



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Forestry Services

Mail Code 501-04

ONLM - Natural Heritage Program

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Commissioner

November 12, 2014

Gary Doss
Dewberry Engineers, Inc.
600 Parsippany Road, Suite 301
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Re: NCR40014 - Somers Point

Dear Mr. Doss:

Thank you for your data request regarding rare species information for the above referenced project site in Somers Point City, Atlantic County.

Searches of the Natural Heritage Database and the Landscape Project (Version 3.1) are based on a representation of the boundaries of your project site in our Geographic Information System (GIS). We make every effort to accurately transfer your project bounds from the topographic map(s) submitted with the Request for Data into our Geographic Information System. We do not typically verify that your project bounds are accurate, or check them against other sources.

We have checked the Landscape Project habitat mapping and the Biotics Database for occurrences of any rare wildlife species or wildlife habitat on the referenced site. The Natural Heritage Database was searched for occurrences of rare plant species or ecological communities that may be on the project site. Please refer to Table 1 (attached) to determine if any rare plant species, ecological communities, or rare wildlife species or wildlife habitat are documented on site. A detailed report is provided for each category coded as 'Yes' in Table 1.

We have also checked the Landscape Project habitat mapping and Biotics Database for all occurrences of rare wildlife species or wildlife habitat within one mile of the referenced site. Please refer to Table 2 (attached) to determine if any rare wildlife species or wildlife habitat is documented within one mile of the project site. Detailed reports are provided for each category coded as 'Yes' in Table 2. These reports may include species that have also been documented on the project site.

For requests submitted as part of a Flood Hazard Area Control Act (FHACA) rule application, we report records for all rare plant species and ecological communities tracked by the Natural Heritage Program that may be on your project site. (In some borderline cases these records may be described as on or in the immediate vicinity of your project site.) A subset of these plant species are also covered by the FHACA rules when the records are located within one mile of the project site. One mile searches for plant species will only report occurrences for those plant species identified under the FHACA regulations as being critically dependent on the watercourse. Please refer to Table 2 (attached) to determine if any rare plant species covered by the FHACA rules have been documented. Detailed reports are provided for each category coded as 'Yes' in Table 2. These reports may include species that have also been documented on the project site.

The Natural Heritage Program reviews its data periodically to identify priority sites for natural diversity in the State. Included as priority sites are some of the State's best habitats for rare and endangered species and ecological communities. Please refer to Tables 1 and 2 (attached) to determine if any priority sites are located on or within one mile of the project site.

A list of rare plant species and ecological communities that have been documented from the project site, referenced above, can be downloaded from <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/natural/heritage/countylist.html>. If suitable habitat is present at the project site, the species in that list have potential to be present.

Status and rank codes used in the tables and lists are defined in EXPLANATION OF CODES USED IN NATURAL HERITAGE REPORTS, which can be downloaded from http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/natural/heritage/nhpcodes_2010.pdf.

If you have questions concerning the wildlife records or wildlife species mentioned in this response, we recommend that you visit the interactive NJ-GeoWeb website at the following URL, <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm> or contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife, Endangered and Nongame Species Program at (609) 292-9400.

PLEASE SEE 'CAUTIONS AND RESTRICTIONS ON NHP DATA', which can be downloaded from <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/natural/heritage/newcaution2008.pdf>.

Thank you for consulting the Natural Heritage Program. The attached invoice details the payment due for processing this data request. Feel free to contact us again regarding any future data requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Cartica', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert J. Cartica
Administrator

c: NHP File No. 14-3907435-6637

Table 1: On Site Data Request Search Results (7 Possible Reports)

Rare Plants/Ecological Communities Possibly On Site:	No
Rare Plants/Ecological Communities On Site/Immediate Vicinity:	No
Natural Heritage Priority Sites On Site:	No
Landscape 3.1 Species Based Patches On Site:	No
Landscape 3.1 Vernal Pool Habitat On Site:	No
Landscape 3.1 Stream/Mussel Habitat On Site:	No
Other Animals Tracked by ENSP On Site:	No

Table 2: Within 1 Mile for FHACA Searches (6 possible reports)

Rare Plants/Ecological Communities within 1 mile:	No
Natural Heritage Priority Sites within 1 mile:	No
Landscape 3.1 Species Based Patches within 1 mile:	Yes
Landscape 3.1 Vernal Pool Habitat within 1 mile:	No
Landscape 3.1 Stream/Mussel Habitat within 1 mile:	No
Other Animals Tracked by ENSP within 1 mile:	Yes

**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat Within One
Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of
Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches**

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Strank
<i>Aves</i>	American Oystercatcher	Haematopus palliatus	Non-breeding Concentration	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Foraging	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S1B,S2N
	Black Skimmer	Rynchops niger	Foraging	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S1B,S1N
	Black-crowned Night-heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S3N
	Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S3N
	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	Nesting Colony	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Cooper's Hawk	Accipiter cooperii	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Gull-billed Tern	Gelochelidon nilotica	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Least Tern	Sternula antillarum	Foraging	4	NA	State Endangered	G4	S1B,S1N

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank
	Least Tern	<i>Sternula antillarum</i>	Nesting Colony	4	NA	State Endangered	G4	S1B,S1N
	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Non-breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S1B,S3N
	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B
	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Nest	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B
	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Non-breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3N
	Yellow-crowned Night-heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N

**Other Animal Species
Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on
Additional Species Tracked by
Endangered and Nongame Species Program**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank
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Invertebrate Animals

Cicindela dorsalis media	Southeastern Beach Tiger Beetle			G4T3T4	S1S2
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Total number of records: 1