

D. Appendix IV: Definitions

1. Adaptive Management Practices: A systematic 6 – step process that was developed in the early 1970’s to allow for the continuous improvement of management policies and practices through learning from the outcomes of operational programs. Successful adaptive management requires that each of the six steps be completed. These are: 1) Assessment of a problem by acknowledging that there is uncertainty about what policy or practice is best for a particular issue. 2) Design a strategy through the careful selection of a policy or management practice to be employed. 3) Implementation of a policy or practice that is likely to identify knowledge that is lacking. 4) Monitor key response indicators. 5) Analyze the outcomes in relation to the original objectives to determine the effectiveness of the applied policy or practice. 6) Adjust the policy or practice based on an analysis of the results and incorporates into future decisions.
2. Atlantic population (with reference to Canada geese): Atlantic population of Canada Geese refers to the population of Canada geese that breeds in the arctic or sub arctic and migrate through or winter in New Jersey and are distinct from the resident population of Canada Geese that resides year-round in New Jersey and breeds in New Jersey parks and grasslands.
3. Biodiversity: Biological diversity (biodiversity) is the variety of life on Earth and the interactions, cycles, and processes of nature that link it all together. In its broadest definition, biodiversity includes individual species, genetic diversity within species, natural communities in which these species interact, and the ecosystems and landscapes in which species evolve and coexist.
4. Best Management Practices, or BMPs: A collection of management approaches implemented in the course of land management that minimize injury to rare wildlife, and maintain or enhance the value of habitat, for rare wildlife populations.
5. Cluster development: Residential community where homes are built in high density within a restricted portion of the development while leaving a large portion of the land in its natural state.
6. Critical areas: Area ranked as “1” through “5” in the Landscape Project. See the following sections in Appendix IIIIE for further information: “General Methodology for Delineating Critical Areas,” “Detailed Methodology for Delineating Critical Areas by Habitat Type,” and “Detailed Methodology for Delineating Critical Areas by Special Habitat Requirements.”
7. Critical habitat: Habitat that is essential to the persistence and recovery of rare species populations.
8. Habitat Conservation Plan: A method of mitigating loss of wildlife (and particularly, endangered species) habitat, which usually includes significantly improving habitat to compensate for the value of habitat lost.
9. Large Acre Lot Zoning: A change in the zoning of residential building requirements by municipalities or townships from small lots, generally ¼ to ½ acre, to large lots, generally 5 to 10 acres to restrict development and population growth within that locality.

(Appendix IV continued)

10. **Macrosite:** A large area, generally hundreds to thousands of acres, containing two or more sites that have some geographical and ecological connection relevant to conservation planning for a rare species. Rare species populations within a macrosite are generally close to one another but are not necessarily contiguous.
11. **Priority species:** Nongame species considered by the DEP to be species of special concern as determined by a panel of experts. The term also includes species of regional concern within regional conservation plans such as Partners in Flight Bird Conservation Plans, North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, United States Shorebird Conservation Plan, etc.
12. **Restoration:** the process of re-establishing the functional aspects of a given ecosystem to a semblance of its pre-disturbed state.
13. **Significant habitat:** Areas of land and water habitat that support unique assemblages or concentrations of wildlife of conservation concern. Many of these habitats are necessary to sustain state and regional populations.
14. **Species occurrence area:** A species-specific polygon that is applied to all occurrences in the Biotics database that are used to value habitat in the Landscape Project. The area of the polygon is generally based on the average home range/territory size, or other appropriate lifehistory parameter as reported in peer-reviewed scientific literature or from information obtained through ENSP research. When searching the scientific literature to gather information to support the occurrence area polygon size, efforts were made to select research that was conducted in habitat types similar to those found in NJ. For many species that value habitat patches in the Landscape Project maps, insufficient information exists in the scientific literature to support the designation of an occurrence area. In these cases, a default occurrence area (71.25m radius) is applied to take into account location uncertainty. These occurrence areas are used to value patches of habitat. In Version 2.0 of the Landscape Project, a species occurrence area was referred to as a “species model”.
15. **Subsidized predators:** Native species whose populations in some parts of their range are able to survive and, in some cases, expand, due in part to resources provided by humans.