



**PRELIMINARY USFWS & CTDEEP  
COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION**

**February 2, 2017**

**Verizon Wireless  
99 East River Drive  
East Hartford, CT 06108**

**APT Project No.: CT1411540**

**Re: Proposed Bridgeport NE Facility  
541 Broadbridge Road  
Bridgeport, Connecticut**

On behalf of Verizon Wireless, All-Points Technology Corporation, P.C. ("APT") performed an evaluation with respect to possible federally-listed, threatened or endangered species in order to determine if the proposed referenced communications facility would result in a potential adverse effect to federally-listed species. This consultation was completed in accordance with FCC rules implementing the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's ("USFWS") Information, Planning, and Conservation System ("IPaC")<sup>1</sup> for a proposed telecommunications facility at the referenced Site.

The Site is occupied by an existing shopping plaza with a large paved parking area. The proposed Facility would include a 100-foot tall flagpole tower located within a 10-foot by 22-foot fenced gravel equipment compound. The equipment compound would be surrounded by an 8-foot-tall chain-link fence with privacy slats. Antenna arrays, associated appurtenances and cabling would all be concealed within the interior of the monopole. Land use within the immediate vicinity consists of urban development, with the Connecticut Routes 8, 25 and 15 transportation corridors to the north and Broadbridge Road to the south.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("CT DEEP") Natural Diversity Data Base ("NDDB") program has developed maps to serve as a pre-screening tool to help applicants determine if there is a potential impact to state-listed endangered or threatened species, or species of special concern. The NDDB maps represent approximate locations of state-listed species and significant natural communities in Connecticut. The locations of species and natural communities depicted on the maps are based on data collected over the years by CT DEEP staff, scientists, conservation groups, and landowners. In some cases an occurrence represents a location derived from literature, museum records and/or specimens. These data are compiled and maintained in the NDDB. The general locations of species and communities are symbolized as shaded polygons on the maps. Exact locations have been masked on the NDDB maps to protect sensitive species from collection and disturbance and to protect landowner's rights whenever species occur on private property. CT DEEP NDDB mapping depicts no polygons indicative of listed species at or proximate to the project Site. A Site Location Map is enclosed showing the NDDB buffer. Verizon is consulting with CT DEEP NDDB regarding the project to confirm that no potential conflict with listed species exists at the Site. As of the time of this filing, no response has been received from the agency.

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<sup>1</sup> IPaC Consultation Tracking Number: 05E1NE00-2017-SLI-0647, dated January 11, 2017

Based on the results of the IPaC review, no federally-listed threatened species or critical habitat are documented in the vicinity of the Site. A copy of the IPaC report is provided in Attachment 2. Therefore, the proposed project is not anticipated to have an adverse impact to federally-listed threatened species or critical habitat. As a result of this finding, Verizon Wireless has completed its evaluation requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act.

A copy of the CT DEEP NDDDB's response will be provided to the Council upon receipt. Should a listed species be identified by the agency that requires additional consultations, we understand Verizon Wireless will complete requested actions to minimize potential impacts and implement such remedies into the Council's Development & Management Plan process should the project be approved.

If you have any questions regarding these findings, please contact me (860) 663-1697 ext. 102 or by email at [mibertine@allpointstech.com](mailto:mibertine@allpointstech.com).

Sincerely,

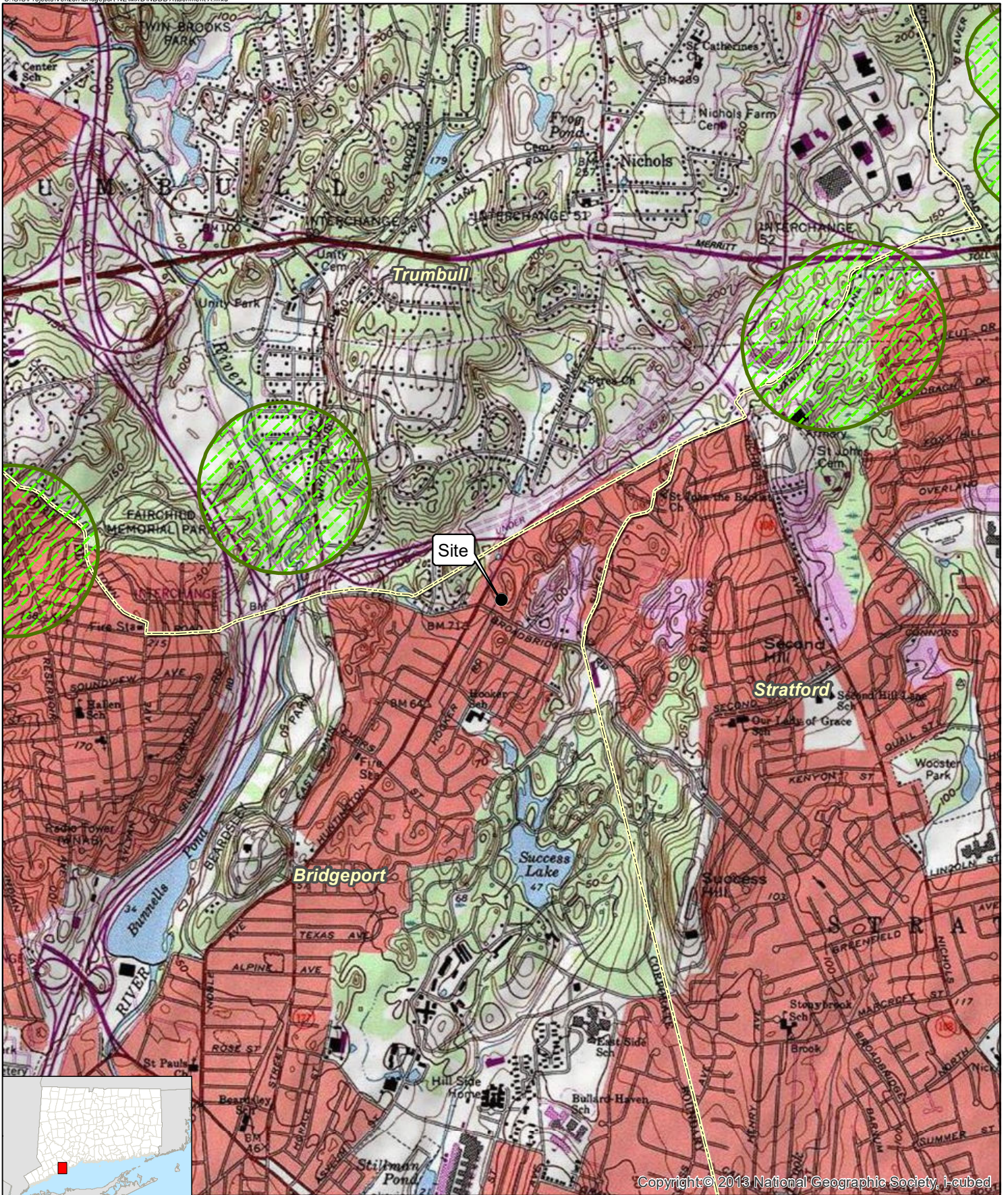
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Libertine".

Michael Libertine  
Director of Siting and Permitting

Enclosures

# Site Location NDDDB Buffer Map

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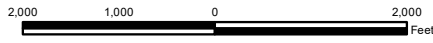


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**Legend**

- Site
- ▨ Natural Diversity Database (Dec. 2016)
- ▭ Municipal Boundary

**Map Notes:**  
 Base Map Source: USGS 7.5 Minute Topographic  
 Quadrangle Map: Bridgeport, CT (1984)  
 Map Scale: 1:24,000  
 Map Date: January 2017



**NDBB Attachment A: Overview Map**

Proposed Wireless  
 Telecommunications Facility  
 Bridgeport NE  
 541 Broadbridge Road  
 Bridgeport, Connecticut



# USFWS IPaC Threatened and Endangered Species Report

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## United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
New England Ecological Services Field Office  
70 COMMERCIAL STREET, SUITE 300  
CONCORD, NH 03301  
PHONE: (603)223-2541 FAX: (603)223-0104  
URL: [www.fws.gov/newengland](http://www.fws.gov/newengland)

Consultation Code: 05E1NE00-2017-SLI-0698

January 20, 2017

Event Code: 05E1NE00-2017-E-01169

Project Name: VZW Bridgeport NE

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

### To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan ([http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle\\_guidance.html](http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html)). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment



United States Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: VZW Bridgeport NE

## Official Species List

### Provided by:

New England Ecological Services Field Office

70 COMMERCIAL STREET, SUITE 300

CONCORD, NH 03301

(603) 223-2541

<http://www.fws.gov/newengland>

**Consultation Code:** 05E1NE00-2017-SLI-0698

**Event Code:** 05E1NE00-2017-E-01169

**Project Type:** COMMUNICATIONS TOWER

**Project Name:** VZW Bridgeport NE

**Project Description:** The Site is occupied by an existing shopping plaza with a large paved parking area. The proposed Facility would include a 100-foot tall flagpole tower located within a 10-foot by 22-foot fenced gravel equipment compound. The equipment compound would be surrounded by an 8-foot-tall chain-link fence with privacy slats. Antenna arrays, associated appurtenances and cabling would be concealed within the monopole, which has been designed to resemble a flagpole. Land use within the immediate vicinity is primarily a mix of medium density commercial and residential development, with the Connecticut Routes 8, 25 and 15 transportation corridors to the north and Broadbridge Road to the south.

**Please Note:** The FWS office may have modified the Project Name and/or Project Description, so it may be different from what was submitted in your previous request. If the Consultation Code matches, the FWS considers this to be the same project. Contact the office in the 'Provided by' section of your previous Official Species list if you have any questions or concerns.

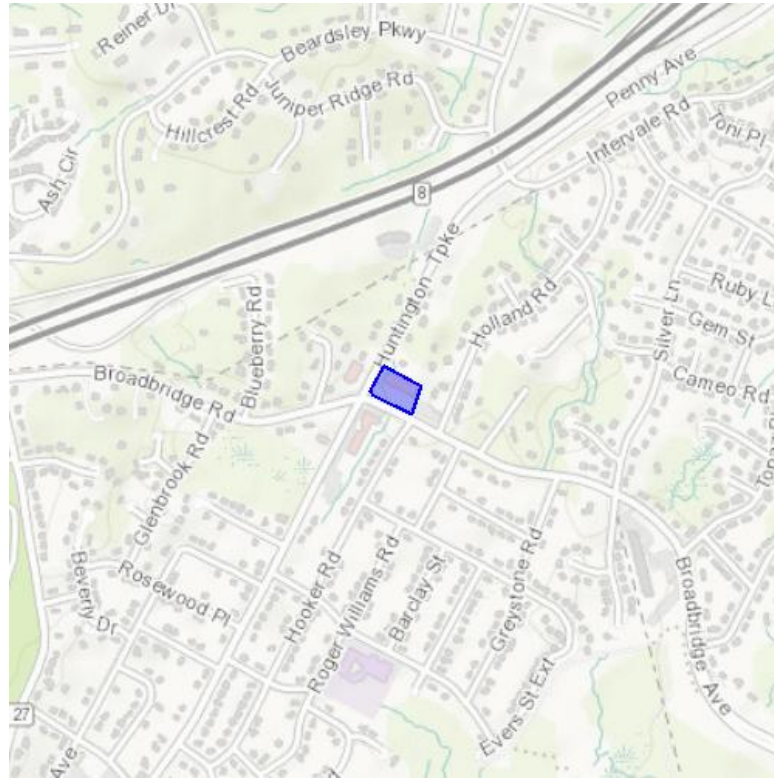




United States Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: VZW Bridgeport NE

**Project Location Map:**



**Project Coordinates:** MULTIPOLYGON (((-73.16742209723687 41.2218651689309, -73.16753048342004 41.22161046104154, -73.16846582905696 41.22195931635527, -73.1685183976 41.22202481762352, -73.16820898806847 41.22246311920416, -73.16730608961532 41.22212287145334, -73.16742209723687 41.2218651689309)))

**Project Counties:** Fairfield, CT



United States Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: VZW Bridgeport NE

## Endangered Species Act Species List

There are a total of 0 threatened or endangered species on your species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Critical habitats listed under the **Has Critical Habitat** column may or may not lie within your project area. See the **Critical habitats within your project area** section further below for critical habitat that lies within your project. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

There are no listed species identified for the vicinity of your project.



United States Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: VZW Bridgeport NE

## **Critical habitats that lie within your project area**

There are no critical habitats within your project area.