



Draft Environmental Assessment

Waldo County

Emergency Operation Center

City of Belfast, County of Waldo, Maine

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## **PREPARER**

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**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**  
**Waldo County Emergency Operations Center**

**SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION**

**1.1. Background**

Waldo County, Maine was awarded a \$360,000.00 grant from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the Fiscal Year 2009 under the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program, Award # 2009-EO-MX-0002. This grant will be used to construct a new public facility to replace the inadequate and inefficient 2,700 square foot office area located in the basement of the old County Jail. Much of the current space is wasted in wide and lengthy hallways and stairwells.

The County of Waldo, Maine faces a number of significant natural and manmade hazards. A modern, effective and state-of-the-art emergency operations center is a necessity. Waldo County has experienced flooding and high wind events relating to severe winter weather (blizzards, nor-easter's and ice storms) and severe summer weather (hurricanes, tropical storms, nor-easter's, thunderstorms, and micro-bursts). Waldo County has also experienced extremely hazardous substances (EHS) materials spills, forest fires, aircraft crashes, and severe vehicular traffic accidents resulting in mass casualties. Selections of historical event are listed below.

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Event Type</b>             | <b>Impact</b>                                |
|-------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 1954        | Hurricane Carol               | High Wind Damages, Area-wide Flooding        |
| 1963        | Hurricane Ginny               | High Wind Damages, Area-wide Flooding        |
| 1973        | Major Flood                   | Area-wide Flooding                           |
| 1978        | Blizzard of 78                | High Wind Damages, Transportation Deadlocked |
| 1979        | Hurricane David               | High Wind Damages, Area-wide Flooding        |
| 1985        | Hurricane Gloria              | High Wind Damages, Area-wide Flooding        |
| 1991        | Tropical Storm Bob            | Area-wide Flooding                           |
| 1992        | Spring Storm                  | Area-wide Flooding, Major Road Damages       |
| 1998        | Ice Storm 98                  | Statewide Power Outage                       |
| 2006        | Microburst/Thunderstorm       | Major Forestland Damages                     |
| 2007        | 2 Spring Storms - Mar/Apr     | Area-wide Flooding, Major Road Damages       |
| 2008        | Aircraft Crash                | 1 Fatality                                   |
| 2009        | Sodium Hydroxide Tanker Crash | Property Damages and Evacuations             |

Waldo County is also home to one of the largest chemical manufacturing facilities in the State of Maine. The plant produces chlorine gas, sodium hydroxide, and sulfuric acid among many other chemicals. The County is bordered by the Penobscot River to the East and the Sabastacook River to the West. The County is also a coastal county. The County contains two municipal airports and the two primary state interstates (U.S. Route 1 and U.S. Route 3).

“In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500 through 1508), and FEMA regulations of NEPA compliance (44 CFR Part 10), FEMA must fully understand and consider the environmental consequences of actions proposed for federal funding. The purpose of this Environmental Assessment (EA) is to meet FEMA’s responsibilities under NEPA and to

determine whether to prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed project.”

## 1.2. Project Location

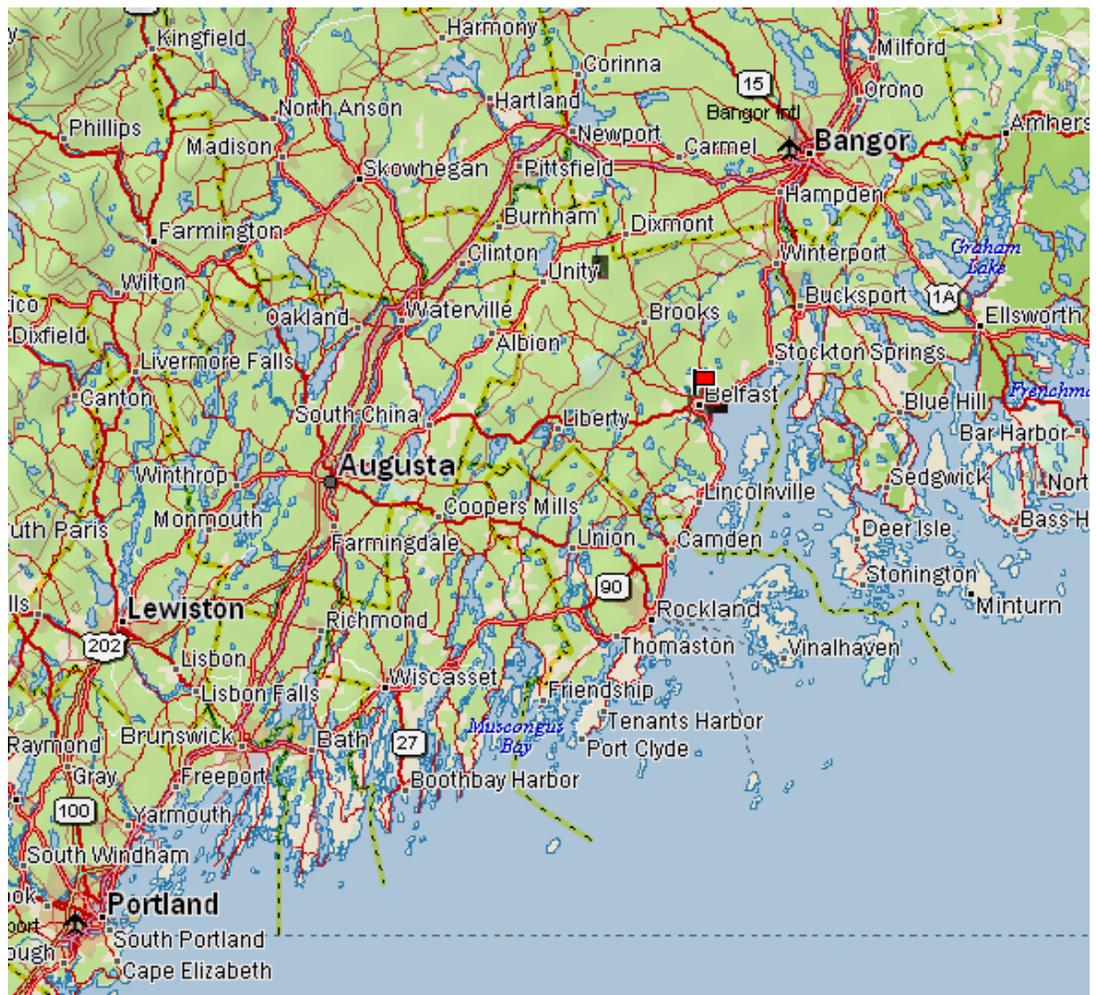
The proposed project is located in the City of Belfast, County of Waldo, State of Maine. The proposed facility will be located on the Waldo County Public Safety Complex located off Congress Street and Miller Street. The complex is located about 1 mile northeast of the U.S. Route 1 and Congress Street intersection. The map coordinates are: N 44deg 25.32’ x W 69deg 00.65’.

The City of Belfast is a small city of approximately 6,721 residents (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 Population Estimates, Census 2000, 1990 Census), which is the County Seat or “Shiretown” of the County of Waldo. The County of Waldo has a resident population of approximately 38,342 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 Population Estimates, Census 2000, 1990 Census).

The new EOC will be constructed in the City of Belfast, but will serve the entire County of Waldo, which includes the City of Belfast and 25 Towns and covers 852.74 square miles of land and water surfaces.

The project is located within the city limits of Belfast, Maine and represents appropriate development for the location. The Waldo County Public Safety Complex currently includes the County Sheriff’s Office, the County Jail, the County Regional Communications Center and the current County Emergency Management Office (located in the basement of the Jail).

Figure 1 – Red Flag indicates location of Project in Region



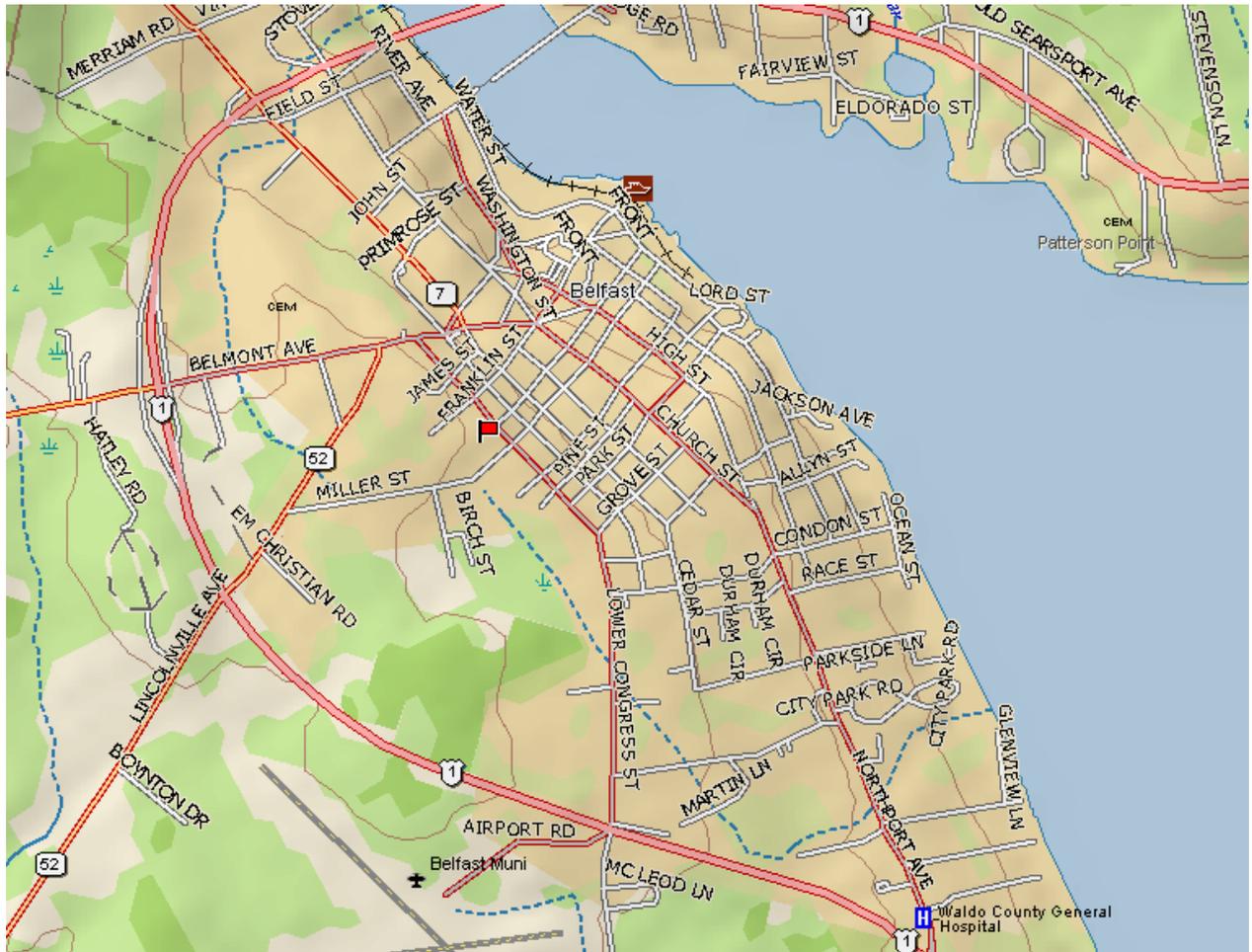


Figure 2 – Project Location within the City of Belfast



Figure 3 - Aerial Photo of Site Location

### 1.3. Existing Facility

The existing County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) facility is located in the basement of the County Jail, which was built in 1976. The County EOC is located within the County Emergency Management office, which was the original home of the Waldo County Civil Defense Office.

The following deficiencies were identified in the current facility:

- Flooding of the current underground facility occurs on a regular basis. The EOC has flooded twice in the last two years. Flooding has occurred during high rain events and from springtime snow pack runoff, both of which saturate the ground on the backside of the Jail.
- Water seeps into the EOC from the Jail above. Ceiling tiles have become drenched and collapsed onto the floor. Leaks are repaired and then appear somewhere else.
- Raw sewage seeps up through the floor drains in the bathrooms and spreads out into the EOC operations room. This has occurred twice in the last two years.
- Air quality is very poor. HVAC equipment is old and inefficient. Mold is a problem.
- The EOC is located in the basement of an old County Jail that is still operational and severely overcrowded. Security is compromised because inmates have regular access to the EOC.
- There is insufficient space to locate the EOC; nearly twice the effective space is required. The current facility wastes over 1,000 square feet in wide and lengthy stairwells and hallways and in storage areas that are not easily assessable. Another 500 square feet is wasted in room layouts not appropriate for their current use.
- The current EOC has no sprinkler system or fire detection system in place.
- The current EOC is not wheel-chair assessable.
- No heated garage space for the Response Truck and Communications Trailer. The response truck and communications trailer house tens of thousands of dollars of electronic equipment, sensitive to the extreme temperatures of Maine.

The deficiencies that will be addressed by constructing a new EOC that include:

- Proper site and facility drainage and weatherproofing.
- Separate from Jail and incorporate facility security access controls.
- Adequate floor space, and HVAC, sprinkler and fire detection systems.
- Meets all ADA requirements.

### 1.4. Project Authority

The County of Waldo, State of Maine applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for financial assistance with the construction of an Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The FY 2009 EOC Grant Program is intended to improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, and interoperable EOCs with a focus on addressing identified deficiencies and needs. The EOC Grant Program is authorized by section 614 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 6196c) as amended by the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-53). Funds for the FY 2009 EOC Grant Program are appropriated under the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 110-329). In accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for FEMA, Subpart B, Agency Implementing Procedures, Part 10.9, an Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ; 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508). The purpose of the EA is to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project, and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

## SECTION 2: PURPOSE AND NEED

Dale Rowley, the County EMA Director, who is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) and State of Maine Registered Professional Engineer (PE), conducted a facility use assessment of the existing County EOC in September 2007, using the FEMA “Emergency Operations Center Capabilities Workshop” guidance. He also conducted a building assessment in January 2008, using the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Life Safety Code 101 and the Federal CFR Appendix A to Part 1191 - Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities.

As was mentioned in Subsection 1.3 (page 4), there are several major health and use issues with the existing County EOC facility. Additionally, in October 2009, the State of Maine held a 24-hour long functional exercise involving the State EOC and nearly all of the County EOCs, including the Waldo County EOC. It was determined, following the conclusion of the exercise, that the layout and size of the Waldo County EOC was very inadequate. The main traffic area to any part of the EMA facility is through the middle of the EOC. The radio communications room is located too far away from the EOC. The EOC was extremely crowded and noisy. There is no media center or policy room. The generator system failed. Circuits were overwhelmed and breakers kept popping.

The objective of the Department of Homeland Security’s Emergency Operations Center grant program is to improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, and interoperable EOCs focusing on identified deficiencies and needs. The purpose of this project

presented in this Environmental Assessment is to provide adequate space for the Waldo County, Maine EOC to effectively address the County’s emergency management needs. The need for the project is to provide an appropriate space for the EMA and EOC to appropriately function and protect the citizens of the County.



Figure 4 - Picture is raw sewage coming up through the floor drain in the EOC bathroom, which eventually spread to the EOC operations room.

## **SECTION 3: ALTERNATIVES**

Four alternatives were considered for addressing the County's EOC operational deficiencies: No Action Alternative, the Proposed Action Alternative, the Expansion of Existing Facility Alternative, and the Construction of the EOC on an Alternative Site.

### **3.1. Alternative 1 – No Action**

Under the No Action Alternative, the Waldo County EMA will continue to operate from the existing 34-year-old basement facility. The occupants (County EMA staff) will continue to work in an unhealthy environment. There would be no increase in the external environmental impacts associated with the No Action Alternative, but the EOC needs, identified in the Needs Assessments, would not be addressed. The existing facility is outdated and does not meet current emergency management facility needs or the needs of County emergency operations. Weather-sensitive response equipment (radios, computers, and printers) in the response vehicle would continue to be stored outside in the harsh elements of the State of Maine.

### **3.2. Alternative 2 – Proposed Action (Construct a New EOC at the County Public Safety Complex)**

A new facility at the Waldo County Public Safety complex will meet all present requirements and have flexibility for future expansion and use. It will compliment current County facilities already present on the site. These include the County Regional Communications Center, the County Sheriff's Office and the primary radio communications tower for all County radio communications capabilities. Backup power and security camera systems can be shared with the Sheriff's Office. Radio antenna space is available for Emergency Management on the radio tower. The new EOC will be able to connect easily into the existing County telephone and intranet system.

The Waldo County Public Safety complex site is a 3.3-acre parcel located near the downtown of the City of Belfast. The parcel is zoned as a Residential II District which allows Essential Services, to include Public Safety facilities. The location of the new facility is a section of the complex that is currently a large grassy (mowed) field. Historically, it has been a mowed field for many years, occasionally being used as a vegetable garden by the Jail inmates. The land has been owned by the County for over 180 years.

The proposed project will include site work to mitigate storm water runoff issues. Catch basins, storm water drain pipes, and under drains will be installed and tied into a newly constructed retention pond. The facility will not have a basement, but will sit on a floating slab.

The Waldo County Public Safety complex site is bordered on by residential properties and forestland. The location of the new proposed EOC would be near the tree line of the forested area, behind the current County Jail and adjacent to the County Regional Communications Center. The new EOC will be built on the site in conjunction with a new Sheriff's Office.

The proposed project will be designed in accordance with the ADA, NFPA 101 Life Safety Code and the State of Maine Building Code. The proposed project consists of a single-story office facility, approximately 3,500 square feet in size. The building would be occupied during regular business hours by two full-time and two part-time employees. During public safety meetings and disaster activations, the EOC could see upwards of 30 personnel working in the facility. There will also be up to 30 students for classes held in the EOC.

The Facility will architecturally match the Belfast Historic District residences to the greatest extent possible. The building siding will be hardie-board siding. The roof will be asphalt shingles. All windows will have hurricane-resistant shutters. There will be no windows in the Bathrooms, Electrical-Mechanical-Data Rooms, Storage areas, Radio room and Warehouse/Garage.

The administrative office areas and operations room will have resilient tile flooring and acoustical ceiling tiles. The bathrooms will have tiled floors and walls. The walls will be painted-gypsum board. The suspended ceiling will be 8-feet high. The warehouse/garage area will have sealed concrete floor and gypsum ceiling set at the bottom of the truss system. The entire facility shall be designed for the handicapped. All free standing equipment identified in the room descriptions shall be government furnished/government installed (GF/GI) unless otherwise noted. Signs will be included for all rooms.

The Heating system will be propane-fired, radiant floor system. The air conditioning will be a central unit that will cool the entire facility.

The facility will need to be able to withstand the winds from a Category 3 Hurricane, in accordance with ASCE 7-95. There will be no structural columns within the Operations Room. The foundation shall be a floating slab with frost walls on continuous footings.

The entire facility will need to be able to run on generator power. The facility will have an automatic transfer switch. The generator will be propane-fired. Exit signs will have battery backup. All lighting fixtures are to be energy-efficient. The generator and automatic transfer switch will be provided by the government and installed by the contractor. Lighting in the Operations Center will be controlled by dimmer switches. Conduit will be provided for installing wiring from Operations Center to exterior for weather stations, radios, scanners, satellite phone, digital TV and other antennas.

The entire facility must be well secured from unauthorized entry. The admin offices and storage/garage must be able to be secured from the Operations Room. A remote entry and security camera system will be installed. Exterior lighting will be mounted on the building exterior walls.

The facility will meet all requirements of the latest version of the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, to include all smoke and heat detection and alarm systems. If the project funds are sufficient, the facility will have a sprinkler system with a Fire Department connection. All wall-hung, government-furnished, fire extinguishers will be installed in contractor-provided built in fire extinguisher cabinets.

Systems will include telephone, satellite phone, two-way radios, computer/data, television and fire alarm. Local area network and communication systems requirements will be coordinated with the County Technology consultant. The Operations Room, Radio Room and Administrative Office area will require cable trays run over the suspended ceiling tiles. All telephones and radio equipment will be government provided and contractor installed. Adjustable speakers will be installed in all offices, operations room, radio room and warehouse/garage that will be tied into the two-way radio system. Additional conduit will be run from the Radio Room and Operations Room for future build-out. The building will be wired for cable television with outlets in the Director's Office and EOC. An automated weather station (government-provided) will need to be installed outside and connected inside. A satellite phone antenna will need to be installed outside.

The facility will be very well insulated and will only use high-efficiency, emergency conserving appliances and equipment.

Rooms will include: Policy Room/Director's Office, Administration Room/Deputy Director's Office, Media Center/Common Area, Radio Room, two bathrooms, Kitchen, Operations Room, Mechanical and Electrical Room, Telephone/Data Room, Warehouse/Garage, and Admin Storage Closet.

There are existing utility connections/lines on the site. Electrical connection will be made to Central Maine Power. Building will have its own meter. Water connection will be made to the Belfast Water District. Building will have its own meter. Sewer connection will be made to the City of Belfast Sewer Department. Storm water connection will be made to the City of Belfast Sewer Department. Storm water catch basins and building under drains will be needed. Telephone connection will be made to Waldo County phone system located in the Jail Facility.

Twenty-one (21) additional parking spaces will be constructed and added to the existing 66 parking spaces at the complex. One new space will be handicap accessible. The parking layout shall be 90-degree parking, two way driving. Individual spaces shall be 9 ft x 18 feet. Travel lanes shall be 12 feet wide.

### **3.3. Alternative 3 – Expand Existing EOC**

The current County EOC is located in the basement of the County Jail. Expansion of the current Emergency Management Offices and EOC at its present location is not possible since all available space in the building is being utilized and Jail administration is also seeking more space. Due to the proximity of the Jail to other buildings and property line set backs, there is no room to expand the current Jail/EOC facility outside of its current foot print.

This alternative would also not allow for adequate separation of the EOC from the County Jail. Currently, prisoners have access to the County EOC areas. This is a major compromise the security of the current EOC operations. This alternate has been dismissed.

### **3.4. Alternative 4 - EOC Construction on Alternate Site**

The proposed County EOC building could be constructed on an alternative site owned by the County of Waldo. This site is located adjacent to the Belfast Regional Airport. However, it would entail added costs to develop far exceeding available funds for the project. Also, it would negate the benefit of having the County EOC located near to the County Regional Communications Center and the County Sheriff's Office. This alternative also would not allow the new EOC to utilize the County's primary radio tower and a new tower would need to be built. Unfortunately, due to FAA Glide Slope requirements, the County would not be able to build a radio tower next to the airport. This would not allow the County EOC to have adequate radio communications, which is an absolute must for an Emergency Operations Center. Efficiencies of a combined public safety complex include simpler and shorter access routes and travel times, and easier communication of among staff, especially in the time of an emergency. This alternate has been dismissed.

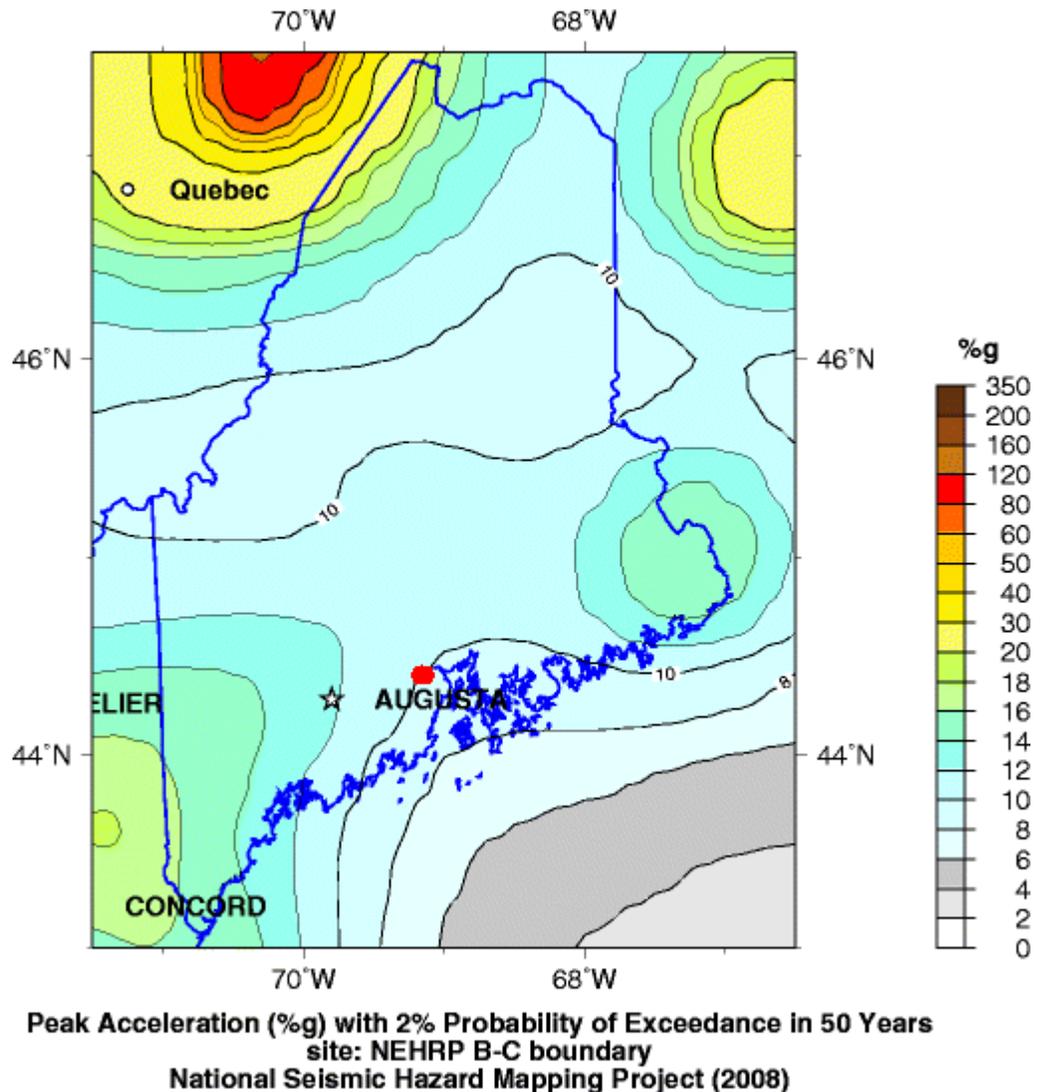
## SECTION 4: AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND CONSEQUENCES

### 4.1. Geology, Seismicity and Soils

Figure 5 – (Red Dot is Project Location)

#### Seismicity

The project site is located in an area with minimal earthquake activity as indicated by the “Earthquakes in Maine 2003” document prepared by the Maine Department of Conservation, Maine Geological Survey Office (See Section 7.1). According to the Maine Geological Survey, there have been no recorded earthquakes in the City of Belfast. Waldo County is not regarded as one of the counties in Maine with a high risk for seismic activity. All architectural and engineering design best practices will be followed to conform to all local codes and ordinances.



“Seismic activity in Maine is typical of the Appalachian region of northeastern North America. There is a low but steady rate of earthquake occurrence. The earthquakes are presumably caused by modern stress being released occasionally along zones of weakness in the earth's crust, but a more specific cause for the earthquake activity is not known. Recorded earthquake locations and detailed seismic motion studies do not show any clear correlation with either local or regional geologic features (Ebel, 1989). No significant amount of motion has been shown for any fault since the last Ice Age, about 20,000 years ago, and geologic evidence demonstrates that many faults have been inactive since the formation of the Appalachians, over 300,000,000 years ago. None of the ancient faults in Maine have been identified as active (Anderson et al., 1989; Osberg et al., 1989).”

“Most Maine earthquakes are of small magnitude. Many are too small to feel. No Maine earthquake has caused significant damage. The persistent activity, however, indicates that some crustal deformation is occurring and that a larger earthquake cannot be ruled out (Ebel, 1989). Based on past earthquake data collected over a limited time span (1975-1982) from the whole of New England, and assuming that Maine is a representative part thereof, Ebel (1984) has estimated the return times for earthquakes in Maine as follows:

**Table 1. Estimated return times for earthquakes of different magnitudes in Maine.**

| Magnitude           | 4.6 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 6.0 | 6.5 | 7.0  |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Return time (years) | 24  | 52  | 138 | 363 | 955 | 2512 |
| (±20 to 30%)        |     |     |     |     |     |      |

Ebel (1984) also made similar estimates based just on the seismic activity for Maine recorded in that same time span, and arrived at slightly shorter return times for magnitude 5.0 or smaller, and slightly longer return times for magnitude 6.5 or greater earthquakes.”

(Earthquakes in Maine, Henry N. Berry IV, Maine Geological Survey, Department of Conservation, 2006)

### Geotechnical Report

The geotechnical engineering firm, S.W. Cole Engineering, Inc., was hired to complete a thorough geotechnical analysis to determine the site conditions for designing and building the new EOC. The geotechnical report is being used by the design firm, WBRC Architects-Engineers, hired by the County to design the new structure.

The geotechnical report’s general findings stated “Below surficial topsoil, the explorations made in the proposed building area encountered sand and silt soils with organics overlying native glacial till. Bedrock was not encountered in the test pits. The native glacial till soils are suitable to support the proposed building on conventional spread footing foundations. The surficial soils containing organics must be removed beneath the proposed building footprint and replaced with compacted Structural Fill. The depth to native glacial till ranged from approximately 1.8 to 3.0 feet. The soils encountered are frost susceptible and have poor drainage characteristics. Relatively shallow groundwater was encountered in the test pits. These conditions need to be considered in the planning and design phases of this project.”

WBRC Architects-Engineers have utilized the report to design proper stormwater management and foundation systems.

### Soils

The Soil Survey of Waldo County, Maine was consulted to determine the type of soils and their corresponding properties. Waldo County is located midway along the Maine coast and consists of a coastal area and an uplands area. During the last major ice age, the County was located under the glaciers and much of the soil is glacial till.

The Waldo County Public Safety complex soils are primarily Brayton fine sandy loam, 0 to 8 percent slope (BtB) and Peru fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slope (PaB). Brayton fine sandy loam is typically poorly drained soils that are poorly suited to farming. The water table is typically high and the water capacity is low or moderate. Peru fine sandy loam is typically moderately drained soils that is moderately suited to farming and well suited to softwood woodland types. The seasonal water table is typically high and the water capacity is low or moderate.

Due to the relative small size of the property and its presence in a suburban area of the City of Belfast, farming is not a highly value use of this property. Construction should be performed during the summer months and proper stormwater management systems will need to be included in the site work.

### Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action Alternatives, there are no impacts to the existing facility related to geology or seismicity. However, the current EOC facility will continue to be susceptible to flooding inside the facility due to spring runoff and major rain events.

### Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

Under this alternative, there will be no impacts to the proposed facility related to geology or seismicity. Short-term impacts to soils will occur during the construction period. However, appropriate stormwater best management practices (BMPs) such as silt fence, prompt planting of vegetation, and completion of landscaping would be used to minimize erosion due to runoff. The risk of damage to the facility due to a seismic event at this project location is very improbable.

### Alternative 3 – Expansion of Existing EOC

There would be no impacts to the expansion of the existing facility related to geology or seismicity. Impacts due to flooding could occur, similar to Alternative 1. However, since there is no space at the current EOC facility site to expand, this option is not viable.

### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

There would be no impacts to a facility at an alternate site related to geology or seismicity. Under this alternative, however, major site development work will need to be accomplished that could impact the site soils. This alternate location is large in size and there is no vehicular access at this point in time.

## **4.1.1. Topography**

The topography of the proposed project site is very flat. The site is a 1-1/2 acre maintained grassy field with a very gentle slope from the forested back area down towards the County Jail facility. The entire County Public Safety complex is located upland of the downtown area of the City of Belfast and the Harbor.

### Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, there are no impacts related to topography. However, the current EOC facility will continue to be susceptible to flooding inside the facility due to stormwater sheet flow running across the project site and damming against the County Jail.

### Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

Under this alternative, there are no impacts related to topography, to the new facility or by the facility. The proposed EOC facility will incorporate engineered stormwater management systems that will tie into the City's stormwater system. The project will include site work to construct a stormwater retention pond and will add catch basins, storm water drain pipes and building foundation under drains. The retention pond will be sized to deal with the 50-year Type III 24-hour storm event. There is no landslide potential due to the near flat grade and the type of soils.

### Alternative 3 – Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion Alternative, there are no impacts related to topography. However, the current EOC facility, even expanded, will continue to be susceptible to flooding inside the facility due to stormwater sheet flow running across the project site and damming against the County Jail.

### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under this alternative, there are no impacts related to topography. The alternate site EOC facility will be required to incorporate engineered stormwater management systems that will tie into the City's stormwater system. However, the city stormwater management system is not located in the vicinity and major stormwater drainage line expansion would need to occur at great expense.

## **4.1.2. Climate**

Maine has a continental climate that includes four distinct seasons, with cold winters and warm summers. Winter temperatures in Belfast average around 24°F and the average daily minimum temperature is 14°F, but has dropped to -28°F. Summer temperatures in Belfast average around 66°F and the average daily maximum temperature is 78°F, but has risen to 98°F. (Soil Survey of Waldo County, page 2)

The rainiest time of the year for Belfast is April through September, accounting for 43% of the annual rainfall of 48.7 inches. Thunderstorms occur about 20 times a year in the Belfast area. Average amount of snowfall during a winter season is 59 inches. The wind prevails from the south, with an average wind speed of 10 mph. (Soil Survey of Waldo County, page 2)

### Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, there are no impacts related to climate.

### Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Alternative, there are no impacts related to climate.

### Alternative 3 – Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion Alternative, there are no impacts related to climate.

### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, there are no impacts related to climate.

## **4.2. Water Resources**

### **4.2.1. Hydrology/Drinking Water Quality**

There is no visible surface water detected on the site. The run-off from the site ultimately drains to the Passagassawakeag River and Belfast Harbor which is over a mile from the site. There are no known aquifers in the vicinity of the site. (See Section 7.1 for Sand and Gravel Aquifers Map)

The project is not located near any public drinking water supply, surface water bodies, and coastal areas. There is a small pond located about 1,800 feet from the project site, which is located at a higher elevation. The project site is located 3,000 feet from Penobscot Bay and the entire project site is tied into the city storm water system. There are no groundwater supplies within 1.54 miles and the project does not create any contaminated runoff.

Existing site topography is shown on the site plan in Section 7.1. Sufficient stormwater detention volume will be provided to compensate for new impervious areas that will be being constructed.

#### Alternative 1 – No Action

There are no ground water resources that would be affected by the No Action Alternative.

#### Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, temporary short-term impacts to surface water could occur during construction. During construction, on site detention will be provided through site grading. The site also contains an existing storm sewer system that will be utilized. The County will comply with all stormwater management requirements indicated in the City of Belfast land use ordinances. Post construction will have the facility tied into the City piped water supply system.

#### Alternative 3 – Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion Alternative, temporary short-term impacts to surface water would occur during construction. During construction, on site detention will be provided through site grading. The site also contains an existing storm sewer system that will be utilized. The County will comply with all stormwater management requirements indicated in the City of Belfast land use ordinances.

#### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Action Alternative, temporary short-term impacts to surface water could occur during construction. During construction, on site detention will be provided through site grading. The site also contains an existing storm sewer system that will be utilized. The County will comply with all stormwater management requirements indicated in the City of Belfast land use ordinances.

#### **4.2.2. Floodplains/Executive Order 11988: Floodplain Management**

The topographic map for the area around the proposed project site indicates that the site is located 194 feet above sea level. As referenced on FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Map, dated May 3, 1990; Panel # 230129 0008B, the project site is not located in any floodplain. The project site is located completely within a Zone X, which is outside the 500-year floodplain. The City of Belfast participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. See the FEMA Firmette located in Section 7.1 for more information on the floodplain.

### Alternative 1 – No Action

The current County EOC is located outside the 500-year floodplain. Therefore, there are no impacts related to the floodplain by the No Action Alternative.

### Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The proposed project site is located outside the 500-year floodplain and there are no impacts to the floodplain.

### Alternative 3 – Expansion of Existing EOC

The current County EOC is located outside the 500-year floodplain. Therefore, there are no impacts related to the floodplain by the Expansion of the Existing EOC Alternative.

### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

The property owned by the County near the airport is also is located outside the 500-year floodplain. Therefore, there are no impacts related to the floodplain by the Alternate Site Alternative.

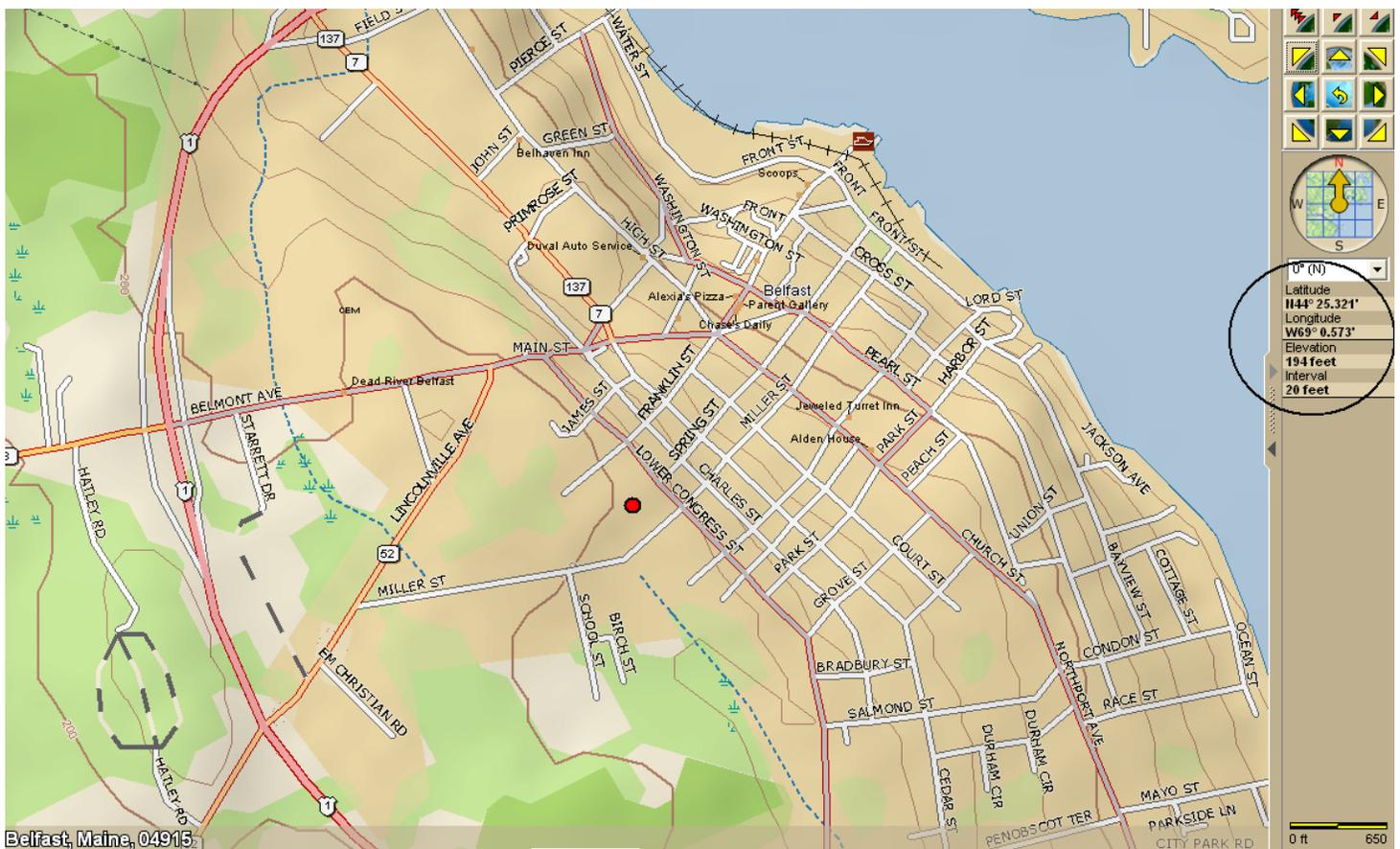


Figure 6 – Elevation of Project Site – 194 feet ASL

#### **4.2.3. Wetlands/Executive Order 11990: Protection of Wetlands**

“Executive Order (EO) 11990, Protection of Wetlands, requires federal agencies to take action to minimize the loss of wetlands. The NEPA compliance process requires federal agencies to consider direct and indirect impacts to wetlands, which may result from federally funded actions”

The National Wetland Inventory (NWI) Maps were consulted. It was determined that no wetlands exist on the site. The closest wetlands (PSS1E) is located a couple of city blocks away in a south-easterly direction (See “Proposed Project Site – Wetlands” map in Section 7.1). The proposed project site is a mowed grassy field with no standing water and no wetlands vegetation or animal life.

The County hired Moyses Environmental Services to evaluate the proposed site for protected resources such as “wetlands” and “streams”. The site evaluator indicated that no wetlands will be impacted by this proposed project. The evaluation is included in Section 6.

##### Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to wetlands are anticipated.

##### Alternative 2 – Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, no impacts to wetlands are anticipated.

##### Alternative 3 – Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no impacts to wetlands are anticipated.

##### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, impact to wetlands can be avoided. The parcel is large enough that a site should be found without impacting wetlands that may be present on the property.

#### **4.2.4. Groundwater**

The project site is not located on or near any sources of groundwater used for drinking water. The closest ground water supply is located 1.54 miles away at the Belfast Water District located off U.S. Route 1 at the City of Belfast and Town of Northport town line. In consulting the Maine Geological Survey’s “Significant Sand and Gravel Aquifers” map, dated 2000, the proposed project site is more than two miles away from the nearest aquifer.

See section 6 for the agency coordination letter from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection’s Bureau of Land and Water Quality and the Belfast Water District.

##### Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to groundwater are anticipated.

##### Alternative 2 – Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, no impacts to groundwater are anticipated.

### Alternative 3 – Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no impacts to groundwater are anticipated.

### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, impact to groundwater is unlikely. The parcel is large enough that a site can be found without impacting groundwater that may be in the vicinity of the property.

## **4.3. Biological Resources**

### **4.3.1. Flora (vegetation)**

The proposed project site is a mowed field behind the Waldo County Jail, that has been used for vegetable gardens in the past by the inmates. The Maine Natural Areas Program stated that “there are no rare botanical features that will be disturbed within the project site.” See the MNAP letter in Section 6.

### Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to floral resources are anticipated.

### Alternative 2 – Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, no impacts to floral resources are anticipated.

### Alternative 3 – Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no impacts to floral resources are anticipated.

### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, impact to floral resources is a remote possibility. The parcel is nearly completely forested.

### **4.3.2. Fauna (animals)**

The proposed project site is a mowed field behind the Waldo County Jail, that has been used for vegetable gardens in the past by the inmates. The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife stated “According to MDIFW records there are no known Essential Habitats [from the list above] that are associated with the subject site.” See the MDIFW letter and USDOJ Fish and Wildlife Service letters located in Section 6.

### Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to animal resources are anticipated.

### Alternative 2 – Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, no impacts to animal resources are anticipated.

### Alternative 3 – Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no impacts to animal resources are anticipated.

### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, impact to animal resources is a possibility. The parcel is nearly completely forested.

#### **4.3.2.1. Fish**

The proposed project site is a mowed field behind the Waldo County Jail. There are no standing water bodies on or in the vicinity of the proposed project site. See the MDIFW letter and USDOJ Fish and Wildlife Service letters located in Section 6, which state that there will be no impact to fish.

### Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to fish resources are anticipated.

### Alternative 2 – Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, no impacts to fish resources are anticipated.

### Alternative 3 – Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no impacts to fish resources are anticipated.

### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, impact to fish resources is not likely. There are no ponds, lakes, rivers or streams on the site. However, the presence of vernal pools is possible.

#### **4.3.2.2. Endangered Species/Endangered Species Act Compliance**

In accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, the project area was evaluated for the potential occurrences of federally listed threatened and endangered species. The ESA requires any federal agency that funds, authorizes or carries out an action to ensure that their action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species (including plant species) or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitats.

The proposed project construction site, as part of the Waldo County Public Safety complex, is a mowed field with no impacted mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, and insects.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife lists 18 “Maine Endangered Species”, 16 “Maine Threatened Species”, and 15 “Federally Listed Endangered or Threatened Species” located in the State of Maine. Of these, there are 2 “Maine Endangered Species”, 5 “Maine Threatened Species”, and 2 “Federally Listed Endangered or Threatened Species” located in or within range of Waldo County. These species include the Black Tern, Sedge Tern, Bald Eagle, Upland Sandpiper, Spotted Turtle, Tidewater Mucket, Yellow Lampmussel, Atlantic Salmon and the Shortnose Sturgeon. Of these, according to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, none are known to have any habitat within the City of

Belfast. The Maine Natural Areas Program stated that there were “no rare botanical features that will be disturbed within the project site.”

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service response letter included a map showing an radius of concern for the Rambar’s Forktail – a damselfly that is not considered to be endangered, not threatened; last observed at the location indicated on the map on July 7, 2000. This is not shown as critical habitat. The letter recommended contacting the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Maine Natural Areas Program for additional information. Both agencies were contacted and neither expressed any interest in the Rambar’s Forktail at the project site.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Maine Natural Areas Program and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, all provided evaluation letters of our proposed project (see letters in Section 6). Based upon the location and the lack of habitat, there are no adverse effects on any Threatened or Endangered species.

#### Alternative 1, No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to biological resources or protected species would occur.

#### Alternative 2, Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, short-term impacts to habitats and water quality could occur due to storm water runoff during construction. To mitigate potential water quality issues, an Erosion Control Plan will be created and utilized during construction, in accordance with Maine Department of Environmental Protection’s laws and regulations.

#### Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no impacts to biological resources or protected species would occur.

#### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, short-term impacts to habitats and water quality could occur due to storm water runoff during construction. To mitigate potential water quality issues, an Erosion Control Plan will be created and utilized during construction, in accordance with Maine Department of Environmental Protection’s laws and regulations.

### **4.3.3. Water Quality**

Water quality in the State of Maine is overseen by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Bureau of Land and Water Quality, with assistance from the municipal code enforcement officer. The proposed project is not significant enough as to require any Maine DEP permits. Storm water management requirements will need to be met according to the City of Belfast land use ordinances. Approval of the Belfast Planning board is required prior to start of construction. Whether a project runs-off directly to an open water source or not, a Sediment and Erosion Control Plan is required and will be created and utilized during construction. Once the project is complete, the project will meet all storm water retention requirements and will tie into the City of Belfast’s storm water system. See Section 6 for coordination letter from Belfast Water Pollution Control Facility.

#### Alternative 1, No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to water quality would occur.

#### Alternative 2, Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, short-term impacts to water quality could occur due to storm water runoff during construction. To mitigate potential water quality issues, a Sediment and Erosion Control Plan will be created and utilized during construction, in accordance with Maine Department of Environmental Protection's laws and regulations.

#### Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no impacts to water quality would occur.

#### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, short-term impacts to water quality could occur due to storm water runoff during construction. To mitigate potential water quality issues, an Erosion Control Plan will be created and utilized during construction, in accordance with Maine Department of Environmental Protection's laws and regulations.

### **4.4. Air Quality**

The Clean Air Act requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment; the Clean Air Act established two types of national air quality standards; primary standards set limits to protect public health, including the health of 'sensitive' populations such as asthmatics, children, and the elderly; secondary standards set limits to protect public welfare, including protection against decreased visibility, damage to animals, crops, vegetation and buildings; current criteria pollutants are: Carbon Monoxide (CO), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), Ozone (O<sub>2</sub>), Lead (Pb), Particulate Matter (PM), and Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>).

Construction and operation of a County EOC will not produce any pollutants. Due to the nature of the in situ soil material and moisture content, there will be no dust issues during construction. No pollutants will be created by the County EOC, except for its propane heating system, which will be a cleaner burning fuel, then the current oil fired furnace that heats the existing EOC. See the Maine DEP Bureau of Air Quality letter in Section 6.

#### Alternative 1, No Action

The No Action Alternative will not affect the air quality in the project area.

#### Alternative 2, Proposed Action

The Proposed Action Alternative will not affect the air quality in the project area.

#### Alternative 3, Expand Existing EOC

The Expand Existing EOC Alternative will not affect the air quality in the project area.

#### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

The Alternate Site Alternative will not affect the air quality in the project area.

#### **4.5. Transportation Infrastructure**

The proposed site is located on the existing Waldo County Public Safety complex off Congress and Miller Streets in the City of Belfast. Congress Street intersects U.S. Route 1 and Main Street. Miller Street intersects Church Street and Lincolnville Avenue. Since the existing County EOC is already located at this complex, there will be no increased traffic volume due to a new EOC located at the same complex. Traffic is very light on Congress Street and visitors to the current County EOC vary from none to less than a dozen vehicles per day. A detailed traffic study was accomplished by Gorrill-Palmer Consulting Engineers. The Gorrill-Palmer report stated “Based on a review of the traffic and parking related data, it is the opinion of our office that the local transportation network can accommodate the new and redistributed traffic associated with the reconfiguration of the Waldo County Emergency Operations Center and Sheriff’s Office.” See the Gorrill-Palmer report in Section 6.

#### Alternative 1, No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to traffic are anticipated.

#### Alternative 2, Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, short-term impacts due to increased construction traffic are anticipated. To mitigate potential delays, construction vehicles will be parked on site during project construction.

#### Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, short term impacts due to increased construction traffic is anticipated; although this would be slight since all the construction will take place within an existing county building and not require large trucks or other heavy equipment.

#### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, short-term impacts due to increased construction traffic are anticipated. The Alternate site is also located off Congress Street and intersects U.S. Route 1. To mitigate potential delays, construction vehicles will be parked on site during project construction.

#### **4.6. Noise**

“Noise defined herein as undesirable sound, is federally regulated by the Noise Control Act of 1972 (NCA); although the NCA gives EPA authority to prepare guidelines for acceptable ambient noise levels, it only charges those federal agencies that operate noise-producing facilities or equipment to implement noise standards; the EPA’s guidelines, and those of many federal agencies, state and outdoor sound level in excess of 55 dB are “normally unacceptable” for noise-sensitive land uses such as residences, schools and hospitals.”

The only noise from the proposed project will be that associated with normal construction activities. There will be no drilling, blasting, hammering or other very noisy construction activities. Noise from construction will be similar to residential construction. Once the office building is complete, there will be no excessive noise from the project.

#### Alternative 1, No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts due to noise are anticipated.

#### Alternative 2, Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, temporary short-term, minor impacts due to noise are anticipated during the construction period. To reduce noise levels during the period, construction activities would take place during normal business hours, and equipment and machinery installed at the proposed project site would meet all Federal, state, and local noise regulations.

#### Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, temporary short-term, minor impacts due to noise are anticipated during the construction period. To reduce noise levels during the period, construction activities would take place during normal business hours, and equipment and machinery installed at the proposed project site would meet all Federal, state, and local noise regulations.

#### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, temporary short-term, minor impacts due to noise are anticipated during the construction period. To reduce noise levels during the period, construction activities would take place during normal business hours, and equipment and machinery installed at the proposed project site would meet all Federal, state, and local noise regulations.

### **4.7. Cultural Resources**

#### **4.7.1. Archeological/Historic Resources/NHPA Compliance**

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended, and implemented by 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800; requirements include identification of significant historic properties that may be affected by the Proposed Action; historic properties are defined as archaeological sites, standing structures or other historic resources listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (36CFR 60.4).

The Maine State Historic Preservation Commission (SHPC) was consulted regarding the site and indicated there are no known prehistoric or historic resources that would be adversely affected by the proposed action. See the Maine SHPC letter located in Section 6.

The Maine SHPC did have considerations regarding the disposition of the old Sheriff's Office. Although, the new EOC is not currently located in the old Sheriff's Office, the new EOC will be located within the same new building as the New Sheriff's Office. Once the New Sheriff's Office is built, the Sheriff will no longer need the old facility. The County Commissioners have decided to reuse the old Sheriff's Office as a Facility Management Office (staff of 2 employees) and document storage facility.

The site has been owned by the County of Waldo and used as a County Jail site since August 28, 1828. The first Jail was replaced in 1851. That structure still exists, but is used only for cold storage. The current County Jail and the current Emergency Management Office were constructed in 1976. The current Sheriff's Office was built in 1887. The Communications Facility was built in 2001. The site of the proposed new EOC location had originally been used as a horse pasture, until the Sheriff switched to using automobiles. Since then it has been a field and a vegetable garden.

#### Alternative 1, No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to archeological or cultural resources are anticipated.

#### Alternative 2, Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, no impacts to archeological or cultural resources are anticipated. To ensure that ground disturbing activities will not adversely affect any buried cultural resources, and in accordance with 36 CFR 800.13, provisions are set forth to deal with unexpected discoveries that may be historically significant but were not identified as part of the initial review process.

#### Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC, no impacts to archeological or cultural resources are anticipated. To ensure that ground disturbing activities will not adversely affect any buried cultural resources, and in accordance with 36 CFR 800.13, provisions are set forth to deal with unexpected discoveries that may be historically significant but were not identified as part of the initial review process.

#### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, no impacts to archeological or cultural resources are anticipated. The alternate site is a very wet hillside forested area adjacent to the City Airport. There has never been development at that location, nor are there any known historic or prehistoric sites in the vicinity. To ensure that ground disturbing activities will not adversely affect any buried cultural resources, and in accordance with 36 CFR 800.13, provisions are set forth to deal with unexpected discoveries that may be historically significant but were not identified as part of the initial review process.

### **4.7.2. Housing and Economic Development**

The proposed project site is located on the backside of the current Waldo County Public Safety in a vacant field. The new building would be located between a County Jail and a forested area and behind a current residential area. No homes would need to be removed or altered due to this project. Home values will not decrease due to the high quality and low impact of such a building.

There will be a boost to the local economy due to the construction work during the period of time the building is constructed.

The 2000 U.S. Census Data for the City of Belfast is listed below.

| <b>Social Characteristics</b>   | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percent</b> | <b>U.S.</b> |
|---|---------------|----------------|-------------|
| Population 25 years and over  | 4,553         |                |             |
| High school graduate or higher  | 3,733         | 82.0           | 80.4%       |
| Bachelor's degree or higher   | 1,324         | 29.1           | 24.4%       |
| Civilian veterans (civilian population 18 years and over)               | 804           | 16.0           | 12.7%       |
| Disability status (population 5 years and over)                         | 1,366         | 23.2           | 19.3%       |
| Foreign born  | 139           | 2.2            | 11.1%       |
| Male, Now married, except separated (population 15 years and over)      | 1,381         | 57.9           | 56.7%       |
| Female, Now married, except separated (population 15 years and over)    | 1,324         | 45.8           | 52.1%       |
| Speak a language other than English at home (population 5 yrs and over) | 170           | 2.8            | 17.9%       |
| <b>Economic Characteristics</b>   | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percent</b> | <b>U.S.</b> |
| In labor force (population 16 years and over)                           | 3,187         | 61.3           | 63.9%       |
| Mean travel time to work in minutes (workers 16 years and over)         | 20.2          | (X)            | 25.5        |
| Median household income in 1999 (dollars)                               | 32,400        | (X)            | 41,994      |
| Median family income in 1999 (dollars)                                  | 43,253        | (X)            | 50,046      |
| Per capita income in 1999 (dollars)                                     | 19,276        | (X)            | 21,587      |
| Families below poverty level  | 172           | 10.0           | 9.2%        |
| Individuals below poverty level   | 816           | 13.2           | 12.4%       |
| <b>Housing Characteristics</b>  | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percent</b> | <b>U.S.</b> |
| Single-family owner-occupied homes                                      | 1,164         |                |             |
| Median value (dollars)  | 108,200       | (X)            | 119,600     |
| Median of selected monthly owner costs                                  | (X)           | (X)            |             |
| With a mortgage (dollars)   | 903           | (X)            | 1,088       |
| Not mortgaged (dollars)   | 318           | (X)            | 295         |

Figure 7 – Census Data for Belfast

Though the City of Belfast has lower economic characteristics than the U.S. National averages, the City of Belfast has higher economic characteristics than most of the rest of the County of Waldo.

Alternative 1, No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to housing and economic development are anticipated.

Alternative 2, Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, no impacts to housing and economic development are anticipated.

Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no impacts to housing and economic development are anticipated.

Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, no impacts to housing and economic development are anticipated.

### **4.7.3. Aesthetics and Urban Design**

The proposed site is a vacant, mowed field. North and west of the site is a forested area. East of the site is a line of trees with several homes adjacent to the project site. Dense landscaping will be accomplished in order to screen the residential properties from the parking areas and vehicle headlights; as is required by the City of Belfast ordinances. South of the proposed project site is the County Jail and the County Regional Communications Center. The new building will have low-impact, exterior cut-off lights. The locations and types of exterior lighting will be so as to ensure that undue glare and adverse impact on the surrounding properties will be avoided.

#### Alternative 1, No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to visual resources are anticipated.

#### Alternative 2, Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, no impacts to visual resources are anticipated. The proposal will be within a cluster of county governmental buildings. It will be constructed on a 3.3 acre site and is a one story building. There are no significant visual resources and the building will be consistent with other buildings in the area.

#### Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no impacts to the visual resources are anticipated due to the expansion of the EOC would occur within a cluster of county governmental buildings.

#### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, no impacts to visual resources are anticipated because the site is located in a remote forested area.

### **4.7.4. Hazardous Materials and Waste**

There are no known hazardous materials on the site, excluding above ground propane tanks and a buried heating oil tank at the Jail. The property has been owned by the County for 182 years. The proposed project site is currently a mowed, grassy field with no signs of any other disturbances.

#### Alternative 1, No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts due to hazardous materials are anticipated.

#### Alternative 2, Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, no impacts due to hazardous materials are anticipated. Although subsurface hazardous materials are not anticipated to be present, excavation activities could expose or otherwise affect subsurface hazardous wastes or materials. Any hazardous materials discovered during construction shall be disposed of and handled by the project applicant in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

### Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no impacts due to hazardous materials are anticipated.

### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, no impacts due to hazardous materials are anticipated. Although subsurface hazardous materials are not anticipated to be present, excavation activities could expose or otherwise affect subsurface hazardous wastes or materials. Any hazardous materials discovered during construction shall be disposed of and handled by the project applicant in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

## **4.8. Socioeconomic**

### **4.8.1. Land Use and Zoning**

The project site is a portion of a 3.3 acre site that contains various Waldo County public safety buildings. The project site is a vacant, grassy area located within the corporate boundaries of the City of Belfast, Maine. The County complex site is located in the Belfast R-II residential zone. A land use and a building permit will be required and would be issued following a site and design review by the City Planning Board. See City of Belfast Land Use and Zoning Map in Section 7.1.

### Alternative 1, No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to zoning or land use are anticipated.

### Alternative 2, Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, City land use and building permits will be required by the City of Belfast. The permit will be obtained by Waldo County prior to any construction work commencing on the project. The proposed development is appropriate for the site and consistent with required land use.

### Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, City land use and building permits will be required by the City of Belfast. The permit will be obtained by Waldo County prior to any construction work commencing on the project. The proposed development is appropriate for the site and consistent with required land use.

### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, City land use and building permits will be required by the City of Belfast. The permit will be obtained by Waldo County prior to any construction work commencing on the project. The proposed development is appropriate for the site and consistent with required land use.

#### **4.8.2. Executive Order 12898: Environmental Justice**

“On February 11, 1994, President Clinton signed Executive Order (EO) 12898, entitled ‘Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations’. The EO directs federal agencies, ‘to make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States...’”

The State of Maine has a population of 1,316,456 (2008 US Census Estimate). Waldo County has a population of 38,342 (2008 US Census Estimate) and the City of Belfast has a population of 6,381 (2000 US Census). Of this population, 7.8% in the State of Maine, 3.3% in Waldo County, and 2.8% in Belfast speak a language other than English at home (2000 US Census). 2007 US Census statistics also show that the State of Maine has 12.2% of its families considered to be at or below the poverty level. That percentage in Waldo County is 14.5% of its families while the City of Belfast shows 10.0% of its families are at or below the poverty level. Finally, according the 2008 US Census, the minority population for the State of Maine stands at approximately 3.6%, in Waldo County at 2.3% and in the City of Belfast at 2.4%.

The proposed project will in no way negatively impact any of these population groups. This project is being funded with a FEMA grant (\$360,000) and a current County Future Facilities reserve account (\$120,000). Taxes will not be raised to fund it. This project will also provide construction jobs in an area where the construction industry has been hit hard.

##### Alternative 1, No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative, no disproportionate or adverse effects on minority or low-income population in the area is anticipated.

##### Alternative 2, Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, no disproportionate or adverse effects on minority or low-income population in the area are anticipated. The Proposed Action Alternative will positively affect everyone, allowing the use of Federal grant funds, leveraged with existing county reserve account funds to construct the proposed EOC facility. As a result, taxes will not be increased taxes for this alternative. In fact, with a far more energy efficient facility, energy costs will be greatly reduced.

##### Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no disproportionate or adverse effects on minority or low-income population in the area are anticipated. Under the Expansion of the Existing EOC would mean disruption of the operations of the EOC, thus creating potential of delayed responses and inefficient operations.

##### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, disproportionate or adverse effects on minority or low-income population in the area could occur. This Alternative will cost a great deal more to construct, which could drive up property taxes for those who can't afford increased taxes.

## **4.9. Safety**

### **4.9.1. Executive Order 12699: Seismic Safety**

“The purposes of these requirements are to reduce risks to the lives of occupants of buildings leased for Federal uses or purchased or constructed with Federal assistance, to reduce risks to the lives of persons who would be affected by earthquake failures of federally assisted or regulated buildings, and to protect public investments, all in a cost-effective manner. The provisions of this order shall apply to all the new construction activities specified in the subsections below.”

Section 4.1 describes the seismic hazard for Waldo County; which is very low. The facility designer will ensure that the facility will be built to meet all State of Maine and City of Belfast building codes, especially regarding structural requirements.

#### Alternative 1, No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative was not designed to any seismic standards, because they did not exist in 1976 when the current EOC was built. Additionally, the current EOC is completely underground, where the effects of a seismic event could be greater.

#### Alternative 2, Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative will be built to meet all State and City building codes for structural integrity for a facility located in Maine.

#### Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

The Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative will also have the same disadvantages as Alternate 1.

#### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

The Alternate Site Alternative would be built to meet all State and City building codes for structural integrity for a facility located in Maine.

### **4.9.2. Public Safety and Welfare**

The Waldo County Sheriff’s Office and the Waldo County Regional Communications Center (County PSAP and Dispatch Center) is located on the complex site and all utilities (electric, water, sewer and telephone) are already located at the project site. The Fire and EMS station is located approximately ¾ of a mile from the site. The very purpose of an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is to provide for public safety during a major emergency or disaster event. By constructing a new, larger EOC, the effectiveness and efficiency of the County EOC will be improved, thereby enhancing the public safety response.

#### Alternative 1, No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no impacts to public safety are anticipated.

#### Alternative 2, Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, no impacts to public safety are anticipated.

### Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

Under the Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no impacts to public safety are anticipated.

### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, no impacts to public safety are anticipated. However, the new EOC would be located several miles further away from fire, police, emergency medical services and regional communications.

### **4.9.3. Environmental Health**

To minimize risks to safety and human health, all construction activities will be performed using qualified personnel trained in the proper use of the appropriate equipment including all appropriate safety precautions; additionally, all activities will be conducted in a safe manner in accordance with the standards specified in Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) regulations. This project will not create a public health hazard in any way to the community. It is an administrative building located in an appropriate land use zone.

### Alternative 1, No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no disproportionate or adverse effects on environmental health and public health are anticipated.

### Alternative 2, Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, no disproportionate or adverse effects on environmental health and public health are anticipated. The construction of the new facility will enhance the public health of county residents by providing adequate space to house all the emergency operations center functions for the County.

### Action Alternative 3, Expansion of Existing EOC

Under Expansion of Existing EOC Alternative, no disproportionate or adverse effects on environmental health and public health are anticipated. The construction of the new facility will enhance the public health of county residents by providing adequate space to house all the emergency operations center functions for the County. Expansion of the existing EOC could cause disruption in the operations and could result in less efficient and slower response to any public health disaster.

### Alternative 4 – Alternate Site

Under the Alternate Site Alternative, no disproportionate or adverse effects on environmental health and public health are anticipated. The construction of the new facility will enhance the public health of county residents by providing adequate space to house all the emergency operations center functions for the County.

#### **4.10. Public Involvement**

Waldo County has worked with local print and television media to publish word regarding the EOC project. The EOC has been combined with a locally-funded project to construct a new Sheriff's Office. After the County became aware that there was interest in the combined project by the neighborhood, an informational meeting was held on February 25, 2010. There are a group of neighbors who do not want to see the Sheriff's Office facility built on the County Public Safety complex and petitioned the County Commissioners and the City Councilors to build the Sheriff's Office somewhere else. The petitioners have stated that they are not opposed to the small EOC building, but are opposed to the new Sheriff's Office.

Public meetings have been scheduled with the City Planning Board for April 14, June 23 and July 14. Public comment will be received at these meetings.

## **SECTION 5: MITIGATION MEASURES REQUIRED**

6.1. Water Resources and Water Quality: Development and implementation of a city-approved Erosion Control Plan in order to ensure that storm water run-off from the construction site's disturbed areas is released in a controlled manner and without solids.

6.2. Noise: Any construction noise will be temporary. However, it will be mitigated by limiting construction to normal day-time, business hours.

6.3. Cultural Resources: Although the presence of any archeological materials on site is unlikely, care will be taken during construction to ensure that anything disturbed will be reported immediately to the State historic Preservation Commission and work is stopped.

## **SECTION 6: CONSULTANTS, COORDINATION, AND PERMITS**

**6.1. References:** The following were researched for assessment information.

- 6.1.1. City of Belfast Planning Department
- 6.1.2. Delorme TopoUSA
- 6.1.3. FEMA Mapping Information Platform
- 6.1.4. Maine Department of Conservation, Maine Geological Survey
- 6.1.5. Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Endangered Species Program
- 6.1.6. National Flood Insurance Program
- 6.1.7. National Register of Historic Places
- 6.1.8. U.S. Department of the Interior, Soil Conservation Service
- 6.1.9. U.S. Census Bureau
- 6.1.10. Waldo County Emergency Management Agency

**6.2. Required Permits:** The following permits are required by this project:

- 6.2.1. Building Permit, City of Belfast, Maine
- 6.2.2. American Disabilities Act Review, Maine State Fire Marshal
- 6.2.3. NFPA 101 Life Safety Code Review, Maine State Fire Marshal

**6.3. Agency Coordination:** The following provided consultation and evaluations.

- 6.3.1. Belfast Water District
- 6.3.2. City of Belfast Water Pollution Control Facility
- 6.3.3. Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Air Quality
- 6.3.4. Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land and Water Quality
- 6.3.5. Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife
- 6.3.6. Maine Natural Areas Program
- 6.3.7. U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
- 6.3.8. Maine Historic Preservation Commission
- 6.3.9. Moyse Environmental Services, Inc.
- 6.3.10. Gorrill-Palmer Traffic Study

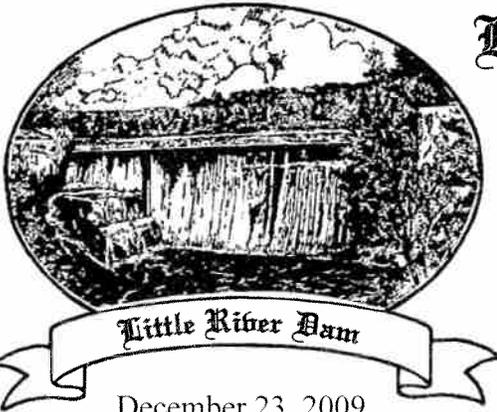
**Waldo County Emergency Operations Center  
Environmental Assessment**

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# Belfast Water District

285 Northport Avenue  
P.O. Box 506  
Belfast, Maine 04915-0506  
email: info@belfastwater.org

TEL 207-338-1200  
FAX 207-338-0444



John Kenney, PE  
WBRC Architects – Engineers  
44 Central Street  
Bangor, ME 04401-5116

RE: 3571.00/Waldo County Emergency Operations Center and Sheriff's Office

Dear Mr. Kenney:

We have reviewed your letter of December 21, 2009, providing an overview of the proposed projects.

The Belfast Water District has adequate water supply to serve this project and agrees to furnish water service provided the water lines are constructed according to the requirements outlined in the Water Main and Service Specifications of the Belfast Water District.

After we receive plans and it is decided whether there will be only one domestic service or a domestic service and sprinkler line, the size of the services and water meters will be determined at that time.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please call me.

Sincerely,

Keith H. Pooler  
Superintendent

KHP/ctc

enc.

**RECEIVED**

DEC 28 2009

WBRC Architects/ Engineers  
PROJECT: \_\_\_\_\_  
FILE HOLDER: \_\_\_\_\_  
CC: \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY OF BELFAST WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY**  
**54 FRONT STREET, BELFAST, MAINE 04915**

December 30, 2009

Mr. John Kenney, P.E.  
WBRC  
STE 2  
44 Central Street  
Bangor, Maine 04401-5116

Re: Waldo County EOM/SO

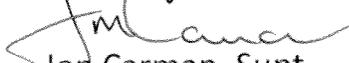
Dear Mr. Kenney:

I have reviewed you request for additional capacity use of the Belfast Sewerage System and am providing this letter to acknowledge that capacity exists for the additional 660 gallons per day you have calculated will be discharged.

The only item I have a question about is the vehicle wash bay. If the wash bay is not being designed with a sand and gravel trap, that can be cleaned periodically, I am requesting that one be installed to prevent this material from entering the sewer system.

If you have any questions please call me at 338-1744.

Sincerely:

  
Jon Carman, Supt.  
WPCF

Cc: Wayne Marshall, City Planner  
File

**RECEIVED**

DEC 31 2009

WBRC Architects/ Engineers  
PROJECT: \_\_\_\_\_  
FILE FOLDER#: \_\_\_\_\_  
CC: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

DAVID P. LITTELL  
COMMISSIONER

January 29, 2010

Dale Rowley  
Waldo County Emergency Management Agency  
45A Congress St.  
Belfast, Maine 04915

Dear Mr. Rowley:

I recently received your letter concerning the FEMA grant to construct a new County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Belfast. A new Sheriff's office will be constructed at the same time.

The project you describe does not need a permit under the Clean Air Act or the Department of Environmental Protection's Air Regulations and will not have a negative impact on air quality in that area.

If you have any questions, please give me a call at 287-2437.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Wheeler

AUGUSTA  
17 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017  
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826  
RAY BLDG., HOSPITAL ST.

BANGOR  
106 HOGAN ROAD, SUITE 6  
BANGOR, MAINE 04401  
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PORTLAND  
312 CANCO ROAD  
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103  
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE  
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK  
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04679-2094  
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 760-3143



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

DAVID P. LITTELL  
COMMISSIONER

Dale D. Rowley, Director  
Waldo County Emergency Management Agency  
45A Congress Street  
Belfast, ME 04915

Dear Mr. Rowley,

The project does not appear to impact streams or other aquatic resources based on a review of aerial photographs. However, applicants for NRPA permits are required to conduct on-site evaluations to identify potentially unmapped streams, vernal pools, or wetlands. Applicants can also hire qualified contractors to conduct the work. If you have any questions about the NRPA application process and requirements, please contact Jim Cassida at 592-1864.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Thomas J. Danielson'.

Thomas J. Danielson, Biologist II

AUGUSTA  
17 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017  
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826  
RAY BLDG., HOSPITAL ST.

BANGOR  
106 HOGAN ROAD  
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PRESQUE ISLE  
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK  
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769-2094  
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 760-3143

# Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

MDIFW  
Region B Wildlife  
270 Lyons Rd  
Sidney ME 04330

(207) 547-5319  
(207) 547-4035 fax

Email [keel.kemper@maine.gov](mailto:keel.kemper@maine.gov)  
IFW Website <http://www.maine.gov/ifw>

February 1, 2010

Dale Rowley  
WCEMA  
45A Congress Street  
Belfast, ME 04915

## Re: **Wildlife Habitat Information Request – Emergency Operation Center**

Dear Mr. Rowley:

As requested we have reviewed department files for the presence of any Essential or Significant Wildlife Habitats and other areas of special concern associated with the subject area described above. Our findings are limited to those for which MDIFW has responsibility for identifying and are provided below.

### **Essential Habitats:**

Essential Habitats (EH) are defined as "areas currently or historically providing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of an Endangered or Threatened species in Maine and which may require special management considerations". Essential Habitat protection in Maine currently applies only to Bald Eagle nest sites and Roseate Tern, Piping Plover, and Least Tern colonies, but additional listed species may receive attention in the future.

According to MDIFW records there are no known Essential Habitats from the list above that are associated with the subject site.

### **Significant Wildlife Habitats:**

The Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA), administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, provides protection to certain natural resources including Significant Wildlife Habitats. Significant Wildlife Habitats are defined by the NRPA as:

- Habitat for State and Federally listed Endangered and Threatened species
- High and moderate value deer wintering areas and travel corridors
- High and moderate value waterfowl and wading bird habitats, including nesting and feeding areas
- Shorebird nesting, feeding, and staging areas
- Seabird Nesting islands

According to MDIFW records, there are no known Significant Wildlife Habitats from the list above that are associated with the project site.

### **Other Considerations:**

February 1, 2010

This letter is only meant to be a response to the request for information on the presence of essential or significant habitats on this parcel. This is not meant to be a comment on the merits of a particular development project, permit application, or proposal. That review can only be done with a written proposal and as part of a regular review process.

Please be aware that, while relatively comprehensive, MDIFW files are far from complete. Many habitat features or communities essential to Maine's wildlife (e.g. vernal pools, grasslands) are not included in the present database. In addition other agencies have jurisdiction for other natural resources. The Department of Marine Resources (633-9500) or Atlantic Salmon Commission (941-4452) can provide information describing use of an area by anadromous fishes and other species. For comprehensive data relating to rare or exemplary plant habitats and ecological communities, the Maine Natural Areas Program may be reached at (207) 287-8042. If I can provide any further information please feel free to contact me at 547-5319.

Sincerely,



G. Keel Kemper  
Regional Wildlife Biologist  
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

## Maine Natural Areas Program

17 Elkins Lane

State House Station #93

Augusta, Maine 04333

---

**Date:** February 18, 2010

**To:** Dale Rowley, Director, Waldo County EMA

**From:** Sarah Demers 

**Re:** Rare and exemplary botanical features, County Emergency Operations Center, Belfast, Maine.

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I have searched the Natural Areas Program's Biological and Conservation Data System files for rare or unique botanical features in the vicinity of the proposed site in response to your request of February 10, 2010 for our agency's comments on the project.

According to our current information, there are no rare botanical features that will be disturbed within the project site. This finding is available and appropriate for preparation and review of environmental assessments, but it is not a substitute for on-site surveys. Comprehensive field surveys do not exist for all natural areas in Maine, and in the absence of a specific field investigation, the Maine Natural Areas Program cannot provide a definitive statement on the presence or absence of unusual natural features at this site. You may want to have the site inventoried by a qualified field biologist to ensure that no undocumented rare features are inadvertently harmed.

The Natural Areas Program is continuously working to achieve a more comprehensive database of exemplary natural features in Maine. We welcome the contribution of any information collected if a site survey is performed.

Thank you for using the Natural Areas Program in the environmental review process. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have further questions about the Natural Areas Program or about rare or unique botanical features on this site.



# United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Maine Field Office – Ecological Services  
17 Godfrey Drive, Suite #2  
Orono, ME 04473  
(207) 866-3344 Fax: (207) 866-3351

FWS/Region 5/ES/MEFO

February 3, 2010

Mr. Dale Rowley, CEM, PE  
Waldo County Emergency Management Agency  
45A Congress St.  
Belfast, ME 04915

Dear Mr. Rowley:

Thank you for your letter dated January 26, 2010, requesting information or recommendations from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). This letter provides the Service's response pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543), the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668d, 54 Stat. 250), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 661-667d).

**Project Name/Location:** Belfast county emergency operation center

**Log Number:** 53411-2010-SL-0097

### **Federally Listed Species**

This project occurs within the range of the Gulf of Maine Distinct Population Segment (GOM DPS) of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) in Maine, a federally-endangered species under the joint jurisdiction of the Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) (74 FR 29344; June 19, 2009). The Atlantic salmon GOM DPS encompasses all naturally spawned and conservation hatchery populations of anadromous Atlantic salmon whose freshwater range occurs in the watersheds from the Androscoggin River northward along the Maine coast to the Dennys River and wherever these fish occur in the estuarine and marine environment. Also included in the GOM DPS are all associated conservation hatchery populations used to supplement these natural populations. Excluded are landlocked Atlantic salmon and those salmon raised in commercial hatcheries for aquaculture.

The proposed project site occurs in a watershed (Belfast Bay) that has been **excluded** from designation as critical habitat for Atlantic salmon because of economic considerations (74 FR 29300; June 19, 2009).

Please note that under Section 7 of the ESA, it is the federal action agency's responsibility to determine if a project may affect a federally listed species. For example, if the project receives federal funding or needs a federal permit, those actions may provide a "nexus" for Section 7 consultation under the ESA<sup>1</sup>. If the federal action agency determines that a project would have "no effect" on a listed species or critical habitat, they do not need to seek the concurrence of the Service and there is no need for Section 7 consultation. If the federal agency determines that a project "may affect" a listed species or its critical habitat, then consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA should be initiated. Please note, however, that there is no provision under Section 7 for consultation after a project has already been completed.

For Atlantic salmon and its critical habitat, NMFS and the Service share consultation responsibilities under Section 7 of the ESA. The Service generally handles projects in the freshwater component of the salmon's habitat and NMFS handles projects in the marine and estuarine environment (generally below the head of tide).

Based on the information currently available to us, no other federally-listed species under the jurisdiction of the Service are known to occur in the project area.

### **Other Protected Species**

Occasional, transient bald eagles may occur in the general project area. The bald eagle was removed from the federal threatened list on August 9, 2007 and is now protected from take under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. "Take" means to pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb. The term "disturb" under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act was recently defined within a final rule published in the Federal Register on June 5, 2007 (72 Fed. Reg. 31332). "Disturb" means to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, 1) injury to an eagle; 2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior; or 3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior.

Further information on bald eagle delisting and their protection can be found at <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/baldeagle.htm>.

Please consult with our new national bald eagle guidelines, which can found at <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/issues/BaldEagle/NationalBaldEagleManagementGuidelines.pdf>. These Guidelines are voluntary and were prepared to help landowners, land managers and others meet the intent of the Eagle Act and avoid disturbing bald eagles. If you believe this project will result in taking or disturbing bald or golden eagles, please contact our office for further guidance. We encourage early and frequent consultations to avoid take of eagles.

We have not reviewed this project for state-threatened and endangered wildlife, wildlife species of special concern, and significant wildlife habitats protected under the Maine Natural Resources

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<sup>1</sup> Section 7 consultation, however, is only necessary when a federal agency takes a *discretionary* action (e.g., an agency has a choice of whether or not to fund or permit a particular project).

Protection Act. We recommend that you contact the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife:

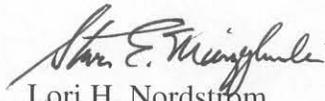
Steve Timpano  
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife  
284 State St.  
State House Station 41  
Augusta, ME 04333-0041  
Phone: 207 287-5258

We also recommend that you contact the Maine Natural Areas Program for additional information on state-threatened and endangered plant species, plant species of special concern, and rare natural communities:

Lisa St. Hilaire  
Maine Natural Areas Program  
Department of Conservation  
93 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
Phone: 207 287-8046

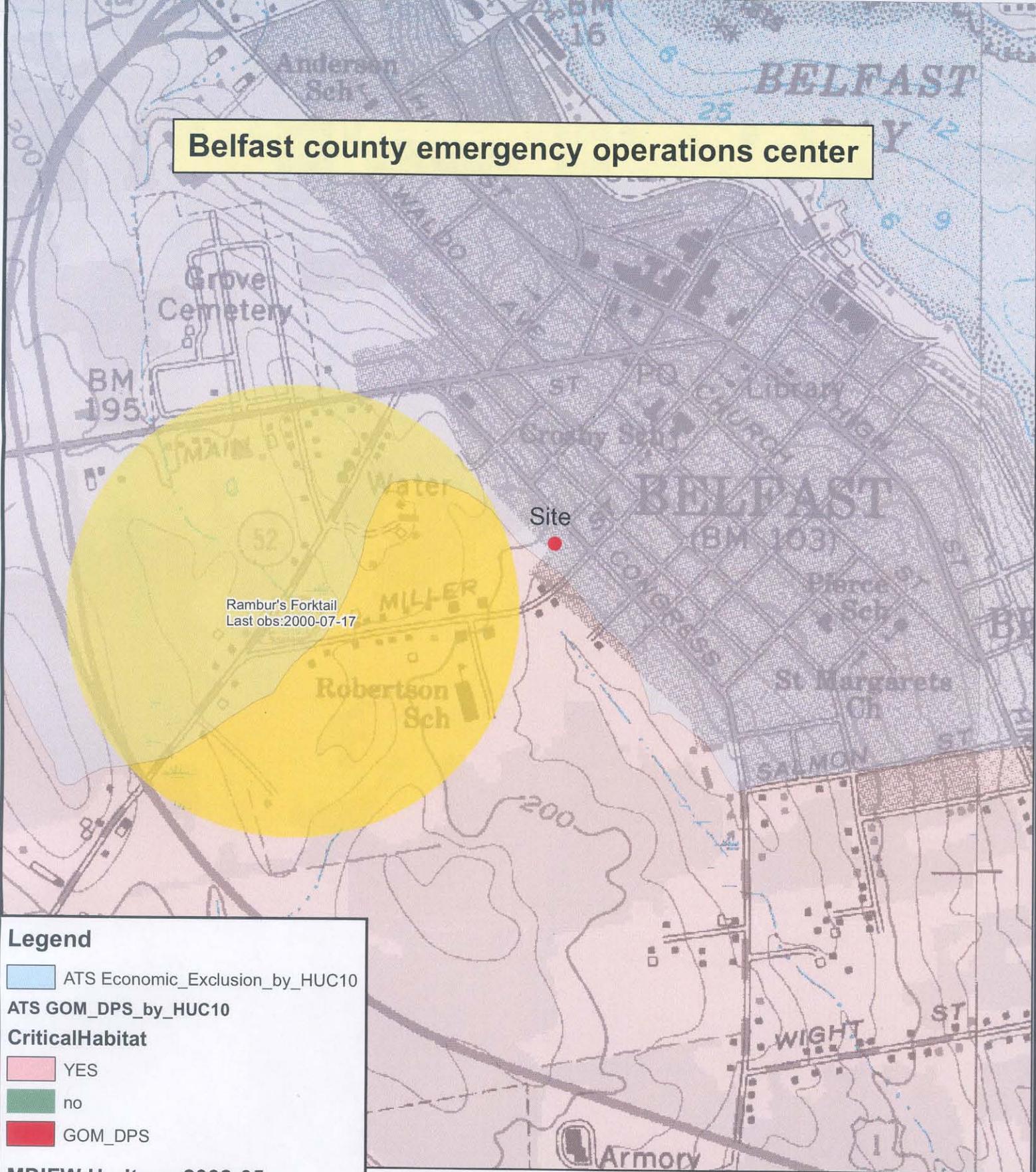
If you have any questions about this project, please contact Wende Mahaney at (207) 866-3344, Ext. 118.

Sincerely,

  
for Lori H. Nordstrom  
Field Supervisor

Enclosure

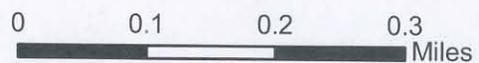
# Belfast county emergency operations center



Rambur's Forktail  
Last obs:2000-07-17

## Legend

- ATS Economic\_Exclusion\_by\_HUC10
- ATS GOM\_DPS\_by\_HUC10
- CriticalHabitat**
- YES
- no
- GOM\_DPS
- MDIFW Heritage 2008-05**
- State legal status(SPROT)**
- Endangered
- Threatened
- Special Concern
- Other



Data from USFWS, MDIFW & MNAP.

**Waldo County Emergency Operations Center  
Environmental Assessment**

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MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
55 CAPITOL STREET  
65 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

EARLE G. SHETTLEWORTH, JR.  
DIRECTOR

June 1, 2010

Mr. Dale Rowley, CEM, PE  
Director  
Waldo County Emergency Management Agency  
45A Congress Street  
Belfast, ME 04915

Project: MHPC# 0155-10 - construction of new County Emergency Operations Center utilizing U.S. FEMA funding; construction of new Sheriff's Office utilizing local funding; facility to be located adjacent to the existing Waldo County Jail; 45 Congress Street; 111 Miller Street

Town: Belfast, ME

Dear Mr. Rowley:

In response to your recent request, I have reviewed the information received May 12, 13, 18, and 19, 2010 to continue consultation on the above referenced undertaking pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

As our office mentioned previously, this project resides within and is directly adjacent to the National Register listed Belfast Historic District. The portion of this project which lies within the historic district is identified as the Waldo County Jail (1851 brick building) and the Keeper's House, which are both contributing to the historic district.

Based on WBRC's email of May 13, 2010 (concerning landscaping/buffering requirements and the draft planting plan), your letter of May 17, 2010, and our site visit of May 19, 2010, it is our understanding that the Keeper's House and the 1851 brick jail will remain in use as county storage and office space and that no changes to either building will be made in association with the construction of the new facility. Therefore, our office finds that this undertaking will have **no adverse effect** upon this historic property. However, this finding is **conditional** as long as the following requirement is met:

- Architectural plans (including site landscaping and exterior lighting plans), elevations, and specifications for the new building will forwarded for our review and comment once they are prepared.

For your information, we observed that the following character-defining features of the interior of the Keeper's House should be retained and preserved during any future work: wood window sash, sills and associated molding; wood panel doors and trim; wood baseboard; the front stair hall, wood stairs and railings; front exterior wood doors; and metal ceilings in several



June 1, 2010  
MHPC# 0155-10

rooms. The exterior of the Keeper's House and its barn appear to be in relatively good condition. Any woodwork that exists on the exterior should be retained and preserved. We recommend that funding be obtained to repair the 1851 brick jail in order to preserve its historic materials, including its masonry, wood doors and windows. As we mentioned during our site visit, these buildings would be eligible for our New Century Community Program Preservation Grants, if this program is funded in the future.

We look forward to continuing Section 106 consultation on this project. Please contact Robin Stancampiano of my staff if we can be of further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirk F. Mohny". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kirk F. Mohny  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

cc. Jack Sullivan; U.S. FEMA

RES-NOTES

1. This wetland delineation was performed by Moyses Environmental Services, Inc. (M.E.S.) of Bangor, Maine. The purpose of this wetland delineation was to identify freshwater wetlands located within the proposed project site boundary. This map is intended for use in the permitting process for this project.
2. The wetland identification was conducted in general accordance with the "Routine On-Site Determinations" Procedure described in the Wetland Delineation Manual, The National Wetlands Inventory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Wetland boundaries were marked with labeled, blue-glo flagging.
3. M.E.S. located the flagged freshwater wetland boundaries with a mapping grade Trimble Global Positioning System (GPS) unit using the U.S. State Plane Coordinate System. M.E.S. overlaid the GPS data on to the site plan by matching GPS points to existing site features depicted on the site plan to generate this Wetland Delineation Map.
4. The site plan was provided to us by VABC Architects & Engineers of Bangor, Maine. It depicts the location of site features such as buildings, property boundaries, roads and contour lines.

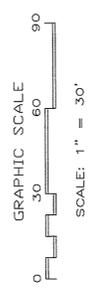
**WETLAND DELINEATION MAP**

PROPOSED  
WALDO COUNTY  
EMERGENCY  
OPERATION CENTER  
& SHERIFF'S OFFICE

PROJECT: Congress St. & Miller St.  
Belfast, Maine

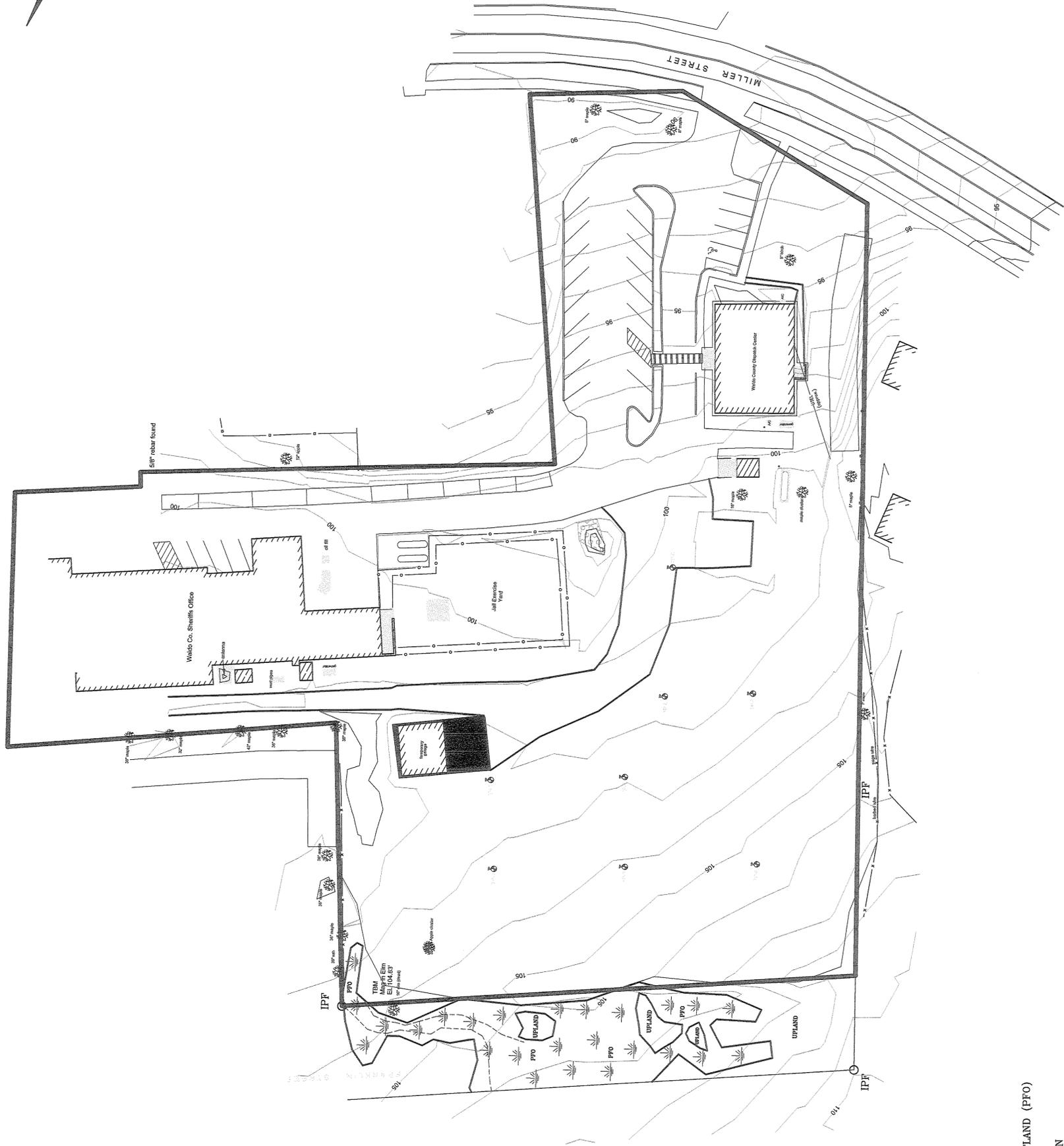


DATE: 3/24/10 SCALE: 1" = 30'  
MAP NAME: FINAL\_WetMap\_100324.dwg  
SHEET No: 1 of 1 DRAWN BY: AEP  
FILE No: 10-10WSP\_WERC\_Waldo\_Cty.EOC



CONGRESS STREET

MILLER STREET



MAP LEGEND

- SITE BOUNDARY
- FORESTED FRESHWATER WETLAND (PFO)
- EDGE OF DRAINAGE PATTERN
- IRON PIN FOUND (IPF)