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## **Wetland Evaluation**

### **LTS**

# 3-Point Garden Road East Stroudsburg, Monroe County, Pennsylvania

Addendum - August 6, 2024

#### **INTRODUCTION & SUMMARY**

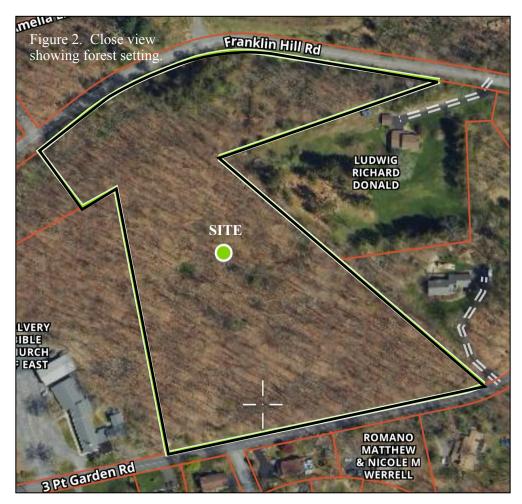
As described in the earlier report from 2023, the subject Site, Figures 1 and 2 below and on the next page, is located as shown between Franklin Hill Road and 3-Point Garden Road in East Stroudsburg, Monroe County, PA. The Site is, as described, undeveloped and surrounded by developed residential and religious properties on gently rolling hills. With respect to the subject, wetlands, there are none on site or immediately adjacent properties as reported in 2023.

The site was inspected in the early fall of last year and was rechecked in the spring of 2024, as part of C&H's routine due diligence, with the same conclusion, no wetlands!



#### LTS 3-Point Garden Road

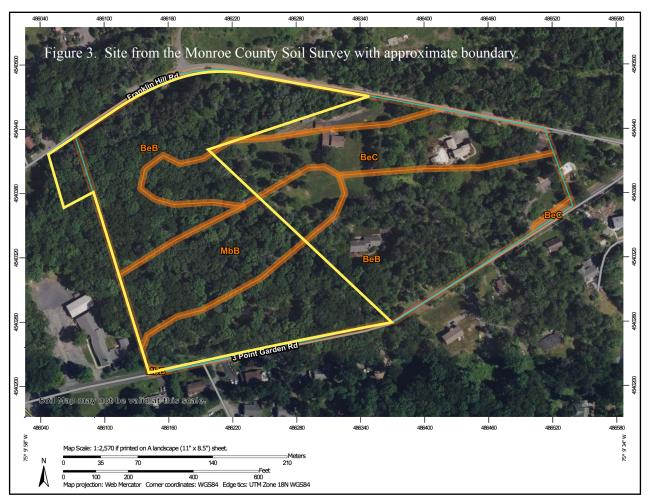
Wetland Evaluation - Addendum August 6, 2024



All finding are supported by standard government resources and available data in addition to the C&H on-Site data. We are again including the Monroe County Soil Survey (Figures 3 and 4) plus the National Wetlands Inventory (Figure 5) for convenience and completeness in order for this addendum to stand alone.

It is understood that the conservation district posed the question with respect to an anomalous feature along Franklin Hill Road. The geomorphic status of this feature was considered in the initial C&H review. It was and still is evident that the feature is anthropogenic (man made) most likely from the original development of Franklin Hill Road long, long ago; and, after all that time is still not a watercourse, potential stream, and has nothing to do with any natural or other type of historical or regulated watercourse feature. We did not report specifically on the feature in our December 14, 2023, because did not seem likely to be of any interest at the time.

Now that a question has arisen pertaining to the feature, we are reporting; and, we do have a detailed, factual explanation and determination information that is supported by definitive governmental information. First, of course, is our field determination that the feature does not comply with the geomorphic understanding or definition of a stream or watercourse.



**Map Unit Legend** Figure 4. Soil Series on Site (none hydric)

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
ВеВ	Benson-Rock outcrop complex, 0 to 8 percent slopes	14.2	64.9%
BeC	Benson-Rock outcrop complex, 8 to 25 percent slopes	4.2	19.2%
MbB	Mardin very stony silt loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	3.5	15.9%
Totals for Area of Interest		22.0	100.0%

#### LTS 3-Point Garden Road

Wetland Evaluation - Addendum August 6, 2024



Secondly, the feature is not noted or depicted on either the County Soil Survey or the National Wetland Inventory. These two sources are not definitive with respect to streams or wetlands because they are not to be used for site-specific determinations, but the absence is supportive of our field findings; in fact, when there is any possible evidence, the county soils surveys are inclined to err on the side of caution and mark as watercourse.

What is most important and definite, at a much higher order of determination and authority, is the United States Geological Survey (USGS) mapping. The USGS survey extends well back into the 1800's and by 1891 the maps were to carry <u>all</u> recognized streams and watercourses. At the time of our initial report we were aware that the most recent 2023 East Stroudsburg Quadrangle 7.5-minute Series topographic map did not show any stream feature on Site (note, absolutely definitive in light of our supporting on-Site geomorphic evaluation).

For this addendum we researched the earliest available 7.5-minute Series map which is from 1924 (formally regarded as the Bushkill NJ-PA Quadrangle). The area of interest is shown in Figures 6 and 7 on the following page; representative photos are shown in figure 8 and 9 (page 6)

Wetland Evaluation - Addendum August 6, 2024

The area of concern (AOC) is immediately along and parallel to Franklin Hill Road and in neither USGS map is there any notation (stream line) shown. Note that the sloping, ravine-like topography running parallel to the road is clearly recognized without any evidence of a watercourse of any kind in both maps. Elsewhere on the two quadrangles, where streams are present, stream lines are definitely shown as has been the case since the 1800's.

#### **CONCLUSION**

There is no recognized or potential watercourse-stream feature present along Franklin Hill Road and no basis for regulation of what exists.

For C&H Environmental, Inc.

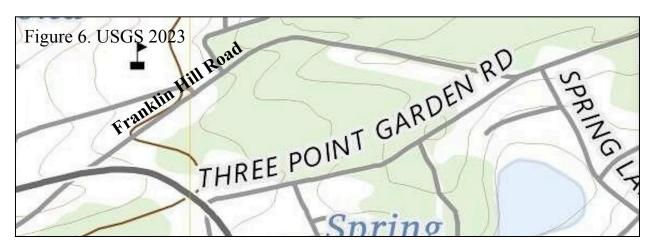






Photo 1. Area of interest along Franklin Hill Road



Photo 2. Continuation of the area of interest along Franklin Hill Road.