Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under Small MS4 General Permit $\ ^{Page \, 1 \, of \, 24}$

Part I: General Conditions

Gene	ral Informati	on									
Name	of Municipality of	or Organiza	tion: Tov	wn of Leices	ter				State:	MA	
EPA NF	PDES Permit Nur	nber (if app	olicable):	MAR041202	2						
Prima	ry MS4 Prog	ram Man	ager Co	ontact Inf	ormati	on					
Name:	Dennis Griffin				Title:	Highway S	Superintende	nt			
Street /	Address Line 1:	59 Peter S	alem Road	ł							
Street /	Address Line 2:										
City:	Leicester					State:	MA	Zip Code:	01524		
Email:	Griffind@leice	sterma.org			Phone	Number: (508) 892-702	1			
Fax Nu	mber: (508) 89	2-7058									
Other	Information	1									
Eligib Endang	address or physica ility Determi gered Species Ad al Historic Prese	nation	terminatio	on Complet	vailable e? Yes	on the Town		ed at the Highwa Eligibility Crite (check all that a Eligibility Crite (check all that a	ria apply):		В 🛛 С
∑ C	heck the box if	your munic	ipality or (organizatio	n was co	vered unde	r the 2003 M	54 General Perm	it		
Estima (Part II, Web ad If outfall n or paper c	nfrastructure ted Percent of III, IV or V, Subpa dress where MS nap is unavailable or opy of the outfall ma ission (see section V)	Outfall Ma Int B.3.(a.) of 4 map is pu the internet a ap must be incli	p Comple 2003 perr Iblished: n electronic uded with	ete? nit) 100%		estimated	date of com	ments not met, oletion (MM/DD attached to this	9/YY):		
	atory Autho			the 2003 perm	nit)						
	ischarge Detec III, IV or V, Subpa				uthority	Adopted?	Yes	Effective Date Date of Adopti		11.14	5/06/14
	uction/Erosion II,IV or V, Subpar				uthority	Adopted?	Yes	Effective Date Date of Adopti		EL IC	9/06/11
	onstruction Sto III, IV or V, Subpa				ed?		Yes	Effective Date Date of Adopti		1110	9/06/11

Part II: Summary of Receiving Waters

Please list the waterbody segments to which your MS4 discharges. For each waterbody segment, please report the number of outfalls discharging into it and, if applicable, any impairments.

Massachusetts list of impaired waters: Massachusetts 2014 List of Impaired Waters- http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/resources/07v5/14list2.pdf

Check off relevant pollutants for discharges to impaired waterbodies (see above 303(d) lists) without an approved TMDL in accordance with part 2.2.2.a of the permit. List any other pollutants in the last column, if applicable.

Waterbody segment that receives flow from the MS4	Number of outfalls into receiving water segment	Chloride	Chlorophyll-a	Dissolved Oxygen/ DO Saturation	Nitrogen	Oil & Grease/ PAH	Phosphorus	Solids/ TSS/ Turbidity	E. coli	Enterococcus	Other pollutant(s) causing impairments
Southwick Pond	2										
Lynde Brook Reservoir	2										
Waite Pond	1										
Smiths Pond	7										
Sargent Pond	4										
Henshaw Pond	7										
Greenville Pond	1										
Rochdale Pond	12										
Cedar Meadow Pond	6										
Burncoat Brook	3								\boxtimes		Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Bioassessments
French River	5						\boxtimes	\boxtimes			Aquatic Plants (Macrophytes), Mercury in Fish Tissue
Grindstone Brook	13								\boxtimes		
Kettle Brook	7										
City Pond	2										
Lynde Brook	3										
Town Meadow Brook	5										
Dutton Pond	2										
Unnamed Tributary/Water Body	2										

Page 2 of 24

Click to lengthen table

Part III: Stormwater Management Program Summary

Identify the Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will be employed to address each of the six Minimum Control Measures (MCMs). For municipalities/organizations whose MS4 discharges into a receiving water with an approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and an applicable waste load allocation (WLA), identify any additional BMPs employed to specifically support the achievement of the WLA in the TMDL section at the end of part III.

For each MCM, list each existing or proposed BMP by category and provide a brief description, responsible parties/departments, measurable goals, and the year the BMP will be employed (public education and outreach BMPs also requires a target audience). Use the drop-down menus in each table or enter your own text to override the drop down menu.

MCM 1: Public Education and Outreach

BMP Media/Category (enter your own text to override the drop down menu)	BMP Description	Targeted Audience	Responsible Department/Parties (enter your own text to override the drop down menu)	Measurable Goal	Beginning Year of BMP Imple- mentation
Web Page	Leicester will continue to utilize its Stormwater webpage link to provide the general public with stormwater educational materials and information on activities including the Town's current SWMP, stormwater SOPs, announcements, etc.	Residents/General Public	Highway Department	Annual updates to the official town website to post stormwater events, milestones, documents, educational materials, etc.	2019
Videos	Research and purchase a video regarding proper stormwater management practices for industrial facilities.	Industrial Facilities	Highway Department	Broadcast video annually on local public access television.	2022

				T	Page 4 of 24
Web Page	Announcements directed toward developers and contractors noting Town by-laws and ordinances relative to construction site runoff control, site inspection and enforcement.	Developers (construction)	Highway Department	Annual announcements on Town web site	2021
Web Page	Continue to utilize the Central Massachusetts Regional Stormwater Coalition (Coalition) website as a means of educating the public on stormwater issues and initiatives.	Businesses, Institutions and Commercial Facilities	Highway Department	Create a link at the Town's Stormwater web page for businesses, institutions, and commercial facilities linking them to Coalition stormwater educational materials	2021
Local Public Service Announcements	Continue to stream "Liquid Assets" documentary	Residents/Industrial Facilities	Highway Department	Broadcast video annually on local public access television.	2019
Brochures/Pamphlets/Web Page	Annual message residential and commercial audiences 1) proper use/disposal of grass clippings and proper use of slow-release and phosphorous-free fertilizers (spring), 2) proper management of pet waste (summer), 3) proper disposal of leaves (fall) to address nitrogen TMDL enhanced BMP requirements.	Residential and commercial (nitrogen TMDL)	Highway Department	Web links to informational flyers on each topic at the intervals noted in the BMP description.	2020

Page 5 of 24

r				1	Page 5 of 24
Local Public Service Announcements	Research and purchase a video(s) regarding proper stormwater management practices and standard operating procedures	Businesses, Institutions and Commercial Facilities	Highway Department	Broadcast video annually on local public access television.	2020
Special Events/Festivals/Fairs	Continue to host an annual public safety day (open house) for the Highway, Police, and Fire Departments to showcase equipment and operational procedures. One of the focuses at the event is stormwater education.	General Public	Highway Department	Continue to host a public safety event annually	2018
Newspaper Articles/Press Releases	Draft a press release directed toward developers and contractors focusing on construction site runoff control, Town by-laws and ordinances, and general stormwater management practices	Developers (construction)	Highway Department	Circulate one press release in a local newspaper targeting developers and contractors during the permit period	2023
]				

-

Page 6 of 24

Part III: Stormwater Management Program Summary (continued)

MCM 2: Public Involvement and Participation

BMP Categorization	Brief BMP Description (enter your own text to override the drop down menu)	Responsible Department/Parties (enter your own text to override the drop down menu)	Additional Description/ Measurable Goal	Beginning Year of BMP Imple- mentation
Public Review	SWMP Review	Highway Department	Allow annual review of stormwater management plan updates and posting of stormwater management plan on Town website	2019
Public Participation	Leicester Stormwater Committee	Highway Department/Stormwater Committee	Allow public to attend and participate in quarterly Stormwater Committee meetings. Scheduled meetings are posted by the Town.	2019
Public Participation	Storm Drain Stenciling	Highway Department	Leicester will work with local Scout groups to develop stenciling program.	2020
Public Participation	Household haz. waste/used oil collection	Highway Department /Board of Health	Continue to promote and evaluate Household Waste Recycling programs. Conduct a household hazardous waste collection event in Town every two years.	2018
Public Participation	SWMP Review	Highway Department	Allow public to comment on stormwater management plan annually	2019
]	
]	

	T			aye o 01 24
L	L			1 1
		11 1		
		11 1		
		11		
				F
				1
		11 1	1	
L		L		
			¹	
				Г — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
		1		
		11		
L]		1		
			1	1
11 1		11		1
L		L		
				[
			4 1	
	11 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	11	1	
L			1	
P				······
				[[
L				
			1	
11 1		1		
L			1 (1	L
		1	1	
11 1	1	1		
11 1	11	11		
		11	1	1 1
				•
1		L	l l	
	11 1	11		1 1
11 1	11 1	1	1	I
		1		
L	L			L
			1	
11 1		11		
	1	1	1	
			1	
				••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••
1				[
11 1		1	1	
11 1	11 1	11		
11 1		11	1 1	
L				L
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
1				
11 1		1	1	
11 1		1	1	
			1 1	
				·

Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under Small MS4 General Permit

Part III: Stormwater Management Program Summary (continued)

MCM 3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)

BMP Categorization (enter your own text to override the drop down menu)	BMP Description	Responsible Department/Parties (enter your own text to override the drop down menu)	Measurable Goal (all text can be overwritten)	Beginning Year of BMP Imple- mentation
SSO inventory	Develop SSO inventory in accordance with permit conditions	Highway Department	Complete within 1 year of effective date of permit	2019
Storm sewer system map	Update storm sewer system mapping with Phase I requirements	Highway Department	Update map within 2 years of effective date of permit and complete full system map 10 years after effective date of permit	2020
Written IDDE program	Create written IDDE plan incorporating all requirements in the permit	Highway Department	Complete within 1 year of the effective date of permit and update as required	2019
Implement IDDE program	Implement catchment investigations according to program and permit conditions	Highway Department	Complete 10 years after effective date of permit	2028
Employee training	Train employees on IDDE identification, removal of non- stormwater sources, and IDDE program implementation	Highway Department	Train annually	2020
Conduct dry weather screening	Conduct dry weather outfall screening in accordance with the procedures and conditions outlined in the permit	Highway Department	Complete 3 years after effective date of permit	2021
Conduct wet weather screening	Conduct in accordance with outfall screening procedure	Highway Department	Complete 10 years after effective date of permit	2028
Ongoing screening	Conduct dry weather and wet weather screening (as necessary)	Highway Department	Complete ongoing outfall screening upon completion of IDDE program	2029

		[Page 10 of 24
L				
IDDE Ordinance/Bylaw	Enforce requirements in the Town's existing IDDE Bylaw	Highway Department	Bylaw is in effect and enforced	2018
Illicit Discharge Identification	Request that contractors report observed illicit discharges during construction. Town employees to identify and report illicit discharges during catch basin cleaning.	Highway Department	During construction projects. Complete during annual catch basin cleaning by Town.	2019
Watershed assessment and studies	The Town will encourage cooperation with the Public Drinking Water Supply Districts to apply for funding assistance from DEP's Source Water Protection Program for grant assistance to develop wellhead protection plans and stromwater management plans within Leicester's Zone II and Henshaw Reservoir.	Highway Department/Water Districts	Continue to implement and evaluate the current policy with the Stormwater Committee at quarterly meetings.	2019
			X	

Page 11 of 24

		T	
	······································		
		[

Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under Small MS4 General Permit

Part III: Stormwater Management Program Summary (continued)

MCM 4: Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

BMP Categorization (enter your own text to override the drop down menu or entered text)	BMP Description	Responsible Department/Parties (enter your own text to override the drop down menu)	Measurable Goal (all text can be overwritten)	Beginning Year of BMP Imple- mentation
Site inspection and enforcement of Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) measures	Update Town's written procedures for site inspections and enforcement procedures to include additional requirements outlined in the permit	Highway Department	Complete within 1 year of the effective date of permit	2019
Site plan review	Update Town's existing site plan review written documentation to include additional requirements outlined in the permit	Highway Department	Complete within 1 year of the effective date of permit	2019
Erosion and Sediment Control	Update Town's existing erosion and sediment control written documentation to include additional requirements outlined in the permit	Highway Department	Complete within 1 year of the effective date of permit	2019
Waste Control	Develop and implement written requirements to control wastes, including but not limited to, discarded building materials, concrete truck wash out, chemicals, litter, and sanitary wastes	Highway Department	Complete within 1 year of the effective date of permit	2019

		aye 15 01 24

Part III: Stormwater Management Program Summary (continued)

MCM 5: Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment

BMP Categorization (enter your own text to override the drop down menu or entered text)	BMP Description	Responsible Department/Parties (enter your own text to override the drop down menu)	Measurable Goal (all text can be overwritten)	Beginning Year of BMP Imple- mentation
As-built plans for on-site stormwater control	Procedures to require submission of as-built drawings and ensure long term operation and maintenance will be a part of the SWMP	Highway Department, Planning Board	Require submission of as-built plans for completed projects within 2 years after completion of construction	2019
Target properties to reduce impervious areas	Identify at least 5 permittee-owned properties that could be modified or retrofitted with BMPs to reduce impervious areas and update annually. Consider BMPs ro reduce nitrogen discharges.	Highway Department, Planning Board	Complete 4 years after effective date of permit and report annually on retrofitted properties	2022
Allow green infrastructure	Develop a report assessing existing local regulations to determine the feasibility of making green infrastructure practices allowable when appropriate site conditions exist	Highway Department, Planning Board, Conservation Commission	Complete 4 years after effective date of permit and implement recommendations of report	2022
Street design and parking lot guidelines	Develop a report assessing requirements that affect the creation of impervious cover. The assessment will help determine if changes to design standards for streets and parking lots can be modified to support low impact design options.	Highway Department, Planning Board	Complete 4 years after effective date of permit and implement recommendations of report	2022

Enforce stormwater controls or management practices for new development and redevelopment that meet the retention or treatment requirements of the permit and all	
applicable requirements of the Massachusetts Idevelopment and redevelopment that meet permit requirements Idevelopment and redevelopment that meet permit Idevelopment and redevelopment that Idevelopment that	
Post-Construction Design Standards Update Town stormwater design standards to further promote infiltration of post-construction stormwater runoff, i.e. grassed swales, infiltration basins and trenches, porous pavement, etc. This will also include requirements that BMPs be optimized for nitrogen removal. Highway Department, Planning Board, Conservation Commission Complete 3 years afte effective date of perm	

	•	age 10 01 24

Part III: Stormwater Management Program Summary (continued)

MCM 6: Municipal Good Housekeeping and Pollution Prevention

BMP Categorization (enter your own text to override the drop down menu or entered text)	BMP Description	Responsible Department/Parties (enter your own text to override the drop down menu)	Measurable Goal (all text can be overwritten)	Beginning Year of BMP Imple- mentation
O&M procedures	Create written O&M procedures including all requirements contained in 2.3.7.a.ii for parks and open spaces, buildings and facilities, and vehicles and equipment	Highway Department	Complete and implement 2 years after effective date of permit	
Inventory all permittee-owned parks and open spaces, buildings and facilities, and vehicles and equipment	Create inventory	Highway Department	Complete 2 years after effective date of permit and implement annually	2020
Infrastructure O&M	Establish and implement program for repair and rehabilitation of MS4 infrastructure	Highway Department	Complete 2 years after effective date of permit	2020
Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)	Create SWPPPs for municipal facilities as required by the permit. The Town completed a SWPPP for the Highway Dept. Garage in 2012.	Highway Department	Complete and implement 2 years after effective date of permit	2020
Catch basin cleaning	Establish schedule for catch basin cleaning such that each catch basin is no more than 50% full and clean catch basins as dictated by the schedule	Highway Department	Clean catch basins on established schedule and report number of catch basins cleaned and volume of material moved annually	2019

Pag	e	1	8	of	24

	1			Page <u>18 of 2</u> 4
Street sweeping program	Sweep all municipal owned streets and parking lots in accordance with permit conditions	Highway Department	Sweep all municipal owned streets and parking lots twice per year, once in the spring and once in the fall to meet the nitrogen TMDL enhanced BMP requirements	2020
Road salt use optimization program/winter road maintenance	Develop and implement winter road maintenance procedures including the use and storage of salt and sand, minimizing the use of road salt, and forbidding disposal of snow into waters	Highway Department	Complete and implement 1 year after effective date of permit. Implement salt use optimization during deicing season	2019
Inspections and maintenance of stormwater treatment structures	Establish and implement inspection and maintenance procedures and frequencies	Highway Department	Inspect and maintain treatment structures at least annually	2019
O&M Program (Grounds Care/Integrate Pest Management)	Establish requirements for use of slow release fertilizers on permittee owned property, reduce and manage fertilizer use, and establish procedures to properly manage grass clippings, and leaf litter on permittee owned property.	Highway Department	Complete and implement 3 years after effective date of permit	2021
Employee Training - General Stormwater Topics	Conduct an annual in- house training session reviewing general pollution abatement practices associated with municipal facilities	Highway Department	Implement 2 years after effective date of permit	2020
Source Control	Complete Nitrogen Source Identification Report to meet nitrogen TMDL enhanced BMP requirements.	Highway Department	Complete and implement 4 years after effective date of permit	2022

	1		1	-age 19 01 24
Evaluate BMP Retrofits for Water Quality	Evaluate properties identified as presenting retrofit opportunities or areas for structural BMP installation to meet the nitrogen TMDL enhanced BMP requirements.	Highway Department	Complete and implement 5 years after effective date of permit	2023
Installation of BMP Retrofits for Water Quality	Install a minimum of one structural BMP as demonstration project to meet nitrogen TMDL enhanced BMP requirements.	Highway Department	Complete and implement 6 years after effective date of permit	2024

Part III: Stormwater Management Program Summary (continued)

Actions for Meeting Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Requirements

Use the drop-down menus to select the applicable TMDL, action description to meet the TMDL requirements, and the responsible department/parties. If no options are applicable, or more than one, enter your own text to override drop-down menus.

Applicable TMDL	Action Description	Responsible Department/Parties (enter your own text to override the drop down menu)
French Basin Lakes (Phosphorus)	Adhere to requirements in part A.II of Appendix F	Highway Department
Long Island Sound TMDL (Nitrogen)	Adhere to requirements in part B.I of Appendix F	Highway Department
·		

Part III: Stormwater Management Program Summary (continued)

Actions for Meeting Requirements Related to Water Quality Limited Waters

Use the drop-down menus to select the pollutant causing the water quality limitation and enter the waterbody ID(s) experiencing excursions above water quality standards for that pollutant. Choose the action description from the dropdown menu and indicate the responsible party. If no options are applicable, or more than one, **enter your own text to override drop-down menus.**

Pollutant	Waterbody ID(s)	Action Description	Responsible Department/Parties (enter your own text to override the drop down menu)
Phosphorus, turbidity	French River Segment MA42-03 Greenville Pond through Rochdale Pond Grindstone Brook Segment ID MA 42-18	Adhere to requirements in part II of Appendix H	Highway Department
E. Coli	Henshaw Pond to Rochdale Pond	Adhere to requirements in part III of Appendix H	Highway Department
E. Coli	Burncoat Brook Segment ID MA42-07 Bouchard Pond Town Meadow Brook	Adhere to requirements in part III of Appendix H	Highway Department

Town of Leicester		Page 22 of 24

Part IV: Notes and additional information

Use the space below to indicate the part(s) of 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 that you have identified as not applicable to your MS4 because you do not discharge to the impaired water body or a tributary to an impaired water body due to nitrogen or phosphorus. Provide all supporting documentation below or attach additional documents if necessary. Also, provide any additional information about your MS4 program below.

Endangered Species Act (ESA) Determination Statement: Discharge and discharge related activities will have no affect or impact on listed species or critical habitat. The Town of Leicester intends to comply with the Massachusetts MS4 General Permit and Appendix C.

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Determination Statement: The Town of Leicester has completed a determination and certifies its eligibility for this permit using Criterion A. At this time the Town does not have any planned projects involving subsurface land disturbance of less than one acre on NHPA sites. Any planned work will be outside of historic property areas. The Town met this requirement in the 2003 MS4 General Permit.

Attached are the following documents:

Attachment A - GIS Outfall Map dated December 2014.

Attachment B - US Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service threatened and endangered species listing, dated August 29, 2018.

Operations and Maintenance activities completed by the Town's Highway Department continue to reduce potential for pollution from stormwater. The Town cleans all catch basins (approximately 1,500) on 131 streets in Town at least once annually. All 198 Town streets are swept annually. The Town uses catch basin cleaning activities as an opportunity to identify potential illicit discharges. The Highway Department sweeps approximately 14 miles of sidewalks in Town annually. Leicester continues to add drainage infrastructure to high impact areas of town.

Overview of the Central Massachusetts Regional Stormwater Coalition

The Town of Leicester continues to be an active member of the Central Massachusetts Regional Stormwater Coalition (Coalition). The Coalition was originally established in 2012 by a group of 13 communities working together to address municipal stormwater management. The initial group included the communities of Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, Holden, Leicester, Millbury, Oxford, Paxton, Shrewsbury, Spencer, Sturbridge, Webster, and West Boylston. The following year, the group added 17 new communities including Boylston, Grafton, Hardwick, Hopkinton, Monson, Northbridge, Northborough, North Brookfield, Palmer, Rutland, Southbridge, Sterling, Upton, Uxbridge, Ware, Westborough, and Wilbraham. The FY 2017 Coalition was comprised of 31 total communities. Coalition members work together to protect stormwater systems and surface waters, share ideas, equipment, and resources, and develop tools to expand stormwater best management practices collectively in an effort to meet the requirements of the Massachusetts Small MS4 General Permit.

Part V: Certification

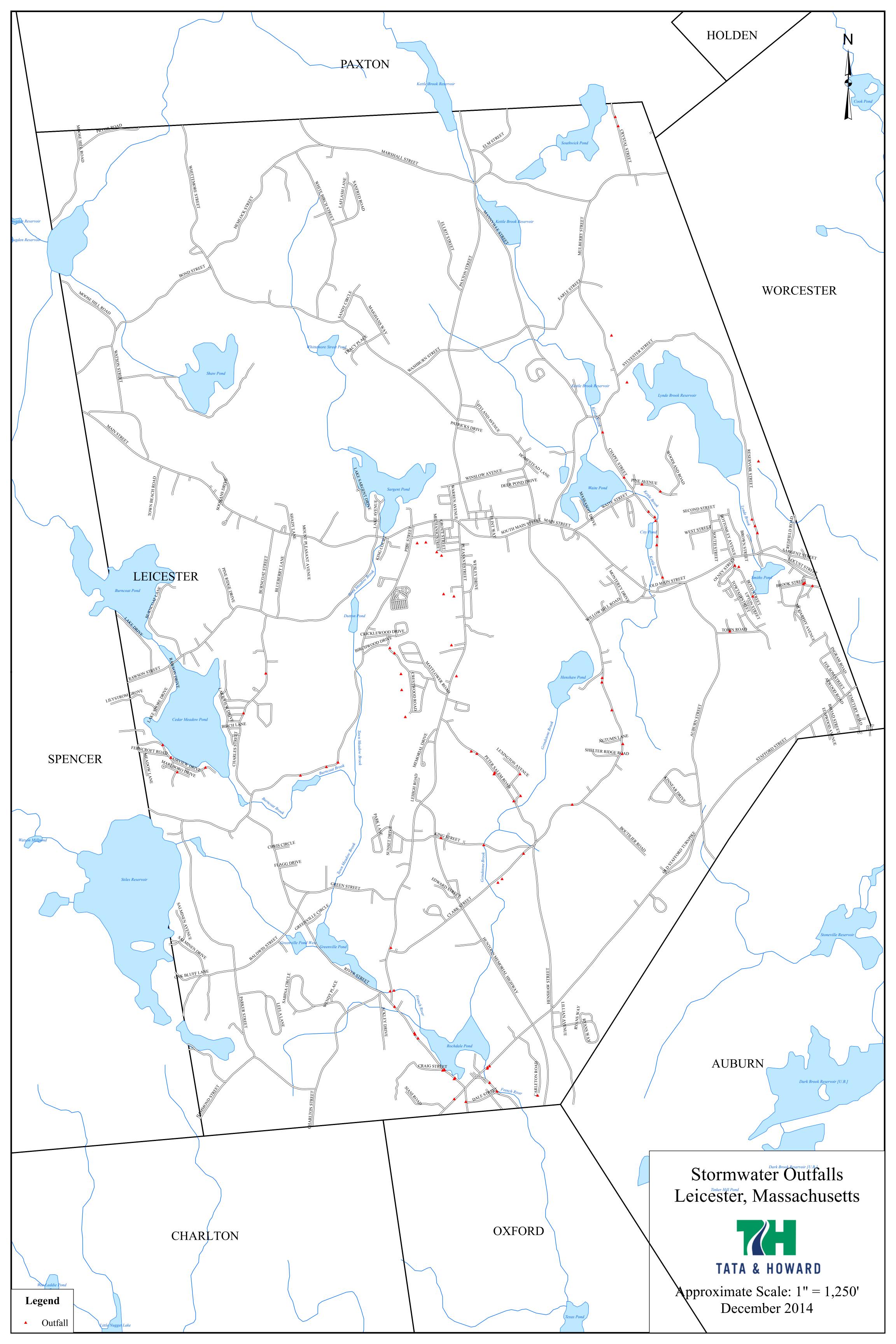
I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, I certify that the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Name:	David A. Genereux	Title:	Town Administrator
Signature:	and General	Date:	09/28/18

[To be signed according to Appendix B, Subparagraph B.11, Standard Conditions]

Note: When prompted during signing, save the document under a new file name

ATTACHMENT A



ATTACHMENT B



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE New England Ecological Services Field Office 70 Commercial Street, Suite 300 Concord, NH 03301-5094 Phone: (603) 223-2541 Fax: (603) 223-0104 <u>http://www.fws.gov/newengland</u>



In Reply Refer To: Augu Consultation Code: 05E1NE00-2017-SLI-1388 Event Code: 05E1NE00-2018-E-06871 Project Name: Leicester, Massachusetts Small MS4 General Permit Notice of Intent

Subject: Updated list of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

August 29, 2018

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/ eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm; http://www.towerkill.com; and http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

New England Ecological Services Field Office

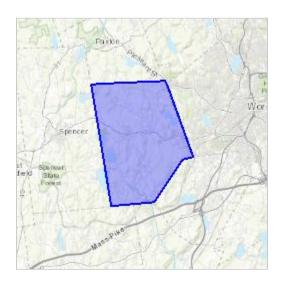
70 Commercial Street, Suite 300 Concord, NH 03301-5094 (603) 223-2541

Project Summary

Consultation Code:	05E1NE00-2017-SLI-1388
Event Code:	05E1NE00-2018-E-06871
Project Name:	Leicester, Massachusetts Small MS4 General Permit Notice of Intent
Project Type:	Regulation Promulgation
Project Description:	On behalf of the Town of Leicester, Massachusetts, we are preparing to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for coverage under the 2016 Massachusetts Small MS4 General Permit for Stormwater Discharge. As part of the submission, the Town is required to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) with regard to Federal Endangered and Threatened Species and Critical Habitat Protection. We have reviewed data on the Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) online system process for the Town of Leicester and have determined that one federally listed threatened mammal (Northern Long-Eared Bat) is located within the subject area. The Town is not planning any new stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) within any habitat areas. No earth moving and no tree cutting activities are planned and thus on effect on the Northern Long- Eared Bat.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <u>https://www.google.com/maps/place/42.23701535479377N71.90574253714824W</u>



Counties: Worcester, MA

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 1 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</u>	Threatened

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.