Public Notice Proposed changes to the List of Threatened and Endangered Species that are Critically Dependent on Regulated Waters for Survival 30 Day Comment Period

Please be advised that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Land Resource Protection is proposing the following additions to the List of Threatened and Endangered Species that are Critically Dependent on Regulated Waters for Survival pursuant to the Flood Hazard Area Control Act (FHACA) rules (N.J.A.C. 7:13). This action is being taken to update the list, last revised May 15, 2008, to reflect changes in the status of various nongame animal species in New Jersey consistent with the adoption of recent changes made to the List of Endangered and Nongame Species in accordance with the Endangered and Nongame Species Conservation Act, N.J.S.A. 23:2A-1 et seq. This list revision will make the list consistent with the Department's recently adopted endangered and nongame species New Jersey status amendments (56 N.J.R. 936(a) (June 3, 2024), 57 N.J.R. 19(b) (Jan. 6, 2025)). At this time the List of Threatened and Endangered Species that are Critically Dependent on Regulated Waters for Survival for plant species is not being updated due to anticipated amendment in 2025 of the State Endangered Plant List Act.

The species proposed for addition to the list have attained endangered or threatened species status in New Jersey and have life history characteristics that make them critically dependent on regulated waters, specifically as to their water quality, flow rate, flood regime, and riparian buffers for the completion of the species' annual life cycles. Providing the stream habitat of these species with the protection standards applicable to a critically dependent on the regulated waters designation (See N.J.A.C. 7:13-4.1(c)2iii) comports with the goals and objectives of the Flood Hazard Area Control Act and the Endangered and Nongame Species Conservation Act.

The Department anticipates beginning to use the revised List of Threatened and Endangered Species that are Critically Dependent on Regulated Waters for Survival after considering public comments as described below and issuing a second public notice in a future NJDEP Bulletin. Upon publication of the second notice, the revised List will apply to all applications submitted under the FHACA rules, except for applications submitted prior to the date of the second public notice that are deemed "complete for review" by the Department as defined at N.J.A.C. 7:13-1.2.

The Department is seeking public comment on these proposed additions and any other relevant information on the status of endangered or threatened animal species as they relate to their status as being critically dependent on watercourse habitats. Comments may be submitted within 30 days of the date of this notice via mail to:

Cathryn Schaffer, Manager New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Watershed and Land Management Division of Land Resource Protection Mail Code 501-02A P.O. Box 420 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420 Or through email at <u>CDWRevision@dep.nj.gov</u>.

LIST OF THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES THAT ARE CRITICALLY DEPENDENT ON REGULATED WATERS FOR SURVIVAL

Proposed additions

INVERTEBRATES

NAME	COMMON NAME
Endangered	
Calopteryx amata	Superb Jewelwing (dragonfly)
Epitheca spinosa	Robust Baskettail (dragonfly)
Hylogomphus apomyius	Banner Clubtail (dragonfly)
Ophiogomphu]aspersus	Brook Snaketail (dragonfly)
Phanogomphus descriptus	Harpoon Clubtail (dragonfly)
Somatochlora kennedyi	Kennedy's Emerald (dragonfly)
Tachopteryx thoreyi	Gray Petaltail (dragonfly)

FISH		
Endangered		
Acipenser brevirostrum	Shortnose Sturgeon	
Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus	Atlantic Sturgeon	
Notropis bifrenatus	Bridle Shiner	
Notropis chalybaeus	Ironcolor Shiner	
Threatened		
Cottus cognatus	Slimy Sculpin	

AMPHIBIAN		
Endangered		
Psuedotriton montanus montanus	Eastern mud salamander	

FIGIT