**§480-DD. Significant wildlife habitat criteria; reduction in certain significant wildlife habitats due to development or topography**

Although an area is otherwise in conformance with significant wildlife habitat criteria adopted by the department for shorebird nesting, feeding, roosting and staging areas, or high and moderate value inland waterfowl and wading bird habitat, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may determine that a specific portion of the area is no longer this type of significant wildlife habitat due to the topography or impact of development in existence on June 8, 2006 and continuing in existence as of the date of the determination. [PL 2007, c. 290, §8 (NEW); PL 2007, c. 290, §15 (AFF).]

**1. Factors.**  When determining whether an area is no longer a significant wildlife habitat, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may consider factors such as species present or exiting and potential use of the area by birds, levels of disturbance, screening, development density, land use, presence of cliffs or bluffs and any mitigating factors.

[PL 2007, c. 290, §8 (NEW); PL 2007, c. 290, §15 (AFF).]

**2. Exclusions.**  The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may not exclude an area from a significant wildlife habitat designation if future development of the area might unreasonably degrade the remaining significant wildlife habitat, unreasonably disturb the birds or unreasonably affect the continued use of the remaining significant wildlife habitat by the birds.

[PL 2007, c. 290, §8 (NEW); PL 2007, c. 290, §15 (AFF).]

For purposes of this section, "development" means the area of property altered, including, but not limited to, buildings, roads, driveways, parking areas, wastewater disposal systems and lawns and other nonnative vegetation as determined by the department. [PL 2007, c. 290, §8 (NEW); PL 2007, c. 290, §15 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2007, c. 290, §8 (NEW). PL 2007, c. 290, §15 (AFF).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through January 1, 2025
 . The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.