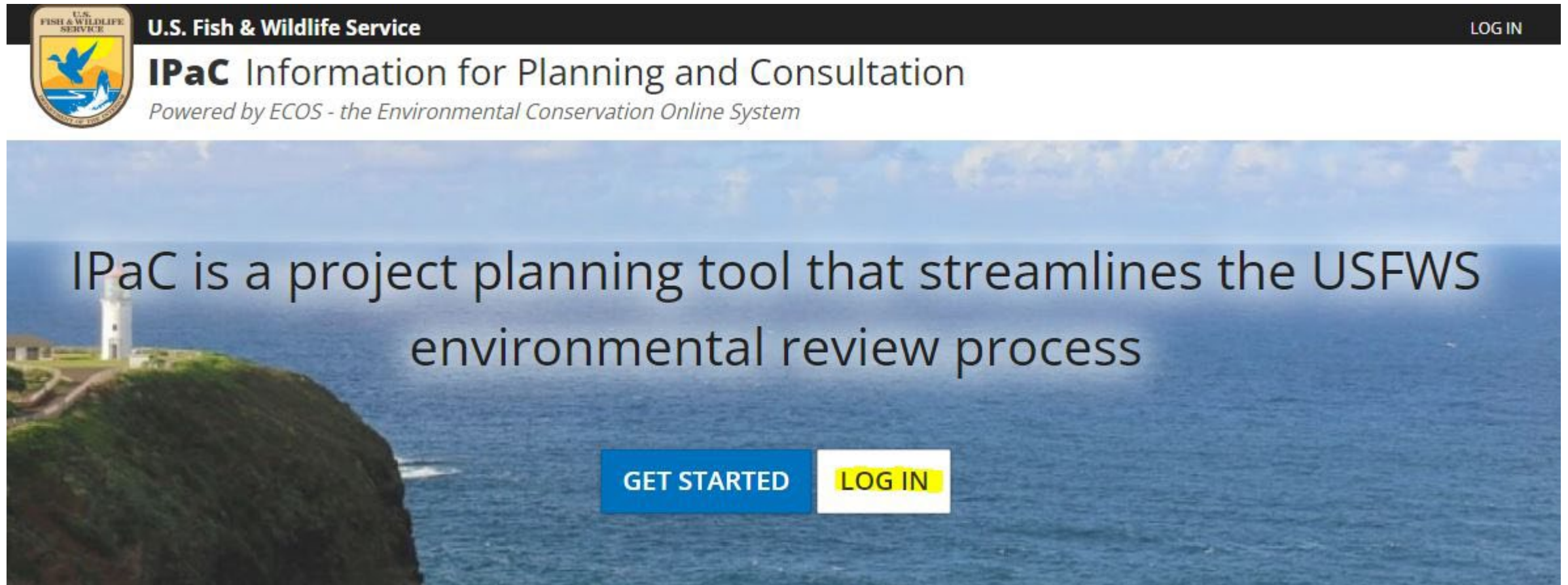


Guidance for completing
Section 7(a)(2) informal
consultation online review

The Service uses an online system to provide technical assistance to project proponents and to evaluate proposed projects to satisfy section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. Our online system is called Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). You may access it at <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/>

Select “Log In”.



The image shows the top portion of the IPaC website. At the top left is the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service logo, which features a blue bird in flight over a white lighthouse on a cliff overlooking the ocean. To the right of the logo, the text "U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service" is displayed in white on a black background. Further right, the text "LOG IN" is visible in white on a black background. Below the logo, the main heading "IPaC Information for Planning and Consultation" is shown in a large, dark font. Underneath this heading, the text "Powered by ECOS - the Environmental Conservation Online System" is written in a smaller, italicized font. The background of the banner is a scenic photograph of a lighthouse on a cliff overlooking the ocean. Overlaid on this image is the text "IPaC is a project planning tool that streamlines the USFWS environmental review process" in a large, dark font. At the bottom of the banner, there are two buttons: a blue button with the text "GET STARTED" and a white button with the text "LOG IN" in yellow.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

LOG IN

IPaC Information for Planning and Consultation
Powered by ECOS - the Environmental Conservation Online System

IPaC is a project planning tool that streamlines the USFWS environmental review process

GET STARTED **LOG IN**

Create a free account, log into it, and select “My Projects”

Log in



LOGIN.GOV LOGIN

You can use your Login.gov profile as your IPaC account. You will need to allow IPaC to read your [basic profile information](#).

LOG IN WITH  LOGIN.GOV

IPAC LOGIN

Why do I need an IPaC account?

An account is required to define a project or request an official species list. This is necessary to keep your projects secure. Other benefits include easier access to a list of your projects, improved project sharing, and a profile to pre-fill forms.

To create an IPaC account, you must agree to the [system use policy](#)

Notice

By logging into this agency computer system, you acknowledge and consent to the monitoring of this system. Evidence of your use, authorized or unauthorized, collected during monitoring may be used for civil, criminal, administrative, or other adverse action. Unauthorized or illegal use may subject you to prosecution.

This computer system, including all related equipment, networks, and network devices (including Internet access), is provided by the Department of the Interior (DOI) in accordance with the agency policy for official use and limited personal use.

All agency computer systems may be monitored for all lawful purposes, including but not limited to, ensuring that use is authorized, for management of the system, to facilitate protection against unauthorized access, and to verify security procedures, survivability and operational security. Any information on this computer system may be examined, recorded, copied and used for authorized purposes at any time.

All information, including personal information, placed or sent over this system may be monitored, and users of this system are reminded that such monitoring does occur. Therefore, there should be no expectation of privacy with respect to use of this system.

This is a Privacy Act System of Records. Please Review the [ECOS Privacy Act Statement](#).



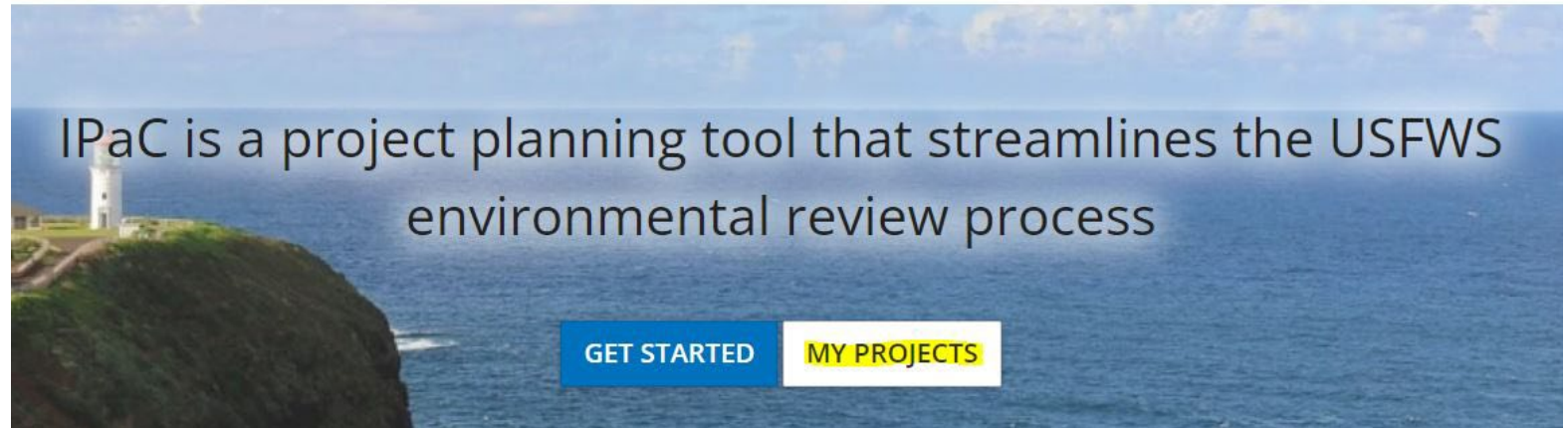
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

REBECCA PEAK ▾

IPaC Information for Planning and Consultation

Powered by ECOS - the Environmental Conservation Online System

Last login April 08, 2022 06:49 PM



Create a new project or view an existing one by selecting the title. In the example, “ANHC RCW mgmt test” is the title of an existing project.

IPaC Information for Planning and Consultation **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**
REBECCA PEAK ▾

MY PROJECTS Last login November 17, 2021 09:35 AM

My projects

Projects that you create or have access to are presented in this project list. If a project is missing, you may [request access](#) if you have the original email address and consultation code.



Note: Projects or species lists generated **prior to May 2015** are no longer available. You will need to [create a new project](#).

To review a project as an action agency representative, you can [search by record locator](#).

You can organize your project list by [tagging](#) or [archiving](#) individual projects.

Search by name or description

Showing unarchived projects

	Saline County grant from FEMA test Saline County, Arkansas	Last updated 6 seconds ago
	ANHC RCW mgmt test Bradley and Drew counties, Arkansas	Last updated 6 days ago

DESCRIPTION management activites such as inserts and mulching on Warren and Pine City Natural Areas.
CREATED 6 days ago

Identify the area where project activities will occur including any laydown or staging areas using **1** “Find Location” or **2** “Define area” or “Other options”. Then select “Continue” from **3** “Confirm”. **Note:** IPaC does not support multi-state consultations. If this is a multi-state project, contact the Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office.

1 Find location

Search or zoom to find the project location

Or skip this step and:
UPLOAD SHAPE FILE
SELECT BY STATE OR COUNTY


2 Define area


1 Find location


2 Define area

Draw the area where activities will occur

Select a drawing tool

 SKETCH

 POLYGON

 LINE

Other options:
UPLOAD SHAPE FILE
SELECT BY STATE OR COUNTY

1 Find location

2 Define area

3 Confirm

Verify the area where project activities will occur

Modify the shape by clicking and dragging the vertices or clicking on a solid vertex to remove it

AREA: 723.92 mi²

CONTINUE

START OVER

Upload project area shape file ×

To upload a shape file, create a zip containing the *.shp, *.shx, *.dbf (and *.prj if it is not in Lat/Lon).

MilTrainingRoute_L.zip

[Demo: Using shape file upload for IPaC projects](#) 1m 30s

Error uploading shape:

The feature in this shape file is a multi-part line, which is not supported by IPaC. If your project is made up of multiple discontinuous line segments, first buffer your line segments to polygons and upload again.


[How do I create a multipart polygon feature to use in the IPaC mapper?](#)

Error uploading shape: If you upload a shapefile and IPaC gives you the above error message, then your shapefile probably contains more vertices than IPaC allows. Select “How do I create a multipart polygon feature to use in IPaC mapper?” and follow the instructions.

Select “Define Project”, Name the project and provide a detailed description that includes proposed activities, location, size and scope, and timing. An insufficient description of the project may cause office staff to request additional information and delay the project. The project description has a 4000-character limit. Select “Save”.

Resources

ENDANGERED SPECIES	12
MIGRATORY BIRDS	14
FACILITIES	
WETLANDS	!

 PRINT RESOURCE LIST

What's next?

Define a project at this location to evaluate potential impacts, get an official species list, and make species determinations.

DEFINE PROJECT

Define project

Define a project at this location to evaluate potential impacts, get an official species list, and make species determinations.

Project name

Project description

Describe the location, size, scope, and timing of this project.

SAVE

CANCEL

Select "Start Review" .

Paragould South Industrial Park Greene County, Arkansas

PROJECT HOME

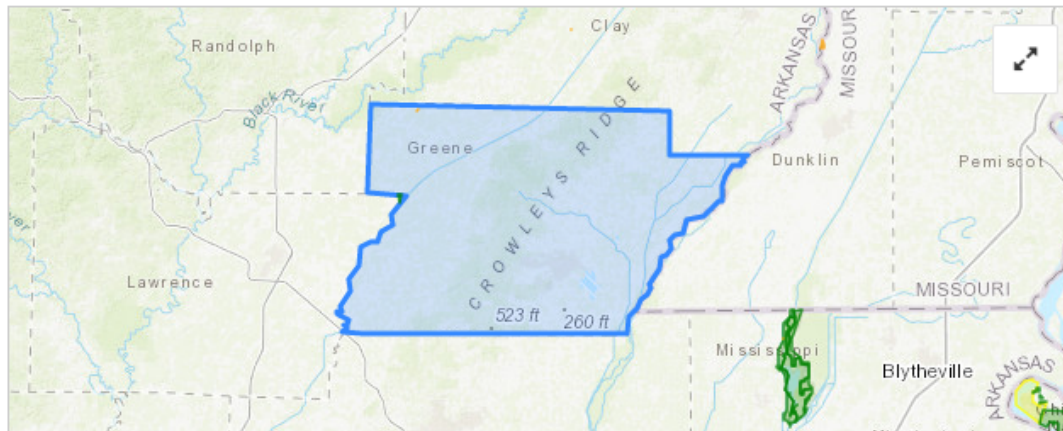
REGULATORY REVIEW

LOCAL OFFICE **ARKANSAS ESFO** ▾

Paragould South Industrial Park



The Economic Development Corp of Paragould is pursuing re-certification of Paragould South Industrial Park through the McCallum Sweeney Consulting Site Certification Program.



LOCATION Greene County, Arkansas

CREATED February 23, 2022

1 MEMBER

1 DOCUMENT

What's next?

ESA REVIEW

Review this project's effects on listed species **1** pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as part of the overall regulatory review.

START REVIEW

SPECIES LIST

Requesting an official species list is now part of IPaC's ESA Review.

REQUEST SPECIES LIST

Local office

Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office

To learn more about Section 7 select “Overview of Section 7” otherwise select “Continue”.

Endangered Species Act Review

Step-by-step consultation process

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) Review in IPaC is a streamlined, step-by-step consultation process. The steps below prepare you for consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or provide official documentation if consultation is not necessary.

1 Request an official species list

An official species list must be requested for projects conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by a Federal agency. Projects unaffiliated with a Federal agency may skip this step.

NOTE: Generating an official species list does not start the consultation clock for a project.

2 Evaluate determination keys

Determination Keys are up-front analyses from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that streamline the consultation process for common project types. Each determination key starts with a qualification interview to see if the key is appropriate for your project.

3 Evaluate effects to remaining species through the Consultation Package Builder

When you have listed species ² in your project area that have not been addressed by a determination key, IPaC's project analysis tool is used to further analyze your project. The process assists you in making effect determinations and results in a document (i.e., Biological Assessment or other environmental review document) that can be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for consultation.

4 Finalize your consultation package

Print your project documents to PDF.

For more information about the consultation process, see an [overview of Section 7](#).

CONTINUE

Step 1 “Request an official species list”. You must request an official species list when projects are conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal “Action” agency. If this applies to your project select “Yes, Request A Species List”. If it does not, select “Skip/Does Not Apply” at the bottom of the screen.

Note: A progress ribbon appears at the top of the screen throughout the process. _____ appears under the step on which you are currently working so you can track progress. Use “Back” and “Exit Review” above the progress ribbon as needed. They appear at the top of the screen throughout the review.

Progress Ribbon →

Endangered Species Act Review

← BACK EXIT REVIEW

1 Request an official species list — 2 Evaluate Determination Keys — 3 Analyze project (optional) — 4 Download documentation

Step 1: Request an official species list

An official species list is a letter from the local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service field office that assists in the evaluation of potential impacts of your project. It includes a list of species that should be considered under [Section 7](#) of the Endangered Species Act, a project tracking number, and other pertinent information from the field office.

Does this project require an official species list?

Federal agencies are required to "request of the Secretary of Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action" ([Section 7](#) of the Endangered Species Act).

This requirement applies to projects that are **conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed** by any Federal agency.

NOTE: Generating an official species list does not start the consultation clock for a project.

YES, REQUEST A SPECIES LIST SKIP / DOES NOT APPLY

Step 1 If you select “Yes, Request A Species List” answer the questions and select “Submit Official Species List Request” at the bottom of the screen. If you select “Skip/Does Not Apply” select “Next Step: Determination Keys”.

Endangered Species Act Review

← BACK EXIT REVIEW

1 Request an official species list — 2 Evaluate Determination Keys — 3 Analyze project (optional) — 4 Download documentation

Step 1: Request an official species list

An official species list is a letter from the local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service field office that assists in the evaluation of potential impacts of your project. It includes a list of species that should be considered under [Section 7](#) of the Endangered Species Act, a project tracking number, and other pertinent information from the field office.

Does this project require an official species list?

Yes, request a species list

CHANGE ANSWER

Upon submitting this form, IPaC will provide a letter from the local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office containing a species list that fulfills the requirement listed above, a project tracking number, as well as other pertinent information from the local office.

The following information will be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and will be part of the public record. All fields are required unless otherwise noted.

Tell us about the project and your organization or agency

Is this project being conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by a Federal agency?

Yes

CHANGE ANSWER

Does your project fall under (or receive funding through) any of the following special project authorities? (select all that apply)

SUBMIT OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST REQUEST

I understand that I am providing this information so an official species list can be generated, based on data provided by my local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office for the project area that I entered.

The following authorizes the collection of the above information (5 U.S.C. 301; the Federal Records Act, 44 U.S.C. 3101; Homeland Security Act of 2002; Public Law 107-296, 6 U.S.C. 121; and Executive Order 9373) and will be maintained in accordance with the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a).

Endangered Species Act Review

← BACK EXIT REVIEW

1 Request an official species list Skipped — 2 Evaluate Determination Keys — 3 Analyze project (optional) — 4 Download documentation

Step 1: Request an official species list

An official species list is a letter from the local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service field office that assists in the evaluation of potential impacts of your project. It includes a list of species that should be considered under [Section 7](#) of the Endangered Species Act, a project tracking number, and other pertinent information from the field office.

Species list request skipped

You have skipped requesting an official species list.

REQUEST SPECIES LIST

NEXT STEP: DETERMINATION KEYS

✔ next to “Request an official species list” on the progress ribbon indicates you requested an official species list ☹ indicates you did not.

If you requested an official species list, you can either wait for your list to be processed and access it as a .pdf here or from the documents page located at the bottom of the project’s home page (see page 23). Official species lists are no longer emailed. Move to **Step 2** by selecting “Next Step: Determination Keys” in blue at the bottom of either screen.

Endangered Species Act Review

◀ BACK EXIT REVIEW

✔ Request an official species list — ☹ Evaluate Determination Keys — 3 Analyze project (optional) — 4 Download documentation

Step 1: Request an official species list

An official species list is a letter from the local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service field office that assists in the evaluation of potential impacts of your project. It includes a list of species that should be considered under [Section 7](#) of the Endangered Species Act, a project tracking number, and other pertinent information from the field office.

✔ Species list request complete

This species list was generated 25 minutes ago. Species lists are considered valid for 90 days.

An official species list has been generated for the following office.

[Species List: Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office](#)

This document is also available on the [Documents](#) page.

REQUEST UPDATED SPECIES LIST

NEXT STEP: DETERMINATION KEYS

Endangered Species Act Review

◀ BACK EXIT REVIEW

☹ Request an official species list Skipped — ☹ Evaluate Determination Keys — 3 Analyze project (optional) — 4 Download documentation

Step 1: Request an official species list

An official species list is a letter from the local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service field office that assists in the evaluation of potential impacts of your project. It includes a list of species that should be considered under [Section 7](#) of the Endangered Species Act, a project tracking number, and other pertinent information from the field office.

☹ Species list request skipped

You have skipped requesting an official species list.

REQUEST SPECIES LIST

NEXT STEP: DETERMINATION KEYS

Step 2 “Evaluate determination keys”. You will see at least one of these keys.

- We recommend starting with the **AFO Arkansas Multi-Species Determination Key** if it is listed as an option and the project is not funded or authorized by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), or Federal Transit Administration (FTA). If the project is funded or authorized by one of these three agencies use the **FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Consultation for Transportation Projects affecting NLEB or Indiana Bat**.
- Use the **American Burying Beetle (ABB) Consultation and 4(d) rule consistency key** if it is listed as an option and ABB is the **only** species for which you are making an effects determination. The ABB key is included in the AFO Arkansas Multi-Species key, so use it if you need to make effects determinations for multiple species including ABB.

Endangered Species Act Review

[← BACK](#) [EXIT REVIEW](#)



• AFO Arkansas Multi-Species Determination Key

Release date: May 6, 2024

This decision key is intended for projects or actions funded, authorized or carried out by federal agencies to help you make effect determinations for listed species and designated critical habitat that may occur in your project area.

[EVALUATE](#) [SKIP / DOES NOT APPLY](#)

• American Burying Beetle Consultation and 4(d) Rule Consistency

Release date: June 6, 2024

This decision key is intended to help project proponents (federal and non-federal) determine if your proposed action is consistent with activities excepted from prohibited take, as defined in the October 15, 2020 American burying beetle 4(d) rule.

[EVALUATE](#) [SKIP / DOES NOT APPLY](#)

• FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Consultation for Transportation Projects affecting NLEB or Indiana Bat

Release date: November 4, 2024

The key is intended for projects funded or authorized by FHWA, FRA, or FTA, that may affect the endangered Indiana bat and/or the endangered northern long-eared bat, which requires consultation with the USFWS under Section 7 of the ESA.

[EVALUATE](#) [SKIP / DOES NOT APPLY](#)


• Northern Long-eared Bat and Tricolored Bat Range-wide Determination Key

Release date: November 7, 2024

This key is intended to streamline review of projects for potential effects to the Northern Long-eared Bat and the proposed Tricolored Bat.

[EVALUATE](#) [SKIP / DOES NOT APPLY](#)

Note: Do not complete Step 3 without contacting the Arkansas Ecological Services Office first.

[NEXT STEP: ANALYZE PROJECT](#)  We recommend that you evaluate each available determination key above or select “skip/does not apply” before moving on.

Endangered Species Act Review

← BACK EXIT REVIEW

1 Request an official species list

2 Evaluate determination keys

3 Analyze project (optional)

4 Download documentation

DETERMINATION KEY

Consultation on effects of proposed projects to threatened and endangered species in Arkansas

Release date: September 28, 2021

This decision key is intended for projects or actions funded, authorized or carried out by federal agencies to help you make effect determinations for listed species and designated critical habitat that may occur in your project area. This decision key is not applicable to after-the-fact project coordination.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office (ARFO) has completed consultations with the Corps of Engineers Little Rock, Memphis and Vicksburg districts and the Farm Service Agency regarding proposed, recurring actions and effects to listed species. The resultant Standard Local Operative Procedures for Endangered Species (SLOPES) and Programmatic Informal Consultation evaluations form the basis of this key. See the links below for detailed information on these consultations.

[SLOPES with Little Rock District 2018](#)

[Farm Service Agency Statewide Programmatic Consultation 2019](#)

[USFS Ouachita National Forest Programmatic Biological Opinion 2010](#)

[USFS Ozark St. Francis National Forest Programmatic Biological Opinion 2010](#)

[Cooperative Agreement Between USFWS and Arkansas Game and Fish Commission](#)

[Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Indiana Bat Programmatic Biological Opinion 2019](#)

[Arkansas Species Determination Key Standing Analysis](#)

For projects that meet incorporated criteria, your responses to questions in this key will allow you to make effect determinations for species included in these consultations. More information about section 7(a)(2) and effect determinations is available [here](#) and on the Service's [website](#). Reaching an effect determination in the key indicates a project proponent can rely on the above consultations and the Service's concurrence with the resulting determinations. For those species with a resulting determination of "no effect" or "may affect, not likely to adversely affect", the project proponent has satisfied consultation requirements under section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act for the project. For projects that reach a "may affect" or "may affect, likely to adversely affect" determination for a species, further consultation with ARFO will be required to meet consultation requirement.

For more information about this determination key, including a list of all potential questions, refer to the [detailed overview](#).

CHECK IF MY PROJECT QUALIFIES

SKIP / DOES NOT APPLY

This screen provides information about consultations with other Federal agencies the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service used to develop each respective determination key listed on the previous screen. The information you see here is specific to the "AFO Arkansas Multi-Species Determination Key".

"Back" and "Exit Review" still appear at the top of the screen.

Step 2 is not green on the progress ribbon indicating it is not complete.

For more information about a determination key select "detailed overview". Otherwise scroll to the bottom of the screen and select "Check If My Project Qualifies".

Each determination key starts with a qualification interview to see if the key applies to your proposed project and provides guidance to help you make appropriate determinations for the species it covers.

If you made a "no effect" determination for all species in the project area, answer "Yes" to the first question. Make sure you read the last sentence of this question.

A project with effects that cannot be meaningfully measured, detected or evaluated, effects that are extremely unlikely to occur, or entirely beneficial effects should not have a "no effect" determination (If unsure, select "No").

Your consultation is complete. As documentation of the "no effect" determination(s) print the screen and upload it to your project files (see page 23).

Select the "Exit Review" button above the progress ribbon to return to the project home page. At this point you are finished.

Endangered Species Act Review

[← BACK](#)[EXIT REVIEW](#)

1 Request an official species list
Skipped

2 Evaluate determination keys

3 Analyze project (optional)

4 Download documentation

EVALUATING: CONSULTATION ON EFFECTS OF PROPOSED PROJECTS TO THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES IN ARKANSAS

Qualification interview

The following questions will determine whether this key applies to your project and provide guidance to help you make appropriate determinations for the species covered by this key.

1. Have you made an effects determination of "no effect" for all species in the area of the project? A "no effect" determination means the project will have no beneficial effect, no short-term adverse effects, and no long-term adverse effects on any of the species on the IPaC-generated species list for the proposed project or those species habitat. A project with effects that cannot be meaningfully measured, detected or evaluated, effects that are extremely unlikely to occur, or entirely beneficial effects should not have a "no effect" determination. (If unsure, select "No").

Yes

CHANGE ANSWER

EVALUATION PROGRESS

When the action agency determines its proposed action will not affect a listed species, there is no need to coordinate further with the Service. If listed species will not be directly or indirectly exposed to the proposed action or any resulting environmental changes, an action agency may conclude "no effect" and document the finding, thus completing the section 7 process. For example, if the species or its suitable habitat is not present in the action area and the project does not otherwise present any effects to the species, action agencies typically conclude and document "No Effect - species not present" as their finding."

As documentation of this "no effect" determination print this screen, add it to your project files, and select "exit review" on the progress ribbon to return to the project home page.

CONTINUE REVIEW

If you are unsure select "No" to question 1.

Select the appropriate response to question 2. If the answer is "No" then the letter generated at the end of the interview only provides technical assistance because U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service does not consult under 7(a) 2 of the ESA for projects that are not authorized, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency.

For question 3, the action i.e., Federal agency may designate a non-Federal representative to act on their behalf when completing a Section 7(a)(2) consultation. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service requires the action agency to formally designate the non-Federal representative to us in writing. The responsibility for Section 7 obligations remains with the action i.e., Federal agency.

For question 4, you only represent the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in this consultation if you work for the agency e.g., in the Ecological Services, Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Office of Conservation Investment, or Science Apps/Migratory Birds programs; National Wildlife Refuge or National Fish Hatchery systems.

Endangered Species Act Review

[← BACK](#)[EXIT REVIEW](#)

1 Request an official species list
Skipped

2 Evaluate determination keys

3 Analyze project (optional)

4 Download documentation

EVALUATING: CONSULTATION ON EFFECTS OF PROPOSED PROJECTS TO THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES IN ARKANSAS

Qualification interview

The following questions will determine whether this key applies to your project and provide guidance to help you make appropriate determinations for the species covered by this key.

1. Have you made an effects determination of "no effect" for all species in the area of the project? A "no effect" determination means the project will have no beneficial effect, no short-term adverse effects, and no long-term adverse effects on any of the species on the IPaC-generated species list for the proposed project or those species habitat. A project with effects that cannot be meaningfully measured, detected or evaluated, effects that are extremely unlikely to occur, or entirely beneficial effects should not have a "no effect" determination. (If unsure, select "No").

No

[CHANGE ANSWER](#)

2. Is the action authorized, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency?

Yes

[CHANGE ANSWER](#)

3. Are you the the action agency or the designated non-federal representative?

Yes

No

4. Choose the agency you represent in this consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

a. U.S. Forest Service

b. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

c. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

d. Federal Highway Administration

e. Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (Intra-service consultation)

f. Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission (Intra-service consultation)

g. All other federal agencies or agency designees

Continue through the qualification interview until you reach the last question. Depending on your answers, you may be able to request U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) concurrence for the project. If you want to submit the project for USFWS concurrence select “Yes, Submit To USFWS”.

Endangered Species Act Review

← BACK

EXIT REVIEW

1 Request an official species list
Skipped

2 Evaluate Determination Keys

3 Analyze project (optional)

4 Download documentation

Determination

You have reached a determination of may affect - not likely to adversely affect based on this determination key. Review the guidance below and request USFWS concurrence for this project.

Based on the answers provided, the proposed Action is consistent with a determination of “may affect, but not likely to adversely affect ” for at least one species as outlined in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Arkansas Determination Key for project review and guidance for federally listed species.

As the action agency, you may request concurrence for the determination of may affect - not likely to adversely affect for the covered species. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will issue an automated concurrence letter supporting your determination.

The concurrence letter will contain information about the project and the determination key result.

If you think the determination results from this key should be different based on your answers, please contact the local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service field office.

Do you want to submit this project for USFWS concurrence?

YES, SUBMIT TO USFWS

VIEW / CHANGE ANSWERS

CANCEL



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

If you reach a determination of “May affect-not likely to adversely affect” for species with a 4(d) rule, “No effect” or “NLAA” you will receive a Concurrence verification letter e.g., similar to the one on the left. Make sure to read the information provided in following sections that explains the status of this consultation, the listed species covered by the letter, and information about other Federal trust resources on which you may need to consult that are not included in Section 7(a)(2) consultations.

Status

The Service concurs with the NLAA determination(s) for the species listed above. No further consultation for this project is required for these species. Your agency has met consultation requirements by informing the Service of your “No Effect” determinations. No consultation for this project is required for species that you determined will not be affected by this action.

This concurrence verification letter confirms you may rely on effect determinations you reached by considering the Arkansas DKey to satisfy agency consultation requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.; ESA). No further consultation for this project is required for species that you determined will not be affected by this action.

The Service recommends that your agency contact the Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office or re-evaluate this key in IPaC if: 1) the scope, timing, duration, or location of the proposed project changes, 2) new information reveals the action may affect listed species or designated critical habitat; 3) a new species is listed or critical habitat designated. If any of the above conditions occurs, additional consultation with the Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office should take place before project changes are final or resources committed.

In Reply Refer To:
Project code: 2023-0051214
Project Name: [REDACTED]

March 13, 2023

Subject: Concurrence verification letter for [REDACTED] for specified federally threatened and endangered species and designated critical habitat that may occur in your proposed project area consistent with the Arkansas Determination Key for project review and guidance for federally listed species (Arkansas Dkey).

Dear [REDACTED]:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received on **March 13, 2023** your effect determination(s) for the [REDACTED] (the Action) using the Arkansas DKey within the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system. The Service developed this system in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Based on your answers, and the assistance in the Service’s Arkansas DKey, you made the following effect determination(s) for the proposed Action, including species protective measures that you confirmed will be implemented.

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Eastern Black Rail (<i>Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis</i>)	Threatened	No effect
Pink Mucket (pearlymussel) (<i>Lampsilis abrupta</i>)	Endangered	NLAA
Piping Plover (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>)	Threatened	No effect
Pondberry (<i>Lindera melissifolia</i>)	Endangered	No effect
Rabbitsfoot (<i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i>)	Threatened	NLAA
Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>)	Threatened	No effect
Red-cockaded Woodpecker (<i>Picoides borealis</i>)	Endangered	No effect
Whooping Crane (<i>Grus americana</i>)	Experimental Population, Non-Essential	No effect
Winged Mapleleaf (<i>Quadrula fraqosa</i>)	Endangered	NLAA

If the answers to the questions in the qualification interview do not result in the option to request USFWS concurrence for the project, then you may be given the option to generate a technical assistance (formerly consistency) letter for your records by selecting “Generate Technical Assistance Letter”.

Endangered Species Act Review

← BACK

EXIT REVIEW



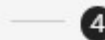
Request an official species list



Evaluate Determination Keys



Analyze project (optional)



Download documentation

Determination

You have reached a determination of may affect based on this determination key. Review the guidance below and generate a technical assistance letter for your records.

Based on the answers provided, the proposed Action is consistent with a determination of “may affect” for at least one species as outlined in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Arkansas Determination Key for project review and guidance for federally listed species. Therefore, further consultation/coordination with the Arkansas Ecological Services Office is necessary. Please contact our office at 501-513-4470, arkansas_es_clearance@fws.gov, or your agency point of contact in the Arkansas Ecological Services Office to discuss methods to avoid or minimize potential adverse effects to those species.

If you think the determination results from this key should be different based on your answers, please contact the local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service field office.

Generate a technical assistance letter for your records

GENERATE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE LETTER

VIEW / CHANGE ANSWERS

For example, you may be given the option to generate a technical assistance (consistency) letter if you reach a determination of “May affect” for a species not covered by a 4(d) rule or answer “No” to question 2 or 3. Be advised that the status of your consultation is **NOT** complete because based on the answers you provided the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service has not yet provided concurrence for the species covered by that determination key. Further coordination with the Arkansas Ecological Services Office is needed for those species. Follow the instructions provided under “Status” in the letter.

Status

Further coordination with the Arkansas Ecological Services Office is recommended for those species with a determination of “may affect” listed above. Please contact our office at 501-513-4470, arkansas_es_clearance@fws.gov, or your agency point of contact in the Arkansas Ecological Services Office to discuss methods to avoid or minimize potential adverse effects to those species.

The Service recommends that your agency contact the Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office or re-evaluate this key in IPaC if: 1) the scope, timing, duration, or location of the proposed project changes, 2) new information reveals the action may affect listed species or designated critical habitat; 3) a new species is listed or critical habitat designated. If any of the above conditions occurs, additional consultation with the Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office should take place before project changes are final or resources committed.



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:
 Project code: 2025-0032715
 Project Name: [REDACTED]

12/16/2024 21:17:01 UTC

Subject: Consistency letter for [REDACTED] for specified federally threatened and endangered species and designated critical habitat that may occur in your proposed project area consistent with the Arkansas Determination Key for project review and guidance for federally listed species (Arkansas Dkey)

Dear [REDACTED]:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received on December 16, 2024 your effect determination(s) for the [REDACTED] (the Action) using the Arkansas DKey within the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system. The Service developed this system in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat.884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Based on your answers and the assistance in the Service’s Arkansas DKey, you made the following effect determination(s) for the proposed Action:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
American Burying Beetle (<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>)	Threatened	No effect
Arkansas Fatmucket (<i>Lampsilis powellii</i>)	Threatened	NLAA
Benton County Cave Crayfish (<i>Cambarus aculabrum</i>)	Endangered	NLAA
Curtis Pearlymussel (<i>Epioblasma florentina curtisii</i>)	Endangered	NLAA
Eastern Black Rail (<i>Laterallus jamaicensis</i> ssp. <i>jamaicensis</i>)	Threatened	No effect
Fat Pocketbook (<i>Potamilus capax</i>)	Endangered	NLAA
Geocarpon minimum	Threatened	No effect
Gray Bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>)	Endangered	May affect
Harperella (<i>Ptilimnium nodosum</i>)	Endangered	NLAA
Hell Creek Cave Crayfish (<i>Cambarus zophonastes</i>)	Endangered	NLAA
Indiana Bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>)	Endangered	May affect
Leopard Darter (<i>Percina pantherina</i>)	Threatened	NLAA
Missouri Bladderpod (<i>Physaria filiformis</i>)	Threatened	No effect
Neosho Mucket (<i>Lampsilis rafinesqueana</i>)	Endangered	NLAA

Note: After you generate a letter 🔄 next to “Evaluate Determination Keys” indicates your project qualifies for other determination keys; the consultation for this project is not complete. Select “Continue” to find out what other key(s) need evaluated.

Endangered Species Act Review

[← BACK](#) [EXIT REVIEW](#)

✓ Request an official species list — 🔄 Evaluate Determination Keys — 3 Analyze project (optional) — 4 Download documentation

Determination

You have reached a determination of may affect - not likely to adversely affect based on this determination key. Review the guidance below and request USFWS concurrence for this project.

Based on the answers provided, the proposed Action is consistent with a determination of “may affect, but not likely to adversely affect” for at least one species as outlined in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Arkansas Determination Key for project review and guidance for federally listed species.

[VIEW CONCURRENCE LETTER](#)

[CONTINUE](#)

Endangered Species Act Review

[← BACK](#) [EXIT REVIEW](#)

✓ Request an official species list — 🔄 Evaluate Determination Keys — 3 Analyze project (optional) — 4 Download documentation

Determination

You have reached a determination of may affect based on this determination key. Review the guidance below and generate a technical assistance letter for your records.

Based on the answers provided, the proposed Action is consistent with a determination of “may affect” for at least one species as outlined in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Arkansas Determination Key for project review and guidance for federally listed species. Therefore, further consultation/coordination with the Arkansas Ecological Services Office is necessary. Please contact our office at 501-513-4470, arkansas_es_clearance@fws.gov, or your agency point of contact in the Arkansas Ecological Services Office to discuss methods to avoid or minimize potential adverse effects to those species.

[VIEW TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE LETTER](#)

[CONTINUE](#)

Unlike ABB, Northern Long-eared and Tricolored bats are not included in the “**AFO Arkansas Multi-Species Determination Key**” nor “**FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Consultation for Transportation Projects**”. If IPaC determines that your project area occurs within potential habitat for one or both bat species, then “Evaluate” for the **Northern Long-Eared Bat and Tricolored Bat Range-wide Determination Key** will be blue after you select “Continue”. This means you will need to generate two separate letters for your project for the consultation to be complete. Select “Evaluate”.

Endangered Species Act Review

< BACK

EXIT REVIEW

1 Request an official species list

2 Evaluate Determination Keys

3 Analyze project (optional)

4 Download documentation

Step 2: Evaluate determination keys

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has performed up-front analyses for certain project types, agencies, and species. The analyses have been compiled into *determination keys*, a simple interview process to help you arrive at a recommended determination for some species in your project area.

Any single species or critical habitat may only have a single effect determination. Once a species or critical habitat has been covered through use of a DKey, other DKeys covering that same species or critical habitat will be unavailable and greyed out.

- AFO Arkansas Multi-Species Determination Key

Release date: October 23, 2024

You completed the latest version of this key, published October 23, 2024, and reached a determination of may affect for species or critical habitats covered by the key.

VIEW / MODIFY

VIEW TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE LETTER

- Northern Long-eared Bat and Tricolored Bat Range-wide Determination Key

Release date: November 6, 2024

This key is intended to streamline review of projects for potential effects to the Northern Long-eared Bat and the proposed Tricolored Bat.

EVALUATE

SKIP / DOES NOT APPLY

Continue through the qualification interview for any other keys until **Step 2** for this project is complete as indicated by ✓ next to and “Complete” under “Evaluate Determination Keys” on the progress ribbon.

Endangered Species Act Review

← BACK

EXIT REVIEW

✓ Request an official species list

✓ Evaluate Determination Keys
Complete

⊘ Analyze project (optional)

4 Download documentation

Note: Step 3 “Analyze project (optional)” appears at the bottom of the page. Do not complete it without contacting the Arkansas Ecological Services Office first. Select “Exit Review” above the progress ribbon.



Next, analyze any remaining species in your project area via the Consultation Package Builder (CPB).

To access the documents page for a project e.g., to obtain a copy of the species list, letter(s), or to upload a document, navigate to the “My projects” page. Select the project title then “Project Home”. The documents page is located at the bottom of the project’s home page. For the project entitled “ANHC RCW mgmt test” the documents page contains one document. Select “One Document” to access the “Documents” page to view and upload documents. You also can add members to the project by selecting “Member” to the left of “Document”.

My projects



Projects that you create or have access to are presented in this project list. If a project is missing, you may [request access](#) if you have the original email address and consultation code.

Note: Projects or species lists generated prior to May 2015 are no longer available. You will need to [create a new project](#).

To review a project as an action agency representative, you can [search by record locator](#).

You can organize your project list by [tagging](#) or [archiving](#) individual projects.

Showing unarchived projects

	test Saline County, Arkansas	Last updated 42 minutes ago Species list generated 4 hours ago
	Saline County grant from FEMA test Saline County, Arkansas	Last updated 5 hours ago

	ANHC RCW mgmt test Bradley and Drew counties, Arkansas	Last updated 7 days ago
--	--	-------------------------

DESCRIPTION management activities such as inserts and mulching on Warren and Pine City Natural Areas.

CREATED 7 days ago

ANHC RCW mgmt test

management activities such as inserts and mulching on Warren and Pine City Natural Areas.



LOCATION Bradley and Drew counties, Arkansas

CREATED November 10, 2021

[Project home](#) / Documents

Documents

As the IPaC review process is completed, documents will be generated or made available which apply to this project. Examples include: official correspondence, such as official species lists or determination key concurrence letters; other FWS guidance, such as determination key consistency documents and general design guidelines; and any uploaded project design documentation.

Official correspondence

Supporting documents

OR USE DRAG AND DROP

An answer you provide to a question may require that you contact the Arkansas Ecological Services Office prior to completing the review. An example is provided below. Reach out to us and let us know what additional information is needed so that you can complete the review.

Contact the Arkansas Ecological Services Office to determine if a species or suitable habitat survey is requested to assist in the effects determination for this project. Please return to the IPaC D-key to complete consultation after the Arkansas Ecological Services Office recommendation or after the mussel survey is conducted.

[CONTINUE REVIEW](#)

Once you have the additional information, you can navigate back to the project home page and select “Resume Review” then “Evaluate determination keys” to complete the review.

What's next?

ESA REVIEW

Review this project's effects on listed species **1** pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as part of the overall regulatory review.

[RESUME REVIEW](#)

SPECIES LIST

You skipped requesting an official species list.

[REQUEST SPECIES LIST](#)

Endangered species

Endangered species are protected under the Endangered Species Act **1**.

12 endangered species are known to occur or may be affected by activities in this location.

1 [Request an official species list](#)

You skipped requesting an official species list.

2 [Evaluate determination keys](#)

There were **3 determination keys** available for this project. You have evaluated one of them. There are 2 keys that cannot be evaluated.

3 [Analyze project \(optional\)](#)

[RESUME PROJECT ANALYSIS](#)

4 [Download documentation](#)

Next, select “View/Modify” for the appropriate key. Scroll to the **bottom** of the qualification interview and select “Change Answers”.

Step 2: Evaluate determination keys

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has performed up-front analyses for certain project types, agencies, and species. The analyses have been compiled into *determination keys*, a simple interview process to help you arrive at a recommended determination for some species in your project area.

There are 3 determination keys that may apply to your project. Each determination key starts with a qualification interview to see if the key is appropriate for your project.

- Consultation on effects of proposed projects to threatened and endangered species in Arkansas

You completed the latest version of this key, published February 5, 2020, and reached a determination of may affect - not likely to adversely affect for species or critical habitats covered by the key.

VIEW / MODIFY

VIEW CONCURRENCE LETTER

CHANGE ANSWERS

You also may delete the evaluation if you no longer want to use it. Do not create multiple projects for the same action.

If you no longer wish to use this key for your project, you can delete your evaluation. This will make the consistency letter created as part of this evaluation no longer valid, but it will still be accessible on the [documents](#) page.

DELETE EVALUATION

If you would like to practice using IPaC, please use the beta version <https://ipacb.ecosphere.fws.gov/?state=BUN7Hpxk9ur83jp7ELIZHIcKWY6i54>

Federal (Action) and State agencies receiving Federal funding:

The Endangered Species Act requires these agencies to consult on actions that may affect species proposed for listing and habitat with the proposed designation of critical. These species and habitats are afforded less protection than those with a final listing rule. Section 7(a)(4) of the Act requires these agencies to confer with the Secretary on any action that is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of proposed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of proposed critical habitat.

As of 12/13/2024 the Service has published proposed rules to list the following species: Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*) as threatened, Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) and Salamander Mussel (*Simpsonaias ambigua*) as endangered, and Louisiana Pigtoe (*Pleurobema riddellii*) and Monarch (*Danaus Plexippus*) as threatened with Section 4(d) rules. The Service also has proposed to designate critical habitat for Salamander Mussel, Louisiana Pigtoe, and Monarch, and Snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*) and Spectaclecase (*Cumberlandia monodonta*), which are currently listed as endangered.

Species and habitats with proposed rules are not included in IPaC. To meet Section 7 obligations, agencies should analyze the effects of actions to determine if they will jeopardize the existence of the species. Document the determination in writing and upload it to the documents page for the project (page 23) along with the other paperwork e.g., IPaC letter, other correspondence with our office, to complete the Section 7(a)(2) consultation for your proposed project. Please reach out for updates on species and habitats proposed for listing prior to completing your Section 7(a)(2) consultation.