



State of New Jersey

MAIL CODE 501-04

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

STATE PARKS, FORESTS & HISTORIC SITES
OFFICE OF NATURAL LANDS MANAGEMENT

501 East State Street
P.O. Box 420, Mail Code 501-04

Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
Tel. (609) 984-1339 • Fax (609) 984-0427

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

SHAWN M. LATOURETTE
Commissioner

January 11, 2023

Anthony Mortezaei, PE, PP
Certified Engineering of NJ
6 Old Farmstead Road
Chester, NJ 07930

Re: Forrest View Estates, 239 Mountainside Road
Block(s) - 116, Lot(s) - 47
Mendham Township, Morris County

Dear Mr. Mortezaei:

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 map(s) submitted with the Natural Heritage Data Request Form into our GIS. 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 immediate vicinity of the 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 <https://nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/natural/heritage/database.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 https://nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/natural/docs/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,

NHP File No. 23-4007475-26693

<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>.

Information supplied by the Natural Heritage Program summarizes existing data known to the program at the time of the request regarding the biological elements (species and/or ecological communities) or their locations. They should never be regarded as final statements on the elements or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments.

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. 23-4007475-26693

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	Yes	1 page(s) 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

**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat on the
Project Site Based on Search of
Landscape Project 3.3 Species Based Patches**

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank
<i>Aves</i>								
	Barred Owl	<i>Strix varia</i>	Breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N
	Veery	<i>Catharus fuscescens</i>	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G4	S3B,S4N
<i>Mammalia</i>								
	Bobcat	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	Capture Location	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S2
	Bobcat	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	On Road	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S2
	Indiana Bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	Active Season Sighting	5	Federally Listed Endangered	State Endangered	G2	S1
<i>Reptilia</i>								
	Wood Turtle	<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G3	S2

**Vernal Pool Habitat on the
Project Site Based on Search of
Landscape Project 3.3**

Vernal Pool Habitat Type	Vernal Pool Habitat ID
Vernal habitat area	2936
Total number of records:	1

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	1 page(s) included
4. Vernal Pool Habitat In the Immediate Vicinity of Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.3	Yes	1 page(s) 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>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	Strank
<i>Aves</i>								
	Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Foraging	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S1B,S2N
	Barred Owl	Strix varia	Breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N
	Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Veery	Catharus fuscescens	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Wood Thrush	Hylocichla mustelina	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G4	S3B,S4N
<i>Mammalia</i>								
	Bobcat	Lynx rufus	Capture Location	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S2
	Bobcat	Lynx rufus	On Road	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S2
	Indiana Bat	Myotis sodalis	Active Season Sighting	5	Federally Listed Endangered	State Endangered	G2	S1
<i>Reptilia</i>								
	Wood Turtle	Glyptemys insculpta	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G3	S2

**Vernal Pool Habitat
In the Immediate Vicinity of
Project Site Based on Search of
Landscape Project 3.3**

Vernal Pool Habitat Type

Vernal Pool Habitat ID

Vernal habitat area

2936

Total number of records: 1