

# General Criteria for Project Activities

## Criteria that Apply to All Project Activities:

- The proposed activity disturbs a jurisdictional wetland, bank or surface water.
- The project may not direct new flows into the structure or resource, nor may sources of untreated stormwater be introduced into the structures or resources; examples include but are not limited to new swales, catch basins, or underdrains.
- Any unobstructed culvert subject to repeated overtopping of the roadway or damage to infrastructure may not be replaced using this process.
- The culvert or culverts have a combined opening up to 48-inches in diameter (or 12.5 square feet) and shall not be on a Tier 3 stream. (Exempting Activities 5.0, and 9.0)
- If a rare, endangered or threatened species is identified as possibly being impacted by the project. The proposed activity, shall implement any comments or recommendations from the Natural Heritage Bureau or NH Fish and Game in regards to threatened and endangered species (NHB Section of this manual).
- The existing structures must be considered legal, either through previous permitting or the structure would be **grandfathered**, and has not been **abandoned**.
- The proposed work shall be done during low water periods and “in the dry”, when the resource is not flowing or behind temporary diversions as depicted in this manual if necessary.
- The activity would not qualify for this process if it impacts any of the following resources or conditions:
  - Bog
  - Exemplary Natural Community/S1 or S2 as designated by DRED-NHB
  - Sand dune, flat or tidal wetland or Undisturbed Tidal Buffer Zone
  - In or within 100 ft. (See the list of towns in appendix with 100 foot setback) of a designated prime wetland
  - Tier 3 Stream (Exceptions Activity #s RR5 and RR9)
  - Designated Rivers: An activity will not qualify for the Routine Roadway Notification process if within ¼ mile of a “Natural” Designated River, 250’ of a “Rural” Designated River, 100’ of a “Rural/Community” Designated River, and/or within the channel or banks of a “Community” Designated River.
    - Exception 1. If the activity is located on a tier 1 stream.
    - Exception 2. If the structure does not convey a direct surface water connection to the Designated River.
- **NOTE: If the work is within ¼ mile of any Designated River a copy of the Routine Roadway Notice must be submitted to the River’s Local Advisory Committee a minimum of 5 days prior to the start of work.**
- Non Tidal Marsh/Surface Water Wetland
- (High Value)Scrub shrub wetlands over .75 acres
- If “**High Bank Erosion**” exists, where erosion processes have scoured the toe of the stream bank to an extent that the upper portion of the stream bank has collapsed within 150 linear feet downstream of the crossing.

## Criteria that Apply to ALL Stream Activities:

- Any stream crossing shall be designed and constructed to improve sediment transport, **or if that is not practicable**, the new crossing shall at least **maintain** the sediment transport of the original crossing.

- Any stream crossing shall be designed and constructed considering any restrictions of high flows, and downstream structures.
- Any stream crossing shall maintain the current low flows.
- Any stream activity shall be designed and constructed to not increase in the frequency of flooding or overtopping the banks.
- Any stream activity shall not cause erosion aggradation or **scouring** upstream or downstream of the crossing and not cause water quality degradation.
- The activity shall not diminish the **hydraulic capacity** of the crossing or the ability of the crossing to accommodate **aquatic life passage**.

Special Criteria that apply to Correcting Perched Culverts:

- A Professional Engineer shall design and approve any activity to a culvert any time the slope of a culvert changes in order to match the inlet and outlet elevation of the existing stream bed.
- The height of the distance to be corrected between the stream bed and the culvert invert shall not exceed 1 foot.
- The slope of the culvert to correct the perch shall not exceed 5%, unless the natural stream slope is greater than 5% in an undisturbed reach.
- The impacts associated with the activity shall not exceed the 50 foot length of impact, including any outlet protection.
- The activity sponsor shall monitor the site 1 calendar year from the date of completion to ensure no further erosion has occurred.
- The applicant shall document the stream channel upstream and downstream and the culvert inverts and stream channel shall be documented by a supporting photos and documentation. This shall be done each quarter for 1 year after the project has been completed. This information shall be submitted to the DES file number within 2 weeks of the photo date.
- If the original problem or a new problem is observed in the monitoring period the applicant shall provide a Standard Dredge and Fill Application with proposed long term solutions to the problem.