

#### 11. SIGNIFICANT NATURAL FEATURES

The existing Site is fully developed and there are no known areas of significant natural features, including unusual natural areas, rare or endangered botanical features, areas of significant wildlife habitats, or wetland areas associated with the site or surrounding property.

We have included the official species list for the site, as provided by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. This list identifies the Northern Long-eared Bat as a threatened species, but no critical habitat is identified on the project site. The Northern Long-eared Bat is identified as threatened throughout the State of Maine. The project is located in an existing urban, developed area and no trees meeting the criteria for bat habitat are proposed to be impacted by the project.

Other publicly available data indicates that the project is not located in any significant plant or animal habitat, on any identified conservation land, or in wetlands. Figures documenting this are attached.

#### 11.1 Attachments

- Official Species List
- Plant and Animal Habitat Map
- Conservation Land Map
- National Wetlands Inventory Map



## United States Department of the Interior

#### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Maine Ecological Services Field Office P. O. Box A East Orland, ME 04431

Phone: (207) 469-7300 Fax: (207) 902-1588 http://www.fws.gov/mainefieldoffice/index.html



In Reply Refer To: January 26, 2018

Consultation Code: 05E1ME00-2018-SLI-0307

Event Code: 05E1ME00-2018-E-00635

Project Name: Maine Med St John St Garage

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project

location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

#### To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies the threatened, endangered, candidate, and proposed species and designated or proposed critical habitat that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project or may be affected by your proposed project. This species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC Web site at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 et seq.), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the Endangered Species Consultation Handbook at: <a href="http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF">http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF</a>

This species list also identifies candidate species under review for listing and those species that the Service considers species of concern. Candidate species have no protection under the Act but are included for consideration because they could be listed prior to completion of your project. Species of concern are those taxa whose conservation status is of concern to the Service (i.e., species previously known as Category 2 candidates), but for which further information is needed.

If a proposed project may affect only candidate species or species of concern, you are not required to prepare a Biological Assessment or biological evaluation or to consult with the Service. However, the Service recommends minimizing effects to these species to prevent future conflicts. Therefore, if early evaluation indicates that a project will affect a candidate species or species of concern, you may wish to request technical assistance from this office to identify appropriate minimization measures.

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are not protected under the Endangered Species Act but are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.). Projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan: <a href="http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle\_guidance.html">http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle\_guidance.html</a> Information on the location of bald eagle nests in Maine can be found on the Maine Field Office Web site: <a href="http://www.fws.gov/mainefieldoffice/Project%20review4.html">http://www.fws.gov/mainefieldoffice/Project%20review4.html</a>

Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines: <a href="http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/">http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/</a> for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats. Projects may require development of an avian and bat protection plan.

Migratory birds are also a Service trust resource. Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, construction activities in grassland, wetland, stream, woodland, and other habitats that would result in the take of migratory birds, eggs, young, or active nests should be avoided. Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g.,

cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm and at:

http://www.towerkill.com; and at:

http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

#### Attachment(s):

Official Species List

## **Official Species List**

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Maine Ecological Services Field Office P. O. Box A East Orland, ME 04431 (207) 469-7300

## **Project Summary**

Consultation Code: 05E1ME00-2018-SLI-0307

Event Code: 05E1ME00-2018-E-00635

Project Name: Maine Med St John St Garage

Project Type: DEVELOPMENT

Project Description: Parking Structure

#### **Project Location:**

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/43.65010848741777N70.2795895413019W">https://www.google.com/maps/place/43.65010848741777N70.2795895413019W</a>



Counties: Cumberland, ME

### **Endangered Species Act Species**

There is a total of 1 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

#### **Mammals**

NAME STATUS

Northern Long-eared Bat Myotis septentrionalis

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>

Threatened

#### **Critical habitats**

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

### **Conserved Land and Undeveloped Habitat**

#### Welcome Layers Legend

#### **Conserved Lands**

The State of Maine's conserved lands database includes lands in federal, state, and nonprofit ownership. Some privately owned conservation lands may not be represented. For the most accurate and current information about land ownership, consult with the local assessor and/or other local land management agencies. If public access potential to any of the properties displayed here is uncertain, landowners should be contacted first to determine if permission is necessary.

Ownership Types (transparent layers)

**Federal:** National parks, forests, and wildlife refuges.

State: Wildlife Management Areas and other properties managed by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, state parks, and parcels managed by the Bureau of Parks & Lands.

Municipal: Town parks, water district properties, community forests, etc.

Private Conservation: Properties owned and managed by private (usually nonprofit) organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, Maine Coast Heritage Trust; Trust for Public Land, and local land trusts.

Easement: Voluntary legal agreements that allow landowners to realize economic benefit by permanently restricting the amount and type of future development and other uses on all or part of their property as they continue to own and use it.

# Focus Areas of Statewide Ecological Significance

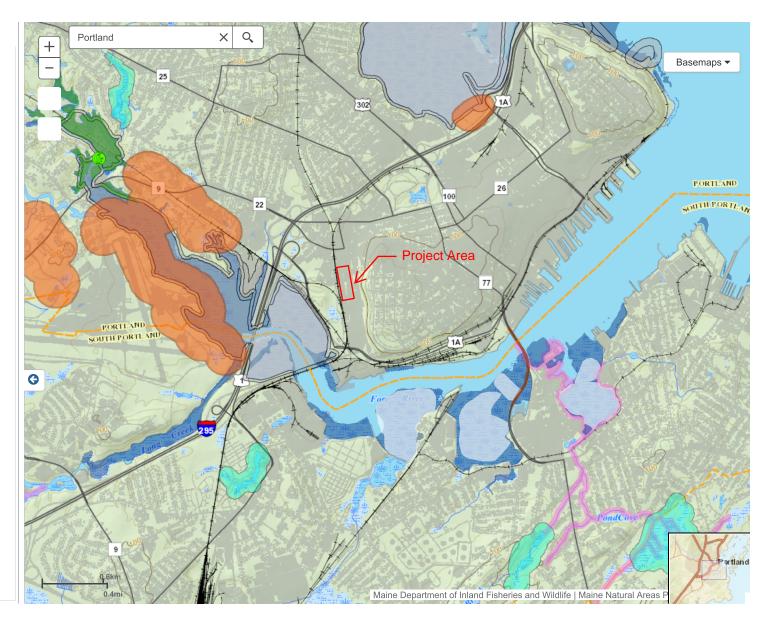


#### **Plant and Animal Habitats**

#### Welcome Layers Legend

#### Legend:

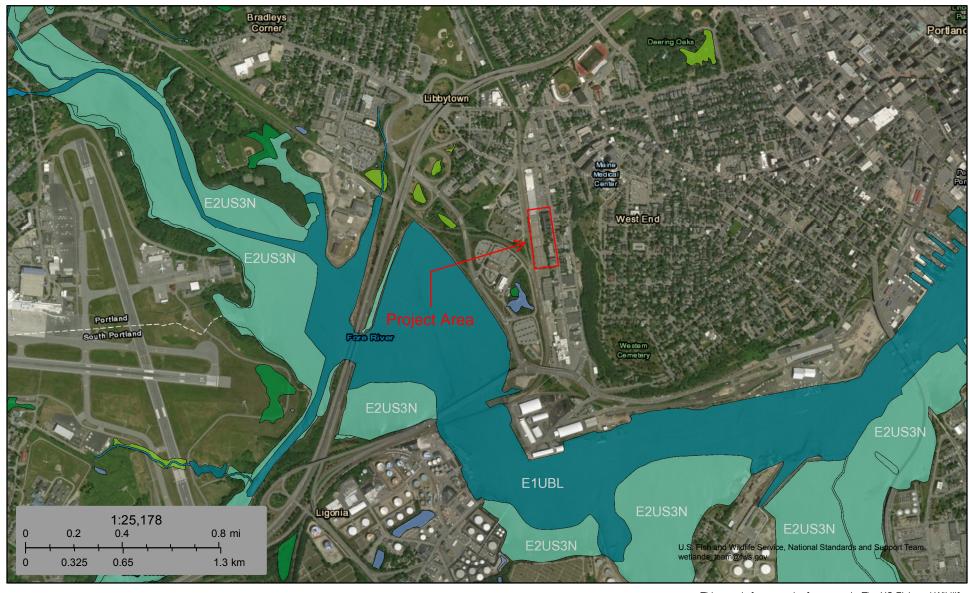
- State Listed Animal Habitats
- Deer Wintering Areas
- Inland Wading Bird and Waterfowl Habitat
- Tidal Wading Bird and Waterfowl Habitat
- Essential Plover and Tern Habitat
- Shorebird Habitat
- Seabird Nesting Islands
- Significant Vernal Pools
- Rare Plant Locations
- Natural Communities
- Shellfish Beds
- Endangered Fish Species
- Wild Brook Trout Habitat
- Atlantic Salmon Spawning Habitat
- → Atlantic Salmon Rearing Habitat



### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## **National Wetlands Inventory**

## Wetlands Map



January 29, 2018

#### Wetlands

Estuarine and Marine Deepwater

Estuarine and Marine Wetland

Freshwater Emergent Wetland

Freshwater Pond

Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland

Lake

Other

Riverine

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.