

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Jerry Lokken, Director, East Lyme Parks and Recreation

FROM: Daniel Hageman, Professional Soil Scientist, NHCWS

DATE: 11/19/2025

SUBJECT: Darrow Pond Trail Improvements wetland boundary verification

Introduction

IMEG conducted wetland delineation field work along the trail improvement areas to verify the previous field wetland delineation and to delineate new or changed resources if encountered. Digital data of the previously delineated wetlands within the project area was obtained. The areas to be verified were located within 300-feet of the proposed areas of activity. No wetland flagging was hung in the field, unless there was a difference found between the current conditions and the previously delineated resources. Any new wetland flagging was documented with a GPS unit with sub-meter accuracy.

Methodology

Federal wetland resources will be delineated in the field according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual and the USACE 2012 Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Northcentral and Northeast Region. IMEG will not mark the Ordinary High-Water (OHW) boundary associated with watercourses. No formal Wetland Documentation Plots will be prepared. No formal Wetland Function and Value Forms will be prepared. Connecticut State inland wetlands will be delineated based upon soil type as outlined in Section 22a-38 of Chapter 440 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, defining wetlands as land which consists of any of the soil types designated as either: poorly drained, very poorly drained, alluvial, or floodplain. Identification of watercourses, as regulated by Connecticut, will be based upon the definitions contained in Section 22a-38 of Chapter 440 of the Connecticut General Statutes of Connecticut; including the following hydrological systems under the term "watercourse": rivers, streams, brooks, waterways, lakes, ponds, marshes, swamps, bogs, and all other bodies of water, natural or artificial, vernal, or intermittent, public or private. Flagging will be placed in the field to denote federal and state inland wetlands and watercourse boundaries.

Results

Based on review of wetland boundaries in the field, all of the previously-delineated wetland areas within the area of review were accurate, with the exception of three small areas, discussed below. Attached Figure 1 depicts the three areas to be revised.

Revised wetland boundary area 1: This area is located southwest of Darrow pond on a hillside upslope from proposed Timber Matt No. 2. A small portion of the previously delineated wetlands was found to be composed of upland soils consisting of the Hollis, Chatfield and Sutton Soil Series. Six new flags were hung in the field to correct the boundary and revisions made as follows:

- new flags AA1 to AA6 hung in field
- tie new flag AA1 to old flag A176
- tie new flag AA6 to old flag A165
- delete old flags A166 to A175

Revised wetland boundary area 2: This area is located southwest of Darrow pond on a hillside upslope from proposed Timber Matt No. 2 and the revised wetland area discussed above. A small portion of the previously delineated wetlands was found to be composed of upland soils consisting of the Hollis, Chatfield and Sutton Soil Series. Two existing old wetland flags should be removed to correct the boundary, as follows:

- connect existing old flag A156 directly to existing old flag A159
- delete old flags A157 and A158

Revised wetland boundary area 3: This area is located southwest of Darrow pond, to the northwest of area 2 discussed above. The existing boy scout camping area is partially located within this area. This small previously delineated isolated wetland was found to be composed of upland soils consisting of the Chatfield and Sutton Soil Series. The entire wetland should be removed, as follows:

- delete existing old flags A251 through A256

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (860)383-3652.

Daniel A. Hageman, PSS, NHCWS



Senior Environmental Specialist

IMEG

cc: Joseph McDonnell, IMEG

Figure 1: Wetland areas revised for Darrow Pond Trail Improvement Project

