

Environmental Monitor Report
New Bedford Regional Airport
Runway Safety Improvements Project
MassDEP File No. SE 049-0635

Date: April 1, 2014

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GZA (IO)

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Scott Smyers, Oxbow (Turtle Ecologist)

Subject: **Environmental Monitor Report - New Bedford Regional Airport Runway Safety Improvement Project Phases 2 and 3; Variance Order of Conditions and Water Quality Certificate; DEP File No. SE 049-0635.**

Variance Conditions

This Environmental Monitoring (“EM”) report has been prepared in accordance with Special Condition 6 of the aforementioned Variance Order of Conditions and Water Quality Certificate. This report covers work completed under Phases 2 and 3. Attached to this EM report are site photographs taken by Epsilon.

Inspection Period

Epsilon (A. Atwell) conducted monthly off-season inspections of the project site on March 21, 2014. Epsilon inspected and took photographs of erosion control devices, Best Management Practices (“BMPs”), and overall site conditions.

Findings & Recommendations

Status of Construction

As noted in prior EM reports there is no active construction at the Airport and the work zone is stable. The Phase 2 site contractor, Manafort, continues to work with the Airport to complete its punch list items and close out its contract. Phase 4 work is scheduled to commence later this spring when conditions allow (mid-April).

RW 5 RSA Gravel Access Road

Erosion controls along the RW 5 RSA gravel road are in fair to good condition. The Airport staff repaired the existing fence and raked and tamped the gravel berm that was built up along the edge of the silt fence. The Airport specifically fixed the area where gravel was washing towards the West Ditch. They removed the small volume of gravel that had washed through the silt fence and collected in the area between the silt fence and the West Ditch. The Airport also hand removed the small volume of gravel that settled in the West Ditch. See attached photos. There is no other evidence of sedimentation within the West Ditch. The existing silt fence is in good enough shape to keep silt and sediment from reaching the west ditch and the planted area adjacent to the west ditch. There are some small holes in the silt fence, yet these holes are a few inches of the ground. Phase 4 construction is slated to start in mid-April at that time the silt fence will be reinstalled in advance of construction traffic using the road.

RW 5 RSA Gravel Access Road at East Ditch and West Ditch Intersection

No additional erosion or new gullies has occurred in the RSA area that was previously loamed and seeded by Manafort as part of its Phase 2 work. It does not appear necessary to install any additional straw wattles or other controls in this location at this time. We will continue to monitor this area to determine if further erosion occurs.

Turtle Area 3 / Wetland Site 6

As noted in previous EM reports, sand migrating from turtle nesting area 3 into Wetland Mitigation Site 6 has been an ongoing challenge. In order to keep additional sand from reaching Wetland Mitigation Site 6, Airport staff raked the sand out by hand and a length of silt fence was installed between the two rows of straw wattles previously installed by the site contractor (Manafort). The area will be re-seeded with a wetland seed mix when appropriate. We will work with the Airport to identify a long term solution to this ongoing challenge including potentially constructing a vegetated natural berm or installing less intrusive coir rolls or fiber rolls containing compost along the interface. Once the vegetation is established the sand should be better contained in the turtle area and the controls can be removed.



View of recently repaired silt fence by Airport staff. Note that the previous gravel berm located immediately adjacent to the silt fence has been removed and raked back into the access road.



View of area where gravel was removed by hand from the West Ditch and vegetated area adjacent to the West Ditch.



View of silt fence installed at interface between Turtle Area 3 and Wetland Site 6 to keep nesting habitat sand from migrating into the constructed wetland. The second photo on the right depicts the area where Airport staff removed sand that had settled in Wetland 6. If necessary, this area will be seeded with a wetland mix later this spring.