



Site selection

LLc2 | Possible 2 points

Intent

Avoid development on environmentally sensitive sites.

Requirements

Prerequisites

None.

Credits

2 Site selection (2 points). Do not develop buildings, built structures, roads, or parking areas on portions of sites that meet any of the following criteria:

1. Land whose elevation is at or below the 100-year floodplain as defined by FEMA.
2. Land that is specifically identified as habitat for any species on federal or state threatened or endangered lists.
3. Land within 100 feet of any water, including wetlands as defined by U.S. Code of Federal Regulations 40 CFR, Parts 230–233 and Part 22, and isolated wetlands or areas of special concern identified by state or local rule, or land within distances given in applicable state or local regulations, whichever is more stringent. New wetlands constructed as part of stormwater mitigation or other site restoration efforts are exempt from this part of the requirement.
4. Land that prior to acquisition for the project was public parkland, unless land of equal or greater value as parkland is accepted in trade by the public landowner (park authority projects are exempt).
5. Land that contains “prime soils,” “unique soils,” or “soils of state significance,” as identified in state Natural Resources Conservation Service soil surveys. Verification of soil types should be conducted by the project civil engineer, wetlands engineer, or biologist. If no project team member is qualified to verify this requirement, follow the steps laid out in the LEED for Homes Reference Guide. Sites that are previously developed are exempt from this requirement.