

The Nature Conservancy in New Jersey Delaware Bayshores Office 2350 Route 47 Delmont, NJ 08314 **tel** [609] 861-0600 **fax** [609] 861-4420

nature.org/newjersey

May 9, 2016

Jessica Patterson NJDEP Green Acres Program Bureau of Legal Services and Stewardship 501 East State St. PO Box 412 Trenton, NJ 08625-0412

Re: Notice of Green Acres Public Hearing Administrative Transfer of Parkland

Transfer to NJDEP Green Acres:
Block 48, Lots 8 & 60; Block 50, Lots 6 & 45;
Block 51, Lots 79 & 81; Block 52, Lot 10
Block 389, Lot 11; Block 431, Lot 1;
Block 466.01, Lot 5; Block 473, Lot 42; Block 474, Lot 1;

<u>Transfer to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service:</u>
Block 48, Lots 5 & 62; Block 52, Lots 8 & 9
Block 415, Lot 1; Block 416, Lot 1; Block 433, Lot 3
Block 472, Lot 105; Block 475.01, Lot 4;

Middle Township, Cape May County

Dear Ms. Patterson:

The Nature Conservancy, located at 2350 Route 47, Delmont, NJ 08314, will hold a public hearing to obtain comments regarding its proposed administrative transfer of parkland owned by The Nature Conservancy to NJDEP Green Acres and the United State Fish & Wildlife Service. This transfer is subject to Green Acres Program approval.

The public hearing will be held on Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Middle Township Conference Room, 33 Mechanic St., Cape May Court House, NJ 08210. All interested parties are invited to attend and participate in the public hearing. In addition to oral comments presented during the hearing, written comments may be submitted to the agencies listed below. All written comments must be received within two weeks following the hearing, by June 30, 2016.

The proposed administrative transfer would involve the transfer of undivided interest held by The Nature Conservancy in:

56 acres at the Lizard Tail Swamp Preserve (all 56 acres transferred to NJDEP-GA); 28 acres at the Indian Trail Swamp Preserve (22 acres transferred to NJDEP-GA & 6 acres transferred to USFWS);

Jessica Patterson May 9, 2016 Page Two

108 acres at the Sunray Beach Preserve (107.5 acres transferred to NJDEP-GA & 0.5 acres transferred to USFWS);

148 acres at the Hand's Landing Preserve (143 acres transferred to NJDEP-GA & 5 acres transferred to USFWS); and

69 acres at the Goshen Ponds Preserve (62 acres transferred to NJDEP-GA & 7 acres transferred to USFWS).

The properties shall continue to be used solely for recreation and conservation purposes and shall be reasonably accessible to the public to the same extent as or greater than prior to the transfer. The Green Acres restrictions and any other applicable recreation and conservation restrictions on the parkland shall continue to apply.

All written comments should be submitted to The Nature Conservancy, with a copy sent to the NJDEP Green Acres Program, at the following addresses:

The Nature Conservancy 2350 Route 47 Delmont, NJ 08314 NJ Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program Bureau of Legal Services and Stewardship 501 East State Street, 1st Floor PO Box 412 Trenton, NJ 08625-0412 Attention: Jessica Patterson

If you have any questions, please contact me at (609) 861-0600.

Sincerely,

Mike Shanahan

Conservation Coordinator