

## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Victoria F. Sheehan Commissioner

September 22, 2021

Mark Avery Planning Board Chair 13 Town Hall Road Madbury, NH 03823

Re: Madbury 43276

Dear Mr. Avery:

The NH Department of Transportation (DOT) is planning the subject culvert rehabilitation project located on Madbury Road, approximately 0.5 miles north of US Route 4. The existing culvert is a 58" x 36" x 132' corrugated metal arch pipe (cmp) carrying Beards Creek under Madbury Road. The existing cmp is in poor condition with heavy rust and some perforations along the invert. The proposed work includes sliplining with a corrugated metal liner, placing rip rap at the inlet for embankment stabilization, and cutting a few small trees.

Some transportation projects require mitigation for possible wetland/stream impacts. The natural resources in this project area have not yet been identified and investigations are forthcoming. Preliminary engineering studies have begun and the Department will attempt to avoid, and minimize impacts through design before determining if there will be any stream or wetland impacts that may require mitigation. As a proactive measure the Department would like to request a list of the Town's preferred/priority stream and wetland mitigation efforts, e.g. stream and wetland preservation or restoration efforts, that the Department may evaluate and consider undertaking if it is determined that the project does in fact require mitigation. Please let us know if your Town has identified such priorities. In the absence of any Town priorities to evaluate the Department will pursue permittee responsible mitigation through the Stream Passage Improvement Program (SPIP). If it's determined that no viable options exist through the SPIP, the Department will pursue a payment into the Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund (ARM Fund), at which time those funds will become competitively available through the ARM fund grant process.

Engineering studies have been initiated to refine the scope and limits of work necessary for this project. The Department's Bureau of Environment is in the process of evaluating the potential environmental impacts associated with the project. To assist in this evaluation, I am asking that you provide comments relative to the project's potential impacts on environmental, social, economic or cultural resources, by responding to the following questions.

- 1. Does the Town have a list of priority stream and wetland mitigation efforts (Top 10 Priority List) that the DOT may evaluate and consider undertaking if it is determined that the project does in fact require mitigation? If so, please provide the list. (e.g. problematic culvert/bridge crossings, land protection, habitat restoration, etc.).
- 2. Are there any existing or proposed community or regional plans that might have a bearing on this project?

- 3. Are there any natural resources of significance in the vicinity of the project? (e.g. prime wetlands, floodplains, rare species, etc.) Are there any known wildlife corridors or habitat strongholds in the vicinity of the project?
- 4. Are there any cultural resources of significance in the vicinity of the project? (e.g. stonewalls, cemeteries, historical or archeological resources, etc.) Please note that Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act offers those that possess a direct interest in historical resources, including town officials, Historical Societies, and Historical Commissions, an opportunity to become more involved in an advisory role during project development as "Consulting Parties." Those interested should contact the Department.
- 5. Are there any public parks, recreation areas, conservation lands, or wildlife/waterfowl refuges in the vicinity of the project? Have Land & Water Conservation Funds been used in the project area?
- 6. Are there any locally or regionally significant water resources or related protection areas in the project vicinity? (e.g. public water supplies, wellhead protection areas, aquifer protection districts, etc.)
- 7. Are there any water quality concerns that should be addressed during the development of this project? (e.g. stormwater management, impaired waters, etc.)
- 8. Are you aware of any existing or potential hazardous materials or contaminants in the vicinity of the project? Are there asbestos landfills or asbestos containing utility pipes located within the project limits?
- 9. Do you have any environmental concerns not previously noted (e.g. noise impacts, farmland conversion, etc.) that you feel the Department should be aware of for this project?
- 10. Will the proposed project have substantial impacts upon the surrounding area? If so, please explain.
- 11. Are you aware of any existing roadside populations of non-native invasive plant species (such as Japanese knotweed, phragmites, or purple loosestrife) in the project area?

This letter has been sent to the following departments, boards, and/or commissions:

- Board of Selectmen
- Planning Board
- Fire Department
- Town Manager

- Historical Society
  - Police Department
- Road Agent
- Conservation Commission

This work is tentatively scheduled to occur in the 2022 construction season. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require further information regarding the above referenced project. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Kerry Rycun

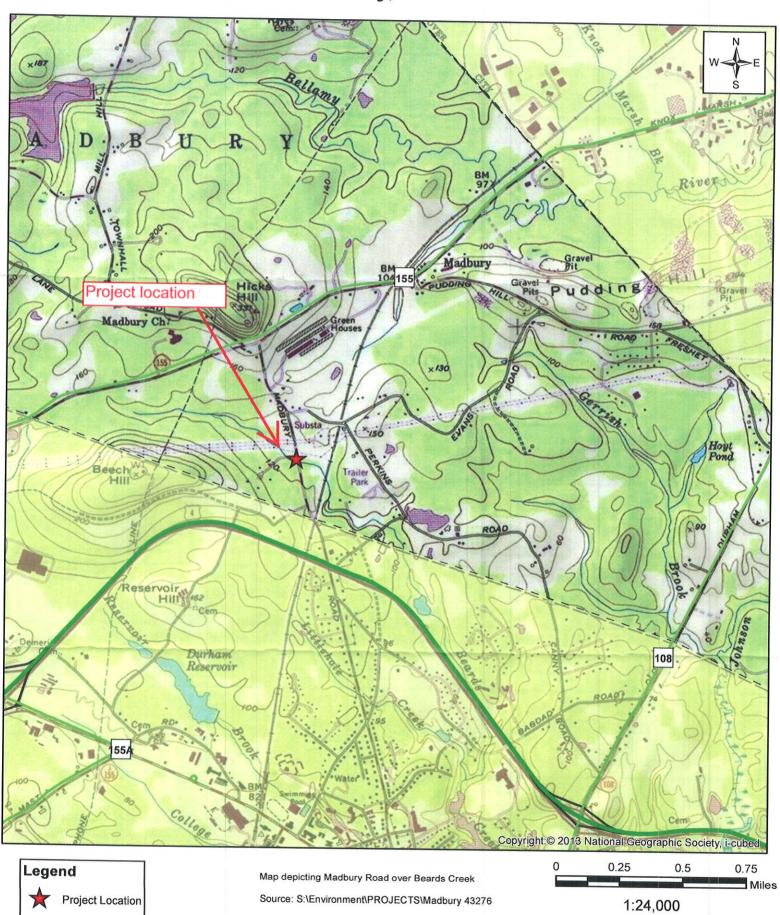
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Encl.

## **Madbury**, 43276



US Routes
State Routes

New Hampshire