



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
6669 Short Lane
Gloucester, Virginia 23061



Date: April 30, 2013

Online Project Review Certification Letter

Project Name: Lee Rd Spur - Design Enhancement for RTE 50 Widening Project

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) Virginia Field Office online project review process. By printing this letter in conjunction with your project review package, you are certifying that you have completed the online project review process for the referenced project in accordance with all instructions provided, using the best available information to reach your conclusions. This letter, and the enclosed project review package, completes the review of your project in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544, 87 Stat. 884), as amended (ESA), and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668c, 54 Stat. 250), as amended (Eagle Act). This letter also provides information for your project review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347, 83 Stat. 852), as amended. A copy of this letter and the project review package must be submitted to this office for this certification to be valid. This letter and the project review package will be maintained in our records.

The species conclusions table in the enclosed project review package summarizes your ESA and Eagle Act conclusions. These conclusions resulted in “no effect” and/or “not likely to adversely affect” determinations for listed species and critical habitat and/or “no Eagle Act permit required” determinations for eagles regarding potential effects of your proposed project. We certify that the use of the online project review process in strict accordance with the instructions provided as documented in the enclosed project review package results in reaching the appropriate determinations. Therefore, we concur with the “no effect” and “not likely to adversely affect” determinations for listed species and critical habitat and “no Eagle Act permit required” determinations for eagles. Additional coordination with this office is not needed.

Candidate species are not legally protected pursuant to the ESA. However, the Service encourages consideration of these species by avoiding adverse impacts to them. Please contact this office for additional coordination if your project action area contains candidate species.

Should project plans change or if additional information on the distribution of listed species, critical habitat, or bald eagles becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered. This certification letter is valid for one year.

Applicant

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Information about the online project review process including instructions and use, species information, and other information regarding project reviews within Virginia is available at our website http://www.fws.gov/northeast/virginiafield/endspecies/project_reviews.html. If you have any questions, please contact Kimberly Smith of this office at (804) 693-6694, extension 124.

Sincerely,

/s/ Cynthia A. Schulz

Cindy Schulz
Supervisor
Virginia Field Office

Enclosures - project review package



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
VIRGINIA ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE
6669 SHORT LANE
GLOUCESTER, VA 23061
PHONE: (804)693-6694 FAX: (804)693-9032
URL: www.fws.gov/northeast/virginiafield/



Consultation Tracking Number: 05E2VA00-2013-SLI-1468
Project Name: Lee Rd Spur - RTE 50 Widening Permit Mod

April 30, 2013

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

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, and proposed species, designated critical habitat, and candidate species 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 ECOS-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 ECOS-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:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

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

Attachment



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Lee Rd Spur - RTE 50 Widening Permit Mod

Official Species List

Provided by:

VIRGINIA ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

6669 SHORT LANE

GLOUCESTER, VA 23061

(804) 693-6694

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/virginiafield/>

Consultation Tracking Number: 05E2VA00-2013-SLI-1468

Project Type: Transportation

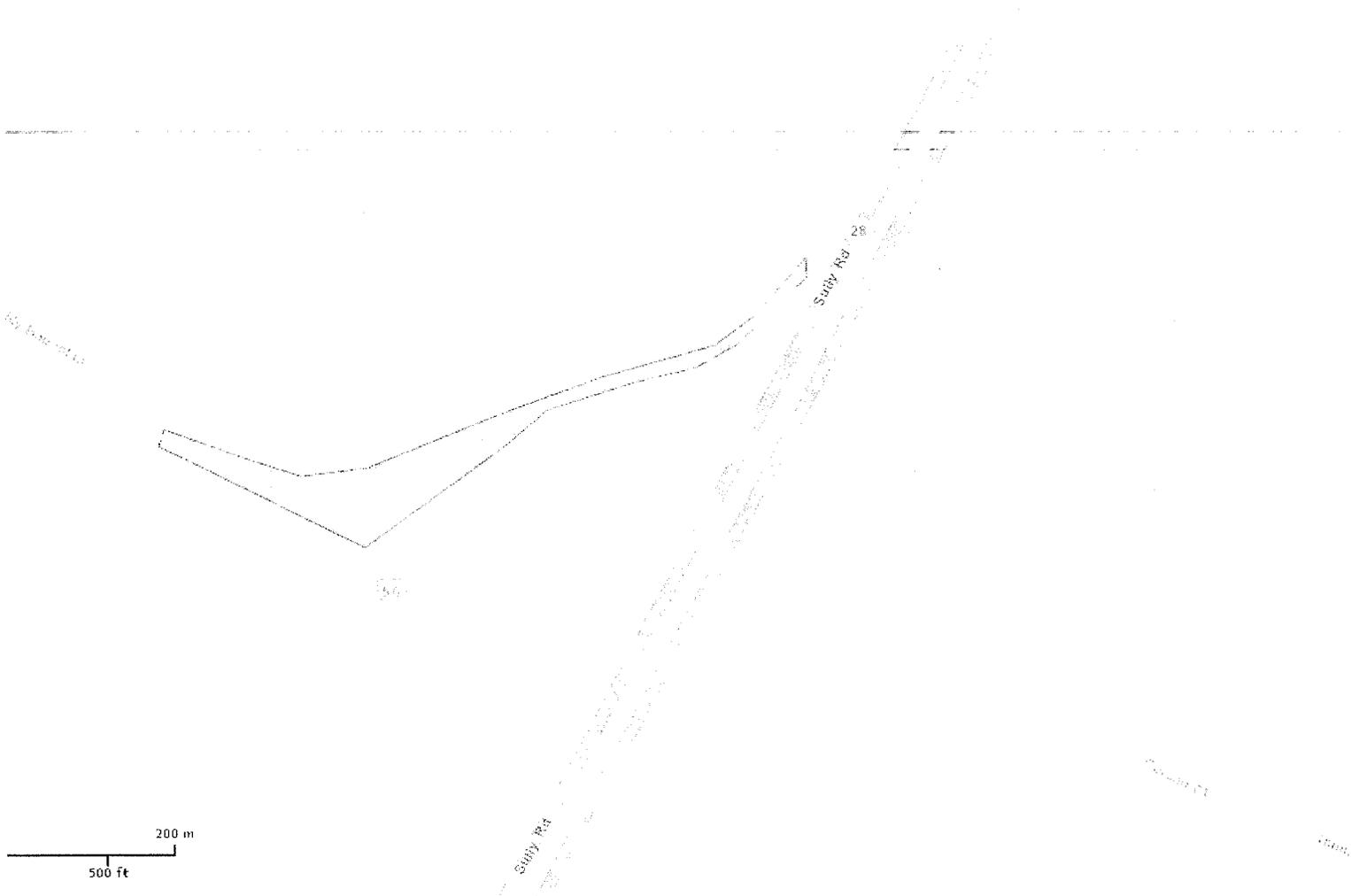
Project Description: The active RTE 50 widening project in western Fairfax/eastern Loudoun counties is proposing a new design element that will increase safety for vehicles exiting RTE 28 south onto RTE 50 west and immediately merging to turn left at Lee Rd. This proposed design requires the RTE 28 south offramp onto RTE 50 be modified, which will impact minor amounts of jurisdictional waters of the US.



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Lee Rd Spur - RTE 50 Widening Permit Mod

Project Location Map:



Project Coordinates: MULTIPOLYGON (((-77.4378348 38.9002827, -77.4378246 38.9001579, -77.4383933 38.899732, -77.4387366 38.8995818, -77.4399597 38.8993146, -77.4402815 38.8990975, -77.441451 38.8984378, -77.4431354 38.8990891, -77.443092 38.8991977, -77.4419762 38.8988971, -77.4414295 38.8989472, -77.4395198 38.8995233, -77.4385859 38.8997233, -77.438264 38.899907, -77.4378348 38.9002827)))

Project Counties: Fairfax, VA



United States Department of Interior
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Project name: Lee Rd Spur - RTE 50 Widening Permit Mod

Endangered Species Act Species List

Species lists are not entirely based upon the current range of a species but may also take into consideration actions that affect a species that exists in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

There are no listed species identified for the vicinity of your project.

