PROJECT NARRATIVE
15 Porter's Cove Road
Hingham, MA

1.0 Project Summary

The project proposes a fence, pool, patio, and associated landscaping be constructed at 15 Porter's Cove Road, Hingham, MA. The property is shown as Hingham Assessor's Parcel Map 30 Lot 41, and is approximately 1.46 acres. The property has frontage on Porter's Cove Road to the south, and is abutted by a developed residentially zoned property to the east and west and by the tidal Weir River to the north.

The property is developed with a single family dwelling constructed circa 1960 and associated pavement drive and lawn. The property slopes downward in an northerly direction.

A portion of the lot is located within a FEMA Flood Zone AE (Elev. 10) and FEMA Flood Zone X as shown on the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map Panel 25023C 0038J dated 7/17/2012.

The site does not contain any areas designated as estimated or priority endangered species habitat or certified vernal pools.

2.0 Wetland Resource Areas & Impacts

Riverfront Area (310 CMR 10.58)

The proposed work lies within the 100' Outer Riparian Zone and 200' Riverfront Area to Weir River. Areas considered to be Riverfront Areas are defined by 310 CMR 10.58 of the Wetlands Protection Act. Riverfront areas are crucial to surface and groundwater supplies, both public and private, in addition to preventing storm damage and pollution. These areas often contain shellfish, wildlife habitats, and fisheries. The natural vegetation within these areas are critical to maintain river ecosystems and to prevent the degradation of water quality through filtration.

The proposed work will be conducted on a stabilized, previously disturbed area that will have no impact on storm damage prevention, flood control, local wildlife, or reduce the Riverfront Area's ability to filter out nutrients, toxis substances, and pollution. The total proposed degraded area within the 200' Riverfront area is less than 5,000 square feet and less than 10% of the total Riverfront Area on the lot.

Salt Marshes (310 CMR 10.32)

The proposed fence lies partially within the 100' buffer to a Salt Marsh. Salt Marshes are significant to the protection of various wildlife habitats and specifies, particulary those of shellfish. Salt Marshes can also work to prevent pollution and storm damage.

The proposed fence will be constructed on previously a stabilized, previously disturbed area that will have no impact on wildlife habitats, pollution control, or storm damage prevention.

Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (10.32 CMR 10.55)

The proposed fence lies partially within the 100' buffer to a Bordering Vegetated Wetland. Bordering Vegetated Wetlands are often significant to public and private water supplies, flood control, storm damage prevention, the protection of wildlife habitats and fisheries. Bordering Vegetated Wetlands also contribute to pollution control and the removal of harmful substances.

The proposed fence will be constructed on previously a stabilized, previously disturbed area that will have no impact on wildlife habitats, pollution control, storm damage prevention, or any private or public water supply.

3.0 Construction Phase Mitigating Measures

The following are mitigating measures that will be employed to ensure that impacts to wetland interests protected under the Town of Hingham Wetlands Rules and Regulations and the Wetlands Protection Act are minimized to the extent possible.

Erosion and Sedimentation Control

The potential for temporary impacts to wetlands due to erosion and migration of sediments into adjacent wetlands will be mitigated by adherence to basic erosion control practices. These include:

1. Install staked 12" diameter straw wattles and/or silt fence (as directed by Conservation Agent) at the upland edge of the limit of work as shown on the Site Plan. This erosion control barrier shall be installed prior to earthwork at the site. An additional stockpile of siltation fence, and stakes will be stored on site for use in repairing the erosion control barrier as needed. Inspections of the erosion control barrier shall be made weekly and after all significant rainfall events.

2. Clearly define the limits of work in the field in order to minimize the extent of clearing and soil disturbance.

3. Regrade, loam, and seed exposed soil areas immediately following construction.