

State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
La Crosse Service Center
3550 Mormon Coulee Road
La Crosse WI 54601

Scott Walker, Governor
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November 29, 2011

Tom Oldenburg
WisDOT
3550 Mormon Coulee Rd
La Crosse, WI 54601

SUBJECT: DOT/DNR Initial Project Review
Project I.D. # 5783-03-71
STH 131
B-12-618 Dellamater Hollow Creek
Crawford County

Dear Mr. Oldenburg:

Preliminary information on the above referenced project has been reviewed by DNR Southwest Region staff under the DOT/DNR Cooperative Agreement. Pertinent environmental considerations are presented below:

WETLANDS

The proposed project sites do have any mapped wetlands within the Wisconsin Wetland Inventory system. A site inspection has been completed and has determined that wetlands are present at the existing toe-of-slope at the project locations. The wetlands are currently mowed but are classified emergent/wet meadow.

WILDLIFE/FISHERIES

The project areas likely provide a corridor for the movement of mammals, as well as a source of water for area wildlife.

ENDANGERED RESOURCES

There are no records for any federal or state endangered, threatened, or special concern species at either of the project sites.

FLOODPLAINS

A determination must be made as to whether the project lies within a mapped/zoned floodplain. If the project lies in such an area, DNR requires the results of a 100-year flood analysis for the structure(s). Also, if the new structure(s) will create an increase in the 100-year backwater, DNR requires that letters be sent to all affected upstream landowners. For areas lying outside of mapped/zoned floodplain, DNR may request results of DOT flow and backwater calculations.

OTHER COMMENTS

1. There is potential for wetland impacts to occur as a result of this project, outside of the proposed project area, and therefore wetland impacts must be minimized and/or avoided 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 more specific information regarding the amount of unavoidable wetland impacts.
2. During structure removal, prevent all large pieces of debris and minimize the number of small pieces from entering the waterway or wetland. Remove all reinforcing steel, wood, concrete, and all other debris that falls into the waterway or wetland. The contractor may leave limited amounts of small concrete pieces scattered over the waterway floor or wetland only if the engineer allows.
3. All construction must take place outside of the stream.
4. The width and depth of the Dellamater Hollow Creek must not be altered.
5. All demolition material generated as a result of this project must be disposed of according to state law.
6. The bridge should be inspected for evidence of swallow nesting. If evidence exists then swallow nests with eggs and/or young cannot be disturbed between May 1 and August 30 of a given year.
7. All equipment must be properly cleaned and disinfected to address the spread of invasive species or viruses.
8. An erosion control/prevention plan must be approved and implemented prior to construction in order to prevent erosion and siltation into the stream.
- 9.

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
Environmental Analysis and Review Specialist

cc. Steve Vetch – WisDOT SW Region
Bruce Norton - ACOE