

**COMBINED NOTICE OF MITIGATED FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS AND FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A WETLAND**

**FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A WETLAND**

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups, & Individuals

This is to give notice that Rockingham County has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383).

The project known as Rock Rimmon Cooperative, located at 112 Long Pond Road, in Danville, New Hampshire (Tax Map 4, Lot 14), includes installation of a new water main to be connected to the existing distribution system, and includes replacement of failing corrugated culverts with a 10' x 20' closed bottom concrete box culvert with stream bed simulation and installation of the water main under the new culvert. Replacement of the culvert system will ensure viability of the access road to the site's water pump station/storage and treatment facility, and water supply wells. Renovation of the current pump station / storage and treatment facility, includes installation of a new propane powered backup generator, closure of an existing hydropneumatic tank, construction a new water treatment facility backwash infiltration pond, bringing a currently out of use supply well back online, and closure of the existing treatment system wastewater drain that currently discharges to a nearby wetland. The workscope also includes replacement of the existing water distribution lines throughout the park, including directionally drilling under the Powwow River to the sites on the south side of the Powwow River.

The proposed project will disturb approximately 66,400 square feet of land that has mostly been previously disturbed, approximately 260 feet of which are temporary and permanent wetland impacts.

Rockingham County has considered alternatives to the proposed project including connection to an existing nearby public water system; not replacing the existing, failing culverts and directional drilling under the existing culvert; and traditional crossing of the Powwow River to bring the water line to the lots south of the Powwow River. Each of these alternatives resulted in increased costs and potential increased long term environmental impacts and were not selected. Under the selected alternative, the State endangered Blanding's Turtle may be impacted by the project, though following guidance from the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department will assure that proper materials are used, and public outreach completed, to limit the risk of impact. Otherwise, no potential risk of meaningful impacts to the natural values of the wetland are anticipated.

The County has reevaluated the alternatives to the proposed work in the wetland and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11990 are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information about floodplains and wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains and wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by Thomas Tombarello, Chairman, Rockingham County Board of Commissioners, 119 North Road, Brentwood, NH 03833 on or before December 4, 2021. A full description of the project may be provided via email at [todd@srwnh.com](mailto:todd@srwnh.com) or at [donnalanebdbg@roadrunner.com](mailto:donnalanebdbg@roadrunner.com).

Date: November 26, 2021

**MITIGATED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO  
REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

November 26, 2021

Thomas Tombarello, Chair  
Rockingham County Board of Commissioners  
119 North Road  
Brentwood, NH 03833

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners.

**REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

On or about December 12, 2021 Rockingham County will submit a request to the Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA) to release Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL93-383), the National Affordable Housing Act as amended to undertake a project known as Rock Rimmon Coop/Water Infrastructure.

The project is located at 112 Long Pond Road, in Danville, New Hampshire, and includes installation of a new water main to be connected to the existing distribution system, which includes replacement of failing culverts with a 10' x 20' closed bottom concrete box culvert with stream bed simulation, and installation of the water main under the new culvert. Replacement of the culvert system will ensure viability of the access road to the site's water pump station. It also includes replacement of the existing water distribution lines throughout the park, including directionally drilling under the Powwow River to the sites on the south side of the Powwow River; and renovation of the current pump station building, which was never completed as intended when it was constructed circa 2001. Renovation of the pumping station includes installation of a new propane powered backup generator, closure of an existing hydropneumatic tank, construction a new water treatment facility backwash infiltration pond, bringing a currently out of use well back online, and closure of the existing treatment system wastewater discharge drain to a nearby wetland.

The estimated total cost of the project is approximately: \$711,000 including approximately \$355,850 of CDBG funding.

Under the selected alternative, the State endangered Blanding's Turtle may be impacted by the project, though following guidance from the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department will assure that proper materials are used, and public outreach completed, to limit the risk of impact. Otherwise, no other HUD environmental regulation requires mitigation to achieve compliance.

## **FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

Rockingham County has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners, 119 North Road, Brentwood, NH 03833. The ERR may be reviewed during the hours of Mon - Fri 8:00am - 4pm. An electronic file may also be requested by emailing Charles Nickerson [cnickerson@co.rockingham.nh.us](mailto:cnickerson@co.rockingham.nh.us).

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners, 119 North Road, Brentwood, NH 03833, attention Thomas Tombarello. All comments received by December 11, 2021 will be considered by the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners prior to authorizing the submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing-the Finding of No Significant Impact or the Request for the Release of Funds.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION**

Rockingham County is certifying to CDFA that Thomas Tombarello in his capacity as Chairman, Board of Commissioners, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. CDFA's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows Rockingham County to use CDBG Funds.

## **OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

CDFA will accept objections to the release of funds and the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners, Thomas Tombarello; (b) Rockingham County has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by CDFA; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Mollie Kaylor, CDFA, 14 Dixon Ave, Suite 102,

Concord, NH 03301 or via email at [mkaylor@nhcdfa.org](mailto:mkaylor@nhcdfa.org). Potential objectors should contact CDFA (603-226-2170) to verify the actual last date of the objection period.

Thomas Tombarello, Chairman, Rockingham County Board of Commissioners