

## Silvergate Phases II, III, IV,

### V/VI Project Sites

#### Swamp Pink Survey

*The Quaker Group*

*Elk Township, New Jersey*

The Silvergate Properties, owned by The Quaker Group, are development sites located in Elk Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey and were identified by the United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) as having the potential to harbor the federally listed, threatened, species known as swamp pink (*Hellonias bullata*) due to documented populations in close proximity. As a result, a swamp pink survey and habitat assessment was required by the USFWS to determine if this listed species was present or had the potential to be present. Princeton Hydro was contracted to conduct the habitat assessment and survey on the sites.

The first portion of the project involved the identification and mapping of potential habitats on site that may be suitable for the species by analyzing aerial photographs and the NJDEP Landscape Mapping v2.1 using ERSI ArcMap®.

The second portion of the project was field verifying the locations of potential habitat for the species and assessing the habitat observed. Any suitable habitat encountered was exhaustively searched for the presence of swamp pink. In accordance with USFWS survey techniques, transects were set up parallel to each other and several feet apart through the suitable habitat. Each transect was carefully observed by field personnel for individuals of the species.

Upon completion of the survey, a report outlining the project, the survey location and techniques employed for surveying was submitted to the USFWS.

