



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Forestry Services

Mail Code 501-04

ONLM -Natural Heritage Program

P.O. Box 420

Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

Tel. #609-984-1339

Fax. #609-984-1427

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

June 5, 2014

Theresa A. Albanese
Gannett Fleming
2187 Silas Deane Highway, Suite 17
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Re: NCR38953

Dear Ms. Albanese:

Thank you for your data request regarding rare species information for the above referenced project site in Highlands Borough, Monmouth 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/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. 14-4007348-5595

Mail Code 501-04
 Department of Environmental Protection
 State Forestry Services
 Office of Natural Lands Management
 P.O. Box 420 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420
 (609) 984-1339 Fax: (609) 984-1427

Invoice

		Date	Invoice #
		6/5/2014	5595
Bill to: Gannett Fleming 2187 Silas Deane Highway, Suite 17 Rocky Hill, CT 06067		Make check payable to: Office of Natural Lands Management And forward with a copy of this statement to: Mail Code 501-04 Office of Natural Lands Management P.O. Box 420 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420	
Quantity (hrs.)	Description	Rate (per hr.)	Amount
1	Charge for Natural Heritage Database search for rare species and ecological communities locational information. Project: 14-4007348-5595	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00
Theresa A. Albanese Project Name: NCR38953		Total	\$ 70.00

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:	Yes
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

**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**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Regional Status	Grank	Srank	Identified	Last Observed	Location
-----------------	-------------	---------------------------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------	-------	------------	---------------	----------

Vascular Plants

Rubus ostryifolius	Highbush Blackberry			HL	G3?Q	SH.1	Y - Yes		Monmouth County, near lighthouses.
--------------------	---------------------	--	--	----	------	------	---------	--	------------------------------------

Total number of records: 1

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

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

**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**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Regional Status	Grank	Srank	Identified	Last Observed	Location
-----------------	-------------	---------------------------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------	-------	------------	---------------	----------

Vascular Plants

Rubus ostryifolius	Highbush Blackberry			HL	G3?Q	SH.1	Y - Yes		Monmouth County, near lighthouses.
--------------------	---------------------	--	--	----	------	------	---------	--	------------------------------------

Total number of records: 1

**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
<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
	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Least Tern	Sternula antillarum	Foraging	4	NA	State Endangered	G4	S1B,S1N
	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B
	Wood Thrush	Hylocichla mustelina	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B

**Other Animal Species
In the Immediate Vicinity 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
<i>Vertebrate Animals</i>					
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose Dolphin			G5	S3
Total number of records:		1			