

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE New York Ecological Services Field Office 3817 Luker Road Cortland, NY 13045-9385 Phone: (607) 753-9334 Fax: (607) 753-9699 Email Address: <u>fw5es nyfo@fws.gov</u> <u>https://www.fws.gov/northeast/NYFO/</u>



In Reply Refer To: Project code: 2024-0019153 Project Name: DAIM Park Drive Lot 3D November 22, 2023

Subject: Consistency letter for the 'DAIM Park Drive Lot 3D' project under the amended February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion (dated March 23, 2023) for Transportation Projects within the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat (NLEB).

To whom it may concern:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your request dated November 22, 2023 to verify that the **DAIM Park Drive Lot 3D** (Proposed Action) may rely on the amended February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion Opinion (dated March 23, 2023) for Transportation Projects within the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat (PBO) to satisfy requirements under section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat.884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Based on the information you provided (Project Description shown below), you have determined that the Proposed Action will have <u>no effect</u> on the endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) or the endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). If the Proposed Action is not modified, **no consultation is required for these two species.** If the Proposed Action is modified, or new information reveals that it may affect the Indiana bat and/or northern long-eared bat in a manner or to an extent not considered in the PBO, further review to conclude the requirements of ESA section 7(a)(2) may be required.

For Proposed Actions that include bridge/culvert or structure removal, replacement, and/or maintenance activities:

If your initial bridge/culvert or structure assessment failed to detect Indiana bats and/or NLEBs use or occupancy, yet later detected prior to, or during construction, please submit the Post Assessment Discovery of Bats at Bridge/Culvert or Structure Form (User Guide Appendix E) to this Service Office within 2 working days of the incident. In these instances, potential incidental

take of Indiana bats and/or NLEBs may be exempted provided that the take is reported to the Service.

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

The following species may occur in your project area and **are not** covered by this determination:

Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus Candidate

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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

NAME

DAIM Park Drive Lot 3D

DESCRIPTION

Construction of a warehouse building on a vacant parcel currently a mixture of meadow and gravel area.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <u>https://www.google.com/maps/@42.9347046,-74.34577426282529,14z</u>



DETERMINATION KEY RESULT

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

QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Is the project within the range of the Indiana bat^[1]?

[1] See <u>Indiana bat species profile</u> Automatically answered No

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

[1] See <u>northern long-eared bat species profile</u> Automatically answered *Yes*

3. [Semantic] Does your proposed action intersect an area where Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats are not likely to occur?

Automatically answered *Yes*

DETERMINATION KEY DESCRIPTION: FHWA, FRA, FTA PROGRAMMATIC CONSULTATION FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AFFECTING NLEB OR INDIANA BAT

This key was last updated in IPaC on October 30, 2023. Keys are subject to periodic revision.

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

This decision key should <u>only</u> be used to verify project applicability with the Service's <u>amended</u> <u>February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion (dated March 23, 2023)</u> for <u>Transportation Projects</u>. The programmatic biological opinion covers limited transportation activities that may affect either bat species, and addresses situations that are both likely and not likely to adversely affect either bat species. This decision key will assist in identifying the effect of a specific project/activity and applicability of the programmatic consultation. The programmatic biological opinion is <u>not</u> intended to cover all types of transportation actions. Activities outside the scope of the programmatic biological opinion, or that may affect ESAlisted species other than the Indiana bat or NLEB, or any designated critical habitat, may require additional ESA Section 7 consultation.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency:Private EntityName:Christopher LongoAddress:1900 Duanesburg RoadCity:DuanesburgState:NYZip:12056Emailclongo@empireeng.net

Phone: 5182801371