

Assabet River Rail Trail- Marlborough

Priscilla Ryder

Conservation Officer

10/15/07

1. **Was anyone from Marlborough involved in permitting process of Assabet River Rail Trail ?** Yes
2. **Who was the applicant?** The City of Marlborough through the DPW
3. **Does your town have a wetlands bylaw?** No we do not have a bylaw/ ordinance
4. **Was a NPDES permit required?** Not at the time it was constructed, now that the EPA rules have changed we would likely have had to file with EPA for a construction permit.
5. **Which resources were involved?** Buffer zone only and two ISLF's that were deemed non jurisdictional
6. **Were any state listed species involved?** No
7. **Were there any particular design challenges and how were they solved?** The only challenge we had was that the top soil in several sections were considered hazardous due to the use of herbicides during the time the train was in operation. These soils had to be tested and removed from the site at a higher cost than anticipated.
8. **Did you consider alternatives for the trail surface? If so, why did you end up with the surface you have now?** We were advised that if we were to get federal funds, an asphalt surface that was handicapped accessible would be preferred to meet ADA issues. We didn't actively pursue any other surface alternatives.
9. **Did the applicant have difficulty complying with the orders?** No
10. **Anything else you'd like to add about permit process.** It was useful to identify all permits needed during the 25% design phase, so that the permit process for various sections could be flushed out early on in the process and environmental impacts avoided at future design phases.