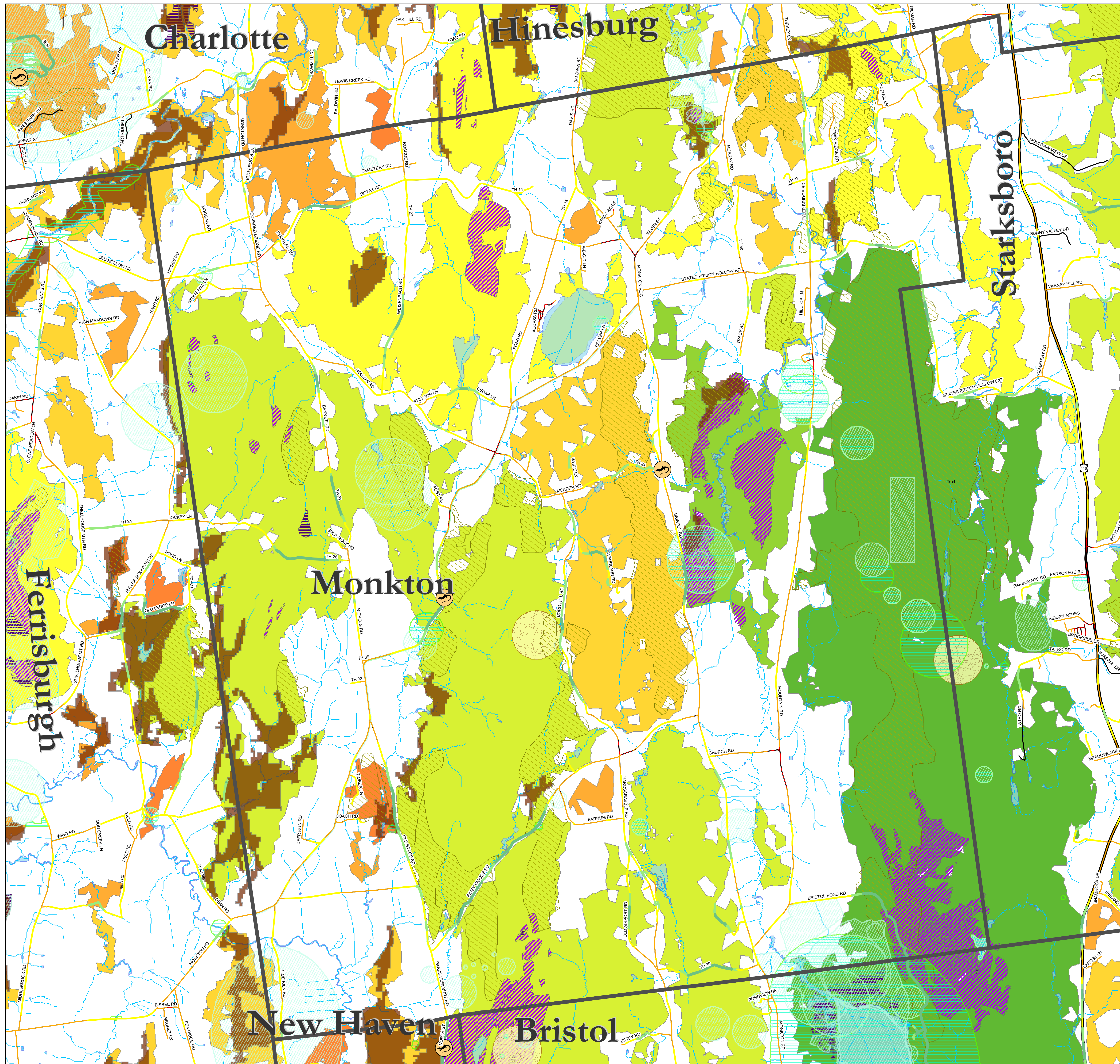


MAP 6: COMMUNITY AND SPECIES SCALE RESOURCES

MONKTON, VT



	Town Boundary	Wildlife Road Crossings
Roads		Score
	Primary	1 (Low)
	Secondary	2
	Rivers & Streams	3
	Lakes & Ponds	4
	Rare Species	5 (High)
	Uncommon Species	Habitat Blocks by State Priority
Significant Natural Communities		Priority Rank (Low 1-10 High)
	Rare	10 Highest Priority
	Uncommon	8
	Deer Wintering Areas	7
	Mast Stands	6
	Clayplain Fragments	5
	Amphibian and Reptile Crossings	4
		3
		2

Data Source:
 Vermont Center for Geographic Information
 Vermont State Plane Projection
 NAD1983 Datum
 Map by Monica Przyperhart
 March, 2018

0 1/4 1/2 1 Kilometers
 0 1/4 1/2 1 Miles

This map allows users to examine details of a local landscape. Except for Habitat Blocks, all layers can be used even at the scale of an individual parcel. While the boundaries of the Habitat Blocks layer are not accurate at this scale, they are included to provide an element of statewide perspective.

While accurate, these data are not comprehensive. For example, the absence of a rare species marker is not a definite sign that there are no rare species present, since the entire state has never been inventoried for rare species. The same is true for Uncommon Species, Deer Wintering Areas, Natural Communities, Mast Stands, and Amphibian and Reptile Crossings.

Rare and Uncommon Species: The data shown in this layer were compiled through the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's Natural Heritage Inventory, the state's contribution to a regional database of similar information. All mapped occurrences represent field-confirmed, geographically accurate data points.

Natural Communities: A natural community is a group of plants, animals, physical features, and natural processes that can be found together wherever similar environmental conditions exist. The locations mapped here are based on detailed site surveys and are accurate even at a very local scale. Nearly all mapped examples of common natural communities are on state-owned land.

Deer Wintering Areas: These conifer stands provide critical winter cover for deer and other species. They were identified using aerial observations, infrared aerial photos, and ground confirmation.

Amphibian and Reptile Crossings: These data represent known locations where amphibians and reptiles cross roads to get between year-round habitat and breeding pools.

Mast Stands: Mast stands are groups of nut-producing trees, such as beech and oak, that provide vital food resources for numerous wildlife species. They are identified when scars left by climbing black bears can be found on at least 15-25 tree trunks or show other evidence of use by bears, such as a "bear nest" in the crown of a tree. While mast stands are represented as points on the map, the actual habitat covered by each mast stand is much larger. Because bear scarring is so prominent on beech compared with other species, this dataset favors this species.

Clayplain Fragments: Prior to grand-scale European-American settlement, these forests were common in the Champlain Valley. However, the deep, rich, soils and flat topography in which they're located provided ideal agricultural lands, resulting in the clearing of much of the valley's original Clayplain Forests. Now only scattered remnants remain, most which are no bigger than 20 or 30 acres.

Wildlife Road Crossings: These data were generated by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department and Agency of Transportation to provide a preliminary look at where wildlife are most likely to cross Vermont roads. The Departments used a computer modeling process to locate areas with a high concentration of the landscape features most closely associated with wildlife crossing areas for terrestrial species with large home ranges.

Habitat Blocks, by State Priority: This map depicts all locations larger than 20 acres in which roads, buildings, and other human infrastructure are absent. Priority was assigned based on size; the degree to which each block is connected to other habitat blocks through wildlife road crossings, stream corridors, or other means; and the variety of habitat components contained within the block such as wetlands, ridgelines, or a mix of forest types. Regional context was also considered, meaning that higher priority was given to a 100-acre habitat block located in Vermont's heavily-fragmented Champlain Valley than to a 100-acre block in the Northeast Kingdom, where larger blocks are prevalent. The configuration of habitat is also important. An area that is highly irregular in shape with a high amount of edge may be less functional for some species than habitat of the same acreage with a regular shape.