The selected contractor is responsible for installing waterbars and other erosion control measures as required to control sedimentation during all phases of development.

12. The selected contractor is responsible for installing waterbars and other erosion control measures as required to control sedimentation during all phases of development.

13. Any excavated material shall be placed outside of jurisdictional areas or removed from the site.

14. If dewatering is required, dewatering basins shall be placed in uplands areas and discharge water into upland areas.

15. Areas of soil disturbance shall be stabilized following construction in accordance with the applicable BMP manuals (see above).

16. Plan earth disturbance and grading activities to minimize the area of soil exposed at one time, as well as the length of time between initial soil exposure and final grading.

17. Protect existing vegetation and natural forest cover wherever possible.

18. Preserve and maintain buffer strips of undisturbed vegetation between construction areas and environmentally vulnerable areas such as watercourses, ponds, and wetlands.

19. Divert clean water away from the immediate construction area to reduce the threat of erosion.

20. Disperse clean stormwater to undisturbed, vegetated, flat or moderate-sloped surfaces where possible, rather than concentrate it into channels.

21. Fall and winter erosion control measures must be upgraded and refined to protect the site from spring runoff and snowmelt.

22. Any sign of rill or gully erosion should be immediately investigated and repaired as needed.

23. Periodically inspect seeded slopes for rills or other signs of erosion. Fill these areas gradually above the original grade, seeded, and mulched as soon as possible, but no more than three days following inspection.

24. Temporary stabilization measures should be inspected at least once per week during the construction period, or as stipulated by the applicable permits, until all exposed soils have been permanently stabilized.

25. In addition to regular inspections, the project site should be inspected during or within 24 hours of any rain event in which 1 inch of precipitation or more falls within a 24-hour period.

26. All areas of exposed or disturbed soil shall be temporarily stabilized as soon as practicable but no later than 45 days from the time of initial disturbance begins. When a shorter time is specified by local authorities, the construction sequence approval as part of the issued permit, or an independent monitor.

27. All areas of exposed or disturbed soil shall be permanently stabilized as soon as practicable but no later than three days following final grading.

28. Only disturb, clear, or grade areas necessary for construction. Flag or otherwise delineate areas not to be disturbed. Exclude vehicles and construction equipment from these areas to preserve natural vegetation.

29. Stockpile all stockpilings of vegetation, crushed stone, compact blanket, or other ground cover as soon as grading is completed or if work is interrupted for 21 working days or more. Use mulch or other approved methods to stabilize areas temporarily when final grading must be delayed.

30. All graded areas shall be permanently stabilized immediately following final grading.

31. Maintain exposed soil surfaces periodically with adequate water to control dust.

32. Avoid excessive application of water that would result in mobilizing sediment and subsequent deposition in natural waterbodies.

33. Within 100’ of streams, wetlands and in lake watersheds, temporary mulch should be applied within 7 days of exposing soil or prior to any storm event.

34. Application rate should be 2-3 tons (90-100 ft2) per acre to cover 75-90% of the ground surface.

35. When mulch is applied to protect vegetation over winter (past the growing season), it should be applied to a depth of four inches (150-240 pounds of straw per 1000 square feet, or double standard application rate).

36. When using erosion control mix, the barrier must be a minimum of 12” high, as measured on the uphill side of the barrier, and a minimum of two feet wide.

37. Temporary and permanent seeding shall be in accordance with the planting plan, NH DES erosion control manual and the aground upon native seed mix specified by the NH NRBS.

38. Vegetation growth covering at least 85% of the disturbed area shall be achieved prior to October 15th. If this condition is not achieved, implement temporary stabilization structures for soil erosion protection, and complete permanent seed stabilization during the next growing season or as specified by the EM.

39. Use slope breaks, such as diversions, berms, or contour furrows as appropriate, to reduce the length of cut-and-fill slopes to limit sheet and rill erosion and prevent gully erosion. All benches should be kept free of sediment during all phases of development.

40. Stabilize all graded areas with vegetation, crushed stone, compact blanket, or other ground cover as soon as grading is completed or if work is interrupted for 21 working days or more. Use mulch or other approved methods to stabilize areas temporarily when final grading must be delayed.

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60. Vegetation growth covering at least 85% of the disturbed area shall be achieved prior to October 15th. If this condition is not achieved, implement temporary stabilization structures for soil erosion protection, and complete permanent seed stabilization during the next growing season or as specified by the EM.

61. Use slope breaks, such as diversions, berms, or contour furrows as appropriate, to reduce the length of cut-and-fill slopes to limit sheet and rill erosion and prevent gully erosion. All benches should be kept free of sediment during all phases of development.
Plant Protection BMPs

- Limit removal of vegetation to that necessary for construction of the project.
- Extreme precautions shall be taken in operation areas to prevent unnecessary removal of vegetation during construction. Areas cleared of vegetation must be stabilized with appropriate seed mixes within three days of the completion of the disturbance.
- Planting with woody shrub species must take place at the next available and appropriate season after construction. (DC 14-15, DC 1237 - 1238)
- Limit tree clearing to the minimum required width to meet safety clearances, leave root systems in place, except over underground installations or where other earthwork must be conducted. Leave herbarious and shrub vegetation intact where practicable.

Where practicable, fill trees parallel to and within the ROW to minimize the potential for off-ROW vegetation damage.

- Control the spread of invasive plants.
  - Precautions shall be taken to prevent import or transport of soil or seed stock containing invasive or exotic species such as Purple Loosestrife, Knotweed, or Phragmites. The contractor responsible for work shall appropriately address invasive species in accordance with the NH DOT Boat Management Practices for Roundup Invasive Plants (2008).
  - Control invasive plant species such as Purple loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria) and Common reed (Phragmites) by measures agreed upon by the DES Wetlands Program if any such species is found in the stabilization areas during construction or during the early stages of vegetative establishment.
- Environmental monitors (EMs) will identify existing invasive species in the work area. (DC 1211 - 1212, 1215 - 1216)
- Train construction contractors responsible for vegetation removal to identify common invasive plant species.
- Perform regular inspection and clearing of construction equipment and vehicles on the right-of-way as appropriate where invasive species are present.
  - If invasive species are removed due to construction activity, cut when dormant or prior to seed set to the extent practicable, and dispose of in a manner and location that precludes spread.
  - Use soil from local sources. To the extent possible, match soil texture with soil texture found in impacted habitat. Only weed-free soil fill or topsoil, as determined by the supplier, will be brought on site.
  - Use weed-free/insurance-free tree stumps, bales, wattles, and mulch for erosion and settlement control.
  - Re-vegetate disturbed areas quickly using specified native soil mixes that are devoid of invasive species in accordance with New Hampshire Department of Agriculture regulations.
  - Follow specified erosion control BMPs during construction. Depending on the site, BMPs may include installation of silt fence, straw wattles, mulch/stump grinding bunds, straw bales, or check dams, and covering bare soil with mulch, blown leaves, burlap fiber mats or fiber rolls to protect drainage ways and streambanks from sedimentation.
  - Use BMPs for minimizing soil rating and compaction.

Threatened and Endangered Plants

- Locations of known rare plants will be revegated and flagged with soil condition flagging by a qualified botanist before prior to clearing and site preparation.
- Fence sensitive areas adjacent to impact areas as needed to prevent impacts beyond the work zone, and install signs along construction access roads to mark areas of resource sensitivity.
- The EM will discuss threatened and endangered plant isssues at the morning团建 meetings with Contractors for all clearing, site preparation and construction work taking place in sensitive areas.
- A contractor training program will be developed prior to clearing, site preparation or construction activities to familiarize the crews with the locations and species that will require special consideration. The EM is the responsible party for ensuring that the EM is a qualified botanist.
- In addition to the general avoidance measures listed above for all resource areas, the following practices will be monitored to avoid impacts to rare species and communities wherever practicable:
  - Clear and conduct site preparation activities in sensitive plant locations where the ground is frozen and snow cover is present, to the extent practicable.
  - If clearing and site preparation takes place when the ground is not frozen, use construction matting to cover the ground in the areas of potential RTE plants to minimize impacts.
  - If project constraints require clearing and site preparation to be performed during the growing season, perform work after the plant in question has set seed, especially if the plant is an annual, to the extent practicable. If the RTE plant to be impacted is perennial, perform construction late in the growing season as possible.
  - Use BMPs to avoid and minimize compaction of surficial soil. At the conclusion of construction, restore the native topsoil that was located in or adjacent to wetlands or surface waters within 3 days once construction is completed in specific areas. All other areas shall be stabilized within 7 days of construction completion, or earlier, if precipitation is in the forecast. Consult with the NH NHB regarding restoration activities in RTE plant locations. Allow RTE plant locations to reseed naturally without seed mix, unless directed by NH NHB to collect seed from adjacent (untouched plants) for use during restoration.
  - When restoring impact areas with RTE plant species, use seed mix containing only native plants. Seed mix should be selected based on conditions (e.g., upland to wetland) and should contain common native species associated with the impacted habitat. Provide NH NHB with a description of the proposed seed mix prior to use in the project area.
  - Carry out any necessary revegetation within the White Mountain National Forest in a manner that is consistent with the 2005 or superseding White Mountain National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.
  - Restoration of temporary wetland impact areas shall have at least 75% successful establishment of wetland vegetation after two (2) growing seasons, or they shall be replanted and re-established until a functional wetland is replanted in a manner satisfactory to the DES Wetlands Program.
  - Perform post-construction inspection or monitoring in restored sensitive plant locations for a period of two years following completion of construction activities in that location.

Restoration BMPs

- Seed and stabilize disturbed areas in or adjacent to wetlands or surface waters within 3 days once construction is completed in specific areas. All other areas shall be stabilized within 7 days of construction completion, or earlier, if precipitation is in the forecast. Consult with the NH NHB regarding restoration activities in RTE plant locations. Allow RTE plant locations to reseed naturally without seed mix, unless directed by NH NHB to collect seed from adjacent (untouched plants) for use during restoration.
- When restoring impact areas with RTE plant species, use seed mix containing only native plants. Seed mix should be selected based on conditions (e.g., upland to wetland) and should contain common native species associated with the impacted habitat. Provide NH NHB with a description of the proposed seed mix prior to use in the project area.
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- Perform post-construction inspection or monitoring in restored sensitive plant locations for a period of two years following completion of construction activities in that location.

Vegetated Pathways

- Avoid and minimize all clearing and site preparation activities in nine locations identified as “Vegetated Pathways” to the minimum necessary for project construction. These locations will be managed to allow the growth of taller, woody vegetation to provide cover for wildlife species to move across the ROW.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Location in Stewartstown</th>
<th>Right</th>
<th>Left</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Row</td>
<td>14 75 30</td>
<td>101 050</td>
<td>123 029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiler Road</td>
<td>14 75 30</td>
<td>101 050</td>
<td>123 029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Road</td>
<td>14 75 30</td>
<td>101 050</td>
<td>123 029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Road</td>
<td>14 75 30</td>
<td>101 050</td>
<td>123 029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Road</td>
<td>14 75 30</td>
<td>101 050</td>
<td>123 029</td>
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<tr>
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<td>14 75 30</td>
<td>101 050</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Road</td>
<td>14 75 30</td>
<td>101 050</td>
<td>123 029</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Locations are towards the middle of the span created by the two structures noted.

Operational BMPs

Operational best management practices for plant and wildlife protection

- Address regular and emergency vegetation management activities, line maintenance and repair, inspection activities, and ground line treatment programs. These operations and maintenance activities will be conducted within the Northern Pass ROW in compliance with Best Management Practices Manual for Utility Maintenance and Adjacent to Watersheds in New Hampshire (January 2015).

The New Hampshire Wetlands Bureau Utility Maintenance Notification (UMN) form and fee will be submitted as necessary and appropriate.

In compliance with the Utility Maintenance Notification, the utility will coordinate with the Department of Resources and Economic Development’s Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB) and NH Fish and Game Department, as appropriate, regarding the potential effects of the maintenance activities on rare, threatened and endangered species. Specific agreements regarding vegetation maintenance practices in locations were the Kearsarge blue butterfly is known to be present will be followed.

To minimize the impact of vegetation maintenance activities on sensitive riparian areas, the following moving practices will be followed:

- Mow after September 15 to the extent practicable.
- Minimum mowing height should be 5-12 inches above the ground.
- Mow with broom/wine type equipment and minimize the amount of area which is driven on.
- Move from the center of the ROW towards the edge, so animals responding to the noise/vibration of mowing can escape towards area that will not be moved.
- If a stream is present choose a mowing pattern that will let animals escape towards the stream and its curtain.
- If a road is present choose a mowing pattern that will not push animals excepting the moving into the road.
A. Typical Stream Crossing Restoration without Existing Trail/Road

1. Following the removal of equipment bridges, timber mats, and construction debris, waterbody banks will be restored to preconstruction contours.

2. In all areas of ground disturbance a permanent cover crop of native annual and perennial seed mixes will be used to establish immediate soil stabilization. All seed mixes must be approved by the NH Natural Heritage Bureau.

3. Following seeding, a layer of weed-free stone mulch will be applied to all seeded areas. Use of hay will not be permitted. Mulch will be anchored to prevent displacement by surface water flow or wind erosion. Temporary erosion control blankets and silt fence will be used on and at the base of slopes greater than 8 percent, and where determined to be necessary. Permanent silt breaks and water diversions will also be installed and maintained.

4. Temporary erosion control blankets and silt fence will be used on and at the base of slopes greater than 8 percent. Permanent silt breaks and water diversions will also be installed and maintained.

5. Live stakes will be installed at late fall or early spring during the dormant season (following September 15 or before June 1) at a rate of 100 stakes per acre along restored stream banks as shown on the detail sheets (to be developed).

6. Riverbank and stream bank stabilization areas shall have at least 75% successful establishment of wetlands vegetation after two (2) growing seasons, or shall be replanted and re-established in a manner satisfactory to DES.

7. Temporary erosion control materials will be removed following vegetation establishment.

B. Typical Stream Crossing Restoration with Existing Trail/Road

1. For stream crossings in areas with existing improved and unimproved roads that the landowner intends to retain, all road surfaces will be re-established to pre-construction grades, with all ruts and potholes filled and smoothed. Where necessary, road fill will be compacted in 6-inch lifts to established pre-construction contours. If requested by the landowner, crossing access roads may be removed, and original stream bed and bank contours restored.

2. In all areas where ground disturbance has occurred, final grading, seeding, mulching, and planting will occur as outlined in Section A. above.

C. Typical Depressional Wetland Crossing Restoration

1. Following the removal of timber mats and construction debris, wetland contours, including microtopographic relief, will be restored to preconstruction conditions.

2. Establishment of preconstruction contours may require soil de-compaction through tillage in areas where the use of timber mats and machinery result in soil compaction during the construction phase. In areas of severe soil compaction, or in areas where ligneous and subsoil separation was not achieved, the use of a wetland soil mix may be required to establish pre-construction contours and soil organic content.

3. Additionally, coarse wood debris will be preserved in the wetland or replaced during the restoration process as long as it will not interfere with ROW maintenance.

4. In all areas of ground disturbance, a permanent cover crop of native annual and perennial seed mixes will be used to establish immediate soil stabilization. All seed mixes must be approved by the NH Natural Heritage Bureau.

5. Following seeding a layer of stone mulch will be applied to all seeded areas. Use of hay will not be permitted. Mulch will be anchored to prevent displacement by surface water flow or wind erosion. Temporary erosion control blankets and silt fence will be used on and at the base of slopes greater than 8 percent, and where determined to be necessary. Permanent silt breaks and water diversions will also be installed and maintained. Live stakes of native shrubs will be installed in late fall or early spring during the dormant season (following September 15 or prior to June 1) at a rate of 100 stakes per acre along restored wetland edges and within wetlands, when feasible.

6. Wetland restoration areas shall have at least 75% successful establishment of wetlands vegetation after two (2) growing seasons, or shall be replanted and re-established in a manner satisfactory to DES.

D. Seepage Slope Wetland Crossing Restoration

1. Where seepage slope wetlands are crossed, the path will be restored (including replacing stockpiled) wetland soil mix to the disturbed area so it matches the surrounding topography and pre-construction contours.

2. Newly plowed wetland soil will be seeded with a wetland seed mix approved by the NH Natural Heritage Bureau.

3. Erosion control blankets will be placed over the disturbed and seeded area to hold soil in place until vegetation has become established.

4. Restoration areas shall have at least 75% successful establishment of wetlands vegetation after two (2) growing seasons, or they shall be replanted and re-established until a functional wetland is replicated in a manner satisfactory to the DES Wetlands Program.

E. Wetland Swale Crossing Restoration

1. Following the removal of equipment bridges, timber mats, and construction debris, wetland swale bed and banks will be restored to preconstruction contours.

2. In all areas of ground disturbance a permanent cover crop of native annual and perennial seed mixes will be used to establish immediate soil stabilization. All seed mixes must be approved by the NH Natural Heritage Bureau.

3. Following seeding a layer of stone mulch will be applied to all seeded areas. Use of hay will not be permitted. Mulch will be anchored to prevent displacement by surface water flow or wind erosion. Temporary erosion control blankets and silt fence will be used on and at the base of slopes greater than 8 percent.

4. Restoration of temporary impact areas shall have at least 75% successful establishment of wetlands vegetation after two (2) growing seasons, or they shall be replanted and re-established until a functional wetland is replicated in a manner satisfactory to the DES Wetlands Program.

5. Temporary erosion control materials will be removed following vegetation establishment.

F. Wetland Crossing Restoration with Existing Trail/Road

1. For wetland crossings in areas with existing improved and unimproved roads all road surface will be re-converted to pre-construction grades, with all ruts and potholes filled and smoothed.

2. If requested by the landowner, existing access roads may be removed, and wetland contours restored to grades and microtopography similar to portions of the wetland not previously impacted by anthropogenic disturbances.

3. In all areas where ground disturbance has occurred, final grading, seeding, mulching, and planting will occur as outlined in Section C. above.

Standing Water Construction Notes

- The contractor will evaluate opportunities to access pond construction locations from public roads opposite sides of the waterbody to reduce impacts, where safety, weather, seasonal conditions, schedule and structure type allow.

- Work in ponds will take place in winter under frozen conditions to the extent that the construction schedule allows. As necessary, the contractor will enhance frozen conditions by:
  - Removal (plowing) of insulating snowpack from underlying ice;
  - Application of water to plowed icy areas to strengthen ice; and
  - Use of timber matting over ice or deep snow.

- Access in or through ponded locations will follow existing access road and/or ORV trail crossing sites that have been previously disturbed and may have hardened bottoms where possible.

- Access and construction ponds in ponded locations may include bridging, stacking timber mats in shallow water to achieve the stability needed, and shallow water work barges where needed.

- If stacking timber mats in ponds, they will be stacked in a manner that includes gaps for movement of aquatic animals through the mats.

Note: N refers to WMNF and points north; S refers to south of the WMNF.
Nesting Season Dates

- April 1 - June 30
- April 15 - August 15
- March 15 - July 15
- May 1 - July 30
- March 15 - June 30

Moose Concentration Areas

- Avoid work in identified DMA’s where more than 100 moose occur, or.
- The Environmental Monitor will check known DMA’s prior to initiating work and determine if there are present and work should be avoided.
- Leave trees undisturbed as browse for deer.
- Conduct additional checks as snow conditions change.

Deer Wintering Areas

- Avoid work in identified MCAs, where more than 300 deer occur, or.
- The Environmental Monitor will check known MCAs prior to initiating work and determine if there are present and work should be avoided.
- Leave trees undisturbed as browse for moose.
- Conduct additional checks as snow conditions change.

High Elevation Areas

- Avoid work in identified EAs’s, where more than 2,700 feet above sea level.
- The Environmental Monitor will check known EAs prior to initiating work and determine if there are present and work should be avoided.
- Conduct additional checks as snow conditions change.

Table 1. Raptor species nesting dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Nesting Season Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red-tailed hawk</td>
<td>April 15 – August 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper’s hawk</td>
<td>April 15 – July 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern goshawk</td>
<td>April 15 – July 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bald-shouldered hawk</td>
<td>April 15 – July 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rough-legged hawk</td>
<td>May 1 – July 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rough-winged hawk</td>
<td>May 1 – July 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American kestrel</td>
<td>April 15 – July 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merlin</td>
<td>March 15 – July 30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Common nighthawk       | Prior to initiating work activities then fenced to keep disturbed areas safe and maintain taking the appropriate actions to protect them is required. All personnel must understand and implement the appropriate protective actions and notifications.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eagle</td>
<td>No work shall be done within 1/4 mile of a nest or feeding area or be active during the active period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-footed kite</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common nighthawk</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Species: Northern Black Racer and Eastern Hognose Snake

- From October 15 through April 30 when racers or hognose snakes may be active, no activity involving their hibernacula, and ground disturbing activities can take place in any location known by NHFG to be a hibernaculum.
- From April 15 through October 30, the Environmental Monitor will search areas about to be impacted by clearing or site preparation for snakes.
- All snakes found will be removed to a safe, suitable location close to their point of capture.
- Construction areas that are cleared of snakes must be fenced to prevent (re)entry by snakes or searched daily to find and remove snakes as needed during construction.
- Silk fencing can be used to exclude snakes, or fencing products specifically designed to exclude reptiles from construction zones are also commercially available and are designed for ease of installation and reuse.
- If fencing is used, it must be removed as soon as construction is complete and snakes can safely enter the area.
- Contractor training in recognizing potential snakes and taking the appropriate actions to protect them is required. All personnel must understand and implement the appropriate protective actions and notifications.

Turtles-Wood, Blanding’s and Spotted

- Avoid and minimize impacts to open water and muddy substrates in all seasons to the greatest extent practicable.
- Avoid and minimize impacts to streams in all seasons to the greatest extent practicable.
- April 15 – October 15, the Environmental Monitor will search riparian zones and uplands within 1,640 feet (0.3 miles) of suitable streams for wood turtles prior to clearing and site preparation.
- April 15 – October 15 the Environmental Monitor will search woody and grassy wetland vegetation within the construction zone for Blanding’s and spotted turtles prior to clearing and site preparation.
- All turtles found will be removed to a safe, suitable location close to their point of capture.
- Construction areas that are searched and cleared of turtles must be fenced to prevent (re)entry by turtles or searched daily during construction to find and remove turtles as needed.
- May 25 - Oct. 15, potential turtle nesting habitat in the work area will be identified by the environmental monitor prior to any work occurring.
- Symbolic fencing will be placed around potential nesting habitat to keep work activities and animals from encroaching. Symbolic fencing will be designed to let turtles access nesting areas freely.
- If potential nesting habitat is part of an access road or construction pad, it will be searched for turtles prior to initiating work activities then fenced to keep turtles out during subsequent work.
- All fencing will be removed as soon as construction is complete and turtles can safely enter the area.
- Silk fencing or fencing products specifically designed to exclude reptiles from construction zones can be used as exclusion fencing.
- Contractor training on recognizing potential turtles and taking the appropriate actions to protect them is required. All personnel must understand and implement the appropriate protective actions and notifications.