

February 16, 2007

Mr. Robert Cordes
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Region D
689 Farmington Road,
Strong, ME 04983

Subject: Assessment of Mapped Significant Wildlife Habitat Along the Proposed Kibby Wind Power Project Transmission Line

Dear Bob:

I am writing to request your assessment of habitat identified in mapped Significant Wildlife Habitats located along the proposed Kibby Wind Power Project 115 kV transmission line route. Attached are maps (Figures 1 through 4) of both Inland Wading Bird/Waterfowl Habitat (IWWH – shown in blue) and Deer Wintering Area (DWA – shown in green) found along the transmission line route.

Each of the IWWH areas mapped as occurring along the route are designated as "UMO," which you have stated may indicate that field verification may not have occurred in identifying the locations. It is our opinion that none of these wetland areas provide more than low quality waterfowl or wading bird habitat, despite two of them being rated as "High"in the mapping. Therefore, we have provided an assessment of each mapped IWWH found in the MDIFW database that would be intercepted by the proposed Kibby Wind Power Project transmission line route. As we have discussed, these assessments are based on information collected during the summer of 2006 field wetland delineations.

The proposed transmission route also intercepts a single mapped DWA along the Eustis – Coplin Plantation town line in two places. The proposed route does not pass through the core of this mapped area, but rather passes along the edge of the mapped habitat area. Because the current cover type present does not appear to be good winter habitat and the proposed activity involves such a small area of the mapped habitat, we believe potential impact would not be significant.

February 16, 2007 Mr. Robert Cordes Page 2

If you need additional information or would like to visit the sites with us, please let me know (207-621-7093 or dvalleau@eproconsulting.com). We will appreciate a written response to clarify the status of the mapped habitat areas in relation to the proposed transmission corridor. Thanks.

Sincerely,
Dana Vallean

Dana Valleau

Enclosure

cc: Lynn Gresock, AMEC

Chris Cinnamon, TransCanada

Kibby Wind Power Project Transmission Line

Assessment of MDIFW Mapped Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat

MDIFW ID: *UMO-9184*

Rating: Low

Location: Jim Pond Township **Total area mapped:** 35 acres **Area in proposed ROW:** 1.95 acres

Associated wetland/stream resources: Wetland B-127; Stream B-127 (Viles Stream)

Photo: Team B, 7/20/06, B06-127 and B06-CH-127, facing north



B06-127 and B06-CH-127: Facing north

In the proposed ROW, this wetland is an old beaver pond on Viles Stream. The beaver dam is relatively intact on the north side of a logging road (Viles Pond Road/Airport Road). This wetland has low potential for both waterfowl and wading bird habitat. It does offer limited habitat for nesting waterfowl, but only on the north side of the road. The wetland has a small amount of emergent vegetation and a limited area of open water, and few snag trees. Some areas have a dense shrub cover (alder and cedar). The portion of the wetland south of the logging road is a dense forested wetland and does not provide any waterfowl or wading bird habitat. The proposed transmission line ROW crosses a narrow portion of the wetland where the road bisects it. Generally, there will not be any clearing required in the impounded habitat area north of the road. Construction of the proposed transmission line is unlikely to have any adverse effects on waterfowl and/or wading birds.

Rating: High

Location: Jim Pond Township
Total mapped area: 45 acres

Area in proposed ROW: 3.31 acres

Associated wetland/stream resources: Wetland B-118; Streams B-118-1, B-118-2

Photo: Team B, 7/18/06, B06-118, looking north



B06-118: Looking north

In the proposed ROW, this wetland is a densely forested area of mixed cedar and yellow birch with two small stream channels. It does not appear to provide potential waterfowl and/or wading bird habitat due to the dense forested cover. Downstream there is a shrub and open water wetland. The transmission line will require clearing the canopy of this area as proposed, but adverse affects to waterfowl and/or wading bird habitat are unlikely to occur.

Rating: Low

Location: Jim Pond Township **Total area mapped:** 39 acres **Area in proposed ROW:** 2.99 acres

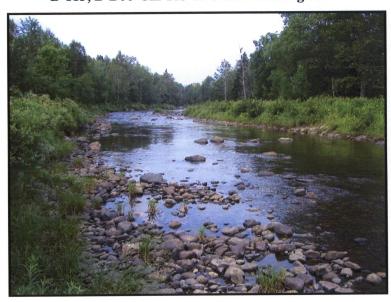
Associated wetland/stream resources: Wetland B-113; Streams B-113-1, 113-2, 113-3

Photos (3): Team B, 7/17/06, B-113, B-B06-CH-113-1 oxbow, looking north, B06-CH113-2 Alder

Stream, looking north



B-113, B-B06-CH-113-1: Oxbow looking north



B06-CH113-2: Alder Stream looking north

In the proposed ROW, this wetland is a forested wetland with some shrub community along Alder Stream, an oxbow, and a small secondary channel. This wetland does not appear to provide habitat for waterfowl and/or wading birds. The stream channels and oxbow have cobble substrates with no emergent vegetation. Construction of the ROW will require the conversion of forest cover to shrub communities. Constructing the ROW as proposed is unlikely to adversely affect waterfowl and/or wading birds.

Rating: Low

Location: Jim Pond Township **Total mapped area:** 73 acres **Area in proposed ROW:** 3.31 acres

Associated wetland/stream resources: Wetland B-107 **Photo:** Team B, 7/14/06, B06-107 facing south on centerline



B06-107: Facing south on Centerline

In the proposed ROW, this wetland is the upper reaches of a beaver pond. It does not appear to provide potential waterfowl and/or wading bird habitat due to the dense shrub cover (alder, cedar, and meadowsweet) and a lack of open water and emergent vegetation. Furthermore the fringes of this area are dense forested wetland communities. The lower portion of the impoundment is a mixture of open water, shrubs, and emergent vegetation, but is well outside of the ROW. Some clearing may be required to span the wetland. Constructing the ROW as proposed is unlikely to adversely affect waterfowl and/or wading birds.

Rating: Low Location: Eustis

Total area mapped: 67 acres **Area in proposed ROW:** 6.62 acres

Associated TCE mapped resources: Wetlands C-174, A-176, A-175, A-174; Streams C-174, A-174-1,

A-174-2, A-174-3, A-174-4

Photos: Team A, 7/31/06, A06-174-6, facing north and A06-CH-174-1 perennial, facing west



A06-174-6: Facing north



A06-CH-174-1: Perennial facing west

In the proposed ROW, this wetland is a large densely forested system traversed by seven small streams. This wetland does not appear to provide habitat for waterfowl and/or wading birds. Constructing the transmission line will require clearing the forested canopy. A set of poles could be installed in this area as well. Adverse affects to waterfowl and/or wading bird habitat are unlikely to occur.

MDIFW ID: *UMO-10487*; **Rating:** High **Location:** Eustis and Coplin Plantation

Total mapped area: 173 acres **Area in proposed ROW:** 2.79 acres

Associated wetland/stream resources: Wetland A-135; Stream A-135

Photo: Team A, 7/12/06, A06-135-21, facing east



A06-135-21: Facing east

In the proposed ROW, this wetland is a large and dense shrub system (alder) including portions of forested areas (red maple and balsam fir) with a shallow stream bisecting it. This area does not appear to provide habitat for waterfowl and/or wading birds due to the dense shrub cover and hydrology that is mostly saturated soils.



STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE 284 STATE STREET 41 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0041

ROLAND D. MARTIN
COMMISSIONER

Wildlife Division 689 Farmington Road - Strong, ME 04983

May 17, 2006

Dana Valleau E/PRO Engineering and Environmental Consulting, LLC 249 Western Avenue Augusta, ME 04330

Dear Dana:

I have reviewed our database from for Essential and Significant Habitats or Threatened and Endangered Species associated with the shapefile you sent with your request on 5 May 2006. I have broken the results up into 5 segments to facilitate a map with visible features. The searched area is often wider than 150 feet for the transmission line, and may not exactly represent the proposed route. Enclosed are the results of my review.

Essential Habitats:

Essential Habitats are defined as "areas currently or historically providing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of an endangered or threatened species in Maine and which may require special management considerations". Essential Habitat protection in Maine currently applies to bald eagle, roseate and least tern, and piping plover nest sites, but additional listed species may receive attention in the future.

According to MDIFW records, there are no Essential Habitats known to be associated with this property.

Significant Wildlife Habitats:

The Natural Resources Protection Act, administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, provides protection to certain natural resources including Significant Wildlife Habitats. Significant Wildlife Habitats are defined by the NRPA as:

- Habitat for state and federally listed endangered and threatened species.
- High and moderate value deer wintering areas (DWAs) and travel corridors.
- High and moderate value waterfowl and wading bird habitats (WWHs), including nesting and feeding areas.
- Shorebird nesting feeding and staging areas.
- Seabird nesting islands.



The proposed Transmission Line comes within proximity or potentially intersects several WWHs and DWAs.

Threatened, Endangered or Special Concern Species

Finally, the department maintains a statewide database of Threatened and Endangered wildlife species and habitats, or Species of Special Concern. In general, these records are not the product of recent or intensive surveys for T/E species. Review of department records shows Rock Voles, a historic Golden Eagle nest site, and the fresh water mussel, the creeper are potentially associated with your project area.

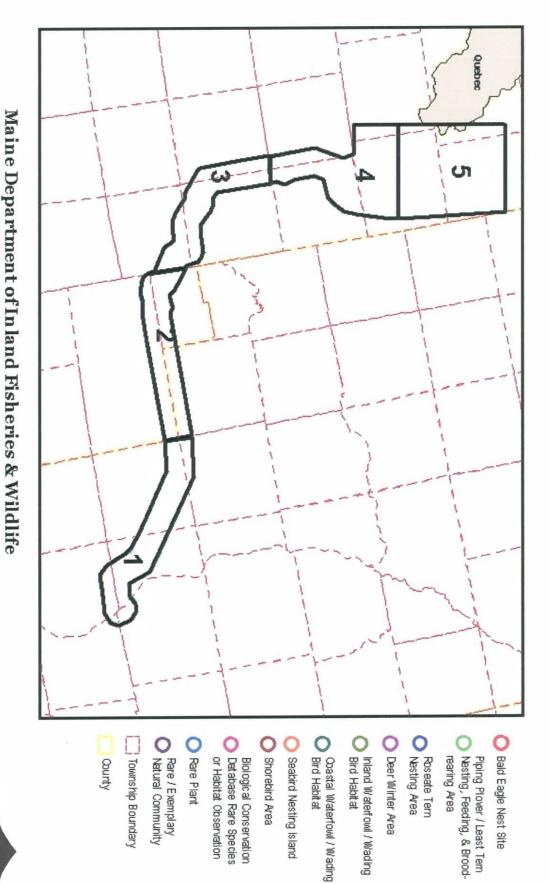
If you have any questions or would like further assistance please feel free to contact me, I would be glad to help.

Yours truly,

Robert C. Cordes

Robert C. Corde

Assistant Regional Wildlife Biologist

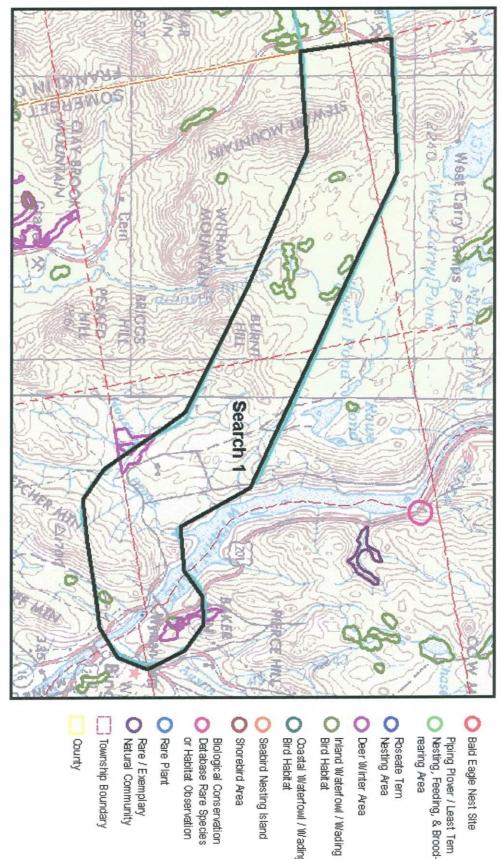




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8 Miles

1:419,632



Coastal Waterfowl / Wading Bird Habitat

or Habitat Observation

Nesting, Feeding, & Brood-

rearing Area

Piping Plover / Least Tem

Roseate Tern





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1:125,122





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Site-Specific Search of Wildlife Observations and Habitat

SEARCH PARAMETERS

County:

Franklin, Somerset

IF&W Region:

D

Township(s):

Bingham, Carrabassett Valley, Carrying Place Town Twp, Concord Twp, Highland Plt, Moscow, Pleasant Ridge Plt

Search Center:

419782 east, 4994086 north (UTM NAD83 coordinates)

Search Area:

31.34 sq. miles

Date:

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

RESULTS

Essential Wildlife Habitats

BALD EAGLE NEST SITES
None Found

PIPING PLOVER / LEAST TERN NESTING, FEEDING, AND BROOD-REARING AREAS
None Found

ROSEATE TERN NESTING AREAS
None Found

Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA) Habitats

Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 5-A, Section 480 of M.R.S.A. identifies habitats protected under the Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA). Included in the definitions section (480-B) is "Significant Wildlife Habitat", which means areas that have been mapped by MDIFW or are within any other protected natural resource including habitat for listed endangered/threatened animal species; high/moderate value deer wintering areas; high/moderate value waterfowl/wading bird habitat; shorebird nesting, feeding, and staging areas; and seabird nesting islands. Although all of these habitats are mapped by MDIFW, to date only Seabird Nesting Islands have gone through the formal NRPA process. Specific deer wintering areas, inland and coastal

waterfowl/wading bird habitat, and shorebird areas have been designated "Candidate NRPA," indicating they meet the NRPA requirements but have not been formally zoned.

SEABIRD NESTING ISLANDS
None Found

DEER WINTER AREAS

A forested area used by deer when snow depth in the open/hardwoods is > 12", deer sinking depth in the open/hardwoods is > 8", and mean daily temperatures are below 32 degrees F. Non-forested wetlands, non-stocked clearcuts, hardwood types, and stands predominated by Eastern Larch are included within the DWA only if less than 10 acres in size. Agricultural and development areas within DWAs are excluded regardless of size.

Ratings for Deer Winter Areas were based on aerial and/or ground surveys. If only an aerial survey was done (most DWAs), the rating was "indeterminate." If a follow-up ground survey was done also, the evaluation was based on: 1) quality of softwood shelter, 2) intensity of deer use, and 3) size. The final rating of the DWA was determined by summing the scores for the three criteria and assigning a rating as follows: high (score of 10-12), moderate (score of 7-9.9) or low (score of 0-6.9). A regional biologist may recommend a rating change with justification and approval by the management section supervisor. No delisting criteria for regulated NRPA DWAs have been developed.

Code	Size (acres)	Rating
060134	147.48	indeterminate

CODE = unique identifier of Deer Wintering Area RATING = DWAs must have a moderate or high rating to qualify under NRPA

INLAND WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITATS

Areas rated as high, moderate or indeterminate (see MDIFW: Significant Wildlife Habitat Protection Document, Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat - General, MDIFW, 12/22/93) qualify as Candidate NRPA habitats. The mapped boundary includes a 250-ft buffer adjacent to the wetland habitat used by waterfowl and wading birds. This data set was developed in accordance with NRPA and the Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act (Growth Management).

Code	Rating	Acres
IFW-070718	moderate	37
UMO-9443	moderate	41
UMO-9454	moderate	35
UMO-10621	moderate	29
UMO-10707	moderate	33
UMO-10752	moderate	165
UMO-11213	moderate	29

CODE = Unique identifier assigned by MDIFW to the polygon. Polygons with a code beginning with "UMO" were identified by the University of Maine analysis of wetland habitats in 2002. These polygons do not have corresponding records in MDIFW's databases.

RATING = Inland waterfowl/wading bird habitats with a "high," "moderate," or "indeterminate" rating are considered as Candidate NRPA.

ACRES = Size of the IWWH in acres.

SHOREBIRD AREAS
None Found

COASTAL/TIDAL WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITAT
None Found

Land Use Regulator Commission (LURC) Deer Winter Areas

This layer was originally mapped at a scale of 1:62,500 by LURC on officially adopted zoning maps and was remapped to the present scale of 1:24,000 by MDIFW. Boundaries are being further redefined by LURC and must be submitted for rulemaking before being officially adopted by LURC as a P-FW (protection zone-fish and wildlife).

These data are provided by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife solely for individual use or the use of a company for the purpose stated in your request for the data. These data may not be distributed or sold to other users without the written permission of the Commissioner of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Boundaries may change as additional survey data become available or as LURC modifies existing zoning maps.

Code	Size (sq. meters)	
523810	970190.6433	

CODE = unique identifier of Deer Wintering Area

Biological Conservation Database (BCD)

POINTS OBSERVATIONS BUFFERED BY 0.25 MILES None Found

MAPPED HABITAT POLYGONS
None Found

Natural Areas Program Rare Plants/Communities

Field-verified natural resources of statewide significance.

RARE PLANT LOCATIONS

Rare Plant Locations designate specific points where populations of rare, threatened, and endangered plants have been documented and, for some species, habitat for the respective plants. The habitat in which these plants occur is important for their survival. Rare Plant Locations may occur either outside of or inside documented MNAP Rare and Exemplary Natural Communities. Rare plants often are components of documented natural communities and can be conserved in the context of these larger systems. Populations of rare plants outside of documented natural communities will require separate conservation actions.

Code	Common Name	Site	Rank
PDRUB1T0E1	Long-leaved Bluet	WYMAN DAM	S2S3

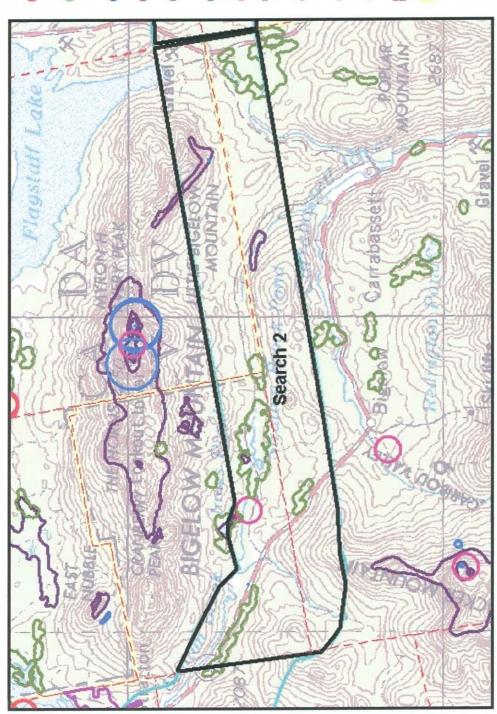
CODE = unique identifier of Plant site

SITE = general/common name of site area

 $RANK = state\ rank$:

- S1 critically imperiled in Maine because of extreme rarity (five or fewer occurrences or very few remaining individuals or acres) or because some aspect of its biology makes it especially vulnerable to extirpation from the State of Maine.
- S2 imperiled in Maine because of rarity (6-20 occurrences or few remaining individuals or acres) or because of other factors making it vulnerable to further decline.
 - S3 rare in Maine (on the order of 20-100 occurrences).
 - S4 apparently secure in Maine.
 - S5 demonstrably secure in Maine.
- SH occurred historically in Maine, and could be rediscovered; not known to have been extirpated.
 - SU possibly in peril in Maine, but status uncertain; need more information.
- SX apparently extirpated in Maine (historically occurring species for which habitat no longer exists in Maine).

RARE / EXEMPLARY NATURAL COMMUNITIES
None Found





Piping Plover / Least Tem Nesting, Feeding, & Brood-

rearing Area

O Roseate Tern Nesting Area

O Deer Winter Area

O Inland Waterfowl / Wading Bird Habitat O Coastal Waterfowl / Wading Bird Habitat

Seabird Nesting Island

Shorebird Area

Biological Conservation

Database Rare Species

or Habitat Observation

O Rare Plant

O Rare / Exemplary
Natural Community

Township Boundary

County

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

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Site-Specific Search of Wildlife Observations and Habitat

SEARCH PARAMETERS

County:

Franklin, Somerset

IF&W Region:

D

Township(s):

Carrabassett Valley, Coplin Plt, Dead River Twp, Wyman

Twp

Search Center:

398892 east, 4996379 north (UTM NAD83 coordinates)

Search Area:

27.16 sq. miles

Date:

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

RESULTS

Essential Wildlife Habitats

BALD EAGLE NEST SITES
None Found

PIPING PLOVER / LEAST TERN NESTING, FEEDING, AND BROOD-REARING AREAS
None Found

ROSEATE TERN NESTING AREAS
None Found

Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA) Habitats

Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 5-A, Section 480 of M.R.S.A. identifies habitats protected under the Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA). Included in the definitions section (480-B) is "Significant Wildlife Habitat", which means areas that have been mapped by MDIFW or are within any other protected natural resource including habitat for listed endangered/threatened animal species; high/moderate value deer wintering areas; high/moderate value waterfowl/wading bird habitat; shorebird nesting, feeding, and staging areas; and seabird nesting islands. Although all of these habitats are mapped by MDIFW, to date only Seabird Nesting Islands have gone through the formal NRPA process. Specific deer wintering areas, inland and coastal

waterfowl/wading bird habitat, and shorebird areas have been designated "Candidate NRPA," indicating they meet the NRPA requirements but have not been formally zoned.

SEABIRD NESTING ISLANDS
None Found

DEER WINTER AREAS
None Found

INLAND WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITATS

Areas rated as high, moderate or indeterminate (see MDIFW: Significant Wildlife Habitat Protection Document, Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat - General, MDIFW, 12/22/93) qualify as Candidate NRPA habitats. The mapped boundary includes a 250-ft buffer adjacent to the wetland habitat used by waterfowl and wading birds. This data set was developed in accordance with NRPA and the Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act (Growth Management).

Code	Rating	Acres
UMO-9465	moderate	149
UMO-10612	moderate	203
UMO-10644	moderate	27
UMO-10694	moderate	489
UMO-10726	moderate	86
IFW-070262	moderate	76
IFW-070284	high	412

CODE = Unique identifier assigned by MDIFW to the polygon. Polygons with a code beginning with "UMO" were identified by the University of Maine analysis of wetland habitats in 2002. These polygons do not have corresponding records in MDIFW's databases.

RATING = Inland waterfowl/wading bird habitats with a "high," "moderate," or "indeterminate" rating are considered as Candidate NRPA.

ACRES = Size of the IWWH in acres.

SHOREBIRD AREAS
None Found

COASTAL/TIDAL WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITAT
None Found

Land Use Regulator Commission (LURC) Deer Winter Areas
None Found

Biological Conservation Database (BCD)

The Biological Conservation Database is an information management component of the Natural Heritage Program Network created by the Nature Conservancy. It is designed to track information on the status, life history, conservation needs, and occurrences for rare species and natural communities. MDIFW is responsible for maintaining the zoological portion of the database, which contains information on approximately 1050 animal species native to the State.

POINTS OBSERVATIONS BUFFERED BY 0.25 MILES

In the map, BCD points are surrounded by a 0.25-mile radius circle to represent the general area around the observation that should be considered for management. Ideally, the mapped polygon should show the extent of the important habitat(s) associated with the observation, but until a new landcover map of Maine becomes available, we are using simple circular buffers to approximate that area. This circular buffer is less appropriate for aquatic species for which the limit of the water body or a buffered stream segment may be more realistic. In all cases, an MDIFW biologist should investigate the habitat around a BCD observation to determine the most appropriate area for management consideration.

Classification of BCD observations as CONCERN = 'Y' or CONCERN = 'N' indicates whether the area around the observation should receive special management consideration based on the species involved (endangered, threatened, or rare), importance or rarity of the habitat, or whether the observation is recent or historical. Observations in BCD that are duplicated in other MDIFW datasets (e.g., Eagle Essential Wildlife Habitats) are classified here as CONCERN = 'N', not because they are unimportant but because they should already be flagged elsewhere in this report. Any questions regarding BCD observations should be directed to MDIFW's Endangered & Threatened Species Group.

Code	Common Name	Survey Area
IMBIV42030*123*ME	CREEPER	STRATTON BROOK

CODE = unique identifier of observation

MAPPED HABITAT POLYGONS
None Found

Natural Areas Program Rare Plants/Communities

Field-verified natural resources of statewide significance.

RARE PLANT LOCATIONS

Rare Plant Locations designate specific points where populations of rare, threatened, and endangered plants have been documented and, for some species, habitat for the respective plants. The habitat in which these plants occur is important for their

survival. Rare Plant Locations may occur either outside of or inside documented MNAP Rare and Exemplary Natural Communities. Rare plants often are components of documented natural communities and can be conserved in the context of these larger systems. Populations of rare plants outside of documented natural communities will require separate conservation actions.

Code	Common Name	Site	Rank
PMCYP03070	Swarthy Sedge	GRAVEL PIT, SOUTH OF STRATTON BROOK.	S2
PPDRY0A0C0	Fragrant Cliff Wood- fern	BIGELOW ECORESERVE	S3

CODE = unique identifier of Plant site

SITE = general/common name of site area

 $RANK = state\ rank$:

S1 - critically imperiled in Maine because of extreme rarity (five or fewer occurrences or very few remaining individuals or acres) or because some aspect of its biology makes it especially vulnerable to extirpation from the State of Maine.

S2 - imperiled in Maine because of rarity (6-20 occurrences or few remaining individuals or acres) or because of other factors making it vulnerable to further decline.

S3 - rare in Maine (on the order of 20-100 occurrences).

S4 - apparently secure in Maine.

S5 - demonstrably secure in Maine.

SH - occurred historically in Maine, and could be rediscovered; not known to have been extirpated.

SU - possibly in peril in Maine, but status uncertain; need more information.

SX - apparently extirpated in Maine (historically occurring species for which habitat no longer exists in Maine).

RARE / EXEMPLARY NATURAL COMMUNITIES

Rare or Exemplary Natural Communities are two broad classes of natural communities recognized as important for conservation: those that are rare and those that are common but in exemplary condition. A natural community is a system of interacting plants and their common environment, recurring across the landscape, where the effects of human intervention are minimal. There are currently 115 natural community types and 35 ecosystem types known in Maine. Examples of rare natural communities in Maine include pitch pine/scrub oak barrens, Atlantic white cedar bog, and Spartina tidal marsh. Examples of common community types include oak/pine forest, red maple swamp, and cattail marsh. Most common natural communities have been impacted by land use practices and it is unusual to find relatively large undisturbed examples of them.

Rare and Exemplary Natural Communities represent the natural legacy of habitat types for our state. The long-term conservation of our natural heritage depends on protecting these areas.

Code	Common Name	Site	Rank
CHGF200000	Grassy Shrub Marsh	NORTH OF STRATTON BROOK POND	S5
CHGS200000	Tall Sedge Fen	JONES POND	S4
CFMU300000	Spruce - Northern Hardwoods Forest	HUSTON BROOK CEDAR	S4
CVCU200000	Acidic Cliff	LITTLE BIGELOW CLIFFS	S4

CODE = unique identifier of community site

SITE = general/common name of site area

 $RANK = state \ rank$:

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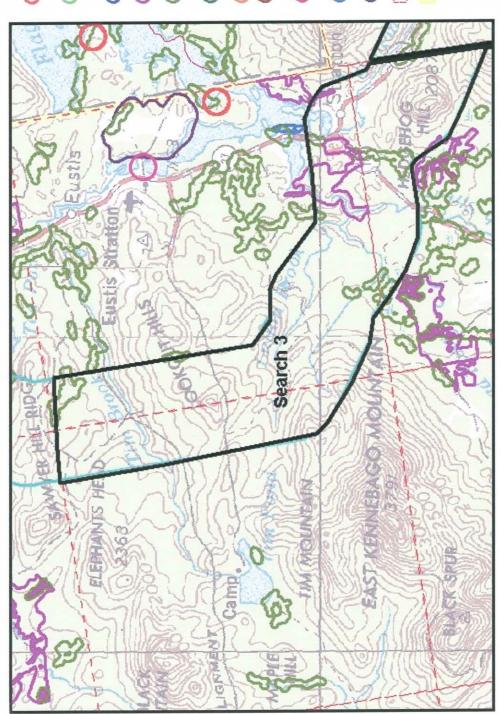
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Piping Plover / Least Tem Nesting, Feeding, & Broodrearing Area

O Roseate Tern Nesting Area O Deer Winter Area

Unland Waterfowl / Wading Bird Habit at

Obastal Waterfowl / Wading Bird Habitat

Seabird Nesting Island

Shorebird Area

Biological Conservation

Database Rare Species

or Habitat Observation

O Rare Plant

O Rare / Exemplary
Natural Community

.

Township Boundary

County

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

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Site-Specific Search of Wildlife Observations and Habitat

SEARCH PARAMETERS

County:

Franklin

IF&W Region:

D

Township(s):

Alder Stream Twp, Coplin Plt, Eustis, Tim Pond Twp 382305 east, 5001459 north (UTM NAD83 coordinates)

Search Center: Search Area:

25.73 sq. miles

Date:

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

RESULTS

Essential Wildlife Habitats

BALD EAGLE NEST SITES
None Found

PIPING PLOVER / LEAST TERN NESTING, FEEDING, AND BROOD-REARING AREAS

None Found

ROSEATE TERN NESTING AREAS
None Found

Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA) Habitats

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SEABIRD NESTING ISLANDS
None Found

DEER WINTER AREAS

A forested area used by deer when snow depth in the open/hardwoods is > 12", deer sinking depth in the open/hardwoods is > 8", and mean daily temperatures are below 32 degrees F. Non-forested wetlands, non-stocked clearcuts, hardwood types, and stands predominated by Eastern Larch are included within the DWA only if less than 10 acres in size. Agricultural and development areas within DWAs are excluded regardless of size.

Ratings for Deer Winter Areas were based on aerial and/or ground surveys. If only an aerial survey was done (most DWAs), the rating was "indeterminate." If a follow-up ground survey was done also, the evaluation was based on: 1) quality of softwood shelter, 2) intensity of deer use, and 3) size. The final rating of the DWA was determined by summing the scores for the three criteria and assigning a rating as follows: high (score of 10-12), moderate (score of 7-9.9) or low (score of 0-6.9). A regional biologist may recommend a rating change with justification and approval by the management section supervisor. No delisting criteria for regulated NRPA DWAs have been developed.

Code	Size (acres)	Rating
060028	216.64	indeterminate
060027	537.19	indeterminate

CODE = unique identifier of Deer Wintering Area RATING = DWAs must have a moderate or high rating to qualify under NRPA

INLAND WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITATS

Areas rated as high, moderate or indeterminate (see MDIFW: Significant Wildlife Habitat Protection Document, Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat - General, MDIFW, 12/22/93) qualify as Candidate NRPA habitats. The mapped boundary includes a 250-ft buffer adjacent to the wetland habitat used by waterfowl and wading birds. This data set was developed in accordance with NRPA and the Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act (Growth Management).

Code	Rating	Acres
UMO-10557	moderate	319
IFW-070199	moderate	46
IFW-070198	moderate	191
UMO-9799	moderate	144
UMO-10381	moderate	31
UMO-10465	moderate	33

UMO-10487	high	173
UMO-10527	moderate	53
UMO-10612	moderate	203
IFW-070185	moderate	77

CODE = Unique identifier assigned by MDIFW to the polygon. Polygons with a code beginning with "UMO" were identified by the University of Maine analysis of wetland habitats in 2002. These polygons do not have corresponding records in MDIFW's databases.

RATING = Inland waterfowl/wading bird habitats with a "high," "moderate," or "indeterminate" rating are considered as Candidate NRPA.

ACRES = Size of the IWWH in acres.

SHOREBIRD AREAS

None Found

COASTAL/TIDAL WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITAT
None Found

Land Use Regulator Commission (LURC) Deer Winter Areas

This layer was originally mapped at a scale of 1:62,500 by LURC on officially adopted zoning maps and was remapped to the present scale of 1:24,000 by MDIFW. Boundaries are being further redefined by LURC and must be submitted for rulemaking before being officially adopted by LURC as a P-FW (protection zone-fish and wildlife).

These data are provided by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife solely for individual use or the use of a company for the purpose stated in your request for the data. These data may not be distributed or sold to other users without the written permission of the Commissioner of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Boundaries may change as additional survey data become available or as LURC modifies existing zoning maps.

Code	Size (sq. meters)	
679676	637515.06195	

CODE = unique identifier of Deer Wintering Area

Biological Conservation Database (BCD)

POINTS OBSERVATIONS BUFFERED BY 0.25 MILES None Found

MAPPED HABITAT POLYGONS

None Found

Natural Areas Program Rare Plants/Communities

RARE PLANT LOCATIONS
None Found

RARE / EXEMPLARY NATURAL COMMUNITIES
None Found



STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE 284 STATE STREET 41 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0041

ROLAND D. MARTIN

Wildlife Division 689 Farmington Road - Strong, ME 04983

January 23, 2006

Dana Valleau E/PRO Engineering and Environmental Consulting, LLC 249 Western Avenue Augusta, ME 04330

Dear Dana:

As promised, I have finally search our database for Essential and Significant Habitats or Threatened and Endangered Species associated with the proposed transmission line that we discussed at the 12/21/05 meeting at your office. I have broken the results up into 4 segments to facilitate a map that has visible features. The searched area is often wider than 150 feet for the transmission line, and may not exactly represent the proposed route. Enclosed are the results of my review.

Essential Habitats:

Essential Habitats are defined as "areas currently or historically providing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of an endangered or threatened species in Maine and which may require special management considerations". Essential Habitat protection in Maine currently applies to bald eagle, roseate and least tern, and piping plover nest sites, but additional listed species may receive attention in the future.

According to MDIFW records, there are no Essential Habitats known to be associated with this property.

Significant Wildlife Habitats:

The Natural Resources Protection Act, administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, provides protection to certain natural resources including Significant Wildlife Habitats. Significant Wildlife Habitats are defined by the NRPA as:

- Habitat for state and federally listed endangered and threatened species.
- · High and moderate value deer wintering areas (DWAs) and travel corridors.
- High and moderate value waterfowl and wading bird habitats (WWHs), including nesting and feeding areas.
- Shorebird nesting feeding and staging areas.
- Seabird nesting islands.



The proposed Transmission Line comes within proximity or potentially intersects two WWH and one DWA.

Threatened, Endangered or Special Concern Species

Finally, the department maintains a statewide database of Threatened and Endangered wildlife species and habitats, or Species of Special Concern. In general, these records are not the product of recent or intensive surveys for T/E species. Review of department records shows Rock Voles to be associated with your project area. The Rock Vole (a.k.a. yellow-nosed vole) is a species of special concern in Maine and occurs in small populations in scattered locations within the state. Not surprisingly, rock voles are normally found in rocky outcrops or talus slopes. Thus, minimizing disturbance to these areas is vital to the conservation of this species.

If you have any questions or would like further assistance please feel free to contact me, I would be glad to help. Also, I am still interested in assisting with any winter surveys you have planned.

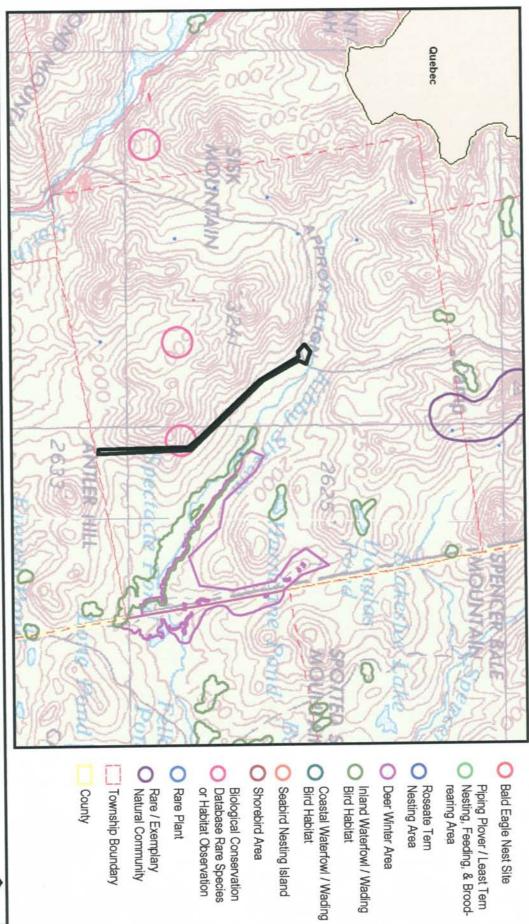
Yours truly,

Robert C. Cordes

Assistant Regional Wildlife Biologist

Robert C. Cardes

Search for Wildlife Observations & Habitat



Strong, ME 04983-9419 689 Farmington Road

Fax: (207) 778-3323 Voice: (207) 778-3324

January 23, 2006

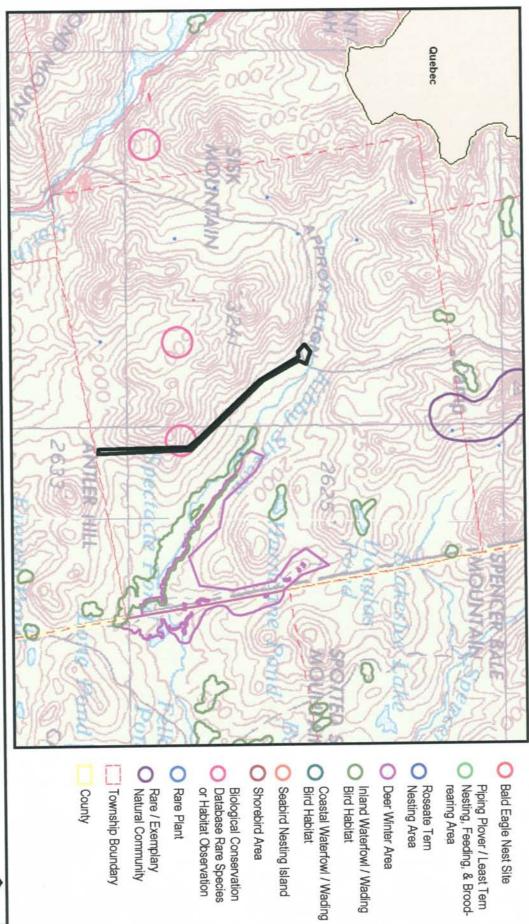
UTM Projection, Zone 19N, NAD83

1:100,303

4 Miles



Search for Wildlife Observations & Habitat



Strong, ME 04983-9419 689 Farmington Road

Fax: (207) 778-3323 Voice: (207) 778-3324

January 23, 2006

UTM Projection, Zone 19N, NAD83

1:100,303

4 Miles





Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

689 Farmington Road, Strong, ME 04983-9419 Phone: (207) 778-3324, FAX: (207) 778-3323

Site-Specific Search of Wildlife Observations and Habitat

SEARCH PARAMETERS

County:

Franklin

IF&W Region:

D

Township(s):

Kibby Twp

Search Center:

379289 east, 5022293 north (UTM NAD83 coordinates)

Search Area:

0.27 sq. miles

Date:

Monday, January 23, 2006

RESULTS

Essential Wildlife Habitats

BALD EAGLE NEST SITES

None Found

PIPING PLOVER / LEAST TERN NESTING, FEEDING, AND BROOD-REARING AREAS

None Found

ROSEATE TERN NESTING AREAS

None Found

Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA) Habitats

SEABIRD NESTING ISLANDS

None Found

DEER WINTER AREAS

None Found

INLAND WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITATS

None Found

SHOREBIRD AREAS None Found

COASTAL/TIDAL WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITAT
None Found

Land Use Regulator Commission (LURC) Deer Winter Areas None Found

Biological Conservation Database (BCD)

The Biological Conservation Database is an information management component of the Natural Heritage Program Network created by the Nature Conservancy. It is designed to track information on the status, life history, conservation needs, and occurrences for rare species and natural communities. MDIFW is responsible for maintaining the zoological portion of the database, which contains information on approximately 1050 animal species native to the State.

POINTS OBSERVATIONS BUFFERED BY 0.25 MILES

In the map, BCD points are surrounded by a 0.25-mile radius circle to represent the general area around the observation that should be considered for management. Ideally, the mapped polygon should show the extent of the important habitat(s) associated with the observation, but until a new landcover map of Maine becomes available, we are using simple circular buffers to approximate that area. This circular buffer is less appropriate for aquatic species for which the limit of the water body or a buffered stream segment may be more realistic. In all cases, an MDIFW biologist should investigate the habitat around a BCD observation to determine the most appropriate area for management consideration.

Classification of BCD observations as CONCERN = 'Y' or CONCERN = 'N' indicates whether the area around the observation should receive special management consideration based on the species involved (endangered, threatened, or rare), importance or rarity of the habitat, or whether the observation is recent or historical. Observations in BCD that are duplicated in other MDIFW datasets (e.g., Eagle Essential Wildlife Habitats) are classified here as CONCERN = 'N', not because they are unimportant but because they should already be flagged elsewhere in this report. Any questions regarding BCD observations should be directed to MDIFW's Endangered & Threatened Species Group.

Code	Common Name	Survey Area
AMAFF11090*018*ME	ROCK VOLE	KIBBY RANGE NORTH

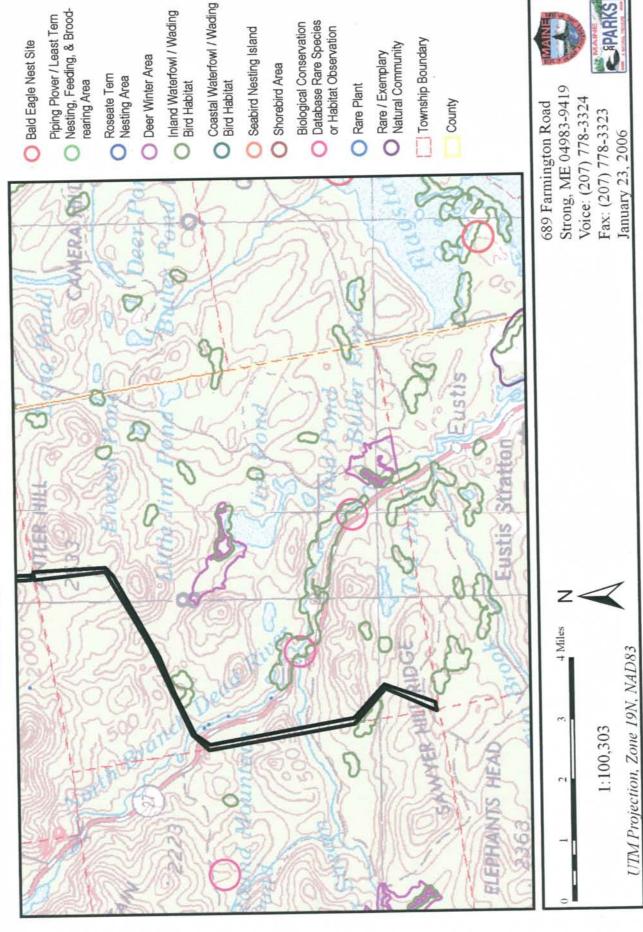
MAPPED HABITAT POLYGONS None Found

Natural Areas Program Rare Plants/Communities

RARE PLANT LOCATIONS
None Found

RARE / EXEMPLARY NATURAL COMMUNITIES None Found

Search for Wildlife Observations & Habitat





Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

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Site-Specific Search of Wildlife Observations and Habitat

SEARCH PARAMETERS

County:

Franklin

IF&W Region:

D

Township(s):

Alder Stream Twp, Jim Pond Twp

Search Center:

378454 east, 5014076 north (UTM NAD83 coordinates)

Search Area:

0.67 sq. miles

Date:

Monday, January 23, 2006

RESULTS

Essential Wildlife Habitats

BALD EAGLE NEST SITES
None Found

PIPING PLOVER / LEAST TERN NESTING, FEEDING, AND BROOD-REARING AREAS
None Found

ROSEATE TERN NESTING AREAS
None Found

Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA) Habitats

Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 5-A, Section 480 of M.R.S.A. identifies habitats protected under the Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA). Included in the definitions section (480-B) is "Significant Wildlife Habitat", which means areas that have been mapped by MDIFW or are within any other protected natural resource including habitat for listed endangered/threatened animal species; high/moderate value deer wintering areas; high/moderate value waterfowl/wading bird habitat; shorebird nesting, feeding, and staging areas; and seabird nesting islands. Although all of these habitats are mapped by MDIFW, to date only Seabird Nesting Islands have gone through the formal NRPA process. Specific deer wintering areas, inland and coastal

waterfowl/wading bird habitat, and shorebird areas have been designated "Candidate NRPA," indicating they meet the NRPA requirements but have not been formally zoned.

SEABIRD NESTING ISLANDS

None Found

DEER WINTER AREAS

None Found

INLAND WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITATS

Areas rated as high, moderate or indeterminate (see MDIFW: Significant Wildlife Habitat Protection Document, Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat - General, MDIFW, 12/22/93) qualify as Candidate NRPA habitats. The mapped boundary includes a 250-ft buffer adjacent to the wetland habitat used by waterfowl and wading birds. This data set was developed in accordance with NRPA and the Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act (Growth Management).

Code	Rating	Acres
UMO-9165	moderate	71

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ACRES = Size of the IWWH in acres.

SHOREBIRD AREAS

None Found

COASTAL/TIDAL WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITAT

None Found

Land Use Regulator Commission (LURC) Deer Winter Areas

None Found

Biological Conservation Database (BCD)

POINTS OBSERVATIONS BUFFERED BY 0.25 MILES
None Found

MAPPED HABITAT POLYGONS

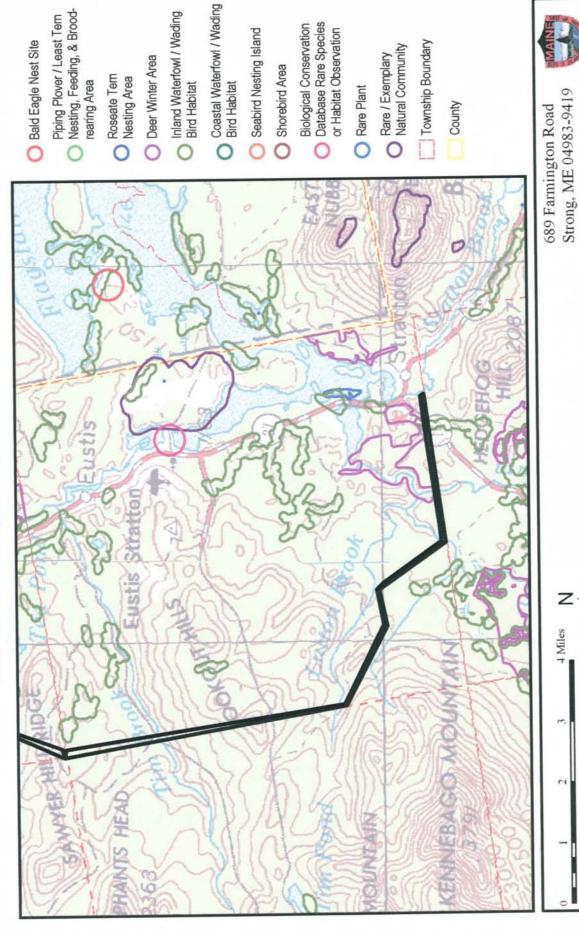
None Found

Natural Areas Program Rare Plants/Communities

RARE PLANT LOCATIONS
None Found

*RARE / EXEMPLARY NATURAL COMMUNITIES*None Found

Search for Wildlife Observations & Habitat



Voice: (207) 778-3324

Fax: (207) 778-3323 January 23, 2006

UTM Projection, Zone 19N, NAD83

1:100,303



Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

689 Farmington Road, Strong, ME 04983-9419 Phone: (207) 778-3324, FAX: (207) 778-3323

Site-Specific Search of Wildlife Observations and Habitat

SEARCH PARAMETERS

County:

Franklin

IF&W Region:

D

Township(s):

Alder Stream Twp, Eustis, Jim Pond Twp, Tim Pond Twp

Search Center:

381759 east, 5003641 north (UTM NAD83 coordinates)

Search Area:

0.72 sq. miles

Date:

Monday, January 23, 2006

RESULTS

Essential Wildlife Habitats

BALD EAGLE NEST SITES
None Found

PIPING PLOVER / LEAST TERN NESTING, FEEDING, AND BROOD-REARING AREAS
None Found

ROSEATE TERN NESTING AREAS
None Found

Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA) Habitats

Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 5-A, Section 480 of M.R.S.A. identifies habitats protected under the Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA). Included in the definitions section (480-B) is "Significant Wildlife Habitat", which means areas that have been mapped by MDIFW or are within any other protected natural resource including habitat for listed endangered/threatened animal species; high/moderate value deer wintering areas; high/moderate value waterfowl/wading bird habitat; shorebird nesting, feeding, and staging areas; and seabird nesting islands. Although all of these habitats are mapped by MDIFW, to date only Seabird Nesting Islands have gone through the formal NRPA process. Specific deer wintering areas, inland and coastal

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SEABIRD NESTING ISLANDS None Found

DEER WINTER AREAS

A forested area used by deer when snow depth in the open/hardwoods is > 12", deer sinking depth in the open/hardwoods is > 8", and mean daily temperatures are below 32 degrees F. Non-forested wetlands, non-stocked clearcuts, hardwood types, and stands predominated by Eastern Larch are included within the DWA only if less than 10 acres in size. Agricultural and development areas within DWAs are excluded regardless of size.

Ratings for Deer Winter Areas were based on aerial and/or ground surveys. If only an aerial survey was done (most DWAs), the rating was "indeterminate." If a follow-up ground survey was done also, the evaluation was based on: 1) quality of softwood shelter, 2) intensity of deer use, and 3) size. The final rating of the DWA was determined by summing the scores for the three criteria and assigning a rating as follows: high (score of 10-12), moderate (score of 7-9.9) or low (score of 0-6.9). A regional biologist may recommend a rating change with justification and approval by the management section supervisor. No delisting criteria for regulated NRPA DWAs have been developed.

Code	Size (acres)	Rating
060027	537.19	indeterminate

CODE = unique identifier of Deer Wintering Area
RATING = DWAs must have a moderate or high rating to qualify under NRPA

INLAND WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITATS

Areas rated as high, moderate or indeterminate (see MDIFW: Significant Wildlife Habitat Protection Document, Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat - General, MDIFW, 12/22/93) qualify as Candidate NRPA habitats. The mapped boundary includes a 250-ft buffer adjacent to the wetland habitat used by waterfowl and wading birds. This data set was developed in accordance with NRPA and the Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act (Growth Management).

Code	Rating	Acres
UMO-10487	high	173

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RATING = Inland waterfowl/wading bird habitats with a "high," "moderate," or "indeterminate" rating are considered as Candidate NRPA.

ACRES = Size of the IWWH in acres.

SHOREBIRD AREAS None Found

COASTAL/TIDAL WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITAT
None Found

Land Use Regulator Commission (LURC) Deer Winter Areas
None Found

Biological Conservation Database (BCD)

POINTS OBSERVATIONS BUFFERED BY 0.25 MILES None Found

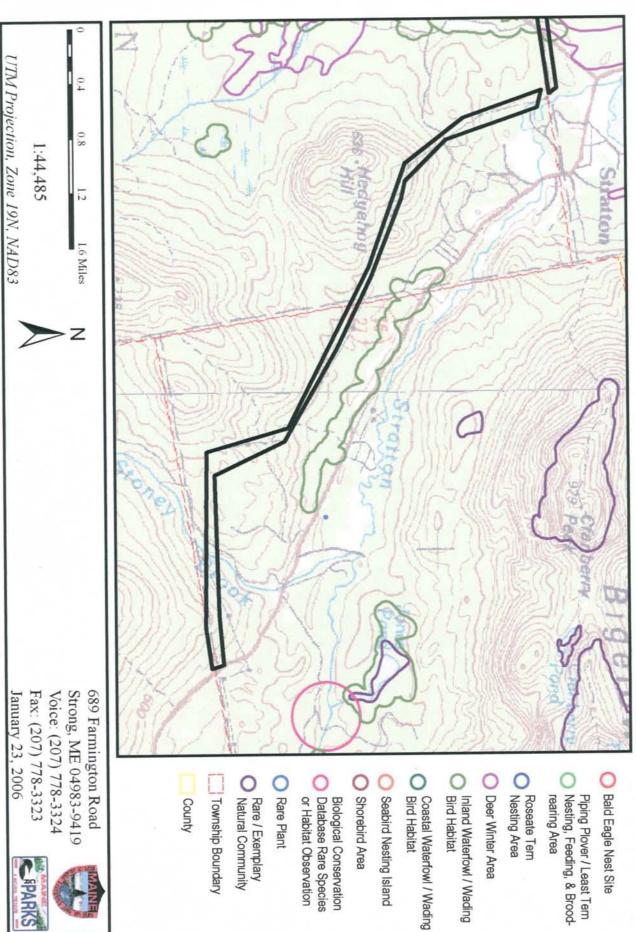
MAPPED HABITAT POLYGONS None Found

Natural Areas Program Rare Plants/Communities

RARE PLANT LOCATIONS
None Found

RARE / EXEMPLARY NATURAL COMMUNITIES
None Found

Search for Wildlife Observations & Habitat



- Bald Eagle Nest Site
- Nesting, Feeding, & Brood-rearing Area Piping Plover / Least Tern
- O Roseate Tern Nesting Area
- Deer Winter Area
- O Bird Habitat Wading
- Seabird Nesting Island
- Shorebird Area
- Biological Conservation

 Database Rare Species
 or Habitat Observation
- Rare Plant
- Rare / Exemplary
 Natural Community
- Township Boundary
- County

Strong, ME 04983-9419 689 Farmington Road

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Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

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Site-Specific Search of Wildlife Observations and Habitat

SEARCH PARAMETERS

County:

Franklin

IF&W Region:

D

Township(s):

Carrabassett Valley, Coplin Plt, Wyman Twp

Search Center:

389891 east, 4997019 north (UTM NAD83 coordinates)

Search Area:

0.42 sq. miles

Date:

Monday, January 23, 2006

RESULTS

Essential Wildlife Habitats

BALD EAGLE NEST SITES

None Found

PIPING PLOVER / LEAST TERN NESTING, FEEDING, AND BROOD-REARING

AREAS

None Found

ROSEATE TERN NESTING AREAS

None Found

Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA) Habitats

SEABIRD NESTING ISLANDS

None Found

DEER WINTER AREAS

None Found

INLAND WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITATS

None Found

SHOREBIRD AREAS None Found

COASTAL/TIDAL WATERFOWL/WADING BIRD HABITAT
None Found

Land Use Regulator Commission (LURC) Deer Winter Areas
None Found

Biological Conservation Database (BCD)

POINTS OBSERVATIONS BUFFERED BY 0.25 MILES
None Found

MAPPED HABITAT POLYGONS
None Found

Natural Areas Program Rare Plants/Communities

RARE PLANT LOCATIONS
None Found

RARE / EXEMPLARY NATURAL COMMUNITIES
None Found