



# United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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In Reply Refer To:

July 25, 2017

Consultation Code: 04ES1000-2017-SLI-0761

Event Code: 04ES1000-2017-E-01627

Project Name: Westinghouse Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility - Proposed License Renewal

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 et seq.), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the

human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan ([http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle\\_guidance.html](http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html)). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
  - USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
  - Migratory Birds
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## Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**South Carolina Ecological Services**  
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## Project Summary

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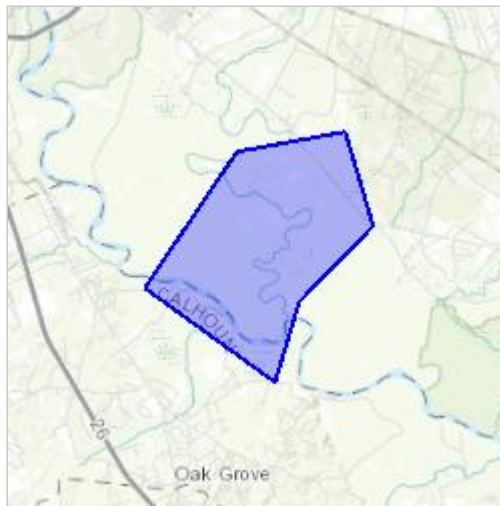
Project Type: \*\* OTHER \*\*

Project Description: The proposed action is whether to renew Special Nuclear Materials License No. SNM-1107 for Westinghouse's Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility for an additional 40 years of operation. The facility has operating since 1969 and fabricates low-enriched uranium fuel assemblies for commercial nuclear power plants.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/33.855037709759046N80.93581045790029W>



Counties: Calhoun, SC | Richland, SC

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## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 7 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

### Birds

| NAME  | STATUS     |
|---|------------|
| Red-cockaded Woodpecker <i>Picoides borealis</i><br>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.<br>Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7614">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7614</a>                           | Endangered |
| Wood Stork <i>Mycteria americana</i><br>Population: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC<br>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.<br>Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8477">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8477</a> | Threatened |

### Fishes

| NAME  | STATUS     |
|---|------------|
| Shortnose Sturgeon <i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i><br>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.<br>Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6635">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6635</a> | Endangered |

### Clams

| NAME   | STATUS     |
|--|------------|
| Carolina Heelsplitter <i>Lasmigona decorata</i><br>There is a <b>final critical habitat</b> designated for this species. Your location is outside the designated critical habitat.<br>Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3534">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3534</a> | Endangered |

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## Flowering Plants

| NAME   | STATUS     |
|--|------------|
| Canby's Dropwort <i>Oxypolis canbyi</i><br>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.<br>Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7738">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7738</a>                   | Endangered |
| Rough-leaved Loosestrife <i>Lysimachia asperulaefolia</i><br>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.<br>Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2747">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2747</a> | Endangered |
| Smooth Coneflower <i>Echinacea laevigata</i><br>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.<br>Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3473">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3473</a>              | Endangered |

## Critical habitats

There are no critical habitats within your project area under this office's jurisdiction.

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# USFWS National Wildlife Refuges And Fish Hatcheries

Any activity proposed on [National Wildlife Refuge](#) lands must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

REFUGE INFORMATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE WHEN THIS SPECIES LIST WAS GENERATED.  
PLEASE CONTACT THE FIELD OFFICE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

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# Migratory Birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any activity that results in the take of migratory birds or eagles is prohibited unless authorized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service<sup>3</sup>. There are no provisions for allowing the take of migratory birds that are unintentionally killed or injured.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in the take of migratory birds is responsible for complying with the appropriate regulations and implementing appropriate conservation measures.

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1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
  2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
  3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

The migratory birds species listed below are species of particular conservation concern (e.g. [Birds of Conservation Concern](#)) that may be potentially affected by activities in this location. It is not a list of every bird species you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that all of the bird species on this list will be found on or near this location. Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, special attention should be made to avoid and minimize impacts to birds of priority concern. To view available data on other bird species that may occur in your project area, please visit the [AKN Histogram Tools](#) and [Other Bird Data Resources](#). To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

| NAME  | SEASON(S)           |
|---|---------------------|
| American Kestrel <i>Falco sparverius paulus</i>   | On Land: Year-round |
| Brown-headed Nuthatch <i>Sitta pusilla</i>  | On Land: Year-round |
| Least Bittern <i>Ixobrychus exilis</i><br><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6175">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6175</a> | On Land: Breeding   |
| Mississippi Kite <i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i>  | On Land: Breeding   |
| Rusty Blackbird <i>Euphagus carolinus</i>   | On Land: Wintering  |
| Sedge Wren <i>Cistothorus platensis</i>   | On Land: Migrating  |
| Swainson's Warbler <i>Limnothlypis swainsonii</i>   | On Land: Breeding   |
| Wood Thrush <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>   | On Land: Breeding   |

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|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Worm Eating Warbler <i>Helmitheros vermivorum</i>  | On Land: Breeding   |
| American Bittern <i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i><br><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6582">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6582</a> | On Land: Wintering  |
| Chuck-will's-widow <i>Caprimulgus carolinensis</i>   | On Land: Breeding   |
| Bachman's Sparrow <i>Aimophila aestivalis</i><br><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6177">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6177</a> | On Land: Year-round |
| Kentucky Warbler <i>Oporornis formosus</i>   | On Land: Breeding   |
| Painted Bunting <i>Passerina ciris</i>   | On Land: Breeding   |
| Prairie Warbler <i>Dendroica discolor</i>  | On Land: Breeding   |
| Prothonotary Warbler <i>Protonotaria citrea</i>  | On Land: Breeding   |
| Fox Sparrow <i>Passerella iliaca</i>   | On Land: Wintering  |
| Red-headed Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>  | On Land: Year-round |
| Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i><br><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626</a>    | On Land: Year-round |
| Loggerhead Shrike <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i><br><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8833">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8833</a>  | On Land: Year-round |
| Peregrine Falcon <i>Falco peregrinus</i><br><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8831">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8831</a>      | On Land: Wintering  |
| Short-eared Owl <i>Asio flammeus</i><br><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9295">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9295</a>          | On Land: Wintering  |

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php>
  - Conservation measures for birds  
<http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php>
  - Year-round bird occurrence data  
<http://www.birdscanada.org/birdmon/default/datasummaries.jsp>
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