Coastal Zone Management Compliance Summary Table:

Coastal Zone Management Rules (N.J.A.C.7:7)		**Compliance/ Section**
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7:7-9.3	Surf clam areas	NA
7:7-9.4	Prime fishing areas	NA
7:7-9.5	Finfish migratory pathways	NA
7:7-9.6	Submerged vegetation habitat	NA
7:7-9.7	Navigation channels	NA
7:7-9.8	Canals	NA
7:7-9.9	Inlets	NA
7:7-9.10	Marina moorings	NA
7:7-9.11	Ports	NA
7:7-9.12	Submerged infrastructure routes	NA
7:7-9.13	Shipwreck and artificial reef habitats	NA
7:7-9.14	Wet borrow pits	NA
7:7-9.15	Intertidal and subtidal shallows	A1
7:7-9.16	Dunes	NA
7:7-9.17	Overwash areas	NA
7:7-9.18	Coastal high hazard areas	NA
7:7-9.19	Erosion hazard areas	NA
7:7-9.20	Barrier island corridor	NA
7:7-9.21	Bay islands	NA
7:7-9.22	Beaches	NA
7:7-9.23	Filled water’s edge	A2
7:7-9.24	Existing lagoon edges	NA
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7:7-9.30	Intermittent stream corridors	NA
7:7-9.31	Farmland conservation areas	NA
7:7-9.32	Steep slopes	NA
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7:7-12.15	Submerged pipelines	NA

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7:7-15.4	Energy facility use rule	NA
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7:7-16.12	Traffic	F10
7:7-16.13	Subsurface sewage disposal systems	NA
7:7-16.14	Solid and hazardous waste	F11
NA: Policy not applicable to project.		

Compliance with Coastal Zone Management Rules N.J.A.C. 7:7

A. Subchapter 9. Special Areas

1. Intertidal and Subtidal Shallows (N.J.A.C. 7:7-9.15)

Intertidal and subtidal shallows are those are that are permanently or twice daily submerged from the spring high tide to a depth of four feet below mean low water.

The project involves the re-establishment of degraded wetlands and restoration and creation of maritime forests. No sediment is proposed to be removed. Based on this rule, living shorelines in intertidal and subtidal shallows are conditionally acceptable; therefore, this project is in direct compliance. All restoration work will also comply with N.J.A.C. 7:7-12.23.

2. Filled Water's Edge (N.J.A.C. 7:7- 9.23)

Filled water's edge areas are existing filled water, wetland, or upland areas lying between wetlands or water areas, and either the upland limit of fill or the first paved public road or railroad landward of the adjacent water area, whichever is closer to the water.

The purpose of the project is to restore habitat along the water's edge. Proposed activities include removing debris and historic fill and to plant native vegetation to restore and create a maritime forest. The goals of this project are in direct accordance with this rule in preserving the water's edge along New Jersey's shore, bays and rivers; therefore, the project is consistent with this policy.

3. Flood Hazard Area (N.J.A.C. 7:7 9.25)

Flood hazard areas are areas subject to flooding from the flood hazard area design flood, as defined by New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) under the Flood Hazard Area Control Act rules at N.J.A.C. 7:13. Flood hazard areas include those areas mapped as such by the NJDEP, areas defined or delineated as an A or a V zone by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and any unmapped areas subject to flooding by the flood hazard area design flood.

Per the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map for the Borough of Ridgefield (34003C0259G), the project is located in flood zones AE and X. According to this rule, dedication of flood hazard areas for purpose of public open space is encouraged. The purpose of the project is to restore Meadowlark Marsh. With the combination of restoration activities at nearby Bellman's Creek Marsh, restoration work will create a contiguous expanse of approximately 100 acres of reestablished wetlands. Therefore, the project is in direct accordance with this policy.

4. Riparian Zones (N.J.A.C. 7:7 9.26)

A riparian zone exists along every regulated water body, except there is no riparian zone along the Atlantic Ocean or along any manmade lagoon, stormwater management basin, or oceanfront barrier island, spit, or peninsula.

Within the vicinity of the project, riparian zones exist within 150-foot offset from the flood hazard area regulated waterbody, Bellman's Creek. The project will comply with the general permit-by certification at N.J.A.C. 7:13-8.4 "enhancement of a riparian zone through the planting of native, non-invasive plant species". Therefore, the project is consistent with this policy.

5. Wetlands (N.J.A.C. 7:7 - 9.27)

Wetlands or wetland means an area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, commonly known as hydrophytic vegetation.

Within the project limits, tidal and freshwater wetlands were identified. This rule states that the establishment of a living shoreline in wetlands to address the loss of vegetated shorelines and habitat in the littoral zone is conditionally acceptable. In accordance with this rule, the project constitutes a living shoreline and will comply with N.J.A.C. 7:7-12.23. Therefore, the project is consistent with this rule.

6. Wetland Buffers (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 9:28)

Wetland buffers or transition area means an area of land adjacent to a wetland which minimizes adverse impacts on the wetlands or serves as an integral component of the wetland ecosystem.

The project will not cause significant adverse impacts to wetland transition areas. Instead, the project will restore wetland transition area by creating maritime forest habitat through debris removal and native plantings; therefore, the project is in compliance with this rule.

7. Historical and archeological resources (N.J.A.C. 7:7- 9.34)

Historic and archeological resources include objects, structures, shipwrecks, buildings, and other items that either are on or are eligible for inclusion on the New Jersey or National Register of Historic Places.

Phase 1A Cultural Resource surveys will be completed for the site to identify potentially significant cultural resources in the project area. Further testing and surveys will be conducted in the Plans and Specifications Phase of the project and will be completed prior to construction. The United States Army Corps of Engineers will consult with the New Jersey Historic Preservation Office (NJHPO). Ongoing work will be coordinated with the NJHPO, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Delaware Nation, the Delaware Tribe of Indians, and the Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

8. Endangered or threatened wildlife or plant species habitats (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 9.36)

Endangered or threatened wildlife or plant species habitats are terrestrial and aquatic (marine, estuarine, or freshwater) areas known to be inhabited on a seasonal or permanent basis by or to be critical at any stage in the life cycle of any wildlife or plant identified as "endangered" or "threatened" species on official federal or state lists of endangered or

threatened species, or under active consideration for state or federal listing. The definition of endangered or threatened wildlife or plant species habitats includes a sufficient buffer area to ensure continued survival of the population of the species as well as areas that serve an essential role as corridors for movement of endangered or threatened wildlife. Absence of such a buffer area does not preclude an area from being endangered or threatened wildlife or plant species habitat.

The project's restoration plans have been carefully mapped so as to avoid areas where state-listed species were found during surveys, however prior to construction; a final survey of the restoration site will be completed to ensure that impacts to rare plants or animals will be avoided. If plants are found within the restoration site, best management practices (BMPs) will be utilized. If listed animals are found, plans will be made to avoid disturbances through construction windows and other BMPs.

9. Critical Wildlife Habitat (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 9.37)

Critical wildlife habitats are specific areas known to serve an essential role in maintaining wildlife, particularly in wintering, breeding, and migrating. Definitions and maps of critical wildlife habitats are currently available only for colonial waterbird habitat in the 1979 Aerial Colony Nesting Waterbird Survey for New Jersey. Other sites are considered on a case-by-case basis by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife.

The purpose of this project is to restore the Meadowlark Marsh, located within the Atlantic Flyway, a significant coastal pathway for migratory birds. Therefore, the project is in direct accordance with the policy goals.

10. Public Open Space (N.J.A.C 7:7 – 9.38)

Public open space refers to lands owned or maintained by federal, state, or local agencies and which are dedicated to the conservation of public recreation, natural resources, visual, or physical public access, and/or the protection of management of wildlife.

The project will not adversely affect existing open space, but will instead enhance open space through restoration measures. The project restoration measures will restore natural habitat enhancing scenic resources within the area; therefore, the project is in compliance with this rule.

11. Special Urban Areas (N.J.A.C. 7:7-9.41)

Special urban areas are those municipalities defined in urban aid legislation (N.J.S.A.52:27D178) qualified to receive state aid to enable them to maintain and upgrade municipal services and offset local property taxes.

The project site is located in an Urban Enterprise Zone, Urban Aid Community, Urban Coordinating Council Qualified Municipality, and NJ Redevelopment Authority Eligible Municipality. The project is not a development project and will not adversely impact the economic and social viability of the special urban area; therefore, the project is in compliance with this rule.

12. Hackensack Meadowlands District (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 9.43)

The Hackensack Meadowlands District is a 19,485-acre area of water, coastal wetlands and associated uplands within the boundaries described in the Hackensack Meadowlands Reclamation and Development Act (N.J.S.A. 13:17-1 et seq.).

The project is within the boundaries of the Hackensack Meadowlands boundaries and will be consistent with the New Jersey Meadowlands Master Plan and acquire any necessary authorizations.

B. Subchapter 11. Standards for conducting and reporting the results of an endangered or threatened wildlife or plant species habitat impact assessment and/or endangered or threatened wildlife species habitat evaluation.

See Section A, item 8.

C. Subchapter 12. General Water Areas

1. Living Shorelines (N.J.A.C. 7:7-12.23)

Living shorelines are shoreline management practices that address the loss of vegetated shorelines and habitat in the littoral zone by providing for the protection, restoration, or enhancement of these habitats. This is accomplished through the strategic placement of vegetation, sand or other structural and organic material.

This project is a restoration project and is defined as a living shoreline. Based on this rule, the project is conditional acceptable and will comply with the requirements of the Wetlands Act of 1970, the Waterfront Development Law, Coastal Area Facility Review Act, and the rules of this chapter.

D. Subchapter 13. Requirements for impervious cover and vegetative cover for general land areas and certain special areas

This subchapter sets forth requirements applicable in general land areas and certain special areas for impervious cover and vegetative cover on sites in the upland waterfront development area and in the CAFRA area.

These requirements will be addressed in subsequent phases of the project.

E. Subchapter 14. General Location Rules

1. Basic Location Rule (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 14.2)
   a. A location may be acceptable for development under N.J.A.C. 7:7-9, 12, 13, and 14, but the NJDEP may reject or conditionally approve the proposed development of the location as reasonably necessary to:
      i. Promote the public health, safety, and welfare;
      ii. Protect public and private property, wildlife, and marine fisheries; and
      iii. Preserve, protect, and enhance the natural environment.

The project is intended to protect, preserve and restore wildlife and the natural environment; therefore, the project is in compliance with this policy.

F. Subchapter 16. Resource Rules

1. Marine Fish and Fisheries (N.J.A.C. 7:7-16.2)

Coastal actions that result in minimal feasible interference of the natural functioning of marine fish and fisheries, including the reproductive and migratory patterns of estuarine and marine estuarine dependent species of finfish and shellfish, are conditionally acceptable. The finfish and shellfish resources of New Jersey provide valuable recreational experiences for residents and interstate visitors. The recreational and commercial landings of these species also contribute substantially to the state's economy.

Local shellfish, finfish, and benthic macroinvertebrate population will be temporarily impacted during construction, principally through increase in sedimentation and turbidity. However, sedimentation and turbidity from wetland and upland restoration would be minimized to the fullest extent possible through the implementation of BMPs such as staked straw bales, reinforced silt fencing, filtered sediment traps, and other approved methods. Therefore, the project is consistent with this policy.

2. Water Quality (N.J.A.C. 7:7-16.3)

As required by Section 307(f) of the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C.§§ 1451 et seq., federal, state, and local water quality requirements established under the Federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 et seq., shall be the water resource standards of the coastal management program. These requirements include not only the minimum requirements imposed under the Clean Water Act, but also the additional requirements adopted by states, localities, and interstate agencies pursuant to Section 510 of the Clean Water Act and such statutes as the New Jersey Water Pollution Control Act, N.J.S.A. 58:10A-1 et seq.

Standard construction stormwater BMPs will be implemented to protect water quality of surrounding water resources. The following BMPs will be used:

- Minimize area of ground disturbance and vegetation clearing.
- Use the site's natural contours to minimize run-off and erosion.
- Do not expose the entire site at one time; avoid bare soils during rainy months.
- Stabilize erodible surfaces with mulch, compost, seeding, or sod.
- Use features such as silt fences, gravel filter berms, silt dikes, check dams, and gravel bags for interception and dissipation of turbid runoff water.
- Use silt or turbidity curtains during in-water construction to contain and control dissolved sediments.
- Use wetland mats for construction access within wetland areas to prevent soil compaction.
- Use vehicles with high flotation tires within wetland areas to prevent rutting and soil compaction.
- Complete in-water work during periods of low tide.
- Install cofferdams or stream diversions to isolate in-water construction areas.
- Use stabilized construction entrances for all ingress and egress points.

3. Surface Water Use (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 16.4)

Surface water is the water in lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, bogs, wetlands, bays, and ocean that is visible on land. Coastal development shall conform to all applicable NJDEP requirements for surface water diversion.

The project will not cause adverse impacts to surface waters and will not cause drawdown, bottom scour, or alteration of flow patterns. The project will instead enhance water quality in the area. Wetland restoration will contribute to water quality by reducing nutrient inputs and increasing nutrient uptake through native plantings, which in turn will result in fewer low dissolved oxygen events, increased water transparency, and reduction in the frequency and duration of algal blooms. Therefore, the project is in compliance with this policy.

4. Stormwater Management (N.J.A.C. 7:7-16.6)

If the project or activity meets the definitely of "major development" at N.J.A.C 7:8-1.2, then the project or activity shall comply with the Stormwater Management rules at N.J.A.C. 7:8.

The project is defined as a major development will comply with the Stormwater Management rules at N.J.A.C. 7:8.

5. Vegetation (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 16.7)

Vegetation is the plant life or total plant cover that is found on a specific area, whether indigenous or introduced by humans. Coastal development shall preserve, to the maximum extent practicable, existing vegetation within a development site. Coastal development shall plant new vegetation, particularly appropriate coastal species, native to New Jersey to the maximum extent practicable.

The project will include the removal of invasive species and will plant native herbs, shrubs, and trees to restore and create natural habitat; therefore, the project is in direct compliance with this policy.

6. Air Quality (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 16.8)

The protection of air resources refers to protection from air contaminants that injure human health, welfare or property, and to attainment and maintenance of state and federal air quality goals and the prevention of degradation of current levels of air quality. Coastal development shall conform to all applicable state and federal regulations, standards, and guidelines and be consistent with the strategies of New Jersey's State Implementation Plan.

The proposed development will not result in any airborne emissions that will violate state or federal regulations. Emissions will be limited to exhaust from automobiles traveling to and from the site during construction and from construction equipment. The federal government regulates automobile emissions, while technological improvements in

heating and cooling units have resulted in decreased emissions and increased efficiency. Minimal impacts to air quality resulting from construction equipment and airborne dust will result from construction activities, but these are considered short-term impacts and will not be present post-construction. Therefore, the project complies with this rule.

7. Public Access (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 16.9)
Public access to the waterfront is the ability of the public to pass physically and visually to, from, and along tidal waterways and their shores and to use such shores, waterfronts and waters for activities such as navigation, fishing, and recreational activities including, but not limited to, swimming, sunbathing, surfing, sport diving, bird watching, walking, and boating.

The project will not modify public access and any interior walking trails will be re-established after construction; therefore, the project is in compliance with this rule.

8. Scenic Resources and Design (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 16.10)

Scenic resources include the views of the natural and/or built landscape. Large-scale elements of building and site design are defined as the elements that compose the developed landscape such as size, geometry, massing, height, and bulk structures.

The project will preserve and restore existing open space by removing invasive and re-establishing native wetlands. The project will enhance scenic resources within the HRE; therefore, the project is consistent with this policy.

9. Buffers and compatibility of uses (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 16.11)

Buffers are natural or man-made areas, structures, or objects that serve to separate distinct uses or areas. Compatibility of uses is the ability for uses to exist together without aesthetic or functional conflicts. Development shall be compatible with adjacent land and water uses to the maximum extent practicable.

The project will restore wetland buffers along Bellman's Creek and will comply with the standards found at N.J.A.C. 7:7-9.28. Therefore, the project is in compliance with this policy.

10. Traffic (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 16.12)

Traffic is the movement of vehicles, pedestrians, or ships along a route. Coastal development shall be designed, located, and operated in a manner to cause the least possible disturbance to traffic systems.

The project will not adversely impact traffic in the surrounding street network. The safe orderly flow of traffic will be ensured at all times and all appropriate safety procedures, uniformed traffic directors, personnel, and devices will be implemented as necessary during construction. Traffic control measures, based on local and state requirements, have been incorporated into the contract specifications.

11. Solid and Hazardous Waste (N.J.A.C. 7:7 – 16.14)

Solid waste means any garbage, refuse, sludge or other waste material, including solid, liquid, semi-solid or contained gaseous material. A material is a solid waste if it is "disposed of" by being discharged, deposited, injected, dumped, spilled, leaked, or placed into or on any land or water so that such material or any constituent thereof may enter the environment or be emitted into the air or discharged into ground or surface waters.

Preliminary sampling has been completed at the site and will be utilized to consider the impacts of the conceptual plans, however further sampling will be conducted during the next phase of this project before final plans are created. Preliminary testing has showed contaminant types and levels as would be expected in urban, industrialized areas. Based on the findings and the nature of the sediment and soil, removal and placement can be undertaken. If the nature of the removed material is non-hazardous, it can be retained on site, graded to appropriate elevations to support upland coastal habitat. If the nature of the excavated material is hazardous, the material will be treated and disposed of at facilities approved to accept hazardous materials. Any solid waste materials resulting from the construction of the project will be disposed of according to all NJ solid waste regulations, and any recyclable materials shall be disposed of at a qualified recycling facility. Overall, the proposed project is expected to result in a positive impact, in that it would effectively remove or cap contaminated soils. No adverse impacts or threats to the environmental or public health and safety are anticipated.