DEAN GUSTAFSON
Professional Soil Scientist
Senior Wetland Scientist

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General Background

Mr. Gustafson has been the lead wetlands and soil scientist on more than 1,200 development projects in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts over more than 30 years. His work includes the identification of flora and fauna and evaluation of wildlife habitat functions in both wetland and terrestrial systems, including focused avian, mammalian, invertebrate and herpetofauna surveys using both active and passive methods. Mr. Gustafson also performs targeted surveys for sensitive, rare and listed species that have resolved numerous potential rare species conflicts with proposed developments in coordination with state and federal agencies. In addition, Mr. Gustafson has extensive experience in performing herpetological surveys, including vernal pool investigations and evaluations. His background includes NEPA/CEPA documentation, wetlands (delineation, evaluation, mitigation design, monitoring, stream restoration, and local, state and federal permitting), water-quality investigations, coastal-zone-management studies, and natural-resource and ecological evaluations.

Mr. Gustafson has particular expertise in wetland identification, soil mapping, soil classification, vegetative and hydrology surveys, and wetland impact assessment, mitigation design and oversight. He has extensive experience in local, state, and federal wetland permitting. Mr. Gustafson has consulted on numerous projects that involve soils-related issues such as erosion and sediment control planning, vegetative soil stabilization and storm water management BMP evaluation and selection, and has served as the Environmental Compliance Monitor on several Connecticut Siting Council approved projects. Mr. Gustafson's water quality experience includes stormwater studies for compliance with National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Section 401 Water Quality Certification, and the 2004 Connecticut DEP Stormwater Quality Manual.

Representative Projects

Bloomfield BOE – CT SCEF Pilot Program

Served as the lead wetland scientist for the design and permitting of this 2MW solar that was the first project completed under Connecticut's Shared Clean Energy Facility Pilot Program. The project required local and USACOE wetland permitting as a result of being sited in a wet meadow. Project responsibilities included wetland delineation, function and value assessment, wetland mitigation design, local and federal wetland permit preparation, expert witness testimony, construction monitoring and wetland mitigation monitoring.

Verogy Solar 2020 Program

Served as the lead biologist for the development of a series of five ground-mount commercial-scale solar arrays, totaling approximately 17MW, in Connecticut. Project responsibilities included wetland investigations, rare species surveys and consultations with the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection Natural Diversity Data Base, vernal pool surveys, project impact evaluations and Siting Council petition support.

MA Solar Array Projects: Pittsfield, MA – 1.75MW; Charlton, MA – 0.50MW; Monson, MA – 6.50MW Leicester, MA – 3.25MW; Sutton, MA – 1.70MW; Warren, MA – 8.30MW; Pittsfield, MA – 3.95MW

Served as the lead wetland scientist for the development of a series of commercial-scale solar projects throughout Massachusetts. Project responsibilities varied by project, but included wetland investigations, vernal pool surveys, project impact evaluations, mitigation design, preparation of Request for Determination of Applicability and Notice of Intent applications under the MA Wetlands Protection Act regulations, expert witness testimony, and construction monitoring.

CT Solar Array Projects: North Canaan, CT – 2.80MW; Thompson, CT – 3.75MW; Pawcatuck, CT – 25.0MW; Sprague, CT – 20.0MW; Durham, CT – 2.0MW; Middletown, CT – 1.9MW; Old Lyme, CT – 1.9MW; Old Saybrook, CT – 1.9MW; East Hampton, CT – 1.9MW; North Canaan, CT – 1.9MW; North Branford, CT – 1.9MW

Served as the lead biologist for the development of numerous commercial-scale solar facilities throughout Connecticut. Project responsibilities included wetland delineation, function and value assessment, wetland mitigation design, federal wetland permit preparation, rare species surveys and consultations with the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection Natural Diversity Data Base, vernal pool surveys, project impact evaluations, construction and wetland mitigation monitoring and Siting Council petition support.

Siting, Licensing and Permitting Consulting Services – Eversource Energy

Since 2016, Dean has assisted Eversource Energy in a variety of projects, providing and overseeing: natural resources inventories of existing flora and fauna, habitat evaluations, wetland delineations and impact analyses, vernal pool surveys, rare species surveys, archaeological and cultural investigations, visual analyses, preparation of technical documents (including applications to the Siting Council, municipalities, and state and federal regulatory agencies), and preparation of state and federal regulatory permitting applications. He has assessed and permitted bulk power substations, transmission lines/structures, underground utility installations, and existing facilities requiring upgrades. Dean assisted with pre-acquisition due diligence activities; site development feasibility assessments; natural resources inventories of existing flora and fauna; vernal pool studies and assessments; habitat evaluations; wetland delineations, assessments, mitigation designs, and permit compliance monitoring; site layout and design evaluations; erosion and sediment control planning and construction monitoring; vegetative soil stabilization and storm water management BMP evaluations and selection; preparation of technical documents; and, coordination with State and local agencies.

CPV Towantic Energy Center, Oxford, CT

As the lead scientist responsible for performing wetland investigations, wetland evaluations, wetland mitigation design and rare species surveys for a proposed 785 MW dual-fueled combined cycle electric generating facility, Dean prepared the federal wetland permit application and secured Section 404 and 401 authorizations from the Army Corps of Engineers New England Division and Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection. Dean was also responsible for developing a wetland mitigation plan, which consisted of two constructed stormwater wetland systems to compensate for the project's unavoidable wetland impacts, as well as coordinating regulatory approval for payment into the Audubon CT In Lieu Fee Wetland Mitigation Program. Dean provided supporting application materials to the Connecticut Siting Council and expert testimony at numerous hearings.

Education	B.S. University of Massachusetts, Plant and Soil Sciences,
	Graduate coursework, University of New Hampshire
Affiliations	Member, Town of Lebanon, CT Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission (since 1995)
Registrations	Professional Soil Scientist, Society of Soil Scientists of Southern New England (since 1988)
	Connecticut Association of Wetland Scientists.
	Association of Massachusetts Wetland Scientists.