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Jennifer Barlow Towns: Cheshire

Preliminary Site Assessment: 2037714091

Subject: Accel - Cheshire BESS

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 deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov, 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 Natural Diversity Database Review 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
deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov

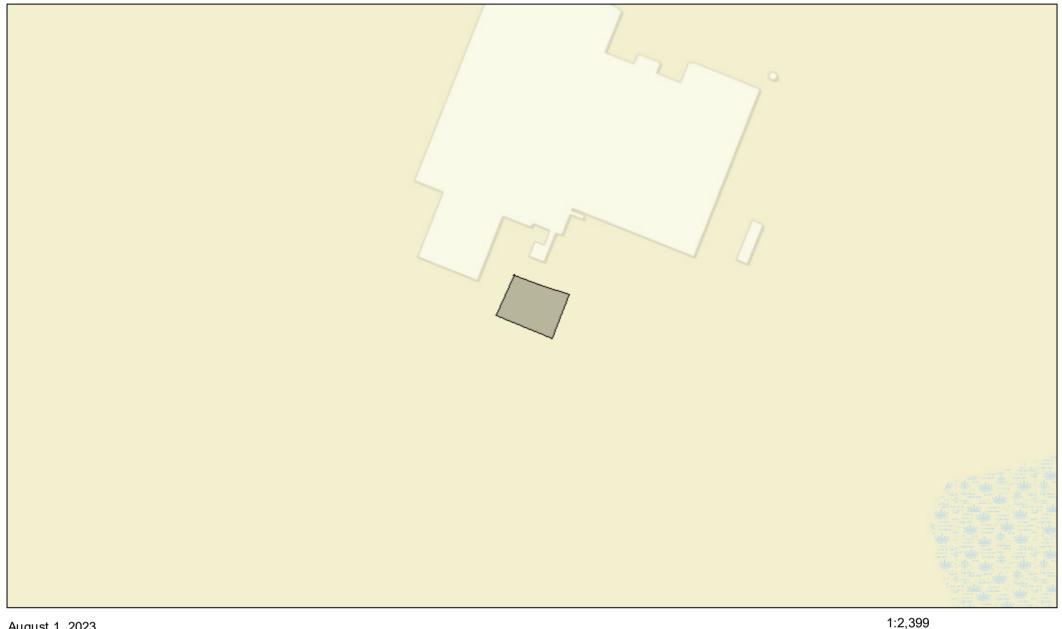
Please include a snapshot of the map, your last name, and the subject area town when you e-mail or write. Thank you for consulting the Natural Diversity Data Base.

Common Name	Eastern ribbon snake
Scientific Name	Thamnophis sauritus
Taxa	reptile
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	Eastern ribbon snakes inhabit areas with shallow water, grassy or shrubby areas bordering streams and wooded swamps. They also prefer sunny areas with low dense vegetation near shallow water areas. Their diet consists of insects, fish, frogs, salamanders and toads. They are dormant between Oct 15- March 31.
Common Name	Wood turtle
Scientific Name	Glyptemys insculpta
Taxa	reptile
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	Individuals of this species are riverine and riparian obligates, overwintering and mating in clear, cold, primarily sand-gravel and rock bottomed streams and foraging in riparian zones, fields and upland forests during the late spring and summer. They hibernate in the banks of the river in submerged tree roots between November 1 and March 31. Their summer habitat focuses within 90m (300ft of rivers) and they regularly travel 300m (0.2 mile) from rivers during this time. During summer they seek out early successional habitat: pastures, old fields, woodlands, powerline cuts and railroad beds bordering or adjacent to streams and rivers. Their habitat in Connecticut is already severely threatened

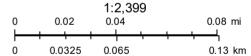
by fragmentation of riverine, instream, riparian, and upland habitats, but is
exacerbated by heavy adult mortality from machinery, cars, and collection.
This is compounded by the species late maturity, low reproductive potential,
and high nest and hatchling depredation rates.

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

Accel - Cheshire BESS Map



August 1, 2023



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

IPaC Information for Planning and Consultation MY PROJECTS

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service JENNIFER BARLOW -

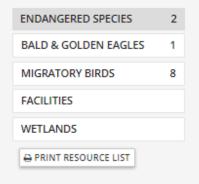
Explore location

LOCAL OFFICE NEW FNGLAND ESFO



Candidate

Resources



What's next?

Define a project at this location to evaluate potential impacts, get an official species list, and make species determinations.

DEFINE PROJECT

Endangered species

Listed species and their critical habitats are managed by the <u>Ecological Services Program</u> of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact <u>NOAA Fisheries</u> for <u>species under their jurisdiction</u>.

Additional information on endangered species data is provided below.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

THUMBNAILS | | LIST

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat	Endangered

Myotis septentrionalis Wherever found

Insects

NAME	STATUS

Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus Wherever found

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above