



TOWN OF EXETER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

10 FRONT STREET • EXETER, NH • 03833-3792 • (603) 778-0591 • FAX 772-4709

www.exeternh.gov

PUBLIC NOTICE EXETER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Monthly Meeting

The Exeter Conservation Commission will meet virtually (see connection info below* and details attached) on
Tuesday, January 12th, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order:

1. Introduction of Members Present
2. Public Comment

Action Items:

1. Raynes Farm Winter Solstice Contest Drawing
2. Prime Wetland Waiver Request for a Forestry Statutory Permit by Notification for Russel Hodge (Tax Map 107/8) (*Frank Varney, Logger, Crystal Eastman*)
3. Annual Goal Discussion
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Property Management
 - b. Trails
 - c. Outreach Events
5. Approval of Minutes: December 8th, 2020 Meeting
6. Correspondence
7. Other Business
8. Next Meeting: Date Scheduled (2/9/21), Submission Deadline (1/29/21)

Andrew Koff

Exeter Conservation Commission

Posted January 8, 2020 Exeter Town Website www.exeternh.gov and Town Office kiosk.

***ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION:**

Virtual Meetings can be watched on Channel 22 and on Exeter TV's Facebook and YouTube pages.

To participate in public comment, click this link: <https://exeternh.zoom.us/j/86299011638>

To participate via telephone, call: +1 646 558 8656 and enter the Webinar ID: 862 9901 1638

Please join the meeting with your full name if you want to speak.

Use the "Raise Hand" button to alert the chair you wish to speak. On the phone, press *9.

More instructions for how to participate can be found here: <https://www.exeternh.gov/townmanager/virtual-town-meetings>

Contact us at extvg@exeternh.gov or 603-418-6425 with any technical issues.

**TOWN OF EXETER
PLANNING DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM**

Date: January 1st, 2021
To: Conservation Commission Board Members
From: Kristen Murphy, Natural Resource Planner
Subject: January 12th Conservation Commission Meeting

1. **Scavenger Hunt Results:**

We will draw two names for the scavenger hunt submissions during the live meeting. Winners will receive a gift card for coffee/cocoa. You can view the submissions on the town's website [HERE](#)

2. **Prime Wetland Waiver:**

In accordance [with Env-Wt 706.03](#) the state can issue a waiver for forestry within a prime wetland. Applicants are required to provide written comments from the Conservation Commission as to whether the applicant has demonstrated that there will be no significant net loss of wetland values as identified by the municipality in the prime wetland report. Exeter was one of the first communities in the state to designate their prime wetlands and completed the effort in the mid-90s. We updated our report in 2005. Our 2005 update did not include functions and values assessment and I was unable to find a copy of our original report so I advised the applicant to extrapolate the functions and values from the Hampton Falls prime wetland report, as the wetland spans town boundaries. At the time of this memo, I have not received supplemental information from the applicant regarding the functions/values. Your packet includes the prime wetland waiver application as well as the Statutory Permit by Notification.

Suggested Motion for request:

_____ *We have reviewed this proposal and have no objections to the requested waiver as presented*

_____ *We have reviewed this proposal and have no objections to the requested waiver provided the following conditions are met:*

_____ *We have reviewed this proposal object to the waiver for the following reason(s):*

3. **Annual Goals:** Your packet includes last year's annual goals, as well as a spreadsheet that incorporates recommendations from the master plan (as well as other relevant plans – C-rise, trail plan, etc.) as food for thought.

The following is the 2020 accomplishments:

- ***Wetland zoning amendment***
- ***Conservation Fund warrant article approved \$50k***
- ***McDonnell volunteer gate management***
- ***increased trail use***
- ***new trails at Morrisette, Smith Page and new parking lot on Garrison Ln (DPW)***
- ***700+ pollinator friendly plants at Morrisette (incl weekly watering)***
- ***Tree ceremony @ Lincoln St***
- ***Trail Challenge***
- ***Landowner outreach for conservation lands***
- ***invasive removal at HS***
- ***Raynes field perimeter maintenance***
- ***18 rain barrels sold***
- ***virtual bird walk at Raynes***
- ***joined pollinator pathways***
- ***wildlife corridor work at Bloody Brook***
- ***climate resources workshop***
- ***Parks and Rec partner = kids hiking program***
- ***winter solstice scavenger hunt***
- ***Raynes clean up, repairs***

Varney & Sons Logging, LLC

22 Mountain View Drive, Effingham, NH 03882

P.O. Box 932, Center Ossipee, NH 03814

Tel: (603) 539.2905

www.varneylogging.com

Frank W. Varney, Owner

varney_frank@yahoo.com

January 4, 2021

Via E-mail: kmurphy@exeternh.gov

Kristen Murphy
Natural Resource Planner
Exeter Town Offices
10 Front Street
Exeter, NH 03833

Re: Map 107, Lot 8 – Prime Wetland Waiver for Forestry Statutory Permit by Notification

Dear Kristen:

Attached please find a Prime Wetland Waiver application for review by the Conservation Commission at their next meeting, which I understand to be on or about January 13, 2021.

Also attached for reference is a copy of the actual application for a Forestry Statutory Permit by Notification.

Please note that Section 4 (of the Prime Wetland Waiver application), notes that written comments from the conservation commission are required when filing the application with the NH DES. Accordingly, at this point in time, we are submitting the application to the Conservation Commission for review and comment. Once we receive the review and comment back from the Commission, we will thereafter file the actual application. Upon filing the actual application, a copy will be mailed to the Town of Exeter, including the Conservation Commission.

At this time, it is respectfully requested that the Conservation Commission review the Prime Wetland Waiver application and provide the following, in accordance with Section 4 of the Waiver application:

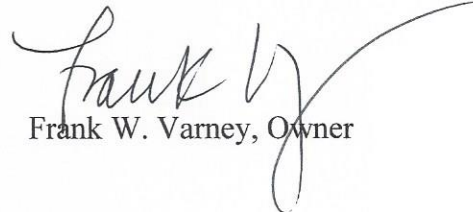
Written comments from the conservation commission or local governing authority as applicable, stating that:

- The members have no objections to the requested waiver.
- The members have no objections to the waiver if the conditions specified in the comments are met. OR

Thank you so much for your time and assistance with this matter.

Naturally, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Very truly yours,



Frank W. Varney, Owner

Enclosures



FORESTRY
STATUTORY PERMIT-BY-NOTIFICATION (SPN)
 Water Division/Land Resources Management
 Wetlands Bureau
[Check the Status of your Notification](#)



RSA/Rule: RSA 482-A:3, V/ Env-Wt 308; Env-Wt 520

LOGGER/FORESTER LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, M.I.: **VARNEY, FRANK W.**

Administrative Use Only	Administrative Use Only	<input type="checkbox"/> SPN complete and project as described conforms with all applicable requirements.	
		<input type="checkbox"/> SPN incomplete and/or project as described does not conform with all applicable requirements.	
		File No.:	Reviewer's Initials:
		Check No.:	Amount:

Terms in **bold font** are defined on the attached Definition of Terms page.

SECTION 1 - PROJECT CRITERIA	
SECTION 1A - WILL THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY:	
Exceed 3,000 square feet (SF) of permanent wetlands impacts per crossing (except for corduroy) (Env-Wt 520.05(b)(2))?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Propose impacts to a bog, marsh, sand dune, tidal wetlands , or undisturbed tidal buffer zone (Env-Wt 520.05(c)(2))?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Propose impacts in an area with documented occurrences of a protected species or habitat where the responsible party has not received recommendations from the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources' Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB) or NH of Fish and Game Department (NHF&G), or both, as applicable, regarding the impacted protected species or habitat (Env-Wt 407.02(c); 520.05(c)(3))?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If you answered "Yes" to any of the above questions, you cannot use this form. If you answered " No " to all the above questions, continue to Section 1B.	
SECTION 1B - ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES (Env-Wt 520.05(a))	
Will the proposed work be limited to one or more of the activities listed in Section 1B?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If you answered "No", you cannot use this form. If you answered "Yes", check all proposed activities:	

lrn@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2147

Wetlands Bureau, 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095

www.des.nh.gov

- Roadway** construction through forested **wetlands** for the purpose of conducting forest management activities where:
- Roads are cleared only by felling timber in the **roadway**;
 - The road base is constructed using no **fill** other than:
 1. Snow pushed onto and frozen over the road base, or
 2. Stumps inverted in places where support of the road base is necessary;
 - The minimum length and number of ditches necessary to create and maintain adequate drainage are constructed in accordance with the ***New Hampshire Best Management Practices for Erosion Control on Timber Harvesting Operations (Forestry BMPs)*** and water quality protection measures;
 - Each road crossing is no more than 15 feet wide;
 - **Stream crossings** incorporate pole fords with no removal of stumps within the stream **banks**;
 - Spring retirement of winter roads includes soil stabilization and drainage, such as water bars, necessary to prevent the **roadway** from redirecting or channeling surface water runoff; and
 - A corduroy skid trail for any single forested **wetland** crossing does not exceed 1,000 feet in length, measured along the proposed skid trail.
- Installation of a permanent crossing, such as a culvert, stone ford, and associated **fill**, to permit vehicular access to a parcel for forest management, only if:
- Access is not used for subdivision, development, or other land conversion to non-forestry uses, except that forestry uses may be combined with **normal agricultural operations** or **trail** construction or maintenance, or both;
 - **Roadway** width exclusive of side slopes, at the crossing does not exceed 20 feet;
 - **Roadway** width, measured at the toe of the **roadway** side slopes is minimized and does not exceed 50 feet;
 - **Fill** for any single **wetland** crossing does not exceed 50 feet in length, measured along the proposed access way;
 - **Wetland** crossings are limited to those that:
 1. Do not impact any **bogs, vernal pools, marshes, sand dunes, tidal wetlands**, undisturbed **tidal buffer zone**;
 2. Are not located in **designated prime wetlands** or **duly-established 100-foot buffers** unless a prime wetlands waiver has been obtained in accordance with Env-Wt 700;
 3. Only cross a **swamp** or **wet meadow** if such **swamp** or **wet meadow** has no standing water for 10 months per year or more; and
 4. Are not located in a **protected species** habitat unless authorized under Env-Wt 407; and
 - For **stream crossings**, the scoured stream width is no wider than 8 feet.
- Construction of a temporary crossing on a non-tidal **watercourse** of any width for the transportation of forest products, only if the temporary crossing:
- Is not in or adjacent to **designated prime wetlands** or a **duly-established 100-foot buffer** unless a prime wetlands waiver has been obtained in accordance with Env-Wt 700;
 - Is not located in a **protected species** habitat unless authorized under Env-Wt 407;
 - Is not used for access to property that has been converted to non-forestry uses, except that forestry uses may be combined with **normal agricultural operations** or **trail** construction or maintenance or both;
 - Incorporates not more than one pier or post per 15 feet of span;
 - Incorporates one or more abutments in the stream **bank(s)** if necessary; and
 - If other than corduroy, is removed within 2 years of the date the SPN is issued by the NHDES Wetlands Bureau, provided that if weather conditions preclude the removal of the crossing when the work is completed, the crossing may remain in place until weather conditions allow its removal.

- Repair of existing forestry road crossing that:
- Crosses a **watercourse** for which the scoured channel is 8 feet wide or narrower;
 - Is not in **designated prime wetlands** or a **duly-established 100-foot buffer** unless a prime wetlands waiver has been obtained in accordance with Env-Wt 700;
 - Is not located in a **protected species** habitat unless authorized under Env-Wt 407.
 - Is not used for access to property that has been converted to non-forestry uses, except that forestry uses may be combined with **normal agricultural operations** or trail construction or maintenance or both.
 - The structure disturbs less than 3,000 SF.

SECTION 2 - JOB SITE LOCATION (RSA 482-A:3, V(b)(3))

(A separate notification must be filed with each municipality where jurisdictional impacts are proposed.)

TOWN/CITY: EXETER

TAX MAP/LOT NUMBER: MAP 107, LOT 8

SECTION 3 - PROPERTY OWNER(S) (RSA 482-A:3, V(b)(1))

LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, M.I.: HODGE, RUSSELL G.

MAILING ADDRESS: <u>25 CENTER COURT</u>	TOWN/CITY: <u>LAGUNA NIGUEL</u>	STATE: <u>CA</u>	ZIP CODE: <u>92677</u>
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SECTION 4 - LOGGER / FORESTER (CIRCLE ONE) (RSA 482-A:3, V(b)(2))

LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, M.I.: VARNEY, F RANK W.

MAILING ADDRESS: <u>P.O. BOX 932</u>	TOWN/CITY: <u>CENTER OSS�PEE</u>	STATE: <u>NH</u>	ZIP CODE: <u>03814</u>
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SECTION 5 - ATTACHMENTS

Verify the following attachments are submitted with this form by checking each box below and filling all required information.

DataCheck identification number and an affirmation that recommendations have been received (Env-Wt 308.05(a)(2)).

NHB Identification Number: NHB 20 - 0278

Questions related to completing this process should be directed to the NHB.

United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic map or Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soils map, with the type and location of all **wetland** and waterbody crossings clearly indicated (RSA 482-A:3, V(b)(4)).

Such information as is needed to demonstrate the criteria for minimum impact projects are met (Env-Wt 308.05(a)(2)(b)).

If any work is proposed within **designated prime wetlands** or **duly-established 100-foot prime wetlands buffers**, a written waiver must be obtained in accordance with Env-Wt 706. Please check the box corresponding to your project:

No waiver required.

NHDES issued a waiver on (enter date the waiver was issued): / /

I am filing a waiver request with this notification. Please include the request form and the \$200 waiver request fee, per Env-Wt 706.04(b)(5).*

* **NOTE:** If you submit a waiver request with this notification, you may not begin work until the waiver is issued. NHDES must wait 14 days for the Municipal Conservation Commission to review the prime wetlands waiver request before acting upon it (RSA 482-A:11, IV(b)(3)).

\$25 filing fee. Check or money order for \$25 payable to "Treasurer – State of NH" (RSA 482-A:3, I (c)).

SECTION 6 - REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS

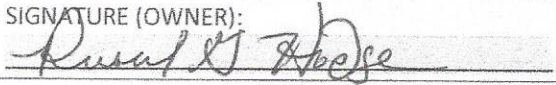
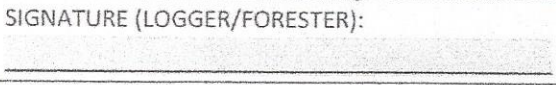

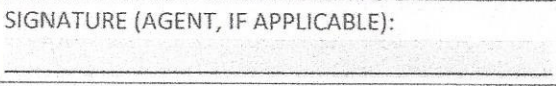
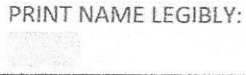

By initialing each item and signing this notification, the person responsible for the activity affirms that (Env-Wt 308.05(b)(2)):







Initials: FWV	The project is not located in a Priority Resource Area (PRA) , except as provided in Env-Wt 407.
Initials: FWV	All recommendations of NHB and NHF&G have been received.
Initials: FWV	The person responsible for the activity is aware of the limits of the SPN and applicable BMPs for the project, and will adhere to both.

By initialing each item and signing this application, the person responsible for the activity certifies that (Env-Wt 308.05(b)(1)):

Initials: FWV	To the best of the signer's knowledge and belief, all required notifications have been provided.
Initials: FWV	The information submitted on or within this notification is true, complete, and not misleading to the best of the signer's knowledge and belief.
Initials: FWV	<p>The signer understands that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The submission of false, incomplete, or misleading information constitutes grounds for NHDES to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deny the application. 2. Revoke any approval that is granted based on the information. 3. If the signer is a certified wetland scientist, licensed surveyor, or professional engineer licensed to practice in New Hampshire, refer the matter to the joint board of licensure and certification established by RSA 310-A:1. • The signer is subject to the penalties specified in New Hampshire law for falsification in official matters, currently RSA 641. • The signature shall constitute authorization for the department to inspect the site of the proposed project, pursuant to RSA 482-A:6, II.
Initials: FWV	The filing of an intent to cut form under RSA 79:10 shall be considered as permission to the Department or the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, or their agents, to enter the property for determining compliance with RSA 482-A (RSA 482-A:3, V(d)).
Initials: FWV	If the applicant is not the owner of the property, each property owner signature shall constitute certification by the signer that he or she is aware of the application being filed and does not object to the filing.

SECTION 7 - REQUIRED SIGNATURE (Env-Wt 308.05(b)(2); Env-Wt 311.11)

SIGNATURE (OWNER): 	PRINT NAME LEGIBLY: RUSSELL G. HODGE	DATE: 12-21-2020
SIGNATURE (LOGGER/FORESTER): 	PRINT NAME LEGIBLY: FRANK W. VARNEY	DATE: 
SIGNATURE (AGENT, IF APPLICABLE): 	PRINT NAME LEGIBLY: 	DATE: 

SECTION 6 - REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS		
By initialing each item and signing this notification, the person responsible for the activity affirms that (Env-Wt 308.05(b)(2)):		
Initials: FWV	The project is not located in a Priority Resource Area (PRA) , except as provided in Env-Wt 407.	
Initials: FWV	All recommendations of NHB and NHF&G have been received.	
Initials: FWV	The person responsible for the activity is aware of the limits of the SPN and applicable BMPs for the project, and will adhere to both.	
By initialing each item and signing this application, the person responsible for the activity certifies that (Env-Wt 308.05(b)(1)):		
Initials: FWV	To the best of the signer's knowledge and belief, all required notifications have been provided.	
Initials: FWV	The information submitted on or within this notification is true, complete, and not misleading to the best of the signer's knowledge and belief.	
Initials: FWV	<p>The signer understands that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The submission of false, incomplete, or misleading information constitutes grounds for NHDES to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Deny the application. Revoke any approval that is granted based on the information. If the signer is a certified wetland scientist, licensed surveyor, or professional engineer licensed to practice in New Hampshire, refer the matter to the joint board of licensure and certification established by RSA 310-A:1. The signer is subject to the penalties specified in New Hampshire law for falsification in official matters, currently RSA 641. The signature shall constitute authorization for the department to inspect the site of the proposed project, pursuant to RSA 482-A:6, II. 	
Initials: FWV	The filing of an intent to cut form under RSA 79:10 shall be considered as permission to the Department or the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, or their agents, to enter the property for determining compliance with RSA 482-A (RSA 482-A:3, V(d)).	
Initials: FWV	If the applicant is not the owner of the property, each property owner signature shall constitute certification by the signer that he or she is aware of the application being filed and does not object to the filing.	
SECTION 7 - REQUIRED SIGNATURE (Env-Wt 308.05(b)(2); Env-Wt 311.11)		
SIGNATURE (OWNER): 	PRINT NAME LEGIBLY: RUSSELL G. HODGE	DATE: 
SIGNATURE (LOGGER/FORESTER): 	PRINT NAME LEGIBLY: FRANK W. VARNEY	DATE: 12-21-2020
SIGNATURE (AGENT, IF APPLICABLE): 	PRINT NAME LEGIBLY: 	DATE: 



NEW HAMPSHIRE NATURAL HERITAGE BUREAU
NHB DATACHECK RESULTS LETTER

To: Crystal Eastman-Varney
P.O. Box 432

Ossipee, NH 03864

From: NH Natural Heritage Bureau

Date: 2/3/2020 (valid for one year from this date)

Re: Review by NH Natural Heritage Bureau of request submitted 1/26/2020

NHB File ID: NHB20-0278

Applicant: Frank Varney

Location: Hampton Falls; Exeter
Tax Maps: Map 6, Lot 20; Map 107, Lot 8

Project

Description: Selective Cut Timber Harvesting using bridge mats to cross soft areas.

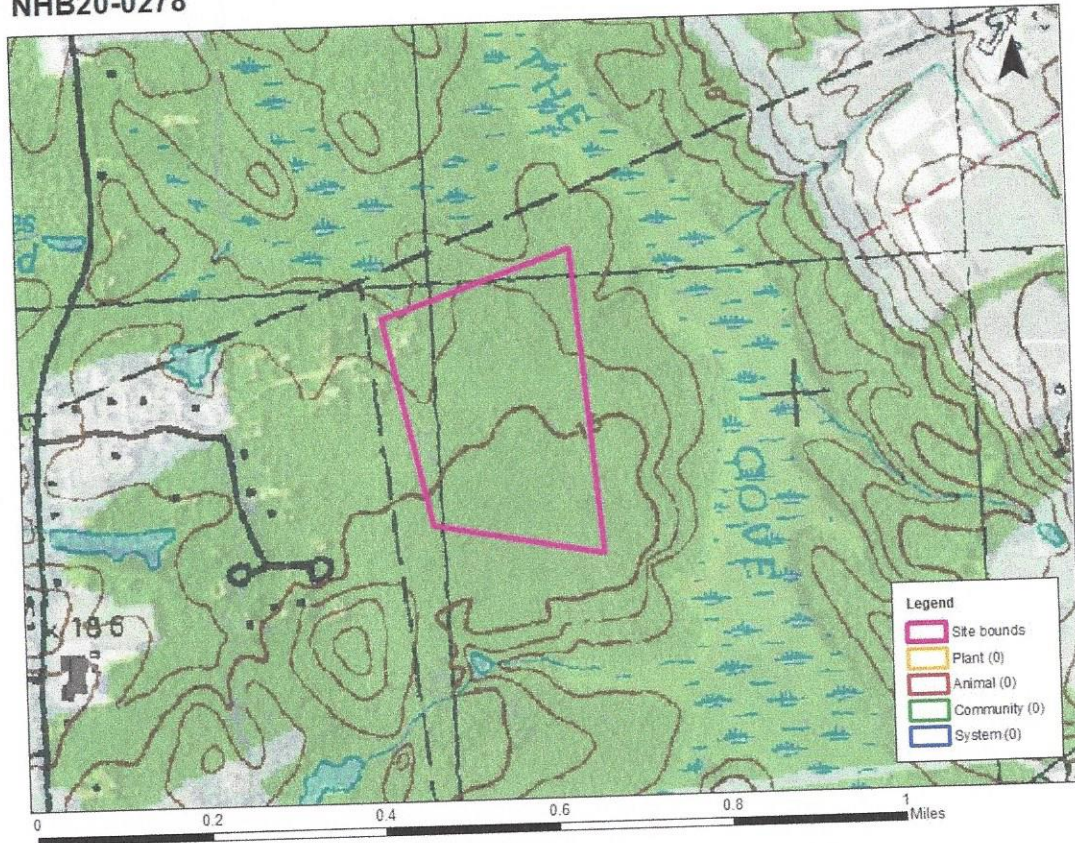
The NH Natural Heritage database has been checked by staff of the NH Natural Heritage Bureau and/or the NH Nongame and Endangered Species Program for records of rare species and exemplary natural communities near the area mapped below. The species considered include those listed as Threatened or Endangered by either the state of New Hampshire or the federal government.

It was determined that, although there was a NHB record (e.g., rare wildlife, plant, and/or natural community) present in the vicinity, we do not expect that it will be impacted by the proposed project. This determination was made based on the project information submitted via the NHB Datacheck Tool on 1/26/2020, and cannot be used for any other project.



MAP OF PROJECT BOUNDARIES FOR: NHB20-0278

NHB20-0278



YR TOWN OP# T
 - - -

For Tax Year April 1, 20 to March 31, 21

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT (If filling in form on-line; use TAB Key to move through fields)

- Town/City of: EXETER
- Tax Map/Block/Lot or USFS Sale Name & Unit No.
TAX MAP 107, LOT 8
- Intent Type: Original Supplemental
(Original Intent Number)
- Name of Access Road: DRINKWATER ROAD
- a. Acreage of Lot: 6.4 Acreage of Cut: 6
- b. Anticipated Start Date: 12/30/2020
- Type of ownership (check only one):
 - Owner of Land and Stumpage (Sole Owner)
 - Owner of Land and Stumpage (Joint Tenants)
 - Owner of Land and Stumpage (Tenants in Common)
 - Previous owner retaining deeded timber rights
 - Owner/Purchaser of stumpage & timber rights on public lands (Fed., State, municipal, etc.) or Utility Easements

REPORT OF CUT / CERTIFICATE TO BE SENT TO:
 OWNER OR LOGGER / FORESTER
 BY MAIL OR E-MAIL

7. I/We hereby accept responsibility for reporting all timber cut within 60 days after the completion of the operation or by May 15, whichever comes first. I/We also assume responsibility for any yield tax which may be assessed. (If a corporation, an officer must sign.)

Attach a signature page for additional owners.

** Russell G. Hodge*
 SIGNATURE (in ink) OF OWNER(S) OR CORPORATE OFFICER(S) DATE SIGNED

RUSSELL G. HODGE
 PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE NAME OF OWNER(S) OR CORPORATE OFFICER(S)

SIGNATURE (in ink) OF OWNER(S) OR CORPORATE OFFICER(S) DATE SIGNED

PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE NAME OF OWNER(S) OR CORPORATE OFFICER(S)

25 CENTER COURT
 MAILING ADDRESS
LAGUNA NIGUEL CA 92677
 CITY OR TOWN STATE ZIPCODE
 E-MAIL ADDRESS
(978) 239-7315
 HOME PHONE (Enter number without dashes) CELL PHONE (Enter number without dashes)

8. Description of Wood or Timber To Be Cut

Species	Estimated Amount To Be Cut	
White Pine	30,000	MBF
Hemlock		MBF
Red Pine		MBF
Spruce & Fir		MBF
Hard Maple		MBF
White Birch		MBF
Yellow Birch		MBF
Oak		MBF
Ash		MBF
Soft Maple		MBF
Beech/Pallet/Tie & Mat Logs/ Pine Box	15,000	MBF
Other (Specify)		MBF
Pulpwood	Tons	
Spruce & Fir		
Hardwood & Aspen		
Pine	60	
Hemlock		
Biomass Chips	100	
Miscellaneous		
High Grade Spruce/Fir		Tons
Cordwood & Fuelwood		Cords

9. Species and Amount of Wood or Timber For Personal Use or Exempt. See exemptions on back of form.

Species	Amount:

10. By signing below, the Logger/Forester or person responsible for cutting hereby accepts responsibility for verifying the volumes of wood and timber to be reported by the owner, and certifies that they are familiar with RSA 227-J, the timber harvest laws.

[Signature] 12/30/20
 SIGNATURE (in ink) OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CUT DATE

FRANK VARNEY
 PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE NAME OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CUT
P.O. BOX 932
 MAILING ADDRESS
CENTER OSSISPEE NH 03814
 CITY OR TOWN STATE ZIPCODE
(603) 781-6971 varney_frank@yahoo.com
 PHONE NUMBER E-MAIL ADDRESS

FOR MUNICIPAL ASSESSING OFFICIALS ONLY

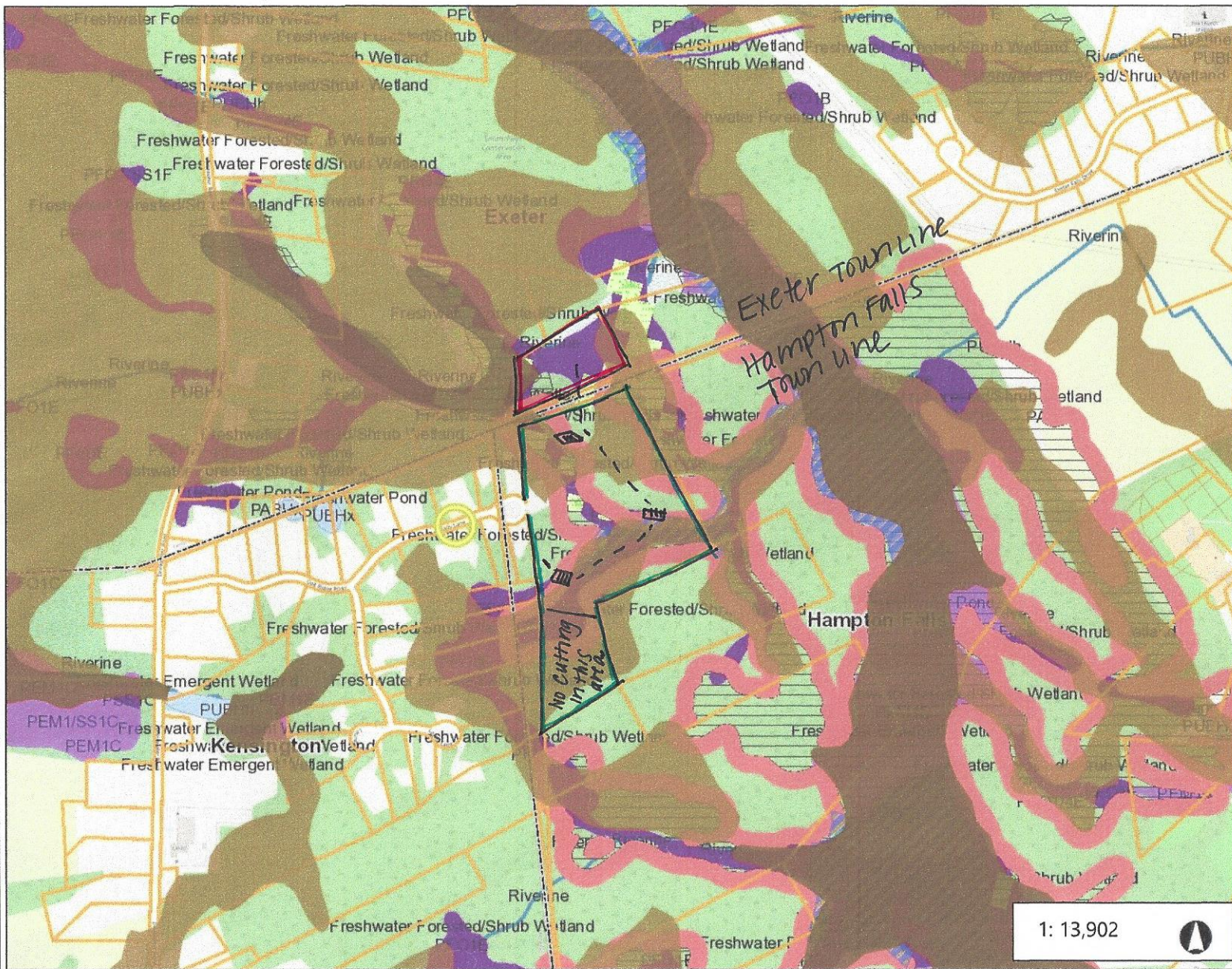
- The Selectmen/Municipal Assessing Officials hereby certify that:
- All owners of record have signed the intent;
 - The land is not under the Current Use Unproductive category;
 - The form is complete and accurate; and
 - Any timber tax bond required has been received.
\$ _____ Date: _____
 - The tax collector will be notified within 30 days of receipt pursuant to RSA 79:10.
 - This form to be forwarded to DRA within 30 days.

SIGNATURE OF MUNICIPAL ASSESSING OFFICIAL	DATE	SIGNATURE OF MUNICIPAL ASSESSING OFFICIAL	DATE	SIGNATURE OF MUNICIPAL ASSESSING OFFICIAL	DATE
SIGNATURE OF MUNICIPAL ASSESSING OFFICIAL	DATE	SIGNATURE OF MUNICIPAL ASSESSING OFFICIAL	DATE		



Key

- property lines
- Exeter property
- Hampton Falls property
- Mat Bridges
- Skid Road



Legend

- Eastern Brook Trout
- NH City/Town Boundaries
- NH Parcel Mosaic
- Flood Plain Wetlands Adjacent
- Prime Wetlands with 100 ft Buf
- Prime Wetlands
- Peatlands

NWI Plus

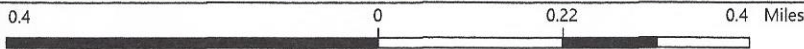
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

NWI

- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

Drainage Class

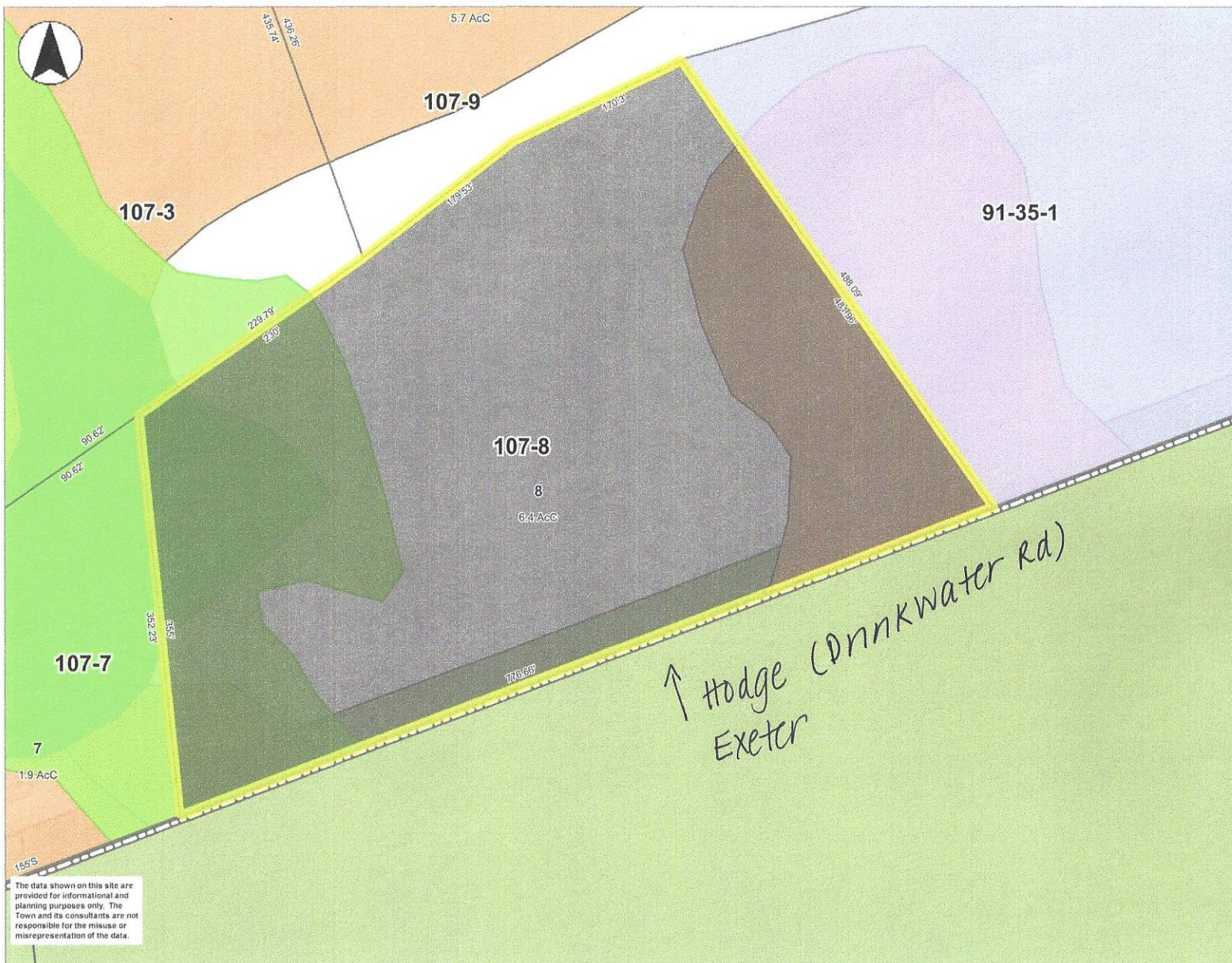
1: 13,902



WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere
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THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

Notes
Russell G. Hodge Property
Drinkwater Road, Exeter, NH
2 Falls Cove Road, Hampton Falls, NH



- TOWN OF EXETER**
FOUNDED 1638
NEW HAMPSHIRE
- Parcels
 - Conservation Areas
 - Prime Wetlands
 - Parcel Wetland Points
 - Parcel Wetlands
 - Soils-Slope
 - C
 - D
 - E
 - Soils-Drainage
 - Muck
 - Peat
 - Ponded
 - Poorly Drained
 - Very Poorly Drained
 - NH Highways
 - Interstate
 - US Highway
 - State Highway
 - Town Boundary
 - Abutting Towns
 - Streets (Updated Feb 2015)
 - Misc Streams
 - Parcel Streams
 - Open Water
 - Buildings

The data shown on this site are provided for informational and planning purposes only. The Town and its consultants are not responsible for the misuse or misrepresentation of the data.

0 160 320 ft

Printed on 12/13/2020 at 02:06 PM

Exeter MapsOnline



**PRIME WETLAND WAIVER
FORESTRY & OTHER ACTIVITIES**
Water Division/Land Resources Management
Wetlands Bureau



RSA/Rule: RSA 482-A:11/ Env-Wt 706

APPLICANT LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, M.I.: **VARNEY, FRANK W.**

Administrative Use Only	Administrative Use Only	Administrative Use Only	File No.:
			Check No.:
			Amount:
			Initials:

As provided in RSA 482-A:11, IV(b)(1), to be eligible for the [Forestry Statutory Permit-by-Notification \(Forestry SPN\)](#), a property owner must obtain a waiver to perform any forest management work and related activities in the forested portion of a designated **prime wetland*** or **duly-established 100-foot buffer†** from the department. *For a waiver request for Forestry Activities within a designated prime wetland or duly-established 100-foot buffer, please complete Part I of this form.*

As provided in RSA 482-A:11, IV(c), a property owner may request a waiver from the department to perform work not addressed above within a portion of any **duly-established 100-foot buffer†** of a prime wetland on his or her property. Please note that waivers for such activities may only be requested for work within a duly-established 100-foot buffer, not for work within prime wetlands. *For a waiver request for Activities Other than Forest Management within a duly-established 100-foot buffer, please complete Part II of this form.*

A waiver request for work in a prime wetland or duly-established 100-foot buffer must be submitted to the department at the same time as a notification for an SPN or other application, as applicable.

*Prime Wetlands: Any contiguous areas falling within the jurisdictional definitions of RSA 482-A:2, X and RSA 482-A:4 that, because of their size, unspoiled character, fragile condition, or other relevant factors, make them of substantial significance (482-A:15, I-a).

†Duly-Established 100-foot Buffer: The buffer recognized in RSA 482-A:11, IV for prime wetlands designated on or after September 11, 2009 but before August 17, 2012 (Env-Wt 102.63).

PART I: WAIVER REQUEST FOR FORESTRY ACTIVITIES

SECTION 1 - REQUESTED WAIVER AND FILING FEE (Env-Wt 706.02(b)(3))

Check or money order for the applicable filing fee payable to "Treasurer – State of NH" (RSA 482-A:3, I(c)).

- \$200 for a project that would otherwise qualify for a Forestry SPN if it was not located in or near a designated prime wetland or duly-established 100-foot buffer.
- \$500 for a minor impact project that does not otherwise qualify as minimum or major impact project.
- \$1,250 for a major impact project classified regardless of prime wetlands designation.

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SECTION 2 - PROPOSED WORK (Env-Wt 706.02(b); RSA 482-A:11, IV(b)(1))

Provide a brief written description of the work to be performed.

Bridgemats will be used in accordance with the NH Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs) in order to move equipment across wetlands and designated prime wetlands. The bridgemats will extend from embankment to embankment, such that no water, wetlands and/or prime wetlands will be disturbed by moving the equipment. In essence, bridges will be constructed on a temporary basis to extend from embankment to embankment to serve as a crossing for equipment. Skid trails will be constructed in accordance with the Forestry BMPs to provide the least amount of impact to the wetlands. Corduroy will be used in the skid trails (up to 600 feet of corduroy) and placed in accordance with the Forestry BMPs. The log landing will be constructed in a location in which wetlands and surface water will not be disturbed. All necessary steps will be taken to protect the wetlands and prevent impact to the same.

SECTION 3 - PRIME WETLANDS VALUES (Env-Wt 706.02(b); RSA 482-A:11, IV(b)(1))

Provide a list of the prime wetlands values as identified by the municipality when the prime wetland or duly-established 100-foot buffer was designated. Demonstrate that the project will not create a significant net loss of these wetland values.

See attached explanation.

SECTION 4 - REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS (Env-Wt 706.02; RSA 482-A:11, IV(b)(1))

- A sketch of the property depicting the best approximate location of each prime wetlands/buffer in which work is proposed and the location of proposed work, including access roads.
- A copy of the notice of intent to cut, if applicable.
- Other information to demonstrate that there will be no significant net loss of wetland values identified by the municipality when the prime wetland/buffer was designated.
- Written comments from the conservation commission or local governing authority as applicable, stating that:
 - The members have no objections to the requested waiver.
 - The members have no objections to a waiver if the conditions specified in the comments are met.

OR

 - The members object to the waiver for the reason(s) stated in the comments.

SECTION 5 - ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS (Env-Wt 706.02; RSA 482-A:11, IV(b)(3))

- At the time the applicant submits the waiver request to the department, the applicant also shall submit, *via certified mail*, a copy of the waiver request and all supporting documentation to the local governing body, the planning board, if any, and the conservation commission, if any, of the municipalities in which any prime wetlands/buffers associated with the application are located.
- If a prime wetland/buffer associated with the application extends into an abutting property, the property owner requesting the waiver shall provide a copy of the waiver request and all supporting documentation to the owner of that abutting property. The applicant shall send the notice required *by certified mail*.

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SECTION 3 - PRIME WETLANDS VALUE (Env-Wt 706.02(b); RSA 482-A:11, IV(b)(1))

Exeter: Tax Map 107, Lot 8: Values include Freshwater Forested Shrub Wetlands, Prime Wetlands, Prime Wetlands with 100' Buffer and Poorly Drained Soils.

The property is located within two municipalities, such that 6 acres are in Exeter and 34 acres are located in Hampton Falls. The property will be accessed through Hampton Falls, as that is the access for the house which is located on the property. The access is through Kady Lane (in Hampton Falls).

This is forested wetlands and is not marshland. The purpose for access is to selectively harvest timber located on the property in both Exeter and Hampton Falls. Based on a site visit to the property with a forester, it is evident that the timber can be harvested without impacting the wetlands. By using the Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs), bridgemats will be used to create bridges (as crossings) over the wetlands, such that the crossings extend from embankment to embankment. These crossings will enable machinery to cross the wetlands without causing disturbance; and the machinery will not come in contact with the wetlands (by using a crossing). I have created a map which shows the crossings and the skid road. Every effort will be taken to avoid contact with the wetlands and any disturbance of the same. Bridgemats will be used in all areas where a crossing is necessary to avoid contact with the wetlands including any prime wetlands or prime wetlands with 100' buffer. All bridgemats will be removed after project is complete – the crossings are temporary.

If anyone on the conservation commission is interested in viewing the property with respect to this application, I would be happy to arrange a time to meet at the property (safely and socially distanced) and provide an explanation of the process while you are actually viewing the wetlands. Often seeing the area provides a better explanation in and of itself, as a picture is worth a 1,000 words.

All harvesting will be completed using the Forestry Best Management Practices, and as stated above – every effort will be made to protect the forested wetlands.

Also as noted, I did view the property with forester from the State as a part of my due diligence to confirm that the timber can be harvested with the least amount of impact in accordance with the Forestry BMPs.

Please note:

- As provided in RSA 482-A:11, IV(b)(3), the department shall not issue a waiver for forestry activities prior to 14 days after receipt of the waiver request, provided however that a municipal conservation commission may request an extension on such waiver issuance, not to exceed 14 days, which the department shall grant if requested.
- As provided by RSA 482-A:11, IV(b)(2), the department shall not issue a waiver unless the department determines that there will be no significant net loss of wetland values as identified by the local conservation commission/local governing authority or in RSA 482-A:1.
- If the department determines that the criteria for issuing a waiver are met, the waiver shall be issued as part of the Forestry SPN or permit, as applicable.
- If the department is unable to determine, based on the information submitted, that the proposed work will not cause a significant net loss of wetland values, the department shall notify the applicant of what additional information is needed and establish a deadline in consultation with the applicant for the submission of the additional information.
- If the department determines that the project would not cause a significant net loss of wetland values if certain conditions were met, the department shall place such conditions on the waiver as are necessary to protect the prime wetland resource.
- Any waiver issued shall be valid for the term of the permit or SPN with which it is associated, but may be extended.

PART II: WAIVER REQUEST FOR ACTIVITIES OTHER THAN FOREST MANAGEMENT
SECTION 1 - REQUESTED WAIVER AND FILING FEE (Env-Wt 706.04(b)(5))
Check or money order for the applicable filing fee payable to "Treasurer – State of NH" (RSA 482-A:3, I(c)).
<input type="checkbox"/> \$200 for projects that would otherwise qualify as a minimum impact project if it was not located in a designated prime wetlands buffer.
<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 for a minor impact project that does not otherwise qualify as minimum or major impact project.
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,250 for a major impact projects.
SECTION 2 - PROPOSED WORK (Env-Wt 706.04(b)(2))
Provide a written description of the work to be performed. <div style="background-color: #cccccc; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>

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SECTION 3 - PRIME WETLANDS VALUES (Env-Wt 706.04(b))

Provide a list of the prime wetlands values identified by the municipality when the prime wetlands associated with the buffer was designated. Demonstrate that the project will not create a significant net loss of these wetland values.

SECTION 4 - REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS (Env-Wt 706.04)

- A sketch of the property depicting the best approximate location of the duly-established 100-foot buffer in which work is proposed and the location of proposed work, including access roads.
- Other information to demonstrate that there will be no significant net loss of wetland values identified by the municipality when the prime wetlands associated with the buffer was designated.

SECTION 5 - ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS (Env-Wt 706.04; RSA 482-A:11, IV(c))

- At the time the applicant submits the waiver request to the department, the applicant also shall notify, **by certified mail**, the local governing body, the planning board, if any, and the conservation commission, if any, of the municipalities in which the waiver is being sought that the waiver is being requested.
- If the buffer associated with the application extends onto an abutting property, the property owner requesting the waiver shall provide notice that the waiver is being requested to the owner of that abutting property.

Please note:

- As provided in Env-Wt 706.05, the department shall not issue a waiver under Env-Wt 706.01(b) prior to 14 days after receipt of the waiver request, provided however that a municipal conservation commission may request an extension on such waiver issuance, not to exceed 14 days, which the department shall grant if and as requested.
- The department shall not issue a waiver unless the department determines that there will be no significant net loss of wetland values as identified by the local conservation commission/local governing authority and in RSA 482-A:1.
- If the department determines that the criteria for issuing a waiver are met, the waiver shall be issued as part of the SPN or permit, as applicable.
- If the department is unable to determine, based on the information submitted, that the proposed work will not cause a significant net loss of wetland values, the department shall notify the applicant of what additional information is needed and establish a deadline in consultation with the applicant for the submission of the additional information.
- If the department determines that the project would not cause a significant net loss of wetland values if certain conditions were met, the department shall place such conditions on the waiver as are necessary to protect the prime wetlands resource.
- Any waiver issued shall be valid for the term of the permit or SPN with which it is associated, but may be extended.

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2020 Goal Setting Session

Goal 1: Deeper partnership with Parks and Rec, YMCA and other community groups. (Relates to Master Plan Support, 3, 8)

- Exploring Exeter trail program w/ Parks and Rec
 - 2/16 6:30 pm Full Moon snowshoe @ Irvine,
 - 5/18 8:30 am Bird Walk at McDonnell
 - 7/20 date/subject TBD
 - Fall date/subject TBD (possibly kayak tour)
- Forest Fridays – Active Adult walks with Melissa Roy and Kristen Murphy (dates/locs TBD)

Goal 2: Have focused/goal oriented outreach events. For example, prioritize Raynes farm in prep for CIP and LCHIP application, prioritize events that also help to meet Town's MS4 and AOC requirements. (Relates to Master Plan Support, 7)

- Conservation Center at Raynes Farm – need to ID events
- Recycling table at Town Meeting & Town Clerks office (Ginny & DPW)
- Rain Barrel Sale (Kristen &???)
- April SST Collaborative Clean Up along the Little River and Morrissette property (Kristen &???)
- VRAP & building volunteer support for implementation(Kristen)

Goal 3: Develop and maintain a list of conservation related activities going on by other groups in town so the Commission members are informed and can be a point of reference for the public. (Relates to MP Support, 8)

- Kristen to create a sub-page on CC website
- Public forum? (Kristen) (also would meet Goal 2)

Goal 4: Incorporate higher quality public events that utilize experts and require a donation by participants to supplement the conservation fund (Relates to MP Support, 8)

- Combine with goal 2?

Goal 5: Improve Commission education on their role, the regulations, communication with the Planning Board, and development of effective recommended conditions. (Relates to MP Communicate, 2?)

- Ginny to work with Kathy C on how to expand connections/outreach

Goal 6: Maintain trails on conservation lands open to the public. (Relates to MP Steward, 11 and could relate to MP Steward 12)

- Update and improve signage and marking in Town Forests
- Replace Smith Page sign, clear/mark trail, poison ivy control (Bill)
- Install signs at skate park end of Morrissette, Garrison Ln entrance to Little River

Goal 7: Work to ensure a resilient community in both the short and long term. (Relates to MP Prepare, 3, 4, 5 and Steward, 1)

- Establish Community garden (hopefully at Gilman Park) for 2019 growing season
- Develop a list of potential mitigation projects (Trevor, Lindsey, Alyson, Bill, Kristen)
- Invasive Plant management at Henderson Swasey TF (Carlos)
- Review Master Plan action items @ develop implementation plan (Kristen)
- Golf Course Living Shoreline Project (Alyson, Trevor, Kristen)

OTHER:

- 1/26 Host Winter Cottontail Survey training w/ UNH Coop Ext (Kristen)
- 4/13 Ben Anderson use request @ Raynes Barn
- Trail Passport (Alyson, Kristen)
- H-S Granit Sign replacement (DPW)
- ADA trail (Bill & Ginny)
- 4/26 PEA ids activity (invasive removal, plantings, ???) (Bill)
- Publicity for CC (LCHIP sign w/ Kathy, others???—Bill)
- Bridge repairs at Oaklands over prime wetlands
- Beaver deceiver maintenance in Oaklands
- No Hunting Signs – H-S, Swasey Property, Cheney (Interns, Bill, Kristen)
- Property Monitoring – Interns (Kristen)
- Land Acquisitions – (Bill & Kristen)
- National Trails Day???
- Woodcock Walk
- CIP and Budget Process Preparation (Drew, Bill or Chair, Kristen)
- Quarterly Trail Committee meeting (Drew/Dave)
- Quarterly Raynes Farm Stewardship Committee meeting (Sally)
- List of funding sources (Bill)

Master Plan			Town Lead	Town Support	Timeframe
	Support 3	Identify new facilities or programming, using the findings of the UNH Needs Assessment and Planning Report (2014-2015) as a starting point. Estimate costs and feasibility of providing these new facilities/activities.	Parks & Rec Dept, Town Manager, Natural Resource Planner	Conservation Commission, Selectboard	Mid Term
	Support 7	Develop a public awareness campaign to educate residents and businesses about water quality and state and federal mandates that require the Town to improve and monitor it. Include such topics as: what the mandates require the Town to do (new programs, infrastructure projects, etc.), the impact of lower water quality on the quality of life in Exeter, and how residents and businesses can contribute to improving water quality.	Dept of Public Works, Natural Resource Planner	Conservation Commission, River Advisory Committee	Short Term
	Prepare 2a	Based on most recent data available, inventory properties most vulnerable to sea level rise, storm surge, and other natural hazards. Where possible, estimate the time horizon for impacts. Develop outreach methods to education private property owners about the risks and ways they can minimize impacts to their properties.	Town Planner, Natural Resource Planner	Conservation Commission, Planning Board, River Advisory Committee	Short Term
	Prepare 2b	For areas identified most vulnerable to sea level rise, storm surge, and other natural hazards, evaluate town land use policies for these areas and consider alternatives to minimize risk in each area. These might include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquiring property to minimize the impact of sea level rise, chronic flooding, marsh migration, etc. to public and private property. Limit redevelopment after flood or storm damage. Decisions where to extend (or not extend) infrastructure (roads, water, sewer, etc.) 	Town Planner, Natural Resource Planner	Conservation Commission, Planning Board, River Advisory Committee	Mid Term
	Prepare 2c	Based on findings of the land use policies evaluation, implement new land use policies and regulations to reduce risks from sea level rise, storm surge, and other natural hazards.	Town Planner, Natural Resource Planner	Selectboard, Planning Board, Conservation Commission	Mid Term
	Steward 1a	Identify properties that are less likely to be developed based on regulatory requirements and determine whether this affects their prioritization level for acquisition.	Town Planner, Natural Resource Planner	Conservation Commission	Short Term
	Steward 1b	Review criteria for acquiring land for conservation and consider adding criteria related to sea level rise, marsh migration, chronic flooding, storm surge, and other impacts of climate change and natural hazards.	Natural Resource Planner	Conservation Commission, River Advisory Committee, Selectboard	Mid Term
	Steward 2	Based on revised criteria and assessment of natural resources already under regulatory protection, prioritize parcels of interest for conservation purposes. Consider available and future funding sources and other tools available to protect land. Develop a 10-year schedule for implementation.	Natural Resource Planner	Conservation Commission, Selectboard	Mid Term
	Steward 6c	Review and update the Trail Maintenance Plan (2009). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify recommendations that have not been completed. Determine which recommendations are still relevant and which are not. Identify new recommendations as needed. Develop a 10-year schedule for maintenance, improvements, or future assessments. 	Natural Resource Planner	Conservation Commission	Short Term
	Steward 7	Establish a "Friends" group of volunteers for individual town conservation properties to support and help with maintenance, including trail infrastructure, debris and litter, installations, etc.	Natural Resource Planner	Conservation Commission	Short Term
	Steward 8	Prioritize town conservation properties in need of invasive species management. Estimate costs and develop a 10-year schedule for management strategies.	Natural Resource Planner	Conservation Commission	Mid Term
	Steward 9	Review and revise existing forest management plans (Henderson-Swasey (2011) and Oaklands (1993)) as needed to ensure they remain relevant to conservation land management goals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify recommendations that have not been completed. Determine which recommendations are still relevant and which are not. Identify new recommendations as needed. Develop a 10-year schedule for maintenance, improvements, or future assessments. 	Natural Resource Planner	Conservation Commission	Short Term
	Connect 2a	Prepare a town-wide Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan that looks at both walking and biking as modes of transportation beyond recreation. Identify improvements to existing amenities and areas where new amenities could be feasibly installed to promote walking and biking. Use the concurrent parking study (or parking management plan if already developed) for Downtown to inform the plan. Destinations/Routes to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All public schools Epping Road to Downtown Lincoln Street/Train Station to Downtown Portsmouth Avenue to Downtown All surrounding residential areas to Downtown Open space and recreational resources Prioritize improvements/new projects and develop a 10-year schedule for implementation.	Town Planner, Dept of Public Works	Planning Board	Short Term
	Connect 2b	Research funding alternatives to augment the implementation of the bike and pedestrian master plan.	Town Planner, Dept of Public Works	Planning Board, Selectboard	Mid Term
	Connect 2c	Consider amending Site and Subdivision Regulations to put more emphasis on pedestrian and bike access within new development (as appropriate) and making connections with neighboring residential areas as well as shopping areas and recreation/conservation lands.	Town Planner	Planning Board, Selectboard	Mid Term
		CONNECT Action	Town Lead	Town Support	Timeframe
	Connect 3	Conduct a Complete Streets study. Based on its findings, develop and adopt a Complete Streets policy that requires new roads and reconstruction of existing roads to incorporate transit, walking, and biking amenities where possible. Use the Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan and parking management plan to inform the policy.	Town Planner, Dept of Public Works	Economic Development Commission, Selectboard	Short Term
	Connect 4	Working with private and public land owners, evaluate the feasibility of a pedestrian walkway/access along the Squamscott River from Swasey Parkway to the Library.	Town Planner, DPW, Town Manager	Selectboard, River Advisory Committee	Short Term

	Connect 6a	Conduct an access management study for Epping Road to determine if walking and biking recommendations are feasible. It should be consistent with the town-wide Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan. Develop physical planning concepts to guide future improvements.	Dept of Public Works, Town Planner, Economic Development	Planning Board, Selectboard	Short Term
	Communicate 4	Continue to organize community forums to discuss issues important to Exeter. Ensure that events, especially large ones, provide options for food and child care.	TBD	Selectboard, All Boards, Town Departments	Short to Mid Term
C-Rise			Town Lead	Town Support	Timeframe
	Regulatory 1	Elevate Structures 2 feet Above Base Flood Elevation. Adopt standards in floodplain zoning and/or Site Plan Review and Subdivision Regulations that require all new development and redevelopment to be elevated 2 feet above the base flood elevation. Two feet of additional elevation will ensure that structures are protected from flooding based on the highest sea-level rise projection of 2 feet by 2050.			
	Regulatory 2	- Coastal Flood Hazard Overlay District. Adopt in the town's zoning ordinance a Coastal Flood Hazard Overlay District that includes performance based standards that protect against flood impacts from sea-level rise and coastal storm surge. Establish the overlay district boundaries based on current flood hazard areas on FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps and projected future high risk flood areas mapped by the Climate Risk in the Seacoast Vulnerability Assessment. (Also see similar recommendation in the Community Outreach and Engagement section below.)			
	Regulatory 3	Coastal Buffers and Tidal Marshes. Adopt buffers and setbacks that adequately separate development and infrastructure from tidal wetlands, freshwater wetlands and surface waters to sustain flood storage capacity, and allow for inland migration of tidal marsh systems and conversion of freshwater systems to tidal systems to accommodate projected changes in sea-levels.			
	Planning Policy 1	Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. Incorporate the vulnerability assessment information and recommendations from the Climate Risk in the Seacoast Vulnerability Assessment report and maps in the town's 2015/2016 Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan update. Continue revising and updating the assessment information and climate adaptation recommendations in future updates of the Plan.			
	P2	- Master Plan Coastal Hazards Chapter. Adopt a Coastal Hazards Chapter in the town's Master Plan that incorporates information and recommendations from the Climate Risk in the Seacoast Vulnerability Assessment report and maps			
	P 4	Capital Infrastructure and Investments. Incorporate consideration of impacts from sea-level rise and coastal storm surge flooding in current and future capital infrastructure projects. Incorporate the Climate Risk in the Seacoast vulnerability assessment information into infrastructure management plans and capital improvement plans. Evaluate the extent of sea-level rise and storm surge flooding on individual facilities (e.g. wastewater treatment plant, transfer station, high school)			
	P 5	Land Conservation. Land conservation offers the greatest opportunities to provide for adaptation to the effects of sea-level rise and coastal storm flooding and climate change impacts. 1) Adopt a targeted scoring framework or incorporate new scoring criteria into existing land conservation prioritization efforts that consider climate adaptation benefits when evaluating land for conservation purposes. 2) Increase funding and resources for land conservation, land management programs, and land stewardship activities. (Note: Land conservation scores very high as an activity in the FEMA Community Rating System program.) 3) Support retreat from high risk areas by buying properties and restoring them to a natural condition			
	P 6	Wetlands Mitigation Site Inventory. Identify and inventory lands where protection of tidal and freshwater wetlands would provide tangible benefits to protect against flooding, and restoration opportunities to remove barriers to tidal function and marsh and migration. This inventory will allow the town to pre-identify and prioritize sites that can be permanently preserved as a mitigation strategy for wetland impacts from development in high risk coastal areas.			
	P7	- Evacuation Planning. Prepare evacuation plans and coordinate these plans with towns in the coastal region to implement timely and comprehensive planning and notification for coastal storm events. Mark evacuation routes with signage and communicate these routes to the public with information on the town's website and printed maps.			
	Community Outreach 1	- NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup. The NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup (CAW) is a voluntary collaborative advocacy group consisting of members from federal and state agencies, regional and nonprofit organizations, municipalities, academia, and private businesses. The group's focus is to: 1) pursue activities that improve the resilience of natural systems, infrastructure and development to the impacts of climate change; and 2) facilitate communication and cooperation among stakeholders throughout the coastal watershed, especially in regard to research, programs and other efforts designed to help preserve, protect, and strengthen the Great Bay and Hampton-Seabrook Estuary. CAW can assist the city with outreach, planning and regulatory activities involving climate adaptation implementation. ☐ Continue supporting work of the NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup. ☐ Continue the town's partnership with NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup in climate adaptation activities that facilitate, coordinate, provide technical information, and convene public outreach events			
	O2	- Implement FEMA's High Water Mark Initiative. Consider implementing the FEMA High Water Mark Initiative (HWMI) as a public outreach activity. The HWMI provides information on past floods, such as documenting high water marks in public places, and posting maps and photographs of past floods on their websites. High water marks can be displayed on public buildings or on permanently installed markers.			

- O3 - Coastal Flood Hazard Outreach. Use information from the C-RiSe Vulnerability Assessment to inform property owners of existing and future risks and hazards based on projected sea-level rise and coastal storm surge flooding
- O4 - Living Shorelines and Landscaping. Maintaining natural shorelines is an effective way to preserve the functions of shoreline systems (marshes, dunes, estuaries) in providing valuable services including flood storage, recreational areas, and commercial harvesting of fish and shellfish. ▣ Provide information to property owners about living shorelines and the importance of retaining the functions of natural shorelines, and implementing landscaping best practices. ▣ Implement living shorelines projects on town lands to demonstrate best practices, and the benefits and effectiveness of living shorelines approaches.

NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY		Town Lead	Town Support	Timeframe
Regulatory Controls 1	External Review – Evaluate all natural resource-related regulations to determine their effectiveness. Include assessment of properties after development.			
Regulatory Controls 2	Low Impact Development – Integrate mandatory LID techniques and standards into the permitting process.			
Regulatory Controls 3	Stormwater – Update stormwater, erosion and sediment control regulations			
Regulatory Controls 4	MS4 – Establish redevelopment strategies in the high density MS4 sections of the community that will address water quality issues.			
Regulatory Controls 5	Water Conservation (old construction) – Establish an incentive-based program for installing low water use fixtures and having older structures evaluated by professional plumbers for leaks			
Regulatory Controls 6	Water Conservation (new construction) – Require on-site water sources for lawn irrigation in new development			
Regulatory Controls 7	Conservation Subdivision – review and update conservation subdivision regulations to reflect data from this natural resources inventory and enact mandatory conservation subdivision regulations.			
Non-Regulatory Controls 1	Conservation Funding – Consider a second conservation bond and establish a meaningful annual funding stream for the Conservation Fund through a mix of appropriations, Current Use change tax and/or other means. Highly developable parcels within the final focus areas should be the first priority for new conservation activity.			
Non-Regulatory Controls 2	Land Trust Partnership – Establish a contractual relationship with a land trust to conserve strategic focus area properties as identified in this natural resources inventory.			
Non-Regulatory Controls 3	Permanently Conserve Town Lands – Place conservation easements on town-owned properties, including all Town Forest parcels.			
Non-Regulatory Controls 4	Protect Drinking Water – Expand land conservation efforts to conserve properties that provide or have the potential for providing additional public drinking water. Work with neighboring towns as needed; for example, work with Stratham to achieve greater protection of the Dearborn Brook Focus Area.			

Trail Plan				
	Establish a trail endowment			
	Adopt trail construction and maintenance standards			COMPLETE
	Standardize trail marking and signage			COMPLETE
	Improve drainage on the Oaklands trail from the Rte 85 parkinglot			COMPLETE
	Add kiosk to industrial drive entrance. Maintenance needs for H-S kiosk			COMPLETE
	Add parking at the end of continental dr for Little River Conservation Area access			
	Raynes farm trail cut/blazing			COMPLETE
	Smith Page replace sign, blaze trail, add crossings			PARTIAL
	Add crossings for Jolly Rand			
	Exeter country club and linden st trails - work day			
	Watson Rd parking lot better signage			COMPLETE

Exeter Conservation Commission
December 8, 2020
Virtual Meeting
Draft Minutes

Call to Order

1. Introduction of Members Present (by Roll Call)

Present at tonight's meeting were by roll call, Chair Andrew Koff, Vice-Chair Trevor Mattera, Sally Ward, Clerk, Dave Short, Treasurer, Bill Campbell, Carlos Guindon, Alyson Eberhardt, Julie Gilman (Select Board Liaison), Ginny Raub, (Alternate), Donald Clement, (Alternate), Nick Campion (Alternate), and Kristen Murphy, Natural Resource Planner.

Members present indicated there was no one else present in the room with them during this meeting except for Mrs. Campbell.

Absent: Kristen Osterwood (Alternate)

Mr. Koff read the meeting preamble indicated that an emergency exists and the provisions of RSA 91-A:2 III (b) are being invoked. As federal, state and local officials have determined gatherings of ten or more people pose a substantial risk to the community and the meeting imperative to the continued operation of Town and government and services which are vital to public, health, safety and confidence. This meeting will be conducted without a quorum physically present in the same location and welcome members of the public accessing the meeting remotely.

2. Public Comment (7:00 PM)

None.

Mr. Koff called the meeting to order at 7 PM and recused himself from voting on the DPW request. Vice-Chair Mattera activated Alternate Nick Campion.

Action Items

1. Request by Department of Public Works for temporary drilling access on Town-owned conservation lands as part of their Groundwater Source exploration efforts at Smith-Page (Map-Lot 107-10), Katz (91-35-1), Tara Development Corp./Riverbend (104-23), Stone (104-3), Whites Meadow (102-6). *Matt Berube, DPW, Michael Metcalf, Underwood and Daniel Tinkham, EGGI).*

Matt Berube, the Department of Public Works Water and Sewer Manager presented the proposal for groundwater exploration on Conservation land. Mr. Berube indicated proposed sites were narrowed down and a list provided to Ms. Murphy.

Michael Metcalf indicated he is involved in the engineering aspects of the project, tasked at looking at existing supplies. Exeter has an aging treatment plant and three surface supplies which don't have the sustainable capacity previously thought. Surface plants were put on hold to look at groundwater.

Ms. Ward questioned the impact of exploration versus actually finding a site. Mr. Metcalf noted exploration is less invasive. Exploration requires a path to work and construction will require a pump station and access road, etc. Ms. Ward asked if a site was found whether they would come back to the Commission and Mr. Metcalf indicated they would.

Ms. Raub asked the difference between surface water and ground water and Mr. Metcalf explained surface waters are the Exeter River and reservoir that are exposed to the atmosphere. Groundwater is not exposed.

Dan Tinkham explained that in Phase 3 of exploration they looked at specific areas and did site specific surveys to identify possible sites. Now they have to drill into the earth and see what is there. Mr. Tinkham displayed a picture of the rig they will use for exploration.

Mr. Guindon asked how many perforations there will be per site and Mr. Tinkham noted on Drinkwater Road there will be five targets or less. After drilling they will build 3" diameter wells and place a seal in the hole with protective casing.

Mr. Campbell asked how long it will take to test the well site and Mr. Tinkham advised that each target will take two to three days to drill, then one day to test.

Mr. Clement asked what happens to the disturbed area if it ends up not being used and Mr. Tinkham noted only a small pile of dirt will be left behind.

Mr. Berube added that the well head will be left there, and the Town will have to decide to keep it or remove it.

Mr. Tinkham noted zone SG1 east of Drinkwater Road is delineated prime wetlands. There is a loop trail through the area. With wetlands being a concern Mr. Tinkham stated he believes the higher ground could be used to access targets.

Mr. Campbell asked if the Town decided to use the site would there be room to access it. It is pretty narrow. Would it be paved? Mr. Tinkham responded that he has been speaking with a wetland scientist about it and he is unsure if permitting will be only state or state and local.

Ms. Murphy noted the west portion has two deeds that apply, both through Land Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) deeded to the Town to be managed by the Conservation Commission. There is a clause that states it cannot be converted from outdoor recreation use without the permission of the Secretary of the Interior. Mr. Tinkham noted he has not contacted them yet, but the outdoor recreation use would certainly continue.

Mr. Guindon expressed concerns about invasives he found in the fall. Mr. Tinkham noted there will probably have best management practices in the winter.

Ms. Ward asked what would be done if the deed restricts use and Ms. Murphy noted the terms of the deed would have to be upheld. Ms. Ward opined it is not converting the use. Ms. Murphy noted they also have to adhere to the intent.

Mr. Campbell opined the site is very sensitive. Ms. Eberhardt noted she would like to talk through each site on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Tinkham noted he believed this site holds the greatest promise as far as depth. It was once shallow ocean water. Mr. Campbell expressed concerns about changing surface water levels. Half drains to the Exeter River and the other half to Taylor. Mr. Tinkham noted they have to monitor surrounding water levels.

Mr. Tinkham noted the next zone SG-2 BD-3 doesn't have a lot that needs to be done. The Riverwoods parcel owned by Riverwoods is a bedrock test target. The last zone is SG-4 not far from Larry Lane production well. Wetlands people indicated we could stay out of a few spots to access targets.

Mr. Clement asked about the sand and gravel and Mr. Tinkham responded yes, it is fairly shallow.

Mr. Clement expressed concerns with work on the White parcel and drilling too close to the river. Mr. Clement added that work would also be detrimental to the meadow. Riverbend seems better in terms of lessening impacts. Mr. Tinkham noted the well would be at surface level to protect the meadow and could avoid damage by using high spots.

Ms. Murphy noted the Riverbend deed states it is for Conservation use and not for residential or commercial. White's meadow has no hunting or motorized access with the intent to keep as a meadow.

Mr. Campbell asked if permission was needed on these properties or Select Board approval and Mr. Berube responded they do not intend to present to the Select Board. Ms. Murphy explained that the Conservation Commission makes decisions on uses of Conservation land. The Select Board is aware of the project.

Ms. Ward asked if the exploration will be done for every zone or be done in order and only continue if necessary. Mr. Tinkham noted they intend to drill all targets and let the engineers judge the quality of the water.

Mr. Metcalf noted they just need to know the gallons delivered.

Ms. Ward expressed concerns with Zone 1, with deed permissions and concerns about the meadow on Zone 3.

Mr. Campbell noted he had access concerns on Zone 1 as well as invasives.

Mr. Guindon noted White's Meadow is not a prime wetland and is less forested and opined that impact would be less of a problem with exploration on Zone 3 than Zone 1.

Mr. Clement they would have a pump station and not typically put a building on a wet meadow.

Mr. Mattera noted they are only talking about exploration right now. The language for White's doesn't sound too permissive and recommended reviewing the deed language first.

Mr. Campbell indicated he believes Zone 3 is in compliance.

MOTION: Mr. Campbell moved that after reviewing the proposal the activity is in compliance with the White's property deed, as proposed Ms. Ward seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Mattera – nay, Short – aye, Ward – aye, Campbell – aye, Guindon – aye, Eberhardt – aye and Campion – aye. The motion passed 6-1-0.

Ms. Ward added that any proposal for a well would have to come back to the Commission. Ms. Eberhardt asked if legal should weigh in on the interpretation. Mr. Murphy recommended conditioning access be in the winter.

MOTION: Mr. Campbell moved that after reviewing the proposal the activity is in compliance with the Riverbend property deed. Ms. Ward seconded the motion.

Ms. Murphy noted the Riverbend deed is designated for use as Conservation land and open area and not for residential or commercial use. Mr. Campbell noted he had less trouble with this one than White's. This is neither residential nor commercial use.

ROLL CALL VOTE: A roll call vote was taken Mattera – aye, Short – aye, Ward – aye, Campbell – aye, Guindon – aye, Eberhardt – aye and Campion – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed 7-0-0.

Mr. Campbell noted the Riverwoods easement is held by SELT.

The Commission tabled review of the Stone parcel.

Ms. Murphy indicated the Katz parcel is under RSA 36-a. If the Town were to conduct residential, industrial or commercial activity ownership would revert.

The Board discussed what whether exploration would be considered as industrial use. Mr. Metcalf noted this is developing supplies and infrastructure to bring drinking water to people. The intention is a pump station with a water well. Has not heard if this is called that in any other community. It is for a municipal water supply.

Mr. Campbell noted that while the deed doesn't sound like it prevents them from going in, he has a lot of concerns with the sensitivity and environment and a lot of objections with them going on.

MOTION: Mr. Campbell motioned that after reviewing the proposal the Commission recommend that this is not in compliance with the terms of the deed as noted as the area is supposed to be for environmental purposes.

Ms. Ward stated she had some questions about this one. Ms. Murphy read the deed language out loud and opined that this is just a different department in the Town of Exeter, another entity. Mr. Mattera references pages 13-14 of the packet adding that the reverting clause has him nervous but doesn't feel like an exploration drill for a well in a one and done is an industrial activity or being turned into something that will be used as an industrial activity. It will still be an open space. Mr. Mattera noted he would be interested to know if other communities consider this an industrial activity.

Mr. Campbell noted there would be a 10' ROW to get in there. Mr. Tinkham noted an option could be the cul-de-sac for access but 10' is all they need for exploration. Ms. Gilman noted it is defined in the zoning ordinance as an essential service as opposed to industrial. Ms. Murphy asked if this has occurred on conservation land that has restrictions against industrial and commercial.

MOTION: Ms. Ward motioned after reviewing the proposal to recommend that the activity is in compliance with the terms of the deed as noted. Ms. Eberhardt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Mattera – aye, Short – aye, Ward – aye, Campbell – nay, Guindon – aye, Eberhardt – aye and Campion – aye. The motion passed 6-1-0.

Mr. Campbell asked if the Smith property has access through Page. Ms. Murphy noted Page is closest to Drinkwater and is more interior. Access to Smith is through Page. There will be no drilling on Page but there will be tree work for access.

Ms. Murphy noted Smith was granted to the Town to be managed by the Conservation Commission. Page (which is access to Drinkwater) was granted to the Conservation Commission. Both have the statement that cannot be converted to a use other than outdoor recreation without the written approval of the Secretary of the Interior. Eric Field is the contact person. Ms. Eberhardt noted DRED which was the Department of Resources and Economic Development became DNCR, the Department of Natural & Cultural Resources two years ago.

Mr. Campion indicated he was familiar with LWCF and their regulations and feels it is vital that we get Eric's opinion on the matter. If deemed a viable well site DNCR might come back and ask for mitigation or equal or market value.

Ms. Murphy noted access is challenging. There is a road that dead ends at the loop trail that is out there and wondered if there have been any communications with the abutter to the south. Mr. Tinkham noted there have been no communications.

MOTION: Ms. Ward motioned are reviewing the proposal to recommend the Commission consult with DNCR in terms of their interpretation of the proposal prior to approving.

Ms. Eckerman recommended adding that best practices be used for access to avoid transmission of invasive species. Mr. Mattera agreed.

Ms. Ward accepted the addition to her motion adding #2 that best practices be followed with regard to dealing with invasive species and minimizing the impact of invasive species as access proceeds.

Ms. Eberhardt seconded the motion.

Ms. Murphy asked for clarification that should DNCR find this in compliance the Commission is okay with it moving forward and Ms. Ward indicated that is the intention of the motion, yes.

Matt Berube asked who should contact DNCR and Mr. Murphy agreed she will work with Mr. Berube to contact them together.

ROLL CALL VOTE: A roll call vote was taken Mattera – aye, Short – aye, Ward – aye, Campbell – aye, Guindon – aye, Eberhardt – aye and Campion – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed 7-0-0.

Mr. Campbell noted he had additional concerns about the neighborhoods these are in and having this be not so great publicity for the Conservation Commission. Before access Mr. Campbell noted he would like the Commission to get a head's up. Mr. Koff agreed. Mr. Tinkham noted there would be several weeks' notice.

Ms. Murphy recommended DPW contact abutters with Smith/Page and Exeter Falls to communicate with them this was initiated by Public Works and the process of review by the Commission to be sure the work is compliant with the terms of the deeds.

Mr. Tinkham indicated he will prepare a brief letter with regard to best management practices of invasive species and submit that to Ms. Murphy after the holidays.

2. Committee Reports

a. Property Management

Ms. Murphy noted Mr. Guindon and Mr. Campion began removing invasives at Raynes Farm last fall.

Ms. Murphy reported the Riverwoods Conservation easement is in its final stages with the plan needing to be revised to show the correct location of the gas line easement in the proper location. The revised plans should be provided before the end of the month and then it will move to the Select Board for approval in December or January.

Mr. Campbell noted that hunting season by rifle ended but archery will continue until the 12th.

b. Trails

Mr. Short noted with the amount of use the trails are getting he hoped they are not too wet because that would be detrimental.

Mr. Guindon noted he and Mr. Campbell removed a lot of invasives at Alan Street but ran into thick brush and invasives to the east so they will need to go out again. Mr. Guindon noted the area along the river is a pretty spot and there are large trees with no invasives beneath them. Markers should be checked for pushing back.

c. Outreach Events

Ms. Murphy announced the clean-up day at Raynes Farm, organized by Sally, was a success. The property was tidied up and historical items were organized, and they are ready to host an event when they are finally able.

Ms. Ward noted Ben Anderson and Word Barn hosted an environmental education event entitled *Owl Prowl* and has added another on Saturday, December 19th.

Ms. Ward brought up for discussion whether the Commission feels the Winter Solstice event should proceed. It is outdoors but there is hesitance with COVID cases spiking. Mr. Campion has other ideas for later in the winter, a lantern walk, bonfire, and hot chocolate which can be done anytime. They will need cinder blocks and pallets. Ms. Raub noted that with the Sky Watch event it was stationary, and they were able to do some diagramming which is not possible with this event. Ms. Ward was in favor of putting it on hold. Mr. Campion recommended preparing grab and go kits for a do it yourself outing. Ms. Ward was unsure how many people would be out there, and the Commission would not be providing a specific date so people would participate on their own at any time. Parks & Recreation has been bringing their programming before the Select Board for approval during COVID because of the State of Emergency. Ms. Gilman recommended first presenting any plans to James Murray the Health Officer to get his expectations. Ms. Raub noted the barn could be open with a table across the entrance to serve hot chocolate. Mr. Koff recommended Ms. Ward and Ms. Raub explore it further.

3. Approval of Minutes: October 13, 2020 Meeting and November 10, 2020 Meeting

October 13, 2020

MOTION: Mr. Koff motioned to approve the October 13, 2020 minutes as amended. Mr. Mattera seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Mattera – aye, Short – aye, Ward – aye, Campbell – aye, Guindon – aye, Eberhardt – aye and Koff – aye. With all in favor the motion passed unanimously 7-0-0.

November 10, 2020

Mr. Koff recommended removing the Alternate Select Board from the absent list.

Ms. Eberhardt abstained from voting.

MOTION: Mr. Campbell motioned to approve the November 10, 2020 minutes, as amended. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Koff – aye, Mattera – aye, Short – aye, Ward – aye, Campbell – aye, Guindon - aye and Campion – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously 7-0-0.

4. Correspondence

5. Other Business

Mr. Koff acknowledged the indigenous people of the Exeter area and announced that a virtual workshop was coming up. Ms. Murphy noted the virtual workshop coincides with the Commission’s meeting next month at 7 PM.

Mr. Koff announced the Commission has a new Alternate member, Conor Madison who will be joining the Commission at its next meeting and will replace Ms. White.

Ms. Gilman thanked the Commission for all of its hard work and efforts this year and wished everyone a happy and safe holiday and New Year. Mr. Koff concurred adding that 2020 has been a challenging year.

6. Next Meeting: Date Scheduled: January 12, 2021, Submission Deadline: December 31, 2020

Adjournment

MOTION: Mr. Koff moved to adjourn at 9:32 PM. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Koff – aye, Mattera – aye, Short – aye, Ward – aye, Campbell – aye Guindon – aye and Eberhardt – aye. With all in favor the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Hoijer, Recording Secretary