

DOT MITIGATION & THE STREAM PASSAGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (SPIP)

- How wetland mitigation fits into the design/construction process
- How the Stream Passage Improvement Program (SPIP) fits into the mitigation process

The Bureau of Environment's principal role is to advance the NHDOT mission of "*Transportation Excellence enhancing the quality of life in New Hampshire,*" by evaluating transportation construction projects and maintenance activities in order to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to natural, cultural and socioeconomic resources.



NHDOT MITIGATION PROCESS

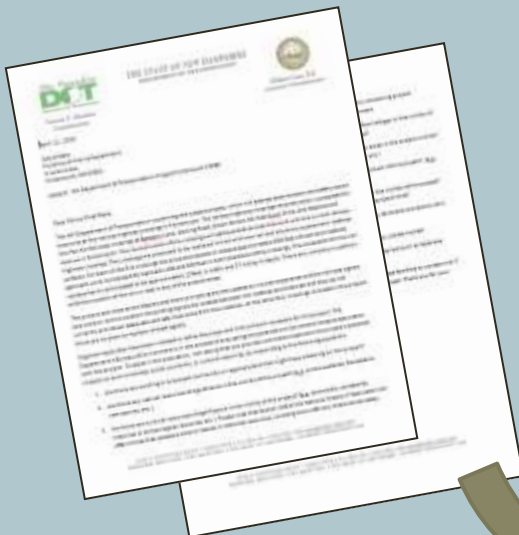
Step 1: Environmental Initiation: Contact Letters

Step 2: Data collection/project development

Step 3: Public meetings & public involvement opportunities

Step 4: Resource agency involvement

Step 5: Mitigation selection



WHAT IS SPIP?

- The Stream Passage Improvement Program (SPIP)
- DES / DOT partnership
- Purpose: Improve AOP, Geomorphic Condition, and Structure Condition, while addressing State and/or Municipal crossings.
- Going from the Stream Crossing Initiative (i.e. available data from the Aquatic Restoration Mapper) to the implementation of SPIP. *A look at DOT's Process.*



SPIP IMPLEMENTATION

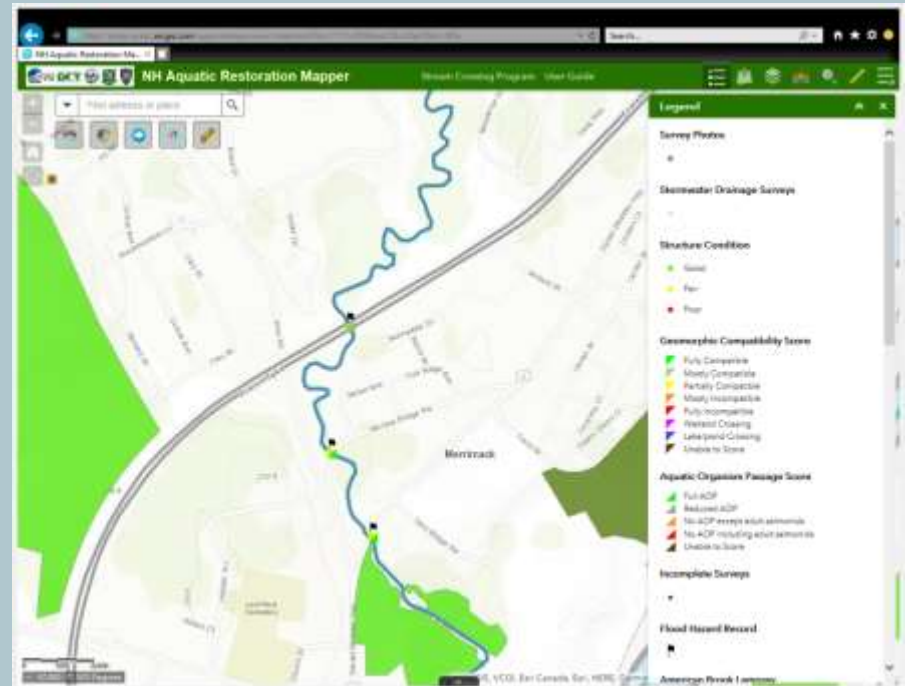
Step 1: Environmental Initiation: Contact Letters

NHDOT wants communities within our project area to have a Top mitigation priority10 List (with culverts) ready for submittal to DOT for our further evaluation.

“As a proactive measure the Department would like to request a list of the Town’s preferred/priority mitigation efforts that the Department may evaluate and consider undertaking if it is determined that the project does in fact require mitigation. Please let us know if your Town has identified such priorities.”

SPIP IMPLEMENTATION

- Step 2: Data collection/project development
- **NHDOT will review the communities priorities while also identifying ours. Need for additional data collection will be addressed. Determine highest value crossings.**



SPIP IMPLEMENTATION

- Step 3: Public meetings & public involvement opportunities
- **More opportunities for a community to convey their mitigation interests and for the NHDOT to better understand their priorities.**



SPIP IMPLEMENTATION

- Step 4: Resource agency involvement
- Discuss mitigation opportunities, keeping an open loop of communication that incorporates thoughts from the community and needs from the state. Ultimately, the resource agencies must approve mitigation.



SPIP IMPLEMENTATION

- Step 5: Mitigation selection
- **NHDOT priority and preference would be to address assets on state owned infrastructure, evaluating cost criteria, proximity, and constructability.**
- **Local assets would be secondary.**
- **In lieu Fee ARM Fund payments.**
- **Resources made available to you!**





MOVING FORWARD



- Encourage communities to develop a diverse mitigation priority list for their community. Include infrastructure upgrade options on priority lists (i.e. stream crossings).
- Ask Communities to respond to the NHDOT initial contact letters, attend public info meetings and hearings.
- Pursue ARM-Fund grants using resources made available to you. (web mapper data and information provided by DOT)

Change is Good !



NHDOT CONTACTS FOR SPIP RELATED QUESTIONS

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