

March 26, 2025

# **Threatened and Endangered Species Assessment May Hope Moose | Morrilton, AR**

**Prepared for:**

Burns & McDonnell  
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Springdale, AR 72762

**CT JOB NO. 25102600**

Prepared by **Crafton Tull**  
Certificate of Authorization  
#109 Expires: 12/31/2025



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## 1.0 Introduction

The proposed project area (an industrial park construction) is located on gently sloping to moderately sloping topography west of North Cedar Street and immediately south of Arrow Drive in Morrilton, Conway County, Arkansas. A field reconnaissance and desktop analysis of the project area was conducted by Crafton Tull regarding the potential occurrence of federally listed threatened and endangered species. The field reconnaissance confirmed the presence of an upland, moderately sloping hillside and hilltop that was dominated by maple and cedar trees in the northern portion of project area. The southwestern portion of the project area supported low-lying emergent wetland areas. No federally listed species were observed during the reconnaissance; however, suitable habitat was observed that could indicate the potential presence of a few species.

## 2.0 Findings

Crafton Tull conducted an onsite, visual reconnaissance of the approximately 38-acre project area regarding the presence of federally listed species and/or the presence of potential habitat to support federally listed species on March 20, 2025. In addition, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services' Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website was utilized to determine species known to reasonably occur near or within the project area. The table below identifies those species provided by IPaC and addresses their potential occurrence within the project area.

Table 1. Federally listed species

Species	Federal Status	Habitat Available in Project Area?	Likely Impacted by project?
Indiana Bat ( <i>Myotis sodalis</i> )	Endangered	Yes - suitable summer roost habitat is present within project area.	Unlikely impacted
Tricolored Bat ( <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> )	Proposed Endangered	Yes – potential foraging and summer roosting habitat.	Possibly
Eastern Black Rail ( <i>Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis</i> )	Threatened	No. Suitable habitat lacking in project area.	No
Piping Plover ( <i>Charadrius melodus</i> )	Threatened	No. Suitable habitat lacking in project area.	No
Rufa Red Knot ( <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> )	Threatened	No. Lack of suitable habitat.	No
Alligator snapping turtle ( <i>Macrolemys temmickii</i> )	Proposed Threatened	No. Lack of suitable habitat.	No
Monarch Butterfly ( <i>Danaus plexippus</i> )	Proposed Threatened	Poor habitat, species could occur as transient.	No

Two federally listed bat species were identified that potentially occur within the project area and/or could potentially be impacted by project activities. These species are specifically addressed below.



**Indiana bat** – This species utilizes underground hibernacula in winter months (caves and similar features), however, in mid-spring it leaves the hibernacula and uses suitable trees for roosting (especially trees with exfoliating bark). It prefers riparian areas and semi-open (woodland) habitats to forage. There is no known hibernaculum near the project area. There are little to no stands of mature woodlands; there are some individual trees with loose/exfoliating bark within the project area along the west and southwest, there is a potential for foraging and roosting by this species. If suitable roost trees were removed during the bat's inactive period (when in hibernacula), it is unlikely the species would be impacted by project activities. The period of roughly early to mid-November through mid-March is generally assumed to be this species' inactive period, therefore, removal of suitable roost trees should be conducted during that timeframe, if possible.

**Tricolored bat** – This species has been proposed for listing as endangered as it has experienced a dramatic population drop throughout most of its range (due primarily to white-nose syndrome), although in Arkansas its population is relatively stable, and it is relatively common (Natureserve lists the species as Secure in Arkansas). This species also utilizes caves and abandoned mines during winter months, emerging in spring to utilize suitable trees for summer roosts. The project area supports suitable habitat for this species, and it possibly can occur within the project area. Project activities such as tree removal (even during the species' summer active period) would unlikely cause jeopardy to this species. However, similar to the previous two species, to avoid adverse impacts to tricolored bat, tree removal during the November to March timeframe is recommended.

### 3.0 Summary

Based on the onsite reconnaissance and desktop evaluation, the two bat species identified in the paragraphs above are the only federally listed species that would possibly be adversely impacted by the proposed project. Of the two species identified, tricolored bat is most likely to occur within the project area. This species has not yet been listed as endangered, and as previously mentioned, project activities would not cause jeopardy to this species. The remaining species listed as endangered and therefore it would be illegal to cause "take" to these species. It is possible, although highly unlikely, that removing suitable roost trees during active periods (late March – late October) could result in direct take to Indiana bat and the tricolored bat. Again, that potential is very low due to both their unlikely occurrence within the project area and the unlikely potential that a single tree would be removed at the time that an individual bat is roosting. However, to avoid potential take and reduce overall impacts to the listed bat species, it is suggested that tree cover is removed during the inactive period, which is generally mid-November through mid-March.



## 4.0 References

NatureServe. 2025. NatureServe Explorer – *Perimyotis subflavus* (Tricolored bat).

[https://explorer.natureserve.org/Taxon/ELEMENT\\_GLOBAL.2.102580/Perimyotis\\_subflavus](https://explorer.natureserve.org/Taxon/ELEMENT_GLOBAL.2.102580/Perimyotis_subflavus)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2025. Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC).

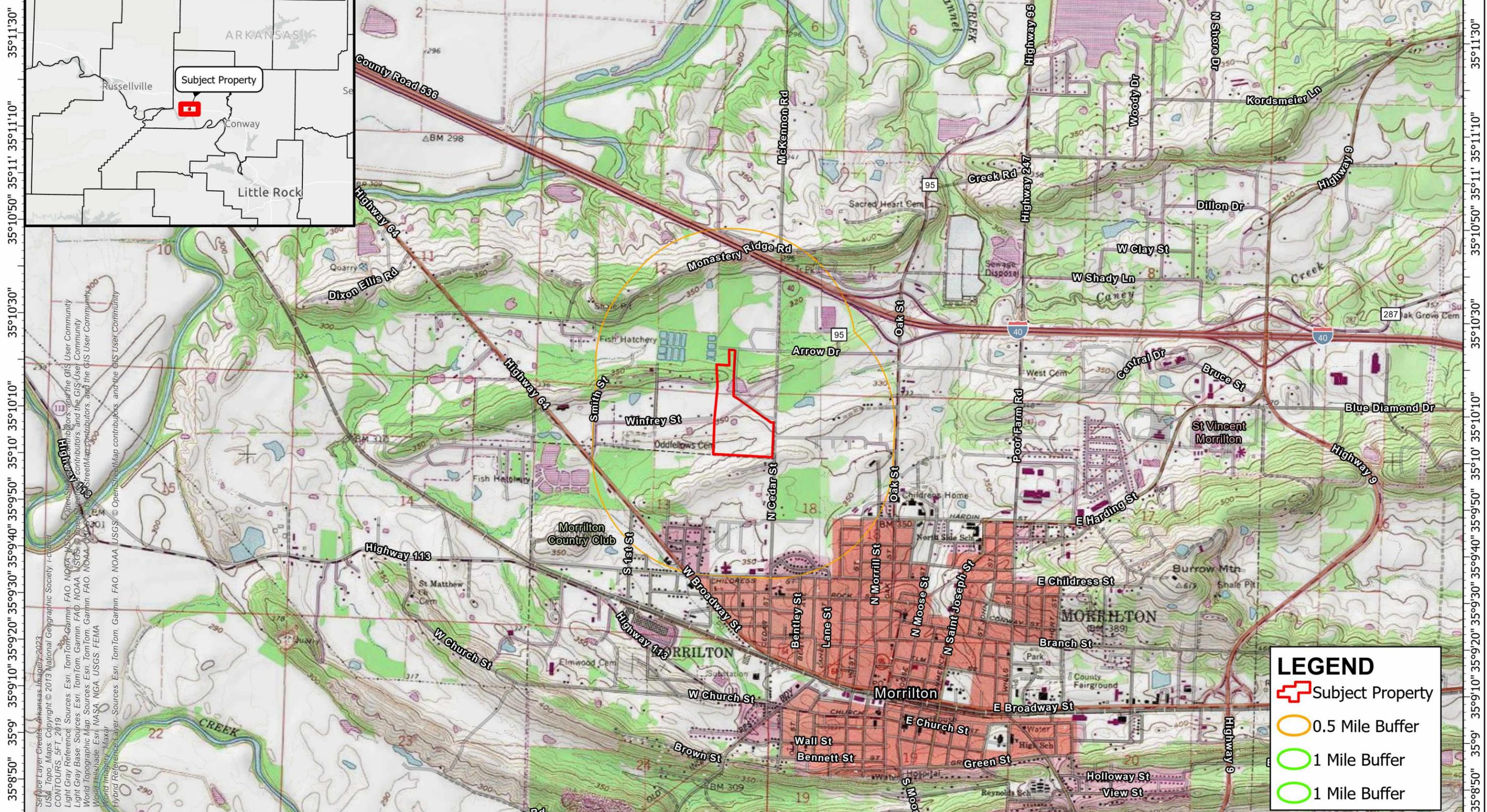
<https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/>



# APPENDIX A

## Figures and Exhibits

-92°48'20" -92°48' -92°47'40" -92°47'20" -92°47' -92°46'40" -92°46'20" -92°46' -92°45'40" -92°45'20" -92°45' -92°44'40" -92°44'20" -92°44' -92°43'40" -92°43'20" -92°43' -92°42'40" -92°42'20"



Spatial ReferenceName: NAD 1983 StatePlane Arkansas North FIPS 0301 Feet

Service Layer Credits: Arkansas Imagery 2023  
USA Topo Maps: Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed  
Light Gray Referenced: Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community  
World Topographic Map: Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community  
World Imagery: Sources: Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA  
Hybrid Referenced Layer: Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

**LEGEND**

- Subject Property
- 0.5 Mile Buffer
- 1 Mile Buffer
- 1 Mile Buffer

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**MAY HOPE MOOSE  
CEDAR STREET/ARROW  
DRIVE  
MORRILTON, AR  
T&E ASSESSMENT**

CT Prj #: PROJECT # 25102600

**Figure 1**  
**USGS Topographic Map**  
T6 N R17 W

Feet  
0 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000





**Crafton Tull**



## United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office  
110 South Amity Suite 300  
Conway, AR 72032-8975  
Phone: (501) 513-4470 Fax: (501) 513-4480

In Reply Refer To:

03/17/2025 17:05:31 UTC

Project Code: 2025-0069886

Project Name: May Hope Morrilton

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location 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 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 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:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

**Migratory Birds:** In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

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 Code 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:

**Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office**  
110 South Amity Suite 300  
Conway, AR 72032-8975  
(501) 513-4470

## PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0069886  
Project Name: May Hope Morrilton  
Project Type: Residential Construction  
Project Description: Residential development.  
Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@35.16993895,-92.75673306476568,14z>



Counties: Conway County, Arkansas

## 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.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

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.

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1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

## MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949</a>	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515</a>	Proposed Endangered

## BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Black Rail <i>Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10477">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10477</a>	Threatened
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> Population: [Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains populations] - Wherever found, except those areas where listed as endangered. There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039</a>	Threatened
Rufa Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> There is <b>proposed</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864</a>	Threatened

## REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Alligator Snapping Turtle <i>Macrochelys temminckii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4658">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4658</a>	Proposed Threatened

## INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> There is <b>proposed</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>	Proposed Threatened

## CRITICAL HABITATS

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

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Crafton Tull  
Name: Andrea Halladay  
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City: Rogers  
State: AR  
Zip: 72712  
Email: andrea.halladay@craftontull.com  
Phone: 4793706939