



MASSWILDLIFE

DIVISION OF FISHERIES & WILDLIFE

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Section 61 Findings Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

South Coast Rail Project, Phase 1

Conservation and Management Permit 018-324.DFW (321 CMR 10.23)

EEA No. 14346

A Conservation and Management Plan for the above-listed project has been prepared in consultation with the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP), in compliance with applicable performance standards of the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) and implementing regulations. Although the project will result in a Take of the Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene carolina*), the project meets the standards for issuance of a Conservation & Management Permit, pursuant to MESA (321 CMR 10.23), and the applicant has taken all feasible measures to avoid and minimize damage to endangered species and their habitat.

The components of the Conservation and Management Permit as drafted in consultation with NHESP staff include:

- (a) provide restricted funding in the amount of \$77,961.00 for land protection, conservation research, habitat management, and or conservation planning to benefit the Eastern Box Turtle in Massachusetts;
- (b) install and maintain appropriate wildlife crossings to improve habitat connectivity for State-listed species and other wildlife; and
- (c) implement Division-approved plans to protect State-listed species during and after construction.

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Assistant Director

Date: June 21, 2018

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