Appendix B

Biological Resources and Agency Consultation

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration

Aviation Safety

800 Independence Ave., SW.
Washington, DC 20591

Mr. Dustin Garig
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southeast Region
Louisiana Ecological Services Office
200 Dulles Drive, Lafayette, LA 70506

SUBJECT: Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation for Drone Commercial Package Delivery Operations in Baton Rouge, Louisiana

In accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is requesting U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) concurrence that the FAA's action of authorizing Amazon Prime Air (Prime Air) to conduct commercial drone package delivery operations from its Prime Air Drone Delivery Center (PADDC) located in Baton Rouge, LA (the Proposed Action), is ***not likely to adversely affect***, the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*). Additionally, the Proposed Action would have ***no effect*** on the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*), alligator snapping turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*), Gulf sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus (=oxyrhynchus) desotoi*), pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*), inflated heelsplitter (*Potamilus inflatus*), and monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). Our biological evaluation is provided below, including a brief background, project description, identification of the action area, and a discussion of potential effects to ESA-listed species.

Project Description

Prime Air is seeking authorization to conduct commercial package deliveries using drones in the Baton Rouge, LA area. Prime Air intends to introduce its drone delivery capabilities in 2026 and has requested the FAA to authorize the operation of its MK30 drone, so it can provide drone package delivery services across its operating area. The proposed MK30 operating area and PADDC are depicted in **Attachment A**.

Prime Air anticipates flying up to 1,000 MK30 drone flights per operating day from the PADDC located in the Baton Rouge area, with each flight taking a package to a customer delivery address before returning to the PADDC. The number of flights per day would vary based on customer demand and weather conditions. Prime Air is taking an incremental approach to operations and expects to gradually ramp up to approximately 1,000 flights per day per PADDC as consumer demand increases over time. Drone flights could be conducted up to 365 days a year between 6:00 A.M. and 10:30 P.M., but, due to optical sensor requirements, operations would be limited to between civil morning and evening twilight.

Unmanned Aircraft

As pictured in **Attachment B**, the MK30 drone is a hybrid multicopter fixed-wing tail-sitter drone with six propulsors allowing it to take off and land vertically and transition to wing borne flight. Its airframe is composed of staggered tandem wings for stable wing borne flight. The drone weighs approximately 78 pounds and has a maximum takeoff weight of approximately 83 pounds, which includes a maximum package payload of 5 pounds. It has a maximum operating range of 7.5 miles (or about 15 minutes) and can fly up to 58 knots (67 miles per hour) during wing-borne flight. It uses electric power from rechargeable lithium-ion batteries and is launched vertically using powered lift and converts to using wing lift during en route flight. The MK30 is equipped with collision avoidance technology to help avoid conflicts with other aircraft and drones; however, no effective technology exists that can be used to help avoid collisions with wildlife.

Flight Operations

The MK30 drone would generally be operated at an altitude between 180 and 377 feet above ground level (AGL). The outbound en route altitude to a delivery location is expected to be flown between 180 and 279 feet AGL. The inbound en route altitude is expected to be flown between 279 and 377 feet back to the PADDC. At a delivery location, the drone would descend vertically to a stationary hover and drop a package to the ground. Once a package has been delivered, the drone would ascend vertically to the inbound transition altitude and depart the delivery area while climbing to the en route altitude to return to the PADDC. The PADDC is a controlled area wherein drone flights are launched and recovered. The drone would fly a predefined flight path that is set prior to takeoff. Flight missions would be automatically planned by Prime Air's flight planning software, which assigns, deconflicts, and routes each flight. In accordance with FAA safety requirements, the drone would avoid operating over areas with dense human populations, such as over roadways, public gathering spots, etc.

As depicted in **Attachment C**, the MK30 drone's operational flight profile includes the following phases:

Takeoff

Once a package is loaded onto the MK30 drone and the drone is cleared for departure from the PADDC, the drone takes off from the ground vertically to an altitude of about 115 feet AGL and then transitions and climbs to its en route altitude of about 200 feet AGL (ranges from 180 and 279 feet AGL). The takeoff phase of flight would last less than one minute and result in maximum noise exposure levels (Lmax) of approximately 70 dB at a distance of 75 feet from the PADCC. These noise levels are equivalent to the noise generated from a household vacuum cleaner at a distance of 10 feet.

En Route Outbound

The en route outbound phase is the part of flight in which the MK30 drone transits from the PADDC to a delivery point on a predefined flight path. During this flight phase, the drone will typically operate at a typical en route altitude of 200 feet AGL with a typical airspeed of 58 knots (67 miles per hour). Noise levels generated from enroute outbound flight would be approximately 60 dB Lmax at a distance of 76 feet abeam the drone's flight path and are equivalent to the noise generated from normal speech at a distance of 3 feet.

Delivery

The delivery phase consists of descent from the en route altitude to a delivery point to deliver a package. The MK30 drone transitions and descends to about 140 feet AGL and then vertically descends to about 13 feet AGL while maintaining position over the delivery point. The drone hovers while dropping the package and then proceeds to climb vertically back to the inbound transition altitude of

197 feet AGL. The MK30 then transitions and climbs to its en route inbound altitude of 345 feet AGL (ranges from 279 to 377 feet AGL). The delivery phase of flight would last approximately one minute and result in noise levels of approximately 69 dB Lmax at a distance of 75 feet from the delivery location. These noise levels are nearly identical to those generated during takeoff and would be equivalent to a household vacuum cleaner at a distance of 10 feet.

En Route Inbound

The MK30 drone continues to fly at a typical altitude of about 345 feet AGL with at a speed of 67 mph towards the PADDC. Noise levels generated from enroute outbound flight would be nearly identical to those from enroute inbound flight with an Lmax of approximately 61 dB at a distance of 76 feet abeam the drone's flight path.

Landing

The drone decelerates as it approaches the PADDC and descends to the transition altitude of 197 feet AGL and where it transitions from horizontal flight to vertical flight, coming to a zero-speed position over its assigned landing pad. The MK30 drone slowly vertically descends over its assigned landing pad and lands on the pad. Noise levels generated from landing would be nearly identical to those generated from takeoff with an Lmax of approximately 70 dB at a distance of 75 feet from the PADCC.

Predicted Sound Levels

Based on a noise analysis using sound level measurement data for the MK30 drone, the estimated maximum sound exposure level (SEL) for the takeoff, delivery, and landing phases of flight is approximately 90.5 (at 20 feet), 92.1 (at 25 feet), and 91.8 dB (at 20 feet), respectively. Predicted sound levels decrease as distances from the drone increase. The maximum SEL for the en route phase is approximately 63.7 dB when the drone at an altitude of 200 feet AGL and flying at approximately 58 knots (67 miles per hour). The detailed noise analysis is provided as **Attachment D**.

Action Area

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 § 402.02). For this Proposed Action, the action area is defined as Prime Air's proposed MK30 operating area, as depicted in Attachment A. This area captures all possible flight routes to the delivery areas and where potential effects (e.g., visual, auditory, physical) to listed species could occur.

According to the US Environmental Protection Agency Ecoregion database, the operating areas are in the Southern Backswamps, Southern Holocene Meander Belts, Inland Swamps, and Baton Rouge Terrace EPA Level IV ecoregions.

- The Southern Backswamps ecoregion represents the smallest of the four Level IV ecoregions, situated along the far western boundary of the Action Area in West Baton Rouge Parish. This region occupies the western bank of the Mississippi River and is characterized by flat plains interspersed with depressions that contain ponded wetlands, swamps, and lakes. Additionally, the area includes low-gradient streams with silty substrates.

- The Southern Holocene Meander Belts ecoregion curves around the Mississippi River within the action area in West and East Baton Rouge Parishes. It is defined by flat plains and meandering river belts that include levees, point bars, oxbows, and abandoned channels. The landscape features both large rivers and smaller, often channelized, low-gradient streams.

- The Inland Swamps ecoregion lies along the southern edge of the Action Area in East Baton Rouge Parish. This region features a flat alluvial plain that transitions into a deltaic landscape, characterized by backswamps, bayous, distributary ridges, and natural levees. The area contains extensive wetlands, as well as low-gradient and channelized streams.

- The Baton Rouge Terrace is the predominant Level IV ecoregion within the Action Area in East Baton Rouge and Livingston Parishes. This ecoregion features a flat coastal plain that is deeply dissected along its eastern and southern edges by partially filled valleys. These valleys contain wetlands and low-gradient streams with silt and sand bottoms.

As indicated above, the Proposed Action within these ecoregions would take place largely over high to medium to high density developed urban and commercial areas as well as agricultural lands. Therefore, wildlife habitats within the action area predominantly include parks, a few open spaces, waterways, ponds, and vacant lands. These areas may provide habitat for many of the more common fauna in the region, including eastern gray squirrels, raccoons, coyotes, white-tailed deer, opossums, skunks, rats, beavers, muskrats, and snapping turtles.

ESA-Listed Species and Critical Habitat in the Action Area

The FAA acquired the Official Species List (see **Attachment E**) from the USFWS Information for Planning and Conservation online system to identify ESA-listed, proposed, and candidate species within the action area (**Table 1**). The action area does not contain designated critical habitat for any species.

Table 1. ESA-Listed Species and Species Proposed for Listing, Potentially Present in the Action Areas

Species	Common Name	Species Name	Federal Status	Critical Habitat
Mammals	West Indian Manatee	*Trichechus manatus*	Threatened	N
	Tricolored bat	*Perimyotis subflavus*	Proposed Endangered	N
Reptiles	Alligator Snapping Turtle	*Macrochelys temminckii*	Proposed Threatened	N
Fishes	Gulf sturgeon	*Acipenser oxyrinchus (=oxyrhynchus) desotoi*	Threatened	N
	Pallid sturgeon	*Scaphirhynchus albus*	Endangered	N
Clams	Inflated heelsplitter	*Potamilus inflatus*	Threatened	N
Insects	Monarch butterfly	*Danaus plexippus*	Proposed Threatened	N

SOURCE: USFWS IPaC, accessed February 2026.

Potential Effects of the Proposed Action on ESA-Listed and Species Proposed for Listing

Drone noise, visual presence, and the potential for airborne strikes with flying species are the Proposed Action's potential stressors or threats to ESA-listed species. Flight operations would take place mostly in an urban environment, within airspace, and typically remain well above the tree line while en route to and from the PADDC. The duration of exposure by wildlife on the ground to visual or noise impacts from the drone would be of very short duration (approximately 30 seconds during takeoff/landing and delivery and a few seconds during the en route phase).

As noted above, the highest estimated SEL associated with Prime Air's proposed operations is 92.1 dB, which would occur during a delivery. For reference, the sound level of a diesel truck at 50 feet or a noisy urban environment during the day is approximately 80 to 90 dB. The SEL on the ground when the drone is at an altitude of 200 feet AGL is estimated to be around 63.7 dB, which is comparable to the sound of an air conditioning unit at 100 feet (60 dB). The MK30 drone is expected to operate at altitudes higher than 200 feet AGL during en route flight; as such, the en route sound level is expected to be less than 63.7 dB.

A descriptor for noise effects on wildlife has not been universally adopted, but some research indicates SEL is the most useful predictor of responses. Characteristic of the bulk of research to date has been lack of systematic documentation of the source noise event. Many studies report "sound levels" without specifying the frequency spectrum or duration. A notable exception is a study sponsored by U.S. Air Force that identifies SEL as the best descriptor for response of domestic turkey poults to low-altitude aircraft overflights (Bradley et al. 1990). This study identified a threshold of response for disturbance of domestic turkeys ("100 percent rate of crowding") as SEL 100 dB. None of the predicted sound levels for the different flight phases exceed SEL 92.1 dB.

Since noise levels are not anticipated to impact wildlife, no ground disturbance is proposed, and there will be no impacts to streams or aquatic habitats; it is anticipated that there would be ***no effect*** on terrestrial or aquatic species including the reptile, fish, or clam species listed in **Table 1.** The following paragraphs describe the anticipated effects of the Proposed Action on the remaining ESA-listed and proposed-listed species.

Tricolored bat

The tricolored bat, federally proposed endangered, may be located within the action area. The Proposed Action may include drone operations up until 10:30 P.M, which is anticipated to overlap with the dusk emergence of bat activity; however, drone operations will not affect the dawn civil twilight hours and will not operate in nighttime hours. The MK30 drone is not equipped nor is it authorized to operate in periods of darkness (before Morning Civil Twilight or after Evening Civil Twilight). Although operations may occur during dusk emergence, the listed bat species typically forage in areas near water or along forested edges. Research suggests that drones have "minimal impact on bat behavior" and that bats do not appear to be disturbed by drones. Also, the risk of bat conflicts is only present for approximately 6 months each year, April through the beginning of October, when bats are not hibernating. Bats at roost or in flight could experience drone noise during the en route and delivery flight phases. Bats foraging at or near the tree line at the time a drone flies by would experience the greatest sound levels. Roosting bats or bats foraging near the ground at the time a drone flies by would experience lower sound levels. Given the estimated sound levels of the drone, the drone's linear flight profile to and from PADDCs and delivery locations, the short period of time the drone would be in any location, and the low probability of encountering an individual bat in the action area, drone noise is not expected to adversely affect bats. Any increase in ambient sound levels caused by the drone's flight would only last a few seconds during the en route phase and approximately 49 seconds during a delivery. Given the bat's ability to avoid flying into objects, the short period of time the drone would be in any one place, and the low probability of encountering a bat during operations, the likelihood of the drone striking a bat is extremely low.

The FAA determination for the Proposed Action is ***may affect, not likely to adversely affect*** the tricolored bat based on:

1) operations occurring mostly in an urban environment,
2) the altitude at which the drone flies in the en route phase (180 to 377 feet AGL),
3) the expected low sound levels experienced by a bat,
4) the short duration of any increases in ambient sound levels,
5) the low probability of a listed bat species occurring in the action area, and
6) the low likelihood of the drone striking a bat.

Monarch butterfly

The monarch butterfly is proposed for federal listing as a threatened species and has the potential to occur in the operating area. Information regarding drone impacts on insects is limited and there have been no widespread negative impacts identified in scientific literature. Some research shows that monarch butterflies are not commonly observed at higher altitudes (generally between 1 and 300 feet) and would not be expected to frequently occur at the altitudes where Prime Air is proposing to operate (Altitudes Attained by migrating Monarch Butterflies, 2024). Therefore, it is anticipated that the Proposed Action will have ***no effect*** on the monarch butterfly.

Conclusion

Based on the analysis above, the FAA has determined the following:

- There is no critical habitat, or proposed critical habitat, for any listed species, located within the action areas.
- The action areas are mostly urbanized, with minimal suitable habitat for the ESA-listed species identified in them.
- Any increase in ambient sound levels would be short in duration.
- Drone dwell/hover time during takeoff and delivery would be less than one minute.
- Drones would generally operate at an altitude between 200 and 345 feet AGL.
- Drone activity would be highly concentrated over developed areas, where there is consumer demand for drone delivery service.
- Based on all of these factors, the probability of a drone/wildlife interaction would be low.

It is important to note that Prime Air has been performing similar drone delivery operations at its Tolleson, AZ facility, for more than two years. A recent assessment of drone maintenance and telemetry records indicates zero instances of drone/wildlife collisions over the course of more than 8,000 delivery operations.

Accordingly, the FAA has determined the Proposed Action is ***not likely to adversely affect*** the tricolored bat. The FAA has also determined that the Proposed Action would have ***no effect*** on the West Indian manatee, alligator snapping turtle, Gulf sturgeon, pallid sturgeon, inflated heelsplitter, and monarch butterfly.

Because the delivery of commercial goods by drones is an emerging technology and its potential effects on wildlife are still not well understood, Prime Air is proposing to implement an “Biological Monitoring Program” for this project, which would include:

- Record and analyze daily maintenance and telemetry records to document any potential drone/wildlife interactions,
- If applicable, report wildlife movement / activity in and around airport property that may be obtained from operations or wildlife management staff from nearby airports.
- If applicable, recover and analyze potential biological materials (e.g., snarge, feathers, etc.), generally in accordance with existing protocols used in cases of aircraft bird strikes at airports
- Report findings to the USFWS on an annual basis

The proposed Biological Monitoring Program would serve as a useful tool for Prime Air, the FAA, and USFWS to better understand the possible interactions between drones and wildlife.

The FAA appreciates your review of the proposed project and requests your concurrence with (1) our "may affect" determination as stated above and (2) implementation of the proposed Biological Monitoring Program within 30 days of receiving this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Christopher Hurst via email at 9-faa-drone-environmental@faa.gov.

Sincerely,

Joseph K. Hemler Jr

Digitally signed by Joseph K. Hemler Jr
Date: 2026.04.01 15:55:13 -04'00'

Joseph Hemler
Manager, General Aviation and Commercial Branch (AFS-752)
Emerging Technologies Division
Office of Safety Standards, Flight Standards Service

Attachments:
Attachment A – Proposed MK30 Operating Areas
Attachment B – MK 30 Drone
Attachment C – MK30 Drone Flight Profile
Attachment D – Technical Noise Report
Attachment E – Official Species List

References

Altitudes attained by migrating monarch butterflies, Danaus p. plexippus (Lepidoptera: Danaidae), as reported by glider pilots. Available: https://cdnsciencepub.com/doi/abs/10.1139/z81-084. Accessed April 2022 and February 2024.

August, T. and T. Moore. 2008. Autonomous Drones Are a Viable Tool for Acoustic Bat Surveys. Available: https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/673772v1.full.pdf. Accessed July 2023 and February 2024.

Daigle, J.J., Griffith, G.E., Omernik, J.M., Faulkner, P.L., McCulloh, R.P., Handley, L.R., Smith, L.M., and Chapman, S.S., 2006, Ecoregions of Louisiana (color poster with map, descriptive text, summary tables, and photographs): Reston, Virginia, U.S. Geological Survey (map scale 1:1,000,000).

Fu, Y., M. Kinniry, and L.N. Kloepper. 2018. The Chirocopter: A UAV for Recording Sound and Video of Bats at Altitude. Methods in Ecology and Evolution 9(6):1531-1535. Available: https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210x.12992. Accessed March 2026.

Primary Distinguishing Characteristics of Level III Ecoregions of the Continental United States. Available at: ftp://ftp.epa.gov/wed/ecoregions/us/. Accessed December 2025.

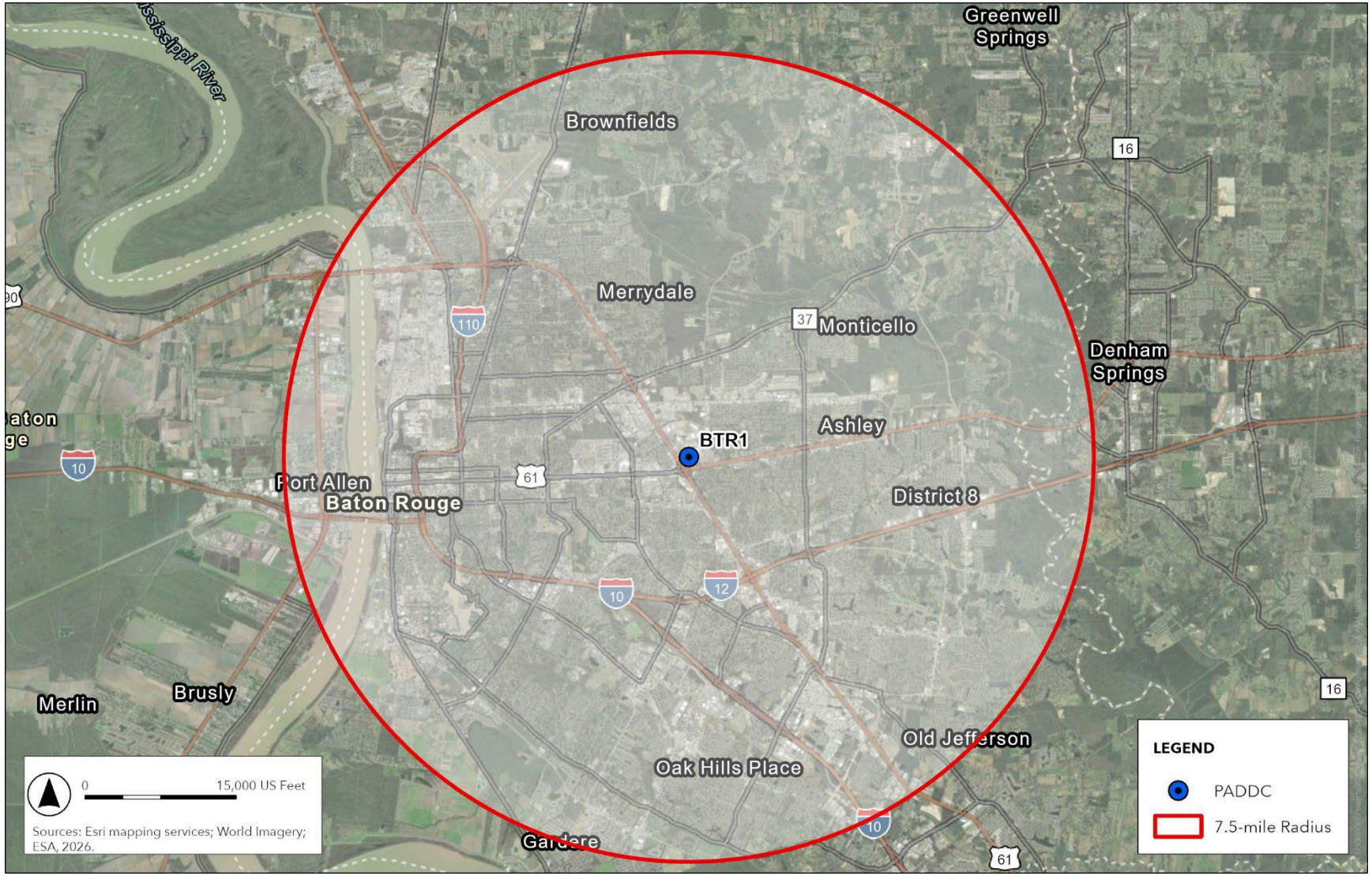
Tricolored bat. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Available online: https://www.fws.gov/species/tricolored-bat-perimyotis-subflavus. Accessed March 2026.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. *Species List – Louisiana Ecological Services Field Office* (2026).

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2020. *Species Status Assessment Report for the Monarch Butterfly (Danaus plexippus plexippus).* U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Midwest Region.

US Fish & Wildlife Service Tricolored Bat. Available: https://www.fws.gov/species/tricolored-bat-perimyotis-subflavus. Accessed: February 2026.

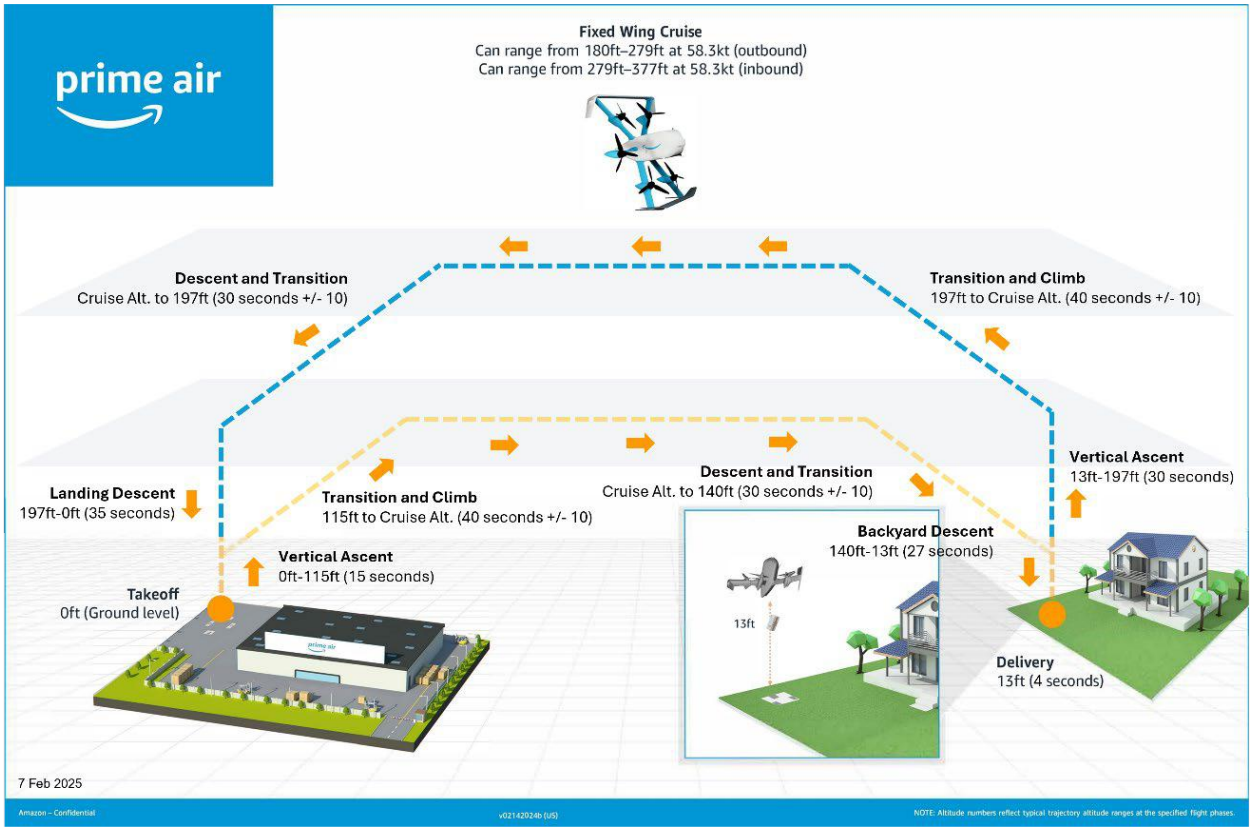
Attachment A
Proposed MK30 Drone Operating Areas


Greenwell Springs
Brownfields
16
Merrydale
37
Monticello
Denham Springs
110
Ashley
BTR1
10
61
Port Allen
Baton Rouge
District 8
10
12
Brusly
Merlin
16
Old Jefferson
Oak Hills Place
10
61
0
15,000 US Feet
Sources: Esri mapping services; World Imagery; ESA, 2026.
LEGEND
PADDC
7.5-mile Radius

Attachment B
MK30 Drone

Amazon Prime Air MK30 Drone

Attachment C
MK30 Drone Flight Profile



MK30 Drone Flight Profile

Attachment D
Technical Noise Report

The Technical Noise Report included in the original agency consultation has been omitted from this appendix, but can be found in Appendix E.

Attachment E
Official Species List

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Louisiana Ecological Services Field Office
200 Dulles Drive
Lafayette, LA 70506
Phone: (337) 291-3100 Fax: (337) 291-3139

In Reply Refer To: 02/18/2026 20:33:01 UTC
Project Code: 2026-0014593
Project Name: Baton Rouge Drone Project

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, and candidate species, as well as designated and proposed critical habitat that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and may be affected by your proposed project. The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is providing this list under section 7 (c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Changes in this species list may occur due to new information from updated surveys, changes in species habitat, new listed species and other factors. Because of these possible changes, feel free to contact our office (337-291-3109) for more information or assistance regarding impacts to federally listed species. The Service recommends visiting the IPaC site or the Louisiana Ecological Services Field Office website (https://www.fws.gov/southeast/lafayette) at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updated 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 habitats 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 Federal trust resources and to determine whether projects may affect Federally listed 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)).

Bald eagles have recovered and were removed from the List of Endangered and Threatened Species as of August 8, 2007. Although no longer listed, please be aware that bald eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.).

The Service developed the National Bald Eagle Management (NBEM) Guidelines to provide landowners, land managers, and others with information and recommendations to minimize potential project impacts to bald eagles, particularly where such impacts may constitute "disturbance", which is prohibited by the BGEPA. A copy of the NBEM Guidelines is available at: https://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationalbaldeaglenanagementguidelines.pdf

Those guidelines recommend: (1) maintaining a specified distance between the activity and the nest (buffer area); (2) maintaining natural areas (preferably forested) between the activity and nest trees (landscape buffers); and (3) avoiding certain activities during the breeding season. Onsite personnel should be informed of the possible presence of nesting bald eagles within the project boundary, and should identify, avoid, and immediately report any such nests to this office. If a bald eagle nest occurs or is discovered within or adjacent to the proposed project area, then an evaluation must be performed to determine whether the project is likely to disturb nesting bald eagles. That evaluation may be conducted on-line at: https://www.fws.gov/southeast/our-services/eagle-technical-assistance/. Following completion of the evaluation, that website will provide a determination of whether additional consultation is necessary. The Division of Migratory Birds for the Southeast Region of the Service (phone: 404/679-7051, e-mail: SEmigratorybirds@fws.gov) has the lead role in conducting any necessary consultation.

Activities that involve State-designated scenic streams and/or wetlands are regulated by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, respectively. We, therefore, recommend that you contact those agencies to determine their interest in proposed projects in these areas.

Activities that would be located within a National Wildlife Refuge are regulated by the refuge staff. We, therefore, recommend that you contact them to determine their interest in proposed projects in these areas.

Additional information on Federal trust species in Louisiana can be obtained from the Louisiana Ecological Services website at: https://www.fws.gov/southeast/lafayette

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

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Marine Mammals

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:

Louisiana Ecological Services Field Office
200 Dulles Drive
Lafayette, LA 70506
(337) 291-3100

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2026-0014593
Project Name: Baton Rouge Drone Project
Project Type: Drones - Use/Operation of Unmanned Aerial Systems
Project Description: Drone delivery
Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@30.457239700000002,-91.09301956691326,14z

Counties: East Baton Rouge , Livingston , and West Baton Rouge counties, Louisiana

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[1], 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
Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered
West Indian Manatee *Trichechus manatus* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. ***This species is also protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and may have additional consultation requirements.*** Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4469	Threatened

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Alligator Snapping Turtle *Macrochelys temminckii* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4658	Proposed Threatened

FISHES

NAME	STATUS
Gulf Sturgeon *Acipenser oxyrinchus (=oxyrhynchus) desotoi* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/651	Threatened
Pallid Sturgeon *Scaphirhynchus albus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7162	Endangered

CLAMS

NAME	STATUS
Inflated Heelsplitter *Potamilus inflatus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7286	Threatened

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	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.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act [2] and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) [1]. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their habitats, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

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

There are Bald Eagles and/or Golden Eagles in your project area.

Measures for Proactively Minimizing Eagle Impacts
For information on how to best avoid and minimize disturbance to nesting bald eagles, please review the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines. You may employ the timing and activity-specific distance recommendations in this document when designing your project/ activity to avoid and minimize eagle impacts. For bald eagle information specific to Alaska, please refer to Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity.

The FWS does not currently have guidelines for avoiding and minimizing disturbance to nesting Golden Eagles. For site-specific recommendations regarding nesting Golden Eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional Migratory Bird Office or Ecological Services Field Office.

If disturbance or take of eagles cannot be avoided, an incidental take permit may be available to authorize any take that results from, but is not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity. For assistance making this determination for Bald Eagles, visit the Do I Need A Permit Tool. For

assistance making this determination for golden eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional Migratory Bird Office or Ecological Services Field Office.

Ensure Your Eagle List is Accurate and Complete
If your project area is in a poorly surveyed area in IPaC, your list may not be complete and you may need to rely on other resources to determine what species may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys). Please review the Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles, to help you properly interpret the report for your specified location, including determining if there is sufficient data to ensure your list is accurate.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to bald or golden eagles on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these bald or golden eagles are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Sep 1 to Jul 31
Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds elsewhere

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

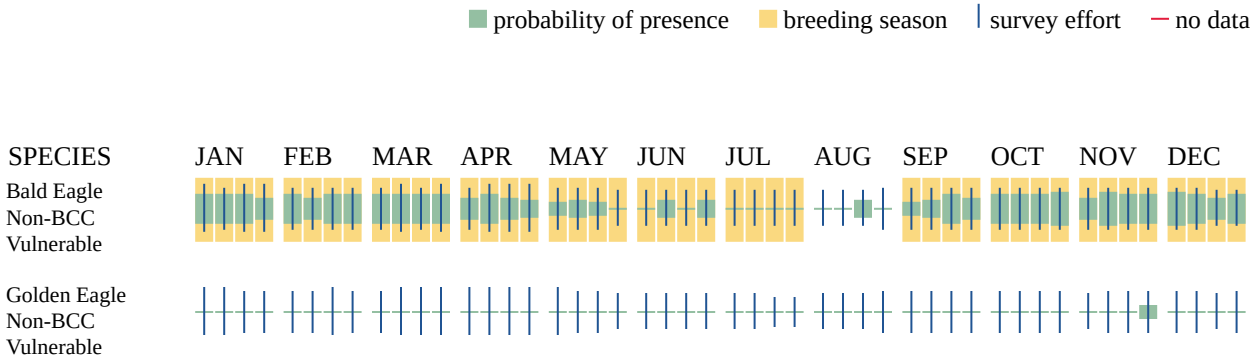
Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (–)
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

MIGRATORY BIRDS

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) [1] prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

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

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
American Golden-plover *Pluvialis dominica* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10561	Breeds elsewhere
Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Sep 1 to Jul 31
Cerulean Warbler *Setophaga cerulea* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2974	Breeds Apr 25 to Jul 20
Chimney Swift *Chaetura pelagica* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9406	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
Eastern Whip-poor-will *Antrostomus vociferus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10678	Breeds May 1 to Aug 20
Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds elsewhere
Henslow's Sparrow *Centronyx henslowii* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3941	Breeds elsewhere
Kentucky Warbler *Geothlypis formosa* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9443	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 20
King Rail *Rallus elegans* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8936	Breeds May 1 to Sep 5
Le Conte's Sparrow *Ammospiza leconteii* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9469	Breeds elsewhere

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Least Tern *Sternula antillarum antillarum* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/11919	Breeds Apr 25 to Sep 5
Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679	Breeds elsewhere
Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9477	Breeds Mar 10 to Oct 15
Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9561	Breeds elsewhere
Prairie Warbler *Setophaga discolor* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9513	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31
Prothonotary Warbler *Protonotaria citrea* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9439	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31
Red-headed Woodpecker *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9398	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10
Rusty Blackbird *Euphagus carolinus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9478	Breeds elsewhere
Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9603	Breeds elsewhere
Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8938	Breeds Mar 10 to Jun 30

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Wood Thrush *Hylocichla mustelina* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9431	Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

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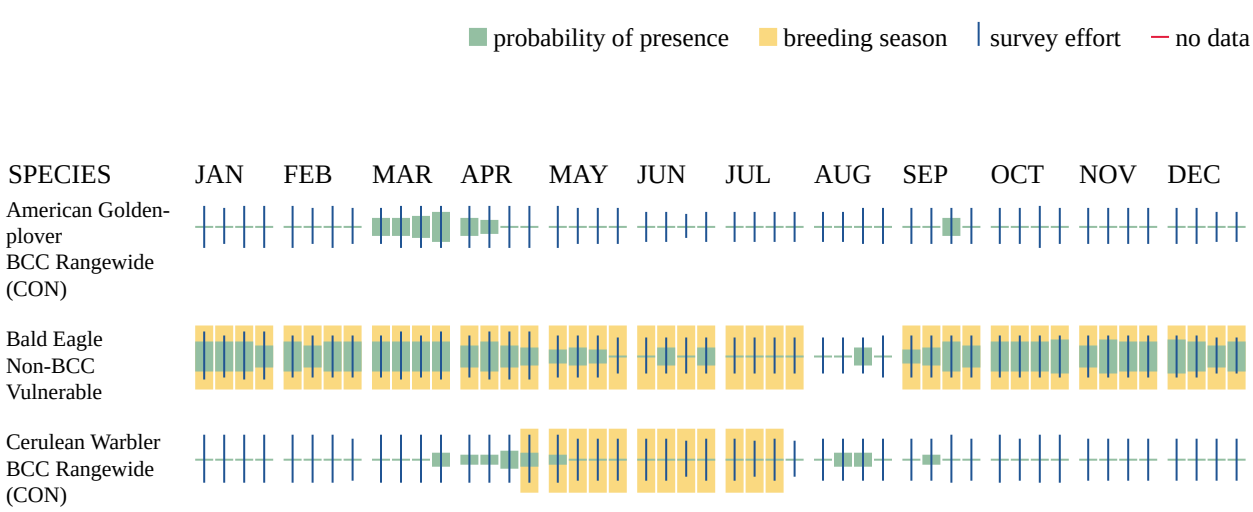
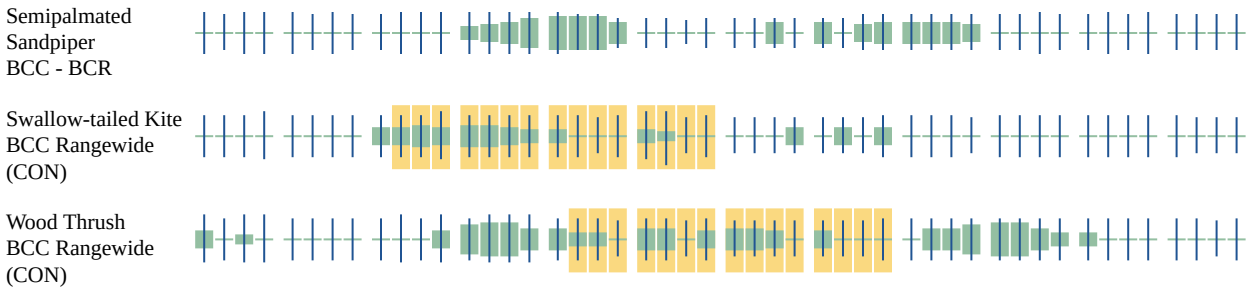



Chimney Swift
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Eastern Whip-poor-will
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Golden Eagle
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Henslow's Sparrow
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Kentucky Warbler
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
King Rail
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Le Conte's Sparrow
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Least Tern
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Lesser Yellowlegs
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
SPECIES
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUN
JUL
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC
Little Blue Heron
BCC - BCR
Pectoral Sandpiper
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Prairie Warbler
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Prothonotary Warbler
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Red-headed Woodpecker
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Rusty Blackbird
BCC - BCR



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MARINE MAMMALS

Marine mammals are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Some are also protected under the Endangered Species Act[1] and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[2].

The responsibilities for the protection, conservation, and management of marine mammals are shared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [responsible for otters, walruses, polar bears, manatees, and dugongs] and NOAA Fisheries[3] [responsible for seals, sea lions, whales, dolphins, and porpoises]. Marine mammals under the responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list; for additional information on those species please visit the Marine Mammals page of the NOAA Fisheries website.

The Marine Mammal Protection Act prohibits the take of marine mammals and further coordination may be necessary for project evaluation. Please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office shown.

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1. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973.
2. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is a treaty to ensure that international trade in plants and animals does not threaten their survival in the wild.
3. 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.

NAME

West Indian Manatee *Trichechus manatus*

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4469

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Sarah McAbee
Address: 5401 South Kirkman Road, Suite 475
City: Orlando
State: FL
Zip: 32819
Email smcabee@esassoc.com
Phone: 4076006723

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Aviation Administration