Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ■ MEPA Office

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
EOEA No.: 14140
MEPA Analyst: Bill Gage
Phone: 617-626- X1025

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: Thissell Marsh Restoration Project			
Street: Hale Street			
Municipality: Beverly	Watershed: North Coastal		
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 42° 33' 7" Longitude: 70° 51'1"		
Estimated commencement date: 2009	Estimated completion date: 2009		
Approximate cost: $1.2 Million	Status of project design: 40 %complete		
Proponent: Endicott College c/o Dennis Monaco			
Street: 376 Hale Street			
Municipality: Beverly	State: MA	Zip Code: 01915	
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Craig Wood, PWS			
Firm/Agency: The Louis Berger Group Inc.	Street: 75 Second Avenue		
Municipality: Needham	State: MA	Zip Code: 02494	
Phone: (781) 444-3330	Fax: (781) 444-0099	E-mail: cwood@louisberger.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): MA Coastal Zone Management Wetlands Restoration Program, funding amount yet to be determined.

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals:
Determination of Applicability (Wetlands Protection Act)

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

☐ Land
☐ Water
☐ Energy
☐ ACEC
☐ Rare Species
☐ Wastewater
☐ Air
☐ Regulations
☒ Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands
☐ Transportation
☐ Solid & Hazardous Waste
☐ Historical & Archaeological Resources

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total
LAND			
Total site acreage	4.7 Ac.		
New acres of land altered		2.0 Ac. perm	
Acres of impervious area	1.0 Ac. (tennis courts)	-1.0 Ac.	0 Ac.
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		17,120 s.f. (BVW restoration to salt marsh)	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		130,320 s.f. (salt marsh restoration) +49,826 s.f. (unaffected salt marsh) 180,146 s.f. (Total sm)	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0	
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage *(existing vs. proposed box culverts)*	7,178 s.f.	-5,045 s.f.	2,133 s.f.
Number of housing units	0	0	0
Maximum height (in feet)	N/A	N/A	N/A
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day	0	0	0
Parking spaces	0	0	0
WATER/WASTEWATER			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	0	0	0
GPD water withdrawal	0	0	0
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	0	0	0
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	0	0

State Permits & Approvals

☒ Order of Conditions
☐ Superseding Order of Conditions
☒ Chapter 91 License
☒ 401 Water Quality Certification
☐ MHD or MDC Access Permit
☐ Water Management Act Permit
☐ New Source Approval
☐ DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit
☒ Other Permits (*including Legislative Approvals*) – Specify:

Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Authorization

Coastal Zone Mgt- Federal Consistency Review

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 (Specify_____) ☒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 necess ary.*)

Endicott College in association with the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Wetlands Restoration Program (WRP) proposes to restore a culverted tidal creek and degraded and filled coastal wetlands within Thissell Marsh. The site is located south of Hale Street behind a small barrier beach system referred to as Patch Beach within the south campus parcel of Endicott College in Beverly, MA. Through history, Centerville Brook and the marsh behind Patch Beach have experienced substantial alterations including extensive channelization of the Brook dating to the 1890s and construction of six tennis courts within the marsh during the mid-1900s. The existing culvert under the dune system is not sufficiently sized to promote an adequate tidal exchange between Salem Sound and Thissell Marsh. This condition has also led to documented water quality impairments. In addition, portions of the existing culverts are in a failed condition.

The proposed Thissell Marsh restoration project has been developed with extensive input from Endicott College staff, abutters, resource agencies, Beverly City officials, and other project stakeholders. The project will replace the existing culvert with a new 5 x 5 ft box culvert through the dune, remove or abandon the remaining culvert sections, construct a new naturalized creek system similar to historical conditions, re-grade portions of the existing marsh to control the recolonization of *Phragmites*, and remove fill associated with the tennis courts. The work will improve environmental conditions within the existing 2.1 ac marsh and expand the total inter-tidal wetland area to 4.1 ac. In order to implement the restoration project, existing wetland resource areas will be altered. The overall benefits to the structure, functions, and ecological condition of Thissell Marsh far outweigh impacts associated with construction disturbance and conversion of degraded habitat. The project exceeds the mandatory EIR threshold of alteration of more than one acre of Salt Marsh or Bordering Vegetated Wetland. The ENF filing includes a request for a waiver from the mandatory EIR.

Please refer to attached narrative report, plans, and Mandatory EIR Waiver Request.