

Primary Map 2
High Value Plant & Animal Habitats
Town of Strong

This map is non-regulatory and is intended for planning purposes only



Descriptions of Labeled High Value Plant and Animal Habitats					
No.	Feature Name	Status	No.	Feature Name	Status
1	American Ginseng	E	5	Rare Animal	SC
2	Enriched N. Hardwoods Forest	T	6	Rock Willow-grass	T
3	Golden Wood-fern	SC	7	Smooth Rockcress	T
4	Oak-N. Hardwoods Forest		8	Wild Leek	SC

COLOR CODES:
Rare Plant: Pink
Rare Animal Location/Habitat: Yellow
Rare or Exemplary Natural Community: Green
Essential Habitat: Blue

STATE STATUS:
E = Endangered PE = Possibly Extirpated E(B) = Endangered Breeding Population
T = Threatened SC = Special Concern

LEGEND

The data presented here represent the best available information provided through Beginning with Habitat coalition partners at the time of map drafting. Map users should consult with the Beginning with Habitat program to verify that data illustrated on this map is still current prior to utilizing it for planning decisions. Habitat features illustrated on this map are based on limited field surveys, aerial photo interpretation, and computer modeling. Many areas have not been completely surveyed, so it is possible that features may be present that are not mapped. Habitat data sets are updated continuously. Not all habitats described below may occur in the area shown in this map. Also, please note that some of these habitats are regulated by the State of Maine through the Maine Endangered Species Act (Essential Habitats and threatened and endangered species occurrences) and Natural Resource Protection Act (Significant Wildlife Habitat). This map is intended for planning purposes only and should not be considered a comprehensive inventory of plant and animal occurrences. We recommend consultation with MDIFW Regional Biologists or MNP Ecologists if activities are proposed that may affect at risk species, habitats, or natural communities depicted on this map. Visit <http://www.beginningwithhabitat.org/contacts/index.html> for MDIFW or MNP contact information.

Organized Township Boundary
Unorganized Township- Beginning with Habitat does not provide data for unorganized townships
Developed- Impervious surfaces such as buildings and roads
Streams and Brooks
Ocean, Lakes, Ponds, and Rivers

Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Wildlife
Known rare, threatened, or endangered species occurrence and/or the associated habitats based on species sightings. Consult with an MDIFW regional biologist to determine the relative importance and conservation needs of the specific location and supporting habitat. For more information regarding individual species visit our website, <http://www.maine.gov/fww/wildlife/etweb/stateist.htm>, for species specific fact sheets.

Rare or Exemplary Plants and Natural Communities
Rare Plant Locations
Known rare, threatened, or endangered plant occurrences are based on field observations. Consult with a Maine Natural Areas Program (MNP) Ecologist to determine conservation needs of particular species. For more information regarding rare plants, the complete list of tracked species and fact sheets for those species can be found at: http://www.maineareas.org/docs/rare_plants/.
Rare or Exemplary Natural Community Locations
The MNP has classified and distinguished 98 different natural community types that collectively cover the state's landscape. These include such habitats as floodplain forests, coastal bogs, alpine summits, and many others. Each type is assigned a rarity rank of 1 (rare) through 5 (common). Mapped rare natural communities, or exemplary examples of common natural communities or ecosystems, are based on field surveys and aerial photo interpretation. Consult with an MNP Ecologist to determine conservation needs of particular communities or ecosystems.

Essential Wildlife Habitats
Bald Eagle Nest Sites or Roseate Tern Nesting Area or Piping Plover/Least Tern Nesting, Feeding, & Brood-Rearing Area
Maine's Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife (MDIFW, www.state.me.us/fww) maps areas currently or historically providing habitat essential to the conservation of endangered or threatened species as directed by the Maine Endangered Species Act (12 MRSA, Chapter 925, Subchapter 3, Sections 12804 and 12806) and regulations (MDIFW Rules, Chapter 8.05). Identification of Essential Habitat areas is based on species observations and confirmed habitat use.

Once an area becomes designated as Essential Habitat, the Maine Endangered Species Act requires that no state agency or municipal government shall permit, license, fund, or carry out projects that would significantly alter the habitat or violate protection guidelines adopted for the habitat. If a project occurs partly or wholly within an Essential Habitat, it must be evaluated by MDIFW before state and/or municipal permits can be approved or project activities can take place.
The Federal Endangered Species Act requires actions authorized, funded, or carried out by federal agencies be reviewed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. If your project occurs near an occurrence of the Atlantic salmon, bald eagle, roseate tern, piping plover, Canada lynx, New England Cottontail, Furbish's lousewort, or small-whorled pagonia contact the Maine Field Office, USFWS, 1168 Main St., Old Town, ME 04468.

Significant Wildlife Habitats
Deer Wintering Area
Forested area used by deer to avoid deep snow/cold (non-forested wetlands, non-stocked clearcuts, and deciduous- or larch-dominated stands less than 10-acres in size may be included within the habitat polygon as drawn).
Inland Waterfowl/Wading Bird
Freshwater breeding, migration/staging, and wintering habitats for inland waterfowl or breeding, feeding, loafing, migration, or roosting habitats for inland wading birds.
Seabird Nesting Island
An island, ledge, or portion thereof in tidal waters with documented, nesting seabirds or suitable nesting habitat for endangered seabirds.
Shorebird Areas
Coastal staging areas that provide feeding habitat like tidal mud flats or roosting habitat like gravel bars or sand spits for migrating shorebirds.
Tidal Waterfowl/Wading Bird
Breeding, migrating/staging, or wintering areas for coastal waterfowl or breeding, feeding, loafing, migrating, or roosting areas for coastal wading birds. Tidal Waterfowl/Wading Bird habitats include aquatic beds, eelgrass, emergent wetlands, mudflats, seaweed communities, and reefs.

Maine's Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA, 1988) administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP; <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blw/docstans/npapage.htm>) is intended to prevent further degradation and loss of natural resources in the state including the above Significant Wildlife Habitats that have been mapped by MDIFW. DEP has regulated activities in, on, or over these habitats to the extent these habitats were located within another protected natural resource, such as a freshwater or coastal wetland, since September 17, 2005. DEP has regulated activities in, on, or over these habitats, located outside other protected natural resources, to the extent they meet criteria adopted in rule since June 8, 2006 (38 MRSA 480-B(10)). Significant vernal pools are also regulated, but are not currently mapped.

Atlantic Salmon Spawning/Rearing Habitat
Atlantic Salmon Rearing Habitat
Atlantic Salmon Spawning Habitat
Atlantic Salmon Limited Spawning Habitat
Mapped by Atlantic Salmon Commission (ASC) and US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) from field surveys on selected Penobscot and Kennebec River tributaries and the Dennys, Ducktrap, East Machias, Machias, Pleasant, Narraguagus, and Sheepscot Rivers.

High Value Habitat for Priority Trust Species
These feature categories depict the highest value habitat as predicted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Gulf of Maine Program's Habitat Suitability Model.
This data layer portrays the highest value habitat from the Gulf of Maine Watershed Habitat Analysis, a habitat suitability model developed by the (USFWS) Gulf of Maine Coastal Program. The analysis evaluated existing field data and scientific literature for 91 species of fish, wildlife, and plants important to USFWS in the Gulf of Maine watershed and ranked the landscape based on potential habitat for each species. This theme shows only the most important habitat (top 25%) for all species combined and excludes areas less than 5 acres. For more information please see Map 8 "Valuable Habitats for USFWS Priority Trust Species." For more information about the Gulf of Maine Watershed Habitat Analysis please visit: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/gulfofmaine>.

Data Sources
DATA SOURCE INFORMATION
(note: italicized file names can be downloaded from Maine Office of GIS)
TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES
Maine Office of GIS (2006); metwp24
ROADS
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Transportation (2005); medotpb
HYDROLOGY
Maine Office of GIS, U.S. Geological Survey (2004); hyd24
DEVELOPED
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Environmental Protection (contact agency for this multiple agency collaboration) (2005); imperv
ESSENTIAL & SIGNIFICANT WILDLIFE HABITATS
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife; ehealg, ehplvmt, ehrtm, sri
RARE NATURAL COMMUNITIES & PLANTS
Maine Natural Areas Program
ATLANTIC SALMON HABITAT
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (2006); ashab3
HIGH VALUE HABITAT FOR PRIORITY TRUST SPECIES
Maine Office of GIS, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; forest91, fresh91, grass91, saline91

DATA SOURCE CONTACT INFORMATION
Maine Office of GIS- <http://apollo.ogis.state.me.us/catalog>
Maine Natural Areas Program- <http://www.maineareas.org>
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife- <http://www.maine.gov/fww>
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service- Gulf of Maine Program- <http://gulfofmaine.fws.gov>
Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission- <http://www.maine.gov/asc/>
Maine Department of Transportation- <http://www.maine.gov/mot/>

DIGITAL DATA REQUEST
To request digital data for a town or organization, please visit our website, http://www.beginningwithhabitat.org/the_maps/gis_data_request.html

