



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

WATER INVESTMENT DIVISION
National Life Building, DAVIS 3
1 National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510
FAX: (802)828-1552

Matt Lawless, Town Manager
Authorized Representative
Town of Shelburne
5420 Shelburne Road
Shelburne, VT 05482

8/5/2026
Expiration Date: 8/5/2031

**Re: Meach Cove Waterline Replacement Project
Vermont/ USEPA Drinking Water Revolving Loan Number RF3-606**

Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact

Dear Matt Lawless:

The Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Meach Cove Waterline Replacement Project.

The project has positive impacts consisting of improving the drinking water quality in the area served by the Meach Cove Waterline.

This project additionally involves potential impacts including construction within a known threatened species breeding area and Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) under a Class II Wetland.

Otherwise, this project may have been eligible for Categorical Exclusion from detailed environmental review; additionally, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are still not significant enough to necessitate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The Department's environmental review procedures require a 30-day public comment period following the issuance of a Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact. If no public comments received during that period demonstrate that this Notice of Intent is in error, then the Finding of No Significant Impact will become effective.

**Matt Lawless, Authorized Representative, Town of Shelburne
Meach Cove
Finding of No Significant Impact
8/5/2026**

Copies of documents supporting a Finding of No Significant Impact are enclosed. Please keep copies of the enclosed documents, along with any pertinent reports by your consulting engineers, available for public inspection during a public comment period of 30 days. A full list of the documents that must be available for public inspection is attached. Please call (802) 522-3562 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

8ACCAE33DAD1468... 8/5/2026
Chloe Hulsizer
Environmental Analyst IV
Water Investment Division

Enclosures

Documents Posted for Finding of No Significant Impact Public Comment Period (30 days)

1. Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (Signed by Emily Bird, Director, Water Investment Division, enclosed.)
2. Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact (Approved by Emily Bird, Director, Water Investment Division, enclosed.)
3. State Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program, <https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/water-financing/srf/environmental-review>

Additional Documents Needed for Finding of No Significant Impact Public Comment Period (30 days)

4. Environmental Information Document titled "*Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document*", and dated 6/8/2026, by Nathan Pion, PE.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=220622&DVID=0>
5. Environmental Information Document appendices, by Aldrich + Elliott.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=220624&DVID=0>

**Matt Lawless, Authorized Representative, Town of Shelburne
Meach Cove**

Finding of No Significant Impact

8/5/2026

6. Preliminary Engineering Report entitled "*Meach Cove Waterline Replacement Preliminary Engineering Report*", and dated December 2025, by Aldrich + Elliott.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=221682&DVID=0>
7. Project Review Sheet dated 12/5/2025.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=220623&DVID=0>

COPY LIST

Tina Heath, Wetland Biologist

Eric Deratzian, VT-DEC, Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division

Scott Dillon, Division for Historic Preservation, ACCD

Nathan Pion, PE, Aldrich + Elliott, PC

Emily Hackett, Engineering Section Supervisor, VT-DEC- DWGPD

Lynnette Claudon, PE, Design and Construction Engineering Section, VT-DEC-WID

Initial


8/5/2026



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

Department of Environmental Conservation
Water Investment Division
1 National Life Drive, Davis 3
Montpelier, VT 05620

(802) 522-3562

Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact

**Town of Shelburne
Meach Cove Waterline Replacement**

Vermont/ USEPA Drinking Water Revolving Loan Number: RF3-606

In accordance with section VII of the Department's *"Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/EPA Revolving Loan Program"*, the Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed Meach Cove Waterline Replacement Project. This project involves the replacement of roughly 8,100 feet of existing waterlines in Shelburne in two sections. One section spans Lake Road and Limerick Road, and the other spans the southern portion of Bostwick Road. The waterline replacement will be completed using pipe bursting technology and will involve excavation of receiving and insertion pits staggered approximately every 500 feet.

Under the Procedure, the project is ineligible for Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) from detailed environmental review. The project involves potential impacts construction within a known threatened species breeding area and Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) under a Class II Wetland, and therefore exceeds the threshold for CATEX.

Also, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are not significant enough to necessitate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), under the Department's environmental review procedures.

Consideration of the FONSI included a review of the following documents:

- **Environmental Information Document** (EID) signed 6/8/2026, by Nathan Pion, PE, of Essex Junction, VT. <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=220622&DVID=0>

Town of Shelburne
Meach Cove
Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact
7/29/2026

Further information on the project and this Notice of Intent is available for inspection at the following locations:

Matt Lawless, Town Manager
Town of Shelburne
5420 Shelburne Road
Shelburne, VT 05482

tel. (802) 985-5111
mlawless@shelburnevt.org

Chloe Hulsizer
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
Water Investment Division
1 National Life Drive, Davis 3
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510

tel. (802) 522-3562
Chloe.Hulsizer@Vermont.gov

(Note: National Life requires photo identification to obtain an access badge for entry.)

Nathan Pion, PE
Aldrich + Elliott, PC
6 Market Place #2
Essex Junction, VT 05452

tel. (802) 673-6993
NPion@aeengineers.com

No significant administrative action will be taken on this project for thirty (30) days from issuance of this Notice of Determination, to allow for public response.

Signed by:



C13B2376C28247C...

Emily Bird, Director
Water Investment Division

8/7/2026

Date

Department of Environmental Conservation
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

TO: Emily Bird, Director, Water Investment Division ^{Initial} EB 8/7/2026

FROM: Chloe Hulsizer,
Environmental Analyst IV, Water Investment Division ^{Initial} CH 8/5/2026

SUBJECT: Town of Shelburne
Meach Cove Project

Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact

DATE: 8/5/2026

A. Project Identification

Project Name: Town of Shelburne
Meach Cove

Address: Matt Lawless, Authorized Representative
Town of Shelburne
5420 Shelburne Road
Shelburne, VT 05482

Project Location: Town of Shelburne, Vermont
This project involves the replacement of existing waterlines in Shelburne, VT. One section of the waterline will be replaced from the intersection of Orchard Road and Bostwick Road to the intersection of Bostwick Road and Beach Road. The other section of waterline will be replaced on Lake Road and Limerick Road. This project will take place within the Northern Lake Champlain watershed.

Vermont/ USEPA Drinking Water Revolving Loan Number: **RF3-606**

B. Summary of Environmental Review

The Department of Environmental Conservation, Water Investment Division, has reviewed this proposed project in accordance with the Department's State Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program.

The Department has reviewed the following planning documents:

- Environmental Information Document titled “Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document”, and 6/8/2026, by Nathan Pion, PE.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=220622&DVID=0>
- Preliminary Engineering Report entitled “*Meach Cove Waterline Replacement Preliminary Engineering Report*”, and dated December 2025, by Aldrich + Elliott.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=221682&DVID=0>

A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is the appropriate environmental review response for this project if the issues presented can be resolved with mitigation or permits. This project is not eligible for Categorical Exclusion from detailed environmental review due to potential impacts construction within a known threatened species breeding area and Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) under a Class II Wetland. Also, the project’s direct and indirect environmental effects do not necessitate issuance of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), consistent with the criteria as described in section XI of the Department’s environmental review procedures.

1. Project Description

The Town of Shelburne is located in Chittenden County, Vermont in the Northern Lake Champlain major watershed.

This project involves the replacement of roughly 8,100 feet of existing waterlines in Shelburne in two sections. One section spans Lake Road and Limerick Road, and the other spans the southern portion of Bostwick Road. The waterline replacement will be completed using pipe bursting technology and will involve excavation of receiving and insertion pits staggered approximately every 500 feet. The waterline to be replaced is aging and in need of replacement, with tuberculation and corrosion occurring. The project will ensure safe and reliable potable water to users.

This work is expected to be constructed with Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan.

Eligibility for drinking water revolving loan (DWSRF) construction funding will be limited to the eligible drinking water work as detailed in the Preliminary Engineering Report and to physical areas cleared through this environmental review process.

The contract documents will contain standard requirements to limit hours of construction and to control noise, dust and discharges of stormwater runoff or pollutants during construction.

2. Justification for Finding of No Significant Impact

We have determined that the proposed project meets the criteria for issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact.

This project involves potential impacts including construction within a known threatened species breeding area.

Mitigation measures include:

1. **RTE Species:** The breeding time for the RTE bird falls between 5/1 and 8/15. Construction timing will be altered to minimize impacts.
2. **Historic Preservation:** The project area includes archaeologically and historically sensitive areas. Additional investigation may be necessary, and further mitigation measures may be required by VDHP as part of the Section 106 consultation. Interested entities need to comment to be included in the consultation of the mitigation measures.
3. **Wetlands:** This project area includes wetlands and wetland buffers as identified on the ANR Interest Locator. Trenchless technology will be utilized to replace the existing waterline, thereby mitigating any wetland disturbance. For sub-jurisdictional activities, mitigation shall include, at a minimum, buffer demarcation during construction.
4. **Streams:** This project area includes stream crossings. Trenchless technology will be utilized to replace the existing waterline, thereby, mitigating any stream disturbance.

Otherwise, this project may have been eligible for Categorical Exclusion from detailed environmental review; additionally, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are still not significant enough to necessitate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

A public hearing will be held on September 1, 2026 at 5:00 pm at the Shelburne Water Commissioners Meeting as part of this FONSI process.