



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF  
INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE  
284 STATE STREET  
41 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA ME 04333-0041



April 30, 2019

Walter Pelkey  
Berry Huff McDonald Milligan, Inc.  
28 State Street  
Gorham, ME 04028

**RE: Information Request - Meetinghouse Road Subdivision, Wells**

Dear Walter:

Per your request received April 17, 2019, we have reviewed current Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) information for known locations of Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern species; designated Essential and Significant Wildlife Habitats; and fisheries habitat concerns within the vicinity of the *Meetinghouse Road Subdivision Project* in Wells. For purposes of this review we are assuming tree clearing will be part of your project.

Our Department has not mapped any Essential Habitats or fisheries habitats that would be directly affected by your project.

***Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Species***

**Bats**

Of the eight species of bats that occur in Maine, the three *Myotis* species are protected under Maine's Endangered Species Act (MESA) and are afforded special protection under 12 M.R.S §12801 - §12810. The three *Myotis* species include little brown bat (State Endangered), northern long-eared bat (State Endangered), and eastern small-footed bat (State Threatened). The five remaining bat species are listed as Special Concern: big brown bat, red bat, hoary bat, silver-haired bat, and tri-colored bat.

While a comprehensive statewide inventory for bats has not been completed, based on historical evidence it is likely that several of these species occur within the project area during migration and/or the breeding season. We recommend that you contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service--Maine Fish and Wildlife Complex (Wende Mahaney, 207-902-1569) for further guidance, as the northern long-eared bat is also listed as a Threatened Species under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Otherwise, our Agency does not anticipate significant impacts to any of the bat species as a result of this project.

***Significant Wildlife Habitat***

**Significant Vernal Pools**

At this time MDIFW Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH) maps indicate no known presence of SWHs subject to protection under the Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA) within the project area, which

include Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitats, Seabird Nesting Islands, Shorebird Areas, and Significant Vernal Pools. However, a comprehensive statewide inventory for Significant Vernal Pools has not been completed. Therefore, we recommend that surveys for vernal pools be conducted within the project boundary by qualified wetland scientists prior to final project design to determine whether there are Significant Vernal Pools present in the area. These surveys should extend up to 250 feet beyond the anticipated project footprint because of potential performance standard requirements for off-site Significant Vernal Pools, assuming such pools are located on land owned or controlled by the applicant. Once surveys are completed, survey forms should be submitted to our Agency for review well before the submission of any necessary permits. Our Department will need to review and verify any vernal pool data prior to final determination of significance.

This consultation review has been conducted specifically for known MDIFW jurisdictional features and should not be interpreted as a comprehensive review for the presence of other regulated features that may occur in this area. Prior to the start of any future site disturbance we recommend additional consultation with the municipality, and other state resource agencies including the Maine Natural Areas Program and Maine Department of Environmental Protection in order to avoid unintended protected resource disturbance.

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions regarding this information, or if I can be of any further assistance.

Best regards,



Becca Settele  
Wildlife Biologist