

State of New Jersey

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Governor

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Lt. Governor

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
State Forestry Services
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ONLM -Natural Heritage Program
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BOB MARTIN Commissioner

December 16, 2014

Matthew Adelson Tetra Tech EC, Inc. 1000 The American Road Morris Plains, NJ 07950

Re: REE0021449 11 Hackensack Plank Road

Dear Mr. Adelson:

Thank you for your data request regarding rare species information for the above referenced project site in Weehawken Township, Hudson 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 occurrences of rare wildlife species or wildlife habitat in the immediate vicinity (within ¼ mile) of the referenced site. Additionally, the Natural Heritage Database was checked for occurrences of rare plant species or ecological communities within ¼ mile of the site. Please refer to Table 2 (attached) to determine if any rare plant species, ecological communities, or rare wildlife species or wildlife habitat are documented within the immediate vicinity of the site. Detailed reports are provided for all categories 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 in the vicinity of the 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/geowebsplash.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,

Robert J. Cartica Administrator

c: NHP File No. 14-4007471-6818

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

Report Name	<u>Included</u>	Number of Pages
1. Possibly on Project Site Based on Search of Natural Heritage Database: Rare Plant Species and Ecological Communities Currently Recorded in the New Jersey Natural Heritage Database	No	0 pages included
2. On or In the Immediate Vicinity of the Project Site Based on Search of the Natural Heritage Database: Rare Plant Species and Ecological Communities Currently Recorded in the New Jersey Natural Heritage Database	No	0 pages included
3. Natural Heritage Priority Sites On Site	No	0 pages included
4. Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat on the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches	No	0 pages included
5. Vernal Pool Habitat on the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1	No	0 pages included
6. Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat on the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1 Stream Habitat File	No	0 pages included
7. Other Animal Species On the Project Site Based on Additional Species Tracked by Endangered and Nongame Species Program	No	0 pages included

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Table 2: Vicinity Data Request Search Results (6 possible reports)

Report Name	<u>Included</u>	Number of Pages
1. Immediate Vicinity of the Project Site Based on Search of Natural Heritage Database Rare Plant Species and Ecological Communities Currently Recorded in the New Jersey Natural Heritage Database	No	0 pages included
2. Natural Heritage Priority Sites within the Vicinity	No	0 pages included
3. Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat Within the Immediate Vicinity of the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches	Yes	1 page(s) included
4. Vernal Pool Habitat In the Immediate Vicinity of Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1	No	0 pages included
5. Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat In the Immediate Vicinity of the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1 Stream Habitat File	No	0 pages included
6. Other Animal Species In the Immediate Vicinity of the Project Site Based on Additional Species Tracked by Endangered and Nongame Species Program	No	0 pages included

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Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat Within the Immediate Vicinity 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	Srank
Aves								_
	Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
Osteichthyes								
	Shortnose Sturgeon	Acipenser brevirostrum	Migration Corridor - Adult Sighting	5	Federally Listed Endangered	State Endangered	G3	S1

Tuesday, December 16, 2014

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