

APPENDIX G
Natural Heritage Correspondence

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Fish and Wildlife, New York Natural Heritage Program

625 Broadway, Fifth Floor, Albany, NY 12233-4757

P: (518) 402-8935 | F: (518) 402-8925

www.dec.ny.gov

May 23, 2017

Ashley Marciszyn
Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC
572 Walt Whitman Road
Melville, NY 11747

Re: Gardiner's Point East and West
County: Suffolk Town/City: Islip

Dear Ms. Marciszyn:

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, as listed at www.dec.ny.gov/about/39381.html.

Sincerely,



Nicholas Conrad
Information Resources Coordinator
New York Natural Heritage Program



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

We recommend that potential onsite and offsite 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 plants in the following lists are listed as Endangered or Threatened by New York State, and so are a vulnerable natural resource of conservation concern.

The animals in the following lists, while not listed by New York State as Endangered or Threatened, are of conservation concern to the state, and are considered rare by the New York Natural Heritage Program.

The natural communities in the following lists are considered significant from a statewide perspective by the NY Natural Heritage Program. They are either occurrences 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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Found in the salt marshes on the project site.

Birds

Seaside Sparrow <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Ammodramus maritimus</i>	Special Concern	Imperiled in NYS
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Islip Marsh, 2001: The breeding area is at a marsh along the northern shore of a large bay, between two creeks. 11167

Dragonflies and Damselflies

Seaside Dragonlet	<i>Erythrodiplax berenice</i>	Unlisted	Imperiled in NYS
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Islip Marsh, 2008-07-15: Salt marsh 14744

Found along the shoreline adjacent to the project site.

Wetland/Aquatic Communities

Marine Eelgrass Meadow	High Quality Occurrence of Uncommon Community Type
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Great South Bay West: This is a large patch of eelgrass in good condition within a fairly good quality landscape. 15044

Found at Appletree Neck, a Nature Conservancy preserve, .4 mile east of the project site.

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS</i>	
Vascular Plants				
Slender Marsh-pink	<i>Sabatia campanulata</i>	Endangered	Critically Imperiled in NYS	2505
Coastal Goldenrod	<i>Solidago latissimifolia</i>	Endangered	Critically Imperiled in NYS	10
Slender Spikerush	<i>Eleocharis tenuis</i> <i>var. pseudoptera</i>	Endangered	Critically Imperiled in NYS	9770
Swamp Sunflower	<i>Helianthus angustifolius</i>	Threatened	Imperiled in NYS	798
Marsh Straw Sedge	<i>Carex hormathodes</i>	Threatened	Imperiled in NYS	5955

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.

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May 24, 2017

Patricia Aitken
Nelson Pope & Voorhis
572 Walt Whitman Road
Melville, NY 11747

Re: Timber Point County Park -- restoration of marsh habitat and reduction of mosquito breeding
County: Suffolk Town/City: Islip

Dear Ms. Aitken:

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 at the project site or in its vicinity.

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, as listed at www.dec.ny.gov/about/39381.html.

Sincerely,



Nicholas Conrad
Information Resources Coordinator
New York Natural Heritage Program



The following state-listed animals have been documented at Timber Point County Park.

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, contact the Permits staff at the NYSDEC Region 1 Office. For information about potential impacts of the project on these species, and how to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any impacts, contact the Wildlife Manager.

A listing of Regional Offices is at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/558.html>.

The following species have been documented at the project site.

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>FEDERAL LISTING</i>
Common Tern <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Threatened	3438
Least Tern <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Sternula antillarum</i>	Threatened	4007

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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 plants and significant natural communities have been documented in the vicinity of the project site.

We recommend that potential onsite and offsite 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 SEQR. 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 significant natural communities are considered significant from a statewide perspective by the NY Natural Heritage Program. They are either occurrences 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>HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS</i>	
Coastal Oak-Hickory Forest	High Quality Occurrence of Uncommon Community Type	
Heckscher State Park, adjacent to Timber Point County Park: This is a large, coastal oak forest of which one-third is successional, with good diversity, generally lacking exotic species, but experiencing relatively high levels of deer browsing.		5288
Red Maple-Blackgum Swamp	High Quality Occurrence of Rare Community Type	
Heckscher State Park, near Timber Point County Park: This is a large forested swamp, with good diversity, generally lacking exotic species, but experiencing relatively high levels of deer browsing.		6888
Marine Eelgrass Meadow	High Quality Occurrence of Uncommon Community Type	
Great South Bay West, including along shoreline of Timber Point County Park: This is a large patch of eelgrass in good condition within a fairly good quality landscape.		15044

The following plants are listed as Endangered or Threatened by New York State, and so are a vulnerable natural resource of conservation concern.

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS</i>	
Angled Spikerush	<i>Eleocharis quadrangulata</i>	Endangered	Critically Imperiled in NYS	
Heckscher State Park, near Timber Point County Park, 2010-08-25: The plants are found in a small pond likely created during the construction of the park loop road.				9632

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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.

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May 24, 2017

Patricia Aitken
Nelson Pope & Voorhis
572 Walt Whitman Road
Melville, NY 11747

Re: West Sayville -- restoration of marsh habitat and reduction of mosquito breeding areas
County: Suffolk Town/City: Islip

Dear Ms. Aitken:

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 at the project site or in its vicinity.

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Sincerely,



Nicholas Conrad
Information Resources Coordinator
New York Natural Heritage Program



The following rare plants, rare animals, and significant natural communities have been documented at West Sayville Marsh, or in its vicinity.

We recommend that potential onsite and offsite 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 SEQR. 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 animal, while not listed by New York State as Endangered or Threatened, is of conservation concern to the state, and is considered rare by the New York Natural Heritage Program.

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS</i>
Seaside Sparrow <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Ammodramus maritimus</i>	Special Concern	Imperiled in NYS
West Sayville Marsh, within the project site, 2002-06-24: The nest was found within a ditched tidal marsh that has <i>Phragmites</i> along the upper edge. The vegetation includes marsh elder.			11172

The following plant is listed as Endangered or Threatened by New York State, and so is a vulnerable natural resource of conservation concern.

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS</i>
Small-flowered Pearlwort	<i>Sagina decumbens</i> <i>ssp. decumbens</i>	Endangered	Critically Imperiled in NYS
Indian Creek, at west edge of West Sayville Marsh and about 1/4 mile from project site, 2003-05-20: An estuarine dredge spoil shore.			8091

The following natural community is considered significant from a statewide perspective by the NY Natural Heritage Program. It is either an occurrence 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 this community occurrence to have high ecological and conservation value.

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS</i>
Marine Eelgrass Meadow	High Quality Occurrence of Uncommon Community Type
Great South Bay West, including along shoreline of West Sayville Marsh: This is a large patch of eelgrass in good condition within a fairly good quality landscape.	
	15044

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.

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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.