

Winooski River Basin Water Quality Council Meeting

19 September 2024

Agenda

1:00 Call to order & Roll call

1:05 Updates to agenda

1:10 Public Comment

1:15 Review & approve minutes from 18 July 2024 meeting (action)

1:20 Project Proposal Initial Review (discussion)

- ◇ Lamoille Natural Resources Conservation District
 - ◇ Upper Little River Project Development
- ◇ Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission
 - ◇ Project Development in Berlin
 - ◇ Preliminary Design in Calais

2:05 Budget amendment policy (discussion & possible action)

2:25 Project Review Timeline (discussion)

2:35 Project Adoption (discussion)

2:50 Announcements (discussion)

3:00 Adjourn

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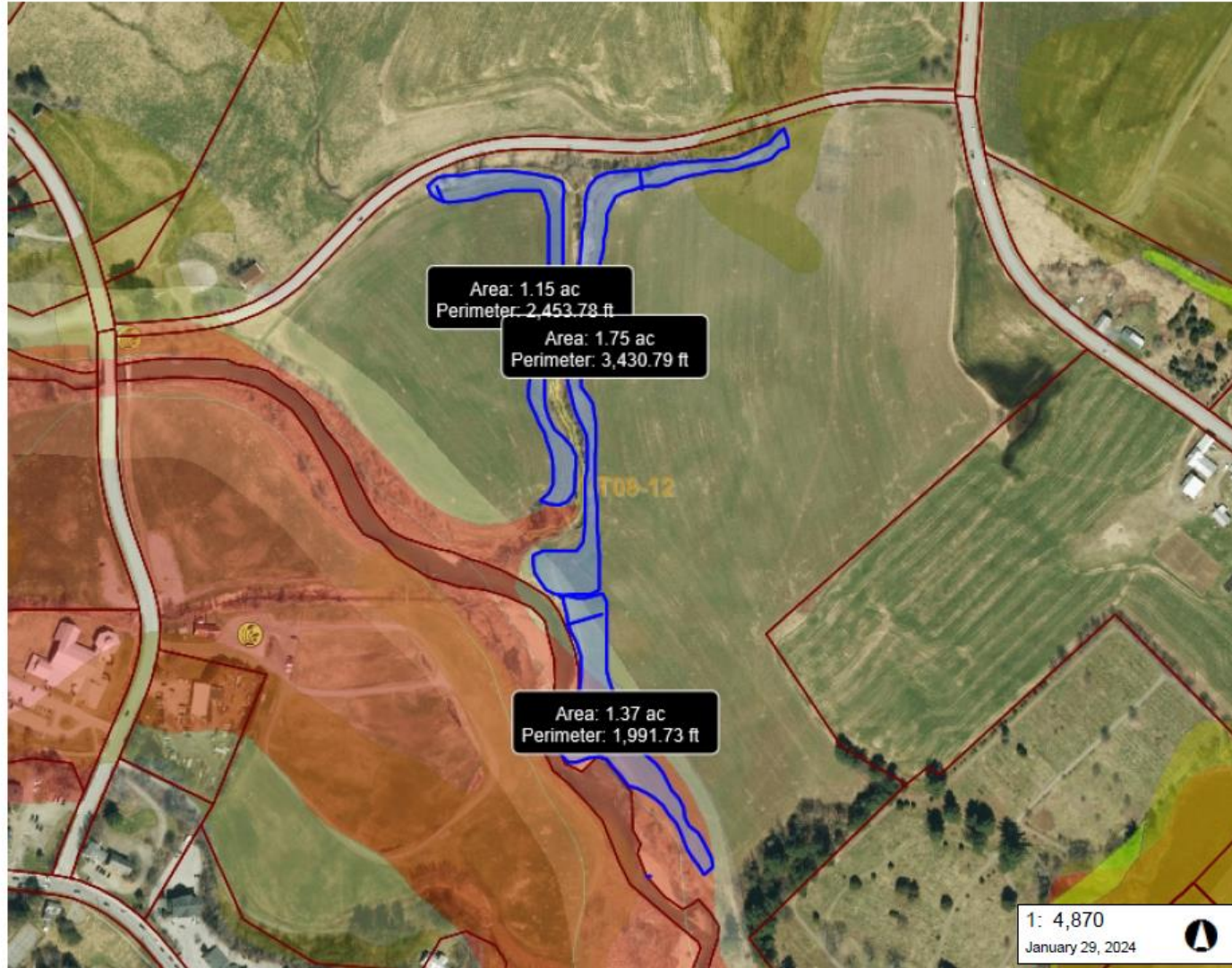
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Preliminary Proposal Review: Little River Project Development - Stowe

- ◆ Primary Contact: Peter Danforth, Director, Lamoille County NRCD
- ◆ Project Type: Project Development
- ◆ Project Phase: Project Development
- ◆ Project Description: The project proposes to scope and develop buffer plantings, stream/floodplain restorations, easement, and wetland restoration projects along the Little River with cost-efficient phosphorus reductions.
- ◆ Project Deliverables:
 - ◆ Number of projects scoped: 15
- ◆ Project Budget:
 - ◆ Project Development: \$15,000



LEGEND

- Wetland - VSWI
 - Class 1 Wetland
 - Class 2 Wetland
 - Wetland Buffer
- Wetlands Advisory Layer
- River Main Stem Waterbodies
- WBID Watersheds
- Flood Hazard Areas (Only FEMA)
 - AE (1-percent annual chance flood)
 - A (1-percent annual chance floodpl)
 - AO (1-percent annual chance zone feet)
 - 0.2-percent annual chance flood ha
- River Corridors (Aug 27, 2019)
 - .5 - 2 sqmi.
 - .25-5 sqmi.
- Soils - Hydric
- Parcels (standardized)
- ACT250 Permits
- Town Boundary

1: 4,870
January 29, 2024

247.0 0 124.00 247.0 Meters
WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere 1" = 406 Ft. 1cm = 49 Meters
© Vermont Agency of Natural Resources THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

DISCLAIMER: This map is for general reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable. ANR and the State of Vermont make no representations of any kind, including but not limited to, the warranties of merchantability, or fitness for a particular use, nor are any such warranties to be implied with respect to the data on this map.

NOTES

Map created using ANR's Natural Resources Atlas

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Preliminary Proposal Review: Riparian Buffer & Culvert Replacement Project Development - Berlin

- ◆ Primary Contact: Brian Voigt, Senior Planner, Central VT Regional Planning Commission
- ◆ Project Type: Project Development
- ◆ Project Phase: Project Development
- ◆ Project Description: The project proposes to scope and develop Riparian Buffer Planting and Culvert Replacement projects in the Steven's Branch and Dog River sub-watersheds with cost-efficient phosphorus reductions.
- ◆ Project Deliverables:
 - ◆ Number of projects scoped: 20
 - ◆ Specific project development: 3-5
- ◆ Project Budget:
 - ◆ Project Development: \$29,908

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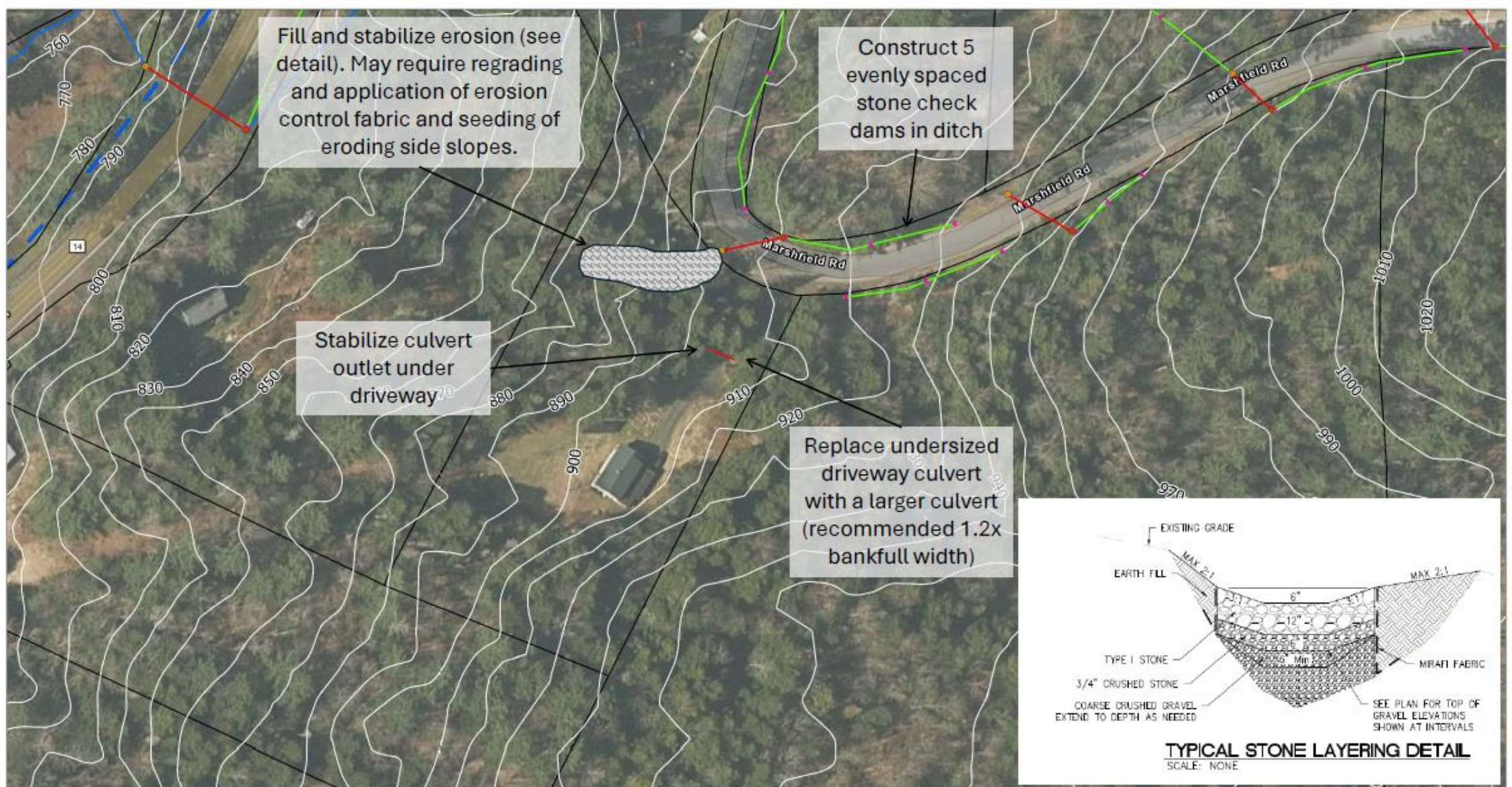
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Preliminary Design: Marshfield Road Stormwater Gully - Calais

- ◆ Primary Contact: Brian Voigt, Senior Planner, Central VT Regional Planning Commission
- ◆ Project Type: Stormwater
- ◆ Project Phase: Preliminary Design
- ◆ Project Description: Significant downstream erosion will be addressed through stone stabilization, check dam structures, or a terrace or two of gabions and layering small stone below with larger stone down the gully.
- ◆ P-reduction:
 - ◆ Preliminary design proposal: 4.87 kg / yr
- ◆ Project Budget:
 - ◆ Preliminary Design: \$38,453
 - ◆ Anticipated Future Funding: \$35,000



Project #2
Marshfield Rd Gully Stabilization
Calais, VT

Map Date: 6/21/2024

Legend

- Parcel
- River Corridors
- Culvert inlet
- Culvert outlet
- Storm line
- Swale
- Stream
- Contours



Scale: 1:1,000



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Budget Adjustment Policy

Project Phase: Assessment, Identification, Development & Scoping	
<= 15% AND <= \$5,000 budget increase	CWSP Director approval
> 15% OR > \$5,000 budget increase	BWQC approval
Project Phase: Design	
<= 15% AND <= \$5,000 budget increase	CWSP Director approval
(> 15% AND <= 25%) AND <= \$10,000 budget increase	CWSP Director + Chair & Vice-Chair approval
> 25% OR > \$10,000 budget increase	BWQC approval
Project Phase: Implementation (Total Project Cost <= \$150,000)	
<= 15% AND <= \$10,000 budget increase	CWSP Director approval
(> 15% AND <= 25%) AND <= \$15,000 budget increase	CWSP Director + Chair & Vice-Chair approval
> 25% OR > \$15,000 budget increase	BWQC approval
Project Phase: Implementation (Total Project Cost > \$150,000)	
<= 25% AND <= \$20,000 budget increase	CWSP Director + Chair & Vice-Chair approval
> 25% OR > \$20,000 budget increase	BWQC approval

Budget Adjustment Policy

- ◆ In lieu of denying a budget adjustment request, the CWSP Director (or CWSP Director + Chair & Vice-Chair) may defer to the judgement of the BWQC
- ◆ Budget adjustment requests for **Implementation-phase projects** that do not result in the project exceeding the target cost-efficiency price (currently \$15,000) can be approved by the CWSP Director
- ◆ Budget increases that result in a project which exceeds the cost-efficiency threshold (currently \$30,000 / kg) will not be considered
- ◆ If there is a conflict of interest, the decision should be made by the full BWQC
- ◆ The Budget Adjustment Policy will be reviewed at the Annual Meeting
- ◆ Questions:
 - ◆ If a budget adjustment request requires Chair + Vice-Chair approval and one (or both) of those members have a conflict of interest, how do we proceed?
 - ◆ Does the BWQC want to establish a maximum budget adjustment request amount (dollars or percentage increase)?
 - ◆ If CVRPC is the Project Implementor, does the BWQC want additional guardrails (e.g. automatically include Chair + Vice-Chair, full BWQC) for budget adjustment requests?

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Project Review Timeline

- ◇ Should Project Development proposals require two rounds of review?
- ◇ Should proposals (for any project type / phase) requesting less than an agreed upon cost threshold require two rounds of review? What is an appropriate cost threshold?
 - ◇ CWSP Staff will review and score project

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Project Adoption

- ◇ CWSP Staff working with Basin Planner to identify eligible projects
- ◇ Eligible project types: Riparian Buffer and Stormwater
 - ◇ Floodplain/Stream restoration projects are currently being evaluated for adoption
- ◇ Adopted projects with a **current** Operations & Maintenance plan can account for up to 15% of the Basin's overall Phosphorus-reduction target
 - ◇ The cap is based on the CWSP term (# of years) and annual Phosphorous-reduction target (kg)
 - ◇ Winooski Basin: $7 * 69.6 * 15\% = \sim 73$ kg
- ◇ Adopted projects with an **expired** Operations & Maintenance plan do not count against the (15%) cap
- ◇ Adoptable projects must be in the Watershed Project Database
 - ◇ Phosphorus crediting for adopted projects is still being developed
- ◇ Brainstorm ideas / need for adoption in the basin:
 - ◇ Stormwater projects in non-MS4 communities
 - ◇ Post-dam removal O & M
 - ◇ Buffer plantings along the North Branch (others?)

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Announcements

- ◇ CVRPC Project Development & Outreach:
 - ◇ Plainfield – Planting at Recreation Field
 - ◇ Barre Town – Diane Lane Stormwater Control
- ◇ DEC Operation & Maintenance - Verification Field Day 3 October 2024
(cost reimbursable), must have already completed:
 - ◇ Tier 1 Part 1: O&M of Clean Water Projects
 - ◇ Tier 2 Part 1: Verification Tools
 - ◇ Tier 2 Part 2: Verification Process and Survey123
- ◇ Emergency Watershed Protection Program
 - ◇ 2023 updates - Middlesex & Marshfield
 - ◇ 2024 registered municipalities - Fayston, Middlesex, Waitsfield and Woodbury
- ◇ Proposals for next month?

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Budget Amendment Policy

- ◇ Example - Basin 7 – Lamoille River
 - ◇ Project Assessment / Identification / Development
 - ◇ Up to 10% with a max increase of \$10k – CWSP Staff
 - ◇ 10% - 20% with a max increase of \$20k – CWSP Staff + 2 BWQC members
 - ◇ More than 20% or \$20k increase requires revote of BWQC
 - ◇ Design / Implementation Projects \leq \$150k
 - ◇ Up to 10% with a max increase of \$20k – CWSP Staff
 - ◇ 10% - 20% with a max increase of \$40k – CWSP Staff + 2 BWQC members
 - ◇ More than 20% or \$40k increase requires revote of BWQC
 - ◇ Design / Implementation Projects $>$ \$150k
 - ◇ Up to 10% with a max increase of \$30k – CWSP Staff
 - ◇ 10% - 20% with a max increase of \$60k – CWSP Staff + 2 BWQC members
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