

Beyer, Jim R

From: Stratton, Robert D
Sent: Thursday, January 24, 2019 4:16 PM
To: Beyer, Jim R
Cc: Connolly, James; Perry, John; Overlock, Joe; Brautigam, Francis
Subject: NECEC brook trout resources
Attachments: doc03896120190124121057.pdf

Jim,

Earlier this week I sent information to you from MDIFW's Regional Fisheries staff to correct the brook trout resource information contained in the NECEC Waterbody Crossing Table (Exhibit 7-7). Per your request, I am now sending my mark-up of that table based on interpretation of the input received from Regions E and D. The Region B information was not updated as it appears to be within the section of the proposed powerline where no additional clearing activities are necessary. You will see that I have highlighted the stream designation (yellow in Region E, orange in Region D) and changed "N/A" to "Y" for yes where appropriate. Because of the size of the table, I am sending it in two emails.

On a related issue that we discussed earlier today, MDIFW believes that it is reasonable on this project, pursuant to the vegetation management plans proposed, to view vegetation management activities within currently vegetated stream buffers as 60% impact instead of 100% impact for mitigation purposes. This opinion is based on CMP's plan to allow capable vegetation within the ROW to attain heights of up to approximately 10-feet, and higher as conditions allow. Within the immediate wire zone of the ROW, non-capable vegetation will be managed the same way. Within the border zones outside of the immediate wire zone, non-capable vegetation will be allowed to reach its full natural heights. This is anticipated to result in at least shrub stage or higher vegetation within the ROW. This determination is only applicable to the NECEC project and the proposed vegetation management plans described.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you, Bob.

Bob Stratton
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