

May 19, 2015

**Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris c. crepitans*)  
Call Surveys, Primo Sports Site,  
Town of Chester, New York**

Introduction

The state-endangered northern cricket frog (*Acris c. crepitans*) has been documented in the Town of Chester and Glenmere Lake located in the Village of Florida, New York (NYSDEC Correspondence). As part of the project's application review process, the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) requested that a northern cricket frog call survey be conducted at a small man made pond on the subject site.

Background

The northern cricket frog occupies a scattered distribution in southeastern New York including Orange, Ulster, and Dutchess Counties. In New York the species is primarily associated with circum-neutral lakes and ponds with a thick aquatic and emergent vegetation component. Breeding occurs in these weedy, shallow water bodies in June and July. Outside the breeding season northern cricket frogs have been documented using various wetland (e.g., riparian, forested, emergent, vernal) and upland habitats (e.g., forests, wet fields, lawns).

This section of Orange County contains habitat known to support northern cricket frog populations. Northern cricket frogs breed in weedy lakes in June and July.

Protocol

Ecological Solutions, LLC was retained by the Applicant, to complete a call survey study at the on site pond. The study period will be 4 days covering the period from May 20 to June 15, 2015 with two surveys occurring in May, and two surveys occurring in June.

The proposed protocol for the investigation follows and is taken from the document entitled, "Call Survey Protocol" last revised by G. Kenney on 9/29/2010:

- Each call survey will be separated by at least seven (7) days.
- At least 10 sampling points will be established around the Pond perimeter. Each sample point will be surveyed for a minimum of ten (10) minutes.
- Surveys will begin ½ half hour after sunset and will end by midnight.

- Surveys will only be conducted on still nights with winds no more than 12 mph and temperatures above 60 degrees F.
- All data as outlined in the Call Survey protocol document will be collected.
- Glenmere Lake in the area of the Glenmer Preserve project will be used as a reference point since I studied this area with positive results in 2008 and 2009.