Dear Darren Hayward,

I have reviewed Natural Diversity Data Base maps and files regarding the area delineated on the map you provided for the Stony Brook Transmission Main Rehabilitation Project Phase 1, Leffingwell & Noble Roads in Montville and Bozrah, Connecticut. According to our information there are State Special Concern *Notropis bifrenatus* (bridle shiner) and *Margaritifera margaritifera* (eastern pearlshell) in the Trading Cove Brook.

**State Special Concern *Margaritifera margaritifera* (eastern pearlshell):**
These are aquatic animals that play important roles in our environment. They are sedentary organisms that live in sediments on the bottom of streams and rivers and provide a service to all by filtering water and removing algae and zooplankton. It is because they are filter-feeders that they are also very susceptible to pollutants in the water in which they live. If best management practices (BMPs) for minimizing sedimentation and erosion into adjacent water bodies are utilized and maintained during construction, potential impacts (from degraded water quality) to these State-listed mussels should be minimized.

Recommended Protection Strategies for freshwater mussels:
- Vegetation should not be removed from the river banks;
- Siltation or erosion of the riverbank, or soils to be moved then replaced should not be discharged into the river because the mussels will be killed if buried; and
- Polluted runoff such as chemicals or fertilizer, resulting from this project that can contaminate the water, should not be discharged into the river.

**State Special Concern *Notropis bifrenatus* (bridle shiner):**
Please be advised that a DEEP Fisheries Biologist may review permit applications submitted to DEEP regulatory programs to determine if your project could adversely affect fish species. DEEP Fisheries Biologists are routinely involved in pre-application consultations with regulatory staff and applicants in order to identify potential fisheries issues and work with applicants to mitigate negative effects, including to endangered species. If you have not already talked with a Fisheries Biologist about your project, you may contact the Permit Analyst assigned to process your application for further information, including the contact information for the Fisheries Biologist assigned to review your application.

The result of this review does not preclude the possibility that other listed species may be encountered on site and that additional action may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits. Please
re-submit an NDDB Request for Review if the scope of work changes or if work has not begun on this project by August 31, 2020.

Natural Diversity Database information includes all information regarding critical biological resources available to us at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection’s Natural History Survey and cooperating units of DEEP, private conservation groups and the scientific community. This information is not necessarily the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Consultations with the Data Base should not be substitutes for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. Current research projects and new contributors continue to identify additional populations of species and locations of habitats of concern, as well as, enhance existing data. Such new information is incorporated into the Data Base as it becomes available.

Please contact me if you have further questions at (860) 424-3592, or dawn.mckay@ct.gov. Thank you for consulting the Natural Diversity Data Base.

Sincerely,

Dawn M. McKay
Environmental Analyst 3