



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
State Forestry Services
Mail Code 501-04
ONLM -Natural Heritage Program
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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

October 23, 2014

Beth A. Williams
Tetra Tech
240 Continental Drive
Newark, DE 19713

Re: Brigantine Beach Access Project (NCR 39808)

Dear Ms. Williams:

Thank you for your data request regarding rare species information for the above referenced project site in Brigantine 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 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 stroke extending to the right.

Robert J. Cartica
Administrator

c: NHP File No. 14-3907443-6524

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

Rare Plants/Ecological Communities Possibly On Site:	Yes
Rare Plants/Ecological Communities On Site/Immediate Vicinity:	No
Natural Heritage Priority Sites On Site:	No
Landscape 3.1 Species Based Patches On Site:	Yes
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

**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**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Regional Status	Grank	Srank	Identified	Last Observed	Location
<i>Vascular Plants</i>									
Amaranthus pumilus	Seabeach Amaranth	LT	E	LP, HL	G2	S1	Y - Yes	2008-08-15	1860: Brigantine. 2001: Brigantine City, from Roosevelt Ave. to 11th St. So. 2002: North of the 8th Ave. access. in raked/scraped beaches in Brigantine. 2003: North of Roosevelt Ave., south of 11th St. So., approximately 600 meters into Brigantine Natural Area, and one approximately 2.3 km into preserve, just south of the dunes delimiting the northern accreting island tip, all were in Brigantine. 2004: In Brigantine, within a few meters of the northernmost occurrence in 2003. 2008-08-15: South of Vernon Place in Brigantine City on fill pile. 2008-07-31: Brigantine Natural Area, 2.4 km from entrance.
Honckenya peploides var. robusta	Seabeach Sandwort		E	LP, HL	G5T4	S1	Y - Yes	2008-08-15	2010: Brigantine City beaches, Cape May County, north of Roosevelt Ave. to 3-4 km south. Two subpopulations, northern one is 400 feet southeast of intersection of Roosevelt Boulevard and Brigantine Avenue, southern one is 700 feet southeast of intersection of 40th Street and Ocean Avenue, in Brigantine City, Atlantic County.

Total number of records: 2

<p>Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat on the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches</p>
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Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank
<i>Aves</i>								
	Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	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

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
<i>Vascular Plants</i>									
Amaranthus pumilus	Seabeach Amaranth	LT	E	LP, HL	G2	S1	Y - Yes	2008-08-15	1860: Brigantine. 2001: Brigantine City, from Roosevelt Ave. to 11th St. So. 2002: North of the 8th Ave. access. in raked/scraped beaches in Brigantine. 2003: North of Roosevelt Ave., south of 11th St. So., approximately 600 meters into Brigantine Natural Area, and one approximately 2.3 km into preserve, just south of the dunes delimiting the northern accreting island tip, all were in Brigantine. 2004: In Brigantine, within a few meters of the northernmost occurrence in 2003. 2008-08-15: South of Vernon Place in Brigantine City on fill pile. 2008-07-31: Brigantine Natural Area, 2.4 km from entrance.
Honckenya peploides var. robusta	Seabeach Sandwort		E	LP, HL	G5T4	S1	Y - Yes	2008-08-15	2010: Brigantine City beaches, Cape May County, north of Roosevelt Ave. to 3-4 km south. Two subpopulations, northern one is 400 feet southeast of intersection of Roosevelt Boulevard and Brigantine Avenue, southern one is 700 feet southeast of intersection of 40th Street and Ocean Avenue, in Brigantine City, Atlantic County.

Total number of records: 2

<p>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</p>
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Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank
<i>Aves</i>								
	Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	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
	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B
<i>Mammalia</i>								
	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	Caretta caretta	Occupied Habitat	5	Federally Listed Threatened	State Endangered	G3	S1

**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
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Vertebrate Animals

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