



## United States Department of the Interior



### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Indiana Ecological Services Field Office

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<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Endangered/section7/s7process/step1.html>

In Reply Refer To:

November 06, 2017

Consultation Code: 03E12000-2017-SLI-0798

Event Code: 03E12000-2018-E-00520

Project Name: Jefferson Proving Ground

Subject: Updated 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 attached species list identifies any federally threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project or may be affected by your proposed project. The list also includes designated critical habitat if present within your proposed project area or affected by your project. This list is provided to you as the initial step of the consultation process required under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act, also referred to as Section 7 Consultation.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 requires that actions authorized, funded, or carried out by Federal agencies not jeopardize federally threatened or endangered species or adversely modify designated critical habitat. To fulfill this mandate, Federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representative) must consult with the Service if they determine their project “may affect” listed species or critical habitat.

Under 50 CFR 402.12(e) (the regulations that implement Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act) the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally. You may verify the list by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website <http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/> at regular intervals during project planning and implementation and completing the same process you used to receive the attached list. As an alternative, you may contact this Ecological Services Field Office for updates.

Please use the species list provided and visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Region 3 Section 7 Technical Assistance website at -

<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/section7/s7process/index.html>. This website contains step-by-step instructions which will help you determine if your project will have an adverse effect on listed species and will help lead you through the Section 7 process.

For all **wind energy projects** and **projects that include installing towers that use guy wires or are over 200 feet in height**, please contact this field office directly for assistance, even if no federally listed plants, animals or critical habitat are present within your proposed project or may be affected by your proposed project.

Although no longer protected under the Endangered Species Act, be aware that bald eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.) and Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq), as are golden eagles. Projects affecting these species may require measures to avoid harming eagles or may require a permit. If your project is near an eagle nest or winter roost area, see our Eagle Permits website at <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/midwestbird/EaglePermits/index.html> to help you determine if you can avoid impacting eagles or if a permit may be necessary.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. 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

## 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:

**Indiana Ecological Services Field Office**

620 South Walker Street

Bloomington, IN 47403-2121

(812) 334-4261

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## Project Summary

Consultation Code: 03E12000-2017-SLI-0798

Event Code: 03E12000-2018-E-00520

Project Name: Jefferson Proving Ground

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

**Project Description:** JPG was established in 1941 on 224 square kilometers (km<sup>2</sup>) [55,264 acres (ac)] in parts of Jefferson, Ripley, and Jennings counties in southeastern Indiana. A firing line with 268 fixed-gun positions separated JPG into two areas: a 17.5-km<sup>2</sup> [4,314-ac] southern portion (commonly referred to as the “Cantonment Area”) and a 206-km<sup>2</sup> [50,950-ac] northern portion. JPG was used by the Army between 1941 and 1994 for the test-firing of a wide variety of conventional explosive munitions into the area north of the firing line. During that time, more than 24 million rounds were fired. The types of munitions tested varied from 20-millimeter (mm) [0.8-inch (in)] small-caliber projectiles to 0.9-metric ton [2,000-pound (lb)] bombs. Approximately 1.5 million rounds did not detonate upon impact, remaining as unexploded ordnance (UXO) on or beneath the ground surface, along with an additional 3 to 5 million rounds with live detonators, primers, or fuzes.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) in response to the December 21, 2016 license amendment request (U.S. Army, 2016) submitted by the U.S. Department of the Army (Army) to amend NRC Materials License SUB-1435 from “possession only for decommissioning” to “possession only” and grant the Army an exemption from the decommissioning timeliness requirements in 10 CFR 40.42(d). Under the “proposed action” that is being evaluated, residual radioactive material (i.e., all DU material remaining in the DU Impact Area at JPG) would remain in place and institutional controls would be maintained by the Army to minimize exposure to the public and the environment.

**Project Location:**

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

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/38.93513915849037N85.36771075389282W>

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Counties: Jefferson, IN | Jennings, IN | Ripley, IN

## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 4 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. Note that 1 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions. 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.

### Mammals

NAME	STATUS
<p>Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i></p> <p>There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat.</p> <p>Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949</a>            Species survey guidelines:  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/1/office/31440.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/1/office/31440.pdf</a></p>	Endangered
<p>Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i></p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.</p> <p>This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Incidental take of the NLEB is not prohibited here. Federal agencies may consult using the 4(d) rule streamlined process. Transportation projects may consult using the programmatic process. See <a href="http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/index.html">www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/index.html</a></li> </ul> <p>Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>            Species survey guidelines:  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/10043/office/31440.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/10043/office/31440.pdf</a></p>	Threatened

### Clams

NAME	STATUS
<p>Sheepnose Mussel <i>Plethobasus cyphus</i></p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.</p> <p>Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6903">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6903</a></p>	Endangered

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## Flowering Plants

NAME

STATUS

Running Buffalo Clover *Trifolium stoloniferum*

Endangered

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

Species profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2529>

## Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

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