

CLA Engineers, Inc.

Civil • Structural • Survey

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June 21, 2022

Mr. Jeremy DeCarli, Planner
Inland Wetlands Agent
Town of East Hampton
20 East High Street
East Hampton, CT 06424

Re: WPCA Forcemain Replacement
Maplewood Drive & Bay Road
East Hampton CT
CLA -6365

Dear Mr. DeCarli:

At the request of The East Hampton WPCA, CLA has investigated the referenced sites for inland wetlands and watercourses. CLA performed the delineation in spring of 2022. The plans prepared by CLA and submitted to the Town of East Hampton show the wetlands in relation to the proposed new sewer forcemain. All of the delineated resource area is wetlands that has been previously altered and impacted for development of the sewer line and local residences. This report documents the wetland types found and the potential for impacts. This letter also serves as the soil scientist's report and documents the soils found on the site and their characteristics.

Project Purpose and Need

The subject properties are zoned as residential and are served by municipal sewer. The properties contain the existing 4 inch ductile iron sewer lines as depicted on the project plans. The applicant seeks line both pipes at these locations without adverse impacts to wetlands and watercourses through use of Best Management Practices (BMPS).

Existing Conditions

The configurations of the sites investigated are shown on the plans provided by CLA Engineers as part of the application to the IWWC. The sites was previously developed and have the existing sewer lines, streets, and houses. The site loci are shown on the project plans

The proposed sewer activities will fall outside of the wetland, in areas that were previously filled for development of the sewer line, houses, and yards. Wetland soils will not be disturbed for these projects.

Surface water runoff from the both of the sites eventually flows into Lake Pocotopaug after passing through vegetated wetland.

Wetlands were delineated with sequentially numbered pink flags, which were field located CLA Engineers. Wetland flag numbers locations and numbers are shown on the plans.

Surrounding land use is residential.

Soils and Vegetation

The NRCS soil series classifications for the sites and surrounding areas are shown in Appendix A. The upland on and around the site have soils that have been thoroughly reworked and are typically classified as Udorthents by the Natural Resources Conservation Series (NRCS). On-site soil testing was consistent with the filled and graded soils.

The on-site wetlands soils are Ridgebury, Leicester and Whitman series stony sandy loam, as determined in the field. This is consistent with the upland soils, Woodbridge, Canton and Charlton series that are shown on the soil survey and found in proximity of both of the sites.

Due to the development, there is limited natural wetland vegetation. There are red maple trees (*Acer rubrum*) and sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*) scattered along the edges of yards with a few silky dogwood (*Cornus ammomum*) and alder (*Alnus sp*) shrubs mixed in. The vegetation also includes maintained lawns and landscape plantings.

Wetland Conditions

Based on field observations and map resources, the on-site wetlands were disturbed by past grading, apparently for construction of the sewer line and houses. These wetlands perform a limited subset of functions that are typically attributed to Connecticut's wetlands. Observations relevant to functions and values of the wetlands include:

1. The wetlands are within an area of residential development.
2. No significant erosion was noted in or around the wetlands.
3. The wetlands receive storm water runoff from nearby development.
4. The wetlands lack the typical diversity of vegetation found at undisturbed sites.
5. There is no undeveloped buffer around the wetlands.
6. The December 2021 CTDEEP Natural Diversity Database (NDDDB) shows known presence of threatened, endangered or species of special concern.

Based on these observations, the on-site wetlands appear to provide limited functions including local wildlife habitat and buffering the lake. The NDDB data show known presence of protected species, however based on the limited scale of work and the disturbed nature of the site, CLA believes that there is minimal chance of impacts.

Potential for Impacts

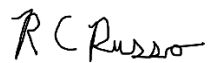
The proposed project involves work within previously developed and/or altered land. The work does have temporary work within the upland review zone, however the sites will be restored. Given the disturbed nature of the sites, there is little concern for loss of wetland function. The main concerns for potential impacts are sediments flowing offsite and into the lake during construction.

Note that the BMPs specified on the plans will prevent and minimize pollution and environmental damage and maintain the existing environmental quality, per the Town of East Hampton regulations.

Appropriate E&S to protect offsite resources during construction are shown on the plans. If these are adhered to, CLA believes the potential for impacts lower in the watershed will be minimized.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Robert C. Russo in black ink.

Robert C. Russo, C.S.S.