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Andrew Hally Towns: Westport Preliminary Site Assessment: 1433017005

Subject: 49 Owenoke Pk

Current data maintained by the Natural Diversity Database (NDDB) and housed in the DEEP ezFile portal, indicates that populations of the following State Endangered, Threatened, or Special Concern species (RCA Sec. 26-306) and/or Critical Habitats have been documented within or in close proximity to the area delineated. Please see the attached table for species and/or Critical Habitat information.

Please note that, for purposes of preliminary site assessments, certain sensitive species are not identified beyond their taxa. If additional information is required regarding sensitive species please email <u>deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov</u>, include a snapshot of your map (found at the end of this document), your last name, and the subject area town.

Please be advised that this is a preliminary assessment and not a Natural Diversity Database determination. The purpose of this information is to provide a general planning tool which identifies those species that have been reported and may occur on or near the mapped area. A more detailed application and review will be necessary to move forward with any environmental authorization, permit, license, or registration applications submitted to DEEP. If such review is required, please return to the DEEP's ezFile Portal and select <u>Natural Diversity Database Review</u> to begin the review process.

This Preliminary Site Assessment does not preclude the possibility that species not previously reported to the Natural Diversity Database may be encountered on the site. You are encouraged to report incidental observations to the Natural Diversity Database using the <u>appropriate survey form</u> and follow the instructions for submittal. We recommend field surveys be conducted in order to evaluate potential habitat and species presence. Field surveys should be performed by a qualified biologist with the appropriate scientific collecting permits at a time when these target species are identifiable. A report summarizing the results of such surveys should include:

- 1. Survey date(s) and duration
- 2. Site descriptions and photographs
- 3. List of component vascular plant and animal species within the survey area (including scientific binomials)
- 4. Data regarding population numbers and/or area occupied by State-listed species
- 5. Detailed maps of the area surveyed including the survey route and locations of State listed species
- 6. Statement/résumé indicating the biologist's qualifications

The site surveys report should be sent to the CT DEEP-NDDB Program (<u>deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov</u>) for further review by program biologists.

Natural Diversity Database information includes all information regarding listed species available to us at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Natural History Survey and cooperating units of DEEP, land owners, private conservation groups and the scientific community. This information is not necessarily the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Current research projects and new contributors continue to identify additional populations of species and locations of habitats of concern, as well as, enhance existing data. Such new information is incorporated into the Database and accessed through the ezFile portal as it becomes available.

This letter is computer generated from our existing records and carries no signature. If however, any clarification/error is noted, or, if you have further questions, please contact the following:

CT DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources Wildlife Division Natural Diversity Database 79 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106-5127 (860) 424-3011 <u>deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov</u>

Please include a snapshot of the map, your last name, and the subject area town when you e-mail or write. Thank you for consulting the Natural Diversity Data Base.

Common Name	Northern diamondback terrapin
Scientific Name	Malaclemys terrapin terrapin
Таха	reptile
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	Northern diamondback terrapin is a turtle that inhabits salt marshes and salt or brackish tidal waters. They can also be found on mud flats, shallow bays, coves, and tidal estuaries. Adjacent sandy dry upland areas are required for nesting. Nesting takes place in June-July on salt marshes and adjacent beach areas. The peaks of hatching occurrences are April – June and September – November. This species overwinters in depressions in the bottoms of estuaries, creeks, and salt marsh channels composed of muddy and fine grain sediments. Terrapins move to dormant sites when waters reach 42-50°F and emerge in April.
Common Name	Snowy egret
Scientific Name	Egretta thula
Таха	bird
Status ¹	Т
General Ecology	This is a bird that usually nests in a mixed species colony with other heron species, called a rookery. Of these rookery nesting species, Snowy egret has the highest regional concern due to rapidly decreasing populations. In Connecticut, rookeries are on offshore islands. Nests are typically built 20-40 feet above ground in trees. Breeding usually begins mid-April and runs

	through August. Disturbance to nesting rookeries by both predators and
	people is the main threat to this species in Connecticut, followed by degradation of wetland habitat used for foraging. Setback from nesting colonies of 660 feet (200 meters) for all activities during nesting season as well as reducing wetland disturbance and enhancing wetland function in foraging areas within 5 km of rookeries will benefit this species. If your project is not offshore, it is likely that your project falls in critical foraging habitat for the snowy egret. Critical foraging habitats preferred by these species include marshes, swamps, ponds, shores, and tideflats with a diet consisting of mainly fish and crustaceans. Foraging efficiency is greatly reduced if foraging individually. Do not disturb flocks of foraging herons and egrets. Do not introduce new excessive or unpredictable noise or activity to wetland complexes that will cause birds to flush during April-August, especially before 10am, when largest flocks will form.
Common Name	Great egret
Scientific Name	Ardea alba
Таха	bird
Status ¹	Т
General Ecology	This is a bird that usually nests in a mixed species colony with other heron species, called a rookery. In Connecticut, rookeries are on offshore island but can occur in wooded wetland areas. Nests are typically built 20-40 feet above ground in trees. Breeding usually begins mid-April and runs through August. Disturbance to nesting rookeries by both predators and people is the main threat to this species in Connecticut, followed by degradation of wetland habitat used for foraging. Setback from nesting colonies of 660 feet (200 meters) for all activities during nesting season as well as reducing wetland disturbance and enhancing wetland function in foraging areas within 10 km of rookeries will benefit this species.
Common Name	Yellow-crowned night-heron
Scientific Name	Nyctanassa violacea
Таха	bird
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	The yellow-crowned night-heron favors coastal marshes and nests and roosts in adjacent trees. This bird's primary source of food is crabs. This bird occassionally will be found in a mixed species colony with other heron species, called a rookery. In Connecticut, rookeries with most of our state listed species are on offshore island but can occur in wooded wetland areas. Nests are typically built 20-40 feet above ground in trees. Breeding usually begins mid-April and runs through August. Disturbance to nesting rookeries by both predators and people is the main threat to this species in Connecticut, followed by degradation of wetland habitat used for foraging. Setback from nesting colonies of 660 feet (200 meters) for all activities during nesting season as well as reducing wetland disturbance and enhancing wetland function will benefit this species.
Common Name	Little blue heron
Scientific Name	Egretta caerulea
Таха	bird

Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	This is a bird that usually nests in a mixed species colony with other heron species, called a rookery. In Connecticut, rookeries are on offshore island but can occur in wooded wetland areas. Nests are typically built 20-40 feet above ground in trees. Breeding usually begins mid-April and runs through August. Disturbance to nesting rookeries by both predators and people is the main threat to this species in Connecticut, followed by degradation of wetland habitat used for foraging. Setback from nesting colonies of 660 feet (200 meters) for all activities during nesting season as well as reducing wetland disturbance and enhancing wetland function in foraging areas will benefit this species.
Common Name	Glossy ibis
Scientific Name	Plegadis falcinellus
Таха	bird
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	This is a bird that usually nests in a mixed species colony with other heron species, called a rookery. In Connecticut, rookeries with most of our state listed species are on offshore island but can occur in wooded wetland areas. Nests are typically built 20-40 feet above ground in trees. Breeding usually begins mid-April and runs through August. Disturbance to nesting rookeries by both predators and people is the main threat to this species in Connecticut, followed by degradation of wetland habitat used for foraging. Setback from nesting colonies of 660 feet (200 meters) for all activities during nesting season as well as reducing wetland disturbance and enhancing wetland function will benefit this species.
Common Name	Atlantic seasnail
Scientific Name	Liparis atlanticus
Таха	fish
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	Contact a DEEP Fisheries Biologist for more information. Do not contact NDDB with questions regarding fish species.
Common Name	Radiated shanny
Scientific Name	Ulvaria subbifurcata
Таха	fish
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	Contact a DEEP Fisheries Biologist for more information. Do not contact NDDB with questions regarding fish species.
Common Name	Sand tiger shark
Scientific Name	Carcharias taurus
Таха	fish
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	Contact a DEEP Fisheries Biologist for more information. Do not contact NDDB with questions regarding fish species.
Common Name	Blueback herring
Scientific Name	Alosa aestivalis

Таха	fish
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	Contact a DEEP Fisheries Biologist for more information. Do not contact NDDB with questions regarding fish species.

 ^{1}E = State Endangered, T = State Threatened, SC = State Special Concern, FE = Federally Endangered, FT = Federally Threatened, NA = Not applicable.

49 Owenoke Pk Map



December 26, 2023



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community