

June 26th, 2019

Department of the Army ATTN: CENAN-OP-R - Mr. Andrew Dangler NY District, Corps of Engineers 1 Buffington Street, Building 10, 3rd Floor Watervliet, NY 12189-4000

Re: County Route 6 over Tributary to Switzkill Creek - Culvert Replacement - Town of Berne, Albany County, NY

Dear Mr. Dangler:

The Albany County Department of Public Works is undertaking a project to replace the culvert carrying a tributary to Switzkill Creek under County Route 6 to correct deficiencies, pass a larger storm event, stabilize the overall site, and provide necessary scour protection. The existing superstructure and appurtenances have recently suffered failure and collapse and temporary repairs have stabilized the site for the time being. Structural deterioration and flood events have resulted in scour at the culvert ends and wing walls and loss of soil along the length of the culvert, and separation of the end section pipe from the culvert itself.

Work for this project will consist of a full replacement of the existing culvert pipe with a steel plate-arch culvert, that will be eight feet wider than the existing opening. The proposed span will have a hydraulic opening to handle a 50-year storm. Excavation for the footings of the new arch will take place parallel to the outside of the existing pipe, with water flowing thru the existing pipe during excavation. Once these concrete footings are cured, stone fill will be placed to the inside of the footings and the old pipe removed, and new steel arches installed. Scour protection will be placed at each end section.

The project site has been reviewed for state and federal wetlands through on-line wetland Inventory mappers. Only federal jurisdictional wetlands were identified at the project site; however, these wetlands are classified as Riverine and confined within the stream channel. A field visit confirmed that no additional wetlands exist outside the stream channel in the project vicinity and that no wetlands would be impacted. There will be minimal work within this Riverine wetland system and impacts have been calculated for below the identified Ordinary High Water (OHW) mark for the creek.

This project will comply with ACOE permit General Conditions #2 for Aquatic Life Movements and #9 for Management of Water Flows. The project will adhere to #2 by not substantially disrupting the life cycle movements of aquatic life and will be constructed to maintain low flows to allow aquatic species movements. The project adheres to #9 by maintaining the pre-construction course, condition, capacity, and location of waters (in fact the project as designed improves these characteristics). Plans call for widening the culvert opening by 8 feet, thereby meeting the General Conditions and the hydraulic capacity needs for the Creek. A natural stream bottom will be established with the removal of the old pipe.

There will be approximately 307.10 CY of material excavated below Ordinary High Water in preparation of placement of scour protection rip rap and for installation of the concrete footings. There will be a total of 235.10 CY of rock rip-rap scour protection placed along the inlet and outlet abutments and wingwalls in all four quadrants.

Since the tributary to Swtizkill Creek is a Class C waterway, this application has not been sent to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. There are no State wetlands in the project vicinity. There is no tree clearing associated with this project therefore the identified protected bat species potentially in the area will not be impacted. An IPaC screening for the site has been completed and the Determination Key has generated a Verification Letter of no effect and no further coordination. A CRIS screening of the site for historic properties and archeologically sensitive areas has been completed and resulted in no identified elements at the site.

Enclosed is a Joint Application Form for your use in analyzing the project for any permit that may be required for this work. Included is information for site location, endangered species, cultural resources, site photographs and detailed design plans and specifications.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me to discuss the project in more detail. Please contact me at 518-898-9553, or at kweiskotten@gpinet.com at any time.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

GPI/Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.

Kurt Weiskotten

Environmental Scientist

w/encl.

cc: W. Anslow, Albany County DPW, w/o encl (via email)

J. Simkulet, GPI

B. Weaver, GPI





JOINT APPLICATION FORM

For Permits for activities activities affecting streams, waterways, waterbodies, wetlands, coastal areas, sources of water, and endangered and threatened species.

You must separately apply for and obtain Permits from each involved agency before starting work. Please read all instructions.

| 1. Applications To: >NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Check here to confirm you sent this form to NYSDEC. |
|--|
| Check all permits that apply: Dams and Impoundment Structures Wild, Scenic and Long Island Well Excavation and Fill in Navigable Waters Certification Docks, Moorings or Platforms >US Army Corps of Engineers Check all permits that apply: Section 404 Clean Water Act Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act Is the project Federally funded? Yes No If yes, name of Federal Agency: |
| General Permit Type(s), if known: Preconstruction Notification: No |
| >NYS Office of General Services Check all permits that apply: State Owned Lands Under Water Utility Easement (pipelines, conduits, cables, etc.) Docks, Moorings or Platforms >NYS Department of State Check if this applies: Coastal Consistency Concurrence |
| |
| 2. Name of Applicant Taxpayer ID (if applicant is NOT an individual) |
| 3. Name of Property Owner (if different than Applicant) |
| Mailing Address Post Office / City State Zip Telephone Email |
| Linuii |
| For Agency Use Only Agency Application Number: |
| |

JOINT APPLICATION FORM – Continued. Submit this completed page as part of your Application.

| 4. Name of Contact / Agent | 1 | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| Mailing Address | Post Office / City | State Zip | | |
| Walling / Radiood | 1 ook omoo / oky | | | |
| | | | | |
| Telephone Email | | | | |
| 5. Project / Facility Name | Property Tax Map Secti | on / Block / Lot Number: | | |
| Desired Otrest Address if andisable | Doct Office / Oite | Otata 7:a | | |
| Project Street Address, if applicable | Post Office / City | State Zip | | |
| | | | | |
| Provide directions and distances to roads, intersections, brid | dges and bodies of water | | | |
| | | | | |
| ☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ City County | Stream/Waterbody Nam | ne | | |
| Project Location Coordinates: Enter Latitude and Longitude | in degrees, minutes, seconds: | | | |
| Latitude: " " | Longitude: o | " | | |
| C. Project Descriptions, Dravide the fellowing information of | hout vous project. Continue cook | vooronoo ond nyovido | | |
| 6. Project Description: Provide the following information a any additional information on other pages. Attach plans on | | response and provide | | |
| a. Purpose of the proposed project: | | | | |
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| b. Description of current site conditions: | | | | |
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| c. Proposed site changes: | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| d. Type of structures and fill materials to be installed, and | quantity of materials to be used (e | e.g., square feet of | | |
| coverage, cubic yards of fill material, structures below or | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Area of everyation or dradging values of material to be | romoved location of drades de- | otorial placement | | |
| e. Area of excavation or dredging, volume of material to be removed, location of dredged material placement: | | | | |
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| | | | | |
| f. Is tree cutting or clearing proposed? | es, explain below. | | | |
| Timing of the proposed cutting or clearing (month/year) | | | | |
| Number of trees to be cut: | eage of trees to be cleared: | | | |

JOINT APPLICATION FORM – Continued. Submit this completed page as part of your Application.

| g. Work methods and type of equipment to be used: |
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| |
| h. Describe the planned sequence of activities: |
| |
| |
| . Pollution control methods and other actions proposed to mitigate environmental impacts: |
| Polition control methods and other actions proposed to mitigate environmental impacts. |
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| Erosion and silt control methods that will be used to prevent water quality impacts: |
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| Alternatives considered to avoid regulated areas. If no feasible alternatives exist, explain how the project will minimize impacts: |
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| Decreased was Deblie Occurrencial |
| . Proposed use: Private Public Commercial m. Proposed Start Date: Estimated Completion Date: |
| n. Has work begun on project? Yes If Yes, explain below. |
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| |
| Will project convey Foderal State or Municipal Land? |
| o. Will project occupy Federal, State, or Municipal Land? |
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| |
| b. List any previous DEC, USACE, OGS or DOS Permit / Application numbers for activities at this location: |
| |
| |
| q. Will this project require additional Federal, State, or Local authorizations, including zoning changes? |
| Yes If Yes, list below. |
| |
| |

JOINT APPLICATION FORM - Continued. Submit this completed page as part of your Application.

| 7. Signatur | es. |
|-------------|-----|
|-------------|-----|

Applicant and Owner (If different) must sign the application.

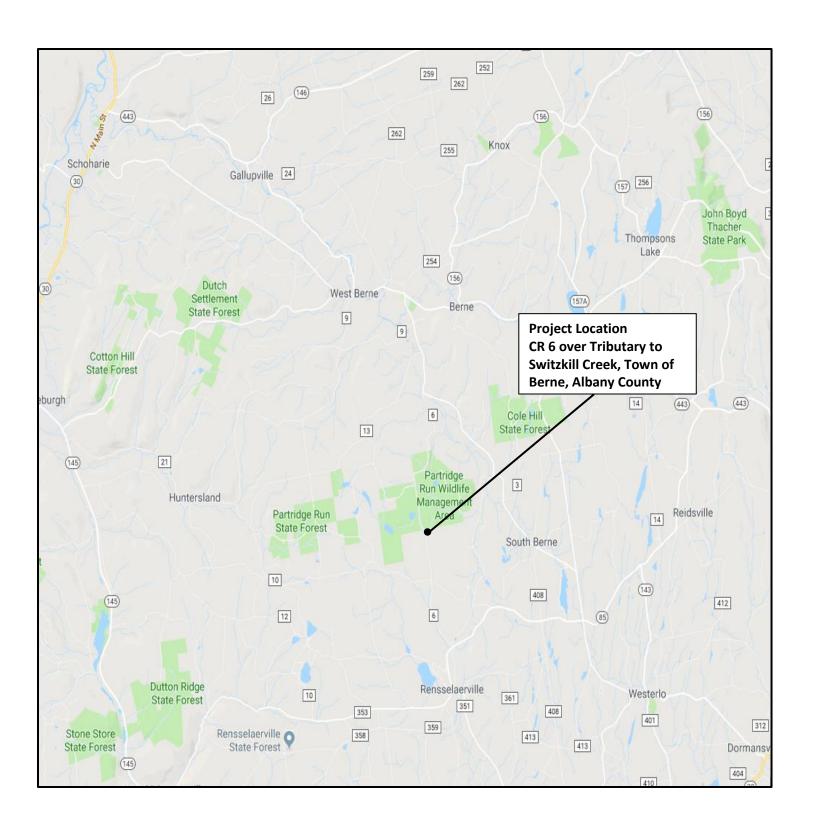
Append additional pages of this Signature section if there are multiple Applicants, Owners or Contact/Agents.

I hereby affirm that information provided on this form and all attachments submitted herewith is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Permission to Inspect - I hereby consent to Agency inspection of the project site and adjacent property areas. Agency staff may enter the property without notice between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm, Monday - Friday. Inspection may occur without the owner, applicant or agent present. If the property is posted with "keep out" signs or fenced with an unlocked gate, Agency staff may still enter the property. Agency staff may take measurements, analyze site physical characteristics, take soil and vegetation samples, sketch and photograph the site. I understand that failure to give this consent may result in denial of the permit(s) sought by this application.

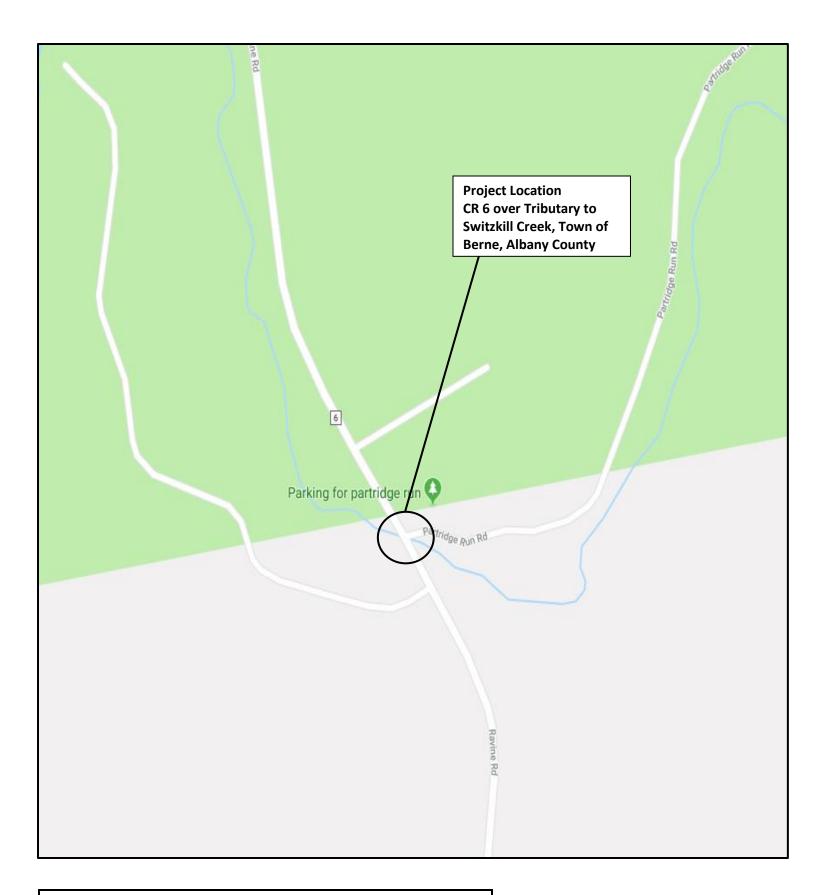
False statements made herein are punishable as a Class A misdemeanor pursuant to Section 210.45 of the NYS Penal Law. Further, the applicant accepts full responsibility for all damage, direct or indirect, of whatever nature, and by whomever suffered, arising out of the project described herein and agrees to indemnify and save harmless the State from suits, actions, damages and costs of every name and description resulting from said project. In addition, Federal Law, 18 U.S.C., Section 1001 provides for a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment for not more than 5 years, or both where an applicant knowingly and willingly falsifies, conceals, or covers up a material fact; or knowingly makes or uses a false, fictitious or fraudulent statement.

| material fact; or knowingly makes or uses a false, flctitious or fraud | lulent statement. |
|---|---|
| Signature of Applicant | Date |
| Z1. M | 6/26/19 |
| Applicant Must be (check all that apply): X Owner Ope | erator Lessee |
| Printed Name | Title |
| LISA RAMONDO | Compussioner OPW |
| Signature of Owner (if different than Applicant) | Date |
| | |
| Printed Name | Title |
| | |
| Signature of Contact / Agent | Date |
| Kund Warista | 6/20/19 |
| Printed Name | Title |
| Kurt Weiskotten | Environmental Scientist |
| For Agency Use Only DETERMINATION OF NO PERM | IT REQUIRED |
| Agency Application Nu | |
| required from this Agency for the project described in this application | cy Name) has determined that No Permit is |
| Agency Representative: | м. |
| Printed | Title |
| Name Signature | Date |
| Oignaturo | Date |



General Project Location CR 6 over Tributary of Switzkill Creek Town of Berne, Albany County, NY





Project Location CR 6 over Tributary of Switzkill Creek Town of Berne, Albany County, NY





Photo 1: View looking southwest at east side (outlet) of Culvert. County Route 6 above.



Photo 2: Disconnected outlet end piece – looking southwest.



Photo 3: View looking southeast at outlet of Culvert – from edge of highway.

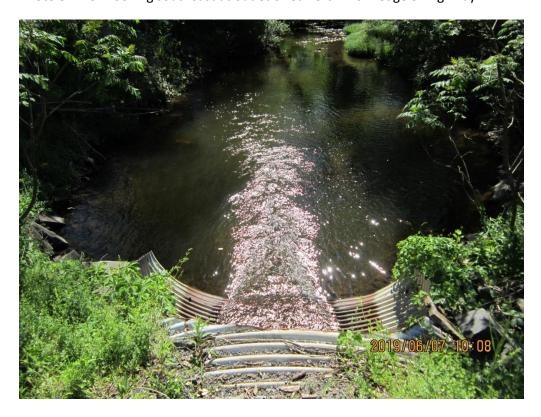


Photo 4: View looking east at outlet of Culvert and downstream – from edge of highway.



Photo 5: Inlet of Culvert – looking east.



Photo 6: Drain pipe in southwest corner of inlet of Culvert.



Photo 7: Gabion wall at left side of inlet of Culvert – looking northeast.



Photo 8: Gabion wall at right side of inlet of Culvert – looking southeast.



Photo 9: Asphalt patch over Culvert – looking south.



Photo 10: Asphalt patch over Culvert – looking northwest.



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

New York Ecological Services Field Office 3817 Luker Road Cortland, NY 13045-9385

Phone: (607) 753-9334 Fax: (607) 753-9699 http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm



IPaC Record Locator: 301-17171214 June 24, 2019

Subject: Consistency letter for the 'CR6 Culvert Replacement' project (TAILS

05E1NY00-2019-R-2430) under the revised February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects within the Range of the

Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat.

To whom it may concern:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your request dated to verify that the **CR6 Culvert Replacement** (Proposed Action) may rely on the revised February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects within the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat (PBO) to satisfy requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat.884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Based on the information you provided (Project Description shown below), you have determined that the Proposed Action will have <u>no effect</u> on the endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) or the threatened Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). If the Proposed Action is not modified, **no consultation is required for these two species.**

For Proposed Actions that include bridge/structure removal, replacement, and/or maintenance activities: If your initial bridge/structure assessments failed to detect Indiana bats, but you later detect bats during construction, please submit the Post Assessment Discovery of Bats at Bridge/Structure Form (User Guide Appendix E) to this Service Office. In these instances, potential incidental take of Indiana bats may be exempted provided that the take is reported to the Service.

If the Proposed Action may affect any other federally-listed or proposed species and/or designated critical habitat, additional consultation between the lead Federal action agency and this Service Office is required. If the proposed action has the potential to take bald or golden eagles, additional coordination with the Service under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act may also be required. In either of these circumstances, please advise the lead Federal action agency for the Proposed Action accordingly.

Project Description

The following project name and description was collected in IPaC as part of the endangered species review process.

Name

CR6 Culvert Replacement

Description

Replace culvert carrying unnamed tributary to Switzkill Creek under County Route 6.

Determination Key Result

Based on the information you provided, you have determined that the Proposed Action will have no effect on the endangered Indiana bat and/or the threatened Northern long-eared bat. Therefore, no consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) is required for these two species.

Qualification Interview

| 1 | Is | the | project | within | the | range | of the | Indiana | bat[1]? |
|----|----|-----|---------|---|-----|-------|--------|---------|---------|
| 1. | 10 | uic | project | ** ** ********************************* | uic | Iungo | or the | manana | out . |

[1] See <u>Indiana bat species profile</u>

Automatically answered

No

2. Is the project within the range of the Northern long-eared bat^[1]?

[1] See Northern long-eared bat species profile

Automatically answered

Yes

- 3. Which Federal Agency is the lead for the action?
 - A) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- 4. Are *all* project activities limited to non-construction^[1] activities only? (examples of non-construction activities include: bridge/abandoned structure assessments, surveys, planning and technical studies, property inspections, and property sales)
 - [1] Construction refers to activities involving ground disturbance, percussive noise, and/or lighting. No
- 5. Does the project include *any* activities that are **greater than** 300 feet from existing road/rail surfaces^[1]?
 - [1] Road surface is defined as the actively used [e.g. motorized vehicles] driving surface and shoulders [may be pavement, gravel, etc.] and rail surface is defined as the edge of the actively used rail ballast.

No

- 6. Does the project include *any* activities **within** 0.5 miles of a known Indiana bat and/or NLEB hibernaculum^[1]?
 - [1] For the purpose of this consultation, a hibernaculum is a site, most often a cave or mine, where bats hibernate during the winter (see suitable habitat), but could also include bridges and structures if bats are found to be hibernating there during the winter.

No

7. Is the project located within a karst area?

No

- 8. Is there *any* suitable^[1] summer habitat for Indiana Bat or NLEB **within** the project action area^[2]? (includes any trees suitable for maternity, roosting, foraging, or travelling habitat)
 - [1] See the Service's <u>summer survey guidance</u> for our current definitions of suitable habitat.
 - [2] The action area is defined as all areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action and not merely the immediate area involved in the action (50 CFR Section 402.02). Further clarification is provided by the national consultation FAQs.

Yes

- 9. Will the project remove *any* suitable summer habitat^[1] and/or remove/trim any existing trees **within** suitable summer habitat?
 - [1] See the Service's summer survey guidance for our current definitions of suitable habitat. No
- 10. Does the project include activities within documented NLEB habitat^{[1][2]}?
 - [1] Documented roosting or foraging habitat for the purposes of this consultation, we are considering documented habitat as that where Indiana bats and/or NLEB have actually been captured and tracked using (1) radio telemetry to roosts; (2) radio telemetry biangulation/triangulation to estimate foraging areas; or (3) foraging areas with repeated use documented using acoustics. Documented roosting habitat is also considered as suitable summer habitat within 0.25 miles of documented roosts.)
 - [2] For the purposes of this key, we are considering documented corridors as that where Indiana bats and/or NLEB have actually been captured and tracked to using (1) radio telemetry; or (2) treed corridors located directly between documented roosting and foraging habitat.

No

11. Does the project include maintenance of the surrounding landscape at existing facilities (e.g., rest areas, stormwater detention basins)?

No

12. Does the project include wetland or stream protection activities associated with compensatory wetland mitigation?

No

13. Does the project include slash pile burning?

No

- 14. Does the project include *any* bridge removal, replacement, and/or maintenance activities (e.g., any bridge repair, retrofit, maintenance, and/or rehabilitation work)?

 No
- 15. Does the project include the removal, replacement, and/or maintenance of *any* structure other than a bridge? (e.g., rest areas, offices, sheds, outbuildings, barns, parking garages, etc.)

No

16. Will the project involve the use of **temporary** lighting *during* the active season? *No*

17. Will the project install new or replace existing **permanent** lighting? *No*

18. Does the project include percussives or other activities (**not including tree removal/ trimming or bridge/structure work**) that will increase noise levels above existing traffic/
background levels?

No

19. Are *all* project activities that are **not associated with** habitat removal, tree removal/ trimming, bridge and/or structure activities, temporary or permanent lighting, or use of percussives, limited to actions that DO NOT cause any additional stressors to the bat species?

Examples: lining roadways, unlighted signage, rail road crossing signals, signal lighting, and minor road repair such as asphalt fill of potholes, etc.

Yes

20. Are *all* project activities limited to actions that DO NOT cause any stressors to the bat species, including as described in the BA/BO (i.e., habitat removal, tree removal/trimming, bridge and/or structure activities, temporary or permanent lighting, or use of percussives)?

Examples: lining roadways, unlighted signage, rail road crossing signals, signal lighting, and minor road repair such as asphalt fill of potholes, etc.

Yes

21. Will the project raise the road profile **above the tree canopy**?

No

22. Are the project activities that are not associated with habitat removal, tree removal/ trimming, bridge and/or structure activities, temporary or permanent lighting, or use of percussives consistent with a No Effect determination in this key?

Automatically answered

Yes, other project activities are limited to actions that DO NOT cause any additional stressors to the bat species as described in the BA/BO

Determination Key Description: FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Consultation For Transportation Projects Affecting NLEB Or Indiana Bat

This key was last updated in IPaC on March 16, 2018. Keys are subject to periodic revision.

This decision key is intended for projects/activities funded or authorized by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and/or Federal Transit Administration (FTA), which require consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for the endangered **Indiana bat** (*Myotis sodalis*) and the threatened **Northern long-eared bat** (NLEB) (*Myotis septentrionalis*).

This decision key should <u>only</u> be used to verify project applicability with the Service's <u>February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects</u>. The programmatic biological opinion covers limited transportation activities that may affect either bat species, and addresses situations that are both likely and not likely to adversely affect either bat species. This decision key will assist in identifying the effect of a specific project/activity and applicability of the programmatic consultation. The programmatic biological opinion is <u>not</u> intended to cover all types of transportation actions. Activities outside the scope of the programmatic biological opinion, or that may affect ESA-listed species other than the Indiana bat or NLEB, or any designated critical habitat, may require additional ESA Section 7 consultation.

CRIS Results

