

**From:** [Carroll, John](#)  
**To:** [Michael Behrendt](#)  
**Cc:** [Karen Edwards](#); [Sally Needell](#)  
**Subject:** Your comment in "Friday Updates", re: Gerrish wetlands  
**Date:** Sunday, November 15, 2020 9:28:38 PM

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To Town Planner Behrendt, to the Members of the Planning Board, to Conservation Commission Chair Needell and Conservation Commission Members

Michael,

In reading the current "Friday Updates", I read in your Planner's Report, pertaining to the proposed Gerrish Project, that this proposed project would require, in your words, "crossing" three wetlands. The wetlands you are referring to will be destroyed, not simply crossed, as the imposition of the roads proposed require their destruction. A road through those wetlands necessitates complete destruction of these naturally functioning wetlands, for there's no other way a road can be built through them.

Such destruction is in violation of both the letter and the intent of both town ordinance and state law. It is also profoundly detrimental to the natural and functional ecological value of these wetlands. To be fair about this proposed project, you need to inform the public that these wetlands will be destroyed and not simply "crossed". Any attempt to "cross" wetlands with a road is to destroy them, in both their essence and their functionality. One cannot simply "cross" them. Nor can those functioning wetlands ever be remediated, not where the road lies nor along its margins. In the case of the town-owned property, this involves the loss of the entire wetland.

John Carroll