

**TOWN OF WEST TISBURY  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**P.O. BOX 278  
WEST TISBURY, MA 02575**

PH 508-696-6404 FAX 508-696-0103  
[concomm@westtisbury-ma.gov](mailto:concomm@westtisbury-ma.gov)

September 2, 2021

Ms. Melissa Vincent, Program Manager  
TRI-The Resource Inc.  
P.O. Box 4548  
Tisbury, MA 02568

Re: Your Case #EDGHR-19-01  
Map 17 Lot 34  
137 Otis Bassett Road  
Rynd

Dear Melissa,

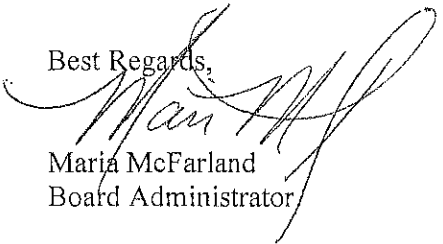
This letter is in response to your inquiry dated August 13, 2021 regarding the above-referenced property. There are no wetlands on or adjacent to this property. Even if this property were within the jurisdiction of the Commission, exterior renovations on an existing single family dwelling such as replacement doors, windows and porch decking do not require review by this board.

This property is not within Priority Habitat under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act.

According to the Assessors on-line property record card there is no farmland protection on this property.

If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Best Regards,

  
Maria McFarland  
Board Administrator

Copies furnished to:  
WT Building Inspector



A MARTHA'S VINEYARD LAND TRUST

August 25, 2021

received  
8/30/2021

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*Land Steward*

Founded in 1959 by  
Elizabeth Bowie Hough  
and Henry Beetle Hough

Lucas Mercier  
25 Walter Hillman Road  
West Tisbury, MA 02575

Dear Lucas,

Thank you for meeting with Adam Moore earlier this month to discuss the outstanding issue at the Fish Hook Hough and George Hough properties. As a result of that meeting, Sheriff's Meadow Foundation staff is going to do the following:

- Install a fence and/or rocks to mark our property boundary around your parcel.
- Install a small section of split rail where the road to the beach changes into a pedestrian path.
- Rope off and put up signage at the path you are currently using to access the beach that goes down the coastal bank.
- Maintain the historic pedestrian path that the Houghs use to access the beach.
- Maintain the vehicular access to the beach in its current condition.
- Place a rock near the gate to the beach and coordinate a lock(s) system with you and the Houghs.
- Replace both gates with SMF gates.
- Put up appropriate signage.

We ask that you, your family and guests do not drive vehicles, including ATVs, past the parking area on the beach access road and discontinue all use of the path that traverses down the coastal bank. We also ask that you refrain from cutting, mowing or otherwise removing vegetation from SMF property unless it poses a hazard to your ROW.

Please feel free to get in touch with us if you have any questions or concerns. Please also be aware, that the West Tisbury Conservation Commission has been made aware of these issues and is copied on this letter.

Thank you,

Kristen Geagan  
Director of Stewardship  
Sheriff's Meadow Foundation  
508-693-5207  
[geagan@sheriffsmeadow.org](mailto:geagan@sheriffsmeadow.org)

cc: West Tisbury Conservation Commission  
PO Box 278  
West Tisbury, MA 02575



received

9/9/2021

WTCC

West Tisbury Conservation Commission, Maria McFarland, 508-696-6404

West Tisbury Board of Assessors, 508-696-0101

West Tisbury Building Inspector, Joe Tierney, 508-696-0113

West Tisbury Planning Board, 508-696-0149

West Tisbury Zoning Board of Appeals, 508-696-0107

West Tisbury Board of Health, Omar Johnson, 508-696-0105

As residents of Pond View Farm Road, we have concerns about the building being completed on Map 35 Lot 1.9, owned by **Blue Heron Farm LLC (principal Norman Foster)**. The building permit is for a three bedroom one family residence, with an additional permit for an extensive solar panel array. On paper this looks fine. An additional permit will be needed for three more bedrooms (septic is zoned for six).

According the Norman Foster Foundation, "Designed as a flexible space to accommodate a range of multidisciplinary activities including think tank sessions, workshops and seminars, the retreat will also host a residency programme for selected fellows of the Norman Foster Foundation." It is no longer a family residence.

Water. The demand for water for this property will be enormous. Hundreds of trees have been planted on the property, some forty feet high, but predominantly evergreens. We live on a fragile arid outwash plain, and to date the limited annual rainfall has served the houses on Pond View Farm Road adequately. We understand 150 more trees and 2000 grasses will be planted on lot 1.9 in the near future. What will this do to the water table on the Road? Will all the wells become saline? Or dried up? Who in West Tisbury is supervising this? Runoff from this property following a rain has already created a wetland on previously dry fields.

Tree planting. Many trees have been planted close to the edge of Pond View Farm Road, making it impossible to mow the six foot required distance from the road.

Parking. At the moment, construction workers, tree maintenance people, irrigation workers, and other service people have infringed on the abutting properties. This will end, but where will cars and large vehicles park on the property once work is completed?

Usage. Lot 1.9 is zoned as a family residence. It may take regular inspection to see whether the zoning laws are followed. A future conference center for architects would change the status of this building. Who will be checking on this? What recourse do the neighbors and the town have in case the residential requirement is flaunted and the building is used for a commercial purpose? It is distressing to feel that the town of West Tisbury has given little attention to this construction.

We hope you will give your immediate attention to this matter.

Marilyn and Warren Hollinshead

Ted and Betsy Wheeler

cc. Brad Silberling and Amy Breneman, Louis and Sheri Wexler, Peter and Nelly Rabinowitz, Nic and Rosemary Van Nes, John Rosenmiller

Marilyn and Warren Hollinshead  
Ted & Betsy Wheeler