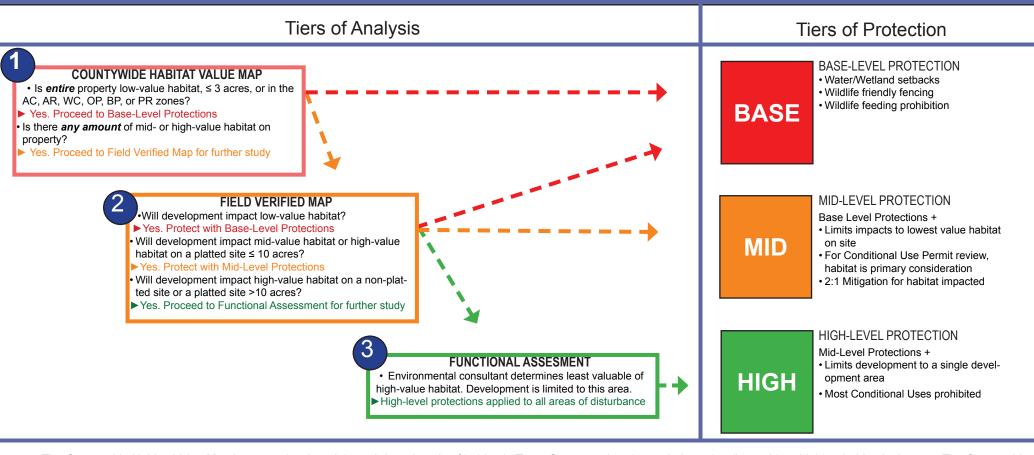


NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTIONS UPDATE



A Tiered System of Analysis and Protections

The Jackson/Teton County Comprehensive Plan calls for protection of our community's natural resources while balancing the development rights of private property owners. Teton County's new Natural Resource Protections Regulations achieve this goal by using a tiered system of habitat analysis and a tiered system of protections.



- The Countywide Habitat Value Map is a map developed through broad study of habitat in Teton County and assigns relative value (low, mid, or high) to habitat in the area. The Countywide Habitat Value Map is based on the Focal Species Habitat Map, a 2017 study of the habitat of 17 important species in the community. The Countywide Habitat Map can be found at www. engage2017.jacksontetonplan.com.
- The Field Verified Map takes a more site-specific approach to identifying habitat values and is required anytime there is mid- or high-value habitat on a property. It is performed by an environmental professional and confirms or corrects the broad habitat designations of the Countywide Habitat Value Map. The intent of the Field Verfied Map is to ensure appropriate natural resource protections are employed through a "boots-on-the-ground" study of properties that have more valuable habitat.
- The Functional Assessment is the *most* detailed study of habitat. It identifies the least important habitat of the high-value habitat on a site in order to assign development to an area where it will be the least harmful to natural resources. It also allows property owners to challenge the habitat determinations of the Countywide Habitat Value Map and the Field Verified Map. In this sense, it grants consultants more discretion in analyzing habitat value. To serve as a check to this discretion, any site assessed by the Functional Assessment is automatically subject to High-Level protections.