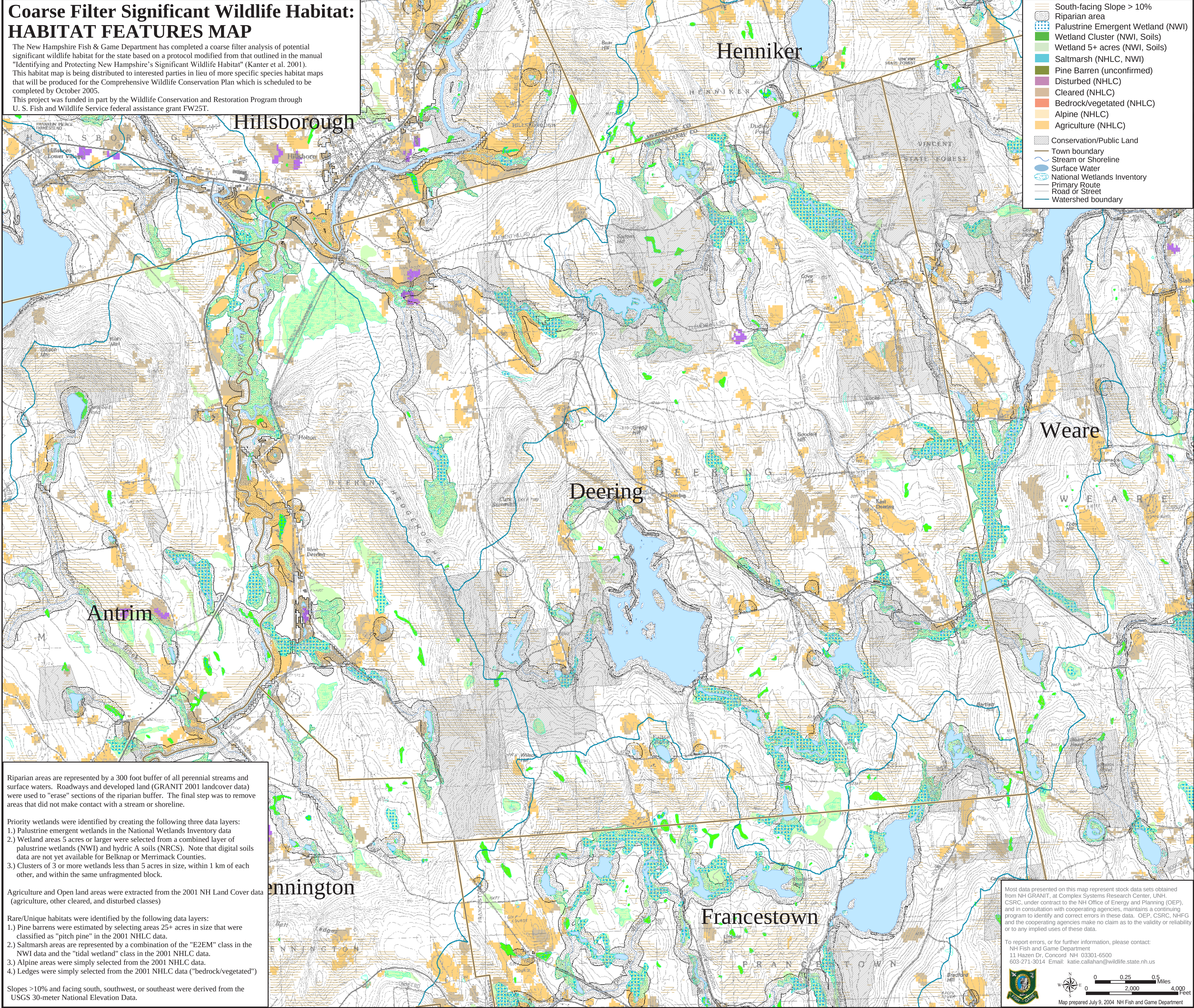


Coarse Filter Significant Wildlife Habitat: HABITAT FEATURES MAP

The New Hampshire Fish & Game Department has completed a coarse filter analysis of potential significant wildlife habitat for the state based on a protocol modified from that outlined in the manual "Identifying and Protecting New Hampshire's Significant Wildlife Habitat" (Kanter et al. 2001). This habitat map is being distributed to interested parties in lieu of more specific species habitat maps that will be produced for the Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan which is scheduled to be completed by October 2005.

This project was funded in part by the Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program through U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service federal assistance grant FW25T.

- South-facing Slope > 10%
- Riparian area
- Palustrine Emergent Wetland (NWI)
- Wetland Cluster (NWI, Soils)
- Wetland 5+ acres (NWI, Soils)
- Saltmarsh (NHLC, NWI)
- Pine Barren (unconfirmed)
- Disturbed (NHLC)
- Cleared (NHLC)
- Bedrock/vegetated (NHLC)
- Alpine (NHLC)
- Agriculture (NHLC)
- Conservation/Public Land
- Town boundary
- Stream or Shoreline
- Surface Water
- National Wetlands Inventory
- Primary Route
- Road or Street
- Watershed boundary



Riparian areas are represented by a 300 foot buffer of all perennial streams and surface waters. Roadways and developed land (GRANIT 2001 landcover data) were used to "erase" sections of the riparian buffer. The final step was to remove areas that did not make contact with a stream or shoreline.

Priority wetlands were identified by creating the following three data layers:

- 1.) Palustrine emergent wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory data
- 2.) Wetland areas 5 acres or larger were selected from a combined layer of palustrine wetlands (NWI) and hydric A soils (NRCS). Note that digital soils data are not yet available for Belknap or Merrimack Counties.
- 3.) Clusters of 3 or more wetlands less than 5 acres in size, within 1 km of each other, and within the same unfragmented block.

Agriculture and Open land areas were extracted from the 2001 NH Land Cover data (agriculture, other cleared, and disturbed classes)

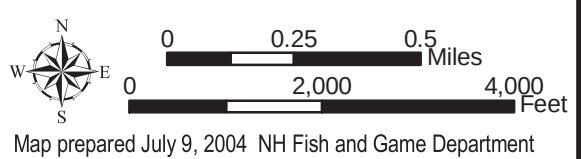
Rare/Unique habitats were identified by the following data layers:

- 1.) Pine barrens were estimated by selecting areas 25+ acres in size that were classified as "pitch pine" in the 2001 NHLC data.
- 2.) Saltmarsh areas are represented by a combination of the "E2EM" class in the NWI data and the "tidal wetland" class in the 2001 NHLC data.
- 3.) Alpine areas were simply selected from the 2001 NHLC data.
- 4.) Ledges were simply selected from the 2001 NHLC data ("bedrock/vegetated")

Slopes >10% and facing south, southwest, or southeast were derived from the USGS 30-meter National Elevation Data.

Most data presented on this map represent stock data sets obtained from NH GRANIT, at Complex Systems Research Center, UNH, CSRC, under contract to the NH Office of Energy and Planning (OEP), and in consultation with cooperating agencies, maintains a continuing program to identify and correct errors in these data. OEP, CSRC, NHFG and the cooperating agencies make no claim as to the validity or reliability or to any implied uses of these data.

To report errors, or for further information, please contact:
NH Fish and Game Department
11 Hazen Dr. Concord, NH 03301-6500
603-271-3014 Email: katie.callahan@wildlife.state.nh.us



Map prepared July 9, 2004 NH Fish and Game Department