

Mr. David Capacchione
Town of Killingly
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Project: Install a Catch Basin and Drainage Pipe with Discharge to Tetreault Pond to Alleviate Standing Water and Safety Hazard on Cranberry Bog Road and 530 Westcott Road in Killingly, Connecticut

eNDDDB Portal Filing #: 94908

New NDDDB Determination No.: 202100132

Expiration Date: March 10, 2025

Dear David Capacchione,

This NDDDB determination is valid for two years. Please submit a new request for a NDDDB determination if the project scope changes or the project is not completed by March 10, 2025.

I have reviewed Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDDB) maps and files regarding the area delineated on the map provided for the project to install a catch basin and drainage pipe with discharge to Tetreault Pond to alleviate standing water and safety hazard on Cranberry Bog Road and 530 Westcott Road in Killingly, Connecticut. According to our information we have known extant populations of the following State-listed plant and Critical Habitat in the vicinity of your project.

State-listed Plant

Ageratina aromatica (Small white snakeroot)
Status: State Endangered
Dry woods, thickets, and clearings.
Blooms in late August, Sept, Oct.

Critical Habitat

Poor Fen (in Tetreault Pond)
Natural peatlands (bogs) occupying topographically defined basins; influenced by acidic ground water; on deep, poorly decomposed peats; dominated primarily by ericaceous shrubs. Subtypes include dwarf shrub, shrub thicket, saturated woodland, and other/unique.

We are in receipt of the report entitled “Cranberry Bog Road Botanical Survey for *Ageratina aromatica* (lesser snakeroot)” dated 9/14/2022, by Fred Sechler with Native Plant Trust, and I concur with its findings and recommendations with respect to the potential impacts of this project to the *Ageratina aromatica* population and the Poor Fen in the vicinity of the project and the recommended protection measures for the I population. Specifically, regarding the *Ageratina aromatica* population, the nearest *Ageratina aromatica* plant to the proposed project is approximately 20-25 meters away from the project disturbance area, and the 400 square foot disturbance generated by the project should not directly or indirectly impact this population. Regarding potential impacts to the Poor Fen Critical Habitat, Mr. Sechler determined that the portion of the wetland in the vicinity of the project was not in fact a Poor Fen (Poor Fen likely exists in Tetreault Pond farther away from the project site).

Protection Measures for State-listed Plants

To prevent impacts to the *Ageratina aromatica* population and nearby Poor Fen, the following measures shall be taken.

1. Each area where the plants are located shall be flagged or otherwise marked conspicuously prior to the commencement of the project, and the marking shall be maintained for the duration of the project.
2. The project engineer shall be made familiar by the project botanist with the *Ageratina aromatica* locations, shall be on-site during the project construction, and shall instruct project workers to avoid the marked areas with equipment and foot traffic.
3. Current Best Management Practices outlined in the current CDOT Drainage Manual shall be followed to protect wetlands in nearby Tetreault Pond from run-off and sedimentation impacts.
4. Into the indefinite future, the town shall restrict mowing within a 40–50-meter stretch where the plants of *Ageratina aromatica* are located, ensuring that it does not occur between June and the end of October. This no-mowing period will allow the plants to grow, potentially increase in number, and produce seed before fall mowing occurs. This area shall be posted with signage to give mowers a clear indication of the area not to mow.

Natural Diversity Data Base information includes all information regarding critical biological resources available to us at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Natural History Survey and cooperating units of DEEP, private conservation groups and the scientific community. This information is not necessarily the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Consultations with the Data Base should not be substitutes for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. Current research projects and new contributors continue to identify additional populations of species and locations of habitats of concern, as well as, enhance existing data. Such new information is incorporated into the Data Base as it becomes available.

Please contact me if you have further questions at (860) 424-3861, or william.moorhead@ct.gov. Thank you for consulting the Natural Diversity Data Base.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William A. Moorhead". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Bill Moorhead
Botanist/Plant Community Ecologist