January 13, 2025

Mr. James Ventres
Land Use Administrator
Town of East Haddam
East Haddam, CT 06423

Application to Inland Wetlands and Waterways Commission
Bridge at Mangano-Mazzella Preserve

Dear Mr. Ventres,

Overview: East Haddam Land Trust, Inc. (EHLT) recently purchased the 123-acre Mangano-Mazzella Preserve, which lies on the north side of Honey Hill Road in East Haddam. Since acquiring the property in October 2024, EHLT has constructed over two miles of trails and opened them to the public. One of the trails crosses an unnamed stream that flows in a southwesterly direction, from a beaver pond in the preserve's northeast toward the tributaries of Roaring Brook to the southwest.

EHLT hereby applies for permission to construct a bridge over the unnamed stream, in order to provide a safe crossing for foot traffic on one of the existing trails.

Bridge Location and Design:

Below are:

A. A map reflecting the location of the proposed bridge.
B. Photos of the bridge site.
C. Photos of a bridge constructed on a separate EHLT preserve, utilizing the design proposed for the bridge at the Mangano-Mazzella Preserve.

The bridge would measure 15' x 3', and would be constructed of pressure treated lumber, on a frame comprising sistered 2"x12" supports, making for supports measuring some 3" x 12" on each side, joined by 2" x 12" cross pieces. Decking would be pressure-treated 2" x 6" planking, and railings would be mounted on pressure treated 4" x 4" side posts, bolted through the frame below with two bolts through each post.

The weight of the bridge would likely alone suffice to hold the structure in place; however, here as elsewhere, EHLT would drive lengths of ½" rebar through the frame (and through the 6" x 6" support on which the frame would rest) and deep into the ground at each end of the bridge, making movement of the structure unlikely.

Bearing in mind the topography of the bridge site as well as the above-referenced 6" x 6" supports, it is anticipated that the bottom of the bridge frame would be at least some 20" above the water during periods of typical water flow.

We thank the IWWC for its consideration.

East Haddam Land Trust, Inc.
Cameron Beard, Stewardship Chair















