*) interspersed with islands of cattail

¹ NHESP has included this lot as containing rare wildlife habitat (PH1339).

² Delineating Bordering Vegetated Wetlands under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act: a Handbook. March 1995. Produced by the Mass. DEP, Div of Wetlands and Waterways.

³ Cowardin, L., V. Carter, F.C. Golet and E.T. LaRoe. 1979. Classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats of the United States. U.S. Fish Wildl. Serv. FWS/OBS-79/31.

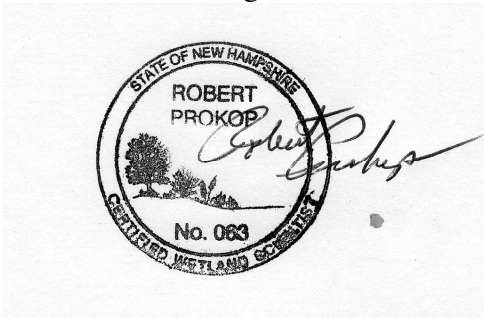
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(*Typha latifolia*) and purple loosestife (*Lythrum salicaria*). Time of year limited a more thorough inventory of the vegetation in this wetland area. The tree and shrub border along the wetland is vegetated with a mix of red maple (*Acer rubrum*), white pine (*Pinus strobus*), pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*), winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*), swamp azalea (*Rhododendron viscosum*) and maleberry (*Lyonia ligustrina*). Common herbs include cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*) and royal fern (*O. regalis*). The bordering upland is vegetated with a mix of red maple, white pine, and red and white oak (*Quercus rubra* and *Q. alba*) trees. The understory is vegetated with white pine, red and white oak shrubs along with hazelnut (*Corylus cornuta*), huckleberry (*Gaylussacia* sp.), maple-leaved viburnum (*Viburnum aceriformes*) and princess pine (*Lycopodium obscurum*).

Since the delineated wetland lies within 100 ft of the shed, either a Notice of Intent (NOI) or Request for Determination (RDA) application will need to be filed with the Conservation Commission for the construction of the proposed garage. If requested, we would be glad to assist you in the preparation of any necessary wetland permit application.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 978-346-9857.

Sincerely,
Wetland Consulting Services



Robert Prokop
NH Certified Wetland Scientist (#063)/Professional Wetland Scientist (#604)



Photo 1. Photo of the shed to be replaced by a garage. Photo by B. Prokop Oct. 20, 2014.



Photo 2. View of the upland area behind the shed. Photo by B. Prokop Oct. 20, 2014.



Photo 3. Permanently flooded wetland (BVW) located along the northern side of the property. Photo by B. Prokop Oct. 20, 2014.



Photo 4. Upland area between the shed and the BVW. Photo by B. Prokop Oct. 20, 2014.