

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. Shawn Cirton
Illinois & Iowa Ecological Services Field Office
1511 47th Ave Moline, IL 61265-7022

**SUBJECT: Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation for Drone Commercial Package
 Delivery Operations in Chicago, Illinois**

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 four Prime Air Drone Delivery Centers (PADDs) located in Chicago, IL (the Proposed Action), is **not likely to adversely affect**, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) and tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*). Additionally, the Proposed Action would have **no effect** on the Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Rufa Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*), eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*), salamander mussel (*Simpsonia ambigua*), Hine's emerald dragonfly (*Somatochlora hineana*), monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*), western regal fritillary butterfly (*Argynnis idalia occidentalis*), eastern prairie fringed orchid (*Platanthera leucophaea*), lakeside daisy (*Hymenoxys herbacea*), and leafy prairie-clover (*Dalea feliosa*). 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 Chicago, IL 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 four proposed MK30 operating areas and PADDs are depicted in **Attachment A**.

Prime Air anticipates flying up to 1,000 MK30 drone flights per operating day from each of the four PADDs located in the Chicago area, with each flight taking a package to a customer delivery address before returning to the PADD. 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 PADD 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 (L_{max}) 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 L_{max} 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 areas are defined as Prime Air's four proposed MK30 operating areas, as depicted in Attachment A. These areas capture 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 Chicago Lake Plain and Valparaiso–Wheaton Morainal Complex EPA Level IV ecoregions.

- The Chicago Lake Plain includes nearly all of the City of Chicago except its far western edge, and extends north into Lake County, Illinois, and eastward into northwest Indiana. The majority of the MAE3 and IGQ1 PADDC operating areas are located within this ecoregion. Formed by glacial Lake Michigan, the plain is underlain by sand and gravel soils. Today it is heavily urbanized, though it was once a landscape of prairie, wetlands, and dune–swale complexes.
- The Valparaiso–Wheaton Morainal Complex arcs through the western and southern portions of the Action Area, crossing DuPage, Will, Kane, and Lake Counties. The western portions of the MAE3 PADDC operating area and southwestern portion of the IGQ1 PADDC operating area as well as the entire operating areas for the ORD5 and SIL3 PADDCs occur within this ecoregion. This ecoregion features gently rolling hills formed by glacial till, numerous kettle lakes scattered

throughout, and low-lying areas with poor drainage. Although most of the land is now developed or farmed, remnant oak savannas, prairies, and wetlands persist in forest preserves and natural areas.

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	Tricolored bat	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	Proposed Endangered	N
	Northern long-eared bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Endangered	N
Reptiles	Eastern massasauga	<i>Sistrurus catenatus</i>	Threatened	N
Birds	Rufa Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	Threatened	N
	Whooping Crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	Experimental population, non-essential	N
	Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Threatened	N
Clams	Salamander mussel	<i>Simpsonia ambigua</i>	Proposed Endangered	N
Insects	Hine's emerald dragonfly	<i>Somatochlora hineana</i>	Endangered	N
	Monarch butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Proposed Threatened	N
	Rusty patched bumble bee	<i>Bombus affinis</i>	Endangered	N
	Mitchell's satyr butterfly	<i>Neonympha mitchellii mitchellii</i>	Endangered	N
Plants	Eastern prairie fringed orchid	<i>Platanthera leucophaea</i>	Threatened	N
	Lakeside daisy	<i>Hymenoxys herbacea</i>	Threatened	N
	Leafy prairie-clover	<i>Dalea feliosa</i>	Endangered	N

SOURCE: USFWS IPaC, accessed January 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 PADD. 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, clam, or plant 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.

Northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat

Federally listed bat species, including the Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), may be located within the action areas. The Proposed Action would 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. Although operations may occur during dusk emergence, the listed bat species typically forage in areas near water or along forested edges (USFWS Tricolored Bat, 2024 and Michigan Department of Natural Resources, 2024). Research suggests that drones have "*minimal impact on bat behavior*" (Fu, Y., M. Kinniry and L.N. Kloepper, 2018) and that bats do not appear to be disturbed by drones (August, T. and T. Moore, 2008). Also, the risk of bat conflicts is only present for 3 to 6 months each year (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 PADDs and delivery locations, the short period of time the drone would be in any particular 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 and the northern long-eared 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.

Piping Plover

The Piping Plover has a moderate potential to occur within the action area, particularly during the breeding and migration seasons (April–September). Occurrence is most likely in undeveloped or protected beach areas with minimal human disturbance. Due to the nature of the Proposed Action, which will occur primarily in the airspace above developed urban and suburban environments with avoidance measures maintaining buffers from sensitive shoreline areas, the project determination for the species is ***no effect***.

Rufa Red Knot

The Rufa Red Knot has a moderate potential to occur within the action area during migration (April–June; July–October). Because the Proposed Action involves drone operations primarily over developed urban and suburban airspace, with avoidance measures maintaining buffers from sensitive shoreline areas, no direct habitat disturbance is expected. In the rare instance where involvement with the species were to occur, the Rufa Red Knot is a medium sized bird, that would be able to hear and detect a drone approaching and move away in time to avoid a collision. Therefore, the project determination for the rufa red knot is ***no effect***.

Whooping Crane

The federally endangered Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*) was identified in the official species list as possibly occurring in the action areas, although it typically nests west of these areas in Wisconsin, so there is little threat of disturbing that critical part of their lifecycle. Occurrence within the Chicago metropolitan action area is rare and transient, as the region lies east of the primary migratory corridor. The Whooping Crane within the action areas is considered experimental and non-essential. While it is possible that Whooping Cranes could utilize open land, such as agricultural fields or unimproved pastures located within some of the operating areas as stopover habitat on their way to wintering grounds in the southeast and Whooping Crane observations have been recorded transitioning through the action areas, the project determination for the Whooping Crane is ***no effect***.

Hine's emerald dragonfly

Hine's emerald dragonfly is known to occur within the area. However, designated critical habitat and areas with the highest concentration of the species have been avoided. Because drone operations occur far above the species' flight height of 3-6 feet above ground or water and will not generate direct or indirect habitat effects, the project is not anticipated to affect the life cycle, behavior, or habitat of the Hine's emerald dragonfly. Therefore, the project determination for the Hine's emerald dragonfly is ***no effect***.

Rusty patched bumblebee

The rusty patched bumble bee is often observed within the action area foraging in urban green spaces and residential gardens. USFWS designated High Potential Zones for the species are located throughout the Chicago metropolitan area. Though bumblebees have been shown to be able to fly at high altitudes, they generally stay close to the ground when foraging. Because the action avoids direct disturbance to the below-ground nesting and overwintering environment and limits operations above the primary ground/vegetation layer where bees concentrate foraging activity, any exposure would be limited to brief, localized overflight-related disturbance. Therefore, the FAA concurs with the USFWS D-Key, that the proposed Action will have ***no effect*** on the rusty patched bumble bee.

Western regal fritillary

The western regal fritillary is a prairie-associated butterfly which may occur within the action area. The species depends on violets as the sole larval host plant and nectar plants for adults, as well as native warm-season bunch grasses to provide protective sites for multiple life stages. The Proposed Action would occur primarily over urban/built environments. Because the action does not include ground disturbance, it would not affect the habitat components required by the western regal fritillary. Additionally, given the minimum flight altitude and the short duration of any overflight, the likelihood of direct interaction with individual butterflies is discountable. Therefore, the action would have ***no effect*** on the western regal fritillary.

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 northern long-eared bat and the tricolored bat. The FAA has also determined that the Proposed Action would have ***no effect*** on the Piping Plover, Rufa Red Knot, Whooping Crane, eastern massasauga, salamander mussel, Hine's emerald dragonfly, monarch butterfly, western regal fritillary butterfly, eastern prairie fringed orchid, lakeside daisy, and leafy prairie-clover.

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 16:06:00 -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://cdnsiencepub.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.

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 November 2024.

Haig, S.M., et al. 2005. *Piping Plover (Charadrius melodus)*, in *The Birds of North America Online*. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY.

International Crane Foundation <https://savingcranes.org/species/whooping-crane/>, accessed December 2024.

Smith, P.W. 2004. *Endangered and Threatened Species of Illinois: Status and Distribution, Volume 2 – Animals*

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service. *Land Resource Regions and Major Land Resource Areas of the United States, the Caribbean, and the Pacific Basin* (USDA Handbook 296, 2006).

USEPA, Ecoregion Download Files by State - Region 5. Available at: <https://www.epa.gov/eco-research/ecoregion-download-files-state-region-5>. Accessed January 2026.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). 2001. *Ecoregions of Illinois and Indiana*. Compiled by Alan J. Woods, James M. Omernik, and Brian C. Moran, in collaboration with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois State Geological Survey, and Illinois Natural History Survey. U.S. EPA, National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, Corvallis, Oregon.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2010. *Final Revised Critical Habitat for Hine's Emerald Dragonfly (Somatochlora hineana)*. 75 FR 21394.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2018. *Conservation Management Guidelines for the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee (Bombus affinis)*.

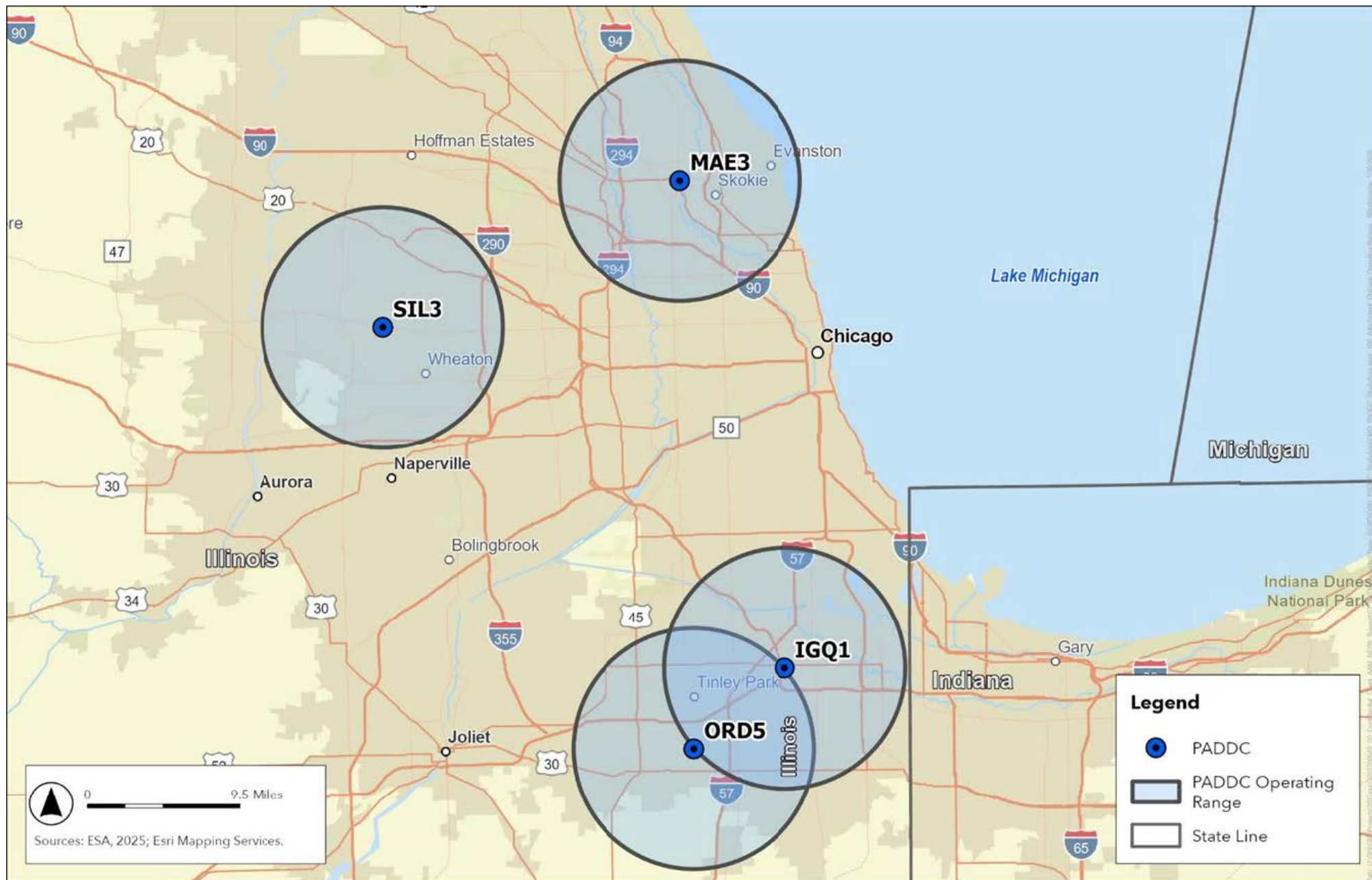
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2023. *Species Status Assessment Report for the Regal Fritillary (Speyeria idalia)*. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Midwest Region.

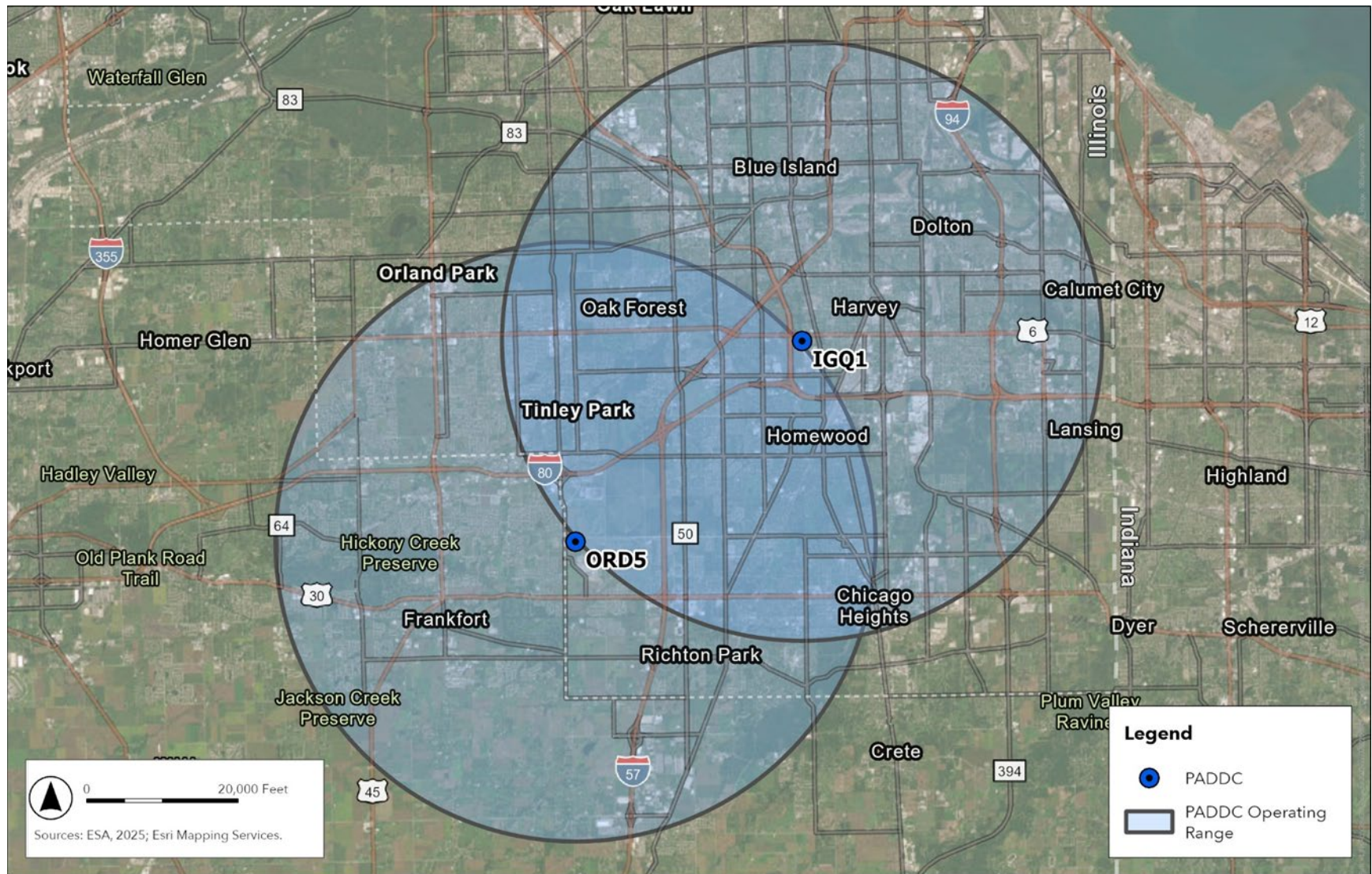
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2020. *Species Status Assessment Report for the Monarch Butterfly (Danaus plexippus plexippus)*. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Midwest Region.

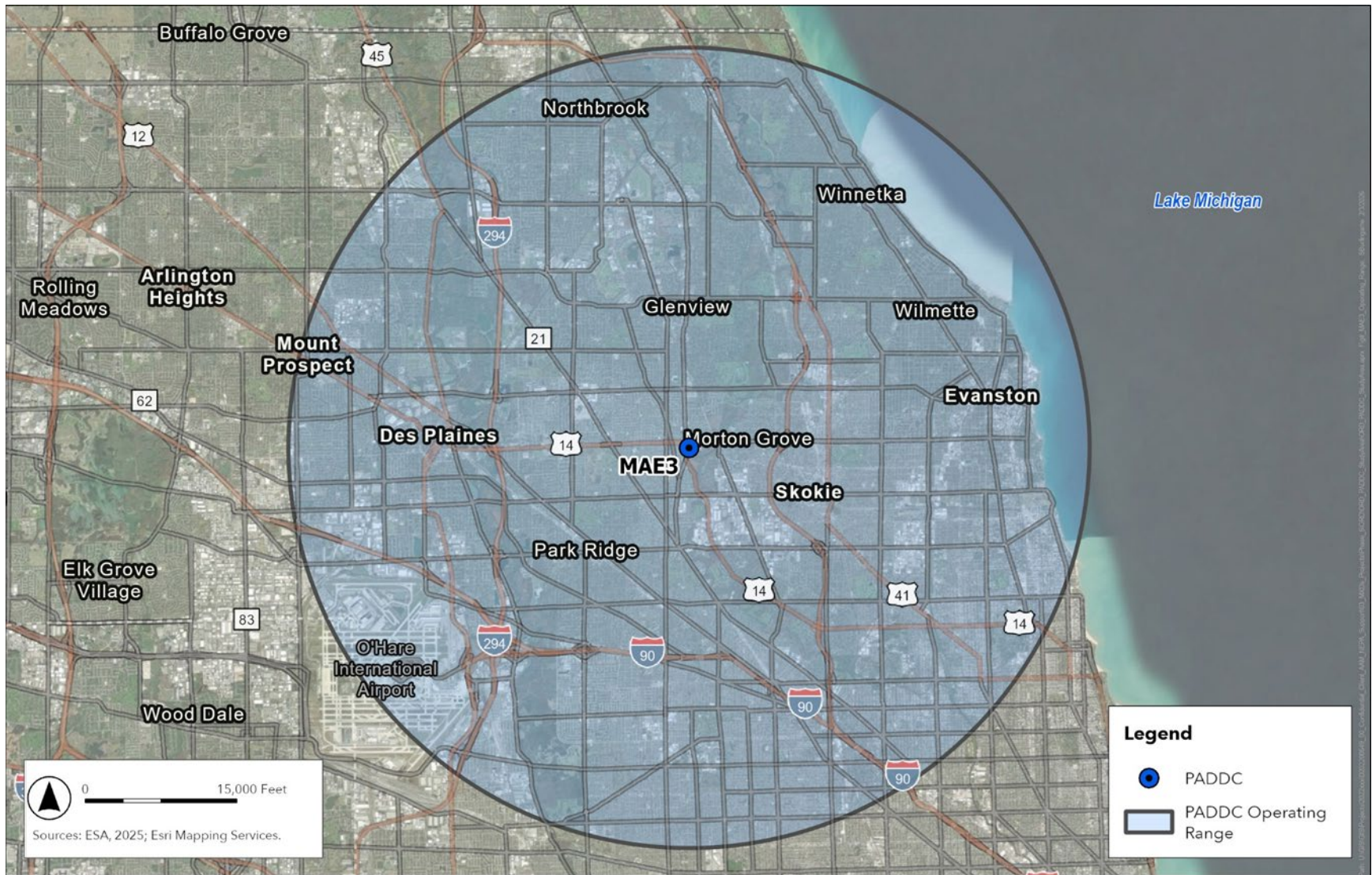
US Fish & Wildlife Service Tricolored Bat. Available: <https://www.fws.gov/species/tricolored-bat-perimyotis-subflavus>. Accessed: February 2024.

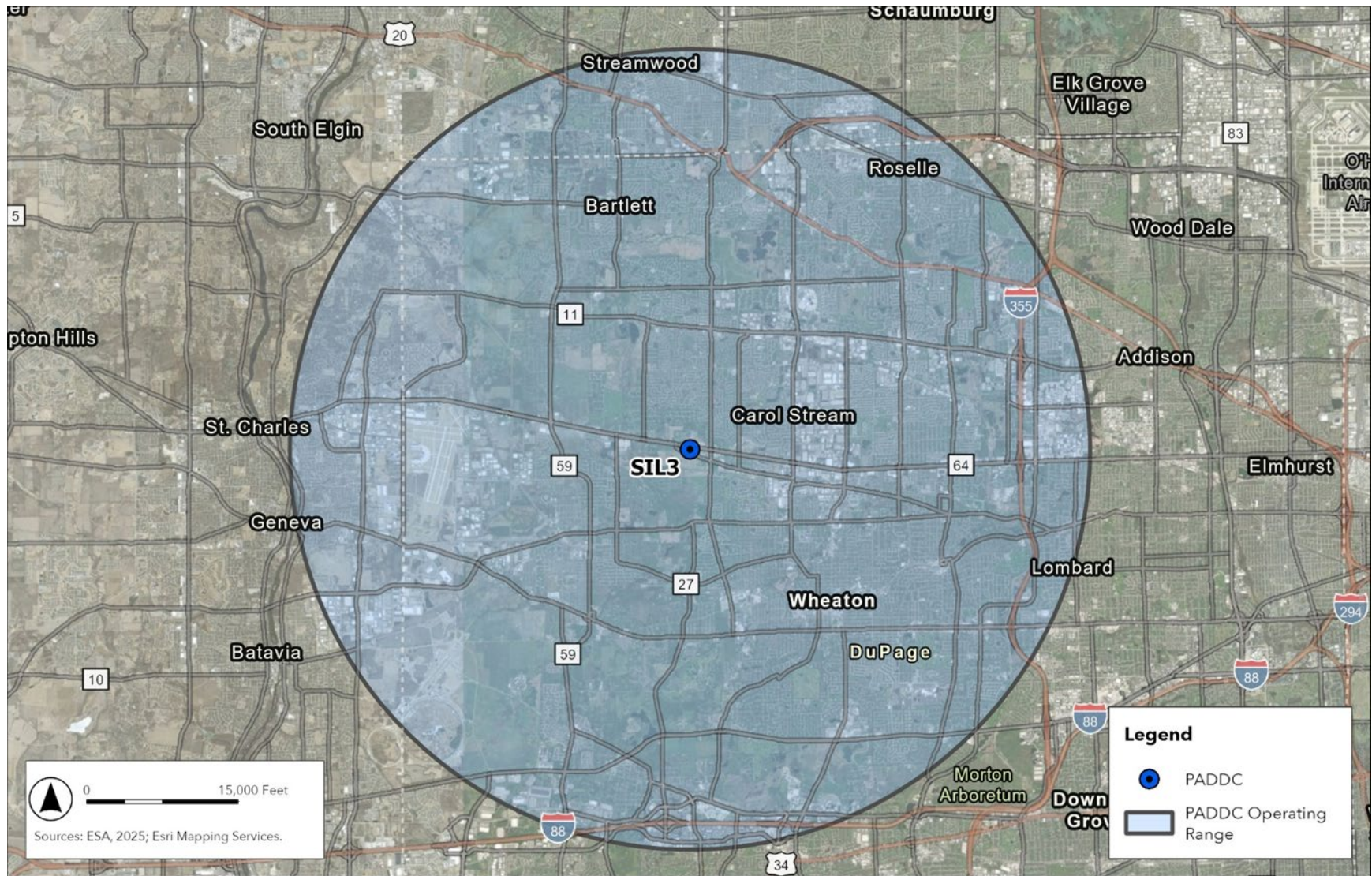
Woods, A.J., Omernik, J.M., Moran, B.C., et al. *Ecoregions of Illinois* (U.S. EPA/USGS/IDNR, 2006).

Attachment A
Proposed MK30 Drone Operating Areas







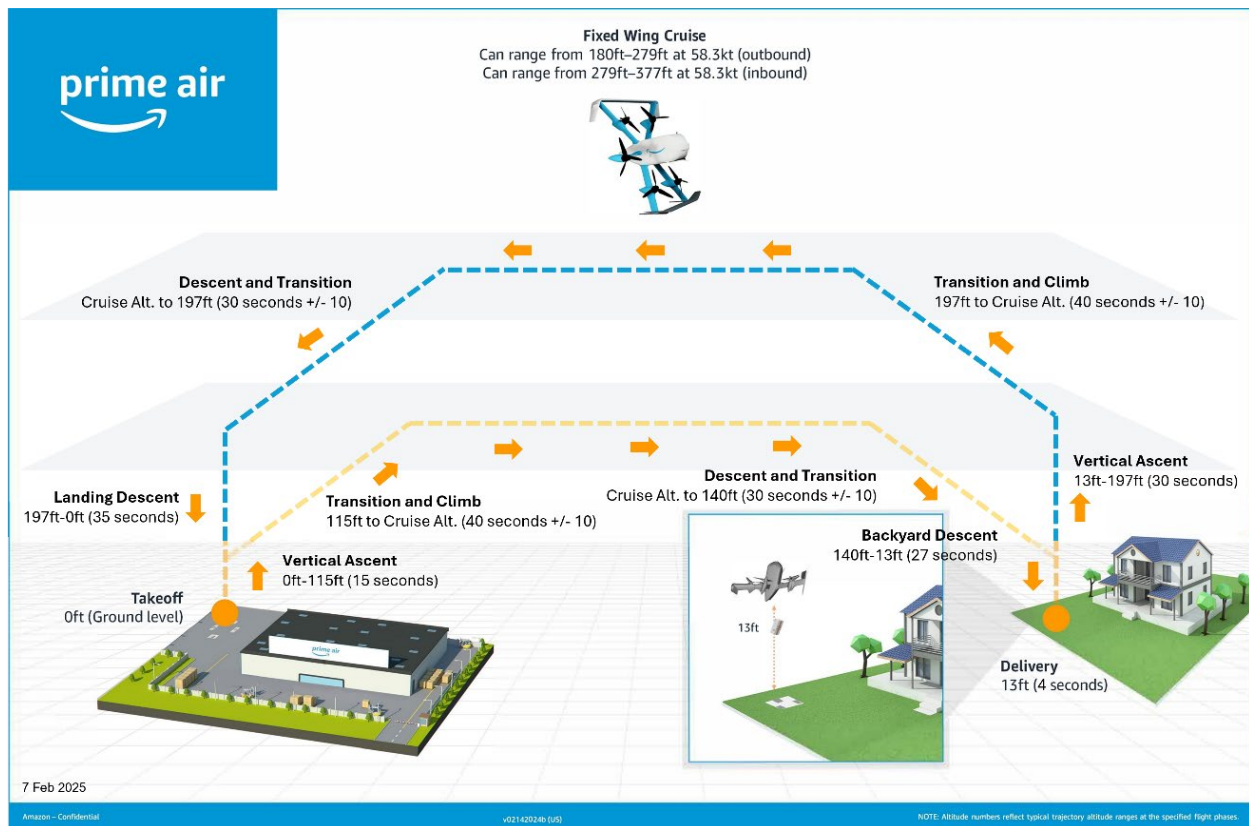


Attachment B
MK30 Drone



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

Chicago Ecological Service Field Office

1511 47th Ave

Moline, IL 61265-7022

Phone: (309) 757-5800



In Reply Refer To:

01/30/2026 22:24:08 UTC

Project Code: 2026-0043614

Project Name: Amazon Drone Delivery - Chicago IGQ1

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

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

Additionally, please note that on March 23, 2022, the Service published a proposal to reclassify the northern long-eared bat (NLEB) as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia has ordered the Service to complete a new final listing

determination for the NLEB by November 2022 (Case 1:15-cv-00477, March 1, 2021). The bat, currently listed as threatened, faces extinction due to the range-wide impacts of white-nose syndrome (WNS), a deadly fungal disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across the continent. The proposed reclassification, if finalized, would remove the current 4(d) rule for the NLEB, as these rules may be applied only to threatened species. Depending on the type of effects a project has on NLEB, the change in the species' status may trigger the need to re-initiate consultation for any actions that are not completed and for which the Federal action agency retains discretion once the new listing determination becomes effective (anticipated to occur by December 30, 2022). If your project may result in incidental take of NLEB after the new listing goes into effect this will first need to be addressed in an updated consultation that includes an Incidental Take Statement. If your project may require re-initiation of consultation, please contact our office for additional guidance.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

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

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

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

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

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

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Chicago Ecological Service Field Office

1511 47th Ave

Moline, IL 61265-7022

(309) 757-5800

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2026-0043614

Project Name: Amazon Drone Delivery - Chicago IGQ1

Project Type: Drones - Use/Operation of Unmanned Aerial Systems

Project Description: UAV package delivery

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@41.5990039,-87.67533177319956,14z>



Counties: Cook and Will counties, Illinois

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 11 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 Fisheries¹, 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.

-
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
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Rufa Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Experimental Population, Non- Essential

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Massasauga (=rattlesnake) <i>Sistrurus catenatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2202	Threatened

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Hine's Emerald Dragonfly <i>Somatochlora hineana</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7877	Endangered
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> 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
Rusty Patched Bumble Bee <i>Bombus affinis</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9383	Endangered

NAME	STATUS
Western Regal Fritillary <i>Argynnis idalia occidentalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/12017	Proposed Threatened

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid <i>Platanthera leucophaea</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/601	Threatened
Leafy Prairie-clover <i>Dalea foliosa</i> Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5498	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Theodore Reese
Address: 545 Brent Lane
City: Pensacola
State: FL
Zip: 32504
Email: treese@esassoc.com
Phone: 8504284687



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Chicago Ecological Service Field Office

1511 47th Ave

Moline, IL 61265-7022

Phone: (309) 757-5800



In Reply Refer To:

01/30/2026 22:36:02 UTC

Project Code: 2026-0043622

Project Name: Amazon Drone Delivery - Chicago MAE3

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

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

Additionally, please note that on March 23, 2022, the Service published a proposal to reclassify the northern long-eared bat (NLEB) as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia has ordered the Service to complete a new final listing

determination for the NLEB by November 2022 (Case 1:15-cv-00477, March 1, 2021). The bat, currently listed as threatened, faces extinction due to the range-wide impacts of white-nose syndrome (WNS), a deadly fungal disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across the continent. The proposed reclassification, if finalized, would remove the current 4(d) rule for the NLEB, as these rules may be applied only to threatened species. Depending on the type of effects a project has on NLEB, the change in the species' status may trigger the need to re-initiate consultation for any actions that are not completed and for which the Federal action agency retains discretion once the new listing determination becomes effective (anticipated to occur by December 30, 2022). If your project may result in incidental take of NLEB after the new listing goes into effect this will first need to be addressed in an updated consultation that includes an Incidental Take Statement. If your project may require re-initiation of consultation, please contact our office for additional guidance.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

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

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

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

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

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

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Chicago Ecological Service Field Office

1511 47th Ave

Moline, IL 61265-7022

(309) 757-5800

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2026-0043622

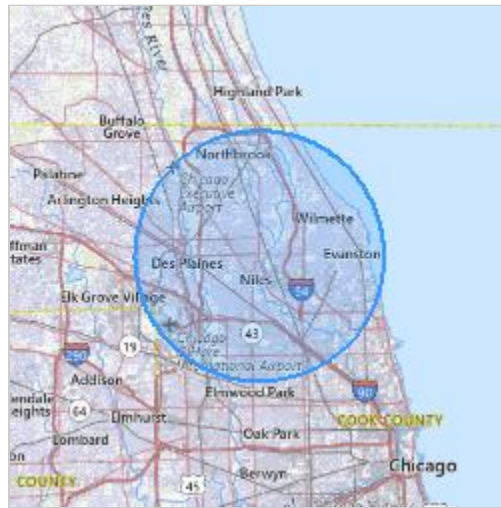
Project Name: Amazon Drone Delivery - Chicago MAE3

Project Type: Drones - Use/Operation of Unmanned Aerial Systems

Project Description: UAV package delivery

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@42.0391263,-87.79799276246042,14z>



Counties: Cook and DuPage counties, Illinois

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 13 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 Fisheries¹, 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.

-
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
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> Population: [Great Lakes watershed DPS] - Great Lakes, watershed in States of IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, and WI and Canada (Ont.) There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039	Endangered
Rufa Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Experimental Population, Non- Essential

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Massasauga (=rattlesnake) <i>Sistrurus catenatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2202	Threatened

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Hine's Emerald Dragonfly <i>Somatochlora hineana</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7877	Endangered
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> 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

NAME	STATUS
Rusty Patched Bumble Bee <i>Bombus affinis</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9383	Endangered
Western Regal Fritillary <i>Argynnis idalia occidentalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/12017	Proposed Threatened

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid <i>Platanthera leucophaea</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/601	Threatened
Lakeside Daisy <i>Hymenoxys herbacea</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3615	Threatened
Leafy Prairie-clover <i>Dalea foliosa</i> Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5498	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Theodore Reese
Address: 545 Brent Lane
City: Pensacola
State: FL
Zip: 32504
Email: treese@esassoc.com
Phone: 8504284687



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Chicago Ecological Service Field Office

1511 47th Ave

Moline, IL 61265-7022

Phone: (309) 757-5800



In Reply Refer To:

01/30/2026 23:40:12 UTC

Project Code: 2026-0043637

Project Name: Amazon Drone Delivery - Chicago ORD5

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

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

Additionally, please note that on March 23, 2022, the Service published a proposal to reclassify the northern long-eared bat (NLEB) as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia has ordered the Service to complete a new final listing

determination for the NLEB by November 2022 (Case 1:15-cv-00477, March 1, 2021). The bat, currently listed as threatened, faces extinction due to the range-wide impacts of white-nose syndrome (WNS), a deadly fungal disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across the continent. The proposed reclassification, if finalized, would remove the current 4(d) rule for the NLEB, as these rules may be applied only to threatened species. Depending on the type of effects a project has on NLEB, the change in the species' status may trigger the need to re-initiate consultation for any actions that are not completed and for which the Federal action agency retains discretion once the new listing determination becomes effective (anticipated to occur by December 30, 2022). If your project may result in incidental take of NLEB after the new listing goes into effect this will first need to be addressed in an updated consultation that includes an Incidental Take Statement. If your project may require re-initiation of consultation, please contact our office for additional guidance.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

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

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

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

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

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

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Chicago Ecological Service Field Office

1511 47th Ave

Moline, IL 61265-7022

(309) 757-5800

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2026-0043637

Project Name: Amazon Drone Delivery - Chicago ORD5

Project Type: Drones - Use/Operation of Unmanned Aerial Systems

Project Description: UAV package delivery

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@41.5263869,-87.78527878056529,14z>



Counties: Cook and Will counties, Illinois

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 12 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 Fisheries¹, 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.

-
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
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Rufa Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Experimental Population, Non- Essential

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Massasauga (=rattlesnake) <i>Sistrurus catenatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2202	Threatened

CLAMS

NAME	STATUS
Salamander Mussel <i>Simpsonaias ambigua</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6208	Proposed Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Hine's Emerald Dragonfly <i>Somatochlora hineana</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7877	Endangered
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Proposed Threatened

NAME	STATUS
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	
Rusty Patched Bumble Bee <i>Bombus affinis</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9383	Endangered
Western Regal Fritillary <i>Argynnis idalia occidentalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/12017	Proposed Threatened

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid <i>Platanthera leucophaea</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/601	Threatened
Leafy Prairie-clover <i>Dalea foliosa</i> Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5498	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Theodore Reese
Address: 545 Brent Lane
City: Pensacola
State: FL
Zip: 32504
Email: treese@esassoc.com
Phone: 8504284687



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Chicago Ecological Service Field Office

1511 47th Ave

Moline, IL 61265-7022

Phone: (309) 757-5800



In Reply Refer To:

01/30/2026 23:48:11 UTC

Project Code: 2026-0043638

Project Name: Amazon Drone Delivery - Chicago SIL5

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

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

Additionally, please note that on March 23, 2022, the Service published a proposal to reclassify the northern long-eared bat (NLEB) as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia has ordered the Service to complete a new final listing

determination for the NLEB by November 2022 (Case 1:15-cv-00477, March 1, 2021). The bat, currently listed as threatened, faces extinction due to the range-wide impacts of white-nose syndrome (WNS), a deadly fungal disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across the continent. The proposed reclassification, if finalized, would remove the current 4(d) rule for the NLEB, as these rules may be applied only to threatened species. Depending on the type of effects a project has on NLEB, the change in the species' status may trigger the need to re-initiate consultation for any actions that are not completed and for which the Federal action agency retains discretion once the new listing determination becomes effective (anticipated to occur by December 30, 2022). If your project may result in incidental take of NLEB after the new listing goes into effect this will first need to be addressed in an updated consultation that includes an Incidental Take Statement. If your project may require re-initiation of consultation, please contact our office for additional guidance.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

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

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

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

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

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

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Chicago Ecological Service Field Office

1511 47th Ave

Moline, IL 61265-7022

(309) 757-5800

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2026-0043638

Project Name: Amazon Drone Delivery - Chicago SIL5

Project Type: Drones - Use/Operation of Unmanned Aerial Systems

Project Description: UAV package delivery

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@41.9077777,-88.15811019802715,14z>



Counties: Cook , DuPage , and Kane counties, Illinois

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 11 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 Fisheries¹, 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.

-
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
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Rufa Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Experimental Population, Non- Essential

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Massasauga (=rattlesnake) <i>Sistrurus catenatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2202	Threatened

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Hine's Emerald Dragonfly <i>Somatochlora hineana</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7877	Endangered
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> 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
Rusty Patched Bumble Bee <i>Bombus affinis</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9383	Endangered

NAME	STATUS
Western Regal Fritillary <i>Argynnis idalia occidentalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/12017	Proposed Threatened

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid <i>Platanthera leucophaea</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/601	Threatened
Leafy Prairie-clover <i>Dalea foliosa</i> Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5498	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Theodore Reese
Address: 545 Brent Lane
City: Pensacola
State: FL
Zip: 32504
Email: treese@esassoc.com
Phone: 8504284687