



MEMORANDUM

TO: EAST LYME INLAND WETLAND AGENCY (IWA)

FROM: EAST LYME COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES (CCNR)

SUBJECT: PROPOSED UPLAND REVIEW AREA REVISION

DATE: JUNE 4, 2020

CC: ROSEANN HARDY

The CCNR supports the IWA proposal to extend the existing Upland Review Area from the existing 100 feet. We recommend that the Review Area be extended to at least 300 feet to facilitate expert and nonpartisan review by the IWA of development projects that have the potential to degrade town wetlands, surface water bodies, or underground drinking water aquifers. Expanding the Review Area to this size is similar to actions taken by many other Connecticut towns. More importantly, it acknowledges through regulation that protecting the town's waterbodies is a prudent step saving future town maintenance costs and is environmentally protective.

As stated in the CCNR report *Protecting Drinking Water in East Lyme*, which documents threats to town waterbodies, stormwater runoff is a common but preventable source of contamination to all surface and underground water sources. The IWA Upland Review Area should be extended to approximate the distance where runoff from major landscape disturbance will affect the health of any adjacent wetland or watercourse.

Discussed and approved unanimously by the CCNR.

Arthur Carlson, Chairman