



To: Tino Thakral

Date: March 30, 2023

Memorandum

Project #: 73384.00

From: Andrew McNulty, MS, WPIT
Environmental Scientist

Re: 167 Kensington Court North
South Kingstown, Rhode Island

VHB Environmental Scientists performed a field visit and assessment of the above referenced Site on March 29, 2023. Observations made during the site visit concluded that federal- or state-regulated freshwater wetlands are not present on the Site. This report provides the results of the investigation.

Site Description

The 1.85-acre Site is a partially developed residential lot. The western portion of the lot includes a house, paved driveway and maintained lawn. The eastern portion of the site is forested and on an approximately 6% linear/linear slope with an easterly aspect. The canopy is predominantly white pine (*Pinus strobus*) with occurrences of red oak (*Quercus rubra*) and black oak (*Quercus velutina*). A sparse shrub stratum is present and includes sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) and black cherry (*Prunus serotina*). Herbaceous plants were generally absent at the time of the site visit, but few occurrences of pen sedge (*Carex pensylvanica*) were noted.

According to the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey¹, the site contains Narraganset very stony silt loam, a well drained soil typical of upland areas in outwash landscapes. Three test pits were dug on site to facilitate septic design (Application #: 2332-0237). The Soil Profile Descriptions from these test pits align with the Narraganset series description and confirm the NRCS mapped soil unit.

No evidence of wetland hydrology was observed on site. Additionally, VHB referenced the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) hosted Environmental Resource Map (ERM)² and determined it is unlikely any state-regulated wetlands occur nearby that would project Jurisdictional Areas or Buffer Zones into the Site. Based on ERM hosted layers, the site is not within any Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program (RINHP) polygons³.

In conclusion, it is the opinion of VHB Environmental Scientists that no federal- or state-regulated freshwater wetlands or Jurisdictional Areas occur within the Site.

¹ Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Web Soil Survey. <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/> Accessed March 28, 2023.

² Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Environmental Resource Map. <https://ridemgis.maps.arcgis.com/> Accessed March 28, 2023.

³ URI Environmental Data Center and RIGIS. Natural Heritage Areas (2023). <https://www.rigis.org/datasets/edc::natural-heritage-areas-2023/> Accessed March 28, 2023.