

Valuable Habitat for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Priority Trust Species for the Town of Dresden, Maine

Introduction
This map identifies valuable habitat for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Priority Trust Species. This habitat was identified in the recent Gulf of Maine Watershed Habitat Analysis by the USFWS Gulf of Maine Coastal Program. This analysis was completed for the United States portion of the Gulf of Maine watershed which includes all of Maine, most of New Hampshire and the eastern third of Massachusetts.

Priority Trust Species
Trust species of the USFWS (species we are responsible for) include all migratory birds, anadromous/catadromous (sea-run) and certain coastal fishes, and federally listed endangered and threatened species. The analysis that this map is derived from identifies valuable habitat for 91 trust species that regularly occur in the Gulf of Maine watershed and are considered a priority for protection by the USFWS because they meet any of the following criteria:
- Nationally endangered, threatened or candidate species
- Identified as threatened or endangered by 2 or 3 states in the Gulf of Maine Watershed
- Showing significant or persistent declining population trends
- Species of special interest
- Species of concern as identified in the U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, Colonial Waterbird Plan or Partners in Flight.

The priority list of trust species is (* denotes species with high value habitat in Dresden):

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| BIRDS | BIRDS (cont'd) | BIRDS (cont'd) |
| American bittern * | Louisiana waterthrush * | Upland sandpiper * |
| American black duck * | Marsh wren * | Veery * |
| American oystercatcher * | Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow * | Whimbrel * |
| American woodcock * | Northern flicker * | Whip-poor-will * |
| Arctic tern | Northern goshawk * | White-winged scoter |
| Bald eagle * | Northern harrier * | Wood duck * |
| Baltimore oriole * | Olive-sided flycatcher * | Wood thrush * |
| Bay-breasted warbler * | Osprey * | Yellow rail * |
| Bicknell's thrush | Peregrine falcon * | |
| Black scoter | Pied-billed grebe * | FISHERIES |
| Black tern * | Piping plover | Alewife * |
| Black-bellied plover * | Prairie warbler * | American eel * |
| Blackburnian warbler * | Purple sandpiper * | American shad * |
| Blackpoll warbler | Razorbill | Atlantic salmon * |
| Black-throated blue warbler * | Red crossbill * | Atlantic sturgeon * |
| Blue-winged warbler * | Red-headed woodpecker | Blueback herring * |
| Buff-breasted sandpiper * | Red knot * | Bluefish |
| Canada warbler * | Red-shouldered hawk * | Horseshoe crab |
| Cape May warbler * | Roseate tern | Shortnose sturgeon * |
| Chestnut-sided warbler * | Ruddy turnstone * | Winter flounder * |
| Common loon * | Saltmarsh sharp-tailed sparrow | |
| Common snipe * | Sanderling * | PLANTS |
| Common tern | Scaup (greater and lesser) * | Eastern prairie fringed orchid |
| Eastern meadowlark * | Seaside sparrow | Furbish's loosewort |
| Field sparrow * | Sedge wren * | Robbins' cinquefoil |
| Golden-winged warbler | Semipalmated sandpiper * | Small whorled pogonia * |
| Grasshopper sparrow * | Short-billed dowitcher * | |
| Hudsonian godwit * | Short-eared owl * | MAMMAL |
| Killdeer * | Snowy egret * | Canada lynx |
| Least sandpiper * | Solitary sandpiper * | |
| Least tern | Spruce grouse * | REPTILE |
| Little blue heron * | Surf scoter | Plymouth redbelly turtle |
| Little gull | Tricolored heron * | |

Mapping Valuable Habitat
Using a geographic information system, valuable habitat was mapped by combining field sightings (collected by various agencies and non-governmental organizations) and habitat modeling. Frequently, sightings are too limited to adequately represent all habitat used. Therefore, habitat models based on selected environmental conditions can be helpful in more fully predicting habitat utilization.

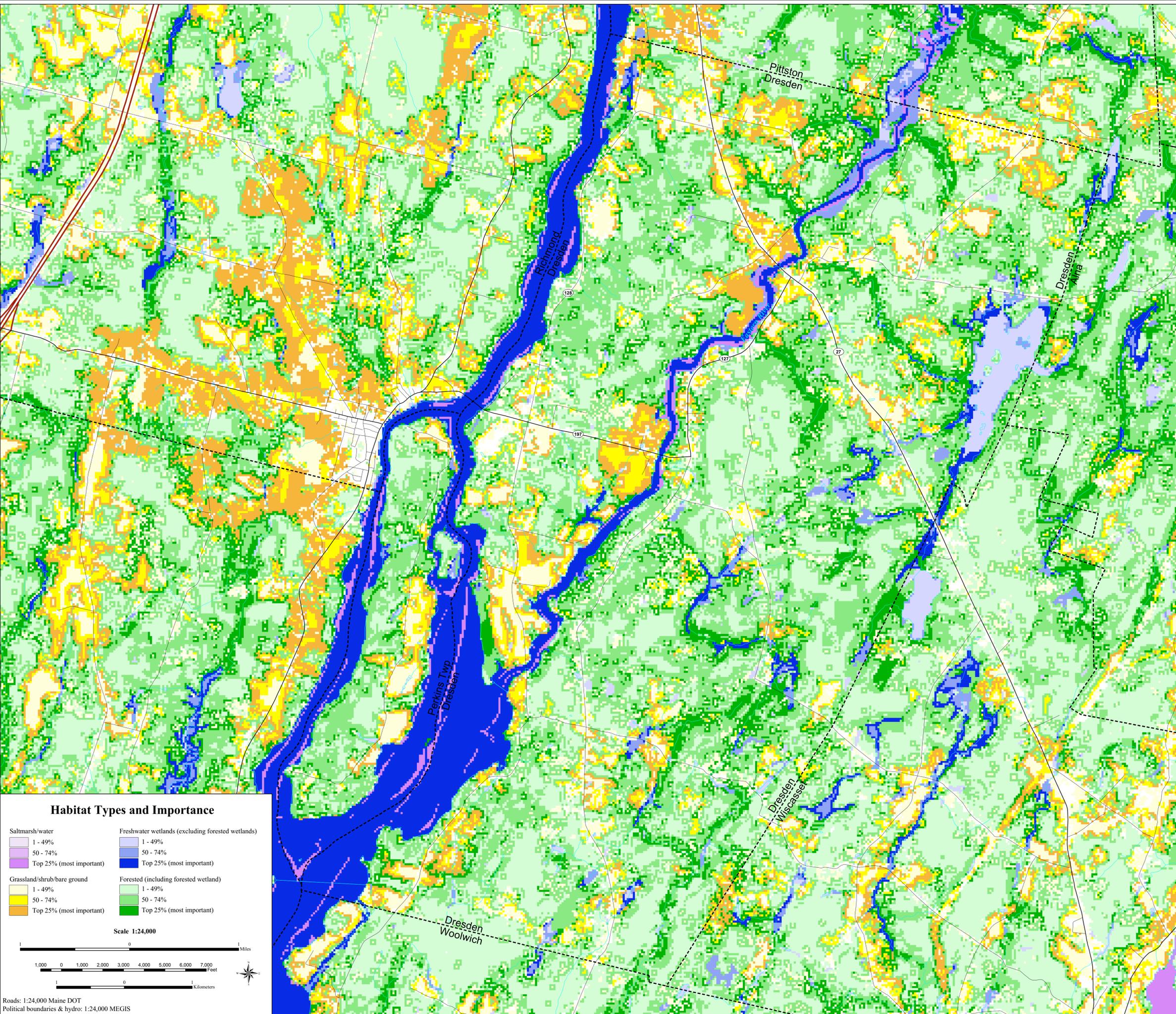
To create the final map shown on this page, we first identified habitat for each of the 91 species in the analysis and ranked its importance on a scale of one to ten, with ten being considered the most important. Next, we combined the scores for each of the species to create a sum of scores. Then, we subdivided the sum of scores into the four basic habitat types shown on this map. Finally, we portrayed the data in a three level gradient (the top 25%, the next 25%, and then, the bottom 50% of the habitat value for each habitat type). The top 25% may be considered the most important habitat in that gradient.

Uses of the Data
This map may be used in combination with other data sources to create a map of valuable wildlife habitat at the local or town level. This information can be incorporated into town comprehensive planning or open space planning. It may also be used to prioritize habitat protection by local land protection organizations or to support grants for habitat protection. This map shows only one way of portraying the data; there are many other maps that may be derived from the data. Please contact the Gulf of Maine Coastal Program for more information and assistance.

Limitations of the Data
Maps of habitats for individual species are limited by the accuracy and timeliness of the data sets used in developing them and by the validity of models used to interpret those data. We used the most recent data available and relied on species experts to review the models. We also tested predicted habitats using occurrence data. Habitat maps rely quite extensively on land cover and the land cover used for this project is based on the interpretation of 1993 satellite imagery with a resolution of 30 meters (each pixel on the map is about 1/4 acre). While providing very useful information at a landscape or town scale, use your best judgment and local knowledge when using this information at the small parcel scale. We must also emphasize that this map only shows high value habitat for the species included in the analysis; important habitat exists for other species not included in this analysis. Other important USFWS habitat of significance includes Nationally Significant Maine Coastal Nesting Islands, areas around National Wildlife Refuges and specific endangered species habitat. There may also be important habitat information available from state conservation agencies or other environmental organizations. In addition, this map does not show buffer zones that should be included to protect valuable wildlife habitat.

If you are interested in habitat protection efforts involving these data, please contact the USFWS. Digital copies of this information are available from the Gulf of Maine Coastal Program.

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Habitat Types and Importance

Saltmarsh/water	Freshwater wetlands (excluding forested wetlands)
1 - 49%	1 - 49%
50 - 74%	50 - 74%
Top 25% (most important)	Top 25% (most important)
Grassland/shrub/bare ground	Forested (including forested wetland)
1 - 49%	1 - 49%
50 - 74%	50 - 74%
Top 25% (most important)	Top 25% (most important)

Scale 1:24,000

1 Miles
1 Kilometers

Roads: 1:24,000 Maine DOT
Political boundaries & hydro: 1:24,000 MEGIS