

## State of New Jersey

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Governor

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
State Forestry Services
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BOB MARTIN Commissioner

November 20, 2014

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

Re: HUD CDBG-DR NCR39564 Municipal Services Building Rehabilitation

Dear Mr. Adelson:

Thank you for your data request regarding rare species information for the above referenced project site in Tuckerton Borough, Ocean 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. 14-3907453-6703

### 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: 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 Vicnity:	No
Other Animals Tracked by ENSP within the Vicnity:	No

# 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									
Asclepias rubra	Red Milkweed			LP, HL	G4G5	S2	Y - Yes	2004-08-03	0.17 miles East-Southeast from the intersection of Route 9 and Wave Drive in Tuckerton Boro, Ocean County.
Eryngium aquaticum var. aquaticum	Marsh Rattlesnake-master			HL	G4T4	S3	Y - Yes	2004-08-03	0.2 miles South-south east of the intersection of Wave Drive and Route 9 in Tuckerton Boro, Ocean County.
Hydrocotyle verticillata var. verticillata	Whorled Marsh-pennywort			HL	G5T5	S3	Y - Yes	2004-08-03	0.22 miles East-Southeast from the intersection of Route 9 and Wave Drive in Tuckerton Boro, Ocean County.
Platanthera cristata	Crested Yellow Orchid			LP, HL	G5	S3	Y - Yes	2004-08-03	0.18 miles East-Southeast from the intersection of Route 9 and Wave Drive in Tuckerton Boro, Ocean County.
Pycnanthemum setosum	Awned Mountain-mint			HL	G4	S3	Y - Yes	2004-08-03	At the intersection of Wave Drive and Surf Drive, 0.175 miles South-southeast of the intersection of Wave Drive and Route 9, in Tuckerton Boro, Ocean County.

Total number of records: 5

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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								
	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
	Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Nest	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B
	Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Tricolored Heron	Egretta tricolor	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N

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