Wind Energy

The increasing construction of wind turbines to generate energy poses potential threats to various bat species. Currently, less than 5% of West Virginia's electricity generation comes from renewable resources, but power generation from wind energy is on the increase. Most of West Virginia's wind energy potential is restricted to the narrow ridges in northeastern West Virginia. This area is approximately 20 to 30 miles northeast of the action area. These ridges are prime for wind energy given their high elevation relative to surrounding topography. Expansion of current wind farms and new facilities are a possibility along these ridges to the northeast of the Project area.

Private Lands

The majority of land surrounding the Action Area is privately owned. This can result in the potential for habitat/forest loss through development, timbering, and gas/mineral extraction.

D.1.2. Conservation Measures

Conservation measures to off-set the minimal impact would include:

- Selective tree removal/trimming within the larger identified acreage areas.
- The use of a feller buncher to control the direction of the tree fall allowing the operator to precisely guide where the tree lands, minimizing uncontrolled falling and damage to the surrounding trees and area.
- The use of herbicides and pesticides will be prohibited on the project.

D.2 MONARCH BUTTERFLY

The monarch butterfly is a federally proposed threatened species on the USFWS Threatened and Endangered species list. Critical habitat has not been designated for this species. Adult monarch butterflies during breeding and migration require a diversity of blooming nectar resources, which they feed on throughout their migration routes and breeding grounds (spring through fall). Monarchs also need milkweed (for both oviposition and larval feeding) embedded within this diverse nectaring habitat. Additionally, many monarchs use a variety of roosting trees along the fall migration route.

Direct and indirect take of the butterfly is not likely, as the monarch's host species of milkweed was not identified within the Project area during the 2019 and 2024 plant surveys conducted. Due to the adult butterfly's ability to fly when disturbed, there is very minimal potential for direct take of a traveling or feeding butterfly during the tree cutting and trimming activities. Due to absence of milkweed, there is very low potential for larvae to be in the area resulting in no direct or indirect take due to the proposed action. There is potential for impact to foraging habitat, but it is anticipated to be minimal due to the selective tree removal and trimming and limited disturbance to the herbaceous and shrub understory. A botanical survey of the proposed action area was

conducted in August 2024. Through this survey the habitat areas identified as Oak, Oak Cut, Mesic and Floodplain Sites contain possible foraging and resting habitat for the butterfly.

The areas identified as Oak Site A, B and C in the Small Whorled Pogonia Survey dated September 2024 located in **Appendix E** have the characteristics necessary to support foraging and resting habitat. The Oak Sites compose 9.20 acres of the 30.69-acre total study area, and they are located in Obstruction Removal Area 4 (Oak Site A; with selective tree removal in 2.96 acres and selective tree trimming within 0.36 acres), Obstruction Area 3 (Oak Site B; with selective tree trimming in 0.92 acres), and Obstruction Area 2 (Oak Site C; with selective tree removal within 2.38 acres and selective tree trimming in 2.61 acres). The Oak Sites are described as follows - habitat with minimal impact from agricultural, industrial, or residential development. Logging has occurred at least once in the past. This forest habitat type is a closed canopy forest in the region's moderately sloped upland hills. White pine (*Pinus strobus*), white and red oaks (*Quercus alba* and *Q. rubra*), mockernut hickory (*Carya tomentosa*) and red maple (*Acer rubrum*) are common trees in the canopy, and range in size from 9 inches dbh (diameter-breast-height) to 1.5 feet dbh. Chestnut oak (*Quercus montana*), shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*) and black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) are occasional. The past logging regimes appear less disruptive. Many oaks have sprouted from stumps. The shrub layer is present but not dense and includes witchhazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), American hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*), American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), with deerberry (*Vaccinium stamineum*) and Blue Ridge blueberry (*V. pallidum*) as subshrubs. The herb layer is sparse with coverage ranging from 10% to 30% but well-vegetated patches are occasional. Herbaceous plants characteristic of the acidic infertile soils include teaberry (*Gaultheria procumbens*), partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*), downy rattlesnake plantain (*Goodyera pubescens*), cat greenbrier (*Smilax glauca*), fan clubmoss (*Lycopodium digitatum*) and Swan's sedge (*Carex swanii*). The lack of a herbaceous layer may be due to several factors; soil acidity, prior logging practices and heavy deer browse. Roundleaf greenbrier (*Smilax rotundifolia*), a preferred deer food, was often browsed. Any tree seedlings present were often less than 6 inches tall. Forest herbs like bellworts (*Uvularia spp.*), Canada mayflower (*Maianthemum canadense*), false solomon's seal (*M. racemosum*), and Jack in the pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*) were observed infrequently; they had not produced fruits and appear stunted. Some unique herbs observed in the OAK habitat type include pinesap (*Monotropa hypopitys*), Canadian lousewort (*Pedicularis canadensis*), and arrowleaf violet (*Viola sagittata*).

The areas within the botanical survey identified as Oak-Cut Sites (Oak Cut Site A through D) are areas that have been recently clear-cut or heavily timbered. Bare shaly soils are exposed in the logging roads. These areas may potentially provide some foraging habitat for the butterfly, as the openings in canopy cover allows for more diverse flowering plant species to emerge. The Oak-Cut Sites compose 9.68 acres of the total study area, and they are located in Obstruction Removal Area 4 (Oak-Cut Site A; with selective tree removal in 1.55 acres and selective tree trimming in 0.07 acres and Oak-Cut Site B; with selective tree removal in 0.02 acres and selective tree trimming in 0.42 acres), Obstruction Area 5 (Oak-Cut Site C; with selective tree trimming in 0.10 acres), and Obstruction Area 8 (Oak-Cut Site D; with selective tree removal in 1.90 acres). The remnant canopy includes red maples, black gum and red oak. The opening of the canopy has allowed a dense cover of Pennsylvania and Allegheny blackberries (*Rubus pensylvanica* and *R. allegheniensis*), with devil's walkingstick (*Aralia spinosa*), Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergiii*) and pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*). The herbaceous layer is a diverse collection of abundant weedy natives and non-natives: wrinkleleaf goldenrod (*Solidago rugosa*), deertongue (*Dichanthelium clandestinum*), cypress panicgrass (*D. dichotomum*), common cinquefoil

(*Potentilla simplex*), burnweed (*Erechtities hieracifolia*), and many others. The southern-most Oak-Cut (Site D) has a number of emergent wetlands dominated by rice cutgrass (*Leersia oryzoides*) and ruderal wetland species such as jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), bulrushes (*Scirpus atrovirens* and *S. polyphyllus*) and fowl mannagrass (*Glyceria striata*). The wetlands lie along drainages below the moderate slope and appear to be groundwater-fed.

The area identified as Mesic Forest (Mesic Site) is a steep, northeast-facing mesic forested slope that lies between a residential man-made pond, and old field and a forested slope to the north. This site has the characteristics that may support foraging habitat to the butterfly due to the presence of spring flowering shrubs and some flowering herbaceous plants. The Mesic Site composes 0.83 acres of the total study area, and it is located in Obstruction Removal Area 1 (Mesic Site; with selective tree removal in 0.83 acres). The moister soils harbor a canopy of scattered tall and 2-foot dbh sugar maple, tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), and eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*). Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) and Japanese barberry are abundant in the shrub layer, and the herbaceous layer includes intermediate woodfern (*Dryopteris intermedia*), Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrosticoides*) and bristly dewberry (*Rubus hispidus*), with coverage ranging from 40 to 75%. Summer grape (*Vitis aestivalis*) and oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) cover the trees in the edge habitat. The vegetation was more diverse in this slope; but generalist herbs like white snakeroot and common blue violet (*Viola sororia*) are more prevalent than rich herb species like Jack in the pulpit.

The area identified as Floodplain Forest (Floodplain Site) may also provide foraging habitat. The Floodplain Site composes 0.74 acres of the total study area, and it is located in Obstruction Removal Area 7 (Floodplain Site; with selective tree removal in 0.05 acres and selective tree trimming in 0.69 acres). The wooded floodplain is dominated by mature American beech and white oak measuring 1.5 to 2 feet dbh and seventy to eighty feet tall. Sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), mockernut hickory, and American elm (*Ulmus americana*) are codominant. A shrub layer of boxelder, American hornbeam and black birch (*Betula lenta*) provides deep shade. A less shaded streamside buffer supports full herbaceous cover of sweet woodreed (*Cinna arundinacea*), clearweed (*Pilea pumila*) and golden ragwort (*Packera aurea*). Coverage of the interior herbaceous layer ranges from 20 to 40 percent and is diverse: New York fern (*Thelypteris noveboracensis*), golden ragwort, seedlings of white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), and white wood aster (*Eurybia divaricata*).

D.2.1 Cumulative Effects

This section discusses the potential circumstances cumulative impacts could occur in addition to the proposed action.

Private Lands

The majority of land surrounding the Action Area is privately owned. This can result in the potential for habitat loss of both forest and flowering plants through development, timbering, and gas/mineral extraction.

Herbicides and Milkweed Availability

The availability of milkweed is essential to monarch reproduction and survival. Reductions in milkweed is cited as a key driver in monarch declines. A majority of milkweed loss has occurred in agricultural lands, where intensive herbicide usage for weed control has resulted in widespread milkweed eradication. Milkweed is also lost on the landscape through development and conversion of grasslands.

Insecticides

Insecticides are pesticides with chemical properties that are designed to kill insects, and most are non-specific and broad-spectrum in nature. That is, insects exposed to these insecticides are susceptible to mortality and/or sub-lethal effects. Furthermore, the larvae of many Lepidopterans are considered major pest species and insecticides are tested specifically on this taxon to ensure that they will effectively kill individuals. Although insecticide use is most often associated with agricultural production, any habitat where monarchs are found may be subject to insecticide use due to pest outbreak or for general pest prevention. Homeowners may treat yards and gardens to protect plants from pests or purchase plants from nurseries that sell neonicotinoid-treated plants as ornamentals. Natural areas, such as forests and parks, may be treated to control for insects that defoliate, bore into wood, or otherwise damage trees.

D.2.2. Conservation Measures

Conservation measures to off-set the minimal impact would include:

- The Proposed Action will remove obstructions to Runway 5-23 approaches in nine (9) separate areas totaling 30.69 acres. These nine (9) obstruction removal areas are on differing private properties, and the obstruction removal in these areas will consist of the removal of selected trees within 16.75 acres and the trimming of selected trees within 13.94 acres (calculated from the areas identified within the nine (9) individual areas noted for this project). The identification of selected trees for removal or trimming was done to minimize impacts as opposed to complete clear cut or trimming of identified acreages (573 trees to be removed and 519 trees to be trimmed), and there would be minimal impacts anticipated to flowering herbaceous plants. The select removal and trimming of trees within the nine (9) denoted areas will provide breaks in the existing canopy cover of these areas, allowing more sun to reach the forest floor and encouraging the growth of more diverse and abundant flowers, and therefore potentially increasing foraging habitat for the monarch butterfly.
- Stumps remaining after tree cutting in areas to be maintained as lawn will be ground to a point minimum of 4” below the existing ground surface. Upon completion of the grinding process, the stumps shall be covered with a minimum of 4” of suitable topsoil material. The Contractor will not be permitted to remove the stumps through grading with dozers or graders.
- The use of a feller buncher to control the direction of the tree fall allowing the operator to precisely guide where the tree lands, minimizing uncontrolled falling and damage to the surrounding trees and area.
- As a component of the Proposed Action, best management practices developed by the West Virginia Division of Forestry and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection will be adhered to, including seeding all obstruction removal areas to establish

adequate vegetation cover to help stabilize the surface soils. In all areas permitted by property owners, areas will be seeded with a wildflower mix (to include milkweed) and mulched to provide nectar sources for the butterfly.

- The coordination for off-site Project mitigation is ongoing with the Elkins Parks and Recreation Commission (see Appendix B) and would consist of planting or enhancing an existing pollinator garden, within Glendale Park or another local park within the City of Elkins (approximately 2 miles north of the Airport) . It is anticipated that the Airport and FAA will enter into an agreement with the Elkins Parks and Recreation Commission providing monetary assistance to achieve this objective if scope and price is approved by FAA.
- The use of herbicides and pesticides will be prohibited on the project.

D.3 RUSTY PATCHED BUMBLE BEE

The RPBB is listed as Endangered throughout its range with no critical habitat designated for this species. The Airport and surrounding area are within a HPZ for the RPBB, as mapped by the USFWS (**Figure 4**).

The Conservation Management Guidelines for the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee (USFWS, 2018) notes the following as land management activities that could cause take to the RPBB; prescribed fire, haying, grazing, herbicide use, land-clearing, pesticide use; and the use of non-native bees. In addition to direct take resulting from these activities, habitat fragmentation and loss of the diversity of habitat may cause indirect harm or take.

Potential direct and indirect impacts to the RPBB may occur as a result of the ground disturbance component of the proposed tree clearing and trimming, as well as potential habitat loss. The RPBB requires areas that support sufficient food, including nectar and pollen from diverse and abundant flowers (foraging habitat), as well as undisturbed nesting sites that are in proximity to those floral resources. They also require overwintering sites for hibernating queens, which typically occurs in upland forests. Potential RPBB habitat loss as a result of the Project includes overwintering, nesting and foraging habitat.

According to the *Programmatic Biological Opinion for Identified Restoration and Recovery Management Actions of the Monongahela, George Washington, and Jefferson National Forests on the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee* (*Bombus affinis*) (Shawn Cochran and Joby Timm July 3, 2023) timber management could help increase the abundance of the RPBB by increasing the richness and abundance of floral resources. It was concluded that forest management aimed at opening forest canopies "to control pests and disease" "is also likely to benefit bumble bees because favorable conditions for flowering are often found in mature forests with canopy gaps." Also, at the landscape scale, bee abundance was "generally positively related to the amount of early-successional habitat". The forest management proposed by the Airport is for obstruction removal and not to control pest and disease, but the resulting effects are anticipated to be similar. Additionally, the Proposed Action will create forest edge habitat in Obstruction Areas 1, 2, 3, 7, and 8, which are adjacent to larger forested tracts. This edge habitat, where forest meets open canopy habitats, typically extends about 100 feet into mature forested habitat, and can meet life history and resource needs for the RPBB, including nesting, spring-to-fall foraging, and overwintering. The proposed action is also expected to create openings within closed canopy

forest areas that will facilitate sunlight reaching the ground creating additional foraging and nesting habitat.

A botanical survey of the proposed action area was conducted in August 2024. Through this survey the habitat areas identified as Oak, Oak Cut, Mesic and Floodplain Sites contain possible habitat for the RPBB.

The areas identified as Oak Site A, B and C in the small whorled pogonia survey dated September 2024 located in **Appendix E** have the characteristics necessary to support an overwintering queen and/or provide nesting habitat. These sites may also provide some early foraging habitat due to the presence of spring flowering shrubs. The Oak Sites compose 9.20 acres of the 30.69-acre total study area, and they are located in Obstruction Removal Area 4 (Oak Site A; with selective tree removal in 2.96 acres and selective tree trimming in 0.36 acres), Obstruction Area 3 (Oak Site B; with selective tree trimming in 0.92 acres), and Obstruction Area 2 (Oak Site C; with selective tree removal in 2.38 acres and selective tree trimming in 2.61 acres). Based on the distribution of trees to be removed and trimmed in these areas, it is estimated to result in 7.61 acres of ground disturbance to potential RPBB overwintering and nesting habitat (Oak Sites). While use of heavy machinery will be minimized for the Project, the noted ground disturbance will result from the operation of a feller buncher to remove and trim trees. The Oak Sites are described as follows - habitat with minimal impact from agricultural, industrial, or residential development. Logging has occurred at least once in the past. This forest habitat type is a closed canopy forest in the region's moderately sloped upland hills. White pine (*Pinus strobus*), white and red oaks (*Quercus alba* and *Q. rubra*), mockernut hickory (*Carya tomentosa*) and red maple (*Acer rubrum*) are common trees in the canopy, and range in size from 9 inches dbh (diameter-breast-height) to 1.5 feet dbh. Chestnut oak (*Quercus montana*), shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*) and black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) are occasional. The past logging regimes appear less disruptive. Many oaks have sprouted from stumps. The shrub layer is present but not dense and includes witchhazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), American hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*), American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), with deerberry (*Vaccinium stamineum*) and Blue Ridge blueberry (*V. pallidum*) as subshrubs. The herb layer is sparse with coverage ranging from 10% to 30% but well-vegetated patches are occasional. Herbaceous plants characteristic of the acidic infertile soils include teaberry (*Gaultheria procumbens*), partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*), downy rattlesnake plantain (*Goodyera pubescens*), cat greenbrier (*Smilax glauca*), fan clubmoss (*Lycopodium digitatum*) and Swan's sedge (*Carex swanii*). The lack of a herbaceous layer may be due to several factors; soil acidity, prior logging practices and heavy deer browse. Roundleaf greenbrier (*Smilax rotundifolia*), a preferred deer food, was often browsed. Any tree seedlings present were often less than 6 inches tall. Forest herbs like bellworts (*Uvularia spp*.), Canada mayflower (*Maianthemum canadense*), false solomon's seal (*M. racemosum*), and Jack in the pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*) were observed infrequently; they had not produced fruits and appear stunted. Some unique herbs observed in the OAK habitat type include pinesap (*Monotropa hypopitys*), Canadian lousewort (*Pedicularis canadensis*), and arrowleaf violet (*Viola sagittata*).

The areas identified as Oak-Cut Sites (Oak Cut Site A through D) are areas that have been recently clear-cut or heavily timbered. Bare shaly soils are exposed in the logging roads. This makes these areas unlikely to provide overwintering or nesting habitat for the RPBB, but may potentially provide some foraging habitat, as the openings in canopy cover allows for more diverse flowering plant species to emerge. The Oak-Cut Sites compose 9.68 acres of the total study area, and they are located in Obstruction Removal Area 4 (Oak-Cut Site A; with selective tree removal in 1.55

acres and selective tree trimming in 0.07 acres and Oak-Cut Site B; with selective tree removal in 0.02 acres and selective tree trimming in 0.42 acres), Obstruction Area 5 (Oak-Cut Site C; with selective tree trimming in 0.10 acres), and Obstruction Area 8 (Oak-Cut Site D; with selective tree removal in 1.90 acres). The remnant canopy includes red maples, black gum and red oak. The opening of the canopy has allowed a dense cover of Pennsylvania and Allegheny blackberries (*Rubus pensylvanica* and *R. allegheniensis*), with devil's walkingstick (*Aralia spinosa*), Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergiii*) and pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*). The herbaceous layer is a diverse collection of abundant weedy natives and non-natives: wrinkleleaf goldenrod (*Solidago rugosa*), deertongue (*Dichanthelium clandestinum*), cypress panicgrass (*D. dichotomum*), common cinquefoil (*Potentilla simplex*), burnweed (*Erechtities hieracifolia*), and many others. The southern-most Oak-Cut (Site D) has a number of emergent wetlands dominated by rice cutgrass (*Leersia oryzoides*) and ruderal wetland species such as jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), bulrushes (*Scirpus atrovirens* and *S. polyphyllus*) and fowl mannagrass (*Glyceria striata*). The wetlands lie along drainages below the moderate slope and appear to be groundwater-fed.

The area identified as Mesic Forest (Mesic Site) is a steep, northeast-facing mesic forested slope that lies between a residential man-made pond, and old field and a forested slope to the north. This site has the characteristics to support foraging habitat for the RPBB due to the presence of spring flowering shrubs and some flowering herbaceous plants. The steep slope leading to wetter bottom lands is not anticipated to provide optimal overwintering or nesting habitat for the bee. The Mesic Site is located adjacent to a larger contiguous forested area to the west that may provide adequate overwintering and nesting habitat. The Mesic Site composes 0.83 acres of the total study area, and it is located in Obstruction Removal Area 1 (Mesic Site; with selective tree removal in 0.83 acres). The moister soils harbor a canopy of scattered tall and 2-foot dbh sugar maple, tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), and eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*). Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) and Japanese barberry are abundant in the shrub layer, and the herbaceous layer includes intermediate woodfern (*Dryopteris intermedia*), Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrosticoides*) and bristly dewberry (*Rubus hispidus*), with coverage ranging from 40 to 75%. Summer grape (*Vitis aestivalis*) and oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) cover the trees in the edge habitat. The vegetation was more diverse in this slope; but generalist herbs like white snakeroot and common blue violet (*Viola sororia*) are more prevalent than rich herb species like Jack in the pulpit.

The area identified as Floodplain Forest (Floodplain Site) is likely too wet to provide nesting or overwintering habitat for the RPBB, but it could provide foraging habitat. However, the majority of land surrounding this habitat type consists of Ruderal lands not conducive to nesting or overwintering sites lending itself as a low probability foraging area. The Floodplain Site composes 0.74 acres of the total study area, and it is located in Obstruction Removal Area 7 (Floodplain Site; with selective tree removal in 0.05 acres and selective tree trimming in 0.69 acres). The wooded floodplain is dominated by mature American beech and white oak measuring 1.5 to 2 feet dbh and seventy to eighty feet tall. Sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), mockernut hickory, and American elm (*Ulmus americana*) are codominant. A shrub layer of boxelder, American hornbeam and black birch (*Betula lenta*) provides deep shade. A less shaded streamside buffer supports full herbaceous cover of sweet woodreed (*Cinna arundinacea*), clearweed (*Pilea pumila*) and golden ragwort (*Packera aurea*). Coverage of the interior herbaceous layer ranges from 20 to 40 percent and is diverse: New York fern (*Thelypteris noveboracensis*), golden ragwort, seedlings of white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), and white wood aster (*Eurybia divaricata*).

Based on the distribution of trees to be removed and trimmed in the Oak Cut, Floodplain and Mesic areas, it is estimated to result in 3.51 acres of ground disturbance to potential RPBB foraging habitat to accomplish the noted obstruction removal. While use of heavy machinery will be minimized for the Project, the noted ground disturbance will result from the operation of a feller buncher to remove and trim trees.

The remainder of the habitat types includes Oak-Residential and Ruderal Forest Sites. The areas identified as Oak-Residential Sites (Oak Res Site A, and Oak-Res Site B) are within fragmented woodlots and adjacent to large lot home sites with noted anthropogenic impact. These Sites are not anticipated to provide overwintering or nesting habitat or foraging habitat for the RPBB due to compacted soils and lack of flowering plants and lack of diversity of plants. The Oak-Res Sites compose 5.58 acres of the total study area, and they are located in Obstruction Removal Area 4 (Oak-Res Site A; with selective tree removal in 1.43 acres and selective tree trimming in 1.72 acres), and Obstruction Area 3 (Oak-Res Site B; with selective tree removal in 1.38 acres removal and selective tree trimming in 1.05 acres).

The areas identified as Ruderal Forest Sites (Ruderal Sites A through D) were once subjected to heavy human disturbance to the soils, likely by cattle grazing, and have succeeded spontaneously with a mix of weedy and generalist native and exotic tree species. These Sites are not anticipated to provide overwintering or nesting habitat or foraging habitat for the RPBB due to compacted soils and lack of flowering plants and lack of diversity of plants. The Ruderal Sites compose 10.06 acres of the total study area, and they are located in Obstruction Removal Area 4 (Ruderal Site A; with selective tree trimming in 0.90 acres), Obstruction Area 3 (Ruderal Site B; with selective tree trimming in 1.71 acres), Obstruction Area 2 (Ruderal Site C; with selective tree removal in 3.38 acres and selective tree trimming in 3.25 acres), and Obstruction Area 9 (Ruderal Site D; with selective tree removal in 0.82 acres).

In summary, the areas denoted as Oak sites contain potential overwintering, nesting and foraging habitat and are comprised of 5.34 acres of tree removal (approximately 199 trees) and 3.89 acres of tree trimming (approximately 153 trees). The areas denoted as Oak Cut, Mesic and Floodplain sites contain potential foraging sites. The total acreage of tree removal from these sites is 4.35 acres (approximately 95 trees to be removed). The total acreage of trimming from these sites is 1.28 acres (approximately 21 trees to be trimmed). The proposed action would result in an estimated ground disturbance of 7.61 acres of potential RPBB overwintering and nesting habitat, and 3.51 acres of potential foraging habitat. While use of heavy machinery will be minimized for the Project, the noted ground disturbance will result from the operation of a feller buncher to remove and trim trees.

D.3.1 Cumulative Effects

This section discusses the potential circumstances cumulative impacts could occur in addition to the proposed action.

The USFWS's Recovery Plan for Rusty Patched Bumble Bee *(Bombus affinis*), notes that prior to its listing as endangered in 2017, the species experienced a widespread and sharp decline. The exact cause of the decline is unknown. Existing populations can be exposed to a variety of stressors, including pathogens, pesticides, habitat loss and degradation, non-native and managed

bees, the effects of climate change, and small population biology. These stressors likely operate independently as well as together. For example, dietary stress due to insufficient floral resources may reduce an individual's ability to fight off pathogens, exposure to insecticides can reduce resistance to disease, and exposure to fungicides can increase insecticide toxicity.

Private Lands

The majority of land surrounding the Action Area is privately owned. This can result in the potential for habitat loss of both forest and flowering plants through development, timbering, and gas/mineral extraction.

Insecticides

Insecticides are pesticides with chemical properties that are designed to kill insects, and most are non-specific applicable to multiple species. Although insecticide use is most often associated with agricultural production, any habitat where the RPBB is found may be subject to its use due the desire to control or prevent pest presence. Homeowners may treat yards and gardens to protect plants from pests or purchase plants from nurseries that are already treated to control insects. Natural areas, such as forests and parks, may be treated to control for insects that defoliate, bore into wood, or otherwise damage trees.

Commercial Bees and Pathogens

Commercially raised common eastern bumble bees (*B. impatiens*) may spread pathogens into wild bee populations and compete with wild bees for resources. Commercially raised European honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) and commercially raised hybrids also have documented negative effects on the reproductive success of bumble bees. Additionally, pollen can be a vector for disease transmission between honey bees and bumble bees.

D.3.2. Conservation Measures

Conservation measures to off-set the minimal impact would include:

- The proposed cutting and trimming of selected trees will occur between May 1 and September 31 to avoid impacts to overwintering queens.
- Stumps remaining after tree cutting in non-maintained areas will be left in place to reduce ground disturbance.
- Stumps remaining after tree cutting in areas to be maintained as lawn will be ground to a point minimum of 4" below the existing ground surface. Upon completion of the grinding process, the stumps shall be covered with a minimum of 4" of suitable topsoil material. The Contractor will not be permitted to remove the stumps through grading with dozers or graders.
- The use of a feller buncher to control the direction of the tree fall allowing the operator to precisely guide where the tree lands, minimizing uncontrolled falling and damage to the surrounding trees and area.
- The Proposed Action will remove obstructions to Runway 5-23 approaches in nine (9) separate areas totaling 30.69 acres. These nine (9) obstruction removal areas are on differing private properties, and the obstruction removal in these areas will consist of the removal of selected trees within 16.75 acres and the trimming of selected trees within 13.94

acres (calculated from the areas identified within the nine (9) individual areas noted for this project). The identification of selected trees for removal or trimming was done to minimize impacts as opposed to complete clear cut or trimming of identified acreages (573 trees to be removed and 519 trees to be trimmed), and there would be minimal impacts anticipated to flowering herbaceous plants.

- According to the *Programmatic Biological Opinion for Identified Restoration and Recovery Management Actions of the Monongahela, George Washington, and Jefferson National Forests on the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee* (*Bombus affinis*) (Shawn Cochran and Joby Timm July 3, 2023) timber management could help increase the abundance of the RPBB by increasing the richness and abundance of floral resources. It was concluded that forest management aimed at opening forest canopies "to control pests and disease" "is also likely to benefit bumble bees because favorable conditions for flowering are often found in mature forests with canopy gaps." Also, at the landscape scale, bee abundance was "generally positively related to the amount of early-successional habitat". The forest management proposed by the Airport is for obstruction removal and not to control pest and disease, but the resulting effects are anticipated to be similar by creating openings within closed canopy forest areas that will facilitate sunlight reaching the ground creating additional foraging and nesting habitat.
- The Proposed Action will create forest edge habitat in Obstruction Areas 1, 2, 3, 7, and 8, which are adjacent to larger forested tracts. This edge habitat, where forest meets open canopy habitats, typically extends about 100 feet into mature forested habitat, and can meet life history and resource needs for the RPBB, including nesting, spring-to-fall foraging, and overwintering.
- The USFWS will be given on-site access (based on pre-approval by each property owner) during the proposed tree cutting and trimming activities to allow for monitoring of the proposed action, and to provide an opportunity to gather data on potential RPBB habitat.
- As a component of the Proposed Action, best management practices developed by the West Virginia Division of Forestry and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection will be adhered to, including seeding all obstruction removal areas to establish adequate vegetation cover to help stabilize the surface soils. In all areas permitted by property owners, areas will be seeded with a wildflower mix and mulched to provide nectar sources for the RPBB.
- The coordination for off-site Project mitigation is ongoing with the Elkins Parks and Recreation Commission (see Appendix B) and would consist of planting or enhancing an existing pollinator garden, within Glendale Park or another local park within the City of Elkins (approximately 2 miles north of the Airport) . It is anticipated that the Airport and FAA will enter into an agreement with the Elkins Parks and Recreation Commission providing monetary assistance to achieve this objective if scope and price is approved by FAA.
- The use of herbicides and pesticides will be prohibited on the project.

D.4 SMALL WHORLED POGONIA

The small whorled pogonia is listed as a Threatened species on the USFWS Threatened and Endangered species list. Direct and indirect take to the small whorled pogonia is not anticipated as this species was not identified within the Project area during the 2019 or 2024 plant surveys conducted. Somewhat to moderately high probability habitat within the areas denoted as Oak and

Floodplain sites does exist in the action area, and there remains a possibility that indirect harm may occur through habitat loss. Total acreage of area for tree removal from these habitat types is 5.39 acres (approximately 200 trees) and total acreage of area for tree trimming is 4.58 acres (approximately 170 trees).

The intent of the Project is to remove obstructions to Runway 5-23 approaches in nine (9) separate areas totaling 30.69 acres. These nine (9) obstruction removal areas are on differing private properties, and the obstruction removal in these areas will consist of the removal of selected trees within 16.75 acres and the trimming of selected trees within 13.94 acres (calculated from the areas identified within the nine (9) individual areas noted for this project. The identification of selected trees for removal or trimming was done to minimize impacts as opposed to complete clear cut or trimming of identified acreages (573 trees to be removed and 519 trees to be trimmed). The nine (9) areas can be seen on **Figures 1 and 2 within Appendix A – Mapping** and are detailed in Table B.1. Therefore, there is the potential to create a loss of forest habitat potentially available for future populations of the small whorled pogonia. However, the project site is located within a much larger forested area. Within a one-mile radius of the action area, there is more than 1,000 acres of forested area. Additionally, the limited disturbance associated with the obstruction removal project will provide canopy breaks in the area and therefore, may improve the overall habitat for this species. Based on the potential for habitat improvement due to additional canopy breaks and the amount of forested area remaining after the implementation of the Proposed Action; the loss, reduction, degradation, disturbance or fragmentation of habitat associated with the removal and trimming of less than 31 acres of trees over nine (9) separate areas is considered minimal and is not anticipated to impact the likelihood of harm or take of the small whorled pogonia.

D.4.1 Cumulative Effects

This section discusses the potential circumstances cumulative impacts could occur in addition to the proposed action.

Private Lands

The majority of land surrounding the Action Area is privately owned. This can result in the potential for habitat/forest loss through development, timbering, and gas/mineral extraction.

D.4.2. Conservation Measures

Conservation measures to off-set the minimal impact would include:

- The select removal and trimming of trees within the nine (9) denoted areas will provide breaks in the existing canopy cover of these areas, allowing more sun to reach the forest floor and encouraging the growth of herbaceous vegetation.
- Stumps remaining after tree cutting in non-maintained areas will be left in place to reduce ground disturbance.
- Stumps remaining after tree cutting in areas to be maintained as lawn will be ground to a point minimum of 4” below the existing ground surface. Upon completion of the grinding process, the stumps shall be covered with a minimum of 4” of suitable topsoil material.

The Contractor will not be permitted to remove the stumps through grading with dozers or graders.

- The use of a feller buncher to control the direction of the tree fall allowing the operator to precisely guide where the tree lands, minimizing uncontrolled falling and damage to the surrounding trees and area.
- The use of herbicides and pesticides will be prohibited on the project.

SECTION E. DETERMINATION

E.1 INDIANA, NORTHERN LONG-EARED, TRI-COLORED BAT, AND VIRGINIA BIG-EARED BAT

The Indiana, NLEB, TCB, and VBEB are listed as Endangered or Proposed Endangered species on the USFWS Threatened and Endangered species list. Direct and indirect take to the Indiana, NLEB, TCB, and VBEB are not likely as these species were not identified within the Project area during the 2018 and 2024 bat surveys conducted. The intent of the Project is to remove obstructions to Runway 5-23 approaches in nine (9) separate areas totaling 30.69 acres. These nine (9) obstruction removal areas are on differing private properties, and the obstruction removal in these areas will consist of the removal of selected trees within 16.75 acres and the trimming of selected trees within 13.94 acres (calculated from the areas identified within the nine (9) individual areas noted for this project). The identification of selected trees for removal or trimming was done to minimize impacts as opposed to complete clear cut or trimming of identified acreages (573 trees to be removed and 519 trees to be trimmed). The nine (9) areas can be seen on **Figures 1 and 2 within Appendix A – Mapping** and are detailed in the Table B.1.

There remains a minimal possibility direct take of the bat species could occur through removal of active roost trees. Indirect take could occur through disturbance of roosting bats in nearby trees. Potential bat habitat loss as a result of the Project includes summer roosting habitat, travelling cover, and foraging habitat. The project site is located within a large, forested area, with the Appalachian Mountains and Monongahela National Forest located immediately east of the general Project area. Within a one-mile radius of the action area, there is more than 1,000 acres of forest. Based on the amount of forested area remaining after the implementation of the Proposed Action, the loss, reduction, degradation, disturbance or fragmentation of habitat associated with the removal and trimming of selected trees within less than 31 acres is considered minimal. Additionally, the areas of tree removal and trimming are spread across nine (9) separate obstruction removal areas located both north and south of the Airport, with forested areas remaining adjacent to or near the nine (9) obstruction removal areas.

It has been determined that the proposed action warrants a **May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect** for the Indiana bat and NLEB, TCB, and VBEB.

A determination of **May Affect** is warranted for the proposed action based on the following rationale:

- The presence of potentially suitable habitat within the obstruction removal areas.

A determination of **Not Likely to Adversely Affect** is warranted for the proposed action based on the following rationale:

- A Mist Net Survey Plan was submitted to the USFWS on July 3, 2024. Concurrence for Myotid Bat Study Plan – Mist Netting was issued by the USFWS on July 9, 2024 based on the submitted plan. A mist net survey was conducted for the proposed action at five (5) sites for two (2) nights each using three (3) mist net sets (30 net-nights) between July 28 and August 3, 2024 and submitted to the USFWS on August 5, 2024. A total of 39 bats

were captured during mist net surveys. Captured bat species were limited to Big Brown Bats and Eastern Red Bats.

- The proposed action is not located within USFWS designated Indiana bat hibernaucla or summer use buffers.
- The proposed action is not located within a half mile of a known NLEB hibernacula or within a quarter mile of a known NLEB summer maternity roost tree.
- The proposed action is not located within a half mile of a known TCB hibernacula or winter roost or within 150 feet of any documented TCB roosts.
- The proposed action is not located within a half mile of a known VBEB hibernacula or summer roost.
- Mist net surveys were also conducted for the Indiana bat and NLEB and a report was submitted in August of 2018. The survey covered 26 acres of potential bat habitat and was conducted at 5 net sites from July 30, 2018 to August 9, 2018. A total of 11 bats were captured during mist net surveys. Captured bat species were limited to Big Brown Bats and Eastern Red Bats. The area was also surveyed for caves and abandoned mine portals and none were found in the Project area.
- No endangered or threatened bat species were captured.

Conservation measures to off-set the minimal impact would include:

- Selective tree removal/trimming within the larger identified acreage areas.
- The use of a feller buncher to control the direction of the tree fall allowing the operator to precisely guide where the tree lands, minimizing uncontrolled falling and damage to the surrounding trees and area.
- The use of herbicides and pesticides will be prohibited on the project.

E.2 MONARCH BUTTERFLY

The monarch butterfly is a federally proposed threatened species on the USFWS Threatened and Endangered species list. Critical habitat has not been designated for this species. Adult monarch butterflies require a diversity of blooming nectar resources during breeding and migration (spring through fall). Monarchs also need milkweed (for both oviposition and larval feeding) embedded within this diverse nectaring habitat. Direct and indirect take of the butterfly is not likely, as the monarch's host species of milkweed was not identified within the Project area during the 2019 and 2024 plant surveys conducted. Due to the adult butterfly's ability to fly when disturbed, there is very minimal potential for direct take of a traveling or feeding butterfly during the tree cutting and trimming activities. Due to absence of milkweed, there is very low potential for larvae to be in the area resulting in no direct or indirect take due to the proposed action. There is potential for impact to foraging habitat, but it is anticipated to be minimal due to the selective tree removal and trimming and limited disturbance to the herbaceous and shrub understory. Potential foraging habitat within the areas denoted as Oak, Oak Cut, Mesic and Floodplain sites may exist. The total acreage of removal from these sites is 9.69 acres (approximately 294 trees to be removed). The total acreage of trimming from these sites is 5.17 acres (approximately 174 trees to be trimmed). These sites are scatted across the study area (north and south of the airport) and are not contiguous.

It has been determined that the proposed action warrants a **May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect** for the candidate species, monarch butterfly. Section 7 consulation is not required for candidate species, but information has been included in this section as appropriate.

A determination of **May Affect** is warranted for the proposed action based on the following rationale:

- The known presence of the butterfly and suitable foraging habitat within the obstruction removal areas, denoted as Oak (9.20 acres, Oak Cut (9.68 acres), Mesic (0.83 acres), and Floodplain (0.74 acres) sites, and surrounding vicinity.

A determination of **Not Likely to Adversely Affect** is warranted for the proposed action based on the following rationale:

- Milkweed was not identified during the 2019 or 2024 botanical surveys of the action area. Monarchs need milkweed (for both oviposition and larval feeding) embedded within diverse nectaring habitat.
- The proposed action involves clearing and trimming of selected trees within smaller acreage areas, with minimal impact anticipated to flowering herbaceous plants.

Conservation measures to off-set the minimal impact would include:

- The Proposed Action will remove obstructions to Runway 5-23 approaches in nine (9) separate areas totaling 30.69 acres. These nine (9) obstruction removal areas are on differing private properties, and the obstruction removal in these areas will consist of the removal of selected trees within 16.75 acres and the trimming of selected trees within 13.94 acres (calculated from the areas identified within the nine (9) individual areas noted for this project. The identification of selected trees for removal or trimming was done to minimize impacts as opposed to complete clear cut or trimming of identified acreages (573 trees to be removed and 519 trees to be trimmed), and there would be minimal impacts anticipated to flowering herbaceous plants. The select removal and trimming of trees within the nine (9) denoted areas will provide breaks in the existing canopy cover of these areas, allowing more sun to reach the forest floor and encouraging the growth of more diverse and abundant flowers, and therefore potentially increasing foraging habitat for the monarch butterfly.
- Stumps remaining after tree cutting in areas to be maintained as lawn will be ground to a point minimum of 4” below the existing ground surface. Upon completion of the grinding process, the stumps shall be covered with a minimum of 4” of suitable topsoil material. The Contractor will not be permitted to remove the stumps through grading with dozers or graders.
- The use of a feller buncher to control the direction of the tree fall allowing the operator to precisely guide where the tree lands, minimizing uncontrolled falling and damage to the surrounding trees and area.
- As a component of the Proposed Action, best management practices developed by the West Virginia Division of Forestry and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection will be adhered to, including seeding all obstruction removal areas to establish adequate vegetation cover to help stabilize the surface soils. In all areas permitted by

property owners, areas will be seeded with a wildflower mix (to include milkweed) and mulched to provide nectar sources for the butterfly.

- The coordination for off-site Project mitigation is ongoing with the Elkins Parks and Recreation Commission (see Appendix B) and would consist of planting or enhancing an existing pollinator garden, within Glendale Park or another local park within the City of Elkins (approximately 2 miles north of the Airport) . It is anticipated that the Airport and FAA will enter into an agreement with the Elkins Parks and Recreation Commission providing monetary assistance to achieve this objective if scope and price is approved by FAA.
- The use of herbicides and pesticides will be prohibited on the project.

E.3 RUSTY PATCHED BUMBLE BEE

Rusty Patched Bumble Bee

The Airport and surrounding area are within a High Potential Zone (HPZ) for the RPBB, as mapped by the USFWS (**Figure 4**). The RPBB requires areas that support sufficient food, including nectar and pollen from diverse and abundant flowers (foraging habitat), as well as undisturbed nesting sites that are in proximity to those floral resources. They also require overwintering sites for hibernating queens, which typically occurs in upland forests. Potential RPBB habitat loss as a result of the Project includes overwintering sites, nesting sites and some areas of foraging habitat. The areas denoted as Oak sites contain potential overwintering, nesting and foraging habitat and is comprised of 5.34 acres for tree removal (approximately 199 trees) and 3.89 acres for tree trimming (approximately 153 trees). The areas denoted as Oak Cut, Mesic and Floodplain sites contain potential foraging habitat. The total acreage of tree removal from these sites is 4.35 acres (approximately 95 trees to be removed). The total acreage of trimming from these sites is 1.28 acres (approximately 21 trees to be trimmed). The areas of tree removal and trimming are spread across nine (9) separate obstruction removal areas located both north and south of the Airport, with forested areas remaining adjacent to or near the nine (9) obstruction removal areas.

It has been determined that the proposed action warrants a **May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect** for the RPBB.

A determination of **May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect** is warranted for the proposed action based on the following rationale:

- The location of the Proposed Action within a RPBB HPZ.
- The presence of potentially suitable habitat within the Project area, with the areas denoted as Oak sites (9.20 acres) containing potential overwintering, nesting and foraging habitat, and the areas denoted as Oak Cut (9.68 acres), Mesic (0.83 acres) and Floodplain (0.74 acres) sites containing potential foraging sites.
- The proposed action would result in approximately 7.61 acres of ground disturbance of RPBB assumed nesting habitat during the nesting season.

- The proposed action would result in approximately 3.51 acres of potential ground disturbance of assumed foraging habitat during the nesting season.

Avoidance, Minimization, and Conservation Measures:

- The proposed cutting and trimming of selected trees will occur between May 1 and September 31 to avoid impacts to overwintering queens.
- Stumps remaining after tree cutting in non-maintained areas will be left in place to reduce ground disturbance.
- Stumps remaining after tree cutting in areas to be maintained as lawn will be ground to a point minimum of 4" below the existing ground surface. Upon completion of the grinding process, the stumps shall be covered with a minimum of 4" of suitable topsoil material. The Contractor will not be permitted to remove the stumps through grading with dozers or graders.
- The use of a feller buncher to control the direction of the tree fall allowing the operator to precisely guide where the tree lands, minimizing uncontrolled falling and damage to the surrounding trees and area.
- The Proposed Action will remove obstructions to Runway 5-23 approaches in nine (9) separate areas totaling 30.69 acres. These nine (9) obstruction removal areas are on differing private properties, and the obstruction removal in these areas will consist of the removal of selected trees within 16.75 acres and the trimming of selected trees within 13.94 acres (calculated from the areas identified within the nine (9) individual areas noted for this project). The identification of selected trees for removal or trimming was done to minimize impacts as opposed to complete clear cut or trimming of identified acreages (573 trees to be removed and 519 trees to be trimmed), and there would be minimal impacts anticipated to flowering herbaceous plants.
- According to the *Programmatic Biological Opinion for Identified Restoration and Recovery Management Actions of the Monongahela, George Washington, and Jefferson National Forests on the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee* (*Bombus affinis*) (Shawn Cochran and Joby Timm July 3, 2023) timber management could help increase the abundance of the RPBB by increasing the richness and abundance of floral resources. It was concluded that forest management aimed at opening forest canopies "to control pests and disease" "is also likely to benefit bumble bees because favorable conditions for flowering are often found in mature forests with canopy gaps." Also, at the landscape scale, bee abundance was "generally positively related to the amount of early-successional habitat". The forest management proposed by the Airport is for obstruction removal and not to control of pest and disease, but the resulting effects are anticipated to be similar by creating openings within closed canopy forest areas that will facilitate sunlight reaching the ground creating additional foraging and nesting habitat.
- The Proposed Action will create forest edge habitat in Obstruction Areas 1, 2, 3, 7, and 8, which are adjacent to larger forested tracts. This edge habitat, where forest meets open canopy habitats, typically extends about 100 feet into mature forested habitat, and can meet life history and resource needs for the RPBB, including nesting, spring-to-fall foraging, and overwintering.

- The USFWS will be given on-site access (based on pre-approval by each property owner) during the proposed tree cutting and trimming activities to allow for monitoring of the proposed action, and to provide an opportunity to gather data on potential RPBB habitat.
- As a component of the Proposed Action, best management practices developed by the West Virginia Division of Forestry and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Project will be adhered to, including seeding all obstruction removal areas to establish adequate vegetation cover to help stabilize the surface soils. In all areas permitted by property owners, areas will be seeded with a wildflower mix and mulched to provide nectar sources for the RPBB.
- The coordination for off-site Project mitigation is ongoing with the Elkins Parks and Recreation Commission (see Appendix B) and would consist of planting or enhancing an existing pollinator garden, within Glendale Park or another local park within the City of Elkins (approximately 2 miles north of the Airport) . It is anticipated that the Airport and FAA will enter into an agreement with the Elkins Parks and Recreation Commission providing monetary assistance to achieve this objective if scope and price is approved by FAA.
- The use of herbicides and pesticides will be prohibited on the project.

E.4 SMALL WHORLED POGONIA

The small whorled pogonia is listed as a Threatened species on the USFWS Threatened and Endangered species list. Direct and indirect take to the small whorled pogonia is not anticipated as this species was not identified within the Project area during the 2019 or 2024 plant surveys conducted. Somewhat to moderately high probability habitat within the areas denoted as Oak and Floodplain sites does exist in the action area, and there remains a possibility that indirect harm may occur through habitat loss. Total acreage of area for tree removal from these habitat types is 5.39 acres (approximately 200 trees) and total acreage of area for tree trimming is 4.58 acres (approximately 170 trees).

It has been determined that the proposed action warrants a **May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect** for the Small Whorled Pogonia.

A determination of **May Affect** is warranted for the proposed action based on the following rationale:

- The presence of somewhat to moderately high probability areas within the Oak (9.20 acres) and Floodplain Sites (0.74 acres) of the obstruction removal areas.
- A known population of small whorled pogonia within 2.5 miles of the project area.

A determination of **Not Likely to Adversely Affect** is based on the following rationale:

- The plant species was not observed during the 2019 or 2024 botanical survey of the study area.
- The Proposed Action will remove obstructions to Runway 5-23 approaches in nine (9) separate areas totaling 30.69 acres. These nine (9) obstruction removal areas are on differing private properties, and the obstruction removal in these areas will consist of the removal of selected trees within 16.75 acres and the trimming of selected trees within 13.94

acres (calculated from the areas identified within the nine (9) individual areas noted for this project). The identification of selected trees for removal or trimming was done to minimize impacts as opposed to complete clear cut or trimming of identified acreages (573 trees to be removed and 519 trees to be trimmed), and there would be minimal impacts anticipated to flowering herbaceous plants.

- Per the *USFWS Small Whorled Pogonia (Isotria medeolodies) Fact Sheet*, this orchid is almost always found in proximity to features that create long-persisting breaks in the forest canopy. The limited disturbance associated with the obstruction removal project will provide additional canopy breaks in the area and therefore, may improve the overall habitat for this species.

Conservation measures to off-set the minimal impact would include:

- The select removal and trimming of trees within the nine (9) denoted areas will provide breaks in the existing canopy cover of these areas, allowing more sun to reach the forest floor and encouraging the growth of herbaceous vegetation.
- Stumps remaining after tree cutting in non-maintained areas will be left in place to reduce ground disturbance.
- Stumps remaining after tree cutting in areas to be maintained as lawn will be ground to a point minimum of 4" below the existing ground surface. Upon completion of the grinding process, the stumps shall be covered with a minimum of 4" of suitable topsoil material. The Contractor will not be permitted to remove the stumps through grading with dozers or graders. The use of a feller buncher to control the direction of the tree fall allowing the operator to precisely guide where the tree lands, minimizing uncontrolled falling and damage to the surrounding trees and area.
- The use of herbicides and pesticides will be prohibited on the project.

SECTION F. LITERATURE CITED

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SECTION G. REPORT PREPARERS

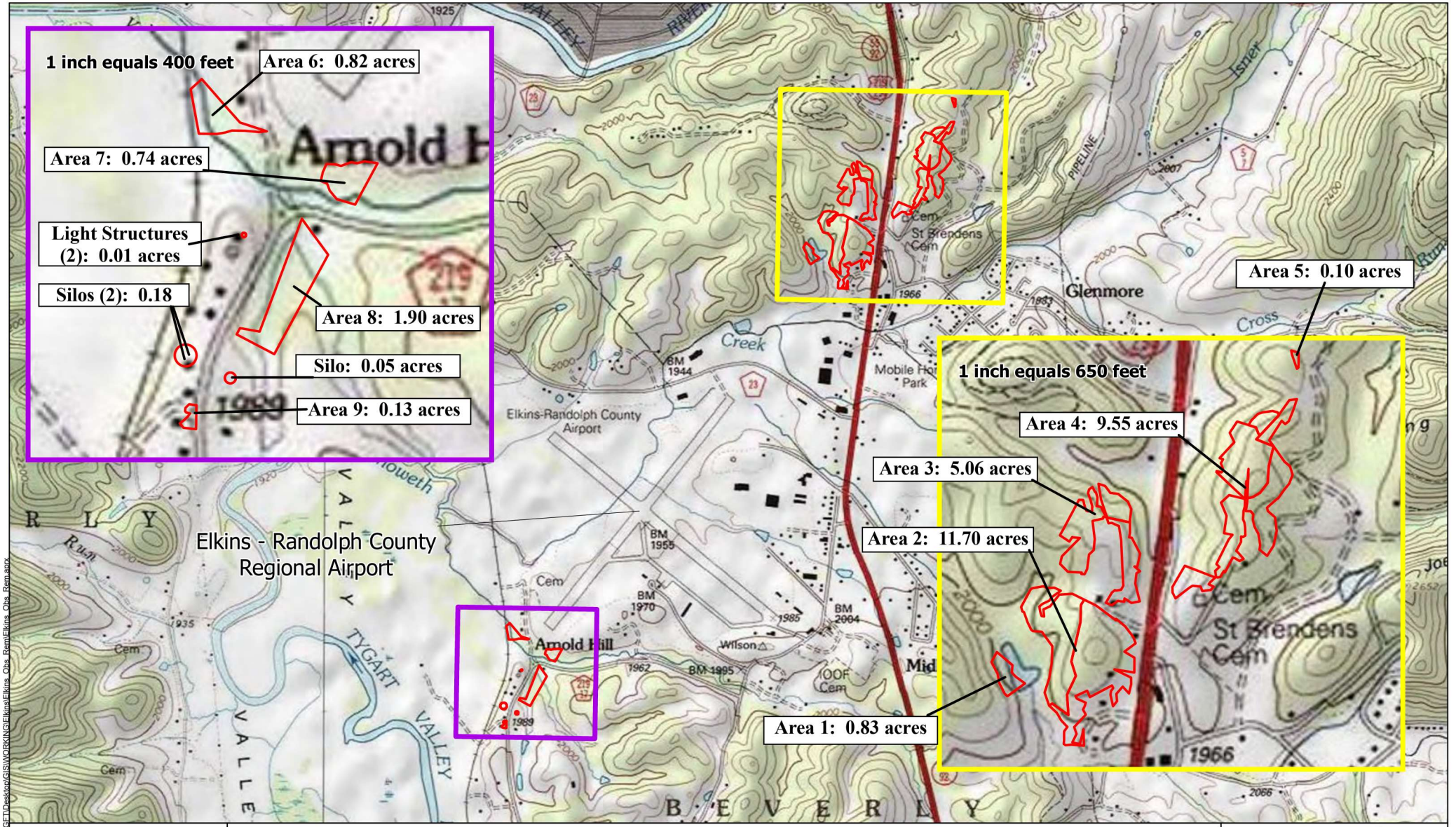
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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A
MAPPING



Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport
Obstruction Removal Project
Elkins, West Virginia

Figure 1 - Study Areas

N
0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 2,500 Feet

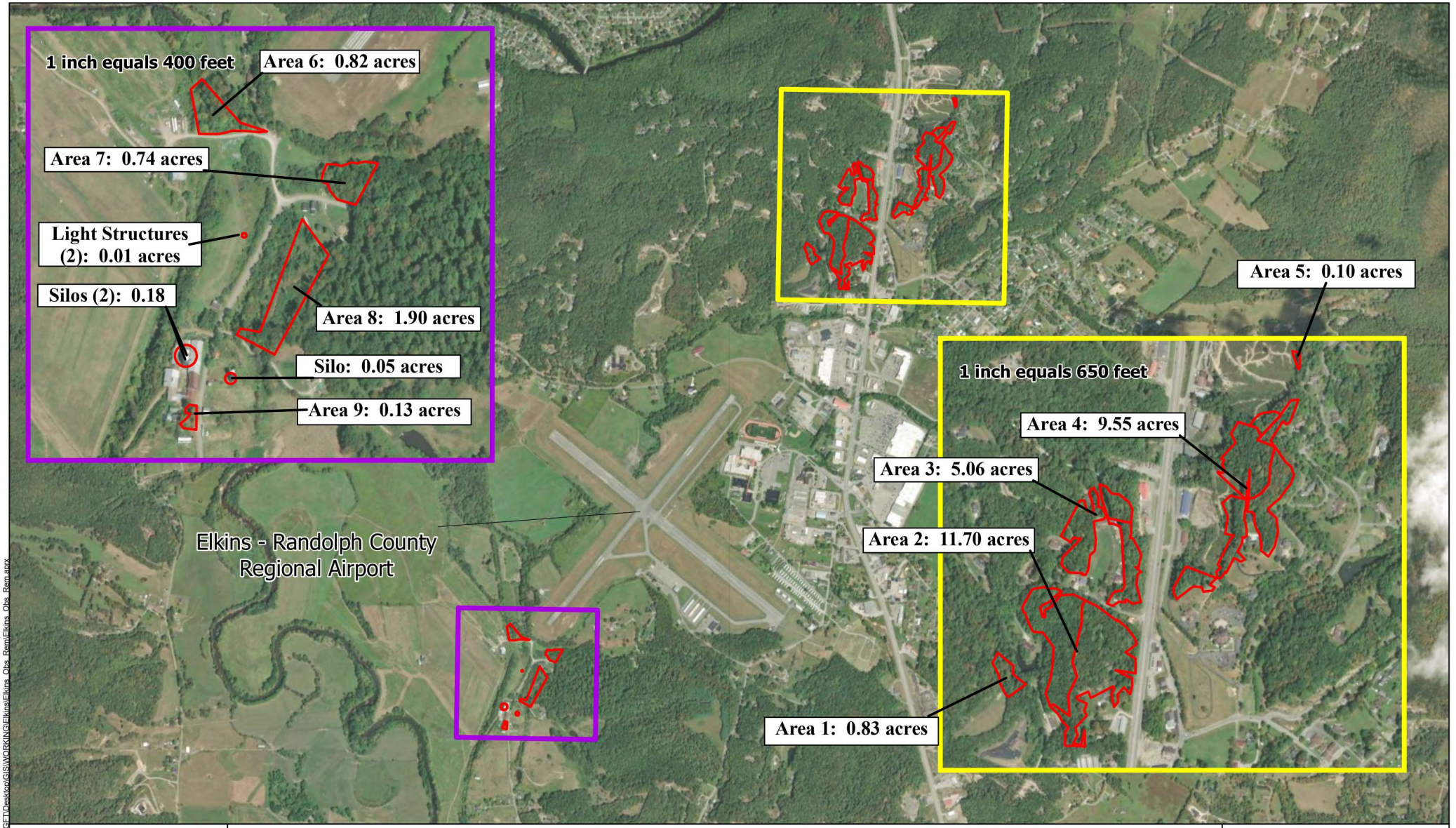
Obstruction Removal Areas (Study Areas)

TRANSYSTEMS

January 2025

Source: ESRI, USGS Quad (Elkins)

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Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport
Obstruction Removal Project
Elkins, West Virginia

Figure 2 - Study Areas (Aerial)

N 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 2,500 Feet

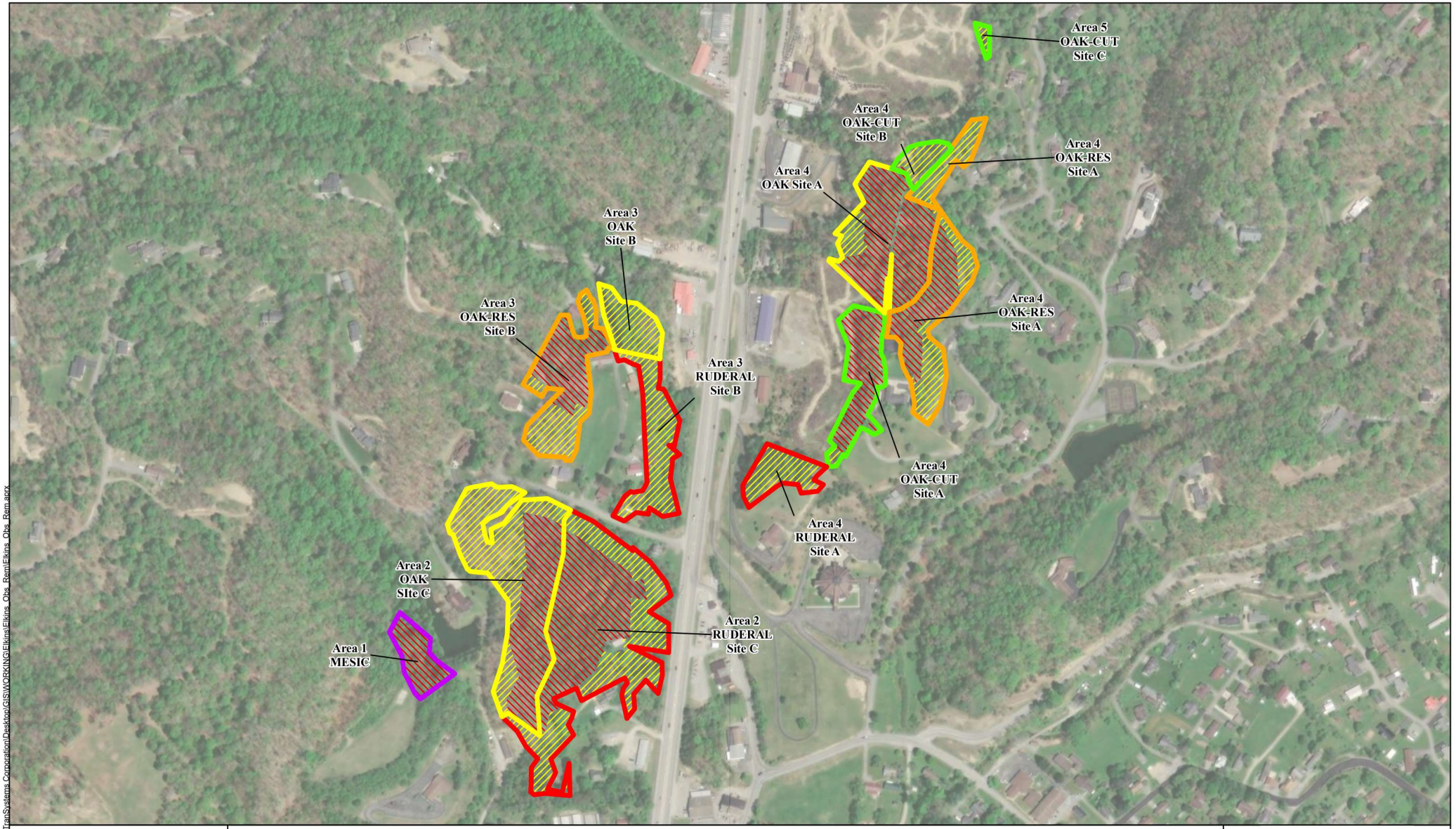
Obstruction Removal Areas (Study Areas)

TRANSYSTEMS

January 2025

Source: ESRI

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Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport
Obstruction Removal Project
Elkins, West Virginia
Figure 3A - Habitat Types Observed in Botanical Survey

N
0 125 250 375 500 625 Feet

Habitat Types

- Dry-Mesic Oak Forest
- Dry-Mesic Oak Forest, recently timbered
- Dry-Mesic Oak Forest, residential impacts
- Floodplain Forest of Mixed Hardwoods
- Mesic Forested Slope
- Ruderal Forest, Field, Farm, Lawn

Impact Type

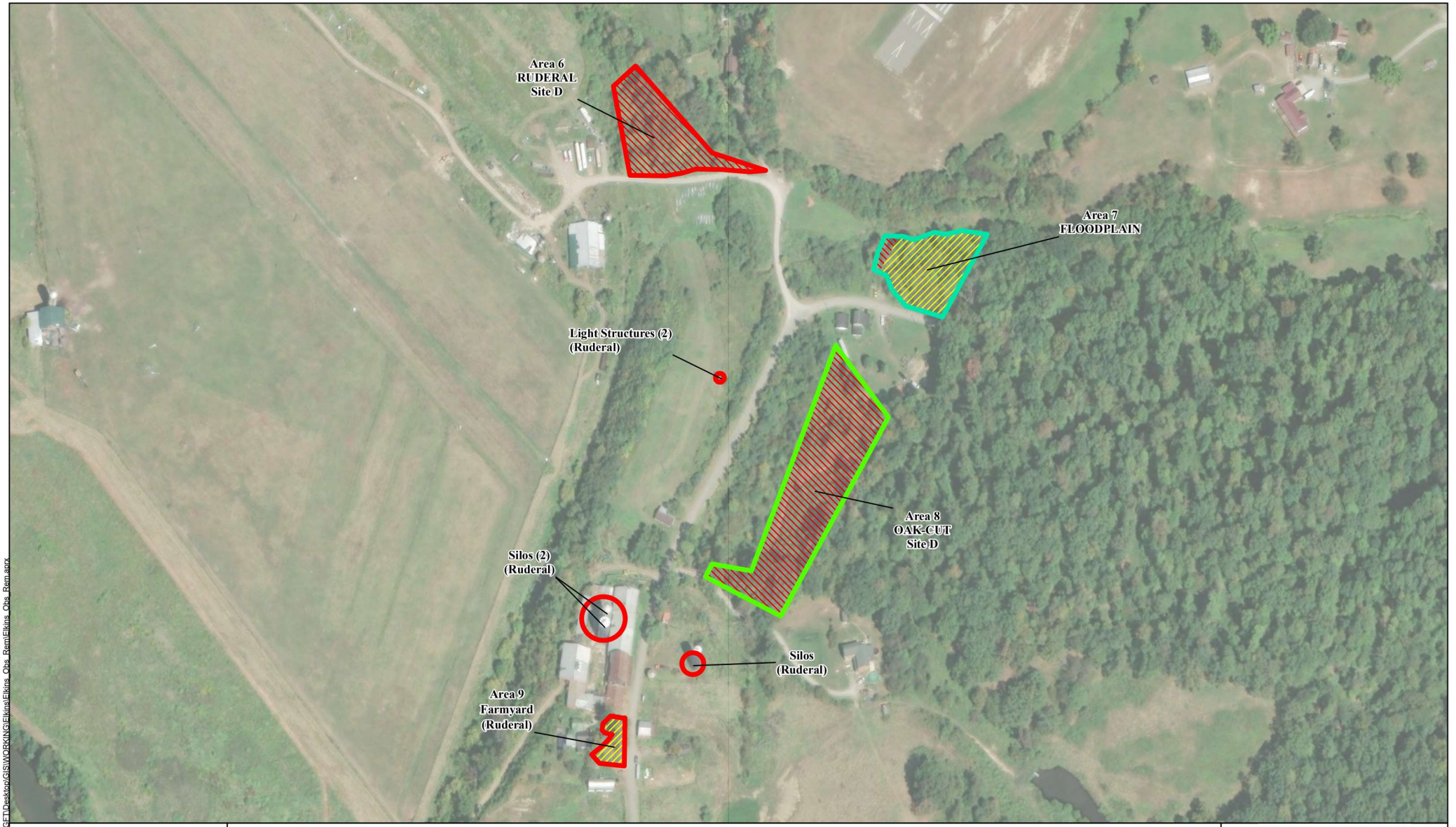
- Tree Removal
- Tree Trimming

TRANSYSTEMS

January 2025

Source: ESRI

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Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport
Obstruction Removal Project
Elkins, West Virginia
Figure 3B - Habitat Types Observed in Botanical Survey

N
0 75 150 225 300 375 Feet

Habitat Types

- Dry-Mesic Oak Forest
- Dry-Mesic Oak Forest, recently timbered
- Dry-Mesic Oak Forest, residential impacts
- Floodplain Forest of Mixed Hardwoods
- Mesic Forested Slope
- Ruderal Forest, Field, Farm, Lawn

Impact Type

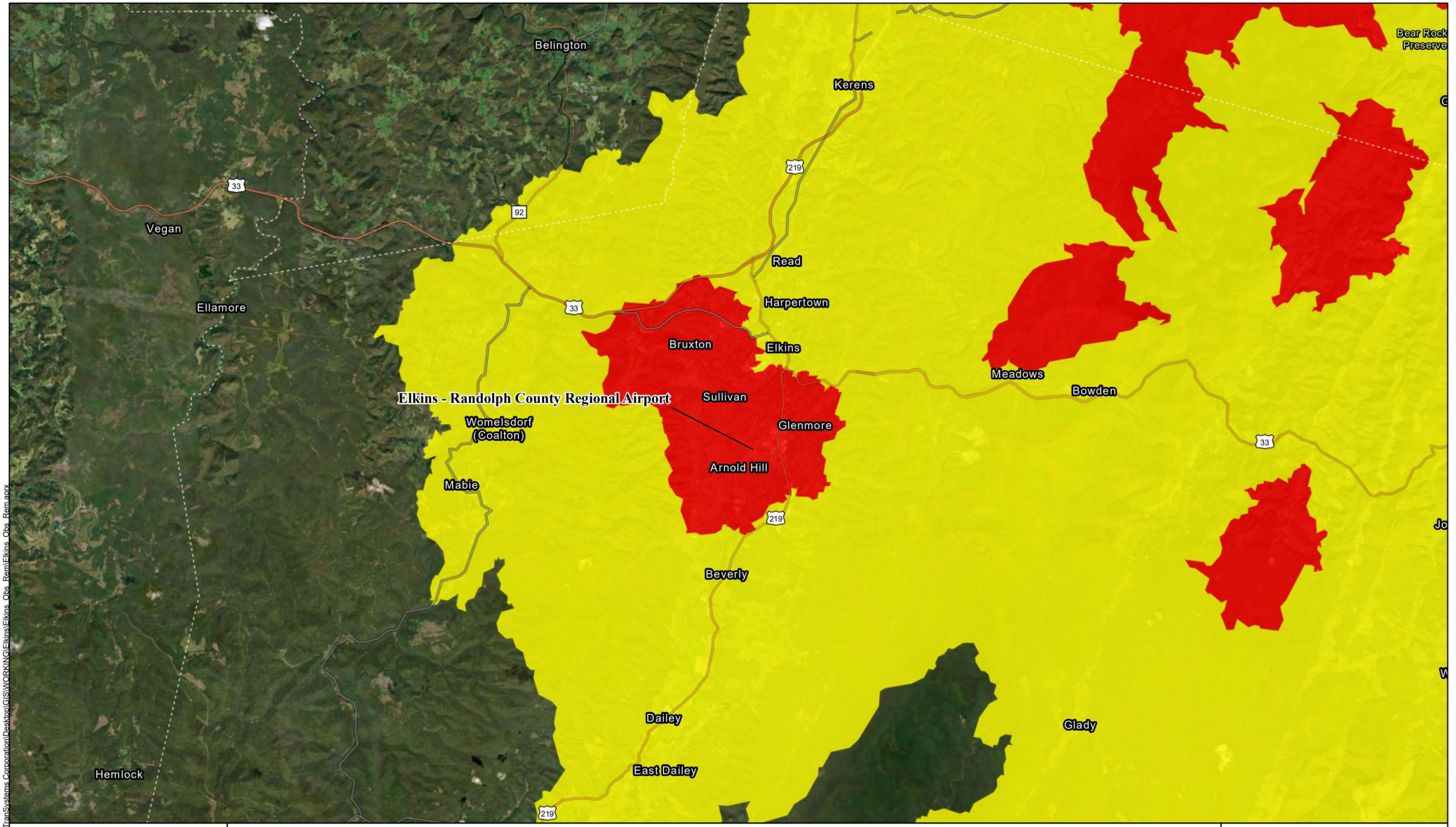
- Tree Removal
- Tree Trimming

TRANSYSTEMS

January 2025

Source: ESRI

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Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport
Obstruction Removal Project
Elkins, West Virginia
Figure 4 - Rusty Patched Bumble Bee High Potential Zones

N
0 5,000 10,000 15,000 20,000 25,000 Feet

Rusty Patched Bumble Bee Dispersal Zones
- High Potential Zones (where presence should be presumed for ESA Section 7 purposes) 04/02/2024
- Low Potential Zones (identified for scientific recovery permits and additional conservation efforts) 04/02/2024
- Uncertainty Zone 04/02/2024

TRANSYSTEMS

March 2025

Source: ESRI, USFWS

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APPENDIX B
CORRESPONDENCE

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES CORRESPONDENCE

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
Phone: (304) 866-3858 Fax: (304) 866-3852

In Reply Refer To: 12/11/2025 15:31:10 UTC
Project Code: 2024-0053235
Project Name: Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)

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.*). If you determine that other federally protected species not listed in this Official Species List are present in your action area, you are still responsible to analyze your potential effects to those species and consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service if consultation is required.

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

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

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

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

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

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity 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
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

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:

West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
(304) 866-3858

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0053235
Project Name: Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)
Project Type: Airport - Maintenance/Modification
Project Description: Remove tree, silo and tower obstructions to Runway 5 and Runway 23 approaches.
Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@38.9007156,-79.84645723265865,14z



Counties: Randolph County, West Virginia

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. Note that 1 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions.

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
Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions: ▪ All activities in this location should consider potential effects to this species. This project is not within a known-use area, but potentially occupied habitat may exist. Please contact the WVFO for further coordination. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered
Virginia Big-eared Bat *Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8369	Endangered

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
Rusty Patched Bumble Bee *Bombus affinis* 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

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Small Whorled Pogonia *Isotria medeoloides* Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1890	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 Aug 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 (■)

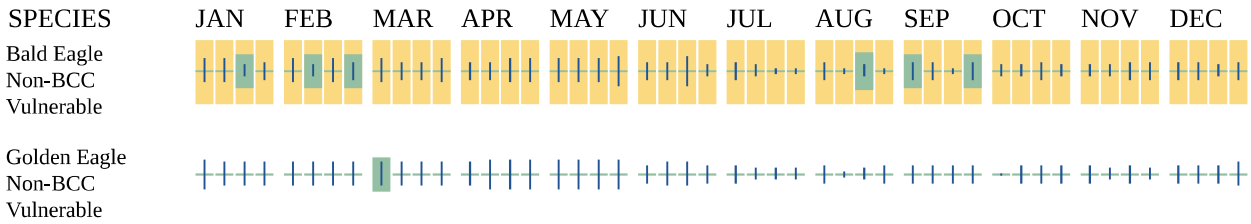
Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

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.

■ probability of presence ■ breeding season | survey effort – no data



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).

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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
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 Aug 31

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Black-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus erythropthalmus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9399	Breeds May 15 to Oct 10
Black-capped Chickadee *Poecile atricapillus practicus* 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/10645	Breeds Apr 10 to Jul 31
Bobolink *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9454	Breeds May 20 to Jul 31
Canada Warbler *Cardellina canadensis* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9643	Breeds May 20 to Aug 10
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 27 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
Golden-winged Warbler *Vermivora chrysoptera* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8745	Breeds May 1 to Jul 20
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 May 1 to Aug 31

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
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
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
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
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

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.

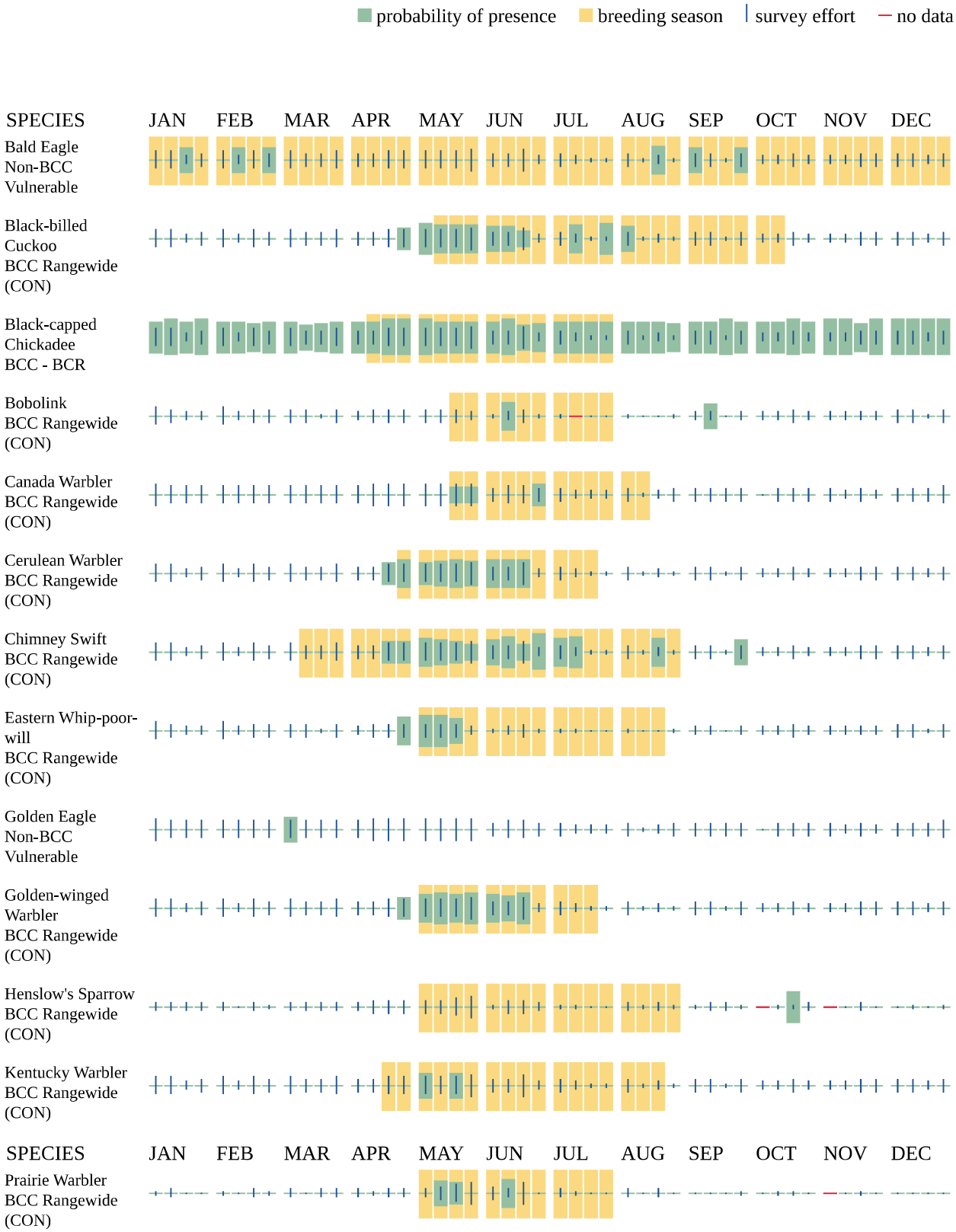
Probability of Presence (■)

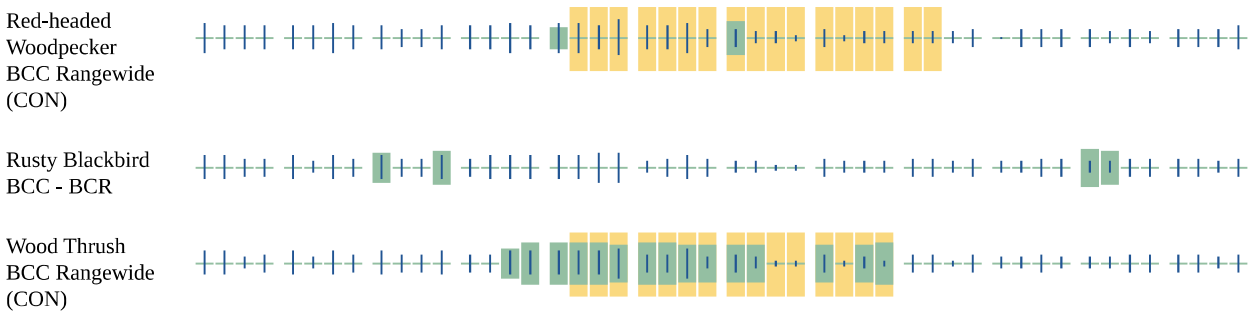
Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

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.


probability of presence
breeding season
survey effort
no data
SPECIES
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUN
JUL
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC
Bald Eagle
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Black-billed
Cuckoo
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Black-capped
Chickadee
BCC - BCR
Bobolink
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Canada Warbler
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Cerulean Warbler
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Chimney Swift
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Eastern Whip-poor-
will
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Golden Eagle
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Golden-winged
Warbler
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Henslow's Sparrow
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Kentucky Warbler
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
SPECIES
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUN
JUL
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC
Prairie Warbler
BCC Rangewide
(CON)



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
- 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

WETLANDS

Impacts to NWI wetlands and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District.

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

RIVERINE

- R4SBC

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Federal Aviation Administration
Name: Kelly Eismont
Address: 615 West Highland Avenue
City: Ebensburg
State: PA
Zip: 15931
Email kleismont@transystems.com
Phone: 4124304083

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Aviation Administration
Name: Susan Stafford
Email: Susan.Stafford@faa.gov
Phone: 3042526216

You have indicated that your project falls under or receives funding through the following special project authorities:

- BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW (BIL) (OTHER)

January 16, 2026

Melissa Defibaugh
GFT, Inc.
615 West Highland Avenue
Ebensburg, PA 15931
madefibaugh@gftinc.com

Dear Ms. Defibaugh,

We have reviewed Natural Heritage Program files for information on rare, threatened, and endangered (RTE) species and sensitive habitats for the area of the proposed Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport Authority obstruction removal project in Randolph County.

According to our database, there is one RTE species and one sensitive habitat within the project buffer as listed on the table below.

Species (Latin Name) or Habitat Feature	Common Name	Location/Description	Status
Bombus affinis	Rusty patched bumble bee	High potential zone	Federal: endangered
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	Abundance area surrounding both polygons. Majority of southern polygon within 2 mile buffer of one bald eagle nest site; southern most portion of southern polygon within 1 mile buffer of one bald eagle nest site.	Federal: Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

The information provided is the result of a search of the following bat buffers: summer occurrences, captures, and hibernacula for each of the Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, Virginia big-eared bat, and tricolored bat. Data provided include and differentiate between the inner- and outer-tiers of capture, roost and hibernacula records, respectively, and identify anthropogenic sites such as bridges and culverts. All buffer types and distances are consistent with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service values as of December 13th, 2024. Please note that due to changes in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service guidance, and concurrent updates to the WVDNR

records database, new records request responses may differ from past requests. In particular, the current U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service guidance reduces northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat buffers at culverts, bridges, and at all tricolored bat hibernacula. The information provided above is the product of a database search and retrieval. This information does not satisfy other consultation or permitting requirements for disturbances to the natural resources of the state, and further consultation may be required.

The information provided above is the product of a database search and retrieval. This information does not satisfy other consultation or permitting requirements for disturbances to the natural resources of the state, and further consultation may be required.

Additionally, any concurrence requirements for federally listed species must come from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The Wildlife Resources Section knows of no other surveys that have been conducted in the area for rare species or rare species habitat. Consequently, this response is based on information currently available and should not be considered a comprehensive survey of the area under review. This response is valid for two years.

Thank you for your inquiry, and should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at amylynn.n.ephraim@wv.gov. Enclosed please find an invoice.

Sincerely,

AEphraim

Amylynn Ephraim
Wildlife Biologist
Environmental Coordination Unit
Wildlife Resources Section

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
Phone: (304) 866-3858 Fax: (304) 866-3852

In Reply Refer To: 01/09/2026 19:47:28 UTC
Project code: 2024-0053235
Project Name: Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)

Federal Nexus: yes

Federal Action Agency (if applicable): Federal Aviation Administration

Subject: Technical Assistance letter for 'Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)' for rusty patched bumble bee that may occur in your proposed project location consistent with the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee Range Wide Determination Key (RPBB DKey).

Dear Kelly Eismont:

This letter records your determination using the RPBB DKey within the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on **January 09, 2026**, for 'Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)' (here forward, Project). This project has been assigned Project Code '2024-0053235' and all future correspondence should clearly reference this number. **Please carefully review this letter. Your Endangered Species Act (Act) requirements are not complete.**

Ensuring Accurate Determinations When Using IPaC Determination Keys

The USFWS developed the IPaC system and associated species' determination keys in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). All information submitted by the Project proponent into the IPaC must accurately represent the full scope and details of the Project. **Failure to accurately represent or implement the Project as detailed in IPaC or the RPBB DKey, invalidates this letter.**

Determination for the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee

Based on your answers and the assistance of the USFWS' RPBB DKey, you made the following effect determination for the proposed Action:

Species	Listing Status	Determination

Rusty Patched Bumble Bee (*Bombus affinis*) Endangered May affect

Consultation with the USFWS is not complete. This determination was reached because the RPBB DKey was unable to provide a conclusion for activities which you were either unsure about the determination or you chose to make a “may affect” determination. If the RPBB DKey was unable to provide a conclusion, this does not necessarily mean that the project is likely to adversely affect the species.

Your agency’s ESA section 7 consultation requirement for rusty patched bumble bee with the USFWS is not complete, and further consultation with the USFWS is required. Please email the local USFWS Ecological Services Field Office and attach a copy of this letter, so we can discuss methods to avoid or minimize potential adverse impacts.

Other Species and Critical Habitat that May be Present in the Action Area

The IPaC-assisted determination key for the rusty patched bumble bee **does not** apply to the following ESA-protected species and/or critical habitat that also may occur in your Action area:

- Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis* Endangered
- Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Proposed Threatened
- Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis* Endangered
- Small Whorled Pogonia *Isotria medeoloides* Threatened
- Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* Proposed Endangered
- Virginia Big-eared Bat *Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus* Endangered

Coordination with the USFWS is advised for any species and/or critical habitat listed above.

You should coordinate with our Office to determine whether the Action may affect the species and/or critical habitat listed above and if further consultation is required. Note that reinitiation of consultation would be necessary if a new species is listed or critical habitat designated that may be affected by the identified action before it is complete.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or need further assistance, please contact the local Ecological Services Field Office and reference Project Code ‘2024-0053235’ associated with this Project. See the top of this letter for the Project Code.

Additional Information

Sufficient project details: Please provide sufficient project details on your project homepage in IPaC (Define Project, Project Description) to support your conclusions. Failure to disclose important aspects of your project that would influence the outcome of your effects determinations may negate your determinations and invalidate this letter. If you have site-specific information that leads you to believe a different determination is more appropriate for your

project than what the Dkey concludes, you can and should proceed based on the best available information.

Future project changes: The Service recommends that you contact the local Ecological Services Field Office or re-evaluate the project in IPaC if: 1) the scope or location of the proposed Action is changed; 2) new information reveals that the action may affect rusty patched bumble bee in a manner or to an extent not previously considered; 3) the Action is modified in a manner that causes effects to rusty patched bumble bee; or 4) or critical habitat is designated. If any of the above conditions occur, additional consultation with the Service should take place before project changes are final or resources are committed.

Species-specific information

Bald and Golden Eagles: Bald eagles, golden eagles, and their nests are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (54 Stat. 250, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 668a-d) (Eagle Act). The Eagle Act prohibits, except when authorized by an Eagle Act permit, the “taking” of bald and golden eagles and defines “take” as “pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb.” The Eagle Act’s implementing regulations define disturb as “… to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, (1) injury to an eagle, (2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior, or (3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior.”

If you observe a bald eagle nest in the vicinity of your proposed project, you should follow the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines (May 2007). For more information on eagles and conducting activities in the vicinity of an eagle nest, please visit our regional eagle website or contact the local Ecological Services Field Office. If the Action may affect bald or golden eagles, additional coordination with the Service under the Eagle Act may be required.

Action Description
You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)':

> Remove tree, silo and tower obstructions to Runway 5 and Runway 23 approaches.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@38.9007067,-79.84645835539652,14z



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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

   Yes

2. Are you the Federal agency or designated non-federal representative?

   Yes

3. Does the action area overlap with a rusty patched bumble bee high potential zone?

   Automatically answered
   Yes

4. Does the action include - or is it reasonably certain to cause - intentional take of rusty patched bumble bee (rusty patched bumble bee) that is not covered under a scientific recovery permit under section 10(A)1(a) of the Endangered Species Act or under a cooperative agreement with a state agency?

   Note: This could include, for example, surveys or studies that include handling or capture of the species. Whether "Project Review" surveys using USFWS protocols were conducted as part of the action is addressed later in this key.

   No

5. Does the action include – or is it reasonably certain to result in – construction of one or more new roads or rail lines that will result in vehicle traffic speeds at 45mph or higher in a rusty patched bumble bee HPZ? For example, answer NO if the project will construct a low speed (< 30 mph) road (Such as Forest Service Road Maintenance Levels 1 -3 (refer to https://www.fs.usda.gov/eng/pubs/pdf/05771205.pdf).

   No

6. Does the action include – or is it reasonably certain to result in – the addition of one or more travel lanes that are likely to increase vehicle speeds to at least 45mphon one or more existing roads in a rusty patched bumble bee HPZ? For example, answer NO if considering a travel lane addition that maintains road with low speeds (< 30 mph).

   No

7. Is an increase in vehicular traffic speeds to over 45mph to an existing road in one or more HPZs a likely outcome of the federal action? For example, answer NO if the federal action will increase if traffic speeds would stay relatively low (e.g., 30 mph).

   No

8. Does the action include – or is it reasonably certain to cause – the use of commercial/ managed bees (e.g., the use of honeybees or managed bumble bees to pollinate crops).

   No

9. Is there habitat for nesting, foraging, and/or overwintering for the rusty patched bumble bee in the action area?

   Note: Please refer to the ESA Section 7(a)(2) Voluntary Implementation technical assistance for Rusty Patched Bumble Bee .

   Yes

10. Have “Project Review” surveys for rusty patched bumble bees already been conducted in the action area according to Service-approved protocols? If you don't know, answer 'no'.

    No

11. Does the action include collection of seed from native species?

    No

12. Does the action include, or will it cause the application of insecticides or fungicides?

    No

13. Does the action include, or will it cause activities to control native rodent species?

    No

14. Does the action include, or will it cause planting or seeding of non-native plant species?

    No

15. Will the action include or cause herbicide use?

    No

16. Will the action cause an increase in the extent or duration of surface flooding or soil saturation in rusty patched bumble bee overwintering or nesting habitat in a High Potential Zone?

    Note: This may occur, for example, as a result of activities or structures that impound water, otherwise alter or interrupt existing drainage patterns, or that affect surface runoff.

    No

17. Will the action cause ground disturbance in rusty patched bumble bee habitat within a High Potential Zone?

    Yes

18. Will the ground disturbance within the High Potential Zone affect more than 0.25 acre (0.1 hectare) of rusty patched bumble bee nesting habitat (upland grasslands, shrublands, and forest edges that contain native sources of pollen and nectar)?

    Note: Please refer to the ESA Section 7(a)(2) Voluntary Implementation technical assistance for Rusty Patched Bumble Bee Table 1, p. 12.

    Yes

19. Will the ground disturbance occur during the nesting season (April 1 to October 10)?

    Yes

20. Will the ground disturbance likely be sufficient to collapse underground rodent burrows or their entrances?

    Yes

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Federal Aviation Administration
Name: Kelly Eismont
Address: 615 West Highland Avenue
City: Ebensburg
State: PA
Zip: 15931
Email kleismont@transystems.com
Phone: 4124304083

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Aviation Administration
Name: Susan Stafford
Email: Susan.Stafford@faa.gov
Phone: 3042526216

You have indicated that your project falls under or receives funding through the following special project authorities:

- BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW (BIL) (OTHER)

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
Phone: (304) 866-3858 Fax: (304) 866-3852

In Reply Refer To: 01/20/2026 21:52:59 UTC
Project code: 2024-0053235
Project Name: Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)

Federal Nexus: yes
Federal Action Agency (if applicable): Federal Aviation Administration

Subject: Federal agency coordination under the Endangered Species Act, Section 7 for 'Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)'

Dear Kelly Eismont:

This letter records your determination using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) on January 20, 2026, for 'Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)' (here forward, Project). This project has been assigned Project Code 2024-0053235 and all future correspondence should clearly reference this number. **Please carefully review this letter. Your Endangered Species Act (Act) requirements may not be complete.**

Ensuring Accurate Determinations When Using IPaC

The Service developed the IPaC system and associated species' determination keys in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and based on a standing analysis. All information submitted by the Project proponent into IPaC must accurately represent the full scope and details of the Project.

Failure to accurately represent or implement the Project as detailed in IPaC or the Northern Long-eared Bat and Tricolored Bat Range-wide Determination Key (DKey), invalidates this letter. ***Answers to certain questions in the DKey commit the project proponent to implementation of conservation measures that must be followed for the ESA determination to remain valid. Note that conservation measures for northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat may differ. If both bat species are present in the action area and the key suggests more conservative measures for one of the species for your Project, the Project may need to apply***

the most conservative measures in order to avoid adverse effects. If unsure which conservation measures should be applied, please contact the appropriate Ecological Services Field Office.

Determination for the Northern Long-Eared Bat and Tricolored Bat

Based on your IPaC submission and a standing analysis completed by the Service, you determined the proposed Project will have the following effect determinations:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*)	Endangered	NLAA
Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*)	Proposed Endangered	NLAA

Federal agencies must consult with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) when an action *may affect* a listed species. Tricolored bat is proposed for listing as endangered under the ESA, but not yet listed. For actions that may affect a proposed species, agencies cannot consult, but they can *confer* under the authority of section 7(a)(4) of the ESA. Such conferences can follow the procedures for a consultation and be adopted as such if and when the proposed species is listed. Should the tricolored bat be listed, agencies must review projects that are not yet complete, or projects with ongoing effects within the tricolored bat range that previously received a NE or NLAA determination from the key to confirm that the determination is still accurate.

Unless the Service advises you within 15 days of the date of this letter that your IPaC-assisted determination was incorrect, this letter verifies that consultation on the Action is complete for northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat and no further action is necessary unless either of the following occurs:

- new information reveals effects of the action that may affect the northern long-eared bat or tricolored bat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered; or,
- the identified action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to the northern long-eared bat or tricolored bat that was not considered when completing the determination key.

15-Day Review Period

As indicated above, the Service will notify you within 15 calendar days if we determine that this proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a “may affect, not likely to adversely affect” (NLAA) determination for the northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat. If we do not notify you within that timeframe, you may proceed with the Action under the terms of the NLAA concurrence provided here. This verification period allows the identified Ecological Services Field Office to apply local knowledge to evaluation of the Action, as we may identify a small subset of actions having impacts that we did not anticipate when developing the key. In such cases, the identified Ecological Services Field Office may request additional information to verify the effects determination reached through the Northern Long-eared Bat and Tricolored Bat DKey.

Other Species and Critical Habitat that May be Present in the Action Area

The IPaC-assisted determination key for the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat does not apply to the following ESA-protected species and/or critical habitat that also may occur in your Action area:

- Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis* Endangered
- Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Proposed Threatened
- Rusty Patched Bumble Bee *Bombus affinis* Endangered
- Small Whorled Pogonia *Isotria medeoloides* Threatened
- Virginia Big-eared Bat *Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus* Endangered

You may coordinate with our Office to determine whether the Action may affect the species and/or critical habitat listed above. Note that reinitiation of consultation would be necessary if a new species is listed or critical habitat designated that may be affected by the identified action before it is complete.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or need further assistance, please contact the West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office and reference Project Code 2024-0053235 associated with this Project.

Action Description
You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)':

> Remove tree, silo and tower obstructions to Runway 5 and Runway 23 approaches.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@38.9007067,-79.84645835539652,14z



DETERMINATION KEY RESULT

Based on the answers provided, the proposed Action is consistent with a determination of “may affect, but not likely to adversely affect” for a least one species covered by this determination key.

QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Does the proposed project include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, intentional take of listed bats or any other listed species?

   Note: Intentional take is defined as take that is the intended result of a project. Intentional take could refer to research, direct species management, surveys, and/or studies that include intentional handling/encountering, harassment, collection, or capturing of any individual of a federally listed threatened, endangered or proposed species?

   No

2. Is the action area wholly within Zone 2 of the year-round active area for northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat?

   Automatically answered
   No

3. Does the action area intersect Zone 1 of the year-round active area for northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat?

   Automatically answered
   No

4. Does any component of the action involve leasing, construction or operation of wind turbines? Answer 'yes' if the activities considered are conducted with the intention of gathering survey information to inform the leasing, construction, or operation of wind turbines.

   No

5. Is the proposed action authorized, permitted, licensed, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency in whole or in part?

   Note for projects in Pennsylvania: Projects requiring authorization under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act would be considered as having a federal nexus. Since the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has issued the Pennsylvania State Programmatic General Permit (PASPGP), which may be verified by the PA Department of Environmental Protection or certain Conservation Districts, the need to receive a Corps authorization to perform the work under the PASPGP serves as a federal nexus. As such, if proposing to use the PASPGP, you would answer ‘yes’ to this question.

   Yes

6. Is the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

   No

7. Are you an employee of the federal action agency or have you been officially designated in writing by the agency as its designated non-federal representative for the purposes of Endangered Species Act Section 7 informal consultation per 50 CFR § 402.08?

   Note: This key may be used for federal actions and for non-federal actions to facilitate section 7 consultation and to help determine whether an incidental take permit may be needed, respectively. This question is for information purposes only.

   Yes

8. Is the lead federal action agency the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC)? Is the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

   No

9. Is the lead federal action agency the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)?

   No

10. [Semantic] Is the action area located within 0.5 miles of a known bat hibernaculum or winter roost? Note: The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your state wildlife agency.

    Automatically answered

    No

11. Have you contacted the appropriate agency to determine if your action is near any known northern long-eared bat or tricolored bat **hibernacula**?

    Note: A document with links to Natural Heritage Inventory databases and other state-specific sources of information on the locations of northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat hibernacula is available here. Location information for northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat hibernacula is generally kept in state natural heritage inventory databases – the availability of this data varies by state. Many states provide online access to their data, either directly by providing maps or by providing the opportunity to make a data request. In some cases, to protect those resources, access to the information may be limited.

    Yes

12. Is any portion of the action area within 0.5-mile radius of any known bat **hibernacula**?

    If unsure, contact your local Ecological Services Field Office.

    No

13. Have you contacted the appropriate agency to determine if your action is near any known occupied culverts?

    Note: A document with links to Natural Heritage Inventory databases and other state-specific sources of information on the locations of northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat hibernacula is available here. Location information for northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat hibernacula is generally kept in state natural heritage inventory databases – the availability of this data varies by state. Many states provide online access to their data, either directly by providing maps or by providing the opportunity to make a data request. In some cases, to protect those resources, access to the information may be limited.

    Yes

14. Is any portion of the action area within a 0.25-mile radius of any known bat occupied culvert? If unsure, contact your local Ecological Services Field Office.

    No

15. Does the action area contain any winter roosts or caves (or associated sinkholes, fissures, or other karst features), mines, rocky outcroppings, or tunnels that could provide habitat for hibernating bats?

    No

16. Will the action cause effects to a bridge?

    Note: Covered bridges should be considered as bridges in this question.

    No

17. Will the action result in effects to a culvert or tunnel at any time of year?

    No

18. Are trees present within 1000 feet of the action area?

    Note: If there are trees within the action area that are of a sufficient size to be potential roosts for bats answer "Yes". If unsure, additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat can be found in Appendix A of the USFWS' Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared bat Survey Guidelines at: https://www.fws.gov/media/range-wide-indiana-bat-and-northern-long-eared-bat-survey-guidelines.

    Yes

19. Does the action include the intentional exclusion of bats from a building or building-like structure? **Note:** Exclusion is conducted to deny bats' entry or reentry into a building. To be effective and to avoid harming bats, it should be done according to established standards. If your action includes bat exclusion and you are unsure whether northern long-eared bats or tricolored bats are present, answer "Yes." Answer "No" if there are no signs of bat use in the building/structure. If unsure, contact your local Ecological Services Field Office to help assess whether northern long-eared bats or tricolored bats may be present. Contact a Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator (NWCO) for help in how to exclude bats from a structure safely without causing harm to the bats (to find a NWCO certified in bat standards, search the Internet using the search term "National Wildlife Control Operators Association bats"). Also see the White-Nose Syndrome Response Team's guide for bat control in structures.

    No

20. Does the action involve removal, modification, or maintenance of a human-made building-like structure (barn, house, or other building) **known or suspected to contain roosting bats?**

    No

21. Will the action cause construction of one or more new roads open to the public?

    For federal actions, answer 'yes' when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.).

    No

22. Will the action include or cause any construction or other activity that is reasonably certain to increase average night-time traffic permanently or temporarily on one or more existing roads? **Note:** For federal actions, answer 'yes' when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.). .

    No

23. Will the action include or cause any construction or other activity that is reasonably certain to increase the number of travel lanes on an existing thoroughfare?

    For federal actions, answer 'yes' when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.).

    No

24. Will the proposed Action involve the creation of a new water-borne contaminant source (e.g., leachate pond, pits containing chemicals that are not NSF/ANSI 60 compliant)?

    Note: For information regarding NSF/ANSI 60 please visit https://www.nsf.org/knowledge-library/nsf-ansi-standard-60-drinking-water-treatment-chemicals-health-effects

    No

25. Will the proposed action involve the creation of a new point source discharge from a facility other than a water treatment plant or storm water system?

    No

26. Will the action include drilling or blasting?

    No

27. Will the action involve military training (e.g., smoke operations, obscurant operations, exploding munitions, artillery fire, range use, helicopter or fixed wing aircraft use at night)?

    No

28. Will the proposed action involve the use of herbicides or pesticides (e.g., fungicides, insecticides, or rodenticides)?

    No

29. Will the action include or cause activities that are reasonably certain to cause chronic or intense nighttime noise (above current levels of ambient noise in the area) in suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat or tricolored bat during the active season?

    Chronic noise is noise that is continuous or occurs repeatedly again and again for a long time. Sources of chronic or intense noise that could cause adverse effects to bats may include, but are not limited to: road traffic; trains; aircraft; industrial activities; gas compressor stations; loud music; crowds; oil and gas extraction; construction; and mining.

    Note: Additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat can be found in Appendix A of the USFWS' Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared bat Survey Guidelines at: https://www.fws.gov/media/range-wide-indiana-bat-and-northern-long-eared-bat-survey-guidelines.

    No

30. Does the action include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, the use of permanent or temporary artificial lighting within 1000 feet of suitable northern long-eared bat or tricolored bat roosting habitat?

    Note: Additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat can be found in Appendix A of the USFWS' Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared bat Survey Guidelines at: https://www.fws.gov/media/range-wide-indiana-bat-and-northern-long-eared-bat-survey-guidelines.

    No

31. Will the action include tree cutting or other means of knocking down or bringing down trees, tree topping, or tree trimming?

    Yes

32. Is the project related to the production of coal, including projects that support the mining of coal, as well as the production and/or distribution of energy produced from coal?

    No

33. Will the proposed action occur exclusively in an already established and currently maintained utility right-of-way?

    No

34. Does the action include emergency cutting or trimming of hazard trees in order to remove an imminent threat to human safety or property? See hazard tree note at the bottom of the key for text that will be added to response letters

    Note: A "hazard tree" is a tree that is an immediate threat to lives, public health and safety, or improved property.

    No

35. Does the project intersect with the 0- 9.9% forest density category?

    Automatically answered

    No

36. Does the project intersect with the 10.0- 19.9% forest density category map?

    Automatically answered
    No

37. Does the project intersect with the 20.0- 29.9% forest density category map?

    Automatically answered
    No

38. Does the project intersect with the 30.0- 100% forest density category map?

    Automatically answered
    Yes

39. Will the action cause trees to be cut, knocked down, or otherwise brought down across an area greater than 100 acres in total extent?

    No

40. Will the proposed action result in the use of prescribed fire?

    Note: If the prescribed fire action includes other activities than application of fire (e.g., tree cutting, fire line preparation) please consider impacts from those activities within the previous representative questions in the key. This set of questions only considers impacts from flame and smoke.

    No

41. Does the action area intersect the northern long-eared bat species list area?

    Automatically answered
    Yes

42. [Semantic] Is the action area located within 0.5 miles of radius of an entrance/opening to any known NLEB hibernacula or winter roost? Note: The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your State wildlife agency.

    Automatically answered
    No

43. [Semantic] Is the action area located within 0.25 miles of a culvert that is known to be occupied by northern long-eared or tricolored bats? **Note:** The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your State wildlife agency.

    Automatically answered
    No

44. [Semantic] Is the action area located within 150 feet of a documented northern long-eared bat roost site?

    Note: The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your State wildlife agency.Have you contacted the appropriate agency to determine if your action is within 150 feet of any documented northern long-eared bat roosts?

    Note: A document with links to Natural Heritage Inventory databases and other state-specific sources of information on the locations of northern long-eared bat roosts is available here. Location information for northern long-eared bat roosts is generally kept in state natural heritage inventory databases – the availability of this data varies by state. Many states provide online access to their data, either directly by providing maps or by providing the opportunity to make a data request. In some cases, to protect those resources, access to the information may be limited.

    Automatically answered
    No

45. Have you contacted the appropriate agency to determine if your action is within 150 feet of any documented northern long-eared bat roosts?

    Note: A document with links to Natural Heritage Inventory databases and other state-specific sources of information on the locations of northern long-eared bat roosts is available here. Location information for northern long-eared bat roosts is generally kept in state natural heritage inventory databases – the availability of this data varies by state. Many states provide online access to their data, either directly by providing maps or by providing the opportunity to make a data request. In some cases, to protect those resources, access to the information may be limited.

    Yes

46. Is any portion of the action area within 150 feet of any known northern long-eared bat roosts? If unsure, contact your local Ecological Services Field Office.

    No

47. Is suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat present within 1000 feet of project activities?
    If unsure, answer "Yes."

    Note: Additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat can be found in Appendix A of the USFWS' Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared bat Survey Guidelines at: https://www.fws.gov/media/range-wide-indiana-bat-and-northern-long-eared-bat-survey-guidelines.

    Yes

48. Have you contacted the appropriate agency to determine if the action area overlaps with a known northern long-eared bat habitat buffer? Summer habitat buffers include the following: (1) 3-mile buffer around northern long-eared bat captures or acoustic detections; (2)1.5-mile buffer around known roosts). The Spring Staging/Fall Swarming buffer includes 5-mile buffer around the entrance of known hibernacula)?

    Note: A web page with links to state Natural Heritage Inventory databases and other sources of information on the locations of northern long-eared bat roost trees can be found here. Location information for northern long-eared bat maternity roost trees and swarming areas is generally kept in state natural heritage inventory databases – the availability of this data varies state-by-state. Many states provide online access to their data, either directly by providing maps or by providing the opportunity to make a data request. In some cases, to protect those resources, access to the information may be limited.

    Yes

49. Does the action area overlap with a known northern long-eared bat spring staging/fall swarming buffer (within 5 miles of known hibernacula)?

    No

50. Does the action area overlap with a known northern long-eared bat summer buffer (3-mile buffer around northern long-eared bat captures or acoustic detections; 1.5-mile buffer around known roost trees)?

    No

51. Has a presence/probable absence summer bat survey targeting the northern long-eared bat following the Service's Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-Eared Bat Survey Guidelines been conducted within the project area?

    Yes

52. Was the survey conducted within the last 5 years?

    Yes

53. Did you coordinate with your Ecological Services Field Office (ESFO) and receive approval of the results? If NO, please contact the appropriate local ESFO before completing this determination key - you may change your answer to 'yes' only after coordinating with the ESFO and uploading survey results.

    Yes

    SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS

    - *Bat Survey Report Elkins Airport WV 080524.pdf https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/E5DIZDCBGJHN3MVZZ6KYDMAX7U/projectDocuments/174984300*

54. Did survey results demonstrate the probable absence of northern long-eared bats?

    Yes

55. Does the action area intersect the tricolored bat species list area?

    Automatically answered
    Yes

56. Is the action area located within 0.5-mile of radius of an entrance/opening to any known tricolored bat hibernacula or winter roost?

    Note: The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your state wildlife agency.

    Automatically answered
    No

57. [Semantic] Is the action area located within 0.25 miles of a culvert that is known to be occupied by northern long-eared or tricolored bats? **Note:** The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your State wildlife agency.

    Automatically answered
    No

58. Have you contacted the appropriate agency to determine if your action is within 150 feet of any documented tricolored bat roosts?

    Note: A document with links to Natural Heritage Inventory databases and other state-specific sources of information on the locations of tricolored bat roosts is available here. Location information for tricolored bat roosts is generally kept in state natural heritage inventory databases – the availability of this data varies by state. Many states provide online access to their data, either directly by providing maps or by providing the opportunity to make a data request. In some cases, to protect those resources, access to the information may be limited.

    Yes

59. Is any portion of the action area within 150 feet of any documented tricolored bat roosts? If unsure, contact your local Ecological Services Field Office.

    No

60. Have you contacted the appropriate agency to determine if the action area overlaps with a known tricolored bat habitat buffer? Summer habitat buffers include the following: (1) 3-mile buffer around tricolored bat captures or acoustic detections; (2)1.5-mile buffer around known roosts). The Spring Staging/Fall Swarming buffer includes a 3-mile buffer around the entrance of known hibernacula)?

    Note: A web page with links to state Natural Heritage Inventory databases and other sources of information on the locations of tricolored bat roost trees can be found here. Location information for tricolored bat maternity roost trees and swarming areas is generally kept in state natural heritage inventory databases – the availability of this data varies state-by-state. Many states provide online access to their data, either directly by providing maps or by providing the opportunity to make a data request. In some cases, to protect those resources, access to the information may be limited. If you'd like to assume presence of tricolored bats, answer "No".

    Yes

61. Does the action area intersect a known Spring Staging/Fall Swarming tricolored bat buffer (within 3 miles of known hibernacula)?

    No

62. Does the action area intersect a known tricolored bat summer buffer (3-mile buffer around tricolored bat captures or detections; 1.5-mile buffer around known roost trees)?

    No

63. Has a presence/probable absence bat survey targeting the tricolored bat and following the Service's Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-Eared Bat Survey Guidelines been conducted within the project area?

    Yes

64. Was the presence/probable absence survey conducted within the last 5 years?

    Yes

65. Did you coordinate with your Ecological Services Field Office (ESFO) and receive approval of the results? If NO, please contact the appropriate local ESFO before completing this determination key - you may change your answer to 'yes' only after coordinating with the ESFO and uploading survey results.

    Yes

66. Did survey results demonstrate the probable absence of tricolored bats?

    Yes

67. Do you have any documents that you want to include with this submission?

    Yes

    SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS

    - *Bat Survey Report Elkins Airport WV 080524.pdf https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/E5DIZDCBGJHN3MVZZ6KYDMAX7U/projectDocuments/174984300*
    - *WV DNR TE Letter 2026.01.16.pdf https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/E5DIZDCBGJHN3MVZZ6KYDMAX7U/projectDocuments/175465879*

PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE

Enter the extent of the action area (in acres) from which trees will be removed - round up to the nearest tenth of an acre. For this question, include the entire area where tree removal will take place, even if some live or dead trees will be left standing.

30.7

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Federal Aviation Administration
Name: Kelly Eismont
Address: 615 West Highland Avenue
City: Ebensburg
State: PA
Zip: 15931
Email kleismont@transystems.com
Phone: 4124304083

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Aviation Administration
Name: Susan Stafford
Email: Susan.Stafford@faa.gov
Phone: 3042526216

You have indicated that your project falls under or receives funding through the following special project authorities:

- BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW (BIL) (OTHER)

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
Phone: (304) 866-3858 Fax: (304) 866-3852
https://www.fws.gov/office/west-virginia-ecological-services

In Reply Refer To: February 22, 2024
Project Code: 2024-0053235
Project Name: Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)

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 IPaC by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

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

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

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

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

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

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

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of

this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
(304) 866-3858

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0053235
Project Name: Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)
Project Type: Airport - Maintenance/Modification
Project Description: Remove tree, silo and tower obstructions to Runway 5 and Runway 23 approaches.
Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@38.9007156,-79.84645723265865,14z



Counties: Randolph County, West Virginia

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 6 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. Note that 1 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions.

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
Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions: ▪ All activities in this location should consider potential effects to this species. This project is not within a known-use area, but potentially occupied habitat may exist. Please contact the WVFO for further coordination. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate
Rusty Patched Bumble Bee *Bombus affinis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9383	Endangered

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Small Whorled Pogonia *Isotria medeoloides* Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1890	Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Melissa Defibaugh
Address: 615 West Highland Avenue
City: Ebensburg
State: PA
Zip: 15931
Email madefibaugh@transystems.com
Phone: 3044816136

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Aviation Administration
Name: Susan Stafford
Email: Susan.Stafford@faa.gov
Phone: 3042526216

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
Phone: (304) 866-3858 Fax: (304) 866-3852

In Reply Refer To: February 23, 2024
Project code: 2024-0053235
Project Name: Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)

Federal Nexus: yes
Federal Action Agency (if applicable): Federal Aviation Administration

Subject: Technical assistance for 'Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)'

Dear Melissa Defibaugh:

This letter records your determination using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) on February 23, 2024, for "Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)" (here forward, Project). This project has been assigned Project Code 2024-0053235 and all future correspondence should clearly reference this number.

The Service developed the IPaC system and associated species' determination keys in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and based on a standing analysis. All information submitted by the Project proponent into the IPaC must accurately represent the full scope and details of the Project. Failure to accurately represent or implement the Project as detailed in IPaC or the Northeast Determination Key (Dkey), invalidates this letter. ***Answers to certain questions in the DKey commit the project proponent to implementation of conservation measures that must be followed for the ESA determination to remain valid.***

To make a no effect determination, the full scope of the proposed project implementation (action) should not have any effects (either positive or negative effect(s)), to a federally listed species or designated critical habitat. Effects of the action are all consequences to listed species or critical habitat that are caused by the proposed action, including the consequences of other activities that are caused by the proposed action. A consequence is caused by the proposed action if it would not occur but for the proposed action and it is reasonably certain to occur. Effects of the action may occur later in time and may include consequences occurring outside the immediate area involved in the action. (See § 402.17). Under Section 7 of the ESA, if a federal action agency

makes a no effect determination, no further consultation with, or concurrence from, the Service is required (ESA §7). If a proposed Federal action may affect a listed species or designated critical habitat, formal consultation is required (except when the Service concurs, in writing, that a proposed action "is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA)" listed species or designated critical habitat [50 CFR §402.02, 50 CFR§402.13]).

The IPaC results indicated the following species is (are) potentially present in your project area and, based on your responses to the Service's Northeast DKey, you determined the proposed Project will have the following effect determinations:

Species	**Listing Status**	**Determination**
Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*)	Endangered	NLAA
Rusty Patched Bumble Bee (*Bombus affinis*)	Endangered	May affect
Small Whorled Pogonia (*Isotria medeoloides*)	Threatened	May affect

Consultation with the Service is not complete. Further consultation or coordination with the Service is necessary for those species or designated critical habitats with a determination of "May Affect". Please contact our West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office to discuss methods to avoid or minimize potential adverse effects to those species or designated critical habitats.

In addition to the species listed above, the following species and/or critical habitats may also occur in your project area and are not covered by this conclusion:

- Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Candidate
- Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis* Endangered
- Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* Proposed Endangered

Please Note: If the Action may impact bald or golden eagles, additional coordination with the Service under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) (54 Stat. 250, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 668a-d) by the prospective permittee may be required. Please contact the Migratory Birds Permit Office, (413) 253-8643, or PermitsR5MB@fws.gov, with any questions regarding potential impacts to Eagles.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or need further assistance, please contact the West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office and reference the Project Code associated with this Project.

Action Description
You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport - Obstruction Removal (Runway 5-23 Approaches)':

> Remove tree, silo and tower obstructions to Runway 5 and Runway 23 approaches.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@38.9007156,-79.84645723265865,14z



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. As a representative of this project, do you agree that all items submitted represent the complete scope of the project details and you will answer questions truthfully?

   Yes

2. Does the proposed project include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, intentional take of listed species?

   Note: This question could refer to research, direct species management, surveys, and/or studies that include intentional handling/encountering, harassment, collection, or capturing of any individual of a federally listed threatened, endangered, or proposed species.

   No

3. Is the action authorized, permitted, licensed, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency in whole or in part?

   Yes

4. Is the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) the lead agency for this project?

   No

5. Are you including in this analysis all impacts to federally listed species that may result from the entirety of the project (not just the activities under federal jurisdiction)?

   Note: If there are project activities that will impact listed species that are considered to be outside of the jurisdiction of the federal action agency submitting this key, contact your local Ecological Services Field Office to determine whether it is appropriate to use this key. If your Ecological Services Field Office agrees that impacts to listed species that are outside the federal action agency's jurisdiction will be addressed through a separate process, you can answer yes to this question and continue through the key.

   Yes

6. Are you the lead federal action agency or designated non-federal representative requesting concurrence on behalf of the lead Federal Action Agency?

   Yes

7. Is the lead federal action agency the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC)?

   No

8. Is the lead federal action agency the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)?

   No

9. Is the lead federal action agency the Natural Resources Conservation Service?

   No

10. Will the proposed project involve the use of herbicide where listed species are present?

    No

11. Are there any caves or anthropogenic features suitable for hibernating or roosting bats within the area expected to be impacted by the project?

    No

12. Does any component of the project associated with this action include activities or structures that may pose a collision risk to **birds** (e.g., plane-based surveys, land-based or offshore wind turbines, communication towers, high voltage transmission lines, any type of towers with or without guy wires)?

    Note: For federal actions, answer 'yes' if the construction or operation of wind power facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for a federal agency action (federal permit, funding, etc.).

    No

13. Does any component of the project associated with this action include activities or structures that may pose a collision risk to **bats** (e.g., plane-based surveys, land-based or offshore wind turbines)?

    Note: For federal actions, answer 'yes' if the construction or operation of wind power facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for a federal agency action (federal permit, funding, etc.).

    No

14. Will the proposed project result in permanent changes to water quantity in a stream or temporary changes that would be sufficient to result in impacts to listed species?

    For example, will the proposed project include any activities that would alter stream flow, such as water withdrawal, hydropower energy production, impoundments, intake structures, diversion structures, and/or turbines? Projects that include temporary and limited water reductions that will not displace listed species or appreciably change water availability for listed species (e.g. listed species will experience no changes to feeding, breeding or sheltering) can answer "No". Note: This question refers only to the amount of water present in a stream, other water quality factors, including sedimentation and turbidity, will be addressed in following questions.

    No

15. Will the proposed project affect wetlands where listed species are present?

    This includes, for example, project activities within wetlands, project activities within 300 feet of wetlands that may have impacts on wetlands, water withdrawals and/or discharge of contaminants (even with a NPDES).

    No

16. Will the proposed project directly affect a streambed (below ordinary high water mark (OHWM)) of the stream or tributary where listed species may be present?

    No

17. Will the proposed project bore underneath (directional bore or horizontal directional drill) a stream where listed species may be present?

    No

18. Will the proposed project involve a new point source discharge into a stream or change an existing point source discharge (e.g., outfalls; leachate ponds) where listed species may be present?

    No

19. Will the proposed project involve the removal of excess sediment or debris, dredging or in-stream gravel mining where listed species may be present?

    No

20. Will the proposed project involve the creation of a new water-borne contaminant source where listed species may be present?

    Note New water-borne contaminant sources occur through improper storage, usage, or creation of chemicals. For example: leachate ponds and pits containing chemicals that are not NSF/ANSI 60 compliant have contaminated waterways. Sedimentation will be addressed in a separate question.

    No

21. Will the proposed project involve perennial stream loss, in a stream of tributary of a stream where listed species may be present, that would require an individual permit under 404 of the Clean Water Act?

    No

22. Will the proposed project involve blasting where listed species may be present?

    No

23. Will the proposed project include activities that could negatively affect fish movement temporarily or permanently (including fish stocking, harvesting, or creation of barriers to fish passage).

    No

24. Will the proposed project involve earth moving that could cause erosion and sedimentation, and/or contamination along a stream or tributary of a stream where listed species may be present?

    Note: Answer "Yes" to this question if erosion and sediment control measures will be used to protect the stream.

    No

25. Will earth moving activities result in sediment being introduced to streams or tributaries of streams where listed species may be present through activities such as, but not limited to, valley fills, large-scale vegetation removal, and/or change in site topography?

    No

26. Will the proposed project involve vegetation removal within 200 feet of a perennial stream bank where aquatic listed species may be present?

    No

27. Will erosion and sedimentation control Best Management Practices (BMPs) associated with applicable state and/or Federal permits, be applied to the project? If BMPs have been provided by and/or coordinated with and approved by the appropriate Ecological Services Field Office, answer "Yes" to this question.

    Yes

28. Is the project being funded, lead, or managed in whole or in part by U.S Fish and Wildlife Restoration and Recovery Program (e.g., Partners, Coastal, Fisheries, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration, Refuges)?

    No

29. [Semantic] Is the project located on a Group 4 stream: the Ohio River downstream of Hannibal Locks and Dam, Little Kanawha River (slack-water section adjoining the Ohio River), and/or the Kanawha River downstream of Kanawha Falls?

    Automatically answered
    No

30. Have you received a technical assistance communication (email or letter) from the West Virginia Field office?

    No

31. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Virginia big-eared bat critical habitat?

    Automatically answered
    No

32. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Indiana bat AOI?

    Automatically answered
    Yes

33. Are trees present within the action area?

    Note: If there are trees within the action area that are of a sufficient size to be potential roosts for bats (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥5 inches dbh (12.7 centimeter), answer "Yes". If you are unsure, answer “Yes.” Or refer to Appendix A of the Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-Eared Bat Survey Guidelines for definitions and an assessment form that will assist you in determining if suitable habitat is present within your project's action area. Suitable summer habitat for Indiana bat consists of a wide variety of forested/wooded habitats where they roost, forage, and travel and may also include some adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, old fields and pastures. This includes forests and woodlots containing potential roosts (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥5 inches dbh (12.7 centimeter) that have exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or hollows), as well as linear features such as fencerows, riparian forests, and other wooded corridors. These wooded areas may be dense or loose aggregates of trees with variable amounts of canopy closure. Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they exhibit the characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet (305 meters) of other forested/wooded habitat

    Yes

34. Has a presence/probable absence bat survey following the Service's Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines been conducted within the action area?

    Yes

35. Was the survey conducted within the last 5 years?

    Note: If no, your survey results are out-of-date. You can continue through the key, but the questions will assume presence of Indiana bat. If you do not wish to assume presence, contact your local Ecological Services Field Office for additional guidance.

    Yes

36. Have you received confirmation from your Ecological Services Field Office that your survey results are considered valid?

    Note: If NO, please contact the appropriate local Ecological Services Field Office before completing this determination key.

    Yes

37. Did you coordinate with your Ecological Services Field Office in advance of your survey effort and receive authorization for the study proposal and approval of the results?

    Note: If NO, please contact the appropriate local Ecological Services Field Office before completing this determination key. If you continue through the key, the questions will assume presence of Indiana bat.

    Yes

    SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS

    - *scan0905.pdf https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/E5DIZDCBGJHN3MVZZ6KYDMAX7U/projectDocuments/139130822*

38. Did survey results demonstrate the probable absence of Indiana bats?

    Yes

39. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Indiana bat critical habitat?

    Automatically answered
    No

40. [Hidden Semantic] Does the project intersect the rusty patched bumble bee AOI?

    Automatically answered
    Yes

41. [Semantic] Does the proposed project intersect the rusty patched bumble bee high potential zone?

    Automatically answered
    Yes

42. Does the project include, or is it reasonably certain to result in, any of the following: construction of one or more new roads or rail lines; the addition of travel lanes that are likely to increase vehicle traffic on one or more existing roads; or other structures or activities that will increase vehicle traffic?

    No

43. Does the project include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, the use of commercial/ managed bees (e.g., the use of honeybees or managed bumble bees to pollinate crops)?

    No

44. Is there habitat for nesting, foraging, and/or overwintering for the rusty patched bumble bee in the action area?

    Note: Refer to RPBB guidelines for definitions of habitat.

    Yes

45. Have "Project Review" surveys for rusty patched bumble bees been conducted according to Service-approved protocols?

    No

46. Does the project include collection of seeds from native species?

    No

47. Does the project include, or will it cause, the application of insecticides or fungicides; activities to control native rodent species; or planting or seeding of non-native plant species?

    No

48. Will the project cause an increase in the extent or duration of surface flooding or soil saturation in rusty patched bumble bee habitat in a High Potential Zone?

    Note: This may occur, for example, as a result of activities or structures that impound water, otherwise alter or interrupt existing drainage patterns, or that affect surface runoff.

    Yes

49. Will all activities occur within an area that is paved, graveled, routinely maintained, and/or inside a structure?

    No

50. Will the proposed project involve temporary or permanent modification to hydrology, including groundwater recharge, that could result in changes to water quality, water quantity, or timing of water availability in proximity to listed plants?

    No

51. Will the proposed project involve herbaceous native vegetation removal (including prescribed fire that would result in the burning of plants) or mowing?

    No

52. Will the proposed project involve ground disturbance?

    Yes

53. [Hidden Semantic] Does the project intersect the small whorled pogonia AOI?

    Automatically answered
    Yes

54. Does the project occur within mixed-deciduous or mixed-deciduous/coniferous forests that are generally in second- or third-growth successional stages?

    Yes

55. Is small whorled pogonia currently known to occur in the action area? Small whorled pogonia plants do not always bloom every year, so plants may be present in a dormant state underground (If unsure, select “No”).

    No

56. Did a qualified surveyor conduct a survey within the action area during the time frame when plants are expected to be present and identifiable? Contact the appropriate local field office for dates

    Yes

    SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS

    - *scan0905.pdf* *https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/E5DIZDCBGJHN3MVZZ6KYDMAX7U/projectDocuments/139130822*

57. Is the small whorled pogonia survey greater than 2 years old?

    Yes

58. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the candy darter critical habitat?

    Automatically answered
    No

59. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the diamond darter critical habitat?

    Automatically answered
    No

60. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Big Sandy crayfish critical habitat?

    Automatically answered
    No

61. [Hidden Semantic] Does the project intersect the Guyandotte River crayfish critical habitat?

    Automatically answered
    No

62. Do you have any other documents that you want to include with this submission?

    No

PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Approximately how many acres of trees would the proposed project remove?

   31

2. Approximately how many total acres of disturbance are within the disturbance/ construction limits of the proposed project?

   31

3. Briefly describe the habitat within the construction/disturbance limits of the project site.

   A mix of residential properties and wooded areas at the limits of the City of Elkins.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Melissa Defibaugh
Address: 615 West Highland Avenue
City: Ebensburg
State: PA
Zip: 15931
Email madefibaugh@transystems.com
Phone: 3044816136

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Aviation Administration
Name: Susan Stafford
Email: Susan.Stafford@faa.gov
Phone: 3042526216

From: Hodges, Joe A
Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2024 8:48 AM
To: garylibby@windstream.net
Cc: West Virginia FO, FWS
Subject: 2024-0053235

Gary,

I'm in receipt of your July 3, 2024, email regarding a proposed bat survey for the Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport – Obstruction Removal Project.

Based on the project location information provided, presence/probable absence surveys for listed bats are recommended for this project; please provide the survey report to our office once complete. Please note, it is the permitted biologist's responsibility to follow the 2024 range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared bat survey guidelines (Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (fws.gov) and the WVFO will not be providing specific feedback on the survey plans.

Thanks,

Joe

Joe Hodges
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260
304-866-3858 X 1618 (office)

From: Tammy L Sherwin
To: Kelly L Eismont; Lee Garner
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport
Date: Friday, August 9, 2024 11:15:18 AM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png

USFWS response to Bat Survey.

From: Runner, Anna H <anna_runner@fws.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 9, 2024 10:46 AM
To: Melissa A Defibaugh <madefibaugh@transystems.com>
Cc: Tammy L Sherwin <tlsherwin@transystems.com>; West Virginia FO, FW5 <FW5_WVFO@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport

Melissa,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, West Virginia Field Office (WVFO), has received the results of your August 2024 survey report for the above referenced project. These comments are provided pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA; 87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

It is the WVFO's understanding that no federally listed bats were observed during the survey effort. Survey results are considered valid for 5 years from the date of completion. If the project is not completed before that time, additional survey efforts may be requested.

This email provides technical assistance only and does not serve as a completed Section 7 consultation document. If there is a federal nexus for the project (e.g., federal funding provided, federal permits required to construct), no project construction activities on any portion of the parcel should occur until consultation under Section 7 of the ESA, between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the federal action agency, is completed. Section 7 consultation is not complete until the federal action agency submits a determination of effects to this office, and the WVFO concurs with the federal action agency's determination. If there is no federal nexus associated with this project, then no further coordination with this office is required.

Please note that if any federally listed species are found during any future survey, this technical assistance may no longer be applicable. You should immediately contact the Service and reinitiate consultation before proceeding with any further project efforts. If the project plans change or amendments be proposed that we have not considered in your proposed action, or if additional information on listed and proposed species becomes available, or if new species become listed or critical habitat is designated, this technical assistance may be reconsidered.

If you have any questions regarding this email, please contact the biologist listed below at *anna_runner@fws.gov*.

Thank you,

Anna H. Runner
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, West Virginia 26260
304-866-3858

From: Melissa A Defibaugh <madefibaugh@transystems.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 3:55 PM
To: Runner, Anna H <anna_runner@fws.gov>
Cc: Tammy L Sherwin <tlsherwin@transystems.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Anna-

Good afternoon! Please find attached the report of the bat mist net survey completed August 3 for the Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport.

The small whorled pogonia survey is scheduled to start on August 19.

Please let us know for any comments, questions or concerns.

Thanks so much!

Melissa

Melissa A Defibaugh, PE
Project Manager

c: 304-481-6136 | o: 814-472-7700
Gannett Fleming TranSystems
Ebensburg, PA 15931
www.transystems.com

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From: Runner, Anna H <anna_runner@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 2:53 PM
To: Lee Garner; Burkhart, John Q
Cc: Tammy L Sherwin; loreespeedy@gmail.com
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Work Plan for Small Whorled Pogonia Survey Submittal - Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport

Thank you for this. You're good to go.

Thank you,

Anna H. Runner
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, West Virginia 26260
304-866-3858

From: Lee Garner <lgarner@transystems.com>
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2024 9:52 AM
To: Burkhart, John Q <john.q.burkhart@wv.gov>; Runner, Anna H <anna_runner@fws.gov>
Cc: Tammy L Sherwin <tlsherwin@transystems.com>; loreespeedy@gmail.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Work Plan for Small Whorled Pogonia Survey Submittal - Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Good morning,

Please see the attached survey work plan for the federally listed Small Whorled Pogonia at the Elkins-Randolph County Regional Airport. This work plan is associated with proposed obstruction removal project at the airport.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks!

Lee Garner

Environmental Scientist

d: 814-419-7902 | o: 814-472-7700
TranSystems
615 W. Highland Ave. | Ebensburg, PA 15931
www.transystems.com



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Coordination E-Mails with Elkins Parks and Recreation Commission

From: Tom Tesar
To: Melissa A Defibaugh; Kelly L Eismont
Subject: RE: proposal to provide environmental remediation at city parks
Date: Friday, January 10, 2025 4:51:42 PM
Attachments: image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png
image006.png
image007.png

Yes, we might be interested, depending on the project(s). Please let me know what you are considering at this point. Thanks,

Tom Tesar, Director
Elkins Parks and Recreation Commission
401 Davis Ave.
Elkins, WV 26241
304-636-3960

From: Melissa A Defibaugh <madefibaugh@transystems.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2025 1:10 PM
To: Sutton Stokes <suttonstokes@cityofelkinswv.com>; Tom Tesar <ttesar@cityofelkinswv.com>; Kelly L Eismont <kleismont@transystems.com>
Cc: Howard Jake Gooden <hgooden@cityofelkinswv.com>
Subject: RE: proposal to provide environmental remediation at city parks

You don't often get email from madefibaugh@transystems.com. Learn why this is important

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Contact Help Desk for assistance.

Thank you, Sutton!

Tom-

The airport is currently working on an overall project to remove tree obstruction to the runway approaches. The project had an approved environmental assessment; however, the rusty patch bumblebee has now been determined to be present in Elkins, and, as a result, we are currently re-visiting our previous environmental assessment for the project. We are considering possibilities for mitigation as Sutton referenced for potential effects because of our proposed project. The Airport does not want to attract wildlife to the Airport as they present a hazard, but, were hopeful that the US Fish and Wildlife service might consider mitigation on other properties in Elkins, thus my reaching out. Before pursuing any further, we wanted to be sure that the City would find this mutually beneficial.

I have added Kelly Eismont to this email. She is the environmental specialist for the project and I am the liaison for the Airport. She can provide more details for mitigation under consideration.

We certainly appreciate everyone's interest in our project and will be in touch!

Melissa

Melissa A Defibaugh, PE
Project Manager

c: 304-481-6136 | o: 814-472-7700
Gannett Fleming TranSystems
Ebensburg, PA 15931
www.transystems.com



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From: Sutton Stokes <suttonstokes@cityofelkinswv.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 8, 2025 11:35 AM
To: Melissa A Defibaugh <madefibaugh@transystems.com>; Tom Tesar <ttesar@cityofelkinswv.com>
Cc: Howard Jake Gooden <hgooden@cityofelkinswv.com>
Subject: proposal to provide environmental remediation at city parks

Tom,

I'm copying Melissa Defibaugh, of Transystems. Transystems is working on a project at the airport and is looking for remediation projects at other locations to propose in a permit application (sort of like carbon credits, i.e., to make up for environmental impact in one place by performing remediation somewhere else).

Melissa asked if the city might be interested in having this kind of work done (at no cost to the city) somewhere on city property, and it occurred to me that the park system might be the logical location.

She mentioned the possibility of installing bat boxes or building a bee garden.

I will let you folks take the conversation from here.

Sutton Stokes
City Clerk
City of Elkins
401 Davis Ave.
Elkins, WV 26241

Email: suttonstokes@cityofelkinswv.com
Phone: (304) 636-1414, ext. 1211

www.cityofelkinswv.com
www.facebook.com/ElkinsCityHall
www.twitter.com/ElkinsCityHall

From: Tom Tesar
To: Kelly L Eismont
Subject: RE: proposal to provide environmental remediation at city parks
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 4:58:54 PM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png
image006.png

Hi Kelly. Bat boxes would be fine for sure. We do have one pollinator garden already with an educational sign at Glendale Park but if you think a second one would fit in somewhere, we could talk about that. I'd want it to be a natural one as opposed to something we would have to provide ongoing maintenance for. Thanks, Tom

---

From: Kelly L Eismont <kleismont@transystems.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 8:25 AM
To: Tom Tesar <ttesar@cityofelkinswv.com>; Melissa A Defibaugh <madefibaugh@transystems.com>
Cc: Tammy L Sherwin <tlsherwin@transystems.com>
Subject: RE: proposal to provide environmental remediation at city parks

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Hi Tom,

Thanks for the quick response. The project at the Airport is still in the coordination phase and final impacts and mitigation have not been finalized yet. However, the proposed tree removal has the potential to impact threatened and endangered bat species, as well as the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee and the Monarch Butterfly.

It is anticipated that reasonable mitigation for these potential impacts will be the placement of bat boxes and the planting of a pollinator garden, potentially with educational signs or materials. The Airport cannot create on-site projects that attract potential wildlife hazards; so the next logical thought was to see if any of the local parks would benefit from a pollinator garden and bat boxes.

If something along these lines would be appropriate at one of your parks, please let us know and we will continue to coordinate with you as the project develops.

Thanks much,
Kelly

From: Tom Tesar <ttesar@cityofelkinswv.com>
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2025 4:51 PM
To: Melissa A Defibaugh <madefibaugh@transystems.com>; Kelly L Eismont <kleismont@transystems.com>
Subject: RE: proposal to provide environmental remediation at city parks

Yes, we might be interested, depending on the project(s). Please let me know what you are considering at this point. Thanks,

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Elkins Parks and Recreation Commission
401 Davis Ave.
Elkins, WV 26241
304-636-3960

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Subject: RE: proposal to provide environmental remediation at city parks

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Tom-

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Melissa

Melissa A Defibaugh, PE
Project Manager

c: 304-481-6136 | o: 814-472-7700

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Ebensburg, PA 15931
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Subject: proposal to provide environmental remediation at city parks

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Melissa asked if the city might be interested in having this kind of work done (at no cost to the city) somewhere on city property, and it occurred to me that the park system might be the logical location.

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City Clerk
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Phone: (304) 636-1414, ext. 1211

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APPENDIX C
PRELIMINARY CONSTRUCTION PLANS

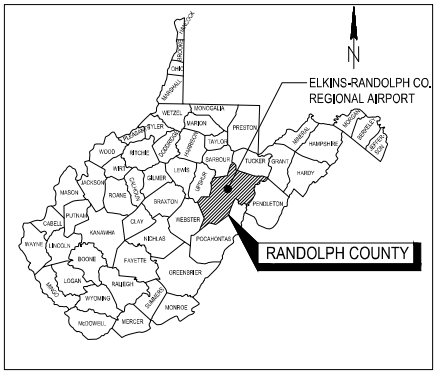
ELKINS-RANDOLPH COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT (EKN)
TREE OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL, PHASE 5

AS ADVERTISED DRAWINGS

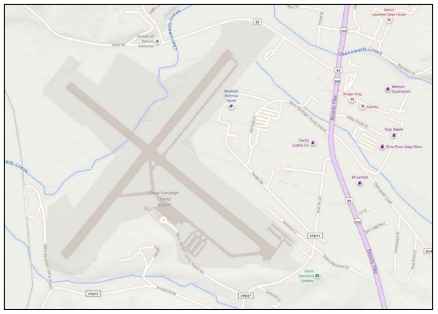
FOR CONTRACT: 2023-03

FAA GRANT NUMBER: _____

WEST VIRGINIA



LOCATION MAP
NOT TO SCALE



PROJECT VICINITY MAP
NOT TO SCALE

DRAWING INDEX		
NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	SHEET DESCRIPTION
AP-01	TITLE SHEET AND DRAWING INDEX	P-EKN-COVER-P707230229
AP-02	CONTRACT QUANTITIES AND GENERAL NOTES	P-EKN-QUANTITIES-P707230229
AP-03	PARCEL SPREADSHEET	P-EKN-QUANTITIES-P707230229
AP-04	RUNWAY 5 END SITE PLAN (BASE BID)	P-EKN-SITE-5 END-P707230229
AP-05	RUNWAY 23 END SITE PLAN (ADD ALTERNATE BIDS)	P-EKN-SITE-23 END-P707230229
AP-06	ON AIRPORT OBSTRUCTIONS TAX PARCELS 111-74.1 AND 111-74.2 (BASE BID)	P-EKN-AIRPORT-OBSTR-P707230229
AP-07	CUPP TAX PARCEL - 110-42 (BASE BID)	P-EKN-CUPP - 110-42
AP-08	CUPP TAX PARCEL - 110-42,1 (BASE BID)	P-EKN-CUPP - 110-42,1
AP-09	CRICKARD TAX PARCEL - 111-74 (BASE BID)	P-EKN-CRICKARD - 111-74
AP-10	ST.BRENDANS CEMETERY TAX PARCEL-133-63 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 1)	P-EKN-ST.BRENDANS-133-63
AP-11	MORGAN TAX PARCEL - 22-21 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 1)	P-EKN-MORGAN-22-21
AP-12	BW PROPERTIES LLC TAX PARCEL - 22-20,1 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 1)	P-EKN-BW PROPERTIES LLC-22-20,1
AP-13	CIVIELLO TAX PARCEL -22-11 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 1)	P-EKN-CIVIELLO-22-11
AP-14	HAMMER TAX PARCEL - 22-10 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 1)	P-EKN-HAMMER-22-10
AP-15	FIRST PRIORITY REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT LLC TAX PARCEL-22-9 AND 22-8,1 (ADDALTERNATE BID NO. 1)	P-EKN-FIRST PRIORITY-22-9
AP-16	DANIELS TAX PARCEL - 22-7 AND 22-05 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 1)	P-EKN-DANIELS-22-7
AP-17	STOUT TAX PARCEL - 28-1 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 1)	P-EKN-STOUT-28-1
AP-18	CASHELL TAX PARCEL - 29-6 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 1)	P-EKN-CASHELL-29-6
AP-19	BROWN TAX PARCEL - 29-5 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 1)	P-EKN-BROWN-29-5
AP-20	ROMERO TAX PARCEL - 29-4 AND 22-20 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 1)	P-EKN-ROMERO-29-4
AP-21	SASEEN TAX PARCEL - 36-5 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 2)	P-EKN-SASEEN-36-5
AP-22	EPPLY TAX PARCEL - 22-4-1 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 2)	P-EKN-EPPLY-22-4-1
AP-23	LITTLE TAX PARCEL - 22-13, 22-14 AND 36-3 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 2)	P-EKN-LITTLE-22-14
AP-24	KISNER TAX PARCEL - 22-14.2 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 2)	P-EKN-KISNER-22-14.2
AP-25	LITTLE TAX PARCEL - 22-14.1 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 2)	P-EKN-LITTLE-22-14,1
AP-26	STALNAKER TAX PARCEL - 36-2 AND 36-2.1 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 2)	P-EKN-STALNAKER-36-2
AP-27	ARBOGAST TAX PARCEL - 22-4, 22-15 AND 22-16 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 2)	P-EKN-ARBOGAST-22-16
AP-28	LAW FAMILY TRUST TAX PARCEL -22-17 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 2)	P-EKN-LAW FAMILY TRUST-22-17
AP-29	BICKEL TAX PARCEL - 22-18 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 2)	P-EKN-BICKEL-22-18
AP-30	SIMMONS TAX PARCEL - 36-1 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 3)	P-EKN-SIMMONS-36-1
AP-31	BOSWORTH TAX PARCEL - 23-34 AND 23-39 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 3)	P-EKN-BOSWORTH-23-34
AP-32	BARGER TAX PARCEL - 23-40 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 3)	P-EKN-BARGER-23-40
AP-33	GUM TAX PARCEL - 23-35 23-36, 23-37 AND 23-38 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 3)	P-EKN-GUM-23-35
AP-34	FOXY RENTALS TAX PARCEL - 23-33 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 3)	P-EKN-FOXY RENTALS-23-33
AP-35	DOUGLAS TAX PARCEL - 136-2 (ADD ALTERNATE BID NO, 3)	P-EKN-DOUGLAS-136-2
AP-36	MISCELLANEOUS DETAILS	P-EKN-DETAILS-P707230229

CONTRACT TIME	
BID DATE: 12/13/2023 START DATE: --/--/2024 END DATE: --/--/2024 FINAL INSPECTION: PENDING AS-BUILT DRAWINGS: --/--/2024	60 CALENDAR DAYS

THESE DRAWINGS WERE PREPARED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE PROJECT AND SITE SET FORTH IN THE TITLE BLOCK AND ARE NOT TO BE USED OTHERWISE WITHOUT WRITTEN APPROVAL OF:

TRANSYSTEMS CORPORATION

THE PREPARATION OF THESE DRAWINGS WAS FINANCED IN PART THROUGH A GRANT FROM THE DOT/FAA UNDER THE AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, AND IN PART THROUGH A GRANT-IN-AID FROM THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, DIVISION OF MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

IT IS THE INTENT OF THE OWNER TO AWARD THE CONTRACT TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER PROVIDING THE BID HAS BEEN SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE BIDDING DOCUMENTS AND DOES NOT EXCEED THE FUNDS AVAILABLE. THE OWNER SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO WAIVE INFORMALITIES OR IRREGULARITIES IN A BID RECEIVED AND TO ACCEPT THE BID WHICH, IN THE OWNER'S JUDGMENT, IS IN THE OWNER'S BEST INTEREST.

TRANSYSTEMS
615 West Highland Ave,
Ebensburg, PA 15931
Phone: 814.472.7700
Email: madefibaugh@transystems.com
Website: www.transystems.com

MELISSA A. DEFIBAUGH
40752
REGISTERED
STATE OF
WEST VIRGINIA
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
12/13/2023

DESIGNED	MAD	12/23 DATE
DRAWN	RAK	12/23 DATE
CHECKED	CRM	12/23 DATE
APPROVED	MAD	12/23 DATE

REVISION		
DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION

ELKINS-RANDOLPH COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
400 Airport Road
Elkins, WV 26241

ELKINS-RANDOLPH COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT (EKN)
ELKINS WEST VIRGINIA

TREE OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL, PHASE 5

TITLE SHEET AND DRAWING INDEX

AP-01

PROJECT NO P707230229

DATE DECEMBER 2023

G:\Projects_2023\EB707\707230229\Aviation\9000 DELIVERABLES\9300 CADD\PLAN SET\P-EKN-COVER-P707230229

IF THIS DRAWING IS LESS THAN 22" X 34" IT IS A REDUCED SIZE DRAWING

ITEM NUMBER	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY
	BASE BID		
C-105-6.1.1	Mobilization/Contractor's Plant	LS	1
C-105-6.2.1	Construction Surveying	LS	1
P-151-4.1.1	Clearing	AC	2.8
P-151-4.2.1	Trimming	AC	0.8
P-151-4.3.1	Individual Tree Removal and Stump Remains	EA	1
C-102-5.1.1	Temporary Erosion and Pollution Control	LS	1
652-10.1.1	Seeding and Soil Supplements	AC	4
652-10.2.1	Mulching, Wood Fiber	AC	4

ITEM NUMBER	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY
	ADD ALTERNATE BID NO. 1		
C-105-6.2.2	Construction Surveying	LS	1
P-151-4.1.2	Clearing	AC	6.0
P-151-4.2.2	Trimming	AC	3.6
P-151-4.4.2	Stump Grinding and Topsoiling	AC	0.04
P-151-4.5.2	Individual Tree Trimming	EA	1
C-102-5.1.2	Temporary Erosion and Pollution Control	LS	1
652-10.1.2	Seeding and Soil Supplements	AC	10
652-10.2.2	Mulching, Wood Fiber	AC	10

ITEM NUMBER	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY
	ADD ALTERNATE BID NO. 2		
C-105-6.2.3	Construction Surveying	LS	1
P-151-4.1.3	Clearing	AC	1.4
P-151-4.2.3	Trimming	AC	3.7
P-151-4.4.3	Stump Grinding and Topsoiling	AC	0.40
C-102-5.1.3	Temporary Erosion and Pollution Control	LS	1
652-10.1.3	Seeding and Soil Supplements	AC	5
652-10.2.3	Mulching, Wood Fiber	AC	5

ITEM NUMBER	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY
	ADD ALTERNATE BID NO. 3		
C-105-6.2.4	Construction Surveying	LS	1
P-151-4.1.4	Clearing	AC	6.6
P-151-4.2.4	Trimming	AC	5.9
P-151-4.4.4	Stump Grinding and Topsoiling	AC	0.40
C-102-5.1.4	Temporary Erosion and Pollution Control	LS	1
652-10.1.4	Seeding and Soil Supplements	AC	13
652-10.2.4	Mulching, Wood Fiber	AC	13

GENERAL NOTES:

1. THIS PROJECT SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONTRACT PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS. THE PROJECT IS SUBJECT TO INSPECTION BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ELKINS-RANDOLPH COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY, THE ENGINEER, THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA).
2. WORK WILL BE OCCURRING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL COORDINATE HIS/HER OPERATIONS AND COOPERATE WITH THE PROPERTY OWNERS.
3. PROTECTION AND REPAIR OF DAMAGE TO EXISTING UTILITIES – LOCATIONS OF EXISTING UTILITIES ARE TO BE VERIFIED BY THE CONTRACTOR. REPAIR OF ANY DAMAGED UTILITIES MUST COMMENCE IMMEDIATELY AND CONTINUE UNTIL COMPLETED. ALL SUCH REPAIRS SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE REQUIREMENT AND SHALL BE AT THE CONTRACTOR'S EXPENSE.
4. ALL CONTRACTOR VEHICLES SHALL REMAIN WITHIN THE DESIGNATED CONSTRUCTION LIMITS ON EACH PARCEL INDIVIDUALLY.
5. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL OBTAIN ALL PERMITS AND LICENSES REQUIRED TO ACCOMPLISH THE PROJECT AT HIS/HER OWN EXPENSE.
6. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL HAVE ONE COPY OF THE CONSTRUCTION PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS IN HIS/HER POSESSION AT ALL TIMES THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF THE PROJECT.
7. MAPPING FOR THE PROJECT WAS ACQUIRED BY TRANSYSTEMS IN SEPTEMBER 2023.
8. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING ALL SAFETY DEVICES AND TRAINING AS REQUIRED FOR THE PROTECTION OF HIS/HER PERSONNEL.
9. THE CONTRACTOR WILL SUBMIT, IN WRITING, A PROJECT CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE AT LEAST TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE WORK, AND UPDATE IT WEEKLY DURING CONSTRUCTION UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER. PROJECT WORK CANNOT COMMENCE UNTIL THE SCHEDULE HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE ENGINEER. THIS WILL BE INCIDENTAL TO THE PROJECT.
10. ANY DAMAGE TO ANY EXISTING ROADS WILL BE REPAIRED AND/OR REPLACED BY THE CONTRACTOR AT HIS/HER OWN EXPENSE AND TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE WVDOT/WVDOH. LARGE VEHICLES ARE NOT PERMITTED ON PRIVATE ROADS.
11. THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LAYOUT OF ALL WORK. THIS WILL BE INCIDENTAL TO THE PROJECT.
12. ALL TREE REMOVAL SHALL OCCUR BY MARCH 31, 2024.
13. IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE THE DISRUPTION TO THE LOCAL RESIDENTS, THE CONTRACTOR WILL BE REQUIRED TO LIMIT PROJECT ACTIVITY TO A MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY WORK SCHEDULE WITH ALL WORK COMMENCING AFTER 8:00 AM AND CONCLUDING BY 5:00 PM, INCLUDING EQUIPMENT TRANSPORT.
14. DOZERS AND GRADERS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED ON THE PROJECT. LEAF LITTER GROUND COVER WILL BE LEFT IN PLACE TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE.
15. TEMPORARY IMPACTS FROM CONSTRUCTION SHALL BE MITIGATED BY THE CONTRACTOR'S ADHERENCE TO APPLICABLE BMP'S DEVELOPED BY THE WVDOF AND WVDEP TO PREVENT EXCESSIVE SEDIMENT CREATION OR TRANSPORTATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITEM C-102.
16. ABSENT THE PROPERTY OWNERS' APPROVAL, EXISTING DRIVEWAYS SHALL NOT BE USED AS ACCESS FOR OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL OPERATIONS.
17. REFER TO SUPPLEMENTARY CONDITIONS OF THE PROJECT MANUAL FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS PROJECT.

UTILITIES:

THE CONTRACTOR SHALL VERIFY LOCATIONS OF ALL UTILITY FACILITIES BEFORE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS. THE CONTRACTOR WILL BE REQUIRED TO CALL 811 AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE BEFORE ANY PROJECT WORK COMMENCES.

TREE CLEARING:

THE TREES WHICH ARE DESIGNED TO BE REMOVED IN THE PROJECT AREAS WILL BE CUT AT OR NEAR THE EXISTING GROUND SURFACE. THE FELLED TREES MAY BE LEFT IN PLACE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE INDIVIDUAL PARCEL OWNER. SHOULD THE FELLED TREE BE MARKETABLE, AND IF THE LANDOWNER DOES NOT WANT THE FELLED TREE TO REMAIN, THE MARKETABLE TIMBER MAY BE FURTHER PROECESSED BY THE CONTRACTOR. ANY REMAINING TREES WHICH ARE NOT DEEMED MARKETABLE, AND WHICH THE PARCEL OWNER DOES NOT WANT TO REMAIN, WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE SITE AND DISPOSED OF AT AN OFF-SITE LOCATION. THE CONTRACTOR WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO REMOVE ALL DOWNED LIMBS. ALL LIMBS AND SMALLER SLASH/WASTE WILL BE DISPOSED OF BY CHIPPING. ALL CHIPS GENERATED WILL BE PLACED DIRECTLY INTO A RECEIVING TRUCK, REMOVED AND THE PARCEL AND PROPERLY DISPOSED.

PRIOR TO THE START OF THE PROJECT, THE CONTRACTOR WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THE AIRPORT AUTHORITY WITH DOCUMENTATION WHICH FORMALLY DESIGNATES ALL DISPOSAL AREA LOCATIONS AND METHODS OF DISPOSAL (BURNING, CHIPPING, ETC.). ALL DOCUMENTATION RECEIVED WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE FAA FOR REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE PRIOR TO THE START OF THE PROJECT.

ONCE THE TREES ARE REMOVED, WHERE NOT OTHERWISE NOTED, THE CONTRACTOR WILL BE REQUIRED TO REMOVE THE REMAINING STUMPS THROUGH A GRINDING PROCESS. ALL STUMPS SHALL BE GROUND TO A POINT A MINIMUM OF 4-INCHES BELOW THE EXISTING GROUND SURFACE. UPON COMPLETION OF THE GRINDING PROCESS, THE STUMPS SHALL BE COVERED WITH A MINIMUM OF 4-INCHES OF SUITABLE TOPSOIL MATERIAL. IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE GROUND DISTURBANCE, THE CONTRACTOR WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO REMOVE THE STUMPS WITH DOZERS OR GRADERS.

TREE TRIMMING:

TREES WHICH ARE LOCATED IN AREAS DESIGNATED TO BE TRIMMED WILL BE TRIMMED DOWN THE ELEVATIONS INDICATED ON THE CONSTRUCTION PLANS. ALL LIMBS AND SLASH/WASTE WILL BE DISPOSED OF BY CHIPPING. ALL CHIPS GENERATED WILL BE PLACED DIRECTLY INTO A RECEIVING TRUCK, REMOVED FROM THE PARCEL AND PROPERLY DISPOSED. THE CONTRACTOR WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIE AN ISA CERTIFIED ARBORIST ON-SITE DURING ALL TREE TRIMMING OPERATIONS. THE INDIVIDUAL PARCEL OWNER(S) MAY ELECT TO CLEAR TREES IN LIEU OF TRIMMING AT THEIR DISCRETION.

RECLAMATION:

UPON COMPLETION OF OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL ACTIVITIES, ALL DISTURBED AREAS WILL BE RECLAIMED AS FOLLOWS:

1. ALL RUTS AND DEPRESSIONS CREATED BY CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY WILL BE FILLED WITH SUITABLE TOPSOIL MATERIAL OR OTHERWISE SMOOTHED.
2. ALL SLASH GENERATED FROM THE TREE REMOVAL EFFORT WILL BE COLLECTED, REMOVED FROM THE PARCEL AND PROPERLY DISPOSED OF AT THE PRE-APPROVED OFF-SITE DISPOSAL LOCATION.
3. ALL DISTURBED AREAS WILL BE SEEDED AND MULCHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH WVDOT SPECIFICATIONS IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH ADEQUATE VEGETATIVE COVER.

INGRESS AND EGRESS:

INDIVIDUALLY BY PARCEL. CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT A CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE DETAILING WORK FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL PARCEL SO THAT THE ENGINEER CAN COORDINATE ACCESS.

TRANSYSTEMS
615 West Highland Ave,
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Website: www.transystems.com

MELISSA A. DEFIBAUGH
40752
REGISTERED
STATE OF
WEST VIRGINIA
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
12/13/2023

DESIGNED	MAD	12/23 DATE
DRAWN	RAK	12/23 DATE
CHECKED	CRM	12/23 DATE
APPROVED	MAD	12/23 DATE

REVISION		
DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION

ELKINS-RANDOLPH COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
400 Airport Road
Elkins, WV 26241

ELKINS-RANDOLPH COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT (EKN)

ELKINS WEST VIRGINIA

TREE OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL, PHASE 5

CONTRACT QUANTITIES AND GENERAL NOTES

AP-02

PROJECT NO P707230229

DATE DECEMBER 2023

G:\Projects_2023\EB707\707230229\Aviation\9000 DELIVERABLES\9300 CADD\PLAN SET\P-EKN-QUANTITIES-P707230229

IF THIS DRAWING IS LESS THAN 22" X 34" IT IS A REDUCED SIZE DRAWING

BASE BID

Drawing #	Tax Map	Parcel	Deed Acreage	Clearing	Trimming	Owner Name	Address
AP-06	111	74.1	6.91	0.87	0	Elkins-Randolph Co. Regional Airport Authority	400 Airport Road, Elkins, WV 26241
	111	74.2	2.89			Elkins-Randolph Co. Regional Airport Authority	400 Airport Road, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-07	110	42	128	0	0.13	Mina H Cupp	820 Arnold Hill Road, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-08	110	42.1	2	0.29	0	Harry H Cupp IV	749 Arnold Hill Road, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-09	111	74	24.11	1.66	0.69	Jennifer Crickard	Arnold Hill Road, Elkins, WV 26241

ADD ALTERNATE BID NO. 1

Drawing #	Tax Map	Parcel	Deed Acreage	Clearing	Trimming	Owner Name	Address
AP-10	133	63	8	0	0.9	St. Brendens Catholic Cemetery	181 Saint Brenden Way, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-11	22	21	2.94	0.53	0.07	Kenneth B and Paula S Morgan	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-12	22	20.1	3.1	0.58	0	BW Properties, LLC	66 Wiseman Lane, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-13	22	11	1.82	0.37	0	Janet L Civiello	7 Spoke Lane, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-14	22	10	1.35	0.31	0.13	Sharon D Hammer - Serendipity	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-15	22	8.1	0.81	1.03	0.23	First Priority Real Estate Development LLC	481 Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
	22	9	1.57			First Priority Real Estate Development LLC	481 Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-16	22	5	6.45	0.02	0.5	Ronald L and Sandy E Daniels	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
	22	7	2.03			Ronald L and Sandy E Daniels	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-17	28	1	2.45	0	0.63	Robert C and Deborah Monroe Stout	375 Westridge Drive, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-18	29	6	4.32	2.31	0.45	Alan and Maurita Diann Schumann Cashell	104 Westridge Drive, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-19	29	5	2.16	0.34	0.65	William J and Brenda Jo Brown	201 Westridge Drive, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-20	29	4	2.68	0.48	0.02	Brian C and Beverly A Romero	3 Westridge Drive, Elkins, WV 26241
	22	20	0.32			Brian C and Beverly A Romero	3 Westridge Drive, Elkins, WV 26241

ADD ALTERNATE BID NO. 2

Drawing #	Tax Map	Parcel	Deed Acreage	Clearing	Trimming	Owner Name	Address
AP-21	36	5	3.18	0	0.09	Jerry F JR and Debra M Saseen	51 Grey Deer Dr, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-22	22	4.1	1	0.21	0.1	Spencer B and Paula L Epply	157 Carpenter Lane, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-23	22	13	0.74	0.9	0.4	Linda M Little	111 Silver Fox Lane, Elkins, WV 26241
	22	14	1.55			Linda M Little	111 Silver Fox Lane, Elkins, WV 26241
	36	3	1.02			Linda M Little	111 Silver Fox Lane, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-24	22	14.2	1.8	0	0.21	Joseph E Kisner	40 Silver Fox Lane, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-25	22	14.1	0.5	0	0.18	Jared S Little	108 Silver Fox Lane, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-26	36	2	1.04	0.14	0.63	Jeffrey D and Gladys L Stalnaker	1080 Twelve Oaks Lane, Elkins, WV 26241
	36	2.1	1.03			Jeffrey D and Gladys L Stalnaker	1080 Twelve Oaks Lane, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-27	22	4	5.32	0.13	1.56	Barbara J Arbogast	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
	22	15	0.7413			Barbara J Arbogast	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
	22	16	0.25			Barbara J Arbogast	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-28	22	17	0.2309	0	0.22	Dennis R Law Family Trust	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-29	22	18	0.2136	0	0.29	Jerald or Darrel Bickel	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241

ADD ALTERNATE BID NO. 3

Drawing #	Tax Map	Parcel	Deed Acreage	Clearing	Trimming	Owner Name	Address
AP-30	36	1	1.95	0	1.36	Bradley E Simmons	115 Twelve Oaks Lane, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-31	23	34	5.57	4.37	1.28	Julia Bosworth	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
	23	39	0.4716			Julia Bosworth	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-32	23	40	0.9	0.09	0.91	Beth A Barger	11 Twelve Oaks Lane, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-33	23	35	0.2447	0.17	0.47	Edward G JR and Susan Gum	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
	23	36	0.2762			Edward G JR and Susan Gum	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
	23	37	0.3			Edward G JR and Susan Gum	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
	23	38	0.2718			Edward G JR and Susan Gum	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-34	23	33	0.9548	0.17	0.49	Foxy Rentals	Beverly Pike, Elkins, WV 26241
AP-35	136	2	20.77	1.78	1.35	Elaine B Douglas	203 Twelve Oaks Lane, Elkins, WV 26241

SURVEY CONTROL

Point Name	PID	Description	Northing	Easting	Elevation
EKN C	AA9288	PACS	969,670.58	2,295,091.21	1,979.00
ELKPORT	HW3618	SACS	969,878.33	2,293,038.63	1,955.30
ELKPORT AZ MK	HW3623	SACS	968,450.94	2,292,149.58	1,971.50



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Website: www.transystems.com

MELISSA A. DEFIBAUGH
40752
REGISTERED
STATE OF
WEST VIRGINIA
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
12/13/2023

DESIGNED	MAD	12/23 DATE
DRAWN	RAK	12/23 DATE
CHECKED	CRM	12/23 DATE
APPROVED	MAD	12/23 DATE

REVISION		
DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION

ELKINS-RANDOLPH COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
400 Airport Road
Elkins, WV 26241

ELKINS-RANDOLPH COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT (EKN)

ELKINS WEST VIRGINIA

TREE OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL, PHASE 5

PARCEL SPREADSHEET

AP-03

PROJECT NO P707230229

DATE DECEMBER 2023

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