

**Appendix C**  
**Natural Heritage Program Response Letter**

**NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**  
**Division of Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources**  
**New York Natural Heritage Program**  
625 Broadway, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Albany, New York 12233-4757  
**Phone:** (518) 402-8935 • **Fax:** (518) 402-8925  
**Website:** [www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)



**Joe Martens**  
Commissioner

May 10, 2013

Chris Robbins  
A K R F  
34 South Broadway, Suite 401  
White Plains, NY 10601

Dear Mr. Robbins:

In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Database with respect to an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Saratoga Race Course Development – Species in and around existing Race Course, area as indicated on the map you enclosed, located in the City of Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County.

Enclosed is a report of rare or state-listed animals and plants, and significant natural communities, which our database indicates occur, or may occur, on your site or in the immediate vicinity of your site. For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted; the enclosed report only includes records from our databases. We cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species or significant natural communities. This information should not be substituted for on-site surveys that may be required for environmental impact assessment.

The enclosed report may be included in documents that will be available to the public. However, any maps displaying locations of rare species are considered sensitive information, and should not be included in any document that will be made available to the public, without permission from the New York Natural Heritage Program.

The presence of the plants and animals identified in the enclosed report may result in this project requiring additional review or permit conditions. For further guidance, and for information regarding other permits that may be required under state law for regulated areas or activities (e.g., regulated wetlands), please contact the appropriate NYS DEC Regional Office, Division of Environmental Permits, as listed at [www.dec.ny.gov/about/39381.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/39381.html).

Our databases are continually growing as records are added and updated. If this proposed project is still under development one year from now, we recommend that you contact us again so that we may update this response with the most current information.

Sincerely,

Jean Pietrusiak, Information Services  
NYS Department Environmental Conservation

Enc.  
cc: Reg. 5, Wildlife Mgr.

# 408



**The following state-listed animals have been documented  
at your project site, or in its vicinity.**

The following list includes animals that are listed by NYS as Endangered, Threatened, or Special Concern; and/or that are federally listed or are candidates for federal listing. The list may also include significant natural communities that can serve as habitat for Endangered or Threatened animals, and/or other rare animals and rare plants found at these habitats.

**For information about potential impacts of your project on these populations, how to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any impacts, and any permit considerations, contact the Wildlife Manager or the Fisheries Manager at the NYSDEC Regional Office for the region where the project is located. A listing of Regional Offices is at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/558.html>.**

**The following species and habitats have been documented at or near the project site, generally within 0.5 mile. Potential onsite and offsite impacts from the project may need to be addressed.**

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>FEDERAL LISTING</i>	
<b>Butterflies</b>				
<b>Frosted Elfin</b>	<i>Callophrys irus</i>	Threatened		6354
<b>Karner Blue</b>	<i>Plebejus melissa samuelis</i>	Endangered	Endangered	8065

**This report only includes records from the NY Natural Heritage databases. For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted, and we cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species. This information should not be substituted for on-site surveys that may be required for environmental impact assessment.**

If any rare plants or animals are documented during site visits, we request that information on the observations be provided to the New York Natural Heritage Program so that we may update our database.

Information about many of the listed animals in New York, including habitat, biology, identification, conservation, and management, are available online in Natural Heritage's Conservation Guides at [www.guides.nynhp.org](http://www.guides.nynhp.org), and from NYSDEC at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7494>.

Information about many of the rare plants and animals, and natural community types, in New York are available online in Natural Heritage's Conservation Guides at [www.guides.nynhp.org](http://www.guides.nynhp.org), and from NatureServe Explorer at <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>.