



Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Wayne F. MacCallum, *Director*

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Revisions to '*Guidelines for the Certification of Vernal Pool Habitat*'

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife announces a 20 day public comment period to commence on January 7, 2009 relative to the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program's (NHESP) recommended revisions to the '*Guidelines for the Certification of Vernal Pool Habitat*'. The NHESP has been certifying vernal pools with the *Guidelines* since 1988. The recommendations consist primarily of: 1) some revisions to the biological criteria to ensure certifications are consistent with the regulatory definition of "vernal pool habitat"; and 2) strengthening and clarifying the documentation requirements for certification.

Summaries of the NHESP's recommended revisions to the '*Guidelines for the Certification of Vernal Pool Habitat*' are available from the NHESP's web site, www.nhesp.org, under 'Vernal Pools', then 'Vernal Pool Certification', then in the 'Quick Links' box (upper right corner) select 'Recommended Revisions - VP Certification Guidelines'

http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/vernal_pools/vernal_pool_cert.htm/rec_rev_vp_cert.pdf.

Comments may be submitted in writing to the NHESP until 5:00 PM January 27, 2009: Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program - CVP Revisions, Route 135, Westborough, MA 01581, or via e-mail to natural.heritage@state.ma.us (include 'VP Revisions' in subject line).

www.nhesp.org



Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

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