



State of New Jersey

MAIL CODE 501-04

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DIVISION OF PARKS & FORESTRY

NEW JERSEY FOREST SERVICE

OFFICE OF NATURAL LANDS MANAGEMENT

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July 1, 2020

Amy Bennett
Brinkerhoff Environmental Services, Inc.
1805 Atlantic Avenue
Manasquan, NJ 08736

Re: AC_Bulkheads
Atlantic City, Atlantic County

Dear Ms. Bennett:

Thank you for your data request regarding rare species information for the above referenced project site.

Searches of the Natural Heritage Database and the Landscape Project (Version 3.3) 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 Natural Heritage Data Request Form 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.

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 3 (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 3. These reports may include species that have also been documented on the project site.

For requests submitted in order to make a riparian zone width determination 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, 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 FHACA plant species will only report precisely located occurrences for those wetland plant species identified under the FHACA regulations as being critically dependent on the watercourse. Please refer to Table 3 (attached) to determine if any precisely located rare wetland plant species covered by the FHACA rules have been documented. Detailed reports are

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provided for each category coded as 'Yes' in Table 3. These reports may include species that have also been documented on, or in the immediate vicinity of, 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, 2 and 3 (attached) to determine if any priority sites are located on, in the immediate vicinity, or within one mile of the project site.

A list of rare plant species and ecological communities that have been documented from the county (or counties), 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.

Beginning May 9, 2017, the Natural Heritage Program reports for wildlife species will utilize data from Landscape Project Version 3.3. If you have questions concerning the wildlife records or wildlife species mentioned in this response, we recommend that you visit the interactive web application at the following URL, <https://njdep.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=0e6a44098c524ed99bf739953cb4d4c7>, or contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife, Endangered and Nongame Species Program at (609) 292-9400.

For additional information regarding any Federally listed plant or animal species, please contact the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, New Jersey Field Office at <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/njfieldoffice/endangered/consultation.html>.

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

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Table 1: On Site Data Request Search Results (6 Possible Reports)

<u>Report Name</u>	<u>Included</u>	<u>Number of Pages</u>
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. Natural Heritage Priority Sites On Site	No	0 pages included
3. Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat on the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3 Species Based Patches	Yes	1 page(s) included
4. Vernal Pool Habitat on the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3	No	0 pages included
5. Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat on the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3 Stream Habitat File	No	0 pages included
6. Other Animal Species On the Project Site Based on Additional Species Tracked by Endangered and Nongame Species Program	No	0 pages included

<p align="center">Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat on the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3 Species Based Patches</p>

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank
<i>Aves</i>								
	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
	Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus	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
	Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S4N
	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Nest	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S4N
	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	Urban Nest	4	NA	State Endangered	G4	S1B,S3N
	Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Tricolored Heron	Egretta tricolor	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Yellow-crowned Night-heron	Nyctanassa violacea	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N

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

<u>Report Name</u>	<u>Included</u>	<u>Number of Pages</u>
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 Immediate 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 3.3 Species Based Patches	Yes	2 page(s) included
4. Vernal Pool Habitat In the Immediate Vicinity of Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3	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 3.3 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

<p align="center">Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat Within the Immediate Vicinity of the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3 Species Based Patches</p>

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank
Aves								
	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
	Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S3N
	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	Foraging	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
	Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S4N
	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Nest	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S4N
	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	Urban Nest	4	NA	State Endangered	G4	S1B,S3N
	Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Tricolored Heron	Egretta tricolor	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N

<p>Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat Within the Immediate Vicinity of the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3 Species Based Patches</p>
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Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank
	Yellow-crowned Night-heron	Nyctanassa violacea	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N

***Table 3: Within 1 Mile for Riparian Zone Width Determination
(6 possible reports)***

<u>Report Name</u>	<u>Included</u>	<u>Number of Pages</u>
1. Rare Plant Species Occurrences for Riparian Zone Width Determination (Flood Hazard Area Control Act Rule Application) - Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of Natural Heritage Database	No	0 pages included
2. Natural Heritage Priority Sites for Riparian Zone Width Determination - Within One Mile of the Project Site	No	0 pages included
3. Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat for Riparian Zone Width Determination - Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3 Species Based Patches	Yes	2 page(s) included
4. Vernal Pool Habitat for Riparian Zone Width Determination - Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3	No	0 pages included
5. Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat for Riparian Zone Width Determination - Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3 Stream Habitat File	No	0 pages included
6. Other Animal Species for Riparian Zone Width Determination - Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on Additional Species Tracked by Endangered and Nongame Species Program	Yes	1 page(s) included

<p>Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat for Riparian Zone Width Determination</p> <p>Within One Mile of the Project Site</p> <p>Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3 Species Based Patches</p>
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Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Strank
<i>Aves</i>								
	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
	Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	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
	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
	Gull-billed Tern	Gelochelidon nilotica	Nesting Colony	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Least Tern	Sternula antillarum	Foraging	4	NA	State Endangered	G4	S1B,S1N
	Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S4N
	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Nest	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S4N

<p align="center">Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat for Riparian Zone Width Determination Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3 Species Based Patches</p>

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank
<i>Mammalia</i>	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	Urban Nest	4	NA	State Endangered	G4	S1B,S3N
	Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Tricolored Heron	Egretta tricolor	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Yellow-crowned Night-heron	Nyctanassa violacea	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N
	Fin Whale	Balaenoptera physalus	Live Individual Sighting	5	Federally Listed Endangered	State Endangered	G3G4	S1
	Humpback Whale	Megaptera novaeangliae	Live Individual Sighting	5	Federally Listed Endangered	State Endangered	G4	S1
	North Atlantic Right Whale	Eubalaena glacialis	Live Individual Sighting	5	Federally Listed Endangered	State Endangered	G1	S1
<i>Reptilia</i>	Atlantic Leatherback	Dermochelys coriacea	Occupied Habitat	5	Federally Listed Endangered	State Endangered	G2	S1
	Atlantic Loggerhead	Caretta caretta	Occupied Habitat	5	Federally Listed Threatened	State Endangered	G3	S1

**Other Animal Species for Riparian Zone Width Determination
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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Vertebrate Animals

Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose Dolphin			G5	S3
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Total number of records: 1