Corridor Management Plan for
Massachusetts Central Rail Trail-Wayside Section and
Sudbury-Hudson Transmission Reliability Project

This Corridor Management Plan (CMP) is consistent with DCR's standard operations and maintenance plan for shared use pathway / rail trails. This plan has been developed specifically for those portions of the existing MBTA corridor where DCR's proposed Massachusetts Central Rail Trail Project will be located along Eversource's proposed Sudbury-Hudson Transmission Reliability Project in the towns of Sudbury, Marlborough, Stow, and Hudson. This CMP will be shared with DCR and Eversource staff engaged in management activities.

The construction of the MCRT is anticipated to begin within one year of the completion of the Sudbury to Hudson Transmission Reliability Project and as such, DCR plans to take responsibility for the following along this corridor following construction of both the Sudbury to Hudson Transmission Reliability Project and the MCRT:

Every two weeks, or as needed, between Memorial Day and Columbus Day DCR will:

- Pick up trash along the multi-use path
- Mow the 2-foot wide shoulders on each side of the paved multi-use trail
- Blow plant debris (leaves, branches, etc.) from paved shared use path (avoid blowing directly into vernal pools)
- Inspect for and remove fallen or immediate hazard trees and limbs that impede safe use of the multi-use trail
- Remove graffiti and illegal dumping, if it has occurred

Once a year (typically following Columbus Day weekend) DCR will:

- Mow the areas over the Eversource duct bank and stormwater swales (if mowing occurs between April 1 and November 1, then areas within mapped habitat for state-listed turtles will require "turtle sweeps" by trained individuals ahead of the mower and mower deck heights shall be set higher than 10 inches above the ground)
- Follow its best management practices for managing terrestrial invasive plants

Annually DCR will:

- Inspect culverts, swales and other drainage structures and clean as needed (see O&M/LTPPP below)
- Inspect existing paved surfaces of the multi-use trail to identify areas where root damage to pavement is beginning to occur. As appropriate pick / dig / remove roots causing the damage.
- Trim/remove potential hazard trees and those that appear to be causing root damage to the existing pavement of the multi-use trail
- Inspect trail signs and replace as needed, avoid "sign clutter" and remove excess /old signage

***Every 10-15 years, depending on resources, DCR plans to:**

- Saw-cut, excavate and repave targeted areas of root damage or cracks
- Consider mill and overlay to extend pathway life (no expansion or widening of multi-use trail; these activities require agency consultations and potential permitting)

- Repair deteriorated decking on bridges as needed
- Re-loam and re-seed shoulders to address edge issues

**If heavy equipment is used for any of these activities between April 1 and November 1 then "turtle sweeps" by trained individuals are required immediately ahead of any equipment. Conservation Commission will be contacted for activities that may be jurisdictional.*

Every 25-35 years, depending on resources, DCR plans to:

- Design and implement full pathway reconstruction (if required). This requires agency consultations and permitting and would require the development of turtle protection measures specific to the proposed reconstruction activities.

In the absence of Phase 2 Initiation:

If DCR's MCRT is not constructed, then every four years from completion of Eversource's transmission line project, Eversource plans to:

- Manage the herbaceous community over the duct bank only. All other previously disturbed areas, outside of the 14-foot-wide gravel access road associated with the Project will be allowed to revegetate with woody species.
    - Vegetation management will be conducted as part of the Company's Vegetation Management Plan that is approved by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources in compliance with 333 CMR 11.00. In accordance with the EFSB's Final Decision issued December 18, 2019, Eversource will utilize mechanical vegetation management withis this corridor.

    - The Company is required to present annual Vegetation Management Plans (VMP) to the NHESP for review and approval as per 321 CMR 10.14 (16). MNHESP sends a formal written response and attaches management guidelines that the Company must follow when performing routine vegetation management activities. In general, routine vegetation management is completed by mechanical means. As per past management guidelines related to state-listed turtle species imposed by NHESP along other utility corridors, the Company will avoid mowing between April 1 and November 1, conduct turtle sweeps prior to mowing, and set mower blades 10 inches above the ground.

Attachment: MassCentral Rail Trail – Wayside Section, Operations and Management Plan and Long Term Pollution Prevention Plan

MassCentral Rail Trail (MCRT) – Wayside Section
Stormwater Management System
Operation and Maintenance Plan (O&M)
and
Long Term Pollution Prevention Plan (LTPPP)

June 2020

This Stormwater Management System Operation and Maintenance Plan provides for the inspection and maintenance of structural Best Management Practices (BMPs) and for measures to prevent pollution associated with the Stormwater Management System on the MassCentral Rail Trail Wayside Section (in Hudson, Stow and Sudbury).

This document has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Stormwater Regulations included in the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act Regulations (310 CMR 10.05(6)(k)).

Responsible Party

Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) office will be responsible for the maintenance of the shared-use facility and associated stormwater management features, in accordance with DCR standards. The facility will be maintained by DCR maintenance staff from:

DCR's Maintenance Facility
Hopkinton Complex
164 Cedar St,
Hopkinton MA 01748
Jeff Cate
Field Operation Team Leader
(508) 435-4303

Maintenance Measures

The stormwater management system covered by this Operation and Maintenance Plan consists of the following components:

- Swales – Dry with check dams
- Areas of increased infiltration
- Drainage structures
  Hudson
  - Sta. 119+25 LT – Catch basin (Str 3)
  - Sta. 119+25 RT – Headwall (Str 4)
  - Sta. 126+70 RT – Catch basin (Str 5)
  - Sta. 126+70 LT – Headwall (Str 6)
  - Sta. 182+55 RT – Catch basin (Str 8)

Sudbury

- Sta. 530+80 RT – Catch basin (Str 9)
- Sta. 533+46 RT – Flared End Section (Str 10)
- Sta. 713+63 LT – Headwall (Str 12)
- Sta. 713+63 RT – Headwall (Str 13)

DCR Operations to maintain swales and the drainage culverts.

DCR Engineering to maintain listed catch basins, flared end section, and headwalls. Engineering can assist with blocked culverts if major blockage or structural concern.

Maintenance of these components will be conducted annually in accordance with DCR standard maintenance practices, as noted in the attached Operation and Maintenance table summarizing the pertinent inspection and maintenance activities.

If inspection indicates the need for major repairs of structural surfaces, the inspector should contact the DCR maintenance supervisor to initiate procedures to effect repairs in accordance with DCR standard construction practices.

Practices for Long Term Pollution Prevention

In general, long term pollution prevention and related maintenance activities will be conducted consistent with DCR's NPDES Stormwater MS4 Permit(s), and the measures outlined in the Stormwater Management Plans (SWMP). Information about the DCR permit and the SWMP are available at the following website:

http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/conservation/stormwater-mgmnt/

For the facilities covered by this Operation and Maintenance Plan, long term pollution prevention includes the following measures:

Litter Pick-up
DCR will conduct litter pick-up from the stormwater management facilities in conjunction with routine maintenance activities.

Routine Inspection and Maintenance of Stormwater BMPs
DCR will conduct inspection and maintenance of the stormwater management practices in accordance with the guidelines discussed above.

Spill Prevention and Response
DCR will implement its standard response procedures in the unlikely event of releases of significant materials such as fuels, oils, or chemical materials onto the ground or other areas that could reasonably be expected to discharge to surface or groundwater.

- Reportable quantities will immediately be reported to the applicable Federal, State, and local agencies as required by law. The applicable DCR office should also be notified.
- Applicable containment and cleanup procedures will be performed immediately. Impacted material collected during the response must be removed promptly and disposed of in accordance with Federal, State, and local requirements. A licensed

emergency response contractor may be required to assist in cleanup of releases depending on the amount of the release and the ability of the responsible party to perform the required response.
- Reportable quantities of chemical, fuels, or oils are established under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) and enforced through MassDEP.

Maintenance of Landscaped Areas

DCR will mow and/or weed whack the shoulders adjacent to the rail trail biweekly or as needed between Memorial Day and Columbus Day. Outside of the 2-foot shoulders on either side of the rail trail, DCR will mow the 5-foot herbaceous area over the duct bank no more than once annually. Outside of the 19-foot maintained area (paved rail trail, 2-foot shoulders on either side and 5-foot area over the duct bank) woody vegetation will be allowed to naturally revegetate and DCR will not implement vegetation management unless it poses a risk to MCRT users. The limit of work, outside of the 19-foot maintained area, will be restored with loam and seed to provide a vegetated surface, but will not be maintained. The vegetated shoulders/slopes outside the maintained area will help to disperse and infiltrate disconnected drainage although no stormwater management benefit is identified. The swales and areas of increased infiltration outside of the 19-foot area will be inspected and mowed as needed or annually at a minimum to maintain proper water quality treatment function.

Eversource inspection vehicles will use the paved MCRT to access the transmission line facility approximately once every three years, or as needed for maintenance of the transmission line.

Within the Priority Habitat areas, the vegetation will not be trimmed lower than 10 inches along the shoulders or over the duct bank.

Fertilizers will not be used.

If DCR finds it necessary to use chemical treatment for invasive species vegetation control, this work will be done in compliance with MDAR regulations at 333 CMR 11.00, which will limit impacts to sensitive areas such as groundwater and drinking water wells. The MCRT is part of the DCR Yearly Operational Plan regarding vegetation maintenance along their bike path and recreational corridors.

Snow and Ice Management

There are no plans for snow and ice removal, nor de-icing (i.e., sanding, salting) of the bike path surface during winter months.

Prohibition of Illicit Discharges

The DEP Stormwater Management Standards prohibit illicit discharges to the storm water management system. Illicit discharges are discharges that do not entirely consist of stormwater, except for certain specified non-stormwater discharges.

Discharges from the following activities are not considered illicit discharges:

firefighting	foundation drains
water line flushing	footing drains
landscape irrigation	individual resident car washing
uncontaminated groundwater	flows from riparian habitats and wetlands

potable water sources	dechlorinated water from swimming pools
water used to clean residential buildings without detergents	water used for street washing
	air conditioning condensation

There are no known or proposed illicit connections associated with this project. If a potential illicit discharge to the facilities covered by this plan is detected (e.g., dry weather flows at any pipe outlet, evidence of contamination of surface water discharge by non-stormwater sources), the DCR shall be notified for assistance in determining the nature and source of the discharge, and for resolution through DCR's IDDE program.

Public Access

The MCRT Wayside Section is a public access facility. The facility is typically open dawn to dusk every day. Members of the Sudbury Planning Board or Conservation Commission are free to access the rail trail at any time the facility is open. Periodically the facility may be closed for maintenance construction (repairs, resurfacing, etc.) and for the safety of the public, access to the rail trail will be restricted.

Easements

The DCR holds an easement for construction and operation of the MCRT over the Massachusetts Department of Transportation – MBTA rail corridor. Within the rail corridor there are the following existing easements or license agreements by others:

- NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy ("Eversource") to construct and operate the transmission powerline;
- Sudbury Lumber for access and storage of materials (off Union Avenue);
- Tennessee Gas Transmission Company to install and operate an underground natural gas transmission pipeline (east of Marlborough/Hudson town line);
- Town of Sudbury (east of Route 20 – building license);
- Douglas P. Webb lease for South Sudbury Station (off Union Avenue)

Appendix: Best Management Practices: Operation & Maintenance Measures

Best Management Practice*	Sweep	Mow	Inspect	Clean	Repair
Swales*	NA	Mow swales as needed or annually (minimum)	Annually	As needed	As needed
Check Dams	NA	String trim as needed (Not to be mowed) or annually (minimum)	Annually	As needed	As needed
Areas of increased infiltration*	NA	Mow as needed or annually (minimum)	Annually	As needed	As needed
Drainage structures	NA	NA	Annually	As needed	As needed

*If mowing occurs between April 1 and November 1, then areas within mapped habitat for state-listed turtles will require "turtle sweeps" by trained individuals ahead of the mower and mower deck heights shall be set lower than 10 inches above the ground or string trimmers can be used.

Best Management Practices – Maintenance/ Evaluation Checklist

Best Management Practice	Inspection Frequency	Date Inspected	Inspector	Minimum Maintenance and Key Items to Check	Cleaning/Repair Needed	Date of Cleaning/Repair	Performed by
Swales	Annually			• Accumulated sand and sediment • Accumulated debris • Erosion of swale	☐**yes** ☐**no** ☐**yes** ☐**no** ☐**yes** ☐**no**		
Check Dams	Annually			• Accumulated sand and sediment • Accumulated debris • Erosion of surface	☐**yes** ☐**no** ☐**yes** ☐**no** ☐**yes** ☐**no**		
Areas of increased infiltration	Annually			• Accumulated sand and sediment	☐**yes** ☐**no**		
Drainage structures	Annually			• Accumulated sand and sediment • Floatables • Inlets free of debris	☐**yes** ☐**no** ☐**yes** ☐**no** ☐**yes** ☐**no**		

Notes on Stormwater / Drainage Issues:

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Stormwater Control Manager _____

Project Plans Attached