

APPENDIX J NYSDEC NATURAL HERITAGE RESPONSE

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Fish and Wildlife, New York Natural Heritage Program
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August 1, 2019

Richard Gilmour
Arcadis
17-17 Route 208 North, Suite 290
West Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

Re: Long Beach Water Pollution Control Plant Consolidation Project
County: Nassau Town/City: City Of Long Beach, Hempstead

Dear Ms. Gilmour:

In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Program database with respect to the above project.

Enclosed is a report of rare or state-listed animals and plants, and significant natural communities that our database indicates occur in the vicinity of the project site.

For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted; the enclosed report only includes records from our database. We cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species or significant natural communities. Depending on the nature of the project and the conditions at the project site, further information from on-site surveys or other sources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources.

Our database is continually growing as records are added and updated. If this proposed project is still under development one year from now, we recommend that you contact us again so that we may update this response with the most current information.

The presence of the plants and animals identified in the enclosed report may result in this project requiring additional review or permit conditions. For further guidance, and for information regarding other permits that may be required under state law for regulated areas or activities (e.g., regulated wetlands), please contact the NYS DEC Region 1 Office, Division of Environmental Permits at dep.r1@dec.ny.gov, 631-444-0365.

Sincerely,



Heidi Krahlting
Environmental Review Specialist
New York Natural Heritage Program



The following state-listed animals have been documented in the vicinity of the project site.

The following list includes animals that are listed by NYS as Endangered, Threatened, or Special Concern; and/or that are federally listed or are candidates for federal listing.

For information about any permit considerations for the project, please contact the Permits staff at the NYSDEC Region 1 Office at dep.r1@dec.ny.gov, 631-444-0365.

The following species have been documented within 0.5 mile of the project site.

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>FEDERAL LISTING</i>
Birds			
Peregrine Falcon <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Endangered	12412
Common Tern <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Threatened	2438

This report only includes records from the NY Natural Heritage database.

If any rare plants or animals are documented during site visits, we request that information on the observations be provided to the New York Natural Heritage Program so that we may update our database.

Information about many of the listed animals in New York, including habitat, biology, identification, conservation, and management, are available online in Natural Heritage’s Conservation Guides at www.guides.nynhp.org, and from NYSDEC at www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7494.html.



**The following rare animals and significant natural communities
have been documented at the project site, or in its vicinity.**

We recommend that potential impacts of the proposed project on these species or communities be addressed as part of any environmental assessment or review conducted as part of the planning, permitting and approval process, such as reviews conducted under SEQ. Field surveys of the project site may be necessary to determine the status of a species at the site, particularly for sites that are currently undeveloped and may still contain suitable habitat. Final requirements of the project to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential impacts are determined by the lead permitting agency or the government body approving the project.

The following animals, while not listed by New York State as Endangered or Threatened, are rare in New York and are of conservation concern.

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS</i>	
Birds				
Documented breeding at the project site at Black Banks Hassock. The birds were observed on a non-barrier island composed of shrubs, mixed trees, and grasses.				
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron 1987-05-18	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Protected Bird	Imperiled in NYS	13267
Cattle Egret 1987-05-18	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Protected Bird	Imperiled in NYS	13263
Snowy Egret 1989-05-25	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Protected Bird	Imperiled in NYS	13265
Little Blue Heron 1989-05-25	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Protected Bird	Imperiled in NYS	13264
Glossy Ibis 1988-05-27	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Protected Bird	Imperiled in NYS	13268
Tricolored Heron 1988-05-27	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	Protected Bird	Imperiled in NYS	13266
Barn Owl 2000-05-31	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Protected Bird	Critically Imperiled in NYS	11358

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS</i>
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Birds

Documented breeding at the project site at Pearsalls Hassock. The birds were observed on a salt marsh, non-barrier island that is completely vegetated.

Glossy Ibis 1985-05-16	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Protected Bird	Imperiled in NYS	2125
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Documented breeding within 0.5 mile west of the project site at Hewlett Hassock. The birds were observed on a salt marsh, non-barrier island.

Forster's Tern 2004	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>	Protected Bird	Critically Imperiled in NYS	7635
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The following natural communities are considered significant from a statewide perspective by the NY Natural Heritage Program. Each community is either an example of a community type that is rare in the state, or a high-quality example of a more common community type. By meeting specific, documented criteria, the NY Natural Heritage Program considers these community occurrences to have high ecological and conservation value.

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS</i>
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Wetland/Aquatic Communities

Low Salt Marsh

High Quality Occurrence of Uncommon Community Type

Documented at the project site. This is a large marsh in a complex, five-bay system with variable tidal range. The marsh is missing two principal marsh types, backbarrier fringe marsh and mainland fringe marsh. May be underestimated in size by a factor of 2-3. Some areas are unditched and appear to have adequate tide circulation.

313

High Salt Marsh

High Quality Occurrence of Uncommon Community Type

Documented at the project site. This is a large marsh in a complex sytem of five bays with variable tidal range. There are large concentrations of mid-lagoon marshes. The marsh is missing nearly all backbarrier fringe marsh and mainland fringe marsh due to heavy shoreline and barrier spit development.

6966

Salt Panne

High Quality Occurrence of Uncommon Community Type

Documented at the project site. This is a large salt panne in a complex system of tidal bays with variable tidal range. Two principal marsh types, backbarrier fringe marsh and mainland fringe marsh are nearly eliminated by shoreline development and barrier spit stabilization. The marsh may be slightly underestimated in size. Some areas are unditched with well-developed pannes.

8325

This report only includes records from the NY Natural Heritage database. For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted, and we cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species. Depending on the nature of the project and the conditions at the project site, further information from on-site surveys or other sources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources.

If any rare plants or animals are documented during site visits, we request that information on the observations be provided to the New York Natural Heritage Program so that we may update our database.

Information about many of the rare animals and plants in New York, including habitat, biology, identification, conservation, and management, are available online in Natural Heritage's Conservation Guides at www.guides.nynhp.org, from NatureServe Explorer at www.natureserve.org/explorer, and from USDA's Plants Database at <http://plants.usda.gov/index.html> (for plants).

Information about many of the natural community types in New York, including identification, dominant and characteristic vegetation, distribution, conservation, and management, is available online in Natural Heritage's Conservation Guides at www.guides.nynhp.org. For descriptions of all community types, go to www.dec.ny.gov/animals/97703.html for Ecological Communities of New York State.