

TDI-NE NECPL - Wetland Classification - ANR Comments, Project Response, and Classification Updates to the NECPL Wetland Classification Memo (December 30, 2014)  
February 27, 2015

MP	Wetland ID	ANR Comment	Project Response	Classification Outcome (per 2/27/15 meeting)
110.1	V-FH-W-17	2H-agri runoff-direct drain into Muddy Brook: small size but functionally important	This feature is not impacted regardless of classification. Based on our field evaluations and desktop review, we affirm the wetland provides minimal function and does not exhibit any of the characteristics included on the Vermont Wetland Evaluation Form that would indicate it provides surface or groundwater protection at a higher level (2h). It does not extend much further than the study area corridor; the ag field is mostly just a mowed hay field at the time of delineation. It is not apparently providing direct drainage to Mud Brook. We maintain our recommended classification.	III
110.1	V-FH-W-16	2H-agri runoff-direct drain into Muddy Brook: small size but functionally important	This feature is not impacted regardless of classification. Based on our field evaluations and desktop review, we affirm the wetland provides minimal function and does not exhibit any of the characteristics included on the Vermont Wetland Evaluation Form that would indicate it provides surface or groundwater protection at a higher level (2h). It is a larger swale feature than V-FH-W-16. The ag field is mostly just a mowed hay field at the time of delineation. Culvert drainage toward VSWI and Mud Brook apparently outlets in an upland location, and does not constitute contiguity. We maintain our recommended classification.	III
110.1	V-FH-AW-17	see above	Same comment as above.	III
110.1	V-FH-AW-16	see above	Same comment as above.	III
111.1	V-FH-W-6	hydrologically connect via culvert to VSWI mapped system. Was no wetland found in median? I would assume no one delineated the median.	It is not certain whether the culvert fully extends under the roadway to the mapped VSWI (culvert data from VTrans does not show a connection), nor whether the VSWI is present. We will assume Class II.	II
124	T-WR-W2	if the presumption includes g for RTE presence then this should be 6H and Class II	The historic (dated 1898) Natural Heritage RTE plant Element Occurrence (EO ID 1110) is shown to overlap this wetland. This species was observed during RTE surveys to the north along the dry roadside; however, it was not observed in the wetland area. We expect the Element Occurrence record will be updated with the Project survey results provided to the Natural Heritage Inventory, which will exclude this wetland area. The RTE would not be expected to occur in this type of wetland habitat. We maintain our Class III recommendation.	III
124	T-WR-AW-2	if the presumption includes g for RTE presence then this should be 6H and Class II	Same as comment above.	III
130	T-CL-W1	if RTE species is present, it should be Class II	The S2S3-ranked RTE species has limited overlap with the wetland and also occurs in the bordering upland. Thus was the basis of our recommendation. This wetland and RTE species will be avoided. We will change to Class II. Based on this change, Project will have impact in buffer zone.	II
134.5	T-SH-W7	Does this extend to a wet meadow-mapped VSWI system: Class II?	This was noted as an isolated forested wetland based on our field observations and desktop review. Close to VSWI, but inconclusive connectivity. Recommend we maintain Class III. This area will be avoided via HDD.	III
134.5	T-SH-AW7	Does this extend to a wet meadow-mapped VSWI system: Class II?	Same comment as above.	III
? Old road of	V-WA-W-1	check Class- should be Class II typo	This was a typo, we agree with Class II recommendation	II
138	V-WA-AW-104	hydro-connect to W5-within floodplain of Mill River, Should be Class II:	We agree with your feedback and will change to Class II.	II
138.1	V-WA-W-103	hydro-connect to W5-within floodplain of Mill River, drains into- between road and river. Should be Class II: 2L should be 2H and 10L	We agree with your feedback and will change to Class II.	II
138.1	V-WA-W-102	hydro-connect to W5-within floodplain of Mill River, Should be Class II:	We agree with your feedback and will change to Class II.	II
138.1	V-WA-AW-102	hydro-connect to W5-within floodplain of Mill River, Should be Class II:	We agree with your feedback and will change to Class II.	II
138.1	V-WA-AW-103	hydro-connect to W5-within floodplain of Mill River, drains into- between road and river. Class II: 2L should be 2H and 10L	We agree with your feedback and will change to Class II.	II
139.4	T-MH-W50	hydro-connect to W49 via culvert-Class II	We do not believe that this culvert connection constitutes "contiguity" with a VSWI/significant wetland. Furthermore, it cannot be confirmed that T-MH-W49 has a hydrologic connection with the VWSI, since Mill Brook Lane is encountered between the two (although we recommended this feature for Class II given some evidence based on topo). VSWI is greater than 300 feet from this wetland, with uncertain hydrological connectivity and two roads between the wetland in question and the VSWI. However, given the size of this wetland, we agree with Class II recommendation.	II
139.4	T-MH-AW-50	see above	Same comment as above.	II

139.4	T-MH-W48 NORTH	hydro-connect to 48-Class II: presumption 4.6 (contiguous)	Given distance to VSWI (greater than 350 feet) and uncertain hydrological connectivity, including Route 103 and Mill Brook Lane bisecting this wetland from a potential VSWI connection, we maintain our Class III recommendation for T-MH-W48 NORTH / AW48 NORTH. This is a small, low-quality, marginal wetland located in a mowed lawn.	III
142.3	T-M H-W24	potential S1B species: very rare breeder: active logging occurring north: increased functions for 2: VWSI both north and south: Class II for both sections.	These are low quality, marginal roadside wetland features, and this was the basis for our recommendation. However, we agree with your feedback. We will revise to Class II.	II
142.3	T-MH-AW-24	see above	Same comment as above.	II
142.8	T-M H-W20	presumption g: Class II	We recommended Class III since the observed S2-ranked RTE plant is confined to the excavated and maintained roadside ditch that is located within the small wetland feature (and is not occurring in the more undisturbed, "natural" bordering wetland). Thus, we did not believe the RTE habitat provided by this actively maintained roadside ditch warranted classification of the entire wetland as a significant feature. This RTE species is found in disturbed habitats throughout the state. However, based on strict interpretation of VWR, we have changed this to Class II. There will be impacts to this wetland and buffer zone, and RTE will be subject to a protection plan.	II
142.8	T-MH-AW-20	presumption g: Class II	Same comment as above.	II
143.6	T-MH-AW-65	aerial indicates drainage off hill-slope through wetland - culvert into wetland which appears to be larger and connects to VSWI and stream to the south: Class II	It was unclear to us whether the wetland is actually contiguous to the VSWI mapped to the south. Upon further review, it is probable that there is hydrological connection via wetland drainage and/or stream. We will revise to Class II.	II
143.6	T-MH-AW-66	aerial indicates drainage off hill-slope through wetland - culvert into wetland which appears to be larger and connects to VSWI and stream to the south: Class II	Same comment as above.	II
143.9	T-MH-AW-19	presumption g indicates RTE add 6P: Class II	The Natural Heritage RTE plant Element Occurrence (EO ID 9921) indicates the RTE is located on rock walls along the railroad, which is more than 1,000 feet south of this small, isolated wetland. The Element Occurrence is centered on the railroad location but has been buffered excessively by Natural Heritage. This species was not observed during surveys, and the wetland in question does not appear to provide suitable habitat (e.g., calcareous conditions, fen-like). Thus, we maintain our Class III recommendation despite the fact that it technically overlaps the Element Occurrence polygon. In any case, wetland is to be avoided by Project.	III
144.6	T-MH-AW-7	this should be Class II since it is part of W-7	Agreed, T-MH-W-7 and T-MH-AW-7 are considered Class II, this was a mistake. Project avoids these features and associated buffers.	II
152.5	T-LU-AW-24	presumption g indicates RTE presence, if presence of RTE: Class II - does T-LU-S-10 contain fish or is perennial and flows to a larger waterway containing fish? Could be sig. for 3	There are no RTE mapped by Natural Heritage nor observed during surveys in the vicinity; presumption g was indicated in table by mistake. Stream T-LU-S-10 is a small intermittent feature that is not significant fish habitat; unclear whether this stream connects to down-gradient features outside of assessment area. Based on our professional judgement, this provides potential low fish habitat function at best and is not significant. Maintain as Class III.	III