

May 1, 2020

Mr. Normand Thibeault, Jr.
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Project: Beneficial Permit Renewal with Modifications for Ernest Joly & Sons Composting Facility
Located at 32 Beatrice Avenue in Danielson, Connecticut
NDDB Determination No.: 201914063

Dear Mr. Normand Thibeault, Jr.,

I have reviewed Natural Diversity Database maps and files regarding the area delineated on the map provided for a proposed Beneficial Permit Renewal with Modifications for Ernest Joly & Sons Composting Facility Located at 32 Beatrice Avenue in Danielson, Connecticut. According to our records we have known extant populations of State Endangered eastern spadefoot (*Scaphiopus holbrookii*) and State Special Concern low frostweed (*Crocanthemum propinquum*) from the vicinity of the proposed project.

I received on February 26, 2020 the Listed Species and Habitat Surveys for the Beneficial Permit Renewal with Modifications for Ernest Joly & Sons Composting Facility Located at 32 Beatrice Avenue in Danielson from REMA Ecological Services dated February 24, 2020. The report describes field work done on January 16, 2020 to assess the property for the presence of State Special Concern *Crocanthemum propinquum* and to evaluate habitat suitability for State Endangered *Scaphiopus holbrookii*.

The report indicated that State Special Concern *Crocanthemum propinquum* was “not found within the highly disturbed drinking water residuals and composting facility although sandy open habitat existed which was suitable for the species”. The report also indicates that “favorable habitat exists along the eastern perimeter of the study area and the Quinnebaug River for State Endangered *Scaphiopus holbrookii* but that the active composting portion of the site offers negligible habitat for any species”

The Listed Species and Habitat Surveys for the Beneficial Permit Renewal with Modifications for Ernest Joly & Sons Composting Facility Located at 32 Beatrice Avenue in Danielson from REMA Ecological Services dated February 24, 2020 was not sufficient to assess the presence or absence of these two species since field work occurred during a time when these two state listed species could not be assessed with field surveys. However, we can assume these two species are present on site and provide **protection guidelines** using information from the field visit descriptions and known biological knowledge on these species.

Eastern spadefoot: Limited information is known about the state endangered eastern spadefoot toad. It is a very secretive species and has irregular breeding periods. It is most active from June through August. It is an expert burrower, reaching depths of 6-feet in sandy well-drained soil. They are very rarely observed outside of the breeding period. Its habitat is described as arid to semi-arid areas, such as fields, farmland, dunes and woodlands with sandy or loose soils. This toad breeds in temporary bodies of water, flooded fields and forested wetlands.

Low Frostweed: Low frostweed is native to southern New England and inhabits dry open, sandy woodlands, sandplains and fields. It blooms mid to late June.

The following conservation actions are required to protect State Endangered Eastern Spadefoot from project impacts:

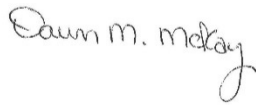
1. A restricted conservation easement must be placed over portions of this property still containing suitable habitat for state endangered eastern spadefoot. The restricted conservation area should provide for no additional development or ground disturbing impacts within the restricted conservation easement area to protect eastern spadefoot.
2. The restricted conservation easement details and execution of the easement must in place and be provided to The NDDDB Program (deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov) within two years of the date on this NDDDB Determination letter.
3. I have attached a map that shows the area on this property that provides habitat for the eastern spadefoot and conservation restriction. This eastern spadefoot map was provided from initial on site evaluations.

This NDDDB review is valid for two years. Please re-submit an NDDDB Request for Review if the scope of work changes or if work has not begun on this project by May 1, 2022.

Natural Diversity Database information includes all information regarding critical biological resources available to us at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Natural History Survey, cooperating units of DEEP, landowners, private conservation groups and the scientific community. This information is not necessarily the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Consultations with the NDDDB should not be substitutes for onsite surveys necessary for a thorough environmental impact assessment. The result of this review does not preclude the possibility that listed species may be encountered on site and that additional action may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits.

Please contact me if you have further questions at (860) 424-3011, or deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov . Thank you for consulting the Natural Diversity Data Base.

Sincerely,

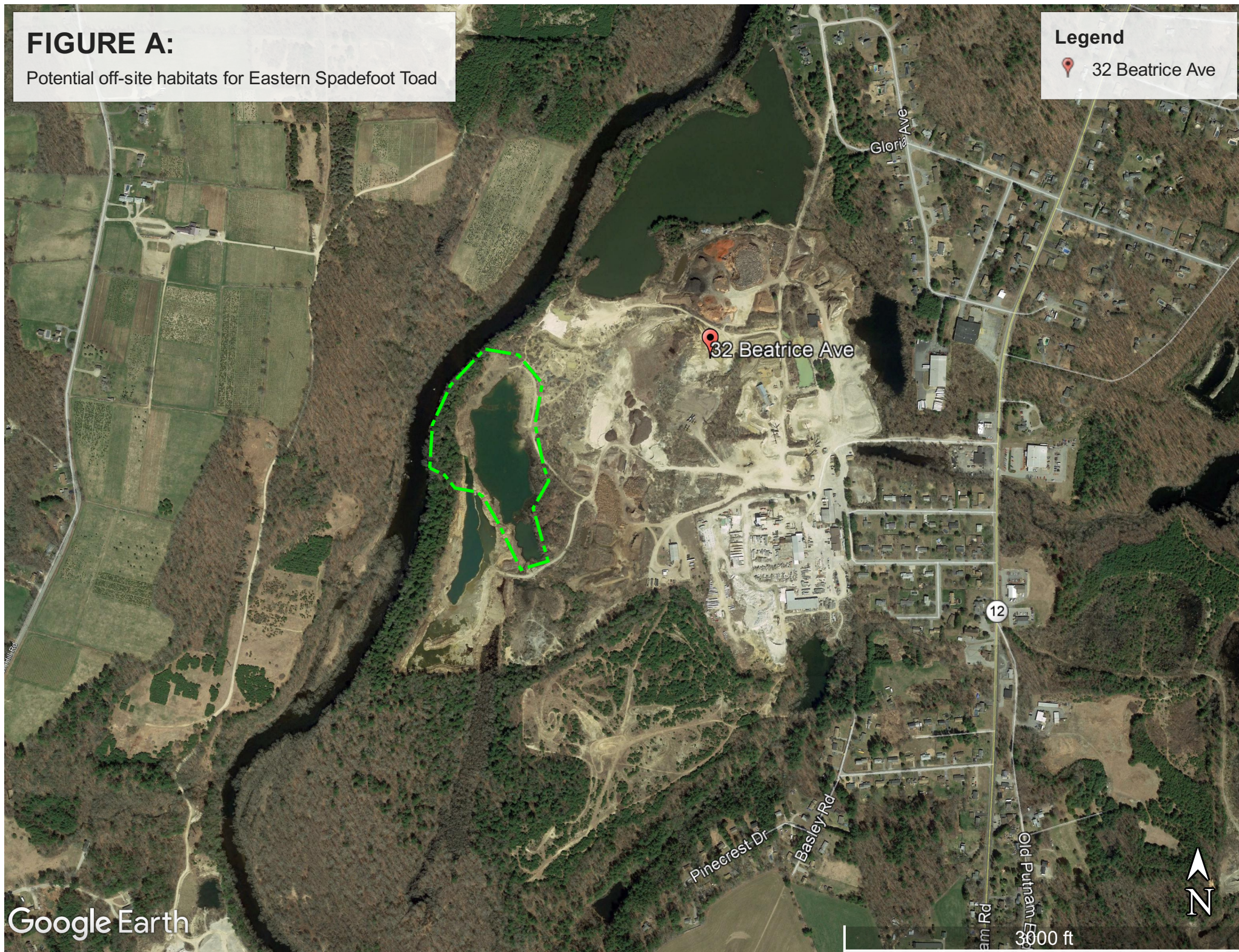


Dawn M. McKay
Environmental Analyst 3/Biologist 3

FIGURE A:

Potential off-site habitats for Eastern Spadefoot Toad

Legend
32 Beatrice Ave



Google Earth

3000 ft