

APPENDIX C

Habitat Assessment

Threatened & Endangered Species Habitat Assessment Report

Syracuse Hancock International Airport Land Release

Town of Salina Onondaga Co., New York

CHA Project Number: 077036

Prepared for:
*Syracuse Regional Airport Authority
1000 Col. Eileen Collins Blvd.
Syracuse, NY 13212*

Prepared by:



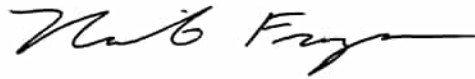
*III Winners Circle
Albany, New York 12205
Phone: (518) 453-4500
Fax: (518) 453-4773*

December 18, 2023

SIGNATURE PAGE

This report has been prepared and reviewed by the following qualified personnel employed by
CHA.

Report Prepared By:



Nicole Frazer
Principal Scientist

Report Reviewed By:



Christopher Einstein, PWS
Principal Scientist

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LIST OF ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

AC	Acre
CHA	CHA Consulting, Inc.
dbh	Diameter at Breast Height
IPaC	Information for Planning and Consultation
NHP	Natural Heritage Program
NYSDEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
SYR	Syracuse Hancock International Airport
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

1.0 INTRODUCTION

CHA Consulting, Inc. (CHA) was retained to perform a threatened and endangered species review and habitat assessment for 46 acres of land for inclusion in an Environmental Assessment that is being completed for the release of airport property at the Syracuse Hancock International Airport (SYR) in the Town of Salina, Onondaga County, New York. The property is located north of Colonel Eileen Collins Boulevard. A Project Area Map and a USGS Project Location Map are provided as Attachment A. This report documents the resources within the review area.

2.0 PROPOSED WORK

The proposed project entails the release of land that is currently located on airport property for future development of a non-aeronautical use. It is anticipated that the future development would include commercial development of the entire area.

3.0 RESOURCE REVIEW & ONSITE HABITATS

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information, Planning and Consultation (IPaC) project review process was used to obtain an Official Species List of Federally listed endangered and threatened species to determine whether any federally listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species are known to occur near the project area. A copy of the Official Species List (dated October 18, 2023) is provided under Attachment B. The list identified that there are no critical habitats present within the project area, and that the following federally protected species may occur in the proposed project vicinity:

- Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) – Endangered
- Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) – Endangered
- Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) – Candidate

A request was sent to the NY Natural Heritage Program (NHP) for information on the presence of state-listed or proposed endangered or threatened species and critical wildlife habitat in the vicinity of the project area. Their December 11, 2023, response (Attachment B) identified:

- Upland sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*), Threatened, documented 1/3 mile of the project area.
- Northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*)- Threatened, documented 1/4 mile of the project area.

CHA completed a field investigation on November 7, 2023, to review the habitats of the project area. Site photographs are provided as Attachment C.

Vegetative communities are described according to *Ecological Communities of New York State, Second Edition* (Edinger 2014)¹ and *Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States* (Cowardin 1979)².

The project area is composed of numerous habitats such as mowed lawn with trees (photo 1), mowed lawn (airfield) (photos 2-4), emergent wetland (shallow emergent marsh) (photo 5), successional shrubland (photo 6) and successional northern hardwoods (photos 7-8). Refer to Attachment D for a Habitat Assessment Map.

4.0 SPECIES HABITAT REQUIREMENTS & IMPACTS ASSESSMENT

4.1 INDIANA BAT

Required Habitats

According to the USFWS³:

- Indiana bats have been documented using caves (and their associated sinkholes, fissures, and other karst features), as well as anthropogenic features such as mines and tunnels as winter hibernation habitat (i.e. hibernacula).

Suitable summer habitat for Indiana bats 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 diameter at breast height (dbh) (12.7 centimeters) 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 characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet (305 meters) of other forested/wooded habitat.

¹ Edinger, G. J., D. J. Evans, S. Gebauer, T. G. Howard, D. M. Hunt, and A. M. Olivero (editors). 2014. *Ecological Communities of New York State. Second Edition. A revised and expanded edition of Carol Reshke's Ecological Communities of New York State*. New York Natural Heritage Program, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Albany, NY.

² Cowardin, L. M., V. Carter, F. C. Golet, E. T. LaRoe, 1979. *Classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats of the United States*. U. S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C.

³ United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service. March 2020. *Range-Wide Indiana Bat Survey Guidelines*. 65 pp.

Impact Assessment

No caves, mines or other potential hibernating structures were observed within the project area. Therefore, the project is expected to have no effect on potential hibernacula.

With the assumption that the entire project area will be developed, approximately 0.54 acres (AC) of successional northern hardwood forest (approximately 66 trees and 16 snags) in the northwest corner of the project area and individual trees (approximately 37) along Colonel Eileen Collins Boulevard may be cut to accommodate the future build out of the project area. These areas contain trees ≥ 5 inch dbh that may provide suitable roosting structure for bats. It is assumed that tree removal will be conducted during the winter (November 1 to March 31) when bats are hibernating. Bat habitat assessment datasheets for each of these areas have been provided in Attachment E.

The NHP letter did not identify any hibernacula or known maternal roost trees within or in the vicinity of the project area. Based on this information as well as proposing winter cutting, CHA recommends an effect determination of May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect for the Indiana bat.

4.2 NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT

Required Habitats

According to the USFWS⁴:

- Northern long-eared bats spend winter hibernating in caves and mines. After hibernation ends in late March or early April, most northern long-eared bats migrate to summer roosts. The active season is the period between emergence and hibernation from April 1 – October 31. Overall, this species is not considered to be a long-distance migrant (typically 40-50 miles) although known migratory distances vary greatly between 5 and 168 miles. Suitable summer habitat 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. This includes forests and woodlots containing potential roosts, 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. They roost in cavities, underneath bark, crevices, or hollows of both live and dead trees and/or snags

⁴ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Midwest Regional Office. 2016. *Programmatic Biological Opinion on Final 4(d) Rule for the Northern Long-Eared Bat and Activities Excepted from Take Prohibitions*. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regions 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Bloomington, Minnesota.

(≥ 3 inches dbh). They are known to use a wide variety of roost types, using tree species based on presence of cavities and crevices or presence of peeling bark. They have also been occasionally found roosting in structures like buildings, barns, sheds, houses and bridges.

According to the NHP⁵:

- Northern myotis are typically associated with mature interior forest (Carroll et al. 2002) and tend to avoid woodlands with significant edge habitat (Yates and Muzika 2006). Northern myotis may most often be found in cluttered or densely forested areas including in uplands and at streams or vernal pools (Brooks and Ford 2005). Northern myotis may use small openings or canopy gaps as well. In one study in northwestern South Carolina, detection of northern myotis was best predicted in mature stands but also in areas with sparse vegetation (Loeb and O'Keefe 2006). Some research suggests that northern myotis forage on forested ridges and hillsides rather than in riparian or floodplain forests (Harvey et al. 1999). Captures from NY suggest that northern myotis may also be found using younger forest types (NYSDEC unpublished data). Northern myotis select day roosts in dead or live trees under loose bark, or in cavities and crevices, and may sometimes use caves as night roosts (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2013). They may also roost in buildings or behind shutters. A variety of tree species are used for roosting. The structural complexity of surrounding habitat and availability of roost trees may be important factors in roost selection (Carter and Feldhamer 2005). Roosts of female bats tend to be large diameter, tall trees, and in at least some areas, located within a less dense canopy (Sasse and Pekins 1996). Northern myotis hibernates in caves and mines where the air temperature is constant, preferring cooler areas with high humidity (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2013).

Impact Assessment

No caves, mines or other potential hibernating structures were observed within the project area. Therefore, the project is expected to have no effect on potential hibernacula.

With the assumption that the entire project area will be developed, approximately 0.54 acres (AC) of successional northern hardwood forest (approximately 66 trees and 16 snags) in the northwest corner of the project area and individual trees (approximately 37) along Colonel Eileen Collins Boulevard may be cut to accommodate the future build out of the project area. These areas contain trees ≥ 3 inch dbh that may provide suitable roosting structure for bats. It is assumed that tree removal will be conducted during the winter (November 1 to March 31)

⁵ New York Natural Heritage Program. 2023. Online Conservation Guide for *Myotis septentrionalis*. Available from: <https://guides.nynhp.org/northern-long-eared-bat/>. Accessed November 28, 2023.

when bats are hibernating. Bat habitat assessment datasheets for each of these areas have been provided in Attachment E.

The NHP letter did not identify any hibernacula or known maternal roost trees within or in the vicinity of the project area. Based on this information as well as proposing winter cutting, CHA recommends an effect determination of May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect for the northern long-eared bat.

4.3 MONARCH BUTTERFLY

According to the USFWS⁶:

- During the breeding season, monarchs lay their eggs on their obligate milkweed host plant (primarily *Asclepias* spp.), and larvae emerge after two to five days. Larvae develop through five larval instars (intervals between molts) over a period of 9 to 18 days, feeding on milkweed and sequestering toxic cardenolides as a defense against predators. The larva then pupates into chrysalis before enclosing 6 to 14 days later as an adult butterfly. There are multiple generations of monarchs produced during the breeding season, with most adult butterflies living approximately two to five weeks; overwintering adults enter reproductive diapause (suspended reproduction) and live six to nine months.

Impact Assessment

Milkweed plants were not observed throughout most of the project area. An area of common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) was observed in the northwest portion of the mowed project area. A GPS point was taken to note the vicinity of this patch. Refer to Attachment D for this location. The patch extends around this point. Vegetation removal in this area could impact milkweed, and if present, monarch caterpillars. However, the impact would be minimal considering the low numbers of scattered milkweed plants noted. Therefore, CHA recommends an effects determination of No Jeopardy to monarch butterfly.

The monarch butterfly is listed as a candidate species, and it currently does not have any protection under Endangered Species Act Section 7. Consultation or conference (formal or informal) with USFWS is not required at this time.

⁶ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2020. Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*) Species Status Assessment Report. V2.1 96 pp + appendices.

4.4 UPLAND SANDPIPER

Habitat Description

According to the NHP⁷:

- This species prefers large areas of short grass for courtship and feeding with taller grasses that are adjacent or interspersed for brood cover and nesting. “In the northeastern U.S., airfields currently provide the majority of suitable habitat, though grazed pastures and grassy fields also are used.”

According to TheCornellLab⁸:

- Upland sandpipers’ nest in grasslands, agricultural fields, fallow fields, hay or other crop fields, grazed and un-grazed pastures and sometimes road edges. Nests are set on the ground in dense vegetation. Where the upland sandpipers are declining in eastern North America, peatlands, blueberry barrens and airports have small populations. During migration, this species frequents pastures, airfields and agricultural fields.

Impact Assessment

A majority of the project area is mowed and does not contain habitat that would be suitable for nesting, however, the project area could be used during migration. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has a general rule that grasslands need to be at least 25 acres to offer appropriate habitat for grassland birds considered at-risk in NY.⁹ The airport has large areas of airfield that would remain available for use during migration. Refer to Attachment A for the Airport Location Map. Therefore, CHA recommends an effect determination of no effect for upland sandpiper.

4.5 NORTHERN HARRIER

Habitat Description

According to the NHP¹⁰:

- Northern harriers utilize various areas such as freshwater and salt marshes, open grasslands and shrubland. Nests are usually placed in dense cover on the ground.

⁷ New York Natural Heritage Program. 2023. Online Conservation Guide for *Bartramia longicauda*. Available from: <https://guides.nynhp.org/upland-sandpiper/>. Accessed October 31, 2023.

⁸ TheCornellLab. 2023. All About Birds. Upland Sandpiper. Available from: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Upland_Sandpiper/lifehistory. Accessed November 28, 2023.

⁹ New York State Department of Conservation. 2023. Birds. Available from: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/271>. Accessed November 28, 2023.

¹⁰ New York Natural Heritage Program. 2023. Online Conservation Guide for *Circus hudsonius*. Available from: <https://guides.nynhp.org/northern-harrier/>. Accessed October 31, 2023.

According to the NYSDEC¹¹:

- During winter and migratory periods, communal flocks roost on the ground in agricultural fields, salt marshes and abandoned fields. Breeding occurs in both freshwater and brackish marshes, meadows, cultivated fields, tundra, and fallow grasslands.


Impact Assessment

A majority of the project area is mowed and does not contain habitat that would be suitable for nesting. Northern harriers could/may use the mowed habitats for foraging, however, it is not ideal foraging habitat because of the regular mowing. As noted above, NYSDEC has a general rule that grasslands need to be at least 25 acres to offer appropriate habitat for grassland birds considered at-risk in NY. The airport has large areas of airfield that would remain available for foraging. Refer to Attachment A for the Airport Location Map. Therefore, CHA recommends an effect determination of no effect for northern harrier.

¹¹ New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. 2023. Northern Harrier Fact Sheet. Available from: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7090.html>. Accessed November 28, 2023.

Attachment A



Legend
 Project Area

Date Saved: 10/18/2023 • Author: E. Butterfield



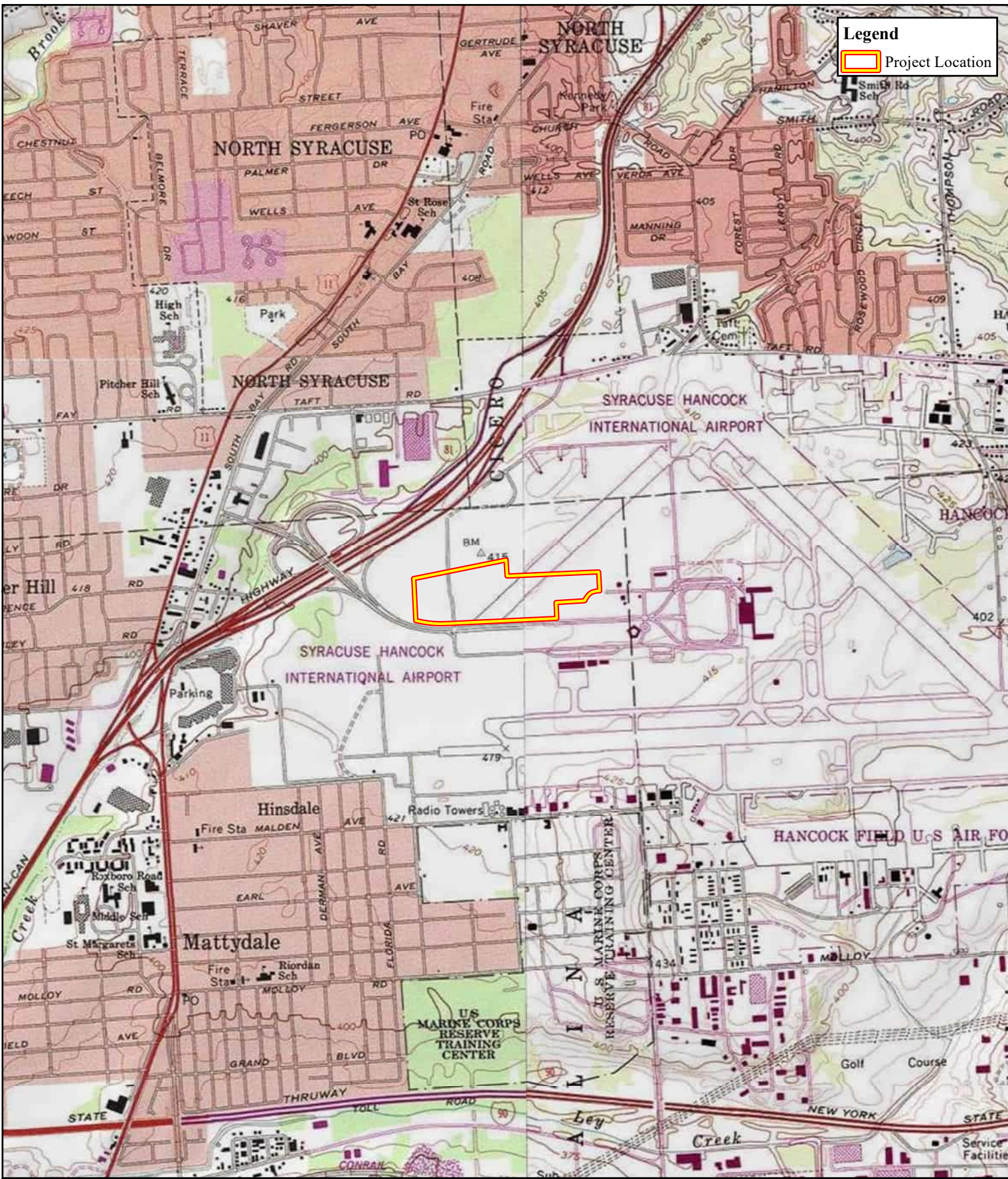
Project Area Map


Syracuse Hancock International Airport
 Col. Eileen Collins Blvd. Land Release
 Onondaga County, NY

Scale 1" = 600'

CHA Project No.
 077036

Sources: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA FSA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community • Photo Date: 2023



Legend
 Project Location

Date Saved: 10/19/2023 • Author: E.Butterfield



USGS Project Location Map

Syracuse Hancock International Airport
 Col. Eileen Collins Blvd. Land Release
 Onondaga County, NY

Scale 1" = 2,000'

CHA Project No.
 077036

Service Layer Credits: Copyright:© 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed
 Syracuse West (1979), Syracuse East (1979),



Legend

- Airport Property Boundary
- Project Location

Project Location

Syracuse Hancock Intl Airport



Airport Location Map

Syracuse Hancock International Airport Col.
Eileen Collins Blvd. Land Release

Onondaga County, NY

Scale 1" = 2,500'

CHA Project No.
077036

Sources: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA FSA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community • Photo Date: 2023

Attachment B



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: fw5es_nyfo@fws.gov

In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2024-0006117
Project Name: Syracuse Hancock International Airport Land Release

October 18, 2023

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

To Whom It May Concern:

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

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

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

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 <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

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:

New York Ecological Services Field Office

3817 Luker Road

Cortland, NY 13045-9385

(607) 753-9334

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0006117

Project Name: Syracuse Hancock International Airport Land Release

Project Type: Acquisition of Lands

Project Description: The project is a land release.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@43.11483905,-76.12579508743114,14z>



Counties: Onondaga County, New York

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 3 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

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: CHA

Name: Nicole Frazer

Address: III Winners Circle

City: Albany

State: NY

Zip: 12054

Email: nfrazer@chacompanies.com

Phone: 5184538211

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Fish and Wildlife, New York Natural Heritage Program
625 Broadway, Fifth Floor, Albany, NY 12233-4757
P: (518) 402-8935 | F: (518) 402-8925
www.dec.ny.gov

December 11, 2023

Nicole Frazer
CHA
III Winners Circle
Albany, NY 12205

Re: Syracuse Hancock International Airport Land Release
County: Onondaga Town/City: Salina

Dear Nicole Frazer:

In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Program database with respect to the above project.

Enclosed is a report of rare or state-listed animals and plants, and significant natural communities that our database indicates occur in the vicinity of the project site.

For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted; the enclosed report only includes records from our database. We cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species or significant natural communities. Depending on the nature of the project and the conditions at the project site, further information from on-site surveys or other sources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources.

The presence of the plants and animals identified in the enclosed report may result in this project requiring additional review or permit conditions. For further guidance, and for information regarding other permits that may be required under state law for regulated areas or activities (e.g., regulated wetlands), please contact the NYS DEC Region 7 Office, Division of Environmental Permits, at dep.r7@dec.ny.gov.

Sincerely,



Heidi Krahlting
Environmental Review Specialist
New York Natural Heritage Program



**The following state-listed animals have been documented
in the vicinity of the project site.**

The following list includes animals that are listed by NYS as Endangered, Threatened, or Special Concern; and/or that are federally listed.

For information about any permit considerations for your project, please contact the Permits staff at the NYSDEC Region 7 Office at dep.r7@dec.ny.gov, 315-426-7438.

The following species have been documented within 1/4 mile (Northern Harrier) and 1/3 mile (Upland Sandpiper) of the project site.

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>FEDERAL LISTING</i>
Birds			
Northern Harrier <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Circus hudsonius</i>	Threatened	6412
Upland Sandpiper <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>	Threatened	10956

This report only includes records from the NY Natural Heritage database.

Information about many of the listed animals in New York, including habitat, biology, identification, conservation, and management, are available online in Natural Heritage’s Conservation Guides at www.guides.nynhp.org, and from NYSDEC at www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7494.html.

Attachment C



Photo 1-mowed lawn with trees- facing south toward Colonel Eileen Collins Boulevard



Photo 2- Mowed lawn (airfield)- facing west from the southeast side of the project area



SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

**Syracuse Hancock International Airport
Town of Salina, Onondaga Co., NY**



**Photo 3- Mowed lawn (airfield)- facing north
from the south side of the project area**



**Photo 4- Mowed lawn (airfield)- facing east
from the west side of the project area**



SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

**Syracuse Hancock International Airport
Town of Salina, Onondaga Co., NY**



Photo 5- Emergent wetland (shallow emergent marsh) facing northeast



Photo 6-Successional shrubland- northwest corner of the project area facing west



SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

**Syracuse Hancock International Airport
Town of Salina, Onondaga Co., NY**



Photo 7- Successional northern hardwoods- northwest corner of the project area facing south



Photo 8- Successional northern hardwoods- northwest corner of the project area facing north



SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

**Syracuse Hancock International Airport
Town of Salina, Onondaga Co., NY**



Photo 9- tree with small cavity



Photo 10- snag



SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

**Syracuse Hancock International Airport
Town of Salina, Onondaga Co., NY**



Photo 11- snag



Photo 12- snag



SITE PHOTOGRAPHS


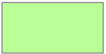




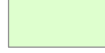


**Syracuse Hancock International Airport
Town of Salina, Onondaga Co., NY**

Attachment D



Date Saved: 11/27/2023 • Author: Cole Scrivner



Legend

	Project Location (46 Acres)		Mowed Lawn with Trees (2 Acres)
	Snags		Paved Road/Path (9.57 Acres)
	Common Milkweed Patch		Successional Northern Hardwoods (0.54 Acres)
	Mowed Lawn (Airfield) (33.30 Acres)		Successional Shrubland (0.42 Acres)
			Shallow Emergent Marsh (0.17 Acres)

Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community, Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors

	<p>Scale 1" = 200'</p>		<p>CHA Project No. 077036</p>	<p>Habitat Assessment Map Syracuse Hancock International Airport Col. Eileen Collins Blvd. Land Release Onondaga County, NY</p>	<p>Sources: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA FSA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community. National Wetlands Inventory produced by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service • Photo Date: 2023</p>
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Attachment E

APPENDIX A: PHASE 1 HABITAT ASSESSMENTS

BAT HABITAT ASSESSMENT DATASHEET

Project Name: Syracuse Hancock International Airport Date: 11/7/23

Township/Range/Section: Town of Salina

Lat Long/UTM/ Zone: 43-06-52.42N/76-07-31.90W

Surveyor: N. Frazer/ C. Scrivner

Brief Project Description

The project entails the release of land from aeronautical to non-aeronautical use.

Project Area

	Total Acres	Forest Acres		Open Acres
Project	46	2 (mowed lawn with trees)		airfield ~33
Proposed Tree Removal (ac)	Completely cleared	Partially cleared (will leave trees)	Preserve acres- no clearing	* Based on development of entire project area. Approximately 37 trees in a 2 acre area.
	*2			

Vegetation Cover Types

Pre-Project	Post-Project
mowed lawn with trees, mowed lawn (airfield), emergent wetland (PEM), successional shrubland, successional northern hardwoods	TBD- non-aeronautical development of entire site.

Landscape within 5 mile radius

Flight corridors to other forested areas?

Area in the vicinity of the project area is airport and developed area.

Describe Adjacent Properties (e.g. forested, grassland, commercial or residential development, water sources)

Airfield/airport facilities, commercial, roadway, forested

Proximity to Public Land

What is the distance (mi.) from the project area to forested public lands (e.g., national or state forests, national or state parks, conservation areas, wildlife management areas)?

Cicero Swamp Wildlife Management Area- ~3.2 miles,
Onondaga Lake Park ~3.9 miles,

Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area ~ 10.5 miles,
Three Mile Bay Wildlife Management Area ~ 9.8 miles,
Montezuma Wildlife Refuge ~31 miles,
Bear Swamp State Forest and Deruyter State Forest ~24 miles,
Kettlebail State Forest ~20 miles, Tioughnioga Wildlife Management area ~24 miles.

APPENDIX A: PHASE 1 HABITAT ASSESSMENTS

Use additional sheets to assess discrete habitat types at multiple sites in a project area
 Include a map depicting locations of sample sites if assessing discrete habitats at multiple sites in a project area
 A single sheet can be used for multiple sample sites if habitat is the same

Sample Site Description
Sample Site No.(s): <u>1</u>
Mowed lawn with trees along Colonel Eileen Collins Blvd.

Water Resources at Sample Site				
Stream Type (# and length)	Ephemeral 0	Intermittent 0	Perennial 0	Describe existing condition of water sources: small mowed PEM in a depression
Pools/Ponds (# and size)	Open and accessible to bats? n/a			
Wetlands (approx. ac.)	Permanent 0.17	Seasonal		

Forest Resources at Sample Site				
Closure/Density	Canopy (> 50%) area is	Midstory (20-50%) mowed with trees	Understory (<20%)	1=1-10%, 2=11-20%, 3=21-40%, 4=41-60%, 5=61-80%, 6=81-100%
Dominant Species of Mature Trees	Thornless honey locust			
% Trees w/ Exfoliating Bark	0			
Size Composition of Live Trees (%)	Small (3-8 in)	Med (9-15 in)	Large (>15 in)	
	5	14	81	
No. of Suitable Snags	0			

Standing dead trees with exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, or hollows. Snags without these characteristics are not considered suitable.

IS THE HABITAT SUITABLE FOR INDIANA BATS? no

IS THE HABITAT SUITABLE FOR NORTHERN LONG-EARED BATS? no

Additional Comments:
This area is a row of trees along a roadway. One living tree has a small cavity.

Attach aerial photo of project site with all forested areas labeled and a general description of the habitat. Aerial and site photographs are included in the Habitat Assessment report.

Photographic Documentation: habitat shots at edge and interior from multiple locations; understory/midstory/canopy; examples of potential suitable snags and live trees; water sources

APPENDIX A: PHASE 1 HABITAT ASSESSMENTS

BAT HABITAT ASSESSMENT DATASHEET

Project Name: Syracuse Hancock International Airport Date: 11/7/23

Township/Range/Section: Town of Salina

Lat Long/UTM/ Zone: 43-06-52.42N/76-07-31.90W

Surveyor: N. Frazer/ C. Scrivner

Brief Project Description

The project entails the release of land from aeronautical to non-aeronautical use.

Project Area

	Total Acres	Forest Acres		Open Acres
Project	46	0.54		airfield ~33
Proposed Tree Removal (ac)	Completely cleared	Partially cleared (will leave trees)	Preserve acres- no clearing	* Based on development of entire project area.
	*0.54			

Vegetation Cover Types

Pre-Project	Post-Project
mowed lawn with trees, mowed lawn (airfield), emergent wetland (PEM), successional shrubland, successional northern hardwoods	TBD-non-aeronautical development of entire site.

Landscape within 5 mile radius

Flight corridors to other forested areas?

Area in the vicinity of the project area is airport and developed area.

Describe Adjacent Properties (e.g. forested, grassland, commercial or residential development, water sources)

Airfield/airport facilities, commercial, roadway, forested

Proximity to Public Land

What is the distance (mi.) from the project area to forested public lands (e.g., national or state forests, national or state parks, conservation areas, wildlife management areas)?

Cicero Swamp Wildlife Management Area- ~3.2 miles,
Onondaga Lake Park ~3.9 miles,

Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area ~ 10.5 miles,
Three Mile Bay Wildlife Management Area ~ 9.8 miles,
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APPENDIX A: PHASE 1 HABITAT ASSESSMENTS

Use additional sheets to assess discrete habitat types at multiple sites in a project area

Include a map depicting locations of sample sites if assessing discrete habitats at multiple sites in a project area

A single sheet can be used for multiple sample sites if habitat is the same

Sample Site Description

Sample Site No.(s): 2

Successional northern hardwoods- northwest corner of project area.

Water Resources at Sample Site

Stream Type (# and length)	Ephemeral 0	Intermittent 0	Perennial 0	Describe existing condition of water sources: small mowed PEM in a depression
Pools/Ponds (# and size)	Open and accessible to bats? n/a			
Wetlands (approx. ac.)	Permanent	Seasonal		
	0.17			

Forest Resources at Sample Site

Closure/Density	Canopy (> 50%) 1	Midstory (20-50%) 6	Understory (<20%) 6	1=1-10%, 2=11-20%, 3=21-40%, 4=41-60%, 5=61-80%, 6=81-100%
Dominant Species of Mature Trees	quaking aspen and black cherry			
% Trees w/ Exfoliating Bark	13 (snags only)			
Size Composition of Live Trees (%)	Small (3-8 in)	Med (9-15 in)	Large (>15 in)	
	47	41	12	
No. of Suitable Snags	~10			

Standing dead trees with exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, or hollows. Snags without these characteristics are not considered suitable.

IS THE HABITAT SUITABLE FOR INDIANA BATS? yes

IS THE HABITAT SUITABLE FOR NORTHERN LONG-EARED BATS? yes

Additional Comments:

This area has a thick understory. There are 16 snags, 10 of which have potential bat habitat. Snag examples can be seen in the attached photographs.

Attach aerial photo of project site with all forested areas labeled and a general description of the habitat. Aerial and site photographs are included in the Habitat Assessment report.

Photographic Documentation: habitat shots at edge and interior from multiple locations; understory/midstory/canopy; examples of potential suitable snags and live trees; water sources

