



March 11, 2014

Ellery Schaffer
Jewell Associates Engineers, Inc
560 Sunrise Drive
Spring Green, WI 53588

Subject: **DNR Initial Project Review:**
Project I.D. 5496-00-04
CTH N
STH 35 – Teter Lane
Crawford County

Dear Mr. Schaffer:

The Department has received the information you provided for the proposed above referenced project for CTH N. According to your proposal, the purpose of this project is to reconstruct 1.46 miles of rural roadway from STH 35 to Teter Lane. Proposed improvements include roadway reconstruction to improve horizontal curves, vertical curves, and steep grades to meet current design standards. The placement of culverts along the project will be investigated to improve drainage within the project limits.

Preliminary information has been reviewed by DNR staff for the project under the DOT/DNR Cooperative Agreement. Initial comments on the project as proposed are included below and assume that additional information will be provided that addresses all resource concerns identified.

A. Project-Specific Resource Concerns

Wetlands & Waterways: [SEE EMAIL ATTACHMENT 9B IN ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT](#)

There is potential for wetland impacts to occur as a result of this project and therefore wetland impacts must be avoided and/or minimized to the greatest extent possible. Unavoidable wetland impacts must be mitigated for in accordance with the DOT/DNR Cooperative Agreement and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Wetland Mitigation Banking Technical Guideline. The Department requests information regarding the amount and type of unavoidable wetland impacts.

Endangered Resources (ER): [SEE EMAIL ATTACHMENT 9E IN ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT](#)

Endangered Resources are present: Based upon a review of the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) and other Department records on March 11, 2014 the following Endangered Resources have been known to occur in the project area or its vicinity and could be impacted by this project.

Crotalus horridus, Timber Rattlesnake, status SC/P.

SEE EMAIL ATTACHMENT 9A IN ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

The Department will initiate coordination with Lisie Kitchel, Bureau of Endangered Resources.

Migratory birds

NLEB - SEE EMAIL ATTACHMENT 9D IN ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

To avoid impacts to nesting birds, removal of trees and shrubs which are likely to support active nests, or ground disturbance and vehicle traffic in grasslands with potential ground-nesting migratory birds should be completed between August 30th and May 1st.

RPBB - SEE EMAIL ATTACHMENT 9F IN ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

Burning

If burning of brush will occur as part of this project, the contractor should be informed that it is illegal to burn materials other than clean wood. The use of oil based accelerants is also prohibited. In addition, a permit may be required to burn any material during the wildland fire season. For information regarding current fire danger and burning permit restrictions please refer to the DNR Forestry website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestFire/restrictions.asp>

Burning permits are available through the local DNR ranger or fire warden.

Other Issues/Unique Features

- **Oak Wilt:**
This project involves work that may involve cutting or wounding of oak trees. To prevent the spread of oak wilt disease, please avoid cutting or pruning of oaks from April through September. See the DNR webpage at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fh/oakWilt/index.htm#causes>
- **Emerald Ash Borer:**
This project has the potential for spreading the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) beetle. It is illegal to move or transport ash material, the emerald ash borer, and hardwood debris (i.e. firewood) from EAB quarantined areas to a non-quarantined area without a compliance agreement issued by WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Regulated items include cut hardwood (non-coniferous) firewood, ash logs, ash mulch or bark fragments larger than one inch in diameter, or ash nursery stock (DATCP statute 21).

For more information regarding the EAB and quarantine areas please follow the links below.

http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/eab/articleassets/WI_EAB_Quarantines_and_Locations.pdf
<http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/eab/index.jsp>

B. Construction Site Considerations:

The following issues may be addressed in the Special Provisions and the contractor will be required to outline their construction methods in the Erosion Control Implementation Plan (ECIP).

Erosion control/Stormwater

Erosion control devices should be specified on the construction plans. All disturbed bank areas should be adequately protected and restored as soon as feasible.

An adequate erosion control implementation plan (ECIP) for the project must be developed by the contractor and submitted to this office for review at least 14 days prior to the preconstruction conference.

If erosion mat is used along stream banks, the department recommends that biodegradable and non-netted mat be used (e.g., Class I Type A Urban, Class I Type B Urban, or Class II Type C). Long-term netted mats may cause animals to become entrapped while moving in and out of the stream. Avoid the use of fine mesh matting that is tied or bonded at the mesh intersection such that the openings in the mesh are fixed in size.

Other Issues/Unique Features

Hill cut areas with a proposed slope of 2.0:1 or steeper of vertically for 30 feet or greater, and for horizontally 100 feet or longer, the department recommends a horizontal alignment shift where practicable. If an alignment shift is not practicable, the department recommends that the cut slopes utilize slope terracing techniques at 30 foot vertical intervals and appropriate erosion control stabilization methods.

SEE EMAIL ATTACHMENT 9C IN ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

The above comments represent the Department's initial concerns for the proposed project and do not constitute final concurrence. Final concurrence will be granted after review of plans and further consultation if necessary. If any of the concerns or information provided in this letter requires further clarification, please contact this office at 608-785-9115.

Sincerely,

Karen Kalvelage

Karen Kalvelage
Environmental Analysis & Review Specialist

CC: Fred Gruber – Jewell Associates
Bill Biesmann – KJohnson Engineers
Dennis Pelock – Crawford County HWY Commissioner

**BOX CULVERT REPLACEMENT CONCURRENCE:
SEE EMAIL ATTACHMENT 9D IN ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT**

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