



CEI NEWS

October 2016

CEI Talks Culvert Crossing at NETWC

CEI recently presented a workshop at the Northeastern Transportation and Wildlife Conference (NETWC) on September 12, 2016 in Lake Placid, New York. Teamed with the MA Department of Transportation (MassDOT), CEI Senior Engineer, David Nyman, P.E., spoke about the work in progress on the update of the MassDOT Stream Crossing Handbook.



With assistance from CEI, MassDOT is updating this handbook which is designed to assist project planners and designers in addressing wildlife passage and complying with current regulatory standards in the design and construction of new and replacement culverts and bridges.

This presentation highlighted two important new additions to the handbook to help municipalities develop designs for local projects:

- Massachusetts Department of Transportation is providing guidance on its review process that applies to bridge structures on public ways (under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 85-Section 35), to facilitate the review and approvals of projects implemented at the local level; and
- The handbook will include illustrative designs of selected prototypical structures, to help municipalities select and design structures that meet Massachusetts Department of Transportation standards while addressing regulatory requirements for wildlife passage.

Key components of this handbook focus on the design challenges posed by existing structures. Acknowledging the various constraints of the built environment, this handbook offers a range of design approaches for improving wildlife accommodation during reconstruction of existing stream crossings. However, the major focus of the handbook is on providing, to the maximum extent practicable, roadway stream crossings that incorporate stream simulation design techniques and provide for improved habitat connectivity along the stream corridor.

The handbook will be available online from MassDOT along with a link from CEI once available. For more information on this presentation and project please contact David Nyman, P.E. at 508.281.5160 or dnyman@ceiengineers.com.

CEI is an award winning civil and environmental engineering firm incorporated in 1987 serving the U.S Northeast.

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