

*Threatened and Endangered Species  
Habitat Suitability Assessment Report*

Kingstonian  
North Front Street  
City of Kingston  
Ulster County, NY

July 8, 2019

Prepared by:

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

A Habitat Suitability Assessment was completed on a 2.5+ acres site located at 9-21 North Front Street Mountain in the City of Kingston, New York (*Figure 1*) for two federal and State listed species including the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) as per the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) list for the site (*Attachment 1*) and as per the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Environmental Resource Mapper (*Attachment 2*). A field assessment was conducted on July 6, 2019 to determine whether suitable habitat for these species is present on the site. Habitat cover types were also observed and are described below.

**TABLE 1**  
**COVER TYPE IDENTIFIED ON THE SITE**

<b>HABITAT COVER TYPES</b>			
<b>NO.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COVERAGE (ACRES)</b>	<b>DISTURBANCE (ACRES)</b>
1	Developed Area	2.5	2.5

Developed Area - The entire site is previously developed and contains structures, roads, asphalt parking area, and storage for the current retail use. The only vegetation on the site are about 10 landscaped trees (Bradford pear) each about 20 feet in height bordering an existing parking lot.

Figure 1 Location Map



## 2.0 HABITAT SUITABILITY ASSESSMENT/CONCLUSION

### 2.1 Indiana bat

The Indiana bat typically hibernates in caves/mines in the winter and roosts under bark or in tree crevices in the spring, summer, and fall. Suitable potential summer roosting habitat is characterized by trees (dead, dying, or alive) or snags with exfoliating or defoliating bark, or containing cracks or crevices that could potentially be used by Indiana bats as a roost. The minimum diameter of roost trees observed to date is 2.5 inches for males and 4.3 inches for females. However, maternity colonies generally use trees greater than or equal to 9 inches dbh. Overall, roost tree structure appears to be more important to Indiana bats than a particular tree species or habitat type. Females appear to be more habitat specific than males presumably because of the warmer temperature requirements associated with gestation and rearing of young. As a result, they are generally found at lower elevations than males may be found. Roosts are warmed by direct exposure to solar radiation, thus trees exposed to extended periods of direct sunlight are preferred over those in shaded areas. However, shaded roosts may be preferred in very hot conditions. As larger trees afford a greater thermal mass for heat retention, they appear to be preferred over smaller trees.

Streams associated with floodplain forests, and impounded water bodies (ponds, wetlands, reservoirs, etc.) where abundant supplies of flying insects are likely found provide preferred foraging habitat for Indiana bats, some of which may fly up to 2-5 miles from upland roosts on a regular basis. Indiana bats also forage within the canopy of upland forests, over clearings with early successional vegetation (e.g., old fields), along the borders of croplands, along wooded fencerows, and over farm ponds in pastures. While Indiana bats appear to forage in a wide variety of habitats, they seem to tend to stay fairly close to tree cover.

**Conclusion** - This site contains no suitable trees for use by this species for foraging or roosting therefore the project is not likely to adversely affect this species. There are no conservation measures required or proposed.

### 2.2 Northern long-eared bat

**Winter Habitat:** Same as the Indiana bat northern long-eared bats spend winter hibernating in caves and mines, called hibernacula. They typically use large caves or mines with large passages and entrances; constant temperatures; and high humidity with no air currents. Specific areas where they hibernate have very high humidity, so much so that droplets of water are often seen on their fur. Within hibernacula, surveyors find them in small crevices or cracks, often with only the nose and ears visible.

**Summer Habitat:** During summer, northern long-eared bats roost singly or in colonies underneath bark, in cavities, or in crevices of both live and dead trees. Males and non-reproductive females may also roost in cooler places, like caves and mines. This bat seems opportunistic in selecting roosts, using tree species based on suitability to retain bark or provide cavities or crevices. It has also been found, rarely, roosting in structures like barns and sheds.

Feeding Habits: Northern long-eared bats emerge at dusk to fly through the understory of forested hillsides and ridges feeding on moths, flies, leafhoppers, caddisflies, and beetles, which they catch while in flight using echolocation. This bat also feeds by gleaning motionless insects from vegetation and water surfaces.

**Conclusion** - The northern long eared bat requires/occupies practically the same habitat niche as the Indiana bat. There are no impacts to habitat and therefore no conservation measures required.

### 3.0 PHOTOGRAPH

Street Trees on the site.



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Attachment 1 - USFWS List





## 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

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>



In Reply Refer To:

Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2019-SLI-2552

Event Code: 05E1NY00-2019-E-07933

Project Name: Kingstonian

July 08, 2019

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, 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 (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). This list can also be used to determine whether listed species may be present for projects without federal agency involvement. 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 ESA, 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 site 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. If listed, proposed, or candidate species were identified as potentially occurring in the project area, coordination with our office is encouraged. Information on the steps involved with assessing potential impacts from projects can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>

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 Services 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 ESA. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

## 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:

**New York Ecological Services Field Office**  
3817 Luker Road  
Cortland, NY 13045-9385  
(607) 753-9334

## Project Summary

Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2019-SLI-2552

Event Code: 05E1NY00-2019-E-07933

Project Name: Kingstonian

Project Type: DEVELOPMENT

Project Description: Residential Development

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/41.93582050641575N74.01961916108526W>



Counties: Ulster, NY

## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 2 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, 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 <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949</a>	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>	Threatened

## Critical habitats

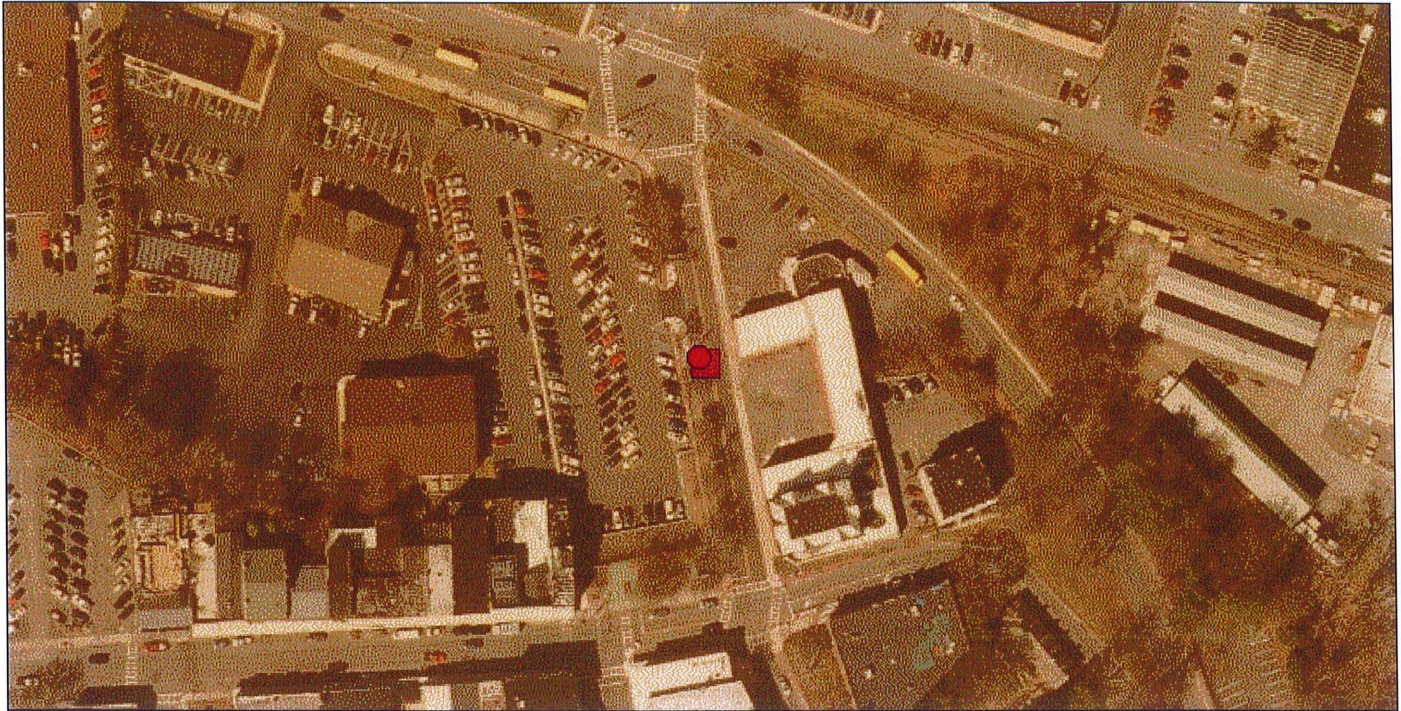
THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

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Attachment 2 - NYSDEC Environmental Resource Mapper



# Environmental Resource Mapper



The coordinates of the point you clicked on are:

UTM 18	Easting:	581268.237	Northing:	4643111.913
Longitude/Latitude	Longitude:	-74.020	Latitude:	41.936

The approximate address of the point you clicked on is:

Fair St Ext, Kingston, New York, 12401

**County:** Ulster

**City:** Kingston

**USGS Quad:** KINGSTON WEST

**DEC Region**

**Region 3:**

(Lower Hudson Valley) Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties. For more information visit <http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/607.html>.

[Rare Plants and Rare Animals](#)

**This location is in the vicinity of Bats Listed as Endangered or Threatened -- Contact NYSDEC Regional Office**

If your project or action is within or near an area with a rare animal, a permit may be required if the species is listed as endangered or threatened and the department determines the action may be harmful to the species or its habitat.

If your project or action is within or near an area with rare plants and/or significant natural communities, the environmental impacts may need to be addressed.

The presence of a unique geological feature or landform near a project, unto itself, does not trigger a requirement for a NYS DEC permit. Readers are advised, however, that there is the chance that a unique feature may also show in another data layer (ie. a wetland) and thus be subject to permit jurisdiction.

Please refer to the "Need a Permit?" tab for permit information or other authorizations regarding these natural resources.

**Disclaimer:** If you are considering a project or action in, or near, a wetland or a stream, a NYS DEC permit may be required. The Environmental Resources Mapper does not show all natural resources which are regulated by NYS DEC, and for which permits from NYS DEC are required. For example, Regulated Tidal Wetlands, and Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Rivers, are currently not included on the maps.