



The State of New Hampshire  
**Department of Environmental Services**



**Robert R. Scott, Commissioner**

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**WETLANDS AND NON-SITE SPECIFIC PERMIT 2023-02936**

**NOTE CONDITIONS**

**PERMITTEE:** NH DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
C/O SAM NEWSOM  
PO BOX 483  
CONCORD NH 03301

**PROJECT LOCATION:** I-95 ROW, PORTSMOUTH  
TAX MAP #NH DOT ROW, LOT #NH DOT ROW

**WATERBODY:** UNKNOWN

**APPROVAL DATE:** DECEMBER 15, 2023      **EXPIRATION DATE:** DECEMBER 15, 2028

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Based upon review of permit application 2023-02936 in accordance with RSA 482-A and RSA 485-A:17, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) hereby issues this Wetlands and Non-Site Specific Permit. To validate this Permit, signatures of the Permittee and the Principal Contractor are required.

**PERMIT DESCRIPTION:**

The NH Department of Transportation (NH DOT) proposes to permanently impact 2,905 square feet of palustrine wetlands to construct a soundwall within the Interstate 95 right-of-way to mitigate highway traffic noise within a residential neighborhood in Portsmouth, NH.

**THIS PERMIT IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING PROJECT-SPECIFIC CONDITIONS:**

1. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.16, all work shall be done in accordance with the Wetlands Plans for State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Dalton, NH Project No. 43760, plan dated October 13, 2023 as received by NHDES on October 31, 2023.
2. The permittee shall notify the department in writing at least one week prior to commencing any work under the permit in accordance with Env-Wt 314.03(a).
3. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.03(a), no activity shall be conducted in such a way as to cause or contribute to any violation of surface water quality standards specified in RSA 485-A:8 or Env-Wq 1700; ambient groundwater quality standards established under RSA 485-C; or any provision of RSA 485-A, or RSA 483-B.
4. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.03(c)(2), water quality control measures shall be comprised of wildlife-friendly erosion control materials if erosion control blankets are utilized.
5. Invasive plant species management shall be performed to ensure the project conforms to Env-Wt 307.05 and the NH DOT "Best Management Practices for the Control of Invasive and Noxious Plant Species".
6. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.03(c)(4), water quality control measures shall be capable of minimizing erosion; collecting sediment and suspended and floating materials; and filtering fine sediment.
7. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.03(c)(5), water quality control measures shall be maintained so as to ensure continued effectiveness in minimizing erosion and retaining sediment on-site during and after construction.
8. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.03(c)(6), water quality control measures shall remain in place until all disturbed surfaces are stabilized to a condition in which soils on the site will not experience accelerated or unnatural erosion by achieving and maintaining a minimum of 85% vegetative cover using an erosion control seed mix, whether

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- applied in a blanket or otherwise, that is certified by its manufacturer as not containing any invasive species; or placing and maintaining a minimum of 3 inches of non-erosive material such as stone.
9. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.03(d), any sediment collected by water quality control measures shall be removed with sufficient frequency to prevent the discharge of sediment; and placed in an upland location in a manner that prevents its erosion into a surface water or wetland.
  10. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.03(c)(7), temporary water quality control methods shall be removed upon completion of work when compliance with Env-Wt 307.03(c)(6) is achieved.
  11. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.03(h), equipment shall be staged and refueled outside of jurisdictional areas (unless allowed) and in accordance with Env-Wt 307.15.
  12. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.12(i), wetland areas where permanent impacts are not authorized shall be restored to their pre-impact conditions and elevation by replacing the removed soil and vegetation in their pre-construction conditions.
  13. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.12(f), if any temporary impact area that is stabilized with seeding or plantings does not have at least 75% successful establishment of wetlands vegetation after 2 growing seasons, the area shall be replanted or reseeded, as applicable.
  14. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.12(a), within 3 days of final grading or temporary suspension of work in an area that is in or adjacent to surface waters, all exposed soil areas shall be stabilized by seeding and mulching, if during the growing season; or mulching with tackifiers on slopes less than 3:1 or netting and pinning on slopes steeper than 3:1 if not within the growing season.
  15. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.12(f), if any temporary impact area that is stabilized with seeding or plantings does not have at least 75% successful establishment of wetlands vegetation after 2 growing seasons, the area shall be replanted or reseeded, as applicable.
  16. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.03(g)(1), the person in charge of construction equipment shall inspect such equipment for leaking fuel, oil, and hydraulic fluid each day prior to entering surface waters or wetlands or operating in an area where such fluids could reach groundwater, surface waters, or wetlands.
  17. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.03(g)(2), the person in charge of construction equipment shall repair any leaks prior to using the equipment in an area where such fluids could reach groundwater, surface waters, or wetlands.
  18. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.03(g)(3) and (4), the person in charge of construction equipment shall maintain oil spill kits and diesel fuel spill kits, as applicable to the type(s) and amount(s) of oil and diesel fuel used, on site so as to be readily accessible at all times during construction; and train each equipment operator in the use of the spill kits.
  19. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.03(e), all exposed soils and other fills shall be permanently stabilized within 3 days following final grading.

**THIS PERMIT IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

1. Pursuant to RSA 482-A:12, a copy of this permit shall be posted in a secure manner in a prominent place at the site of the approved project.
2. In accordance with Env-Wt 313.01(a)(5), and as required by RSA 482-A:11, II, work shall not infringe on the property rights or unreasonably affect the value or enjoyment of property of abutting owners.
3. In accordance with Env-Wt 314.01, a standard permit shall be signed by the permittee, and the principal contractor who will build or install the project prior to start of construction, and will not be valid until signed.
4. In accordance with Env-Wt 314.03(a), the permittee shall notify the department in writing at least one week prior to commencing any work under this permit.
5. In accordance with Env-Wt 314.08(a), the permittee shall file a completed notice of completion of work and certificate of compliance with the department within 10 working days of completing the work authorized by this permit.
6. In accordance with Env-Wt 314.06, transfer of this permit to a new owner shall require notification to, and approval of, the NHDES.

7. The permit holder shall ensure that work is done in a way that protects water quality per Env-Wt 307.03; protects fisheries and breeding areas per Env-Wt 307.04; protects against invasive species per Env-Wt 307.05; meets dredging activity conditions in Env-Wt 307.10; and meets filling activity conditions in Env-Wt 307.11.
8. This project has been screened for potential impact to known occurrences of protected species and exemplary natural communities in the immediate area. Since many areas have never been surveyed, or only cursory surveys have been performed, unidentified sensitive species or communities may be present. This permit does not absolve the permittee from due diligence in regard to state, local or federal laws regarding such communities or species. This permit does not authorize in any way the take of threatened or endangered species, as defined by RSA 212-A:2, or of any protected species or exemplary natural communities, as defined in RSA 217-A:3.
9. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.06(a) through (c), no activity shall jeopardize the continued existence of a threatened or endangered species, a species proposed for listing as threatened or endangered, or a designated or proposed critical habitat under the Federal Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. §1531 et seq.; State Endangered Species Conservation Act, RSA 212-A; or New Hampshire Native Plant Protection Act, RSA 217-A.
10. In accordance with Env-Wt 307.02, and in accordance with federal requirements, all work in areas under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) shall comply with all conditions of the applicable state general permit.

APPROVED:



Dale R. Keirstead  
Public Works Specialist, Wetlands Bureau  
Land Resources Management, Water Division

**THE SIGNATURES BELOW ARE REQUIRED TO VALIDATE THIS PERMIT (Env-Wt 314.01).**

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PERMITTEE SIGNATURE (required)

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PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR SIGNATURE (required)