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Environmental Assessment
Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects
24 CFR Part 58

Project Information

Project Name: Auburn, ME Public Safety Facility

Responsible Entity: City of Auburn, Maine

Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Entity): N/A

State/Local Identifier: Minot 550

Preparer: Megan Gatto, AICP and Kim Clyma (Woodard & Curran, Inc.)

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Glen Holmes, Director of Business & Community Development

Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Entity): N/A

Consultant (if applicable): Woodard & Curran, Inc.

Direct Comments to:
Dan Goyette, Director of Engineering and Capital Projects
City of Auburn Engineering Department
Phone: 207.333.6601 Ext. 2156
Email: dgoyette@auburnmaine.gov

Project Location: 550 Minot Avenue, Auburn, ME 04210

Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.21 & 58.32]**:** The City of Auburn is proposing to construct a new Public Safety Facility (Proposed Project) to be located at 550 Minot Avenue (Parcel ID 209-035; Project Site) (see **Figure 1**). The proposed location for the new Public Safety Facility is the current site of the Central Fire Station that would be demolished to facilitate the new facility. The project aims to consolidate and enhance the city's emergency services infrastructure to better serve the community's evolving public safety needs. The new facility will encompass an approximately 44,000 square foot two-story main building. The facility design will integrate multiple critical functions, providing a centralized, modernized hub for the city's Fire Department, Police Department, and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) with additional support spaces. The Proposed Project would also include significant site improvements including parking for staff and emergency vehicles; stormwater management features; fueling station; rolling asset storage; dedicated spaces for tactical training; and a burn training structure (see **Figures 2a through 2e**). Adjacent and to the east of the Project Site, a single-family ranch-style residential building built in 1955, has been acquired and would be demolished to facilitate the Proposed Project. The 911 Dispatch Center will be located at a separate site to further optimize operations. The Proposed Project is not expected to result in emergency service interruptions or delays. If approved, the Proposed Project would commence construction in Spring 2026, take approximately 20 months to construct, and be completed in 2027.

Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal: The Proposed Project aims to address longstanding operational challenges faced by the city's Fire and Police Departments at City Hall and would provide a modern, efficient, and right-sized facility to meet current and future public safety needs. City Hall does not currently provide adequate space or support the operational and spatial requirements of Auburn's public safety departments. There currently is no capacity for future growth, limiting the city's ability to adapt to evolving public safety needs. Key deficiencies at City Hall include:

1) an inadequate layout that creates barriers to communication and teamwork and disrupts operational efficiency and customer service;
2) insufficient space and inadequate room for training, locker and shower areas, and secured storage for critical equipment and materials.; and
3) aging infrastructure.

The Central Fire Station also exhibits significant operational challenges that limit its functionality as a modern fire station as currently configured. The facility was not designed to accommodate the scale and complexity of current fire operations. Maintenance requirements and spatial inadequacies have compounded over time. The drive-through apparatus bays are too small to house modern firefighting vehicles and equipment and there are no adequate shared spaces for training, locker rooms, or showers.

An analysis of space needs and a site evaluation conducted by Auburn's Public Safety consulting team, which confirmed that a new, purpose-built facility is required to improve the current operational constraints to continue to provide emergency services. After consideration of potential alternatives, it was determined the location of the Central Fire Station would be the most effective location for a new facility to address these deficiencies. The proposed facility has been designed to include:

- Enhanced Police Department Spaces:
    - Sally Port, booking and detainee processing areas.
    - Evidence and weapons storage.
- Modernized Fire Department Features:
    - Larger drive-thru apparatus bays to accommodate current and future needs.
- Shared Facilities:
    - Efficient, centralized public entry, lobby, and reception areas.
    - An Emergency Operations Center to coordinate response during critical incidents.
- Future Expansion Capacity:
    - Shell construction above the apparatus bay to accommodate future growth.
- Standalone Support Structures:
    - New Firing Range Facility and Rolling Assets Storage Facility.

Additionally, the project will include significant site improvements, such as stormwater management, and secure parking. Construction would be phased to minimize disruption to emergency services.

Existing Conditions and Trends [24 CFR 58.40(a)]:

The Auburn Police Department currently operates out of Auburn City Hall, a temporary relocation that has lasted over 12 years. This relocation was initially intended as a cost-saving measure to address the extensive repairs and upgrades required at the department's original facility. However, this temporary solution is ultimately unsuitable for long-term law enforcement operations, where operations are confined to spaces not designed for law enforcement activities. The Auburn Police Department is spread across multiple floors within Auburn City Hall, further complicated by the presence of unrelated city staff on an intermediary floor, which impairs departmental communication and teamwork. Additionally, Auburn City Hall lacks a Sally Port, booking area, holding area, and detainee processing facilities. In the absence of these facilities, the transportation of detainees to external facilities outside the City results in inefficient use of time and resources and entails additional safety risks. The evidence room and vehicle impound areas are insufficient to meet current needs and are not secure against environmental risks. Recent storm-related flooding had compromised the integrity of stored evidence and operational vehicles. There is no space to accommodate training rooms, locker rooms, shower areas, or secured storage. This lack of infrastructure negatively impacts staff readiness, morale, and operational effectiveness.

The Project Site is approximately 8.37 acres of which approximately 3.74 acres are improved with a 3-story, approximately 7,187 square foot brick building that was built in 1973 and currently used as a local fire station; a 2-story cement building (training house); a diesel pump island; and parking lot. The remaining 4.63 acres are comprised of primarily mature forest (see **Figures 3a** through **3l**). The property frontage and a main access is along Minot Avenue, a significant roadway (routed along U.S. Route 121 and Maine State Route 11) that connects this southwest area of the City to downtown. The surrounding area is a mix of low density residential and commercial development. The Project Site is proximate to the Clover Health Care senior care and living facility (0.2 miles) and Fairview Elementary School (0.4 miles).

The continued reliance on outdated and inadequate facilities poses significant risks to the efficiency and effectiveness of public safety operations in Auburn. The city’s public safety departments are experiencing growth in operational demands that outpace the capacity of existing

facilities. The dispersion of essential functions and inadequate infrastructure contribute to inefficiencies, higher costs, and compromised service delivery. The flooding of evidence and impound areas highlights the vulnerability of current facilities to environmental events, jeopardizing operations and public safety. Addressing these deficiencies is critical to ensuring the City of Auburn can provide high-quality public safety services that meet current and future demands while optimizing operational efficiency and resource allocation. A new purpose-built Public Safety Facility will resolve these challenges and establish modern, sustainable infrastructure for the city's Fire and Police Departments.

Funding Information

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
B-22-CP-ME-0428	Other (Congressionally Directed Funding)	$2,500,000
N/A	Other (Local-City Bond)	$45,000,000

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: $2,500,000

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]**:** $47,500,000

Compliance with 24 CFR 50.4, 58.5, and 58.6 Laws and Authorities

Record below the compliance or conformance determinations for each statute, executive order, or regulation. Provide credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority. Where applicable, complete the necessary reviews or consultations and obtain or note applicable permits of approvals. Clearly note citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references. Attach additional documentation as appropriate.

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 and 58.6		
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes ☐ No ☒	The Project Site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. Therefore, the Proposed Project is in compliance with the Airport Hazards requirements. The Project Site is located over 17,000 feet from the "clear zone" associated with the nearest airfield (see **Figure 4**).

Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes ☐ No ☒	The City of Auburn is not recognized as having any coastal contact that would require it being identified within a Coastal Barrier Resource System (CBRS); therefore, the Proposed Project has no potential to affect a CBRS and is in compliance with the CBRS Act (See **Figure 5**). U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. (n.d.). *Coastal Barrier Resources System Maps: Maine*. Retrieved December 18, 2024, from https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/coastal-barrier-resources-system-maps-maine?$keywords=%22Auburn%22
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes ☒ No ☐	Although the Proposed Project involves the construction of an occupiable structure adjacent to a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), no portion of the new occupiable structure would be within the FEMA-designated SFHA (see **Figure 6a**). As seen in **Figure 6c**, a small portion of the site's retaining wall adjacent to the stream would be within the FEMA-designated SFHA. However, this retaining wall would be built to withstand flood waters and protect the site from flooding impacts. Nevertheless, the City holds flood insurance for the Project Site. With flood insurance the project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 & 58.5		
Clean Air Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	Yes ☐ No ☒	The Proposed Project includes new construction of a public facility and the Proposed Project's County (Androscoggin County) is in attainment status for all criteria pollutants, according to EPA's Green Book (EPA, 2024). Therefore, the Proposed Project complies with the Clean Air Act. Additionally, during construction, the necessary measures to avoid air effects would be implemented to minimize construction related air and dust emissions.

		Environmental Protection Agency. (2024). Criteria Pollutant Nonattainment Summary Report. Retrieved from https://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/ancl3.html
Coastal Zone Management Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes ☐ No ☒	The Proposed Project is not located in, nor does it affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the State's Coastal Management Plan. Therefore, the Proposed Project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. https://www.maine.gov/dmr/programs/maine-coastal-program/coastal-zone-map
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)	Yes ☒ No ☐	The Project Site includes existing developed municipal uses and structures that will be demolished and redeveloped. A Hazardous Building Materials Survey and Phase I/II Environmental Site Assessment was completed to evaluate the potential presence of hazardous materials and recognized environmental conditions. Based on these investigations, any identified hazardous building materials and contaminated media will be properly managed, removed, and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local requirements, including implementation of appropriate health and safety measures during demolition and construction. With these measures in place, the Proposed Project would comply with contamination and toxic substances requirements. Compliance would be achieved through implementation of the project-specific Environmental Media Management Plan (EMMP) during demolition and redevelopment, together with pre-demolition removal and proper management/disposal of identified hazardous building materials by appropriately licensed personnel. The EMMP establishes engineering and administrative controls for soil and groundwater management, including site access restrictions, dust suppression, track-out controls, stockpile management, erosion

		controls, excavation monitoring for staining, odors, debris, or free product, soil characterization for offsite reuse or disposal, groundwater/dewatering management, equipment decontamination, and recordkeeping. The EMMP uses Maine DEP Remedial Action Guidelines as conservative, risk-based screening criteria and provides project-specific management measures rather than a state voluntary cleanup program or a No Further Action letter. No state voluntary cleanup program, brownfields agreement, or No Further Action letter were identified for the Project Site.
Endangered Species Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	Yes ☐ No ☒	This project May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect, listed species, and consultation was conducted. This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act without mitigation. The USACE has determined the project will have no effect on Atlantic salmon. Barriers downstream of the action area prevent Atlantic salmon access, and there are no stocking efforts in the watershed. Therefore, the species will not be present within the action area or adjacent areas and will not be affected by the proposed project. Because the Tricolored Bat is only proposed for listing, the USACE is not required to consult under Section 7(a)(4) and has determined its action will not jeopardize the species' continued existence. This determination is based on the limited scope of tree clearing and the bat's wide distribution throughout eastern North America and Central America. The USACE completed the Northern Long-eared Bat and Tricolored Bat Range-wide Determination Key for Tricolor bat and retrieved a "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect." Because the Monarch Butterfly is only proposed for listing as threatened, the USACE is not required to consult under

		Section 7(a)(4). The USACE has determined that the project will not impact any Monarch Butterfly habitat, leading to the determination that the project will not jeopardize the species' continued existence.
Explosive and Flammable Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	Yes ☐ No ☒	Based on the project description the project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements. The Proposed Project does not involve the development of a hazardous facility (a facility that mainly stores, handles, or processes flammable or combustible chemicals such as bulk fuel storage facilities and refineries). Additionally, the Proposed Project does not include development that will increase residential density or involve a conversion of land use to residential. The Proposed Project does include a diesel fuel pump for municipal use (fueling police and fire vehicles), located on the east side of the Project Site. The new Public Safety facility would also store propane (120 gallons), gasoline (>10 gallons, stored in a flammables cabinet, for small engine use), and isopropyl alcohol (<1 gallon) on-site. The facility maintains safety data sheets for these chemicals and would store and handle them appropriately. Therefore, the Proposed Project is in compliance with the applicable Explosive and Flammable Hazards regulations.
Farmlands Protection Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	Yes ☐ No ☒	The Proposed Project does not include activities that could convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural use. The Project Site is an existing city-owned property within a district reserved for traditional neighborhood development. Therefore, the Proposed Project is in compliance with the applicable Farmlands Protection regulations. This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural use. The project is

		in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.
Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	Yes ☒ No ☐	The Proposed Project does not meet an exemption at 24 CFR 55.12 from compliance with HUD's floodplain management regulations in Part 55 and is a Critical Action as the project involves the construction of a public safety facility to house the City's police and fire departments. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the FVA approach. The Proposed Project does occur in the FFRMS Floodplain. Therefore, the 8-Step Process applies (**see attached 8-Step Process**).
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	Yes ☒ No ☐	Section 106 consultation was completed for the Proposed Project in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800. The City of Auburn, Maine determined that demolition of the Auburn Central Fire Station, which is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, would result in an adverse effect, and the Maine State Historic Preservation Officer concurred with that determination on September 8, 2025. To resolve the adverse effect, the City of Auburn, Maine and the Maine State Historic Preservation Officer executed a Memorandum of Agreement regarding the Auburn Central Fire Station. The MOA requires retention of a 36 CFR 61-qualified historic preservation consultant to complete Maine Historic Building Record documentation, submission of photographs to SHPO for review and approval prior to demolition, consultation on any post-review discoveries in accordance with 36 CFR 800.13, and ongoing monitoring and reporting. With implementation of all stipulations in the executed MOA, the Proposed Project would comply with Section 106 and applicable historic preservation requirements.
Noise Abatement and Control	Yes ☐ No ☒	The Proposed Project does not involve activities that would require further

Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B		evaluation under HUD's noise regulation. Construction of the Proposed Project is expected to comply with City laws for construction activities which state, "appropriate measures to reduce, to the fullest extent practicable in the performance of the excavation work, noise, dust and unsightly debris, and during the hours of 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. shall not use, except with the express written permission of the city engineer or in case of an emergency as otherwise provided in this article, any tool, appliance or equipment producing noise of sufficient volume to disturb the sleep or repose of occupants of the neighboring property." Therefore, the Proposed Project is in compliance with the applicable Noise Abatement and Control regulations.
Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes ☐ No ☒	The Proposed Project is not located on a sole source aquifer (SSA); therefore, the Proposed Project is in compliance with the applicable sole source aquifers regulations. The nearest SSA is approximately 51 miles from the Project Site (see **Figure 7**).
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes ☒ No ☐	As the Proposed Project involves new construction as defined in Executive Order 11990 and ground disturbance that will impact an on-site wetland, mitigation measures are proposed to comply with this section. The Proposed Project involves permanent fill and the construction of a new retaining wall and parking area which would result in approximately 2,440 sf (0.06 acres) of temporary impact to an existing unnamed streambed, and approximately 7,485 sf (0.17 acres) of permanent impact to existing contiguous palustrine forested (PFO) wetland. The Proposed Project also would create approximately 2,913 sf (0.07 acres) of restored streambed and approximately 6,003 sf (0.14 acres) of restored riparian buffer and therefore result in approximately 962 sf (0.02 acres) of net wetland habitat loss.

		For the wetland impacts at the Project Site, stream and wetland restoration would occur in accordance with a Wetland and Stream Restoration Plan. For the riparian buffer, this plan includes invasive species management, debris removal, the replanting of an area to reestablish a forested wetland ecosystem with a variably dense understory including shade-tolerant species, and the creation of a wetland with dense scrub-shrub vegetation surrounding the steam to be planted with species that thrive in full sun. A 50-foot section of one of the streams would be daylit from the existing 48" corrugated metal culvert, which would be shortened and converted to an embedded box culvert sized to 1.2 bankfull width. Live stakes would be planted along the streambank to promote bank stabilization, stream shading, and instream habitat. For the stream restoration, this plan includes debris removal, using natural substrate onsite to restore the tributary stream, installing small boulders, cobbles, and gravel of various size in the stream channel and within the box culvert, and the placement of branches or stems to promote habitat diversity and pool formation. With the implementation of the Wetland and Stream Restoration Plan, conditions that facilitate the natural and beneficial functions of wetlands and streams (e.g., floodwater storage and conveyance, erosion control, water quality maintenance and habitat for flora and fauna) would be an improvement over existing conditions. These wetlands are located at the back of the Project Site and are not publicly accessible; therefore, do not inherently serve an intrinsic value to the community. However, the City would also allow the site to be accessible for archaeological, historic, environmental, biological, and other scientific studies should an individual or an organization express interest.

		Additionally, a deed restriction held with the USACE would be implemented as means of protection for the riparian buffer and restored stream. Finally, the Proposed Project would incorporate best management practices during construction and within the permanent stormwater management system to minimize any potential adverse stormwater runoff impacts. The Proposed Project's stormwater management features, including the proposed stream-smart culvert replacement and subsurface treatment systems would improve ecological conditions in and around the Project Site by removing sediment and pollutant loads, reducing peak flows and preventing streambank erosion. The Proposed Project complies with state and local floodplain and wetland protection procedures. With these measure(s) in-place, the impact to wetlands would be mitigated.
Wild and Scenic Rivers Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes ☐ No ☒	The Proposed Project is not in proximity of a National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NWRS). The nearest NWRS is over 100 miles from the Project Site. Therefore, the Proposed Project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (see **Figure 8**).

Environmental Assessment Factors [24 CFR 58.40] Recorded below is the qualitative and quantitative significance of the effects of the proposal on the character, features and resources of the project area. Each factor has been evaluated and documented, as appropriate and in proportion to its relevance to the proposed action. Verifiable source documentation has been provided and described in support of each determination, as appropriate. Credible, traceable and supportive source documentation for each authority has been provided. Where applicable, the necessary reviews or consultations have been completed and applicable permits of approvals have been obtained or noted. Citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references are clear. Additional documentation is attached, as appropriate. **All conditions, attenuation or mitigation measures have been clearly identified.**

Impact Codes: Use an impact code from the following list to make the determination of impact for each factor.

(1) Minor beneficial impact
(2) No impact anticipated
(3) Minor Adverse Impact – May require mitigation
(4) Significant or potentially significant impact requiring avoidance or modification which may require an Environmental Impact Statement

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
LAND DEVELOPMENT		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The Proposed Project is consistent with existing municipal land use at 550 Minot Avenue, which is currently developed with the City's Central Fire Station. Redevelopment of the parcel for a consolidated Public Safety Facility maintains the established municipal use and does not introduce new or incompatible land uses. The Project Site is located within a mixed residential–commercial corridor identified in the City of Auburn Comprehensive Plan as an area appropriate for community services and public facilities. The Proposed Project conforms to local zoning requirements, and the use is allowable within the applicable district. The building program includes an approximately 44,000-square-foot, two-story public facility with associated parking, training structures, and site improvements. This is compatible with the surrounding built environment along Minot Avenue, which includes a range of one- to three-story public, residential, and commercial structures. The scale, massing, and site layout have been designed to reduce visual and land use conflicts with adjacent residential properties. The redevelopment results in an intensification of an existing municipal use but does not alter land use patterns, increase residential density, or generate land use conflicts. The Proposed Project is therefore consistent with adopted plans and zoning, and **no impact is anticipated** under this factor.

Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	Subsurface investigations conducted for the Project Site identified a complex sequence of soil units, including uncontrolled fill, glaciomarine silts and clays, glacial outwash sands, glacial till, and areas of bedrock refusal. Uncontrolled fill materials characterized by variable mixtures of clay, silt, sand, gravel, organics, and construction debris extend to depths of up to 15 feet in portions of the developed area. These materials are unsuitable for direct structural support due to their variability, compressibility, and presence of organic content. Beneath the fill, several borings encountered soft, compressible glaciomarine silty clays, in some locations reaching 15 feet in thickness, which present risk for post-construction settlement. Deeper units include loose to dense glacial outwash sands and medium-dense to very dense glacial till, with refusal encountered in three borings at depths between 12.8 and 18.5 feet, indicating the presence of large boulders or shallow bedrock. Groundwater levels were observed between 5 and 16 feet below grade, with perched conditions likely where fill overlies lower-permeability clays and tills. Seasonal and climate-related fluctuations are expected. Existing grades slope downward to the south, east, and west, directing runoff toward lower wetland areas and Taylor Brook, which lies along the western property boundary. The southern portion of the site contains wet and partially filled drainage features that separate the existing training yard from the rest of the property. These areas contain disturbed soils, organics, and saturated clays, which present increased susceptibility to instability when loaded or excavated improperly. The predominant soil types are silty sands, silty clays, and clayey silts, which exhibit high erosion potential when disturbed, especially under wet conditions. Site soils are also sensitive to disturbance by heavy equipment when moist, and significant degradation of subgrade strength can occur if construction occurs during periods of elevated moisture or freeze–thaw cycles. Portions of the Project Site exhibit limited infiltration capacity due to fine-grained soils and shallow groundwater. The uneven site topography promotes uncontrolled surface runoff toward low-lying areas. Perched groundwater conditions above clay layers further contribute to limited

		infiltration and potential ponding following heavy rainfall events. Uncontrolled fill and soft glaciomarine clays present significant constraints for structural development. Without mitigation, these soils could result in differential settlement, inadequate bearing capacity, and structural instability. To address these limitations, the geotechnical evaluation recommends: 1. Removal of all uncontrolled fill, organics, wetland deposits, and debris beneath proposed buildings. 2. Use of Rigid Inclusion ground improvement systems for the Public Safety Building to transfer structural loads to deeper, more competent outwash and till soils. 3. Replacement of unsuitable soils beneath other structures with compacted Granular Borrow to establish stable, non-organic subgrades. These measures are anticipated to eliminate long-term settlement risks and allow safe construction. The proposed site modifications, including the installation of retaining walls up to 13 feet high, lie in areas underlain by uncontrolled fill and wetland-related deposits. These conditions necessitate removing unsuitable soils beneath wall foundations and reinforced zones. Alternatively, rigid inclusions or stone columns may be installed to enhance bearing capacity and reduce settlement risk. A global stability analysis is recommended during final design to ensure adequate safety factors against slope failure. Construction activities, particularly excavation and grading, pose risks for erosion, sediment transport, and downstream sedimentation, given the erodible nature of site soils. To minimize impacts, the Proposed Project would: 1. Implement erosion control systems (e.g., silt fencing, stabilized construction entrances, sediment basins) prior to land disturbance. 2. Construction would occur during dry, non-freezing months, as wet or frozen subgrade conditions significantly reduce soil strength and increase erosion. 3. Vegetation and pavement outside the construction limits would remain in place to minimize surface disturbance.

		Adherence to these measures will limit erosion and protect adjacent sensitive resources, including Taylor Brook. The Proposed Project's excavation activities may encounter both perched and deeper groundwater, requiring temporary dewatering (sumping and pumping) to maintain stable subgrades. Long-term drainage considerations of the Proposed Project include: 1. Installation of a foundation underdrain system around all perimeter footings, consisting of perforated SDR-35 pipe embedded in crushed stone and wrapped in geotextile fabric. 2. Ensuring all underdrain systems have positive gravity discharge protected against freezing, clogging, and backflow. 3. Designing final grading to direct stormwater away from structures, reducing infiltration into backfill materials and minimizing foundation risks. Site redevelopment will increase impervious cover; however, the project's stormwater design features would address the site's existing limitations associated with fine-grained soils and shallow groundwater. Key considerations of the Proposed Project include: 1. Use of non-frost-susceptible structural fill below slabs, entrance slabs, and pavements to reduce heave and maintain proper drainage function. 2. Removal and replacement of unsuitable soils in paved areas, particularly those supporting heavy fire apparatus, where rutting and settlement would otherwise occur. 3. Installation of woven geotextile over silty or clayey subgrades to improve pavement durability. 4. Protection of downstream waters through sedimentation controls and attention to surface water conveyance during and after construction. To avoid or minimize adverse impacts on soils, slopes, drainage patterns, and stormwater, the Proposed Project would: 1. Remove all uncontrolled fill, organics, debris, and unsuitable soils beneath structures and pavements. 2. Implement rigid inclusion ground improvement beneath the Public Safety Building; use Granular Borrow beneath all other structures.

		3. Remove unsuitable soils beneath retaining wall footprints or improve soils using rigid inclusions or stone columns. 4. Conduct a global stability analysis prior to final design approval. 5. Install erosion control BMPs prior to earth disturbance. 6. Preserve vegetation and pavement outside disturbance limits. 7. Avoid construction during wet or freezing conditions. 8. Install underdrain systems around foundations. 9. Maintain positive drainage away from buildings. 10. Dewater excavations as needed to ensure stable subgrades. 11. Incorporate geotextile, structural fill, and appropriate pavement sections to ensure long-term performance. 12. Maintain sedimentation controls to protect adjacent waters, including Taylor Brook. With these measures in place, **no impact is anticipated** under this factor.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	The Project Site is located in Seismic Design Category B, which indicates a low-to-moderate potential for ground shaking. No active or Quaternary faults occur within 0.5 miles of the site, and the Proposed Project will be designed in accordance with the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC), which incorporates seismic, wind, and snow-load design requirements. Compliance with these standards ensures the facility will meet applicable life-safety and structural performance criteria. The facility will include appropriate fire-protection measures consistent with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) codes and will incorporate defensible-space design and routine vegetation management to reduce wildfire risk. No hazardous industrial uses, high-risk facilities, or land uses generating off-site nuisance hazards are located adjacent to the Project Site. Temporary noise and vibration will occur during construction; however, construction activities will comply with the City's ordinance restricting high-noise equipment between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. No long-term noise impacts are anticipated because the Proposed Project does

		not introduce new noise-sensitive receptors or noise-generating industrial uses. Based on compliance with applicable building, fire, and noise codes and the absence of incompatible surrounding uses, **no impact is anticipated** under this factor.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		
Employment and Income Patterns	1	The Proposed Project is anticipated to create construction jobs and long-term maintenance roles. Enhanced facilities improve recruitment and retention in public safety roles, which contributes to local employment stability. Centralizing police and fire services in a modern facility is expected to improve operational efficiency, reducing overtime and operational redundancies. This could free up city funds for other economic development efforts. Investments in better training, equipment, and facilities enable the departments to handle emergencies more effectively. This includes collaboration with mental health and substance abuse programs, which support vulnerable populations, potentially lowering social costs related to public safety. This project is expected to have a **Minor beneficial impact** on employment and income patterns.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The Proposed Project would be designed to centralize police and fire department operations, and address safety and operational inefficiencies. As the Proposed Project is the redevelopment of an existing city facility, it would not cause a displacement of residents or businesses or affect the demographics or character of the area. The new facility is intended to serve the entire city more effectively and improve public safety infrastructure. Therefore, **no impact is anticipated** under this environmental assessment factor.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	1	The Proposed Project will have **Minor beneficial impact** for this environmental assessment factor by improving the general safety of nearby educational and cultural facilities. The Proposed Project is located in close proximity to an elementary school, a church, and early learning facility, and a senior living and care facility. An upgraded facility could enhance training for first responders, improving community

		safety while creating a model for public safety education in the region.
Commercial Facilities	2	There are numerous commercial facilities in close proximity (within 500 to 1,000 feet) to the Proposed Project. Enhanced public safety infrastructure can make the area more attractive to businesses by reducing crime and improving emergency response times. Temporary disruptions such as noise and traffic during the construction phase is not anticipated to affect nearby commercial facilities. Therefore, **no impact is anticipated** under this environmental assessment factor.
Health Care and Social Services	1	The Proposed Project would not introduce new residents or users to the City's health care or social services systems. By enhancing the coordination between the police and fire departments and providing a more efficient facility for the police and fire departments, it is likely that the Proposed Project would improve emergency response times and thus, improve health care services in the community Therefore, a **Minor beneficial impact** is anticipated with the Proposed Project under this environmental assessment factor.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The solid waste generated at the Project Site will be removed by a private hauler. Therefore, **no impact is anticipated** with respect to solid waste disposal and recycling with the Proposed Project.
Waste Water / Sanitary Sewers	2	Wastewater from the Project Site will be conveyed through the City of Auburn Municipal Sewer system and transported to the Lewiston Auburn Water Pollution Control Authority Wastewater Treatment Facility for treatment. Therefore, **no impact is anticipated** with respect to wastewater with the Proposed Project.
Water Supply	2	Potable water for the Project site will be available through the Auburn Water District public water system, which has capacity for the Proposed Project. Therefore, **no impact is anticipated** with respect to water supply with the Proposed Project.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	1	The Proposed Project aims to significantly and directly enhance the operations and facility amenities for the City of Auburn's police force and fire response personnel. The purpose of the project is to centralize emergency response at a modernized facility that addresses space and functional layout needs, security, employee mental health and wellness, optimized living and training spaces, and provides updated technology and infrastructure into daily work processes. Therefore, there is a **Minor beneficial impact** with respect to public safety with the Proposed Project.

Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	As the Project Site does not include parkland, open space, or recreational amenities, there would be no direct impact with the Proposed Project. In addition, these amenities are not anticipated to be affected by typical construction activities (i.e., noise, dust, traffic, or access) as the nearest park is approximately 1.5 miles away (Western Ave Park). Therefore, **no impact is anticipated** to open space with the Proposed Project.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The Proposed Project will include 18 parking spaces including three accessible parking spaces and one electric vehicle charger shared between two spaces in the front of the building and 106 parking spaces, including two accessible parking spaces in the back of the building – totaling 124 parking spaces for the new facility. Although spaces are not individually marked in existing conditions, the current fire station can accommodate approximately 30-35 vehicles, resulting in an incremental change in parking of approximately +89 parking spaces. With this additional parking, there would be a noticeable change in traffic at the Project Site; however, this additional parking capacity is not expected to significantly increase traffic or alter traffic patterns in the area. During construction, traffic associated with construction vehicles entering and exiting the Project Site is anticipated, leading to localized traffic congestion during peak hours; however, this impact is expected to be temporary and would not constitute a minor adverse or significant impact. Therefore, **no impact is anticipated** with respect to transportation and accessibility with the Proposed Project.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	3	Located within the Project Site are three perennial streams, two forested wetlands and one scrub shrub wetland. Of the three perennial streams, Taylor Brook is the primary tributary and receiving water within the Project Site. Due to proximity to on-site tributaries, wetlands delineated at the Project Site are classified as Wetlands of Special Significance (WOSS). The Proposed Project involves permanent fill and the construction of a new retaining wall and parking area which would result in approximately 2,440 sf (0.06 acres) of temporary impact to an existing unnamed streambed, and approximately 7,485 sf (0.17 acres) of permanent impact to

		existing contiguous palustrine forested (PFO) wetland. The Proposed Project also would create approximately 2,913 sf (0.07 acres) of restored streambed and approximately 6,003 sf (0.14 acres) of restored riparian buffer and therefore result in approximately 962 sf (0.02 acres) of net wetland habitat loss. For the wetland impacts at the Project Site, stream and wetland restoration would occur in accordance with a Wetland and Stream Restoration Plan. For the riparian buffer, this plan includes invasive species management, debris removal, the replanting of an area to reestablish a forested wetland ecosystem with a variably dense understory including shade-tolerant species, and the creation of a wetland with dense scrub-shrub vegetation surrounding the steam to be planted with species that thrive in full sun. A 50-foot section of one of the streams would be daylit from the existing 48" corrugated metal culvert, which would be shortened and converted to an embedded box culvert sized to 1.2 bankfull width. Live stakes would be planted along the streambank to promote bank stabilization, stream shading, and instream habitat. For the stream restoration, this plan includes debris removal, using natural substrate onsite to restore the tributary stream, installing small boulders, cobbles, and gravel of various size in the stream channel and within the box culvert, and the placement of branches or stems to promote habitat diversity and pool formation. Resulting conditions within the reconstructed section of stream are anticipated to provide long-term improved drainage and channel morphology, increased riparian function, and improved aquatic habitat connectivity from existing conditions. With the implementation of the Wetland and Stream Restoration Plan, conditions that facilitate the natural and beneficial functions of wetlands and streams (e.g., floodwater storage and conveyance, erosion control, water quality maintenance and habitat for flora and fauna) would be an improvement over existing conditions. Additionally, a deed restriction held with the USACE would be implemented as means of protection for the riparian buffer and restored stream. Finally, the Proposed Project would incorporate best management practices during construction and within the permanent stormwater management system to minimize any potential adverse stormwater runoff impacts. The Proposed

		Project's stormwater management features, including the proposed stream-smart culvert replacement and subsurface treatment systems would improve ecological conditions in and around the Project Site by removing sediment and pollutant loads, reducing peak flows and preventing streambank erosion. The Proposed Project complies with state and local floodplain and wetland protection procedures. Construction activities will adhere to the recommendations made in the project's Stormwater Management Plan and Environmental Media Management Plan to avoid any indirect impacts to water quality. Therefore, **minor adverse impacts that require mitigation are anticipated** with respect to unique natural features and water resources with the Proposed Project.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	As described above, forested and aquatic habitats exist onsite. Buffer zones around aquatic resources will be left in place where possible and protected through additional erosion and sedimentation control measures to protect aquatic fauna and existing aquatic habitat conditions. As described above, impacts to wetlands would be mitigated. Minor clearing of trees and vegetation will be necessary within an existing mature forest community along the boundaries of the Project Site. Interior clearing will be avoided to prevent fragmentation. Clearing activities may result in minor displacement of native wildlife and removal of vegetation used for cover, nesting and foraging. Following construction activities, vegetation will be used to stabilize soils along the forested edges. Where stream buffers and wetlands have temporary impacts, native vegetation will be planted as described in the project specific Stream and Wetland Restoration Plan. Mature forests have the potential to harbor numerous bat species, such as Tricolored bat, a federally endangered species. To avoid impacts to Tricolored bat and other bat species, tree clearing shall be restricted to occur only between the months of November – March outside of the summer roosting season. In a letter dated October 21, 2025, the State of Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife confirmed there are no known locations of bat species in the project area, however several bat species may occur within the project area. Based on the project description and mitigation

		measures proposed, the MDIFW concurs our project is not anticipated to have significant impacts to bats. In response to proposed impacts to streams and wetlands, MDIFW recommends including 100-foot undisturbed buffers where possible and increasing the width in other areas to the furthest extent practicable. MDIFW is supportive of the proposed stream crossing design, timing of construction, and stream realignment to improve the existing channel conditions. The Stream and Wetland Restoration Plan has been updated to include additional recommended species suggested by MDIFW to improve riparian diversity in transitional canopy trees. In a letter dated August 1, 2025, the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry confirmed there are no rare botanical features documented specifically within the Project Site. The USACE has determined the project will have no effect on Atlantic salmon. Barriers downstream of the action area prevent Atlantic salmon access, and there are no stocking efforts in the watershed. Therefore, the species will not be present within the action area or adjacent areas and will not be affected by the proposed project. Because the Tricolored Bat is only proposed for listing, the USACE is not required to consult under Section 7(a)(4) and has determined its action will not jeopardize the species' continued existence. This determination is based on the limited scope of tree clearing and the bat's wide distribution throughout eastern North America and Central America. The USACE completed the Northern Long-eared Bat and Tricolored Bat Range-wide Determination Key for Tricolor bat and retrieved a "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect." Because the Monarch Butterfly is only proposed for listing as threatened, the USACE is not required to consult under Section 7(a)(4). The USACE has determined that the project will not impact any Monarch Butterfly habitat, leading to the determination that the project will not jeopardize the species' continued existence. Therefore, with the measures in-place, **no impact is anticipated** with respect to vegetation and wildlife with the Proposed Project.
Other Factors	N/A	N/A

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
ENERGY		
Energy Efficiency	1	There will be a **Minor beneficial impact** with the implementation of the Proposed Project as the new facility would be more energy efficient and include updated energy saving systems.

Additional Studies Performed:

Field Inspection (Date and completed by)**:** 12/12/24; Amy Gerhard (Woodard & Curran, Inc.)

List of Sources, Additional Studies Performed, Agencies and Persons Consulted:

Boardman, Elliott. Auburn Engine 3 Fire Station Bridge/Structure Bat Assessment Survey Results. FB Environmental Associates, 25 Aug. 2025.

City of Auburn (2026, March 8). Pre-Demolition Hazardous Building Materials Survey Report. Prepared by Woodard & Curran. [PDF].

City of Auburn (2026, March 8). Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Report. Prepared by Woodard & Curran. [PDF].

City of Auburn (2026, February 4). DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL MEDIA MANAGEMENT PLAN "Coastal Zone Map." Maine Coastal Program, Maine Department of Marine Resources, n.d., https://www.maine.gov/dmr/programs/maine-coastal-program/coastal-zone-map.

FEMA. "National Risk Index Map." Federal Emergency Management Agency, n.d., https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/map#.

"Floodplain Management." *HUD Exchange*, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/floodplain-management/. Accessed 16 June 2026.

Gawler, Susan C., and Andrew Cutko. Natural Landscapes of Maine: A Guide to Natural Communities and Ecosystems. Maine Natural Areas Program, Department of Conservation, 2010.

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry. n.d.

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife. n.d.

"Maine Flood Hazard Map." Maine Office of GIS (ArcGIS), n.d., https://maine.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3c09351397764bd2aa9ba385d2e9efe7.

"Maine Geological Survey Sea Level Rise/Storm Surge Scenarios Map." Maine Geological Survey, n.d., https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mgs/hazards/slr_ss/index.shtml.

Maine Won't Wait: Climate Impacts. State of Maine, n.d., https://www.maine.gov/climateplan/climate-impacts.

Mahoney, Kirk. State of Maine Preservation Officer.

Miller, Caitlin. "State Report Outlines Climate Impact on Maine." Maine Public, 18 June 2024, https://www.mainepublic.org/climate/2024-06-18/state-report-outlines-climate-impact-on-maine.

S. W. Cole Engineering, Inc. Explorations and Geotechnical Engineering Services: Proposed Public Safety Facility, 526 & 550 Minot Avenue, Auburn, Maine. Prepared for Woodard & Curran, Inc., 2 Feb. 2026.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. 8-Step Decision-Making Process for the Auburn, ME Public Safety Facility. 28 Jan. 2026.

U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service. n.d.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "Final NLEB and TCB Tools and Guidance: Frequently Asked Questions." Oct. 2024, https://www.fws.gov/story/2024-10/final-nleb-and-tcb-tools-and-guidance-frequently-asked-questions.

List of Permits Obtained:
Site Plan permit and Site Location of Development (SLOD) permit from City of Auburn Planning Department; Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA) permit from Maine DEP; and General Permit from US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE).

Public Outreach [24 CFR 50.23 & 58.43]**:**
Public notice of the Proposed Project will be posted on the City's website, and a copy of the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) will be made available to the public at the City of Auburn City Hall. The public will be provided with a 15-day public comment period. If no substantive comments are received, the draft EA will become final, and the initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final EA document.

Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]:
There are no development projects currently underway in the immediate area that would contribute to cumulative impacts. Within the immediate vicinity of the Proposed Project a future realignment of the intersection of Minot Avenue and Elm Street is planned; however, is not anticipated to occur at the same time as the Proposed Project. Therefore, no significant adverse cumulative impacts are anticipated with the Proposed Project.

Alternatives [24 CFR 58.40(e)]**:**

The City of Auburn's Public Safety consulting team completed a Space Needs Analysis, which identified space requirements for the years 2023, 2033, and 2043. The assessment concluded that a future public safety facility would need approximately 59,420 square feet (sf) (in 2043) for the Police and Fire Departments.

Following the Space Needs Analysis, the City of Auburn's Public Safety consulting team completed a Site Evaluation. The goal of the evaluation was to identify a feasible site to locate a new City of Auburn Public Safety Facility, which would consolidate the City's Police and Fire Departments into a single shared facility. Working with representatives from the City's Fire and Police Departments throughout the programing efforts, the final Space Needs Analysis identified the required building and ancillary structure footprints and site parking needs for the shared facility. This information was then used to evaluate the feasibility of potential site locations. Based on discussions with the City and a review of City-owned and other available undeveloped parcels, five potential sites were considered for the new Public Safety Facility.

1. Locate the Proposed Project at 1 Center Street

The City considered an alternative site at 1 Center Street. The Site Evaluation concluded that the site had insufficient space for the proposed building programing and parking footprint, had the potential to cause traffic conflicts at a congested intersection, was the site of a former gas station indicating the potential for unresolved subsurface contamination, and would require acquisition as it was not already city-owned.

2. Locate the Proposed Project at 180 Turner Street

The City considered an alternative site at 180 Turner Street. The Site Evaluation concluded that the site had insufficient space for the proposed building programing and parking footprint, had the potential to cause traffic conflicts at a congested intersection, and would require acquisition as it was not already city-owned.

3. Locate the Proposed Project at 296 Gracelawn Road

The City considered an alternative site at 296 Gracelawn Road. The Site Evaluation concluded that although the site had sufficient space for the proposed building programing and parking footprint and was located on a collector road with no adjacent intersections indicating favorable traffic conditions and accessibility, the site was a closed landfill indicating the potential for unresolved subsurface contamination with concerns regarding the constructability of the site and permitting requirements.

4. Other sites considered

After evaluating each site for size, previous uses, topography, potential soil conditions, traffic, and the presence of natural resources, only two sites (550 Minot Avenue and 845 Minot Avenue) were considered feasible. Conceptual site layouts and estimated project costs were developed for both the 550 Minot Avenue and 845 Minot Avenue sites. The 845

Minot Avenue site, the smaller of the two feasible sites, provided some concern and limitations with the presence of a stream across the middle of the site. The need to purchase the property from private ownership also added to the overall estimated project cost. While the 550 Minot Avenue site also provided some concerns such as the presence of a stream along the property boundary and consideration for phasing construction to accommodate operations of the existing Central Fire Station, this site appeared to be the most feasible location for a new Public Safety Facility based on the above evaluation criteria, the estimated overall project cost, and the conceptual site layout. Additionally, the City had the opportunity to purchase the abutting property at 227 Poland Road, providing the additional needed space.

No Action Alternative [24 CFR 58.40(e)]:

A no action alternative was also considered and rejected because the continued reliance on outdated and inadequate facilities poses significant risks to the efficiency and effectiveness of critical public safety operations. The Proposed Project aims to address longstanding operational challenges faced by the city's Police Department at City Hall and would provide a modern, efficient, and right-sized facility to meet current and future public safety needs. City Hall does not currently provide adequate space or support the operational and spatial requirements of Auburn's police department. There currently is no capacity for future growth, limiting the city's ability to adapt to evolving public safety needs. Key deficiencies at City Hall include:

1) an inadequate layout that creates barriers to communication and teamwork and disrupts operational efficiency and customer service;
2) insufficient space and inadequate room for training and employee living areas, and secured storage for critical equipment and materials.; and

3) aging infrastructure.

The Central Fire Station also exhibits significant operational challenges that limit its functionality as a modern fire station as currently configured. The facility was not designed to accommodate the scale and complexity of current fire operations. Maintenance requirements and spatial inadequacies have compounded over time. The drive-through apparatus bays are too small to house modern firefighting vehicles and equipment and there are inadequate shared spaces for training.

The analysis of space needs and a site evaluation conducted by Auburn's Public Safety consulting team confirmed that a new, purpose-built facility is required to improve the current operational constraints to continue to provide emergency services. After consideration of potential alternatives, it was determined the location of the existing Central Fire Station, located at 550 Minot Avenue, would be the most effective location for a new facility to address these deficiencies.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions: The environmental review for the proposed Public Safety Facility at 526 and 550 Minot Avenue in Auburn, Maine evaluates potential impacts associated with redevelopment of the existing fire station property and adjacent parcel. Based on the analyses completed and supporting technical studies, the following findings and conclusions are presented.

The project site is previously developed and contains existing structures, paved areas, and disturbed soils. Planned activities include demolition of existing facilities and construction of a new public safety complex with associated infrastructure improvements. Due to the previously developed nature of the site, environmental impacts are generally limited and can be effectively mitigated through standard construction practices and regulatory compliance.

A geotechnical investigation identified variable subsurface conditions, including uncontrolled fill and compressible soils, which present engineering considerations but do not preclude development. Recommended ground improvement measures, excavation protocols, and foundation design approaches will ensure structural stability and minimize settlement impacts. With implementation of these measures, no significant adverse environmental effects related to soils or geologic conditions are anticipated.

A wildlife assessment focusing on bat habitat evaluated culverts and structures within the project area for potential roosting use. No bats or signs of bat activity were observed during the survey, and only one structure exhibited limited suitability for roosting. Based on these findings, the project is not expected to adversely affect bat species, including federally listed species, provided that any future work follows applicable seasonal guidance and best management practices.

Additional environmental factors typically associated with HUD Part 58 reviews—including floodplain management, wetlands, noise, air quality, and hazardous materials—are either not present, minimal in scope, or can be mitigated through adherence to federal, state, and local regulations. Standard erosion and sediment control measures, stormwater management practices, and construction best management practices will further reduce the potential for temporary impacts during construction.

Overall, the proposed project is consistent with applicable environmental regulations and planning goals. The identified impacts are minor, localized, and largely temporary in nature. No significant adverse environmental impacts have been identified that would preclude project implementation.

Based on the findings of this Environmental Assessment and supporting technical documentation, the proposed Public Safety Facility project will not result in significant impacts to the human environment. With the incorporation of recommended mitigation measures and compliance with applicable regulatory requirements, the project is suitable for advancement and supports the issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Mitigation Measures and Conditions

Summarize below all mitigation measures adopted by the Responsible Entity to reduce, avoid, or eliminate adverse environmental impacts and to avoid non-compliance or non-conformance with the above-listed authorities and factors. These measures/conditions must be incorporated into project contracts, development agreements, and other relevant documents. The staff responsible

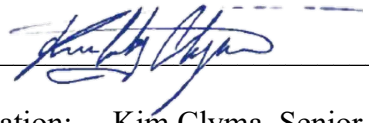
for implementing and monitoring mitigation measures should be clearly identified in the mitigation plan.

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	The City holds flood insurance for the Project Site. With flood insurance the project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)	Implement all recommendations and requirements identified in the Hazardous Building Materials Survey and Phase I Environmental Site Assessment and Environmental Media Management Plan. Any identified hazardous building materials and contaminated media shall be properly managed, removed, and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local requirements, including implementation of appropriate worker health and safety measures during demolition and construction.
Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	See attached Step 8 Process.
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	See attached Step 8 Process.
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	Implement all stipulations of the executed Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Auburn, Maine and the Maine State Historic Preservation Officer for the Auburn Central Fire Station, including retention of a 36 CFR 61-qualified historic preservation consultant, completion of Maine Historic Building Record documentation, SHPO review and approval of photographs prior to demolition, consultation on post-review discoveries pursuant to 36 CFR 800.13, and required monitoring and reporting until the MOA is satisfied.

Determination:

☒ **Finding of No Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1)]
The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

☐ **Finding of Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(2)]
The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Preparer Signature:  Date: 7/2/2026

Name/Title/Organization: Kim Clyma, Senior Environmental Planner, Woodard & Curran

Certifying Officer Signature: _____Date:_____

Name/Title: Glen Holmes, Director of Business & Community Development

This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the activity/project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and in accordance with recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).

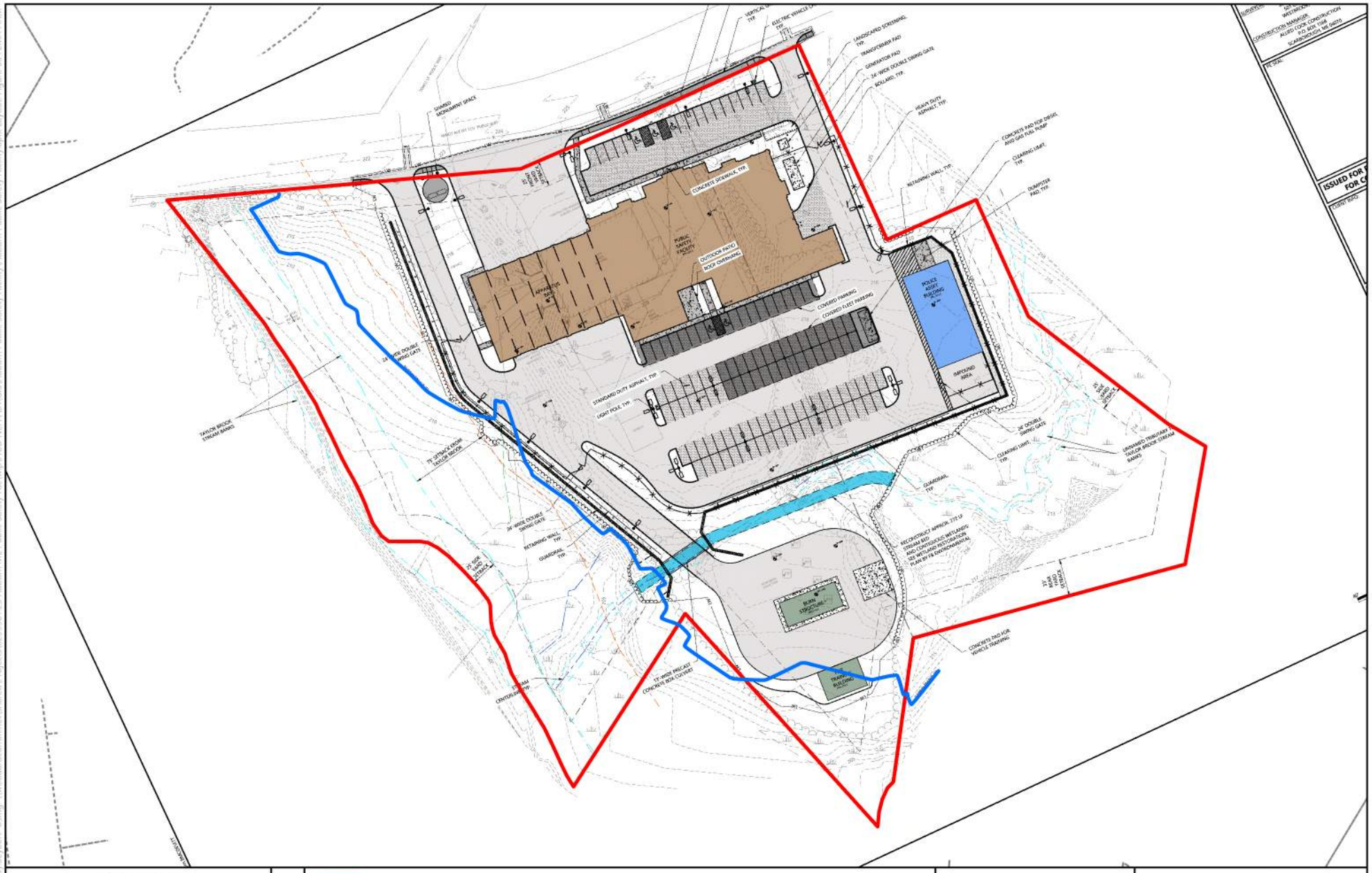


Figure 1
FEMA FIRM
Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

Legend

- Project Site
- Auburn City Parcels
- Floodplain Zone AE

N

0 40 80 160

1 inch = 125 feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026

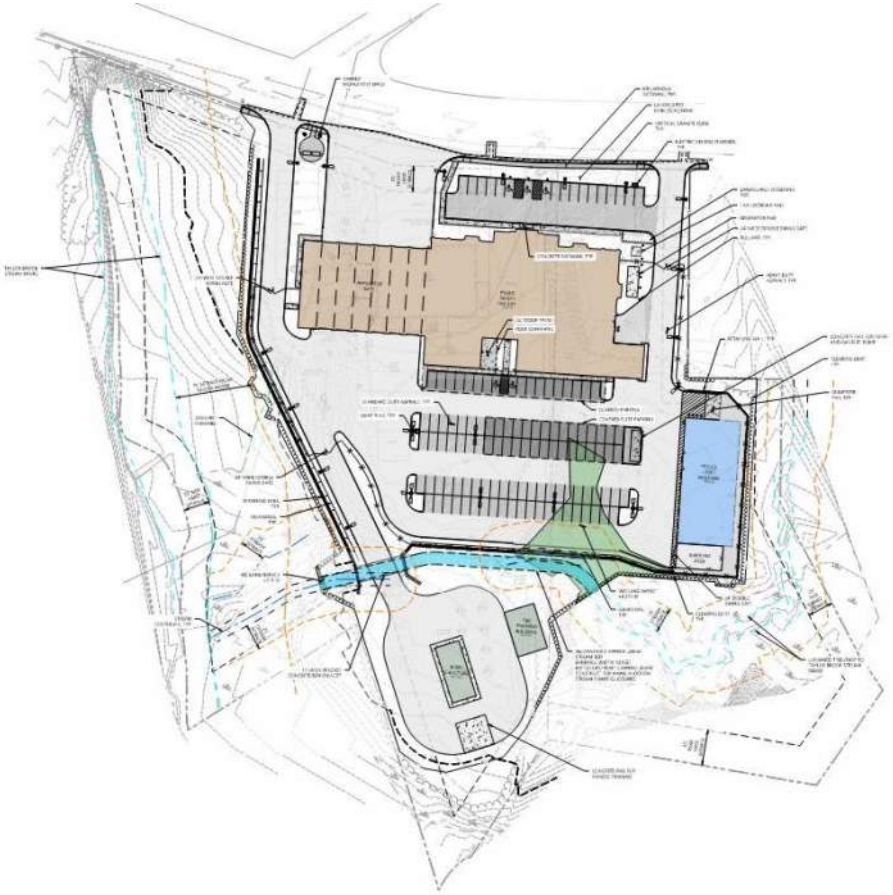


Figure 2a
Overall Site Layout Plan
Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

N

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: September 2025

Figure 2b

Site Layout Plan - Detailed View 1

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

N

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: September 2025

Figure 2c

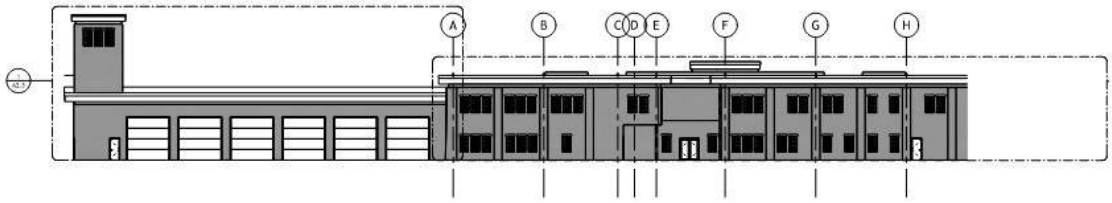
Site Layout Plan - Detailed View 2

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

N

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: September 2025



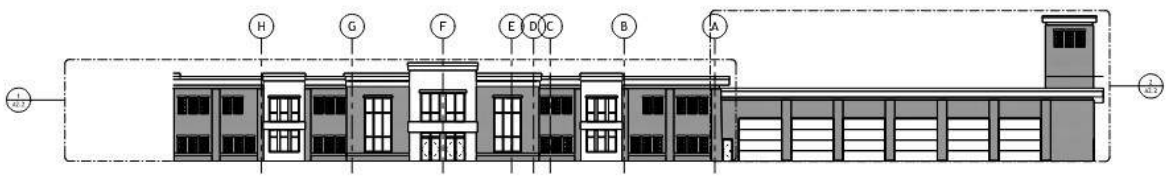


Figure 2d
Overall Building Elevations
Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

N

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: September 2025

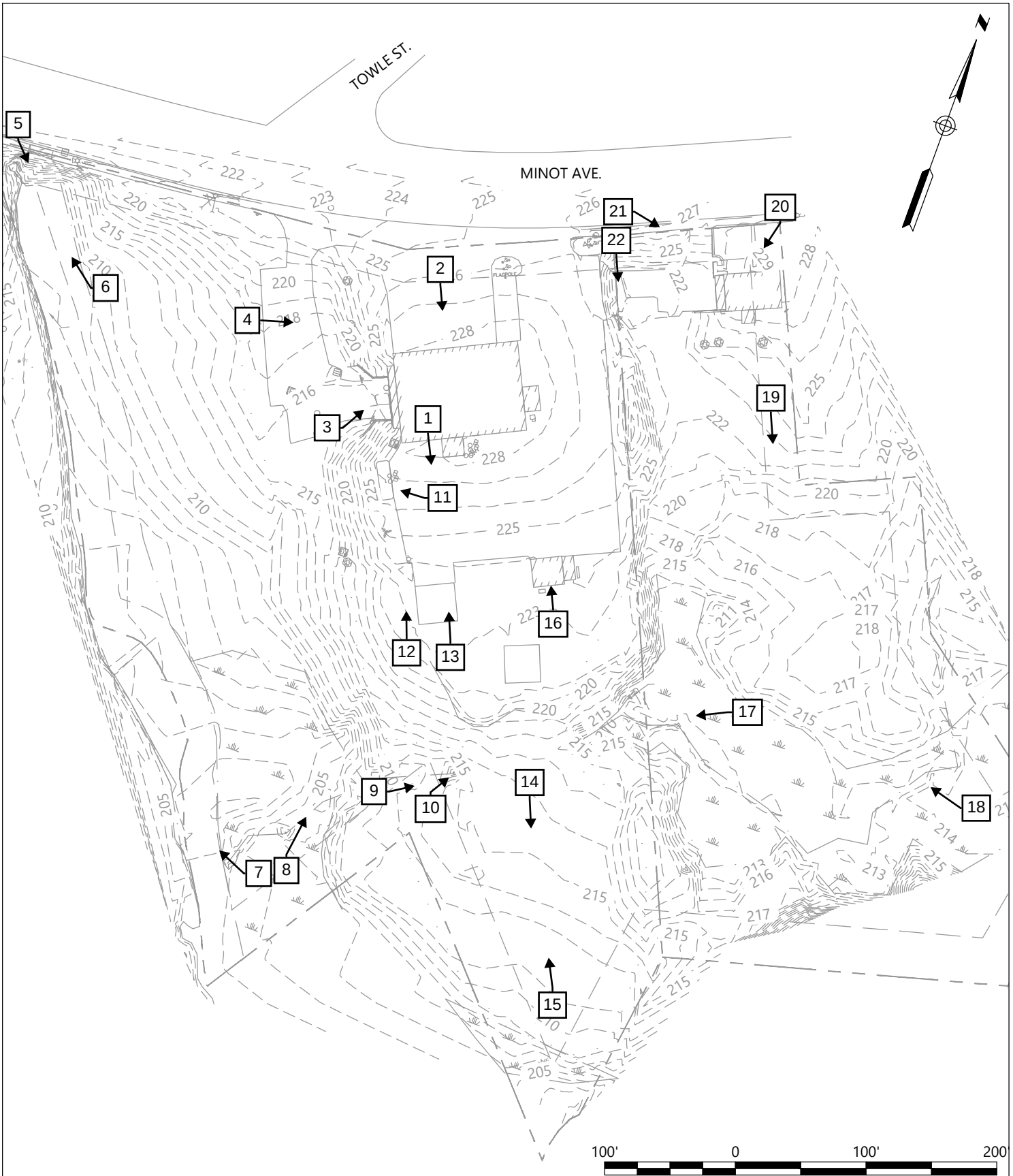
Figure 2e
Conceptual Rendering
Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

N

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: September 2025

8.5x11



NOTES:
PHOTO 1 CAPTURED ON AUGUST 18, 2020.
PHOTOS 2-22 CAPTURED ON DECEMBER 12, 2024.

BAR SCALE
1" = 100'
CHECK GRAPHIC SCALE BEFORE USING

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233891.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: 1"=100' Des by: ANG Drn by: DML Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3 - Photograph Map

\\woodardcurran.net\shared\projects\0233981.23 auburn me public safety fac\wip\drawings\figures\0233981.23-figure 4

PHOTO 1

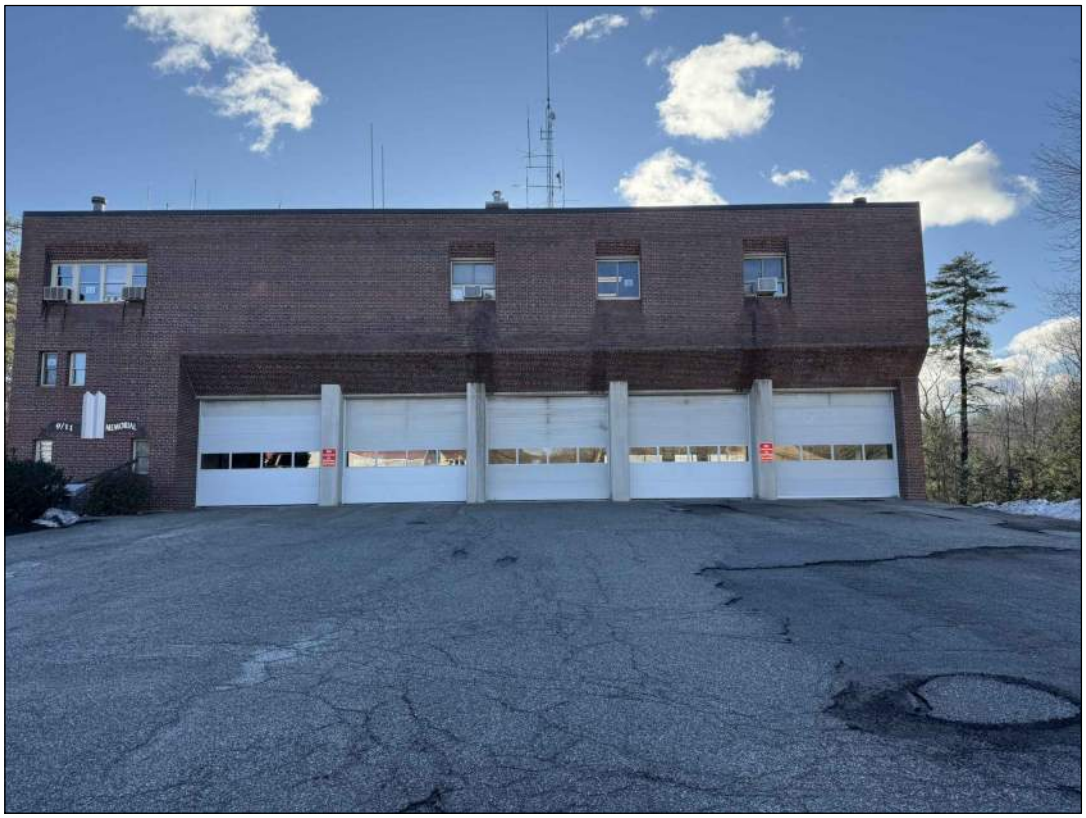


PHOTO 2

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233981.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: N.T.S. Des by: ANG Drn by: DM3 Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3a - Photographs

PHOTO 3

PHOTO 4

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233981.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: N.T.S. Des by: ANG Drn by: DML Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3b - Photographs

PHOTO 5

PHOTO 6

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233981.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: N.T.S. Des by: ANG Drn by: DML Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3c - Photographs

PHOTO 7

PHOTO 8

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233981.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: N.T.S. Des by: ANG Drn by: DML Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3d - Photographs

PHOTO 9

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233981.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: N.T.S. Des by: ANG Drn by: DML Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3e - Photographs

PHOTO 10

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233981.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: N.T.S. Des by: ANG Drn by: DML Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3f - Photographs

PHOTO 11

PHOTO 12

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233981.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: N.T.S. Des by: ANG Drn by: DML Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3g - Photographs

PHOTO 13

PHOTO 14

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233981.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: N.T.S. Des by: ANG Drn by: DML Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3h - Photographs

PHOTO 15

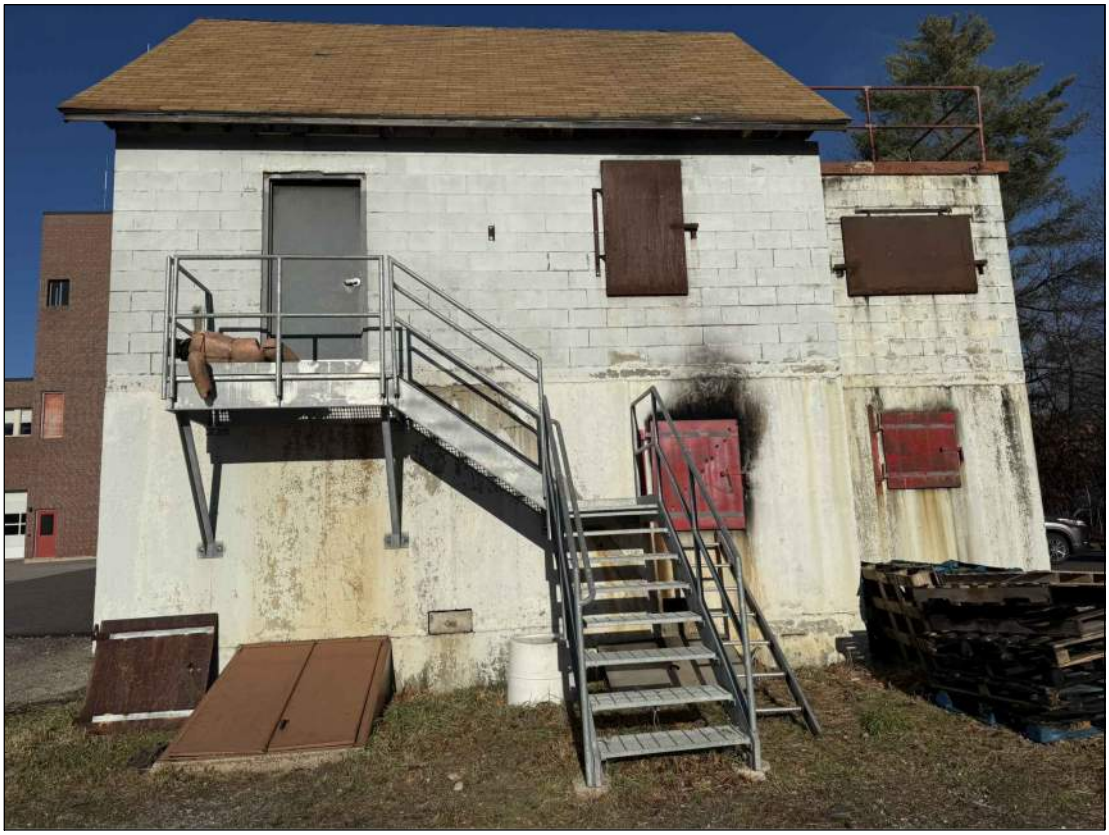


PHOTO 16

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233981.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: N.T.S. Des by: ANG Drn by: DML Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3i - Photographs

PHOTO 17

PHOTO 18

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233981.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: N.T.S. Des by: ANG Drn by: DML Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3j - Photographs

PHOTO 19

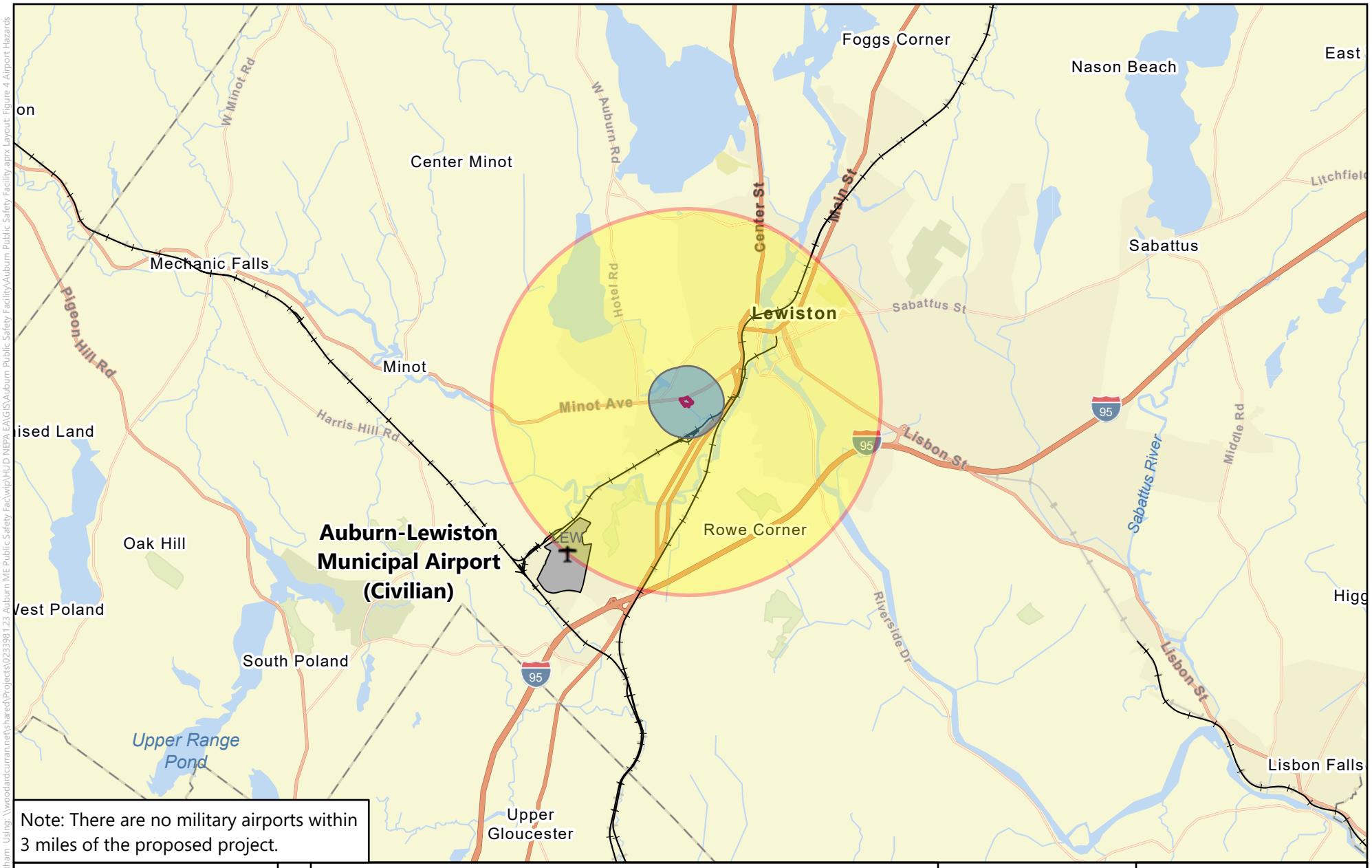
PHOTO 20

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233981.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: N.T.S. Des by: ANG Drn by: DML Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3k - Photographs

PHOTO 21

PHOTO 22

Woodard & Curran	Client Info: CITY OF AUBURN AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY	Job No: 0233981.23 Date: MAY 2025 Scale: N.T.S. Des by: ANG Drn by: DML Chk by: MDLM	Drawing Title Figure 3l - Photographs



Note: There are no military airports within 3 miles of the proposed project.

Figure 4
Airport Hazards
Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

Legend

- Project Site
- Civilian Airport Buffer (2,500 Ft)
- Military Airport Buffer (15,000 Ft)
- Airport Polygons
- Railroads
- Airport Points

N

1 inch = 10,503 feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: September 2025

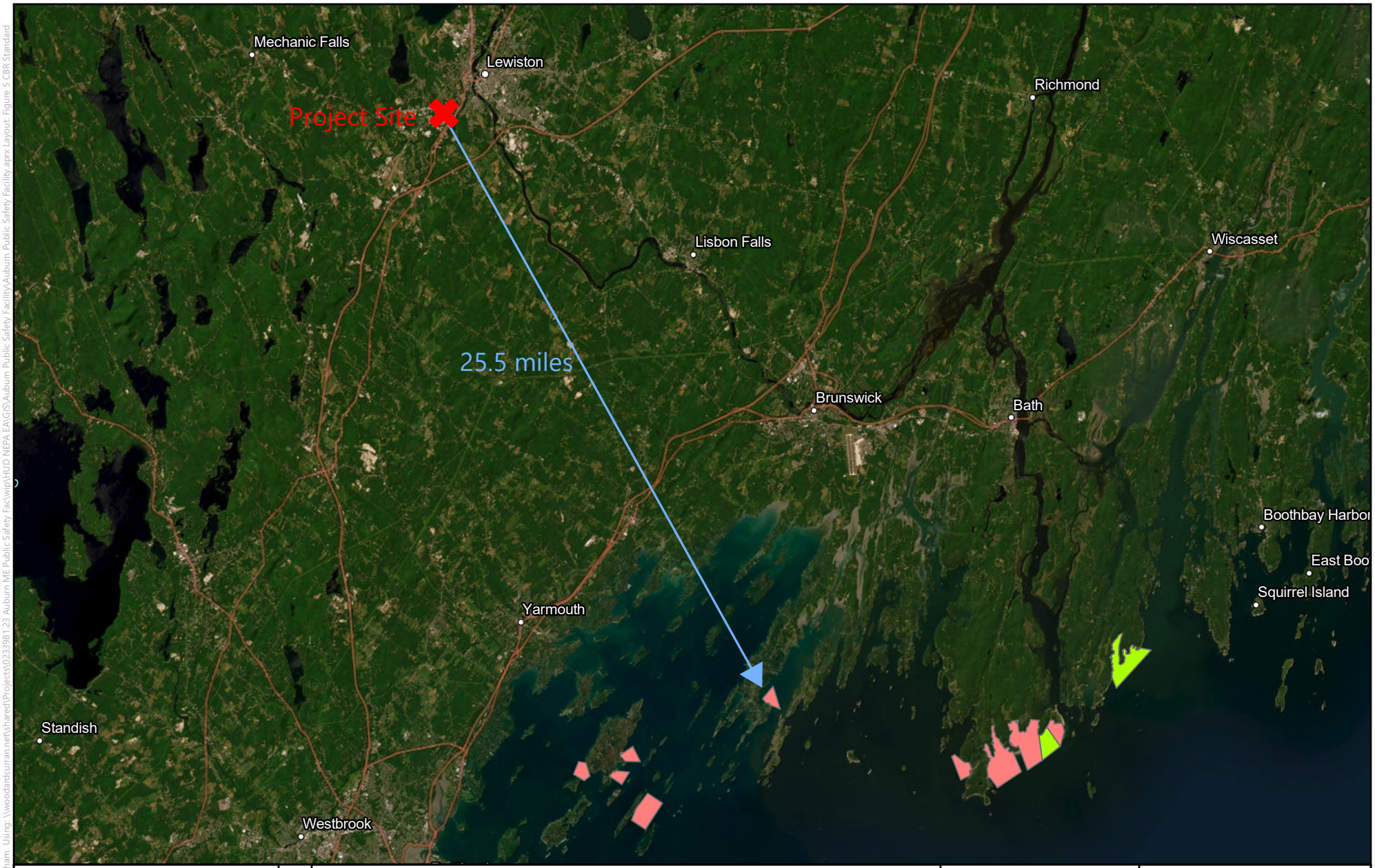


Figure 5 Coastal Barrier Resources System

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

Legend

- Project Site

CBRS Units

- Otherwise Protected Area
- System Unit

N

1 inch = 26,400 feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: September 2025

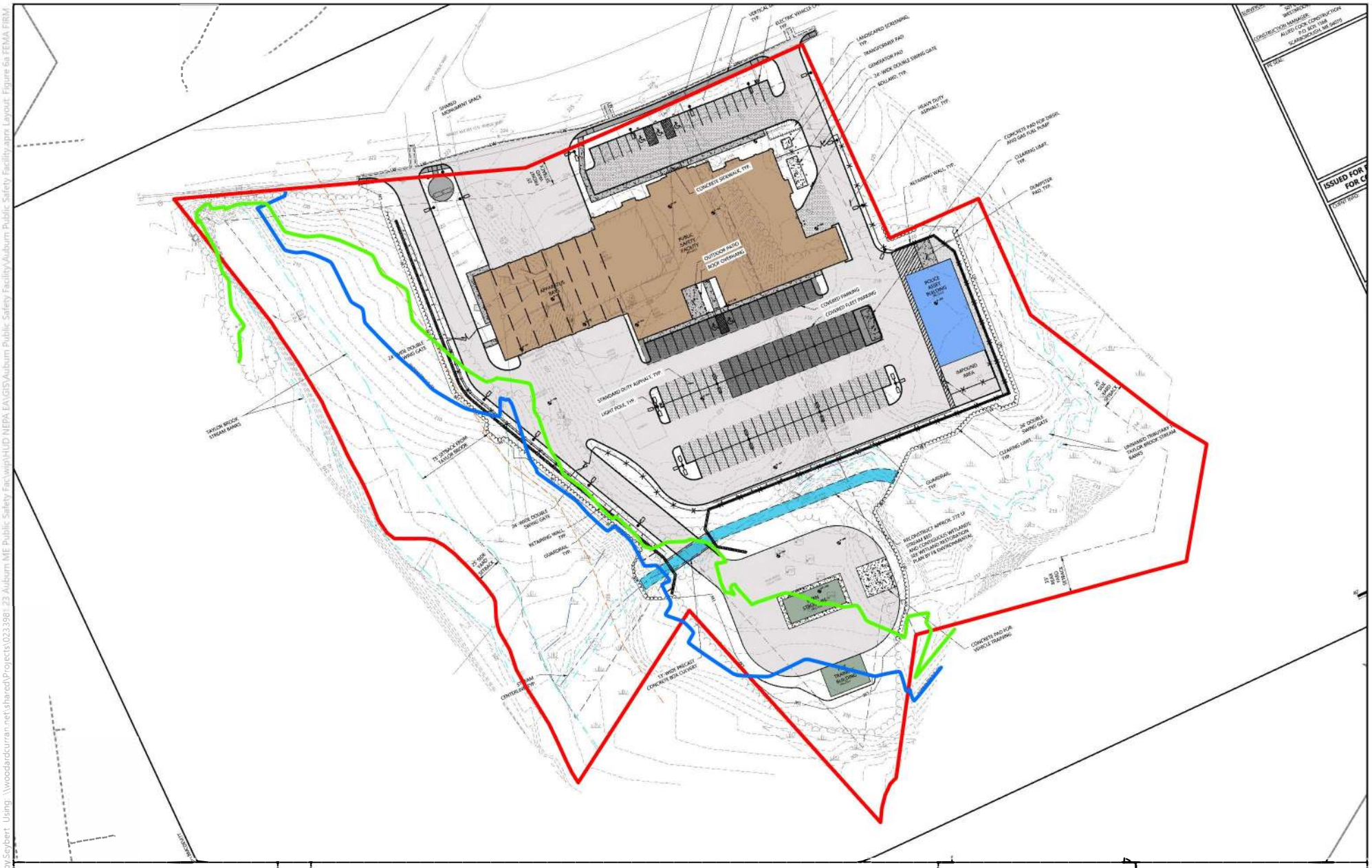


Figure 6a
Floodplains

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

Legend

- Project Site
- Auburn City Parcels
- Floodplain Zone AE
- FFMRS Floodplain

N

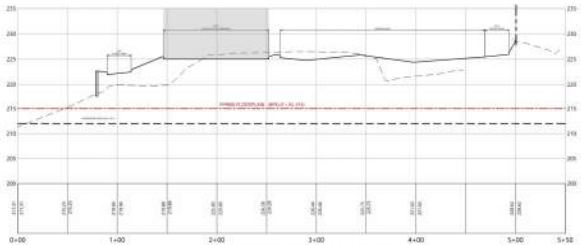
0 40 80 160

1 inch = 125 feet

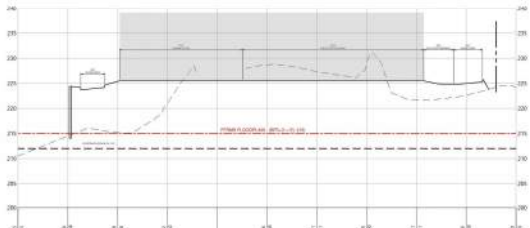
Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026

Figure Exported: 1/22/2026 By: AbbySeybert Using: \\woodardcurran.net\shared\Projects\023398~23 Auburn ME Public Safety Fac\wip\HUD NEPA EA\GIS\Auburn Public Safety Facility\Auburn Public Safety Facility.aprx Layout: Figure 6a FEMA FIRM



SECTION 1-PROFILE STA. 0+00 TO STA. 5+50



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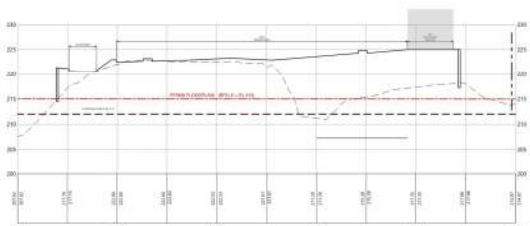

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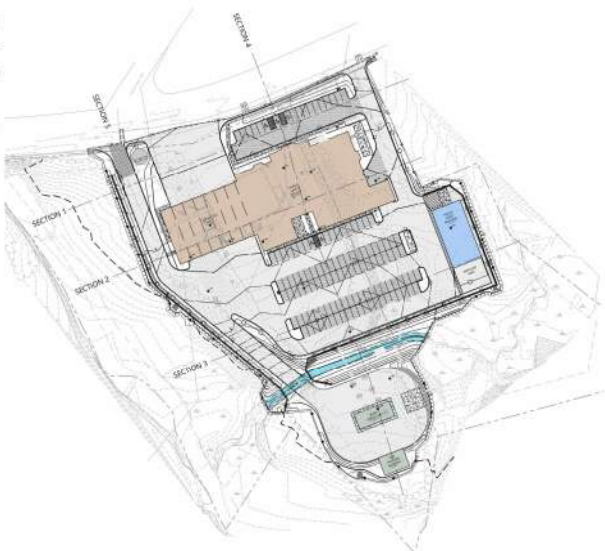


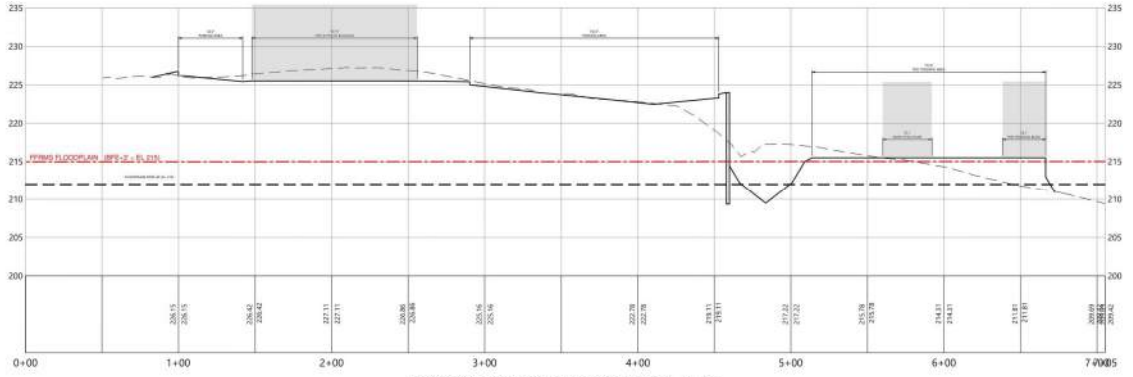
Figure 6b
Floodplain Cross Sections

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

N

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026



SECTION 4-PROFILE STA. 0+00 TO STA. 7+05

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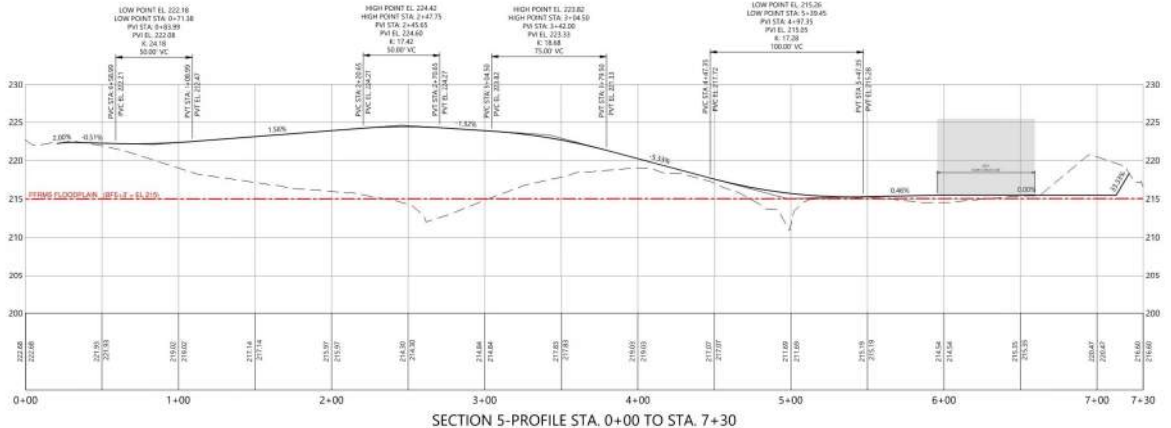
VERTICAL SCALE: 1" = 4'



SECTION 5-PROFILE STA. 0+00 TO STA. 7+30

HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1" = 20'
VERTICAL SCALE: 1" = 4'

Figure 6c
Floodplain Cross Sections

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

N

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026

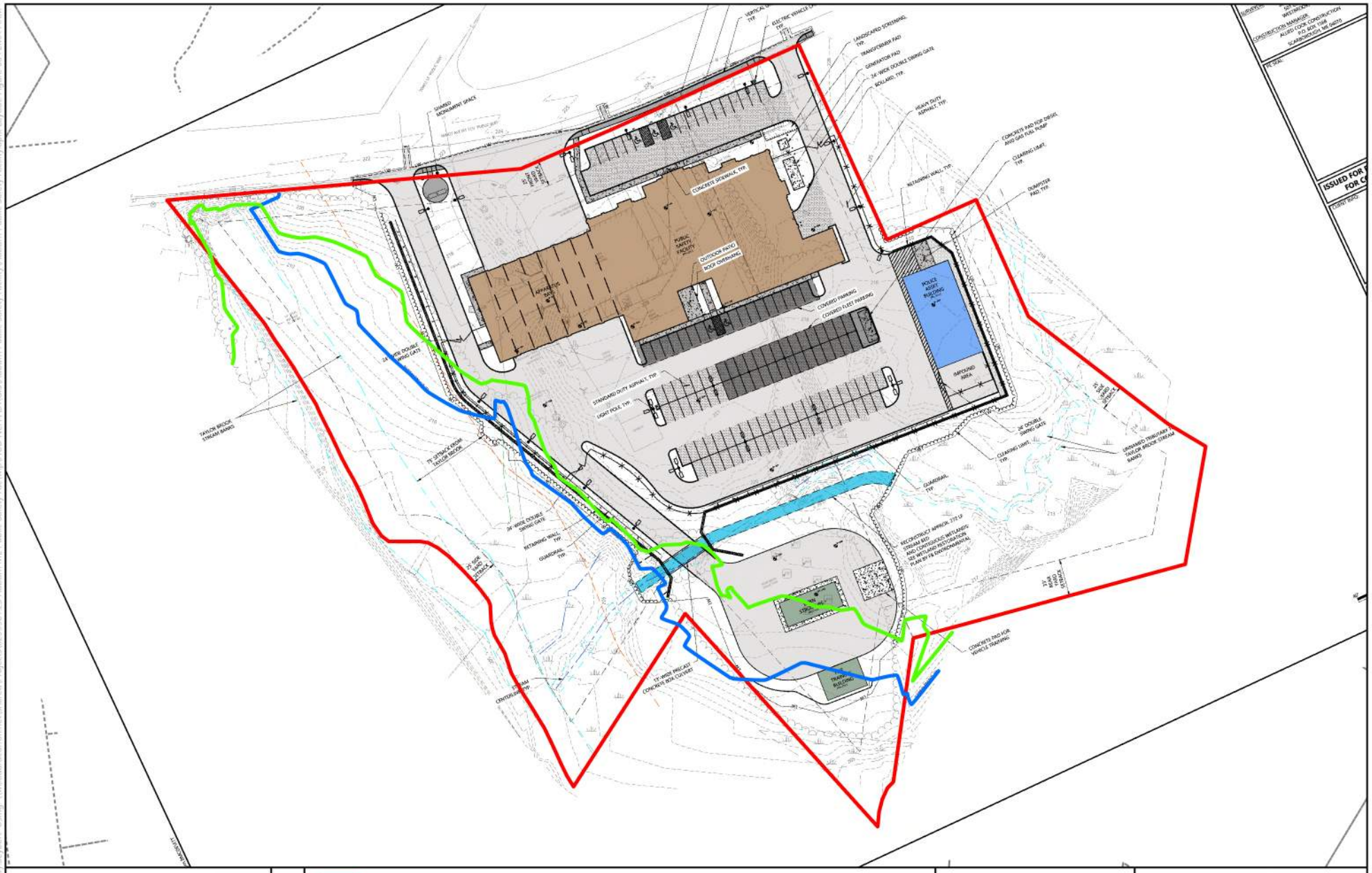


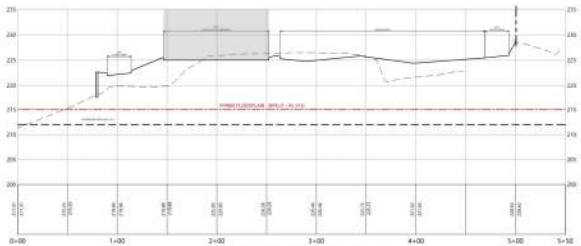
Figure 6a
FEMA FIRM

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

Legend

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026



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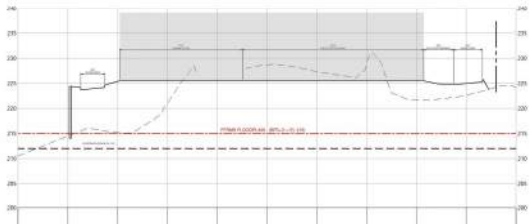

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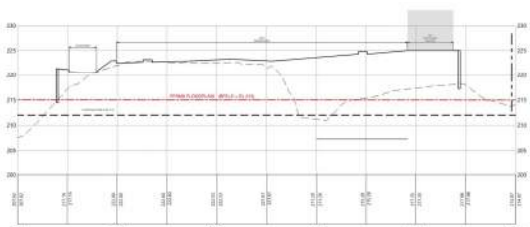

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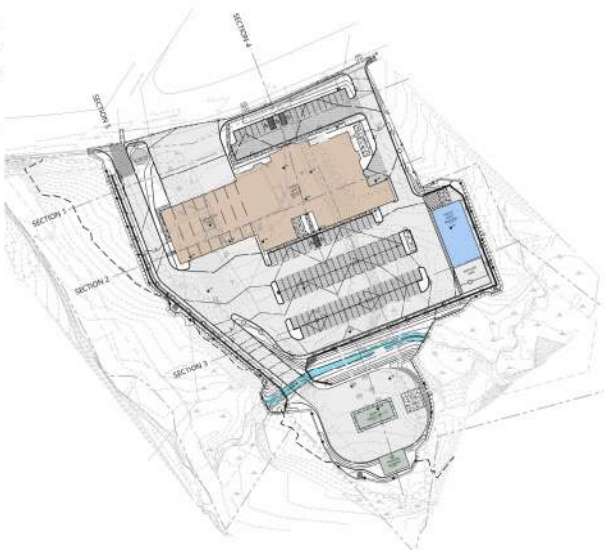


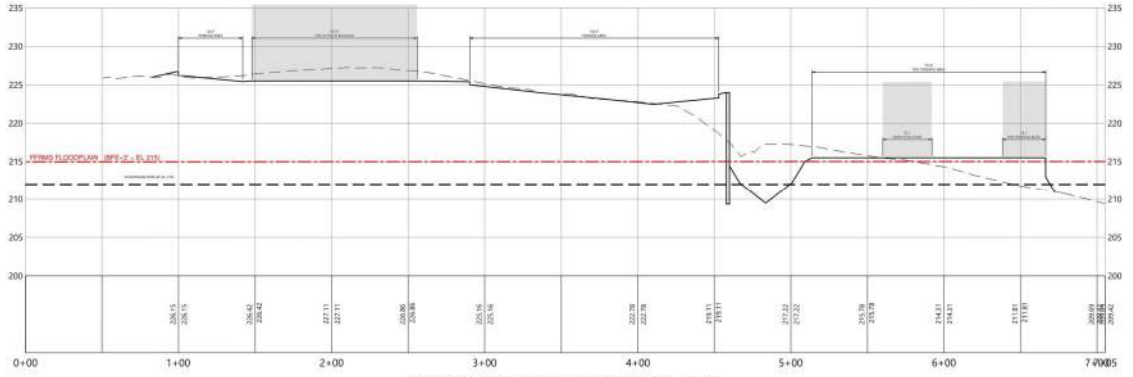
Figure 6b
Floodplain Cross Sections

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

N

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026



SECTION 4-PROFILE STA. 0+00 TO STA. 7+05

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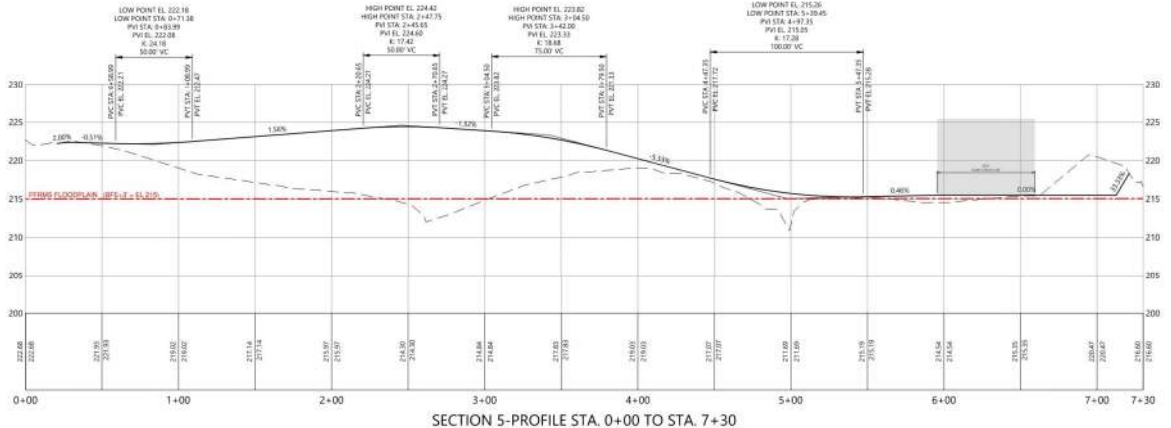
VERTICAL SCALE: 1" = 4'



SECTION 5-PROFILE STA. 0+00 TO STA. 7+30

HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1" = 20'
VERTICAL SCALE: 1" = 4'

Figure 6c
Floodplain Cross Sections

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

N

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026

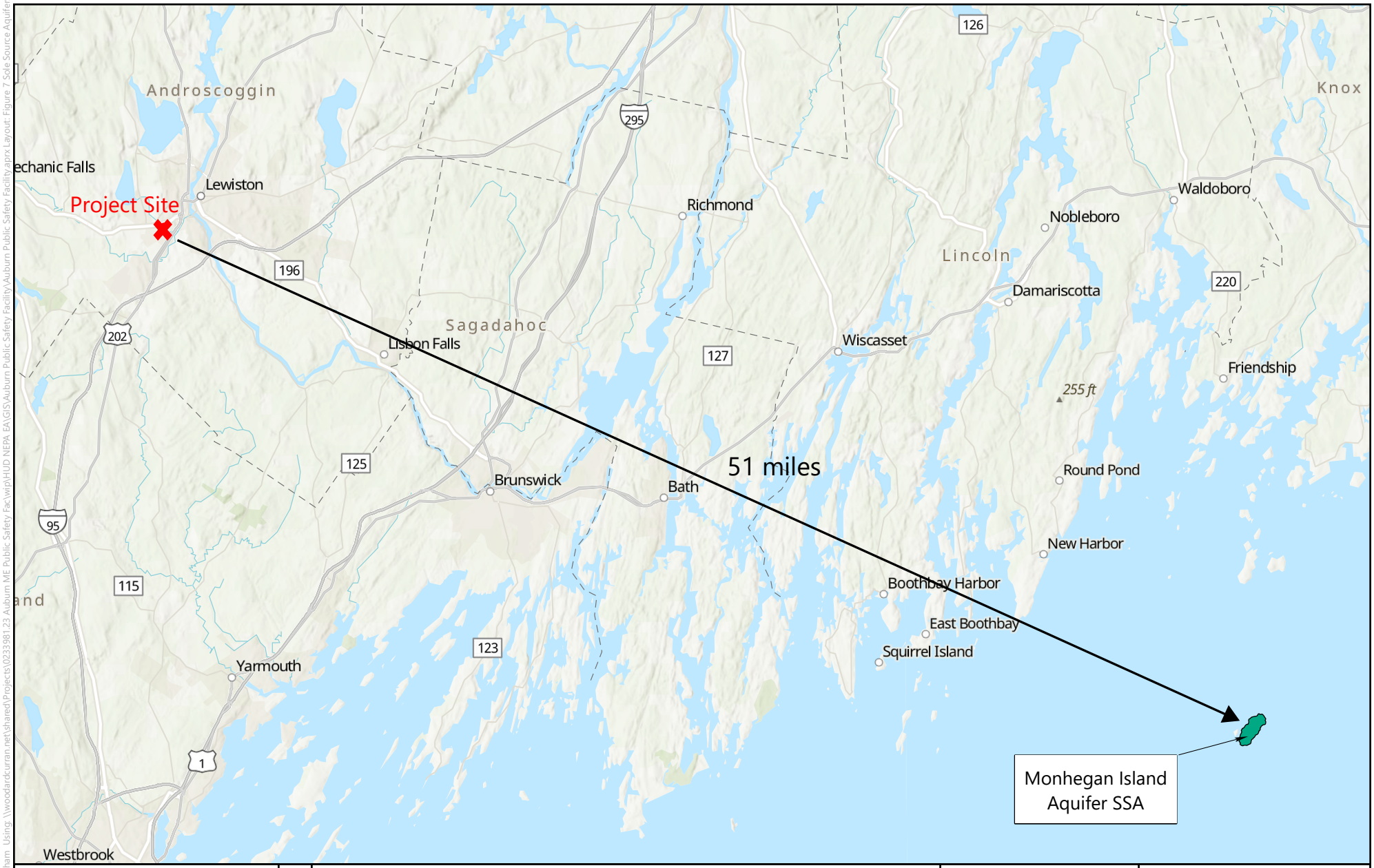


Figure 7 Sole Source Aquifer Map

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

Legend

- Project Site
- Sole Source Aquifer

N

1 inch = 30,000 feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026

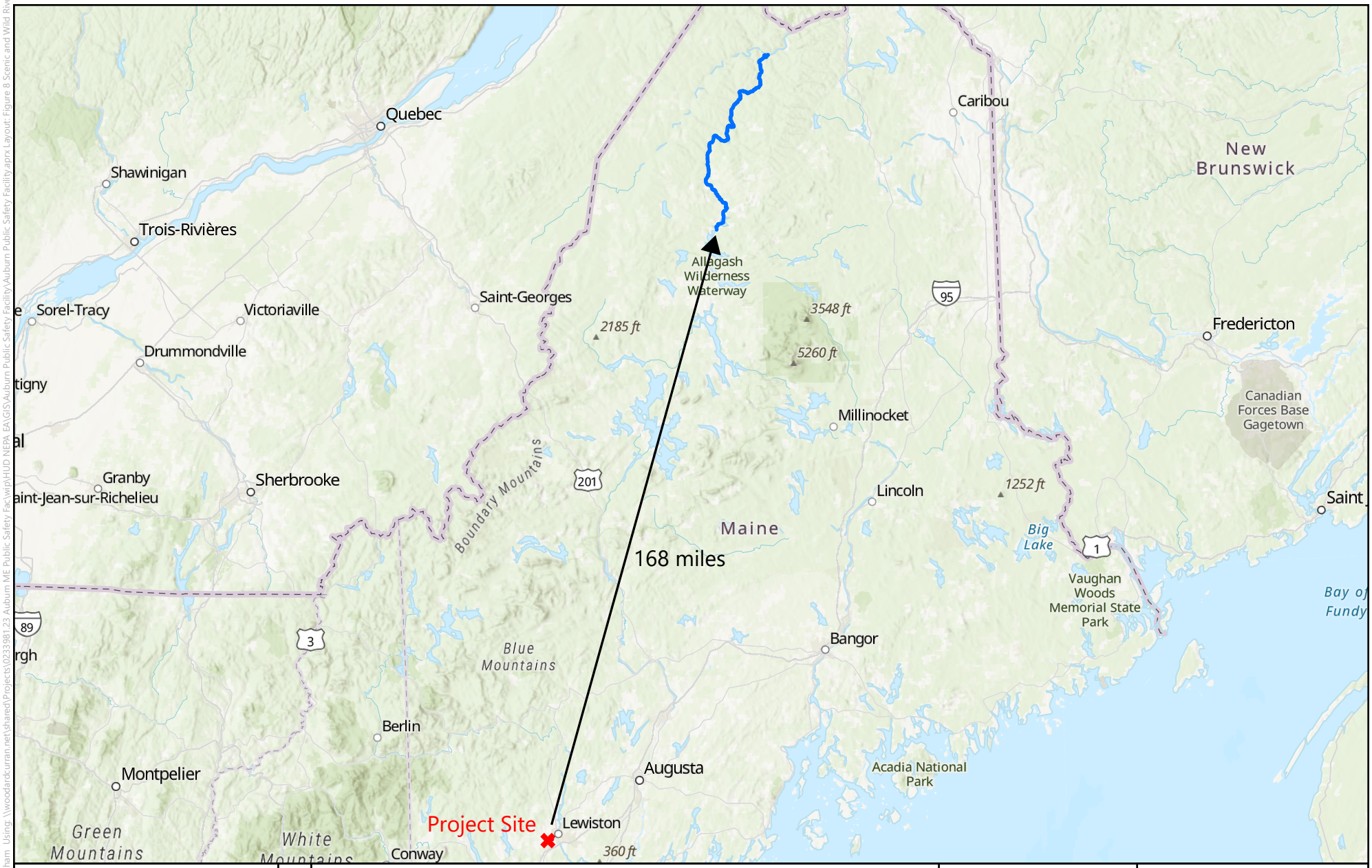


Figure 8 Wild and Scenic Rivers Map

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

Legend

- Project Site
- Allagash River

N

1 inch = 185,000 feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

8-STEP DECISION-MAKING PROCESS FOR THE AUBURN, ME PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY

--Auburn, Maine Public Safety Facility
The Proposed Project, Auburn, Maine Public Safety Facility, includes the construction of a new Public Safety Facility at 550 Minot Avenue in Auburn, Maine.

--Decision-Making Process for E.O. 11988 and E.O. 13690 as Provided by 24 CFR §55.20

Step 1

Determine whether the action is located within the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain using the Climate-Informed-Science-Approach (CISA) which applies the best-available, actionable, hydrologic and hydraulic data; the 0.2-Percent-Annual-Chance (500-Year) Flood Approach which uses the elevation and flood hazard area as depicted by the 0.2-Percent-Annual-Chance floodplain; or the Freeboard-Value-Approach (FVA) = Base-Flood-Elevation or 100-year floodplain (BFE+2' or BFE+3' for critical actions) to calculate the FFRMS floodplain elevation.

This project proposes the construction of a new Public Safety Facility (Proposed Project) to be located at 550 Minot Avenue (Parcel ID 209-035; Project Site). No CISA data is available for this area. According to flood insurance rate maps from FEMA's Map Service Center (FEMA map panel #23001C0328E, effective 07/08/2013), there is a 100-year floodplain (Zone AE) on the west side of the approximately 8.4-acre property. The freeboard value approach (FVA) was the method used for determining the extent of the FFRMS floodplain. The FVA methodology includes first determining if a 100-year floodplain (SFHA, Zone AE) is present on or adjacent to the Project Site, identifying the elevation at which that floodplain occurs, and for critical actions, adding three feet to that floodplain elevation to determine the elevation of the FFRMS floodplain. As the Proposed Project includes the development of a public safety facility (police and fire), it is considered a critical action. Therefore, an additional 3 feet of elevation from the 100-year floodplain (212 feet as identified on the FEMA map panel #23001C0328E, effective 07/08/2013) is included to establish the appropriate FFRMS floodplain elevation, which is 215 feet for this location.

None of the exceptions at 55.12 or 55.13 apply, so the 8-step process is required, including an evaluation of direct and indirect impacts associated with construction, occupancy, and modification of the floodplain.

Step 2

Notify the public for early review of the proposal and involve the affected and interested public in the decision-making process.

A public notice was published on the City's website: https://www.auburnmaine.gov on December 22, 2025. Copies of the notice were sent to Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry (DACF), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 1. Public comments were accepted through January 9, 2026 and Agency comments were accepted through January21, 2026.

The notice included the project name, proposed location, and description of the activity; the total number of acres of floodplain or wetland involved; and the phone number to call for information. The notice included the hours of the City's office as well. Copies of the notices are included in the environmental review record.

Step 3

Identify and evaluate practicable alternatives.

The City of Auburn's Public Safety consulting team completed a Space Needs Analysis, which identified space requirements for the years 2023, 2033, and 2043. The assessment concluded that a future public safety facility would need approximately 59,420 square feet (sf) (in 2043) for the Police and Fire Departments.

Following the Space Needs Analysis, the City of Auburn's Public Safety consulting team completed a Site Evaluation. The goal of the evaluation was to identify a feasible site to locate a new City of Auburn Public Safety Facility, which would consolidate the City's Police and Fire Departments into a single shared facility. Working with representatives from the City's Fire and Police Departments throughout the programing efforts, the final Space Needs Analysis identified the required building and ancillary structure footprints and site parking needs for the shared facility. This information was then used to evaluate the feasibility of potential site locations. Based on discussions with the City and a review of City-owned and other available undeveloped parcels, five potential sites were considered for the new Public Safety Facility.

A. Locate the Proposed Project Outside of the Floodplain

1. Locate the Proposed Project at 1 Center Street

   The City considered an alternative site at 1 Center Street. The Site Evaluation concluded that the site had insufficient space for the proposed building programing and parking footprint, had the potential to cause traffic conflicts at a congested intersection, was the site of a former gas station indicating the potential for unresolved subsurface contamination, and would require acquisition as it was not already city-owned.

2. Locate the Proposed Project at 180 Turner Street

   The City considered an alternative site at 180 Turner Street. The Site Evaluation concluded that the site had insufficient space for the proposed building programing and parking footprint, had the potential to cause traffic conflicts at a congested intersection, and would require acquisition as it was not already city-owned.

3. Locate the Proposed Project at 296 Gracelawn Road

The City considered an alternative site at 296 Gracelawn Road. The Site Evaluation concluded that although the site had sufficient space for the proposed building programing and parking footprint and was located on a collector road with no adjacent intersections indicating favorable traffic conditions and accessibility, the site was a closed landfill indicating the potential for unresolved subsurface contamination with concerns regarding the constructability of the site and permitting requirements.

4. Other sites considered

After evaluating each site for size, previous uses, topography, potential soil conditions, traffic, and the presence of natural resources, only two sites (550 Minot Avenue and 845 Minot Avenue) were considered feasible. Conceptual site layouts and estimated project costs were developed for both the 550 Minot Avenue and 845 Minot Avenue sites. The 845 Minot Avenue site, the smaller of the two feasible sites, provided some concern and limitations with the presence of a stream across the middle of the site. The need to purchase the property from private ownership also added to the overall estimated project cost. While the 550 Minot Avenue site also provided some concerns such as the presence of a stream along the property boundary and consideration for phasing construction to accommodate operations of the existing Central Fire Station, this site appeared to be the most feasible location for a new Public Safety Facility based on the above evaluation criteria, the estimated overall project cost, and the conceptual site layout. Additionally, the City had the opportunity to purchase the abutting property at 227 Poland Road, providing the additional needed space.

B. No Action or Alternative Actions that Serve the Same Purpose

A no action alternative was also considered and rejected because the continued reliance on outdated and inadequate facilities poses significant risks to the efficiency and effectiveness of critical public safety operations. The Proposed Project aims to address longstanding operational challenges faced by the city's Police Department at City Hall and would provide a modern, efficient, and right-sized facility to meet current and future public safety needs. City Hall does not currently provide adequate space or support the operational and spatial requirements of Auburn's police department. There currently is no capacity for future growth, limiting the city's ability to adapt to evolving public safety needs. Key deficiencies at City Hall include:

1) an inadequate layout that creates barriers to communication and teamwork and disrupts operational efficiency and customer service;
2) insufficient space and inadequate room for training and employee living areas, and secured storage for critical equipment and materials.; and
3) aging infrastructure.

The Central Fire Station also exhibits significant operational challenges that limit its functionality as a modern fire station as currently configured. The facility was not designed to accommodate the scale and complexity of current fire operations. Maintenance requirements and spatial inadequacies have compounded over time. The drive-through apparatus bays are too small to house modern firefighting vehicles and equipment and there are inadequate shared spaces for training.

The analysis of space needs and a site evaluation conducted by Auburn's Public Safety consulting team confirmed that a new, purpose-built facility is required to improve the current operational constraints to continue to provide emergency services. After consideration of potential alternatives, it was determined the location of the existing Central Fire Station, located at 550 Minot Avenue, would be the most effective location for a new facility to address these deficiencies.

Step 4

Identify potential direct and indirect impacts associated with floodplain development.

The Proposed Project would directly impact approximately 3,299 sf (0.08 acres) of the 100-year floodplain (Zone AE) and approximately 23,213 sf (0.53 acres) of the FFRMS floodplain (see **Figure 1**). The new facility has been located entirely above the FFRMS elevation and new fill would elevate the ancillary structures and paved parking areas above the FFRMS elevation (see **Figures 2 and 3**[1]). A stormwater management report was developed for the Proposed Project, which evaluated stormwater models for existing and proposed conditions. From this data, adequate provisions have been made to collect and control stormwater. The proposed stormwater conveyance system has been designed to mitigate peak discharge flow rates for the 25-year storm in compliance with the City of Auburn Code of Ordinances Sec. 46-210(a)(3). Additionally, the existing culvert on-site would be replaced and right-sized to accommodate flow from a 100-year storm event and minimize erosion into the floodplain.

The Proposed Project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect state- or federally-listed threatened or endangered species (see **Attachment 1, Section 7 consultation**). The Proposed Project involves permanent fill and the construction of a new retaining wall and parking area which would result in approximately 2,440 sf (0.06 acres) of temporary impact to an existing unnamed streambed, and approximately 7,485 sf (0.17 acres) of permanent impact to existing contiguous palustrine forested (PFO) wetland. The Proposed Project also would create approximately 2,913 sf (0.07 acres) of restored streambed and approximately 6,003 sf (0.14 acres) of restored riparian buffer and therefore result in approximately 962 sf (0.02 acres) of net wetland habitat loss.

Step 5

Where practicable, design or modify the proposed action to minimize the potential adverse impacts to lives, property, and natural values within the floodplain and to restore and preserve the values of the floodplain.

Limiting loss of life and protecting critical infrastructure from flooding is one of the City's highest priorities. To preserve lives, all occupiable space of the new facility would be located above the FFRMS floodplain elevation. The new facility would have an emergency evacuation plan that would be regularly practiced and displayed in common areas of the main building.

To preserve property, the Proposed Project would include fill along the perimeter of the site to elevate areas to the FFRMS floodplain elevation and the installation of a retaining wall to protect the facility against rising floodwater and erosive flows. Locating portions of the Proposed Project (retaining wall and surface parking) in the FFRMS area has been limited to the furthest extent

[1] Floodplain cross sections and elevation determinations were prepared by a qualified professional engineer.

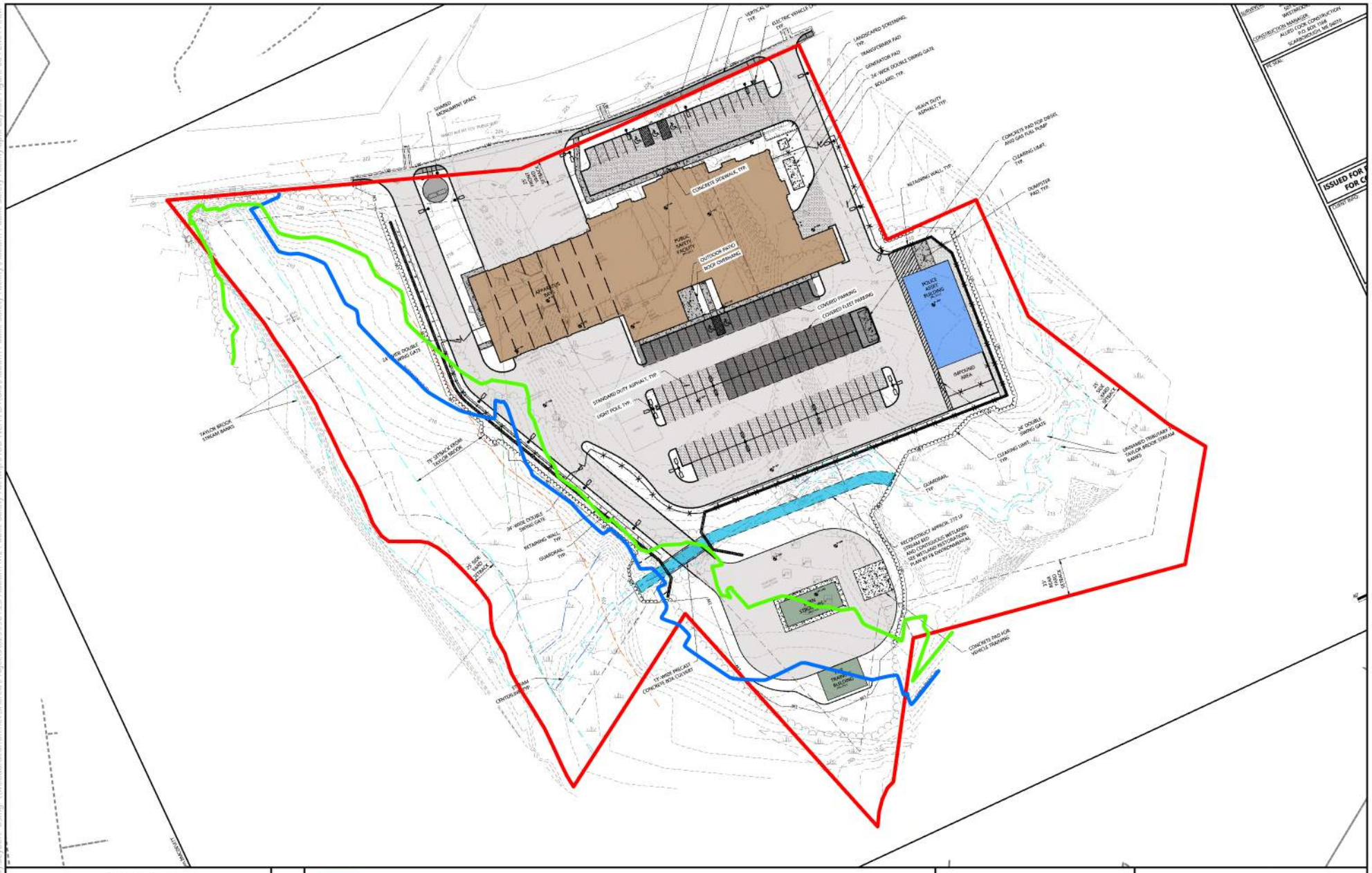


Figure 1
FEMA FIRM
Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

Legend

- Project Site
- Auburn City Parcels
- Floodplain Zone AE
- FFMRS Floodplain

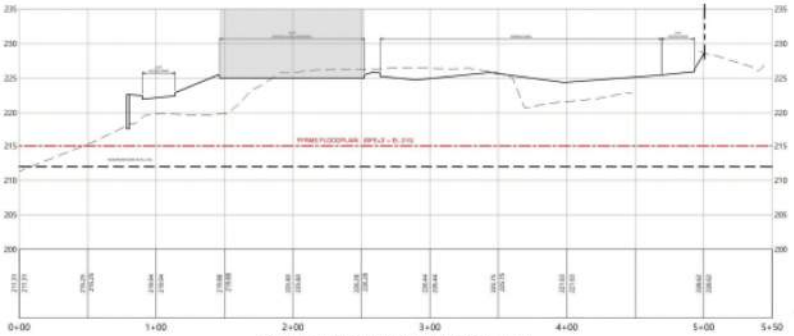
N

0 40 80 160

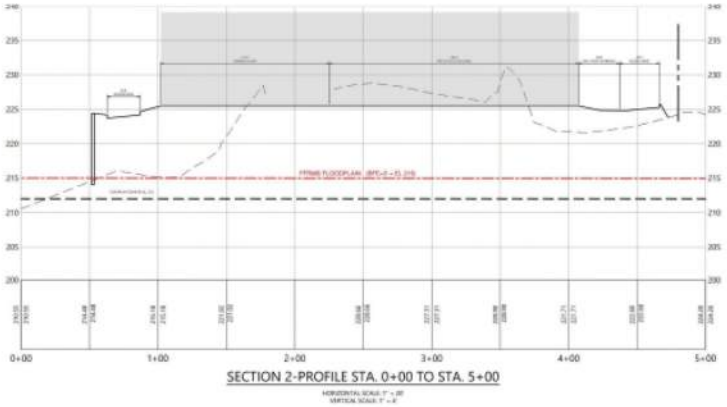
1 inch = 125 feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026



SECTION 1-PROFILE STA. 0+00 TO STA. 5+50



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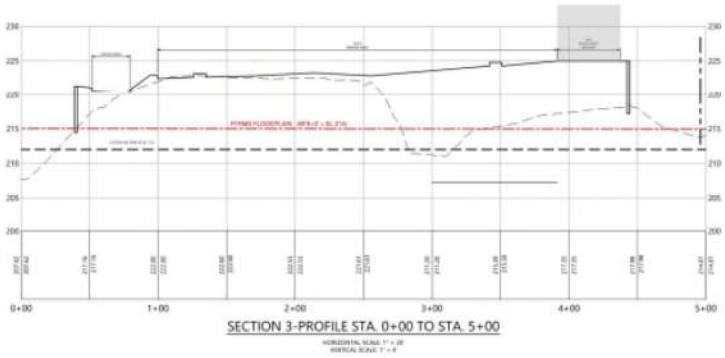

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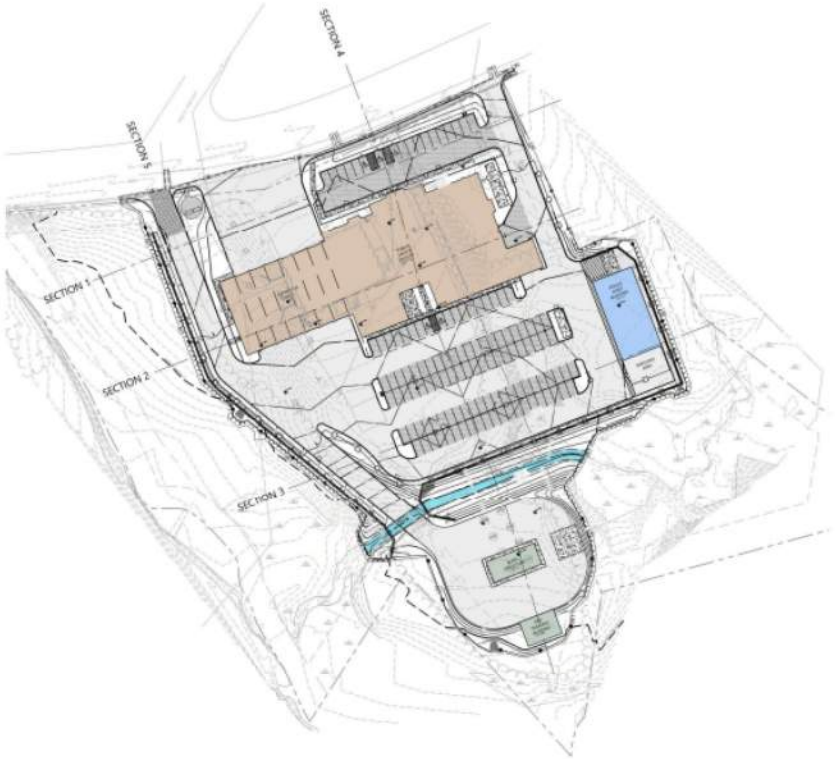


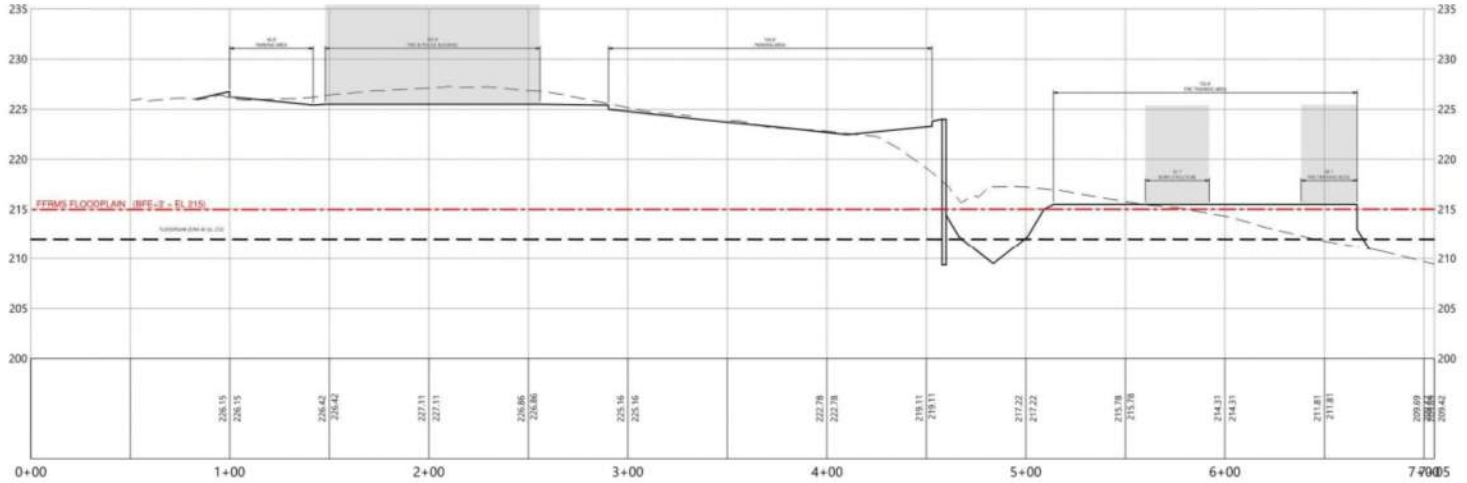
Figure 2
Floodplain Cross Sections

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

N

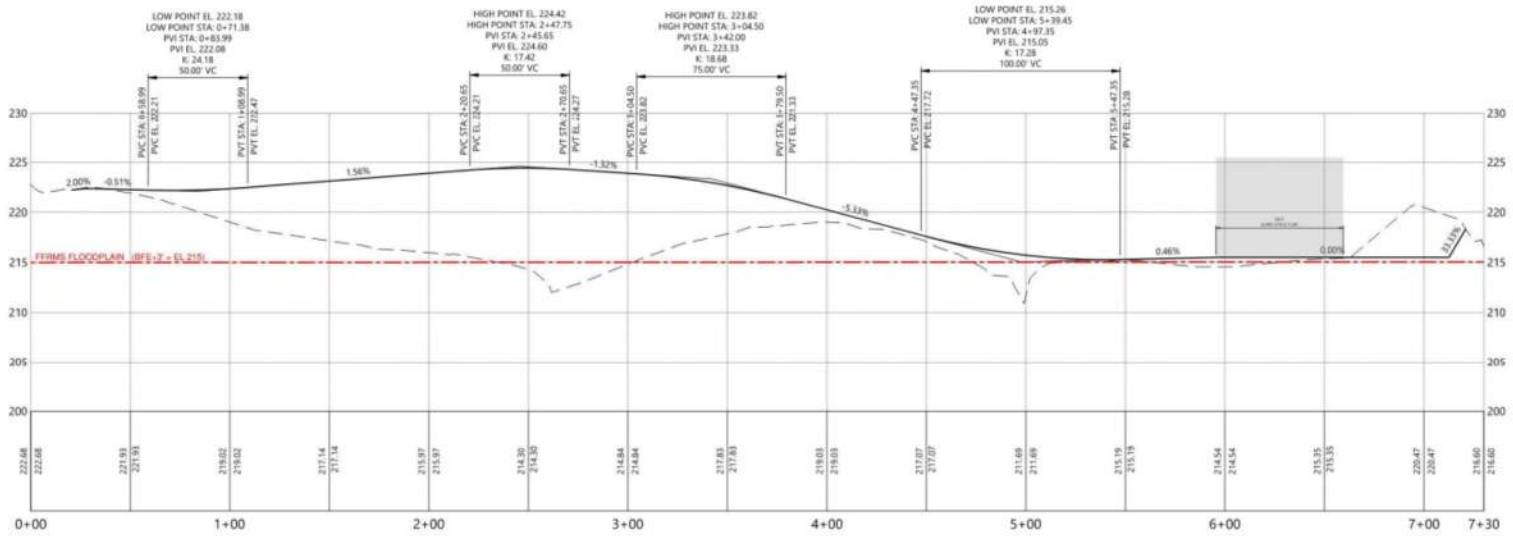
Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026



SECTION 4-PROFILE STA. 0+00 TO STA. 7+05

HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1" = 20'
VERTICAL SCALE: 1" = 4'



SECTION 5-PROFILE STA. 0+00 TO STA. 7+30

HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1" = 20'
VERTICAL SCALE: 1" = 4'

Figure 3
Floodplain Cross Sections

Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

N

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026

practicable. Constructing the Proposed Project to the FFRMS floodplain elevation and providing a retaining wall would minimize potential water damage in the event of a flood event. Although the majority of the Proposed Project is not located in the floodplain, the City would maintain flood insurance for the facility as a precaution.

The elevation of the site, the installation of the retaining wall, and the avoidance of the floodplain to the further extent practicable would minimize effects on adjacent natural resources, including streams and wetlands. Wetlands and floodplains serve important ecological and hydraulic functions. For wetlands these functions include supporting diverse plant and animal communities, improving water quality, and storing carbon. For floodplains, these functions include storing and slowing floodwaters, promoting groundwater recharge, stabilizing streambanks, and regulating streamflow. Hydrologists and engineers have been consulted to design the facility in such a way as to preserve these ecological and hydraulic functions.to the furthest extent practicable.

For the wetland impacts at the Project Site, stream and wetland restoration would occur in accordance with a Wetland and Stream Restoration Plan. For the riparian buffer, this plan includes invasive species management, debris removal, the replanting of an area to reestablish a forested wetland ecosystem with a variably dense understory including shade-tolerant species, and the creation of a wetland with dense scrub-shrub vegetation surrounding the steam to be planted with species that thrive in full sun. A 50-foot section of one of the streams would be daylit from the existing 48” corrugated metal culvert, which would be shortened and converted to an embedded box culvert sized to 1.2 bankfull width. Live stakes would be planted along the streambank to promote bank stabilization, stream shading, and instream habitat. For the stream restoration, this plan includes debris removal, using natural substrate onsite to restore the tributary stream, installing small boulders, cobbles, and gravel of various size in the stream channel and within the box culvert, and the placement of branches or stems to promote habitat diversity and pool formation. With the implementation of the Wetland and Stream Restoration Plan, conditions that facilitate the natural and beneficial functions of wetlands and streams (e.g., floodwater storage and conveyance, erosion control, water quality maintenance and habitat for flora and fauna) would be an improvement over existing conditions. The City would also allow the site to be accessible for archaeological, historic, environmental, biological, and other scientific studies should an individual or an organization express interest.

Additionally, a deed restriction held with the USACE would be implemented as means of protection for the riparian buffer and restored stream. Finally, the Proposed Project would incorporate best management practices during construction and within the permanent stormwater management system to minimize any potential adverse stormwater runoff impacts. The Proposed Project’s stormwater management features, including the proposed stream-smart culvert replacement and subsurface treatment systems would improve ecological conditions in and around the Project Site by removing sediment and pollutant loads, reducing peak flows and preventing streambank erosion. The Proposed Project complies with state and local floodplain and wetland protection procedures.

With these measure(s) in-place, the impact to wetlands would be mitigated.

Step 6

Reevaluate the alternatives

Both 845 Minot Avenue and the proposed site are within the FFRMS floodplain; however a larger portion of the 845 Minot Avenue site is located in the 100-year floodplain, while the proposed site is only partially located in the 100-year floodplain. Developing in the 100-year floodplain at the 845 Minot Avenue site would result in higher costs (and risk) associated with elevating and floodproofing structures (see **Figure 4**).

Due to the size of the 845 Minot Avenue site, and the space requirements for the new public safety facility, construction outside of the floodplain is not viable. Additionally, development of this site would result in more ecological impacts to wetlands and trees. 845 Minot Avenue would also have higher costs associated with new utilities as it is currently vacant and not serviced as well as land acquisition costs to the City as it is privately owned.

The proposed site is the only location that satisfies the City's criteria for the project without being cost-prohibitive.

The no-action alternative is also not practicable because it would not satisfy the need to address longstanding operational challenges faced by the city's Police Department at City Hall and the Fire Department at Central Fire Station. The continued reliance on outdated and inadequate facilities poses significant risks to the efficiency and effectiveness of critical public safety operations in Auburn. City Hall does not currently provide adequate space or support the operational and spatial requirements of Auburn's police department and there is no capacity for growth at this location, limiting the city's ability to adapt to evolving public safety needs and meeting the modernization needs of the current public safety operations. Therefore, the no-action alternative was not selected since the proposed site's impacts on human health, public property, and floodplain values can be mitigated and minimized.

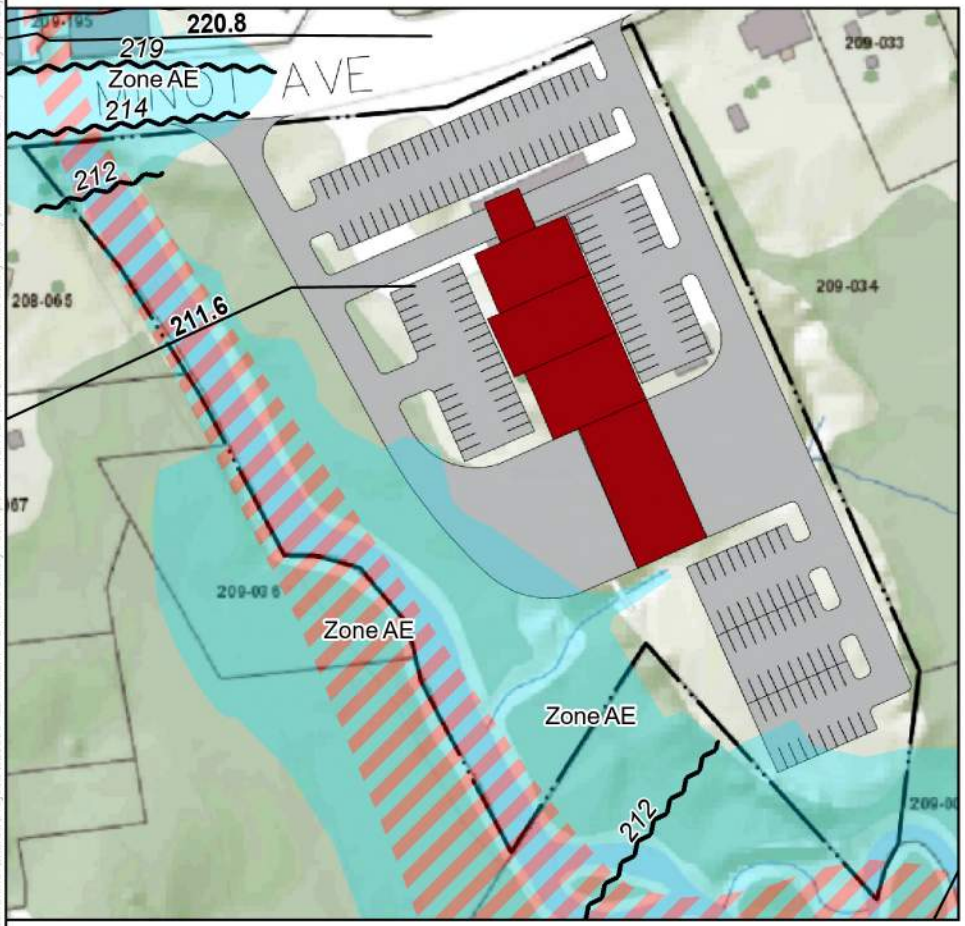
Step 7

Determination of no practicable alternative and publication of final notice

The City of Auburn determines that there is no practicable alternative for partially locating the Proposed Project within the FFRMS floodplain. This determination is based on several factors: 1) the need to address longstanding operational challenges faced by the City's Fire and Police Departments at their current, outdated facilities; 2) the existing utilities and infrastructure at the site, which reduce the need for extensive new infrastructure; 3) utilizing existing city-owned property to avoid a costly acquisition process; 4) site accessibility for emergency vehicles that minimize conflict with existing traffic patterns; and 5) the ability to mitigate and minimize impacts on human health, public property, and floodplain and wetland values.

A final notice was published on the City's website: https://www.auburnmaine.gov, detailing the reasons why the modified project must be located within the floodplain, a list of alternatives considered, and all mitigation measures taken to minimize adverse impacts and preserve natural and beneficial floodplain values. Public comments were accepted from January 29, 2026 through February 6, 2026. Copies of the notice were sent to DEP, DACF, USACE, and FEMA Region 1. The notice included the project name, proposed location, and description of the activity; the total

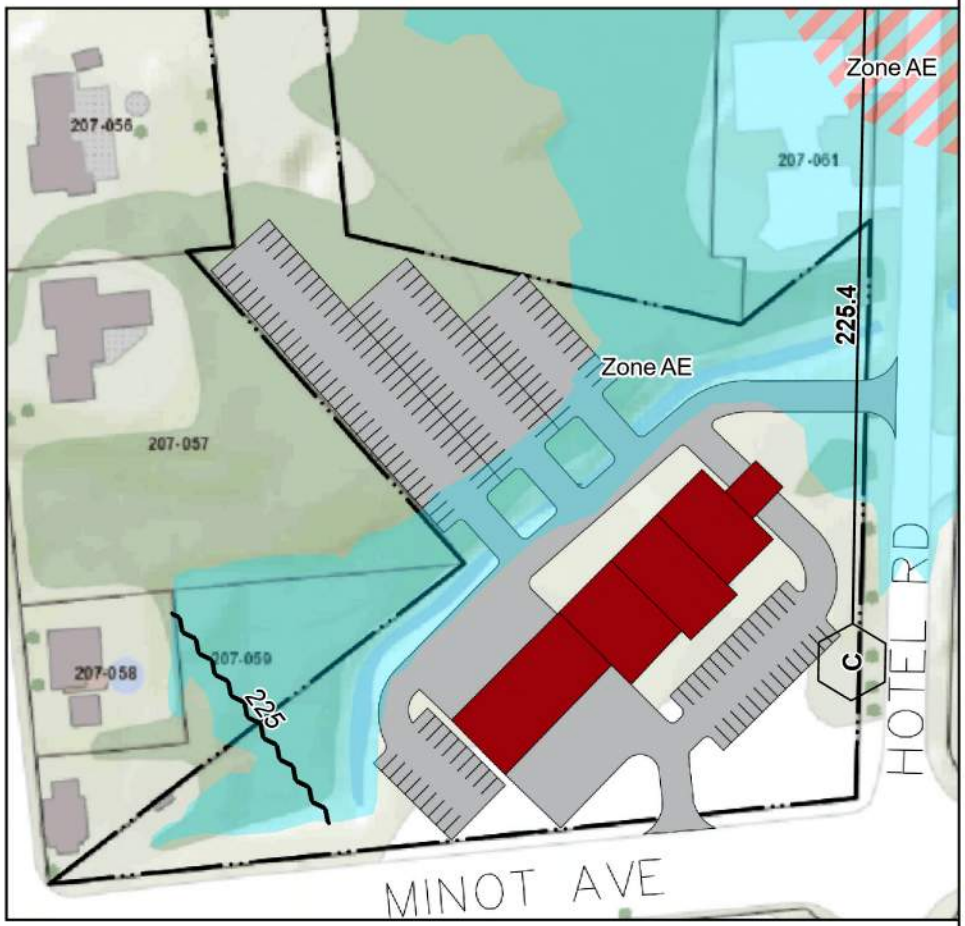
550 Minot Avenue



0 75 150 300 ft

1 inch = 150 feet

845 Minot Avenue



0 75 150 300 ft

1 inch = 150 feet

Figure 4
Building Footprint
Auburn Public Safety Facility
Environmental Assessment
City of Auburn, ME
550 Minot Ave, Auburn ME 04210

Legend

- Cross-Sections
- Base Flood Elevations
- Regulatory Floodway

Flood Hazard Zones

- 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard

N

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0233981.23
Map Created: January 2026

number of acres of floodplain or wetland involved; the related natural and beneficial functions and values of the floodplain and wetland that may be adversely affected by the proposed activity; and the phone number to call for information. The notice included the hours of the City's office as well. Copies of the notices, supporting floodplain and wetland maps, engineering analyses, and related environmental review materials are included in the environmental review record and are available for public review upon request.

Step 8

Implement the proposed action

The City would ensure that the Proposed Project, as modified and described above, is executed and includes language in all agreements with participating parties necessary to ensure implementation. The City would also take an active role in monitoring the construction process to ensure no unnecessary impacts occur nor unnecessary risks are taken.

ATTACHMENT 1
Section 7 Consultation

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Maine Ecological Services Field Office
P. O. Box A
East Orland, ME 4431
Phone: (207) 469-7300 Fax: (207) 902-1588

In Reply Refer To: 12/15/2025 19:05:58 UTC
Project Code: 2025-0033020
Project Name: Auburn PSF

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Maine Ecological Services Field Office
P. O. Box A
East Orland, ME 4431
(207) 469-7300

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0033020
Project Name: Auburn PSF
Project Type: Culvert Repair/Replacement/Maintenance
Project Description: Public Safety Facility and Culvert Replacement
Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@44.0817729,-70.24677798640064,14z

Counties: Androscoggin County, Maine

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 3 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries[1], as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

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1. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

FISHES

NAME	STATUS
Atlantic Salmon *Salmo salar* Population: Gulf of Maine DPS There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2097	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Proposed Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the National Wildlife Refuge system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act [2] and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) [1]. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their habitats, should follow

appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

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1. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
2. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

There are Bald Eagles and/or Golden Eagles in your project area.

Measures for Proactively Minimizing Eagle Impacts
For information on how to best avoid and minimize disturbance to nesting bald eagles, please review the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines. You may employ the timing and activity-specific distance recommendations in this document when designing your project/ activity to avoid and minimize eagle impacts. For bald eagle information specific to Alaska, please refer to Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity.

The FWS does not currently have guidelines for avoiding and minimizing disturbance to nesting Golden Eagles. For site-specific recommendations regarding nesting Golden Eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional Migratory Bird Office or Ecological Services Field Office.

If disturbance or take of eagles cannot be avoided, an incidental take permit may be available to authorize any take that results from, but is not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity. For assistance making this determination for Bald Eagles, visit the Do I Need A Permit Tool. For assistance making this determination for golden eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional Migratory Bird Office or Ecological Services Field Office.

Ensure Your Eagle List is Accurate and Complete
If your project area is in a poorly surveyed area in IPaC, your list may not be complete and you may need to rely on other resources to determine what species may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys). Please review the Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles, to help you properly interpret the report for your specified location, including determining if there is sufficient data to ensure your list is accurate.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to bald or golden eagles on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these bald or golden eagles are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

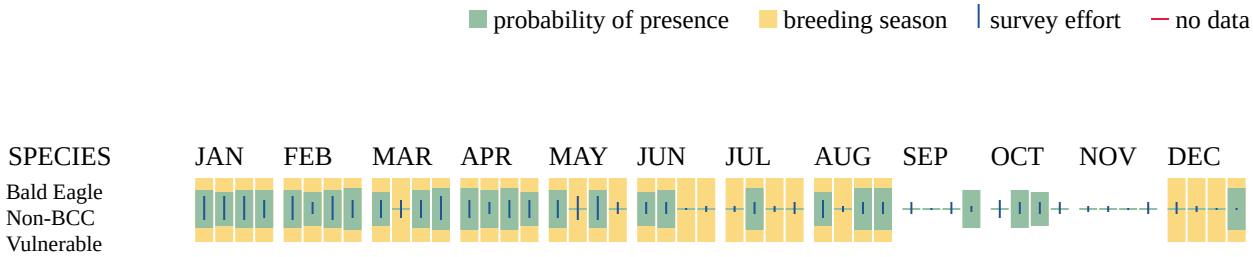
Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (–)
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

MIGRATORY BIRDS

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) [1] prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

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1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Bay-breasted Warbler *Setophaga castanea* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9583	Breeds May 25 to Aug 1
Black-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus erythropthalmus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9399	Breeds May 15 to Oct 10
Bobolink *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9454	Breeds May 20 to Jul 31
Canada Warbler *Cardellina canadensis* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9643	Breeds May 20 to Aug 10
Cape May Warbler *Setophaga tigrina* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10571	Breeds Jun 1 to Jul 31

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Chimney Swift *Chaetura pelagica* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9406	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
Evening Grosbeak *Coccothraustes vespertinus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9465	Breeds May 15 to Aug 10
Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679	Breeds elsewhere
Olive-sided Flycatcher *Contopus cooperi* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914	Breeds May 20 to Aug 31
Prairie Warbler *Setophaga discolor* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9513	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31
Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/11965	Breeds May 15 to Jul 31
Veery *Catharus fuscescens fuscescens* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/11987	Breeds May 15 to Jul 15
Wood Thrush *Hylocichla mustelina* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9431	Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

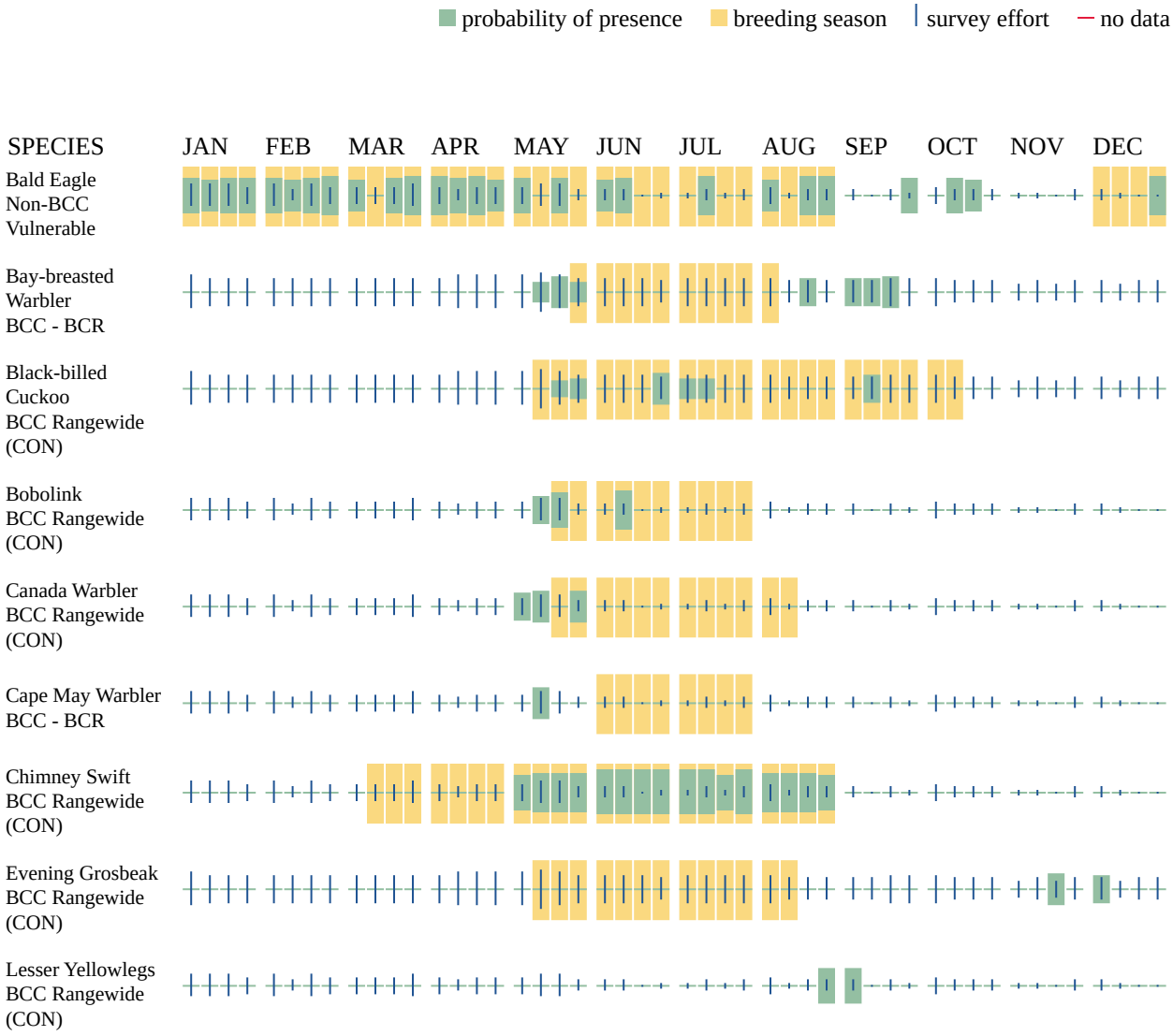
Probability of Presence (■)

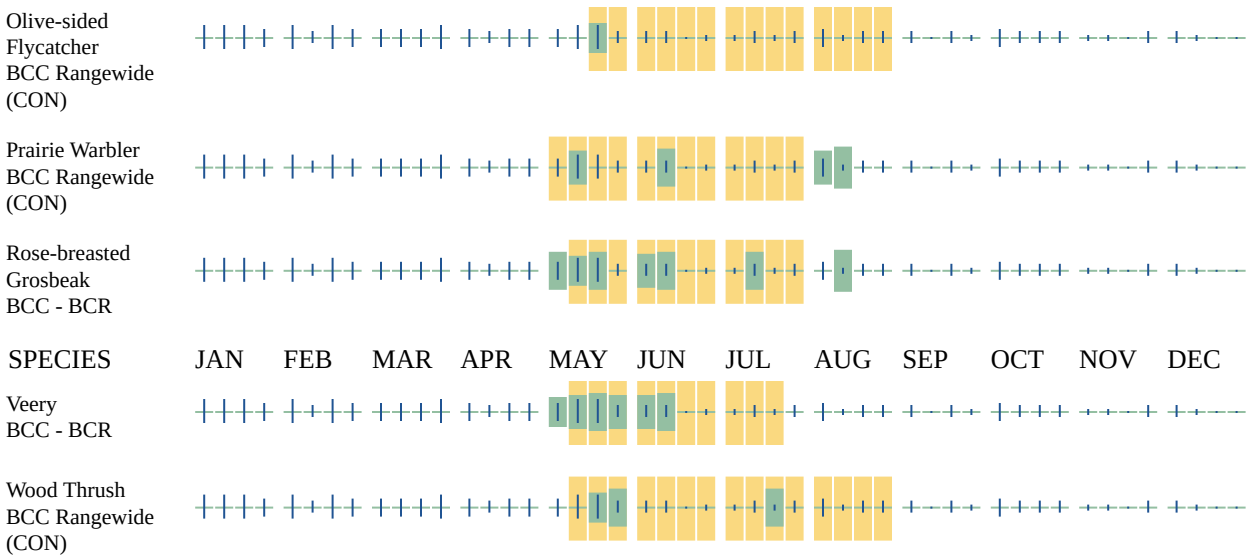
Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (▪)
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (–)
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.





Additional information can be found using the following links:

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- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

WETLANDS

Impacts to NWI wetlands and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District.

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

- PFO1/4C

RIVERINE

- R4SBC

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers
Name: Heather Stukas
Address: 442 Civic Center Drive, Suite 350
City: Augusta
State: ME
Zip: 04333
Email heather.s.stukas@usace.army.mil
Phone: 2076238367

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Maine Ecological Services Field Office
P. O. Box A
East Orland, ME 4431
Phone: (207) 469-7300 Fax: (207) 902-1588

In Reply Refer To: 12/15/2025 19:10:15 UTC
Project code: 2025-0033020
Project Name: Auburn PSF

Federal Nexus: yes
Federal Action Agency (if applicable): Army Corps of Engineers

Subject: Federal agency coordination under the Endangered Species Act, Section 7 for 'Auburn PSF'

Dear Heather Stukas:

This letter records your determination using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) on December 15, 2025, for 'Auburn PSF' (here forward, Project). This project has been assigned Project Code 2025-0033020 and all future correspondence should clearly reference this number. **Please carefully review this letter. Your Endangered Species Act (Act) requirements may not be complete.**

Ensuring Accurate Determinations When Using IPaC

The Service developed the IPaC system and associated species' determination keys in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and based on a standing analysis. All information submitted by the Project proponent into IPaC must accurately represent the full scope and details of the Project.

Failure to accurately represent or implement the Project as detailed in IPaC or the Northern Long-eared Bat and Tricolored Bat Range-wide Determination Key (DKey), invalidates this letter. ***Answers to certain questions in the DKey commit the project proponent to implementation of conservation measures that must be followed for the ESA determination to remain valid. Note that conservation measures for northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat may differ. If both bat species are present in the action area and the key suggests more conservative measures for one of the species for your Project, the Project may need to apply the most conservative measures in order to avoid adverse effects. If unsure which conservation measures should be applied, please contact the appropriate Ecological Services Field Office.***

Determination for the Northern Long-Eared Bat and Tricolored Bat

Based on your IPaC submission and a standing analysis completed by the Service, you determined the proposed Project will have the following effect determinations:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*)	Proposed Endangered	NLAA

Federal agencies must consult with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) when an action *may affect* a listed species. Tricolored bat is proposed for listing as endangered under the ESA, but not yet listed. For actions that may affect a proposed species, agencies cannot consult, but they can *confer* under the authority of section 7(a)(4) of the ESA. Such conferences can follow the procedures for a consultation and be adopted as such if and when the proposed species is listed. Should the tricolored bat be listed, agencies must review projects that are not yet complete, or projects with ongoing effects within the tricolored bat range that previously received a NE or NLAA determination from the key to confirm that the determination is still accurate.

Unless the Service advises you within 15 days of the date of this letter that your IPaC-assisted determination was incorrect, this letter verifies that consultation on the Action is complete for northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat and no further action is necessary unless either of the following occurs:

- new information reveals effects of the action that may affect the northern long-eared bat or tricolored bat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered; or,
- the identified action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to the northern long-eared bat or tricolored bat that was not considered when completing the determination key.

15-Day Review Period

As indicated above, the Service will notify you within 15 calendar days if we determine that this proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a “may affect, not likely to adversely affect” (NLAA) determination for the northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat. If we do not notify you within that timeframe, you may proceed with the Action under the terms of the NLAA concurrence provided here. This verification period allows the identified Ecological Services Field Office to apply local knowledge to evaluation of the Action, as we may identify a small subset of actions having impacts that we did not anticipate when developing the key. In such cases, the identified Ecological Services Field Office may request additional information to verify the effects determination reached through the Northern Long-eared Bat and Tricolored Bat DKey.

Other Species and Critical Habitat that May be Present in the Action Area

The IPaC-assisted determination key for the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat does not apply to the following ESA-protected species and/or critical habitat that also may occur in your Action area:

- Atlantic Salmon *Salmo salar* Endangered

- Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Proposed Threatened

You may coordinate with our Office to determine whether the Action may affect the species and/or critical habitat listed above. Note that reinitiation of consultation would be necessary if a new species is listed or critical habitat designated that may be affected by the identified action before it is complete.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or need further assistance, please contact the Maine Ecological Services Field Office and reference Project Code 2025-0033020 associated with this Project.

Action Description
You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

Auburn PSF

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'Auburn PSF':

> Public Safety Facility and Culvert Replacement

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@44.0817729,-70.24677798640064,14z

DETERMINATION KEY RESULT

Based on the answers provided, the proposed Action is consistent with a determination of “may affect, but not likely to adversely affect” for a least one species covered by this determination key.

QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Does the proposed project include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, intentional take of listed bats or any other listed species?

   Note: Intentional take is defined as take that is the intended result of a project. Intentional take could refer to research, direct species management, surveys, and/or studies that include intentional handling/encountering, harassment, collection, or capturing of any individual of a federally listed threatened, endangered or proposed species?

   No

2. Is the action area wholly within Zone 2 of the year-round active area for northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat?

   Automatically answered
   No

3. Does the action area intersect Zone 1 of the year-round active area for northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat?

   Automatically answered
   No

4. Does any component of the action involve leasing, construction or operation of wind turbines? Answer 'yes' if the activities considered are conducted with the intention of gathering survey information to inform the leasing, construction, or operation of wind turbines.

   No

5. Is the proposed action authorized, permitted, licensed, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency in whole or in part?

   Note for projects in Pennsylvania: Projects requiring authorization under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act would be considered as having a federal nexus. Since the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has issued the Pennsylvania State Programmatic General Permit (PASPGP), which may be verified by the PA Department of Environmental Protection or certain Conservation Districts, the need to receive a Corps authorization to perform the work under the PASPGP serves as a federal nexus. As such, if proposing to use the PASPGP, you would answer ‘yes’ to this question.

   Yes

6. Is the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

   No

7. Are you an employee of the federal action agency or have you been officially designated in writing by the agency as its designated non-federal representative for the purposes of Endangered Species Act Section 7 informal consultation per 50 CFR § 402.08?

   Note: This key may be used for federal actions and for non-federal actions to facilitate section 7 consultation and to help determine whether an incidental take permit may be needed, respectively. This question is for information purposes only.

   Yes

8. Is the lead federal action agency the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC)? Is the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

   No

9. Is the lead federal action agency the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)?

   No

10. [Semantic] Is the action area located within 0.5 miles of a known bat hibernaculum or winter roost? Note: The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your state wildlife agency.

    Automatically answered

    No

11. Does the action area contain any winter roosts or caves (or associated sinkholes, fissures, or other karst features), mines, rocky outcroppings, or tunnels that could provide habitat for hibernating bats?

    No

12. Does the action area contain (1) talus or (2) anthropogenic or naturally formed rock shelters or crevices in rocky outcrops, rock faces or cliffs?

    No

13. Will the action cause effects to a bridge?

    Note: Covered bridges should be considered as bridges in this question.

    No

14. Will the action result in effects to a culvert or tunnel at any time of year?

    Yes

15. Does the culvert or tunnel equal or exceed 23 feet (7.0 meters) in length?

    Yes

16. Do the interior dimensions of the culvert or tunnel **equal or exceed 3.0 feet (0.9 meters) in height (minimum height for tricolored bat)**?

    Yes

17. Has the local Service Field Office confirmed that culvert surveys are not needed because project activities are not expected to impact bats, or because NLEBs and TCBs are not using culverts within the action area?

    Yes

18. Are trees present within 1000 feet of the action area?

    Note: If there are trees within the action area that are of a sufficient size to be potential roosts for bats answer "Yes". If unsure, additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat can be found in Appendix A of the USFWS' Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared bat Survey Guidelines at: https://www.fws.gov/media/range-wide-indiana-bat-and-northern-long-eared-bat-survey-guidelines.

    Yes

19. Does the action include the intentional exclusion of bats from a building or building-like structure? **Note:** Exclusion is conducted to deny bats' entry or reentry into a building. To be effective and to avoid harming bats, it should be done according to established standards. If your action includes bat exclusion and you are unsure whether northern long-eared bats or tricolored bats are present, answer "Yes." Answer "No" if there are no signs of bat use in the building/structure. If unsure, contact your local Ecological Services Field Office to help assess whether northern long-eared bats or tricolored bats may be present. Contact a Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator (NWCO) for help in how to exclude bats from a structure safely without causing harm to the bats (to find a NWCO certified in bat standards, search the Internet using the search term "National Wildlife Control Operators Association bats"). Also see the White-Nose Syndrome Response Team's guide for bat control in structures.

    No

20. Does the action involve removal, modification, or maintenance of a human-made building-like structure (barn, house, or other building) **known or suspected to contain roosting bats?**

    No

21. Will the action cause construction of one or more new roads open to the public?

    For federal actions, answer 'yes' when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.).

    No

22. Will the action include or cause any construction or other activity that is reasonably certain to increase average night-time traffic permanently or temporarily on one or more existing roads? **Note:** For federal actions, answer 'yes' when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.). .

    No

23. Will the action include or cause any construction or other activity that is reasonably certain to increase the number of travel lanes on an existing thoroughfare?

    For federal actions, answer ‘yes’ when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.).

    No

24. Will the proposed Action involve the creation of a new water-borne contaminant source (e.g., leachate pond, pits containing chemicals that are not NSF/ANSI 60 compliant)?

    Note: For information regarding NSF/ANSI 60 please visit https://www.nsf.org/knowledge-library/nsf-ansi-standard-60-drinking-water-treatment-chemicals-health-effects

    No

25. Will the proposed action involve the creation of a new point source discharge from a facility other than a water treatment plant or storm water system?

    No

26. Will the action include drilling or blasting?

    Yes

27. Will the drilling or blasting produce noise or vibrations above existing background levels that will affect suitable summer habitat for northern long-eared bats and/or tricolored bats?

    Note: Additional information defining suitable suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat, can be found in Appendix A in the USFWS' Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines at: https://www.fws.gov/media/range-wide-indiana-bat-and-northern-long-eared-bat-survey-guidelines

    No

28. Will the action involve military training (e.g., smoke operations, obscurant operations, exploding munitions, artillery fire, range use, helicopter or fixed wing aircraft use at night)?

    No

29. Will the proposed action involve the use of herbicides or pesticides (e.g., fungicides, insecticides, or rodenticides)?

    No

30. Will the action include or cause activities that are reasonably certain to cause chronic or intense nighttime noise (above current levels of ambient noise in the area) in suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat or tricolored bat during the active season?

    Chronic noise is noise that is continuous or occurs repeatedly again and again for a long time. Sources of chronic or intense noise that could cause adverse effects to bats may include, but are not limited to: road traffic; trains; aircraft; industrial activities; gas compressor stations; loud music; crowds; oil and gas extraction; construction; and mining.

    Note: Additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat can be found in Appendix A of the USFWS' Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared bat Survey Guidelines at: https://www.fws.gov/media/range-wide-indiana-bat-and-northern-long-eared-bat-survey-guidelines.

    No

31. Does the action include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, the use of permanent or temporary artificial lighting within 1000 feet of suitable northern long-eared bat or tricolored bat roosting habitat?

    Note: Additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat can be found in Appendix A of the USFWS' Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared bat Survey Guidelines at: https://www.fws.gov/media/range-wide-indiana-bat-and-northern-long-eared-bat-survey-guidelines.

    No

32. Will the action include tree cutting or other means of knocking down or bringing down trees, tree topping, or tree trimming?

    Yes

33. Is the project related to the production of coal, including projects that support the mining of coal, as well as the production and/or distribution of energy produced from coal?

    No

34. Will the proposed action occur exclusively in an already established and currently maintained utility right-of-way?

    No

35. Does the action include emergency cutting or trimming of hazard trees in order to remove an imminent threat to human safety or property? See hazard tree note at the bottom of the key for text that will be added to response letters

    Note: A "hazard tree" is a tree that is an immediate threat to lives, public health and safety, or improved property.

    No

36. Does the project intersect with the 0- 9.9% forest density category?

    Automatically answered
    No

37. Does the project intersect with the 10.0- 19.9% forest density category map?

    Automatically answered
    No

38. Does the project intersect with the 20.0- 29.9% forest density category map?

    Automatically answered
    No

39. Does the project intersect with the 30.0- 100% forest density category map?

    Automatically answered
    Yes

40. Will the action cause trees to be cut, knocked down, or otherwise brought down across an area greater than 100 acres in total extent?

    No

41. Will the proposed action result in the use of prescribed fire?

    Note: If the prescribed fire action includes other activities than application of fire (e.g., tree cutting, fire line preparation) please consider impacts from those activities within the previous representative questions in the key. This set of questions only considers impacts from flame and smoke.

    No

42. Does the action area intersect the tricolored bat species list area?

    Automatically answered
    Yes

43. Is the action area located within 0.5-mile of radius of an entrance/opening to any known tricolored bat hibernacula or winter roost?

    Note: The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your state wildlife agency.

    Automatically answered
    No

44. [Semantic] Is the action area located within 0.25 miles of a culvert that is known to be occupied by northern long-eared or tricolored bats? **Note:** The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your State wildlife agency.

    Automatically answered
    No

45. Has a presence/probable absence bat survey targeting the tricolored bat and following the Service's Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-Eared Bat Survey Guidelines been conducted within the project area?

    No

46. Is suitable summer habitat for the tricolored bat present within 1000 feet of project activities?
(If unsure, answer ""Yes."")

    Note: If there are trees within the action area that may provide potential roosts for tricolored bats (e.g., clusters of leaves in live and dead deciduous trees, Spanish moss (Tillandsia usneoides), clusters of dead pine needles of large live pines) answer ""Yes."" For a complete definition of suitable summer habitat for the tricolored bat, please see Appendix A in the Service's Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines.

    Yes

47. Do any of the trees proposed for cutting or other means of knocking down, bringing down, topping, or trimming provide potential roosts for tricolored bats (e.g., clusters of leaves in live and dead deciduous trees, Spanish moss (*Tillandsia usneoides*), clusters of dead pine needles of large live pine trees)?

    Note: Additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat can be found in Appendix A of the USFWS' Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared bat Survey Guidelines at: https://www.fws.gov/media/range-wide-indiana-bat-and-northern-long-eared-bat-survey-guidelines.

    Yes

48. Will any tree cutting/trimming or other knocking or bringing down of trees be conducted during the Pup Season for tricolored bat? **Note:** Bat activity periods for your state can be found in Appendix 2 of the Service's Northern Long-eared Bat and Tricolored Bat Voluntary Environmental Review Process for Developmental Projects.

    No

49. Do you have any documents that you want to include with this submission?

    No

PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE

Enter the extent of the action area (in acres) from which trees will be removed - round up to the nearest tenth of an acre. For this question, include the entire area where tree removal will take place, even if some live or dead trees will be left standing.

1.4

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers
Name: Heather Stukas
Address: 442 Civic Center Drive, Suite 350
City: Augusta
State: ME
Zip: 04333
Email heather.s.stukas@usace.army.mil
Phone: 2076238367

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF
INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE
353 WATER STREET
41 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA ME 04333-0041

JUDITH CAMUSO
COMMISSIONER

October 21, 2025

Amy Gerhard
Woodard & Curran
12 Mountfort Street Floor 6
Portland, ME 04101

RE: Information Request - 550 Minot Avenue, Municipal Development, Auburn Project ID 5610-10921

Dear Amy:

Per your request received on **August 12, 2025**, we have reviewed current Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) information sources for known locations of Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern (Rare) species; designated Essential and Significant Wildlife Habitats; inland fisheries and aquatic habitats; and other protected natural resource concerns within the vicinity of the ***550 Minot Avenue, Municipal Development, Auburn*** project, pursuant to MDIFW's authority. Our Department also conducted a site visit on October 3, 2025 and was provided additional plans for restoration (FB Environmental, August 2025) and grading and drainage (Woodard and Curran, August 2025) on October 7, 2025. It is understood that the project proposes the demolition of two existing buildings and the construction of a Public Safety Facility, tactical training facility, fire training building, and burn structure. Additionally, a culvert will be replaced and a streambed reconstructed as shown in the provided plan sets. It is understood tree clearing is required for this project and wetland and waterbody impacts are proposed. Given this scope, we have tailored our review accordingly. Please note our comments should be considered preliminary.

Our Department has not mapped any Essential Habitats that would be affected by this project.

ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SPECIAL CONCERN SPECIES

Bat Species

Of the eight species of bats that occur in Maine, four species are afforded protection under Maines Endangered Species Act (MESA, 12 M.R.S 12801 et. seq.): little brown bat (State Endangered), northern long-eared bat (State Endangered), eastern small-footed bat (State Threatened), and tri-colored bat (State Threatened). The four remaining bat species are designated as Species of Special Concern: big brown bat, red bat, hoary bat, and silver-haired bat. While a comprehensive statewide inventory for bats has not been completed, based on historical evidence it is likely that several of these species occur within the project area during spring/fall migration, the summer breeding season, and/or for overwintering. However, our Agency does not anticipate significant impacts to any of the bat species as a result of this project.

SIGNIFICANT WILDLIFE HABITAT

Significant Vernal Pools

At this time MDIFW Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH) maps indicate no known presence of Significant Vernal Pools (SVPs) in the project search area. However, a comprehensive statewide inventory for Significant Vernal Pools has not been completed. SVPs are not included on MDIFW maps until project areas have been surveyed using approved methods and the survey results confirmed. Therefore, their absence from resource maps is not necessarily indicative of an absence on the ground. It is understood that vernal pool surveys have been completed and none were located. Based on this information, our Department anticipates minimal impacts to this habitat as a result of this project.

AQUATIC RESOURCES

Fish Habitat

We recommend that 100-foot undisturbed vegetated buffers be maintained along streams. Buffers should be measured from the edge of stream or associated fringe and floodplain wetlands. Maintaining and enhancing buffers along streams is critical to the protection of water temperatures, water quality, natural inputs of coarse woody debris, and various forms of aquatic life necessary to support conditions required by many fish species. Currently, the provided plan set does not meet these recommendations, especially along the realigned stream and restored wetland area, where buffers do not exceed 25 feet in some areas. MDIFW provided feedback during the site visit reiterating the need for wider and more substantial riparian buffers in the project design.

The applicant proposes a stream smart structure which meets MDIFW recommendations for stream crossings. MDIFW understands the Applicant intends to conduct instream work between July 15 and October 1; MDIFW is supportive of this timing.

We generally do not recommend stream realignment as a form of restoration. However, given the current condition of the stream, intense disturbance, and collapsed culvert systems, our Department anticipates minimal impacts to inland fisheries and fish habitat as a result of a stream realignment as shown in the provided plan set (Woodard and Curran, August 2025). The restoration plan set (FB Environmental, August 2025) shows that disturbed buffers will be replanted and stabilized with appropriate native vegetation with a similar canopy structure to existing conditions. MDIFW recommends adding diversity in transitional tree canopy species to include species such as yellow birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*) and eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) in addition to white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), given the potential for emerald ash borer impacts in the project area.

Construction Best Management Practices should be closely followed to avoid erosion, sedimentation, alteration of stream flow, and other impacts as eroding soils from construction activities can travel significant distances as well as transport other pollutants resulting in direct impacts to fisheries and aquatic habitat. In addition, we recommend stormwater treatment facilities be utilized for all potential drainages into streams.

This consultation review has been conducted specifically for known MDIFW jurisdictional features and should not be interpreted as a comprehensive review for the presence of other regulated features that may occur in this area. Prior to the start of any future site disturbance, we recommend additional consultation with the municipality, and other state resource and regulatory agencies including the Maine Natural Areas Program and Maine Department of Environmental Protection in order to avoid unintended protected resource disturbance. For information on federally listed species, contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Maine Field Office (207-469-7300, mainefieldoffice@fws.gov).

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions regarding this information, or if I can be of any further assistance.

Best regards,

Laura Hatmaker
Natural Resource Biologist

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY
177 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL
COMMISSIONER

August 1, 2025

Amy Gerhard
Woodard & Curran
12 Mountfort St.
Portland, ME 04101

Via email: agerhard@woodardcurran.com

Re: Rare and exemplary botanical features in proximity to: #233981.23, Auburn Public Safety Facility Upgrades, City of Auburn, Auburn, Maine.

Dear Amy Gerhard:

I have searched the Maine Natural Areas Program's Biological and Conservation Data System files in response to your request received July 30, 2025 for information on the presence of rare or unique botanical features documented from the vicinity of the project in Auburn, Maine. Rare and unique botanical features include the habitat of rare, threatened, or endangered plant species and unique or exemplary natural communities. Our review involves examining maps, manual and computerized records, other sources of information such as scientific articles or published references, and the personal knowledge of staff or cooperating experts.

Our official response covers only botanical features. For authoritative information and official response for zoological features you must make a similar request to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, 284 State Street, Augusta, Maine 04333.

According to the information currently in our Biological and Conservation Data System files, there are no rare botanical features documented specifically within the project area. This lack of data may indicate minimal survey efforts rather than confirm the absence of rare botanical features. You may want to have the site inventoried by a qualified field biologist to ensure that no undocumented rare features are inadvertently harmed.

If a field survey of the project area is conducted, please refer to the enclosed supplemental information regarding rare and exemplary botanical features documented to occur in the vicinity of the project site. The list may include information on features that have been known to occur historically in the area as well as recently field-verified information. While historic records have not been documented in several years, they may persist in the area if suitable habitat exists. The enclosed list identifies features with potential to occur in the area, and it should be considered if you choose to conduct field surveys.

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.

MOLLY DOCHERTY, DIRECTOR
MAINE NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING

DEPARTMENT OF Agriculture Conservation & Forestry

PHONE: (207) 287-8044
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/MNAP

The Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAP) is continuously working to achieve a more comprehensive database of exemplary natural features in Maine. We would appreciate the contribution of any information obtained should you decide to do field work. MNAP welcomes coordination with individuals or organizations proposing environmental alteration or conducting environmental assessments. If, however, data provided by MNAP are to be published in any form, the Program should be informed at the outset and credited as the source.

The Maine Natural Areas Program has instituted a fee structure of $75.00 an hour to recover the actual cost of processing your request for information. You will receive an invoice for $150.00 for two hours of our services.

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

Sincerely,

Abby Stepanauskas

Abby Stepanauskas | Ecologist | Maine Natural Areas Program
207-287-8048 | abby.stepanauskas@maine.gov

Rare and Exemplary Botanical Features within 4 miles of

Project: #233981.23, Auburn Public Safety Facility Upgrades, City of Auburn, Auburn, Maine.

Common Name	State Status	State Rank	Global Rank	Date Last Observed	Occurrence Number	Habitat
Broad Beech Fern						
	SC	S2	G5	1991-06	18	Hardwood to mixed forest (forest, upland)
	SC	S2	G5	1895-09	13	Hardwood to mixed forest (forest, upland)
Fern-leaved False Foxglove						
	SC	S3	G5	1895	12	Dry barrens (partly forested, upland),Hardwood to mixed forest (forest, upland)
	SC	S3	G5	1938-08-18	11	Dry barrens (partly forested, upland),Hardwood to mixed forest (forest, upland)
Large Whorled Pogonia						
	PE	SX	G5	1895	2	Hardwood to mixed forest (forest, upland)
Scarlet Oak						
	E	S1	G5	1893	1	Hardwood to mixed forest (forest, upland)
Small Whorled Pogonia						
	E	S2	G2G3	2022-06-17	32	Hardwood to mixed forest (forest, upland)
Swamp White Oak						
	T	S1	G5	2017-08-30	15	Forested wetland

Tiny Lovegrass					
PE	SH	G5	1908-11	5	Old field/roadside (non-forested, wetland or upland),Dry barrens (partly forested, upland)
Upright Bindweed					
T	S2	G4G5	1958-06-22	10	Dry barrens (partly forested, upland),Old field/roadside (non-forested, wetland or upland)
Vasey's Pondweed					
SC	S2	G4	1800	6	Open water (non-forested, wetland)

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Conservation Status Ranks

State and Global Ranks: This ranking system facilitates a quick assessment of a species' or habitat type's rarity and is the primary tool used to develop conservation, protection, and restoration priorities for individual species and natural habitat types. Each species or habitat is assigned both a state (S) and global (G) rank on a scale of critically imperiled (1) to secure (5). Factors such as range extent, the number of occurrences, intensity of threats, etc., contribute to the assignment of state and global ranks. The definitions for state and global ranks are comparable but applied at different geographic scales; something that is state imperiled may be globally secure.

The information supporting these ranks is developed and maintained by the Maine Natural Areas Program (state ranks) and NatureServe (global ranks).

Rank	Definition
S1 **G1**	**Critically Imperiled** – At very high risk of extinction or elimination due to very restricted range, very few populations or occurrences, very steep declines, very severe threats, or other factors.
S2 **G2**	**Imperiled** – At high risk of extinction or elimination due to restricted range, few populations or occurrences, steep declines, severe threats, or other factors.
S3 **G3**	**Vulnerable** – At moderate risk of extinction or elimination due to a fairly restricted range, relatively few populations or occurrences, recent and widespread declines, threats, or other factors.
S4 **G4**	**Apparently Secure** – At fairly low risk of extinction or elimination due to an extensive range and/or many populations or occurrences, but with possible cause for some concern as a result of local recent declines, threats, or other factors.
S5 **G5**	**Secure** – At very low risk of extinction or elimination due to a very extensive range, abundant populations or occurrences, and little to no concern from declines or threats.
SX **GX**	**Presumed Extinct** – Not located despite intensive searches and virtually no likelihood of rediscovery.
SH **GH**	**Possibly Extinct** – Known from only historical occurrences but still some hope of rediscovery.
S#S# **G#G#**	**Range Rank** – A numeric range rank (e.g., S2S3 or S1S3) is used to indicate any range of uncertainty about the status of the species or ecosystem.
SU **GU**	**Unrankable** – Currently unrankable due to lack of information or due to substantially conflicting information about status or trends.
GNR **SNR**	**Unranked** – Global or subnational conservation status not yet assessed.
SNA **GNA**	**Not Applicable** – A conservation status rank is not applicable because the species or ecosystem is not a suitable target for conservation activities (e.g., non-native species or ecosystems.
Qualifier	**Definition**
S#? **G#?**	**Inexact Numeric Rank** – Denotes inexact numeric rank.
Q	**Questionable taxonomy that may reduce conservation priority** – Distinctiveness of this entity as a taxon or ecosystem type at the current level is questionable. The "Q" modifier is only used at a global level.
T#	**Infraspecific Taxon (trinomial)** – The status of infraspecific taxa (subspecies or varieties) are indicated by a "T-rank" following the species' global rank.

State Status: Endangered and Threatened are legal status designations authorized by statute. Please refer to MRSA Title 12, §544 and §544-B.

Status	Definition
E	**Endangered** – Any native plant species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range within the State or Federally listed as Endangered.
T	**Threatened** – Any native plant species likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range in the State or Federally listed as Threatened.
SC	**Special Concern** – A native plant species that is rare in the State, but not rare enough to be considered Threatened or Endangered.
PE	**Potentially Extirpated** – A native plant species that has not been documented in the State in over 20 years, or loss of the last known occurrence.

Element Occurrence (EO) Ranks: Quality assessments that designate viability of a population or integrity of habitat. These ranks are based on size, condition, and landscape context. Range ranks (e.g., AB, BC) and uncertainty ranks (e.g., B?) are allowed. The Maine Natural Areas Program tracks all occurrences of rare plants and natural communities/ecosystems (S1-S3) as well as exemplary common natural community types (S4-S5 with EO ranks A/B).

Rank	Definition
A	**Excellent** – Excellent estimated viability/ecological integrity.
B	**Good** – Good estimated viability/ecological integrity.
C	**Fair** – Fair estimated viability/ecological integrity.
D	**Poor** – Poor estimated viability/ecological integrity.
E	**Extant** – Verified extant, but viability/ecological integrity not assessed.
H	**Historical** – Lack of field information within past 20 years verifying continued existence of the occurrence, but not enough to document extirpation.
X	**Extirpated** – Documented loss of population/destruction of habitat.
U	**Unrankable** – Occurrence unable to be ranked due to lack of sufficient information (e.g., possible mistaken identification).
NR	**Not Ranked** – An occurrence rank has not been assigned.

Visit the Maine Natural Areas Program website for more information
http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap