



WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

Environmental Review Information Document

March 27, 2024



PROJECT TITLE: North Newport Well Development				
FUNDING RECIPIENT (ENTITY): Town of Newport, NH				
COORDINATES: [REDACTED]				
PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: Newport Water Works			PWS #: 1741010	
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW POINT OF CONTACT: Consultant				
ORGANIZATION: Weston and Sampson Engineers Inc.				
EMAIL ADDRESS: kenneys@wseinc.com				
PROJECT LOCATION(S)				
ADDRESS	TOWN	COUNTY	TAX MAP	TAX LOT
[REDACTED]	NEWPORT	Sullivan	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	NEWPORT	Sullivan	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	NEWPORT	Sullivan	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	NEWPORT	Sullivan	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

INTRODUCTION

The Town of Newport, NH has applied for funds through the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DWGTF) to finance a water infrastructure improvements project.

This document fulfills the requirements relative to providing information on the environmental review required by Env-Dw 1100 and Env-Dw 1300.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

This project will develop a new groundwater supply well and install approximately 2,000 linear feet of water main on Haserlat Park Road and Airport Road to connect the proposed well to Newport’s existing water distribution system. The proposed well will establish an additional water supply source in the northern portion of town to increase the capacity and resiliency of the water system.

Project work will include establishing the new municipal production well, construction of the associated pump station, and site access road. Increasing the water system’s capacity and resiliency will provide the Town added confidence that its existing commercial, industrial, and residential water customers will continue to receive the same level of service with increased flexibility and capacity to support economic growth in the future.

PURPOSE AND NEED

The Town currently has two water supply wells that connect to the distribution system via a single water main which runs along Unity Road. If the water main on Unity Road were to fail, the Town would lose its connection to both water supplies. The Town’s Water System Asset Management Program dated May 24, 2019, notes that the criticality of the Town’s water supply wells can be reduced by establishing a new groundwater supply not linked to Unity Road. Developing an additional water supply well that independently connects to the Town’s distribution system increases the water system’s overall resiliency and flexibility while also increasing the capacity of the system to support future development.

ALTERNATIVES

There are no viable alternatives for a new water supply. A no-action alternative would have resulted in no additional water supply for the Town.

PROJECT DETAILS

Project work will include developing the proposed groundwater supply well, construction of a pump station including treatment equipment, construction of approximately 300 linear foot (LF) of access road, installation of approximately 450 LF of new water main on Haserlat Park Road, installation of approximately 800 LF of new water main of Airport Road, and replacing and abandoning in-place 450 LF of 10-inch asbestos cement water main water on Airport Road. All work on Airport Road will occur within Town-owned public rights-of-way. Treatment considerations will include disinfection and pH adjustment. [REDACTED]

The Town hired Weston and Sampson to conduct a hydrogeological investigation in September 2022 which identified a groundwater source on the north side of town and included submission of a large groundwater withdrawal permit application to NHDES for the north well.

Permanent Disturbance: 6,400 sq. ft.

Temporary Disturbance: 19,500 sq. ft.

Total Disturbance: 25,900 sq. ft.

PROJECT SCHEDULE	
Project Milestone	Projected Date
Implementation of Test Well Program	11/30/2023
Anticipated Permit Approval Date	08/30/2024
Anticipated Design Completion Date	12/30/2024
Anticipated Construction Completion Date	12/30/2025

FUNDING PLAN

The Town of Newport, NH voted to authorize funding in the amount of \$2,410,000 for this project on 05/09/2023.

The estimated cost of the overall project is \$3,500,000. The funding plan for this project is outlined below.

Funding Source	Loan Amount	Grant Amount	Other	Loan/Grant Number
Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DWGTF)	\$572,800	\$889,200		DWGT-103
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)		\$948,000		
Local Funding			\$90,000	
Northern Borders Regional Commission		\$1,000,000		

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS AND MITIGATION

The following sections evaluate the potential environmental and socio-economic impacts that may result from the proposed project and identify all existing or anticipated environmental permits related to the project.

AIR RESOURCES

Describe any anticipated air quality related impacts and proposed mitigation efforts.

Air impacts will be limited to dust created during the construction portion of the project. Dust will be prevented and controlled through the application of water and placement of mulch on any exposed soil. No long-term air impacts are anticipated.

Does the project include the addition or replacement of a fuel burning device, stationary engine, and/or internal combustion engine (e.g. boiler, generator, water pump engine, space heater)?

Type(s) of fuel burning devices: N/A

Type(s) of fuel: N/A

Number of Diesel Engines: 0

Maximum heat output rating in million BTUs per hour (mmbtu/hr): N/A

Does the project include any renovation which includes any structures, siding, roofing, heating systems, piping or ductwork, insulation, or utility infrastructure, including but not limited to transite pipe, electrical line, water line, sewer line or storage tanks?

No

Will the project and/or construction generate any toxic air pollutants or fugitive dust?

No

Air Resources Division Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Will the ambient air quality remain within national ambient air quality standards as a direct result of the implementation of the project?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Thomas V. Guertin, 9/13/23

Comments: There are no activities described that will impact ambient air quality standards. If the project includes the addition or replacement of a fuel burning device such as a boiler or internal combustion engine (i.e. generator or water pump engine) then permitting thresholds will require consideration.

Will the siting, construction, and operation of the project be consistent with applicable State statutes and/or regulations concerning: regulated toxic air pollutants, fugitive dust, and/or opacity?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Thomas V. Guertin, 9/13/23

Comments: The designation of "Yes" assumes that best management practices are used to control dust from construction equipment and vehicular movement in the construction zone.

Will the project meet national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Thomas V. Guertin, 9/13/23

Comments: None of the activities described have the potential to emit any hazardous air pollutants.

Will the project be in compliance with the requirements specified in Env-A 1800 Asbestos Management and Control?

Answer: Yes, given the steps below are followed

Reviewer: Ray Walters, 11/09/23

Comments: The summary of this project indicates that some asbestos pipe will be disturbed. The Town, or its general contractor, should hire an asbestos abatement contractor licensed by NHDES, and the abatement contractor should contact the Asbestos Management Section before beginning any disturbance of the pipe to discuss the project and to determine what requirements in Env-A 1800 might apply.

ALTERATION OF TERRAIN

Does the project include any of the following earth moving activities as defined in Env-Wq 1502.19 (filling, grading, dredging, mining, excavation, construction, topsoil removal, stump removal, stockpiling earth material, or any other activity that results in a change to the pre-existing conditions and/or contours)?

Yes

Does the project include a temporary or permanent disturbance of 100,000 square feet of terrain, or 50,000 square feet of terrain with any portion of disturbance within the protected shoreland as defined by RSA 483-B?

No

Does the project include the disturbance of an area exceeding the steep slope criteria of Env-Wq 1502.58(b)(1)?

No

Does the project meet the criteria outlined in Env-Wq 1503.03 General Permit by Rule?

Yes

Alteration of Terrain Program Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Does the project involve earth moving activities, as defined under Env-Wq 1502.19, that would trigger an Alteration of Terrain review?

Answer: No

Reviewer: Mike Schlosser, 9/12/23

Comments:

Is the project consistent with all criteria outlined in Env-Wq 1503.03, allowing the project to proceed under the General Permit by Rule (GPBR)?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Mike Schlosser, 9/12/23

Comments:

If the project is not consistent with all criteria in Env-Wq 1503.03, can the project proceed under the GPBR if a waiver is requested and approved?

Answer: N/A

Reviewer: Mike Schlosser, 9/12/23

Comments:

Will the project require an Alteration of Terrain permit?

Answer: No

Reviewer: Mike Schlosser, 9/12/23

Comments:

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

Is the project located within any of the municipalities in NH's coastal zone?

No

Will the project require a federal license of permit (e.g. Army Corps of Engineers section 10 or 404 permit; National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit)?

N/A

Coastal Zone Management Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Is the project consistent with the enforceable policies of the NH Coastal Program in accordance with Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended? [PL 92-583]

Answer: N/A

Reviewer: Chris Williams

Comments: Newport is located outside New Hampshire's coastal zone.

CONTAMINATION AND HAZARDOUS WASTE SITES

Is the project located within one-half (1/2) mile of any known environmental contamination sources?

No

Waste Management Division Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Does the WMD anticipate any adverse effects from this project?

Answer: No
Reviewer: Meaghan Broderick
Comments: WMD does not anticipate any adverse effects from this project.

Does the Superfund Section anticipate any adverse effects from this project?

Answer: No
Reviewer: Andrew Hoffman
Comments: There are no superfund sites in Newport.

Will the project address any active and ongoing violations and/or enforcement actions?

Answer: No
Reviewer: Meaghan Broderick
Comments: There are no active or ongoing WMD violations or enforcement actions in the project area.

DESIGNATED RIVERS

Does the project fall within a Designated River Corridor?

No

Rivers Management and Protection Program Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Is the project consistent with the provisions of the Rivers Management and Protection Act and have appropriate advisory committees been notified? [RSA 483]

Answer: N/A
Reviewer: Amanda Barker-Jobin 9/11/2023
Comments: Based on the information provided, the proposed development of a new groundwater supply well and installation of approximately 2,000 linear feet of water main on Haserlat Park Road and Airport Road in Newport is not located within the corridor of a designated river.

Will the project avoid adversely affecting any rivers designated, or which are being considered for designation, under the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act? [PL 90-542]

Answer: N/A
Reviewer: Amanda Barker-Jobin 9/11/2023
Comments: Based on the information provided, the proposed development of a new groundwater supply well and installation of 2,000 linear feet of water main in Newport will not impact any federally designated Wild and Scenic River.

DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER

Does the project include the siting, rehabilitation, hydrofracking, or permitting of one of the following: a community water supply well OR a non-community, non-transient water supply well for a non-profit entity?

Yes **Type of Well:** A community water supply well

Will the project result in any wastewater discharge (including treatment backwash) onto or into the ground?

No

The project may require registration or permitting from the Underground Injection Control and/or Groundwater Discharge Programs. If the project is already registered/permited, provide the registration and/or permit number:

N/A

Have adequate measures been taken to ensure that activities associated with this project will not lead to the discharge of potential contamination to the ground and comply with rule Env-Wq 401 regarding Best Management Practices for Groundwater Protection?

Yes

Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Does the DWGB anticipate any adverse effects from this project on groundwater resources (e.g. bedrock/overburden aquifers, private water supplies, or public water supplies/systems)?

Answer: No
Reviewer: Andrew Koff, 9/18/2023
Comments: The Town of Newport and Weston and Sampson are working with the large groundwater withdrawal permitting and community well siting program on this project. In fall 2022, they submitted their preliminary application and NHDES has issued a RFMI letter in Jan 2023. We have not heard a response since that time. If they are planning to meet the deadlines proposed in this document, they will need to respond to this program in the near future. There are outstanding questions about this site that need to be addressed. Until the well receives final approval from our program, I would not recommend that water mains are constructed to the site. There are other water users and water resources in the vicinity of the north well site that could be impacted by the withdrawal. The purpose of the large groundwater withdrawal permit is to review and assess those impacts.

Does the project require registration or permitting from the Underground Injection Control and/or Groundwater Discharge programs? [Env-Dw 404; Env-Dw 402]

Answer: Yes
Reviewer: Andrew Koff, 9/18/2023
Comments: The applicant will need to obtain a temporary groundwater discharge permit for the pumping test and if there is a treatment facility constructed, that may also require registration with this program.

Have adequate measures been taken to ensure that activities associated with this project will not lead to the discharge of potential contamination to the ground, and comply with rule Env-Wq 401 regarding Best Management Practices for Groundwater Protection?

Answer: No
Reviewer: Andrew Koff, 9/18/2023
Comments: NHDES was not able to review sufficient information to be able to comment on this. However, the same program that regulates the large groundwater withdrawal regulates groundwater discharges so this issue will be addressed when the time comes.

Is the project consistent with the Sole Source Aquifers program? [SDWA 1421(e)]

Answer: N/A
Reviewer: Andrew Koff, 9/18/2023
Comments:

Will the project address any active and ongoing violations and/or enforcement actions?

Answer: N/A
Reviewer: Eric Skoglund; September 11, 2023
Comments: There are no open or ongoing violations associated with this water system.

FARMLAND PROTECTION POLICY ACT

Does the project involve acquisition of undeveloped land, conversion of undeveloped land, new construction, or site clearance?

No

Will the project impact prime farmland, unique farmland, and/or land of statewide or local importance?

Environmental Review Coordinator Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Will the project avoid adversely affecting significant amounts of prime agricultural land or agricultural operations on this land? [Farmland Protection Policy Act]

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: NRCS Farmland Conversion Impact Assessment 9/18/2023

Comments: Although parts of the project area are mapped as farmland of local importance, consultation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) concludes the project is in full compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act and no further action is required.

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

Is the project located within, or will it have an impact on, a 100-year floodplain (Zone A) or Coastal High Hazard zone (Zone V) as identified by FEMA?

No

Please describe why the project cannot be located outside of these areas, including a summary of any and all alternatives that were considered. Also provide a description of the measures proposed to mitigate these impacts.

N/A

Environmental Review Coordinator Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Is the project consistent with Executive Order 14030 (Federal Flood Risk Management Standard [FFRMS]) regarding construction on floodplains?

Answer: Yes, subject to the conditions below

Reviewer: FEMA Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) consultation 9/13/2023

Comments:

The well site is located outside the 100-year floodplain (773ft elevation) but is close to the FFRMS 100-year +3ft standard of 776ft elevation. See Attachment A for the FFRMS map of the project area. The final design and installation of the well shall comply with the following FFRMS requirements per [Env-Dw 404](#) and [EO 14030](#):

- The top of the well casing must be at least 3 feet above the 100-year base flood elevation.
- The casing must be protected from damage from floodwater, debris, etc.
- If a proposed component of a drinking water system is proposed to be located below the FFRMS flood hazard elevation and there are no practicable alternatives to the proposed site, measures shall be taken to minimize the risk of flood damage. The designer shall document the mitigating measures or design modifications that will be taken to reduce the threats from locating the project below the flood hazard elevation.

HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

Has a Request for Project Review (RPR) been submitted to the NH Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR) for the entire project scope?

No

Will the project result in changes to historical resources (including archaeological resources, cultural resources, or historic properties)?

No

Does the project require work on, or demolition of, any historic buildings (greater than 45 years old), structures (bridges, walls, culverts, etc.), districts, and/or landscapes?

No

Provide the age of the resource(s) to be impacted.

N/A

Is the project located within, or directly adjacent to, a historic district?

No

Is the project scope limited to the repair, replacement, or installation of infrastructure piping, equipment, and/or appurtenances where all work will occur within an existing building footprint, utility trenches, road surfaces?

No

Does the project involve ground disturbing activity? Describe current and previous land use and disturbances.

Yes - The proposed well site is currently undeveloped. Construction of the well, associated pump station, and installation of water main to connect the proposed well to the existing distribution system. The project will require ground disturbance at the well site on town owned land and within the public right-of-way on Corbin Road and Airport Road.

Will construction activities occur within 25 feet of a cemetery?

No

Environmental Review Coordinator Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Will the project comply with Executive Order 11593 – Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Division of Historical Resources: RPR 15325

Comments: The Division of Historical Resources (DHR) reviewed the project scope (RPR 15325).

On September 25, 2023 DHR requested a Phase 1A Archeologic Assessment be conducted in the project area to obtain additional information in order to complete a review. A Phase 1A Archeologic Assessment was completed January 6, 2024. DHR reviewed the results of the assessment and concurred with the recommendation of no further study.

DHR recommends a finding of *No Historic Properties Affected*. Should the scope of the project change, additional review by DHR will be required.

Will the project comply with sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Division of Historical Resources: RPR 15325

Comments: The Division of Historical Resources (DHR) reviewed the project scope (RPR 15325).

On September 25, 2023 DHR requested a Phase 1A Archeologic Assessment be conducted in the project area to obtain additional information in order to complete a review. A Phase 1A Archeologic Assessment was completed January 6, 2024. DHR reviewed the results of the assessment and concurred with the recommendation of no further study.

DHR recommends a finding of *No Historic Properties Affected*. Should the scope of the project change, additional review by DHR will be required.

Will the project avoid significant adverse effects on parklands or other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Division of Historical Resources: RPR 15325

Comments: The Division of Historical Resources (DHR) reviewed the project scope (RPR 15325).

On September 25, 2023 DHR requested a Phase 1A Archeologic Assessment be conducted in the project area to obtain additional information in order to complete a review. A Phase 1A Archeologic Assessment was completed January 6, 2024. DHR reviewed the results of the assessment and concurred with the recommendation of no further study.

DHR recommends a finding of *No Historic Properties Affected*. Should the scope of the project change, additional review by DHR will be required.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

Has a request for intergovernmental review been submitted to the NH Office of Strategic Initiatives for the entire project scope?

Yes

Have the results been received?

Yes

Environmental Review Coordinator Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Has the Intergovernmental Review Process been completed and have all comments been adequately addressed? [NH EO 83-10]?

Answer: Yes
Reviewer: Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) 10/27/2023
Comments: SAI#: NH23.266 Concur

NOISE

Will the project result in increased noise sources, or impact noise-sensitive areas (e.g. residential areas, schools, libraries)? Please consider both permanent and temporary impacts.

No

Describe any anticipated noise impacts that will occur as a result of the project (both temporary and permanent).

N/A

PLANTS AND WILDLIFE

Has an NHB Datacheck/IPAC/NOAA been submitted?

Submitted?: Yes **NHB Reference Number:** NHB22-2535

Will the project occur entirely within a developed area (an area that is already paved or supports structures) and the only vegetation is limited to frequently mowed grass or conventional landscaping?

No

Will the project involve the removal of trees and/or vegetation?

Yes

Please characterize the vegetation to be removed:

Forest habitats are characterized by extensive tree cover and may feature a wide array of different species and age classes. The most common forest type in New Hampshire is hemlock-hardwood-pine, though oak-pine and spruce-fir are also widespread.

Please quantify the vegetation to be removed in acreage (ONE acre is 43,560 square feet):

0.14 ac.

Timing of Activity (what month(s) vegetation removal will occur):

Fall 2024

Have any sensitive plant and/or animal species, exemplary natural communities, and/or natural community systems been identified within the project area in any of the consultations.

Consultation with the Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB) DataCheck (NHB22-2535) identified wood turtles and brook floater in the vicinity of the project area.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Section 7 Consultation identified the potential for Monarch Butterfly and the Northern Long-eared Bat in the project area.

What any or all conservation and/or mitigation measures will be incorporated into the project (including measures that would reduce a significant impact to a less than significant impact, if applicable).

Monarch Butterfly

Voluntary conservation measures for the monarch butterfly can be found through the [Monarch Joint Venture at Who Are You? | The Monarch Joint Venture.](#)

Bald and Golden Eagle

Appropriate conservation measures for Bald and Golden Eagles can be found at the following links:

- [USFWS Eagle Management Program](#)

- [Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC](#)

Migratory Birds

Appropriate conservation measures for migratory birds can be found at the following links:

- [Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds](#)
- [Incidental Take Beneficial Practices: Transportation](#)
- [Nation-wide conservation measures for birds](#)

NH Fish and Game Recommendations

1. All operators and personnel working on or entering the site should be made aware of the potential presence of wood turtles and should be provided flyers that help to identify this species, along with NH Fish and Game contact information. **Include the attached Wood Turtle flyer to the plan sheet set.**
2. Rare species information including identification, observation and reporting of observations, when to contact NH Fish and Game immediately and NH Fish and Game contact information) shall be communicated during morning tailgate meetings prior to work commencement during the construction phase of the project.
3. Turtles may be attracted to disturbed ground during nesting season. Turtle nesting season occurs approximately May 15th – June 30th. All turtle species nests are protected by NH laws. If a nest is observed or suspected, operators shall contact Melissa Winters ([603\) 479-1129](tel:6034791129)) or Josh Megyesy ([978\) 578-0802](tel:9785780802)) at NHFG immediately for further consultation. The nest or suspected nest shall be marked (surrounding roped off or cone buffer deployed) and avoided; this shall be communicated to all personnel onsite. Site activities shall not occur in the area surrounding the nest or suspected nest until further guidance is provided by NHFG.
4. All manufactured erosion and sediment control products, with the exception of turf reinforcement mats, utilized for, but not limited to, slope protection, runoff diversion, slope interruption, perimeter control, inlet protection, check dams, and sediment traps shall not contain plastic, or multifilament or monofilament polypropylene netting or mesh with an opening size of greater than 1/8 inches. **Include the attached erosion control flyer to the plan sheet set.**
5. All observations of threatened or endangered species on the project site shall be reported immediately to the NHFG nongame and endangered wildlife environmental review program by phone at ([603\) 271-2461](tel:6032712461) and by email at NHFGreview@wildlife.nh.gov, with the email subject line containing the NHB DataCheck tool results letter assigned number, the project name, and the term Wildlife Species Observation.
6. Photographs of the observed species and nearby elements of habitat or areas of land disturbance shall be provided to NHFG in digital format at the above email address for verification, as feasible.
7. In the event a threatened or endangered species is observed on the project site during the term of the permit, the species shall not be disturbed, handled, or harmed in any way prior to consultation with NHFG and implementation of corrective actions recommended by NHFG.
 - a. Site operators shall be allowed to relocate wildlife encountered if discovered within the active work zone if in direct harm from project activities. Wildlife shall be relocated in close proximity to the capture location but outside of the work zone and in the direction the individual was heading. NHFG shall be contacted immediately if this action occurs.
8. The NHFG, including its employees and authorized agents, shall have access to the property during the term of the permit.

NHFG recommends the use of Corrugated Metal Pipe (CMP) or Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP) in place of a High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) Pipe for the culvert replacement.

Brook floater (state endangered) occur in the vicinity of the project area. Soil, geological material, and water from the drilling operations shall not be allowed to route into wetlands or the Sugar River and shall be treated on site using erosion control areas featuring staked hay bales, silt fence, and compost filter socks. Erosion control methodology has been detailed in ***Standard Erosion Controls for Water Supply Well Drilling***.

Erosion Control

Erosion control methodology has been detailed in ***Standard Erosion Controls for Water Supply Well Drilling***.

The erosion controls to be employed between the proposed North Well and the downgradient wetlands and Sugar River riparian corridor, will consist of staked hay bales, surrounded by siltation fence, backed with compost filter socks. Soil and geologic material removed during drilling of the proposed well will initially be used to create a berm around the downslope end of the work area to help direct routed drainage towards the erosion control area. Excess material will be stockpiled within the erosion control area and later used to regrade the well site area and any proposed utility trenching. Any groundwater generated during the drilling process will be allowed to either infiltrate within the designated erosion control area or be filtered through the silt fence and compost filter socks.

During well development, evacuated groundwater from the well will be discharged into the erosion control area to remove solids, while the water fraction is allowed to drain into the erosion control area. A secondary discharge site will be outfitted with a sheet of plywood to prevent scouring, which in turn will be surrounded by compost filter tubes to provide filtration. During the subsequent pumping test of the proposed North Well, the pumped groundwater will be discharged to the secondary discharge site. All disturbance associated with the drilling and erosion control will be stabilized and regraded as needed. The drilling and related utility installation are not expected to result in a major change to the overall slope towards the wetlands or involve the addition of any impervious roadway surface.

Environmental Review Coordinator Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Will the project comply with State regulations regarding state-listed threatened or endangered species or exemplary communities? [RSA 212-A; RSA 217-A]

Answer: Yes
Reviewer: NHB22-2535, NH Fish and Game
Comments: Consultation with the Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB) DataCheck (NHB22-2535) determined that although there are NHB records of state species of conservation concern and rare wildlife present in the vicinity, NHB does not expect they will be impacted by the proposed project. <i>Wood Turtles</i> Wood turtles occur in the vicinity of the project area. Although Wood turtles are not a threatened or endangered species covered under RSA 212-A, they are a species of state concern afforded protections under NH Fish and Game rules. See the conservation and mitigation section above for recommendations to avoid impacts to these species. <i>Brook Floater</i> Brook floater (state endangered) occur in the vicinity of the project area. Soil, geological material, and water from the drilling operations shall not be allowed to route into wetlands or the Sugar River, and shall be treated on site using erosion control areas featuring staked hay bales, silt fence, and compost filter socks. Erosion control methodology has been detailed in <i>Standard Erosion Controls for Water Supply Well Drilling.pdf</i> . See the conservation and mitigation section above for recommendations to avoid impacts to these species.

Will the project comply with the Endangered Species Act of 1973? [PL 93-05]

Answer: Yes
Reviewer: US Fish and Wildlife Service (IPaC), Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB22-2535), NH Fish and Game
Comments: New Hampshire Fish and Game does not expect impacts to the federally listed IPaC species. Consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Section 7 digital planning tool: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) determined there will be "No Effect" to the northern long-eared bat. See the conservation/mitigation section above for best practices to avoid impacts to plant and wildlife species.

Will the project comply with the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act?

Answer: Yes
Reviewer: US Fish and Wildlife Service (IPaC) 9/12/2023
Comments: The Bald Eagle may occur in the vicinity of the project. Wherever possible, schedule earth clearing outside the window of when Bald Eagles are present to avoid possible impacts.

Will the project comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: US Fish and Wildlife Service (IPaC) 9/12/2023

Comments: Several migratory bird species may occur in the vicinity of the project area including: Bald Eagle, Black-billed Cuckoo, Bobolink, Canada Warbler, Chimney Swift, Evening Grosbeak, Lesser Yellowlegs, Olive-site Flycatcher, Prairie Warbler, and Wood Thrush. Wherever possible, schedule earth moving activities outside the window of when these species may be present to avoid impacts to migratory birds.

If any waterbodies will be impounded, diverted, controlled, or modified then will the project comply with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Molly Thunberg 9/19/2023

Comments: No waterbodies will be impounded as part of this project.

SHORELAND

Will any portion of the project occur within 250 feet of public waters?

No

Has a Shoreland Permit been obtained or applied for?

Permit?: N/A Permit Number: N/A

Shoreland Program Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

The project appears to require review and permitting by the Shoreland Protection Program. [RSA 483-B]

Answer: No

Reviewer: D. Forst

Comments:

Will the project address any active and ongoing violations and/or enforcement actions?

Answer: No

Reviewer: D. Forst

Comments:

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC

Will the project serve a disadvantaged community or result in any impacts on disadvantaged residential areas?

Yes

Environmental Review Coordinator Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Will the siting avoid having a significant adverse effect on an existing residential area in accordance with Executive Order 12898 regarding Environmental Justice?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Molly Thunberg 9/26/2023

Comments: This project is expected to have positive social and economic impacts for the community served. The financial impact on ratepayers is expected to be minimal due to low-cost funding provided.

WASTEWATER – RESIDUALS MANAGEMENT

Does the proposed project include any construction that may encounter wastewater or wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) sludge/biosolids? Not applicable for Wastewater projects.

No

Does the drinking water system contain a drinking water treatment facility (DWTF)?

Yes

Does the proposed project involve infrastructure (e.g. piping, pumps/stations/storage) for raw water (from the source to system inlet) or treated water (from the DWTF outlet to the end user)?

Yes

Does the DWTF include the discharge of water residuals from treatment equipment backwash process to an external infiltration lagoon/basin for dewatering/disposal?

No

Wastewater – Residuals Management Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Is the project consistent with EPA’s most recent version of Standards for the Use and Disposal of Sewage Sludge? [40 CFR 503]

Answer: N/A
Reviewer: Wade Pelham
Comments:

Is the project consistent with EPA’s 1996 handbook “Technology Transfer Handbook: Management of Water Treatment Plant Residuals”?

Answer: N/A
Reviewer: Wade Pelham
Comments:

Is the project consistent with the current State regulations regarding sludge disposal? [Env-Wq 800]

Answer: N/A
Reviewer: Wade Pelham
Comments:

WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER PERMITTING

Will the total contiguous land disturbance for this project and any additional phases be one (1) acre or more?

No

Will there be a dewatering discharge to a surface water during construction?

No

Is the discharge contaminated, or does it have the potential to be contaminated?

N/A

Does the project involve the construction or upgrade of a wastewater treatment facility or water treatment facility?

Yes

Will the completed project result in a new or increased discharge to a surface water?

No

Does the project involve the addition, modification, or relocation of a stormwater discharge?

No

Wastewater – Permitting Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Does the project require any State Surface Water Discharge Permits and/or Federal NPDES Permits, including the NPDES Stormwater Permits? [CWA 402; 40 CFR 122.26 (b) et seq.; CWA 402(p)]

Answer: No
Reviewer: Zach Lorch, 9/25/2025
Comments: In an email dated 11/9/2023, it was confirmed that no wastewater that would be discharged to a surface water would be generated from the construction or upgrade of a water treatment facility.

Is the project subject to the state antidegradation policy? [40 CFR 131.12; Env-Wq 1708]

Answer: No
Reviewer: Zach Lorch, 9/25/2025
Comments: See previous comment.

Will the project address any active and ongoing violations and/or enforcement actions?

Answer: No
Reviewer: Teresa Ptak 9/12/2023
Comments:

WETLAND PROGRAM

Does the project area contain any vernal pools?

No

Describe what measures and construction practices will be implemented to minimize impacts to these resources.

N/A

Are impacts to wetlands and/or streams anticipated as a result of this project?

No

Describe the impacts and quantify, in square footage, the temporary and permanent disturbance.

N/A

Has a wetland permit been obtained from the NHDES Land Resource Management Program?

N/A

Does the project include stream crossings consisting of repair, replacement, replacement-in-kind, rehabilitation (e.g. slip lining); installation of a culvert, arch, or bridge; or installation of a temporary stream crossing?

No

Will any waterbodies be impounded, diverted, controlled, or modified as part of the project?

No

Wetland Program Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Under the provisions of RSA 482-A the project appears to require review and permitting by the Wetlands Bureau.

Answer: YES
Reviewer: Kurt Yuengling
Comments: It appears that the proposed new water main crosses the intermittent stream two times approaching the proposed well pump facility location. If there is potential to adjust the proposed new water main line slightly to the south, then it appears no direct impacts to wetlands would be necessary. If impacts are determined to be necessary, a state wetland permit would be required and the applicant should identify the alternatives considerations to inform how project wetlands avoidance and minimization measures have been achieved.

Are there any ongoing enforcement actions which will be affected by this project?

Answer: No
Reviewer: Kurt Yuengling
Comments:

Will the project comply with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act?

Answer: Yes
Reviewer: Molly Thunberg 9/29/2023
Comments: No impacts to waterbodies will result from this project.

Additional comments

Reviewer: Karl Benedict 1/19/2024

The wetland delineation report does identify multiple wetlands within the flagged project area. It appears that the proposed new water main crosses the intermittent stream two times approaching the proposed well pump facility location. If there is potential to adjust the proposed new water main line slightly to the south, then it appears no direct impacts to wetlands would be necessary. If impacts are determined to be necessary, then the US Army Corps of Engineers would be notified of the state wetland permit application and would review associated impacts accordingly. For additional information, the applicant should contact the US Army Corps of Engineers with questions:

Main Office (covering CT, MA, NH, RI)

Concord Park, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2718

[\(978\) 318-8338](tel:9783188338)

PUBLIC REVIEW

A public notice will be published by NHDES and the Town of Newport, NH and a public comment period will be held in accordance with Env-Dw 1100 and Env-Dw 1300.

Reviewers in the Environmental Concerns and Mitigation section above identified potential impacts to large groundwater withdrawals, groundwater discharges and wetlands. The permitting process for large groundwater withdrawals, groundwater discharges and wetlands per statutory and regulatory requirements will ultimately ensure that these aspects of the project will be refined in a manner that minimizes impacts such that no significant impacts will occur.

Based on the information outlined above and in accordance with Env-Dw 1100 and Env-Dw 1300, NHDES has determined that this project qualifies for a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Attachments

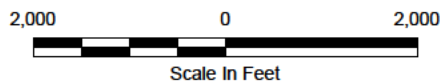
The following attachments detail this project:

- Attachment A USGS Topographic Map.
- Attachment B Project Area Map.
- Attachment C FEMA Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) Map.
- Attachment D Standard Erosion Controls for Water Supply Well Drilling.
- Attachment E Site Photos.
- Attachment F NH Fish and Game Wood Turtle Flyer.

DRAFT

**FIGURE 1
TOWN OF NEWPORT, NH
PROPOSED NORTH WELL**

LOCUS MAP



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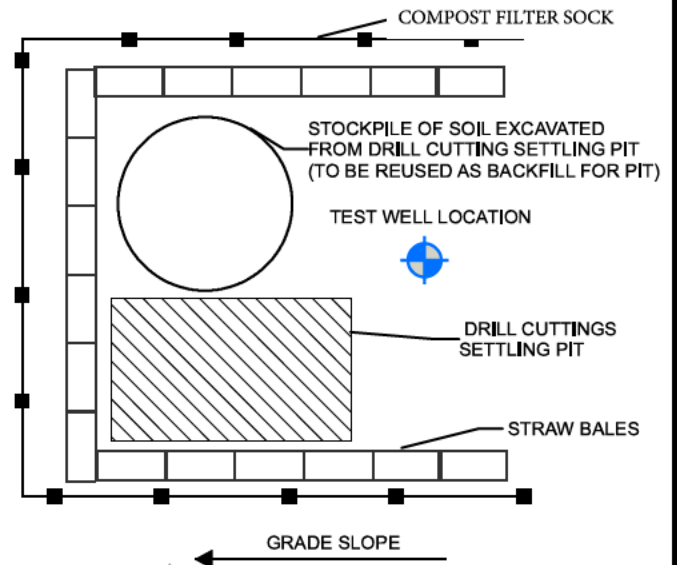


FEMA Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) ^{Attachment C}

Date exported: 9/18/2023
Data credit NHDES, GRANIT, FEMA



Legend		
NHDArea	~ Base Flood Elevations	Lidar BareEarth DEM meters
StreamRiver	Flood Hazard Zones	Value
NHDWaterbody	1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard	≤236.5248
LakePond	Regulatory Floodway	≤1916.6
Base Flood Elevations	0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard	Newport Well

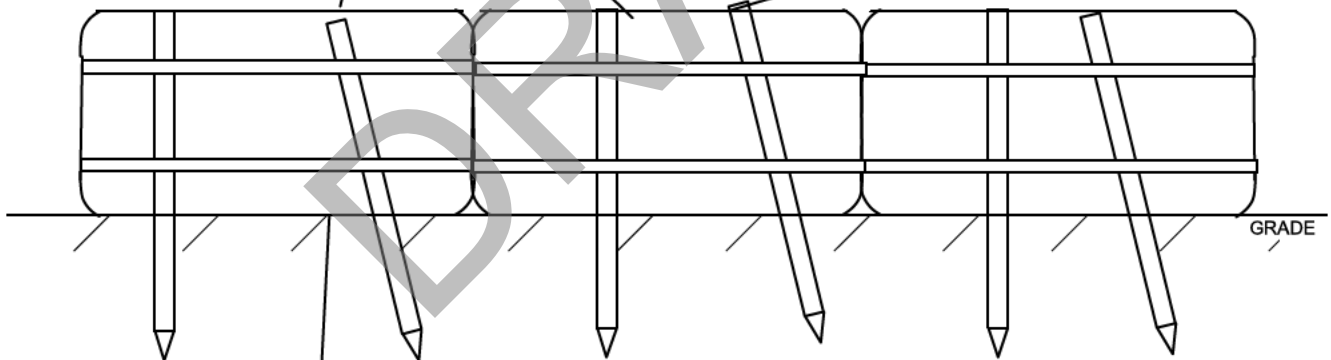


TYPICAL EROSION CONTROL SETUP FOR TEST WELL SITE

(INSTALLED AT EACH TEST WELL SITE)
SCALE: 1" = 10' - 0"

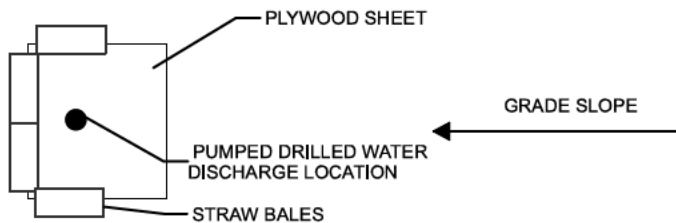
2 RE-BARS, STEEL PICKETS OR 2"X2" STAKES
PLACED 1 1/2' TO 2' IN GROUND, DRIVE
STAKES FLUSH WITH BALES

ANGLE FIRST STAKE TOWARD
PREVIOUSLY LAID BALE



BOUND BALES PLACED ON CONTOUR

STRAW BALES
NOT TO SCALE



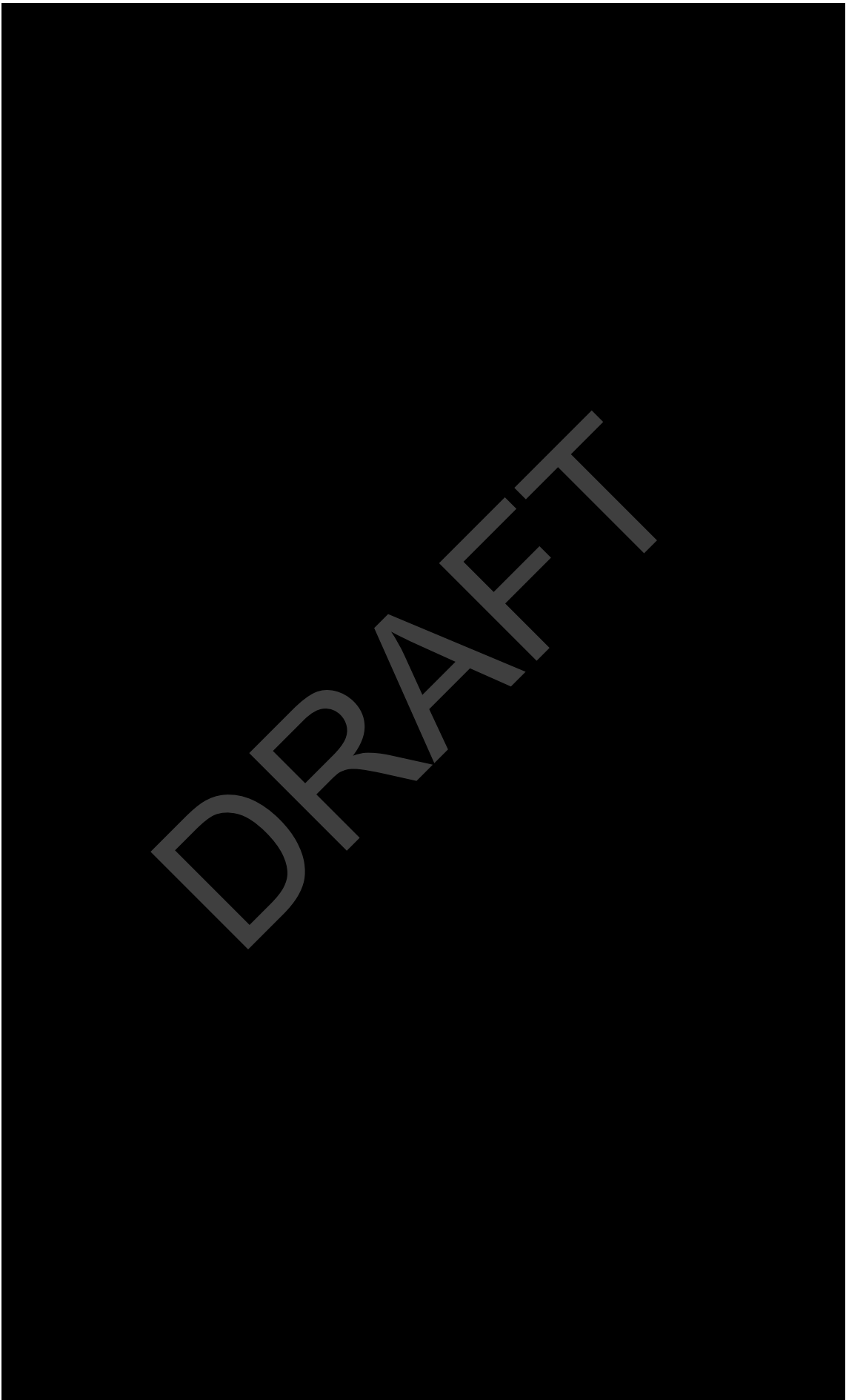
EROSION CONTROLS FOR SECONDARY DISCHARGE LOCATION

(INSTALLED WHEN WELL YIELD EXCEEDS CAPACITY OF EROSION CONTROLS AT WELL HEAD)
NOT TO SCALE

FIGURE X	
STANDARD EROSION CONTROLS FOR WATER-SUPPLY WELL DRILLING	
July 2021	SCALE: NOTED

Airport Road, Newport NH





Wood Turtle

Attachment F

(New Hampshire Species of Special Concern)

Turtles may be attracted to disturbed ground during nesting season (**May 15th – June 30th**)

Turtles are most active from **April 15th - October 15th**



Identifying traits

- Neck and forelimbs are orange.
- Characterized by its highly sculpted shell with each large scute taking on an irregular pyramidal shape.
- Adults can be 5-8 inches long.

Habitat Use

- wooded areas near streams
- uplands surrounding streams



NOTE: It is illegal to remove a wood turtle from the wild.

Observations shall be reported to NH Fish & Game at NHFGReview@wildlife.nh.gov or at 603-271-2461
Photo documentation, location and date/time of observation is helpful.



State laws pertaining to this species RSA 207:1, FIS 804.02, Fis 1401.03 (a)