



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION  
MASSACHUSETTS HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

4/28/08 (9)  
EOT

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COMMISSIONER

April 9, 2008

Ian Bowles, Secretary  
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs  
100 Cambridge Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02114

ATTN: Nicholas Zavalas  
MEPA Office

Subject: Notice of Project Change - EOEA No. 12961  
Concord - Route 2 Reconstruction at the Concord Rotary

Dear Secretary Bowles:

The Massachusetts Highway Department (MassHighway) requests that the comment period and decision date for the above Notice of Project Change be extended to May 13, 2008 and May 23, 2008 respectively.

The Concord Board of Selectmen would like to comment on the Notice of Project Change. This extension will give them time to reach out to their citizens to provide input into their comment letter.

If you require any additional information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Grace Arthur, Project Manager at (617) 973-8251.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Walsh  
Director of Environmental Services



## Christine Joyce

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**From:** Steve Ledoux  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2008 7:28 AM  
**To:** Manager Department  
**Subject:** FW: Concord Rotary MEPA NPC comment extension request

For 4/28 agenda

Steven L. Ledoux  
Town Manager  
472 Main St  
Acton, MA 01720  
Telephone:(978) 264-9612  
Fax: (978) 264-9630

When writing or corresponding, please be aware that the Secretary of State has determined that most email is a public record and, therefore, may not be kept confidential.

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**From:** Lauren Rosenzweig  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2008 5:08 PM  
**To:** Andrew Magee; Dore' Hunter  
**Cc:** Steve Ledoux  
**Subject:** RE: Concord Rotary MEPA NPC comment extension request

Hi Andy,

Does this need to be discussed at our April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting?

Lauren

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**From:** Magee, Andy [mailto:amagee@Epsilonassociates.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2008 1:25 PM  
**To:** bos@acton-ma.gov; Manager Department; terraf  
**Subject:** Concord Rotary MEPA NPC comment extension request

FYI.

Dore' you may have already seen this. Note the comment response period extension is the first date (May 13th). The second date (May 23rd) is the date by which the Secretary must make a decision (i.e. 10 days after the close of the public comment period).

-Andy

No virus found in this incoming message.  
Checked by AVG.  
Version: 7.5.519 / Virus Database: 269.22.11/1368 - Release Date: 4/9/2008 4:20 PM

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4/14/2008



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

# Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

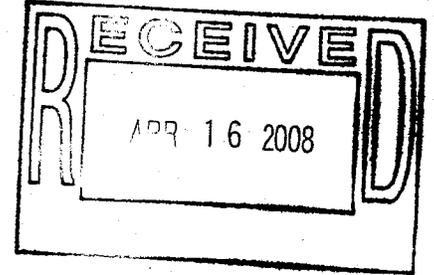
*For Mail A18/08*

MassWildlife

Wayne F. MacCallum, Director

April 14, 2008

Secretary Ian A. Bowles  
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs  
Attention: MEPA Office  
Nicholas Zavalas  
100 Cambridge St.  
Boston, Massachusetts 02114



<i>Project Name:</i>	<b>Route 2 Reconstruction at Concord Rotary</b>
<i>Proponent:</i>	Massachusetts Highway Department
<i>Location:</i>	Concord & Acton, MA
<i>Document Reviewed:</i>	Notice of Project Change (NPC)
<i>EOEEA No.</i>	12961
<i>NHESP Tracking No.</i>	08-24317

Dear Secretary Bowles:

The Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program (NHESP) of the MA Division of Fisheries & Wildlife has reviewed the *Notice of Project Change (NPC)* for the *Route 2 Reconstruction at Concord Rotary* in Concord and Acton. The NPC expands the area of work around the Route 2 rotary in Concord and includes adding another lane to the bridge crossing over the Assabet River. At this time, the NHESP would like to offer the following comments regarding state-listed rare species and their habitats.

The proposed project is located within *Priority Habitat* and *Estimated Habitat* of Rare Species as indicated in the 12<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas. The proposed work area and immediate vicinity has been mapped as habitat for the following state-listed species:

Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxonomic Group	Status
<i>Neurocordulia obsoleta</i>	Umber Shadowdragon	Invertebrate Animal: Dragonfly	Special Concern
<i>Stylurus spiniceps</i>	Arrow Clubtail	Invertebrate Animal: Dragonfly	Threatened
<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>	Blanding's Turtle	Vertebrate Animal: Turtle	Threatened

These species and their habitats are protected pursuant to the implementing regulations of MA Endangered Species Act (MESA) (321 CMR 10.00). The dragonfly species listed above are dependent upon good water quality throughout their life cycle. They deposit their eggs in clean waters where the aquatic nymphs may grow for over a year before emerging as flying adults. Blanding's Turtles are heavily reliant upon wetland habitats like those found along the Assabet River for feeding, breeding, and overwintering. Blanding's Turtles nest within open, non-forested uplands, and migrate over long distances (thousands of feet) as they move from wetlands to nest sites, and between patches of suitable wetland habitat. In Massachusetts,

[www.masswildlife.org](http://www.masswildlife.org)

Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

Field Headquarters, One Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581 (508) 389-6300 Fax (508) 389-7890

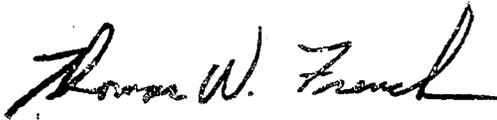
An Agency of the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Environmental Law Enforcement

Blanding's Turtle populations face major and increasing threats due to habitat fragmentation, adult mortality associated with road-crossings, and high nest failure rates.

The project site is located within *Priority and Estimated Habitat* and requires review through a direct filing with NHESP for compliance with the MESA. While the NPC refers to an analysis of a wildlife crossing structure at Route 2 near Nashoba Brook, the NHESP requires additional information concerning the proposed bridge expansion at Route 2 and the Assabet River. Therefore, the proponent should also include detailed bridge plans and construction-related flow impacts as part of the MESA filing to the NHESP. While the NHESP has outstanding questions regarding impacts of the proposed bridge to water quality and state-listed species, it appears these may be resolved through the MESA review process.

Please do not hesitate to contact Endangered Species Review Biologists Misty-Anne R. Marold at (508) 389-6356 ([misty-anne.marold@state.ma.us](mailto:misty-anne.marold@state.ma.us)) or Audra Valaitis at (508) 389-6386 ([audra.valaitis@state.ma.us](mailto:audra.valaitis@state.ma.us)) with any questions or comments you may have. Thank you for opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,



Thomas W. French, Ph.D.  
Assistant Director

CC: Grace Arthur, Massachusetts Highway Department  
David Derring, Earth Tech, Inc.  
Concord Conservation Commission  
Acton Conservation Commission  
Concord Board of Selectmen  
Acton Board of Selectmen  
Concord Planning Board  
Acton Planning Board  
DEP Northeast Regional Office, MEPA Coordinator  
DEP Central Regional Office, MEPA Coordinator