

PLANTING NOTES:

- Enhancement plantings will be installed in two sections of Class II wetland buffer located on either side of the proposed project access road, in close proximity to wetland impacts from the access road, and along the northern edge of the southernmost array.
- Acreage of the planting area and approximate stem count for each species to be planted are located in Table 1., "Buffer Enhancement Plantings". Buffer plantings will include native, low-growing shrubs characteristic of wetland edge habitats and upland species.
- The total Wetland Buffer Enhancement Planting Area is approximately 14,000 sq. ft. (0.32 acre), which is approximately 2:1 mitigation ratio.
- The purpose of the planting plan is to enhance the condition and functions of the on-site Class II wetland buffer where plantings will occur, and which are currently subject to regular and ongoing mowing and disturbance from agricultural management. Once established, the Wetland Buffer Enhancement Area will be demarcated and undisturbed from future vegetation management activities related to the solar array.
- The planting areas will not be subject to vegetation management cutting after the plantings are installed., and have been designed to include shrub species which will be unlikely to cause shading of the array due the low maximum height of the species and northerly location of planting area relative to the array.
- Planting materials have been selected to be typically commercially available, native species, with local and regional vendors/distributors. Plant materials and actual species planted are subject to source and seasonality of planting, and derivations from the plan will be reviewed by a qualified environmental scientist. Specific stem quantities and planting density may vary according to available stock size and site conditions.
- Planting will be by hand and shrubs should be planted in same-species groups of 3-5 stems. Species shall be planted on a gradient according to their wetland indicator status (i.e. FACW species planted closest to wetland border, while UPL species planted farthest away) to the extent feasible within the planting area dimensions and specific site conditions.
- Planting will occur either the spring or fall following project construction, depending on construction schedule (spring or fall typically yield more favorable soil moisture conditions for planting and establishment, and can therefore minimize transplant shock). Spring planting will occur before June 15 and fall planting will occur after September 15.
- Plantings will be installed using a recommended 10x10-foot spacing between stems, resulting in an approximately 400 stems/acre starting density (ANR 2016). This spacing and stem density is recommended for shrub-dominated community types (USDA 2009).
- Plant species were chosen based on known habitat conditions and presence of species and mapped on-site soils and bedrock composition.
- Scientific names, common names, wetland indicator status, and approximate heights of species from: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), "PLANTS Database". Available online: <http://plants.usda.gov>
- Planting spacing and density, species selection, and other planting guidance from:
 - USDA, NRCS, "Specification Guide Sheet for Riparian Forest Buffer (391)". (2009). Available online: <http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/vt/vtspc391-0109.pdf>
 - Vermont Agency of Natural Resource (ANR), "Planting Guidelines for Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) Lands: Vermont ANR Lands Guidance Document". (2025). Available online: https://anr.vermont.gov/sites/anr/files/documents/Planting_Guidelines_for_ANR_State_Lands_FINAL_2025.pdf
 - ANR, "Planting Guidance for the Revegetation of Riparian Areas in Vermont". (2016). Available online: <https://anr.vermont.gov/sites/anr/files/documents/Planting-Guidance-for-Riparian-Areas-VT-2016.pdf>

MONITORING NOTES:

- The final stem density goal for the buffer enhancement planting areas is a minimum of 400 stems/acre, which is recommended by VT ANR for riparian areas (ANR 2016). The Project proponent anticipates this goal will be met through plantings and expects additional woody shrub/sapling recruits through volunteers.
- The buffer enhancement planting areas will be monitored annually for a period of no more than three (3) years following the completion of construction and installation of the woody stems.
 - Monitoring will include qualitative and quantitative observations of vegetation conditions and woody plants within the buffer enhancement planting areas, including enumeration of all assessed planted or (presumed) volunteer stems that are encountered. The purpose of will be to monitor woody stem density and to determine if corrective actions may be recommendations.
 - Monitoring will also include photographic documentation (through GPS location) throughout the buffer enhancement planting areas to visually record and monitor on-site conditions.
 - After year three (3) monitoring, the project proponent will prepare and submit a monitoring report to the DEC Wetlands Section (by December 31st of the final monitoring year). The monitoring report will include the following:
 - A brief summary of the project background;
 - A summary of the development of the buffer enhancement planting areas;
 - A summary of the woody stem monitoring results;
 - A description of any recommendations and corrective actions undertaken during the monitoring period;
 - An overall map showing the buffer enhancement planting area; and
 - A photo layout of the monitoring photographs.

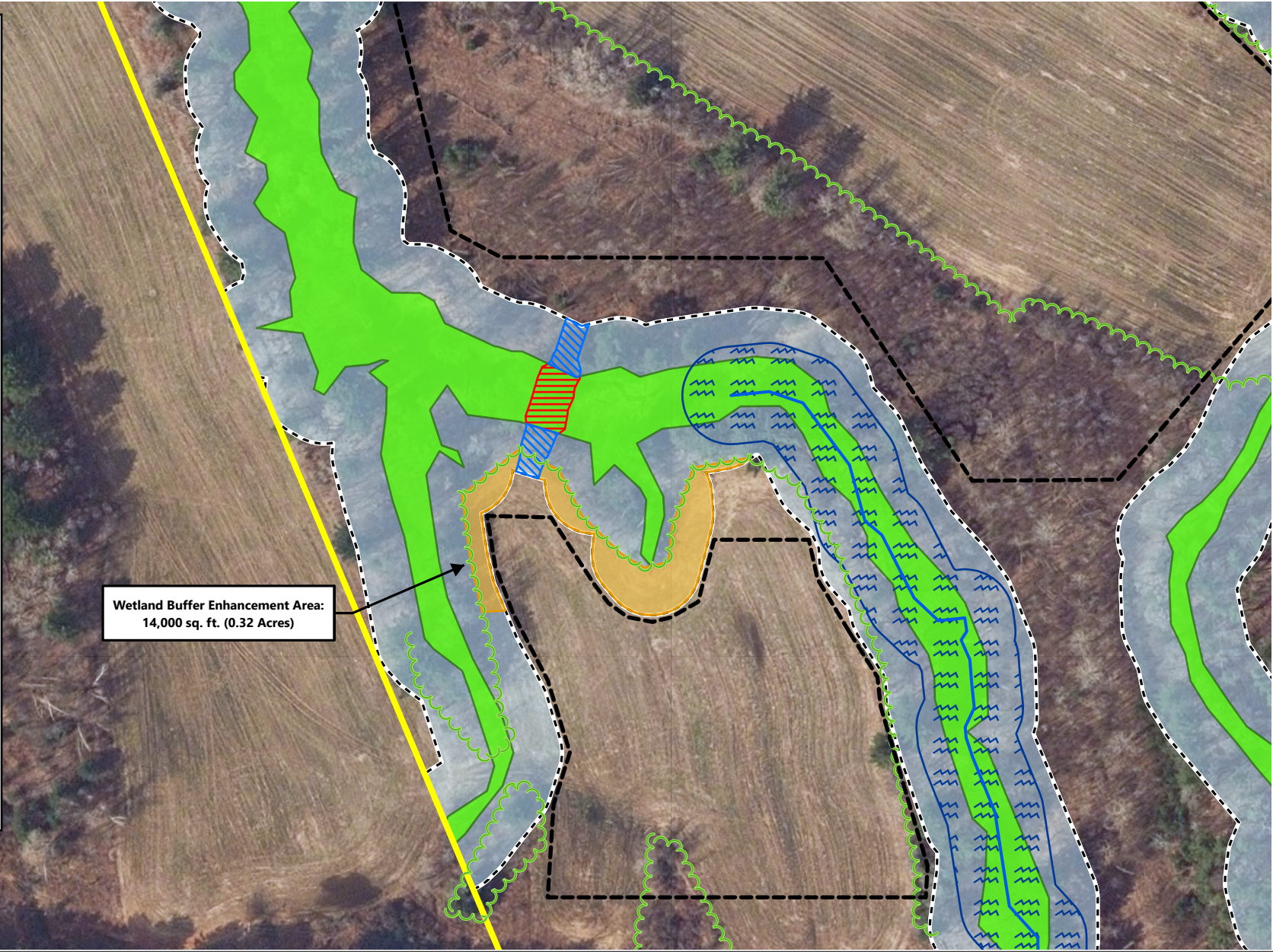


Table 1. Wetland Buffer Enhancement Plantings						
Class Wetland II Buffer / Upland Shrub Species - 9-foot On Center Spacing (400 Stems/Acre)						Approximate Area: 14,000 S.F. / 0.32 Acre
Scientific Name	Common Name	Wetland Indicator Status	Mature Height (ft)	Recommended Planting Size	Stock Type	Approximate Stem Quantity
<i>Salix bebbiana</i>	Bebb Willow	FACW	12	15-18"	Bareroot	25
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	Gray Dogwood	FAC	10	15-18"	Bareroot	40
<i>Corylus cornuta</i>	Beaked Hazelnut	FACU	15	18-36"	Bareroot	40
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	Mapleleaf Viburnum	UPL	6	18-36"	Bareroot	25
Total # of Proposed Stems						130

 Study Area (Case Group/VHB)

 Permanent Wetland Impacts (2,5227 sq. ft.) (K&L)

 Permanent Buffer Impact (4,397 sq. ft.) (K&L)

 Buffer Enhancement Planting Area (14,000 sq. ft.) (VHB)

 Array Fence (K&L)

 Existing Tree Line (K&L)

 Delineated Streams (Flow Regime) (VHB)

 Delineated Wetlands (Class) (VHB)

 Riparian Buffer - 50 ft (VHB)

 Class II Wetland Buffer - 50 ft (VHB)

 River Corridor - 50 ft (VHB)

NOTES:

- Natural resources field investigations performed by VHB (C. Fenner, M. Jackman, K. Maines, B. Galligan) on and August 31, 2022; and September 27 and October 10, 19, 2023
- Wetland boundaries and classifications were reviewed and confirmed by DEC District Wetland Ecologist Zapata Courage in the field on multiple site visits between 2022 and 2025. Communications via email with DEC (Courage) confirmed this on February 19, 2026.