



**Environmental
Notification Form**

<i>For Office Use Only</i> Executive Office of Environmental Affairs	
EOEA No.:	14379
MEPA Analyst:	Purvi Patel
Phone:	617-626-1029

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: Farm Pond Dredging Project		
Street: 984 Lowell Street		
Municipality: Carlisle	Watershed: Concord River	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 307309E 4714295N	Latitude: 42 33' 25.00"	Longitude: 71 20' 52.50"
Estimated commencement date: Oct 2009	Estimated completion date: April 2010	
Approximate cost: \$115,000	Status of project design: 75%	%complete
Proponent: : Department of Conservation and Recreation		
Street: 251 Causeway Street		
Municipality: Boston	State: MA	Zip Code: 02114
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Dan Herzlinger		
Firm/Agency: ESS Group, Inc.	Street: 401 Wampanoag Trail, Suite 400	
Municipality: East Providence	State: RI	Zip Code: 02915
Phone: (401) 434-5560	Fax: (401) 434-8158	E-mail: dherzlinger@essgroup.com

- Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
 Yes No
- Has this project been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No
- Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No
- Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:
- a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8)) Yes No
 - a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09) Yes No
 - a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No
 - a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an agency of the Commonwealth, including the agency name and the amount of funding or land area (in acres):
Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?
 Yes (Specify _____) No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals:
Order of Conditions

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACEC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological Resources |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
LAND				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i>
Total site acreage	0.8 acres			
New acres of land altered		0		
Acres of impervious area	NA	NA	NA	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0.8 acres		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage				
Number of housing units				
Maximum height (in feet)				
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day				
Parking spaces				
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use				
GPD water withdrawal				
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment				
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)				

CONSERVATION LAND: Will the project involve the conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?

- Yes (Specify _____) No

Will it involve the release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction?

- Yes (Specify _____) No

RARE SPECIES: Does the project site include Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities?

- Yes (Specify _____) No

HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Does the project site include any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes (___ Farm Pond is located within the Great Brook Farm Historic Area ___) No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?

Yes (Specify _____) No

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN: Is the project in or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

Yes (Specify _____) No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project description should include (a) a description of the project site, (b) a description of both on-site and off-site alternatives and the impacts associated with each alternative, and (c) potential on-site and off-site mitigation measures for each alternative (*You may attach one additional page, if necessary.*)

Project Site – Farm Pond (the pond) is a shallow (average depth approximately 4 feet), 0.8-acre pond located within Great Brook Farm State Park, which is managed by the project proponent, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). The pond is fed by several groundwater seeps and surface water runoff. Pond outflow is controlled by an outlet structure that discharges to downstream wetlands. The pond provides storage capacity for fire protection and historically served as a water source for farm animals; DCR still maintains an active dairy farm and an educational interpretive center within the State Park. The pond is not stocked with fish and, according to DCR, has no significant fisheries resources.

Most of the area surrounding the pond, which consists of mowed, grassy areas, walking trails, historic farm buildings, picnic tables, and a paved access road and parking lot, is managed for public recreation. Native species proximate to portions of the pond include white pine (*Pinus strobus*), oak (*Quercus* spp.), and red maple (*Acer rubrum*). A small area of bordering vegetated wetland (BVW) occurs at the southern end of the pond near the outlet. The BVW is vegetated with several native emergent species including soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.) and jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), as well as the invasive oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) and purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*).

The pond provides wildlife habitat value for waterfowl and water storage capacity for fire protection. There is no rare species habitat mapped near the pond (NHESP Atlas of 2008).

Project Purpose – DCR proposes to remove excessive sedimentation in order to improve wildlife habitat value, increase storage capacity for fire protection, and improve water quality. Once the project is completed, wildlife habitat will be enhanced through greater diversity of depth zones, water storage capacity for fire protection will be increased, water quality will improve, and the pond's ability to limit nonpoint source pollution will increase.

DCR proposes to dry-dredge the pond in accordance with the requirements of the Wetlands Protection Act and implementing regulations (310 CMR 10.53(3) and 310 CMR 10.54(4)). The project has been designed consistent with the *Eutrophication and Aquatic Plant Management Final Generic Environmental Impact Report*, *The Practical Guide to Lake and Pond Management in Massachusetts*, and the *Guidance for Aquatic Management in Lakes and Ponds As It Relates to the Wetlands Protection Act* (2004, MassDEP).

The project will remove approximately 3,300 cubic yards of material through dry-dredging, after DCR draws down the pond. The dredged material will be de-watered within the pond. Water from the dewatering operation will be collected and pumped to the existing pond outlet for discharge downstream. Sediment management within the resource area will be performed in accordance with the requirements of a 401 Water Quality Certificate and Best Management Practices (BMPs) for work in resource areas. Upland management and re-use of dewatered dredged material for landscaping within the State Park will be performed in compliance with applicable state and local regulations and approvals.

Alternatives – DCR has evaluated the No-Action alternative to the project for the ENF. Without implementing the proposed project, continued sedimentation, resulting in water quality degradation, decreased fire protection storage capacity, and wildlife habitat degradation would result.

The dredging alternative proposed by DCR would, as described above, result in improved water quality, enhanced wildlife habitat value, increased fire protection capacity, and nonpoint source pollution attenuation.

Mitigation Measures – Impacts associated with pond drawdown and dredging are anticipated to be temporary, of short duration, and subject to natural mitigation. DCR will commence drawdown activity between November 1st and December 1st and will re-fill the pond no later than April 1st of the following year. DCR will also consult with the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game (DFG) to identify specific methods that will further minimize impacts to wildlife within the pond. The drawdown rate will not exceed 3 inches of pond elevation per day, consistent with MassDEP guidance. Erosion control measures will be used to reduce potential turbidity during sediment de-watering and a turbidity curtain or other sediment control measures will be placed at the mouth of the outlet to minimize downstream migration of suspended solids. The ends of hoses used for de-watering will employ appropriate erosion control measures ensuring no increase in turbidity downstream. Hay bales and/or silt fences will be placed at the limits of work and will be inspected and maintained on a regular basis.