

# SAMPLE CHECKLIST FOR SITE RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

*(This checklist was developed by Hudsonia and the Hudson River Estuary Program to assist municipal planning boards, conservation commissions, and other agencies with incorporating biological and water resources into environmental reviews of land development projects. It can be revised and adapted as needed to cover other issues and resources of local concern.)*

Project: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

## Checklist

	Yes	No	Not sure
Are there intermittent or perennial streams on or near the site?			
If so, are the streams classified as “trout” or “trout spawning” or “sensitive coldwater” streams? <sup>1</sup>			
Is there a mapped flood zone or riparian buffer zone on the site? <sup>1</sup>			
Is there a mapped unconsolidated aquifer on the site?			
Are there mapped wetlands or wetland soils on the site? <sup>1</sup>			
Have wetlands been delineated onsite, surveyed, and mapped onto a site-specific plan or subdivision plat?			
If there is forest on the site, is it part of a large forest? <sup>1</sup>			
If there is meadow on the site, is it part of a large (≥ 10 ac) meadow?			
Are there other unusual or sensitive habitats on the site? If so, name them here:			
Are there Areas of Known Importance <sup>2</sup> on or adjoining the site? <sup>1</sup>			
Is the site within or adjoining a Critical Environmental Area adopted by the municipality, or in a regulated Overlay District designated in the municipal code? If so, name the CEA or the Overlay District here:			
Are there Prime Farmland Soils or Farmland Soils of Statewide Importance on the site?			
Is the parcel in view of a certified Scenic Byway or Scenic Road, or within another area of scenic significance?			
Would the proposed development significantly alter the visual character of the viewshed?			

<sup>1</sup> See the Hudson Valley Natural Resource Mapper

<sup>2</sup> Areas of Known Importance are areas delineated and mapped by the New York Natural Heritage Program that are deemed to be important for the continued persistence of rare plants, rare animals, and significant ecosystems. These areas have been identified and delineated through analysis of known occurrences of exemplary ecological communities or rare plants and animals, their life histories and habitats, and the physical and hydrological features of the landscape.

(see over)

### Follow-Up Questions

	Yes	No
<b>Streams, Floodplains, Wetlands, and Aquifers</b>		
If there are streams or wetlands on or near the site, have the proposed development features been located to preserve broad, undisturbed buffer zones along the streams and around the wetlands?		
If there is a mapped flood zone or riparian zone on the site, have the proposed development features been located outside of those zones?		
If there is a mapped unconsolidated aquifer on the site, does the proposed development avoid or minimize impervious surfaces in the aquifer area?		
Are stormwater management measures for the proposed project designed to preserve pre-construction patterns and volumes of surface water runoff from the site?		
<b>Forests</b>		
If there is a large forest on (or partially on) the site, have the proposed development features been located to minimize fragmentation of the forest?		
<b>Meadows</b>		
If there is a large meadow on (or partially on) the site, have the proposed development features been located to minimize fragmentation of the meadow?		
<b>Connectivity</b>		
Have the proposed development features been located to preserve broad connectivity between onsite and offsite habitats?		
<b>Farmland</b>		
If there are good farmland soils on the site, have the proposed development features been located to minimize encroachment on those soils or fragmentation of the farmland soil areas?		
<b>Scenic Resources</b>		
If this is in a scenic location, has the project been designed to minimize the visual impacts on the viewshed?		

### Summary Results of Assessment

High priority and sensitive resources on or near the site:

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Recommendations:

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Date of site visit: \_\_\_\_\_ By whom: \_\_\_\_\_