

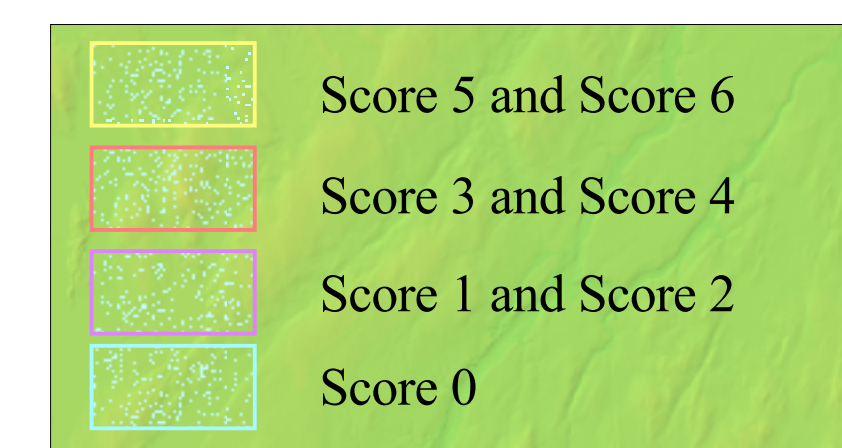
# City of Ellsworth

## Wetland Characterization Map

December 30, 2002

Note: The data presented on this map are "planning quality" and should not be used as a statutory representation of the resource.

### Wetlands Characterization



The numbers located in each wetland represent a unique identifier. These numbers correspond to records in the "Wetlands Characterization Table" where you can determine which functions have been associated with each wetland.

The State Planning Office Wetlands Characterization is a planning tool to help identify significant wetland resources and affiliated upland systems. This map identifies wetlands that are likely to provide floodflow control, sediment retention, wetlands-related plant and animal habitat, finfish habitat and shellfish habitat. It also identifies wetlands that may have value for educational and research opportunities. There are additional and important wetland functions and values that are not depicted by this map. In addition, smaller wetlands, particularly vernal pools, drier-end forested wetlands, as well as the extent of larger wetlands are known to be underrepresented in the NWI data used to create this map.

It is important to use local knowledge as well as other data sources to insure consideration of all wetlands when undertaking an analysis of wetland resources at the local level. When using the Characterization, emphasis should not be placed on the total number of hits received by an individual wetland in a manner which automatically makes a wetland with more hits more important than a wetland with fewer hits. It is important to review the associated Characterization Table to determine which hits a particular wetland received and then assess that wetland in relation to its surrounding landscape.

**This map and its depiction neither substitute for nor eliminate the need to perform on-the-ground wetland delineation and functional assessment. In no way shall use of this map diminish or alter the regulatory protection that all wetlands are accorded under applicable State and Federal laws.**

For more information about the wetlands characterization contact Elizabeth Hertz at the Maine State Planning Office

### Wetland Functions Evaluated

**Floodflow Alteration:**  
Wetlands containing all of the following:  
Contained in a flood zone;  
Associated with a surface watercourse or waterbody; and  
Slope of less than 3%.

**Sediment Retention:**  
Wetlands containing all of the following:  
Slope less than 3%;  
Emergent vegetation; and  
Close proximity to a river, stream, or lake.

**Plant and Animal Habitat:**  
Wetlands containing:  
Open water or emergent vegetation;  
3 or more vegetation classes; and  
Within or adjacent (100ft) to a river, stream, lake or NWI polygons of Management Concern within 1/4 mile of habitat supporting:  
Rare, threatened, and endangered plants and animals  
Rare and exemplary natural communities  
Significant and essential wildlife habitat.

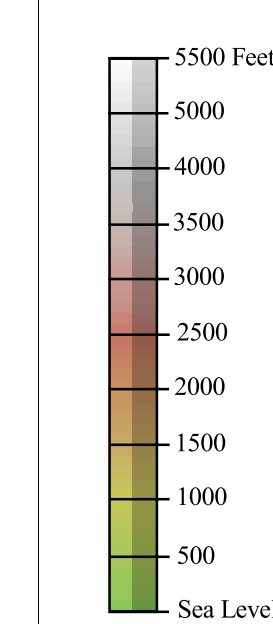
**Finfish Habitat:**  
Wetlands including NWI polygons of the following types:  
R1 LIUB E1UB  
R1UB LIAB E1AB  
R2SB L2UB E2AB  
R2AB L2AB E2EM  
R4EM L2US E2EM  
R3US L2EM ESS  
EZUS

And,  
Wetlands including NWI polygons of the following types, where adjacent to a river, stream, or lake:  
PLB, PAB, PUS, PEM, PSSA, PSSC,  
PSSF, PSSG, PSSJ, PFOA, PFOC, PFOB

**Shellfish Habitat:**  
Wetlands within 1/2 mile of  
Identified shellfish habitat or  
Identified shellfish closure areas or  
Mapped eelgrass beds  
Or,  
Palustrine wetlands directly connected by a stream of 1/4 mile or less in length to:  
Identified shellfish habitat or  
Identified shellfish closure areas or  
Mapped eelgrass beds

**Cultural/educational:**  
Wetlands within 1/2 mile of a boat ramp or school. (These wetlands are seen as likely candidates for use as educational resources, adopt-a-wetland programs, and wetlands with a built-in constituency.)

### Relief Shading



### Data Sources

Wetland Polygons: 1/24k National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)  
Ponds, rivers, streams, coastline, town boundaries: Maine OGIS, 1/24k Library  
Elevational shading: USGS 1/24k Digital Elevation Model

### NWI Note

The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps were prepared from the analysis of high altitude photographs. Wetlands were identified on the photographs based on vegetation, visible hydrology, and geography, in accordance with Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats (FWS/OBS-79/31 December 1979). The aerial photographs reflect conditions during the specific year when they were taken. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, State or local government. The information on the NWI maps is a source of general wetland locations, boundaries and characteristics; however, it is not a substitute for intensive on-ground, site-specific investigations when detailed information is required.

### Map by:

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Scale 1:25,000

