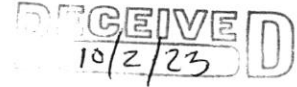


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Michael Furgueson, Chairman
Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission
Town of Essex
Essex Town Hall
29 west Avenue
Essex, CT

October 1, 2023

RE: CEASE AND DESIST SHOW CAUSE HEARING – 46 MAIN STREET, ESSEX,
CT – COPPER BEACH INN

Dear Chairman Furgueson:

Recently I conducted a field site visitation to the property referenced above to delineate any inland wetland soils and/or watercourses that may exist on the site.

I sampled the soils throughout the site using a soil auger to a depth of 2-3 feet. Based on my field observations and using the guidelines established by the National Cooperative Soil Survey and as defined by the Connecticut General Statutes, I delineated the inland wetland soils and watercourses on the site.

I delineated the inland wetland soils using blue flagging numbered 1A- 18A and 11-20 respectively.

These inland wetland soils are classified as a Ridgebury, Leicester Whitman extremely stony fine sandy loam. These soils are mapped together as a complex because of their similar physical characteristics, use ad management. They are found in drainage ways in glacial till uplands.

These wetland flags were field located by survey and are shown properly on a map entitled: "Topographic Survey of a Portion of Land of spartan Associates, LLC, Main Street, Ivoryton, CT, scale 1" = 20', dated 9/14/23 prepared by Richard Gates, Land Surveyor, 61 Main Street, Centerbrook, CT"

The upland soils are classified as a moderately well drained Woodbridge fine sandy loam and transition into a well drained Paxton fine sandy loam and well drained Canton and Charlton fine sandy loam.

This wetland area has functions that include: groundwater recharge and discharge, sediment stabilization, nutrient removal and transformation, product export, and wildlife diversity and habitat. The vegetative over-story includes maples, ash, black cherry and poplar. Shrub species include, winterberry, spice bush, silky dogwood. The herbaceous layer includes sensitive fern, poison ivy, wild grape, jack in the pulpit and skunk cabbage.

A large portion of the site was cleared of vegetation as a result of an attempt to eliminate accumulated debris and the stands of Japanese Knotweed that exists on the site.

A Cease and Desist was issued by Town staff and work was halted and the owner has complied with that order.

Please refer to a detailed Wetland Remediation Plan compiled by myself and Tom Sgroi, Professional Engineer submitted by Frank Perrotti. We will discuss the merits of this plan at your meeting on October 10, 2023.

The remediation plan will restore the property to a better condition than before and the inland wetlands will continue to perform their functions as they currently do.

Also, erosion and sedimentation controls were properly installed per town staff and have been routinely inspected and maintained. No erosion and sedimentation has taken occurred on the property or downstream of the site.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at the telephone number referenced above.

Very truly yours,

James Sipperly

James Sipperly
Certified Soil Scientist, Society of Soil Scientists
Connecticut Wetland Scientist, Connecticut Association of Wetland Scientists

RECEIVED
10/2/23

Wetland Remediation Plan

Town of Essex Wetlands Commission

Copper Beech Inn Property, 46 Main Street, Ivoryton

I. Introduction

The purpose of this Wetland Remediation Plan is to outline the necessary steps for the restoration and enhancement of the disturbed wetlands on the Copper Beech Inn property located at 46 Main Street, Ivoryton. This remediation plan is developed in accordance with the guidelines and regulations set forth by the Town of Essex Wetlands Commission.

II. Site Description

The Copper Beech Inn property features an intermittent watercourse that has been impacted by the accumulation of brush, organic debris, and invasive species. These disturbances have adversely affected the integrity of the wetland ecosystem and have also damaged the stand of native deciduous trees on the property. Recently the area was further disturbed by the recent removal of damaged trees and invasive species by owner of the property.

III. Remediation Objectives

The primary objectives of this remediation plan are as follows:

- Clean the intermittent watercourse of brush and organic debris, restoring it to its original condition.
- Enhance the intermittent watercourse by lining it with native stone from the area.
- Stabilize soil with the placement of a series of 20ft long by 9-inch diameter coir logs (or similar).
- Plant native shrubs within wetland limits
- Selectively treat invasive species with glyphosate to restore the health of the native ecosystem.
- Regrade and supplement topsoil to establish a thriving stand of native wildflowers and grasses that can be maintained over time.

IV. Remediation Steps

a. Clearance of Brush and Organic Debris

All brush and organic debris within the intermittent watercourse shall be carefully removed to restore it to its original condition.

b. Enhancement with Native Stone

Native stones from the immediate area will be used to line the intermittent watercourse, enhancing its natural appearance while providing stability.

c. Planting of Native Shrubs and Treatment of Invasive Species

Areas within the wetland will be reestablished with 5 different varieties of native shrubs. In addition, selective treatment with glyphosate will be employed to control and eliminate invasive species that have caused damage to the native deciduous trees. This treatment will be carried out following appropriate safety protocols as recommended to control certain species.

d. Soil Stabilization

Coir logs measuring 20ft in length and 9 inches in diameter will be strategically placed along the watercourse to stabilize the soil and prevent erosion.

e. Regrading and Topsoil Supplement

The affected area will be regraded to its natural contour, and topsoil will be supplemented to facilitate the establishment of native wildflowers and grasses. This will be done in accordance with soil and hydrological engineering standards.

V. Post-Remediation Maintenance

The success of the remediation efforts relies on ongoing maintenance and monitoring. Therefore, the following maintenance measures will be implemented:

- a. Regular inspections to ensure the continued health of the wetland ecosystem.
- b. Periodic removal of any re-emerging invasive species.
- c. Routine monitoring of the native wildflower and grass mix to ensure it thrives and remains free from invasive species.

VI. Schedule

The remediation project is anticipated to be carried out as follows:

- Clearance and grubbing of brush and organic debris.
- Native Stone Lining
- Coir Log Placement
- Planting native shrubs
 - Button Bush
 - Silky Dogwood
 - Winterberry
 - High Bush Blueberry
 - Speckled Alder
- Placement of wetland seed mix
- Invasive Species Treatment
- Regrading, topsoil and seed disturbed areas outside of wetland limits

VII. Conclusion

The remediation plan outlined above is designed to restore, enhance, and maintain the disturbed wetlands on the Copper Beech Inn property. It is in accordance with the Town of Essex Wetlands Commission guidelines and aims to preserve the integrity of the wetland ecosystem for years to come.

This plan shall be subject to approval by the Wetlands Commission, and any necessary permits shall be obtained before initiating the remediation project.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Perrotti