



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands

Ware
City/Town

WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

A. General Information

Important:

When filling out forms on the computer, use only the tab key to move your cursor - do not use the return key.



1. Applicant:

DCR - Division of Watersupply Protection -Dan Clark

dan.clark@mass.gov

Name

E-Mail Address

485 Ware Road

Mailing Address

Belchertown

MA

01007

City/Town

State

Zip Code

413-213-7903

Phone Number

Fax Number (if applicable)

2. Representative (if any):

Firm

Contact Name

E-Mail Address

Mailing Address

City/Town

State

Zip Code

Phone Number

Fax Number (if applicable)

B. Determinations

1. I request the Ware make the following determination(s). Check any that apply:
Conservation Commission

- ☐ a. whether the **area** depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below is an area subject to jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act.
- ☐ b. whether the **boundaries** of resource area(s) depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below are accurately delineated.
- ☒ c. whether the **work** depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act.
- ☐ d. whether the area and/or work depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the jurisdiction of any **municipal wetlands ordinance** or **bylaw** of:

Name of Municipality

- ☐ e. whether the following **scope of alternatives** is adequate for work in the Riverfront Area as depicted on referenced plan(s).



ORIGINAL



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C. Project Description

1. a. Project Location (use maps and plans to identify the location of the area subject to this request):

0 Belchertown Road

Street Address

64

Assessors Map/Plat Number

Ware

City/Town

0/1

Parcel/Lot Number

- b. Area Description (use additional paper, if necessary):

See enclosed report

- c. Plan and/or Map Reference(s):

Title

Date

Title

Date

Title

Date

2. a. Work Description (use additional paper and/or provide plan(s) of work, if necessary):

see enclosed report



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C. Project Description (cont.)

b. Identify provisions of the Wetlands Protection Act or regulations which may exempt the applicant from having to file a Notice of Intent for all or part of the described work (use additional paper, if necessary).

The Work described in the Request is within an area subject to protection under the Act, but will not remove, fill, dredge, or alter that area. See report for more information

3. a. If this application is a Request for Determination of Scope of Alternatives for work in the Riverfront Area, indicate the one classification below that best describes the project.

- ☐ Single family house on a lot recorded on or before 8/1/96
- ☐ Single family house on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
- ☐ Expansion of an existing structure on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
- ☐ Project, other than a single-family house or public project, where the applicant owned the lot before 8/7/96
- ☐ New agriculture or aquaculture project
- ☐ Public project where funds were appropriated prior to 8/7/96
- ☐ Project on a lot shown on an approved, definitive subdivision plan where there is a recorded deed restriction limiting total alteration of the Riverfront Area for the entire subdivision
- ☐ Residential subdivision; institutional, industrial, or commercial project
- ☐ Municipal project
- ☐ District, county, state, or federal government project
- ☐ Project required to evaluate off-site alternatives in more than one municipality in an Environmental Impact Report under MEPA or in an alternatives analysis pursuant to an application for a 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or 401 Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Protection.

b. Provide evidence (e.g., record of date subdivision lot was recorded) supporting the classification above (use additional paper and/or attach appropriate documents, if necessary.)



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D. Signatures and Submittal Requirements

I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that the foregoing Request for Determination of Applicability and accompanying plans, documents, and supporting data are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I further certify that the property owner, if different from the applicant, and the appropriate DEP Regional Office were sent a complete copy of this Request (including all appropriate documentation) simultaneously with the submittal of this Request to the Conservation Commission.

Failure by the applicant to send copies in a timely manner may result in dismissal of the Request for Determination of Applicability.

Name and address of the property owner:

Priscilla Geigis

Name

251 Causeway Street

Mailing Address

Boston

City/Town

MA

State

02114

Zip Code

Signatures:

I also understand that notification of this Request will be placed in a local newspaper at my expense in accordance with Section 10.05(3)(b)(1) of the Wetlands Protection Act regulations.

Signature of Applicant

6-23-2022

Date

Signature of Representative (if any)

Date



Attachment: Background Information and Section C
WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability
Trail Bridge Installation
Quabbin Reservoir – Hank's Meadow Blue Trail

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), Division of Water Supply Protection, is proposing to install three pedestrian trail foot bridges that would cross three unnamed intermittent tributaries off the blue trail near Hank's Meadow in Quabbin Park which flow into the Quabbin Reservoir (Figure 1). The bridges are scheduled to be installed by DCR staff working with volunteers from the Student Conservation Association (SCA) in July 2022.

Currently, this trail is existing and has been used historically for decades. There are no bridges over the stream crossings, and this is resulting in some erosion of the banks. The installation of these bridges will allow hikers to continue to access the trail without causing further bank erosion and increased sediment input into the tributaries.

Part C. Project Description

1b. Area Description

The site is located off the blue trail from Hank's Meadow in Quabbin Park (Figure 1). The existing trail originates in the parking area from Hank's Meadow and meanders along the reservoir through a pine stand (Photo 1). The wetlands around the stream have been delineated in the field. The trail is not in a wetland. Stream crossing A (Photo 2) and B (Photo 3) originate from the same larger wetland system upgradient from the trail. Stream crossing B appears to receive most of the water from the wetland while stream crossing A only flows during extremely wet conditions. All three of the streams are intermittent, not shown on a USGS map as perennial, and USGS Streamstats analysis has determined the drainage area is less than .5 square miles. The two streams are separated by an upland area consisting of mostly pines. The ground between the streams is dominated by roots and boulders. Stream crossing C has little wetland associated with it and is primarily an intermittent tributary.

A site plan (Figure 2) depicts the locations of relevant environmental features. There are no mapped vernal pools or potential vernal pools in the area. Crossings A and B are within NHESP Priority Habitat.

2a. Work Description

The work includes installing three new foot bridges that will provide a stable crossing of the unnamed tributaries. The foot bridges will be of wood construction, with spacing between the planking to allow light to penetrate through. The bridges will be between 18 inches and 3 feet above the wetland/intermittent stream as to not hinder vegetation growth.

DCR carpenters and SCA volunteers will cut the wood to size in the DCR carpentry shop before transporting the wood to the site. The bridges will be long enough to span the entire stream and span the associated bank. The bridges will be approximately three feet wide and approximately fifteen feet long

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lt. Governor

Kathleen A. Theoharides, Secretary, Executive
Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Stephanie Cooper, Acting Commissioner
Department of Conservation & Recreation

with spacing between the decking. Prior to beginning on-site work, erosion controls will be placed around the work area.

Materials will be carried by hand to and from the site using existing trail shown on the Site Plan. This route will provide the most direct route possible while minimizing the potential for impacts to resource areas.

The bridges will be precut and preassembled and carried in. No footings will be installed. The bridges will span the entire wetland/stream bank to eliminate any fill within the wetland or disturbance of the bank. If the ground is uneven, boulders/rocks or a timber may be set above the bank to level the area.

2b. Provisions of WPA which may exempt the applicant from having to file an NOI

DCR respectfully asks for a Negative 2 determination for the installation of the bridge: *The Work described in the Request is within an area subject to protection under the Act, but will not remove, fill, dredge, or alter that area. Therefore, the said work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent.* The trail is already existing, and the installation of the bridges is safer, more stable, and will allow hikers to cross the unnamed tributaries without causing bank erosion or sedimentation. The proposed work will be performed above the bank, and it will not enlarge or alter the natural river channel. No fill to the wetland is proposed. DCR hopes that the Conservation Commission finds the proposed plan to be an overall site improvement, protective of the resource areas, and enhances their functions and values.

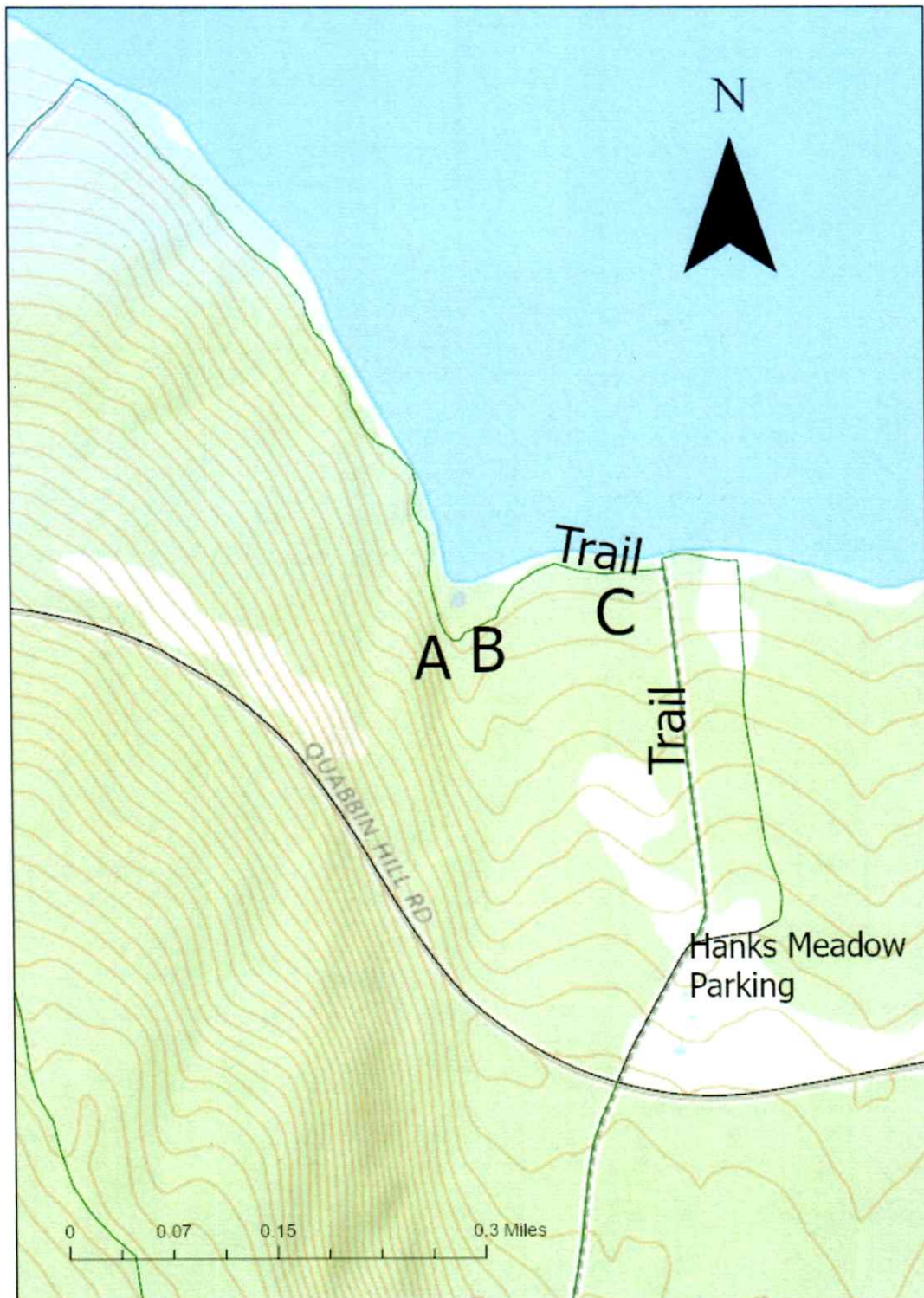


Figure 1: Site Location

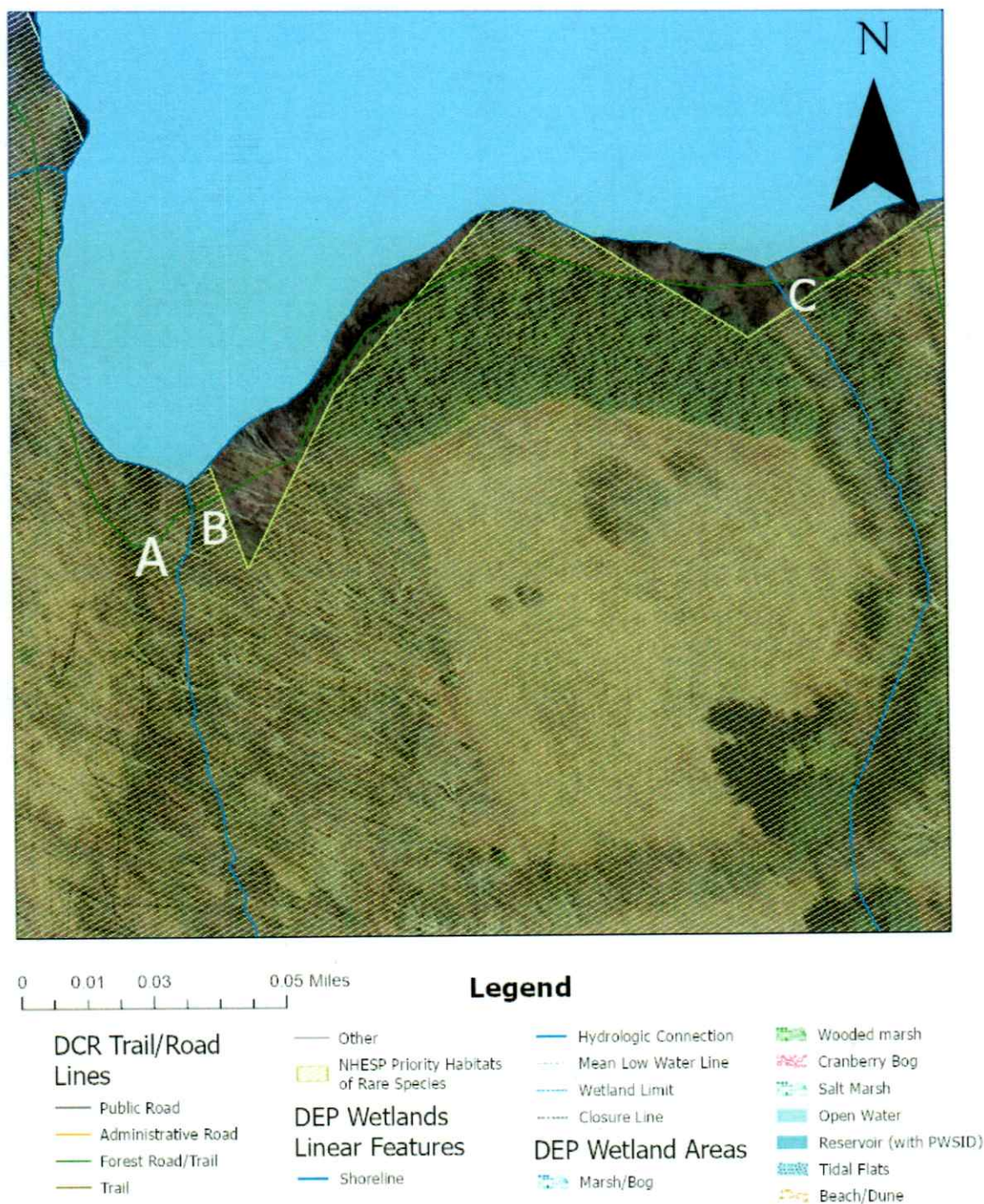


Figure 2: Site Environmental Conditions



Figure 3. Similar Bridge to be built

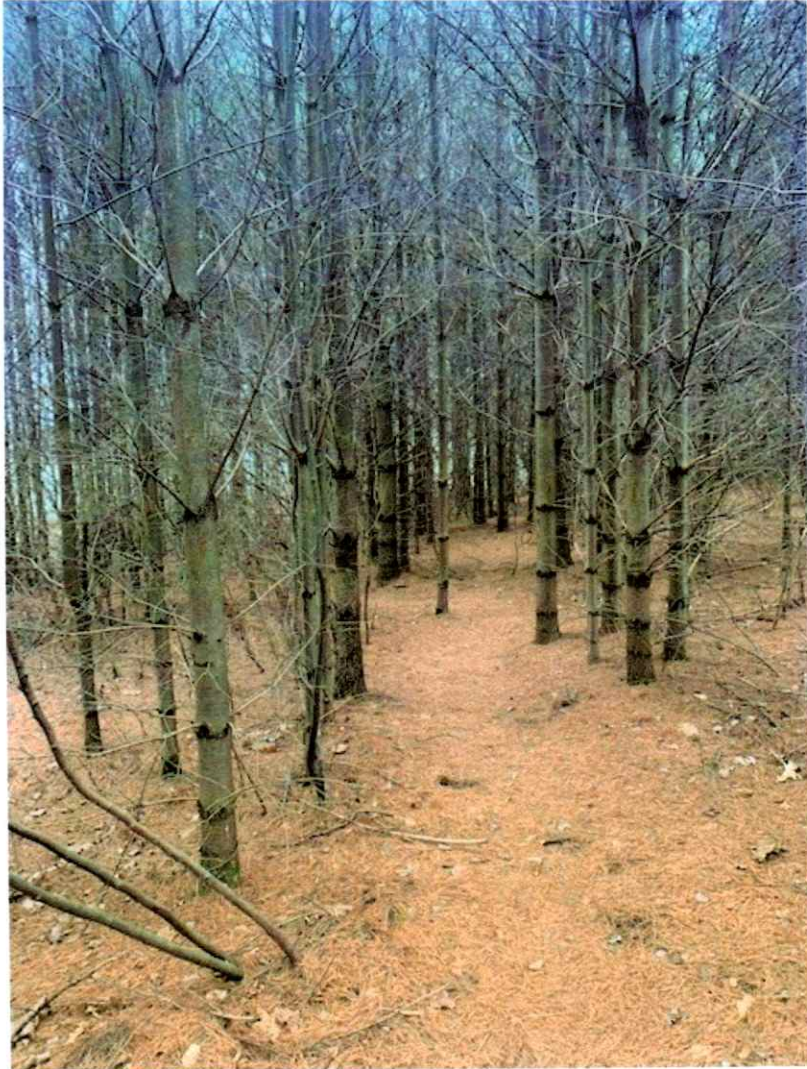


Photo 1: Existing Trail



Photo 2: Wetland stream crossing A



Photo 3: Wetland stream crossing B

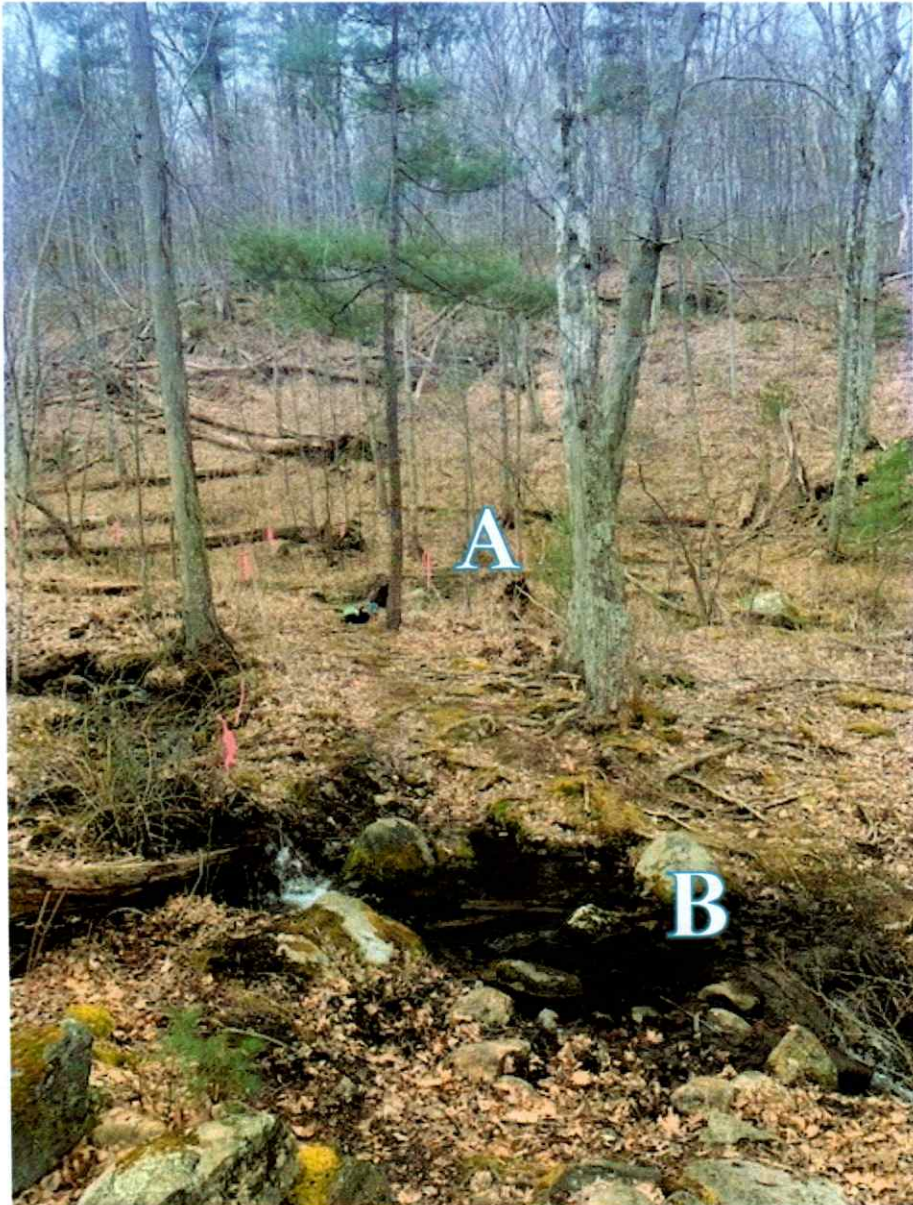


Photo 4: Wetland/stream crossing B and A



Photo 5: Wetland/stream crossing C