



RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES
235 Promenade Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

April 19, 2024

Martha A. & William O. Ball, Jr.
PO Box 302
Block Island, RI 02807

RE: Application No.23-0257 in reference to the property located:

At 696 Mansion Road, approximately 2,100 feet northeast from the intersection of Mansion Road and Corn Neck Road, Assessor's Plat 3, Lot 118, New Shoreham, RI.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Ball:

Kindly be advised that the Department of Environmental Management's ("DEM") Freshwater Wetlands Program ("Program") has completed its review of your Request to verify freshwater wetland edges. This review included an inspection of the above referenced property ("subject property") as described by the site plans submitted with your application and received on December 11, 2023.

Per Rule 250-RICR-150-15-3.23, the **Statewide Buffer Zone Designation**, your property falls within:

- River Protection Region 1

Based upon the Program's observations and review, it is our determination that freshwater wetlands are present on or are in close proximity to the subject property. These freshwater wetlands and other jurisdictional areas are regulated by this Department and include, but are not limited to, at least the following types:

Jurisdictional Areas:

- Freshwater Wetlands (see below)
- Buffer: All areas of undeveloped vegetated land adjacent to a freshwater wetland that is to be retained in its natural undisturbed condition or is to be created to resemble a naturally occurring vegetated area. For the purpose of defining buffer in these Rules, "adjacent to" means land area within the buffer zone.
- Contiguous areas that extend one-hundred feet (100') from the edge of all freshwater wetlands.

Freshwater Wetlands and associated Statewide Buffer Zone Designation (include at least the following types):

- 2 Marshes: C and D-series. The C-series has an associated 25' Buffer Zone and D-series has a 50' Buffer Zone (since it is connected to the E-Series Swamp via the driveway culvert and therefore its overall size is greater than one-acre)
- 4 Ponds (ponds are contained within the A, B, and F-series swamps)
- 4 Swamps: A, B, E and F-series with an associated 75' Buffer Zone – where a pond is located within 50' of the Swamp edge, the Buffer Zone will increase to 100'.

- **Freshwater Wetland subtypes:** wet meadow (C & D-series), shrub swamp (A, B, E and F-series)

The DEM has completed an inspection and review of the wetland edges delineated by you on-site. It is our determination that:

Those wetland edges delineated on-site are substantially accurate. Corrections and/or modifications to the delineated edge are required, however, which include the following:

- Flag 1D should be relocated approximately 15' south to the edge of the driveway on Plat 3, Lot 22.
- A flag should be added to the D-series wetland approximately 25' southwest from flag 2D at a culvert that was located that connects the E and D-series wetlands. The new flag should connect to both 2D and the relocated 1D.
- Flag 3E should be moved approximately 10' east.

You should not infer that any verification of wetland edges carried out by this Department to date represents a determination that this is the extent of all wetlands or jurisdictional areas on your property. The Department has verified only those edges delineated and shown by you on-site and on the site plans submitted with your application and as qualified in this letter. Should you wish to verify the edge of additional wetlands, a new application will be required.

This letter does not constitute an approval or permit for any proposed project on the subject property. Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 2-1-21(a) of the Freshwater Wetlands Act and the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Freshwater Wetlands Act, 250-RICR150-15-3, a permit is required from this Program prior to the commencement of any activity which impacts or alters freshwater wetlands.

This Program assumes that the edges of freshwater wetlands, as flagged or marked on site, have been accurately surveyed and portrayed on site plans submitted in support of your application. This Program makes no guarantee or representation that such survey is accurate.

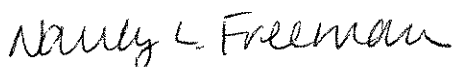
Please note that paths cut along the edge of the F-series wetland edge must be allowed to revegetate naturally.

In addition, you should note that freshwater wetlands are present on this property which may be regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended 33 U.S.C. 1344). Accordingly, a permit may be required from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for alteration of these wetland areas.

In accordance with 250-RICR-150-15-3.9.3(H), this verification of the delineated edge of freshwater wetlands is valid for a limited period of five (5) years from the date of issue.

Please contact Sophie Clode of this Office telephone: (401-537-4211) should you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Nancy L. Freeman, Environmental Scientist III
Office of Water Resources
Freshwater Wetlands Program

NLF/SC/sc

c: Ken Cole, Ninigret Environmental, LLC
Marcus Channell, Atlas Land Surveying, LLC