

Case 03/11/2025-02
Dawn Ryan Revocable Trust
Lot A-47-1
74 Stage Coach Rd.
Neil Faiman, Wilton Zoning Board,

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I am writing with some questions and concerns following the site walk on the Ryan property on March 15th. During the walk it was clear that the trail has not been marked the full length of the proposed project. This shortfall makes the determination of the impact of the project inconclusive. I understand there are further areas of wetlands that will be impacted and require careful review. Aries did not evaluate the entire length of the trail as they were misled as to the scope of the proposal. The review by Aries reinforces this omission:

Review Comments:

1. *The eastern portion of the trail is proposed to be constructed through forested wetlands for a distance of approximately 150 feet"*
2. *"The trail is proposed to cross the WCD at the narrowest point without encroaching on a high-value marsh (wetlands) located approximately 10 feet north of the eastern terminus of the proposed trail"*

These conclusions are markedly incorrect as the trail is planned to continue to join the existing snowmobile trail.

During the site walk the trail was described as continuing but Mr Mattison had not completed flagging the proposed route.

This is a serious misrepresentation of the project.

We also had the opportunity to see a necessary second water crossing in the high-value marsh, where there appeared to be banks in the flowing water which was clearly too deep to walk across. Aries review neglects to address this crossing as they believe the trail ends prior to this intersection.

I would also ask for clarification of the plan to use the proposed bridge for farm equipment. Greg Mattison stated the bridge would be used for ATVs and snowmobiles. He later admitted to be expecting to use "small" farm equipment, which does not seem to be in the spirit of a "nature trail". What farm equipment would be appropriate?

Lastly, I would ask if this proposed nature trail will be open to the public for access to the connected snowmobile trail.

I propose a second site walk and third party review are in order to properly evaluate the project in its entirety once the full trail has been delineated. Until then, no proper review of the request for a variance can be completed.

Thank you for your careful consideration of these concerns.

Sharon Blackburn , 52 Barrett Hill Rd.