

# APPENDIX D

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Bruce Rauner, Governor  
Raymond Poe, Director

**Bureau of Land and Water Resources**

State Fairgrounds • P.O. Box 19281 • Springfield, IL 62794-9281 • 217/782-6297 • TDD 217/524-6858 • Fax 217/557-0993

July 11, 2016

Mr. Richard Ray  
Huff & Huff, Inc.  
915 Harger Road, Suite 330  
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Re: East Side Highway (McLean)  
Environmental Assessment – 1,188 acres  
McLean County, Illinois  
USDA NRCS Form AD-1006

Dear Mr. Ray:

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) has completed its review of the agricultural impacts associated with the project's Preferred Alternative for a 4-lane full access controlled freeway around the east side of the Bloomington-Normal area. The IDOA conducted a Study of Agricultural Impacts (copy enclosed) associated with the request in accordance with the rules governing the state's Farmland Preservation Act (505 ILCS 75/1 et seq.).

The project's purpose is to improve local and regional mobility to accommodate the managed growth forecast for the east side of Bloomington-Normal. Initially, the East Side Highway project involved 129 north-south alternatives. On November 20, 2013, as part of the NEPA/404 Merger process, the IDOA concurred with the Preferred Alternative for the East Side Highway. While the Preferred Alternative requires 1,188 acres of right-of-way (ROW), 245 acres are existing ROW. Ultimately, the project results in the permanent conversion of 939 acres of agricultural land to a non-agricultural use.

Based upon our Study, the IDOA has no objection to the IDOT District 5 proceeding with the highway improvements. The IDOA would consider such an action to be consistent with the IDOT's Agricultural Land Preservation Policy and in compliance with the state's Farmland Preservation Act.

Enclosed are two copies of the USDA NRCS form AD-1006. One copy must be included in the project's environmental assessment; the other is for your files.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steven D. Chard".

Steven D. Chard, Acting Chief  
Bureau of Land and Water Resources

SDC:TS

Enclosures-2

cc: Governor Bruce Rauner  
Sen. John Cullerton  
Sen. Christine Radogno  
Rep. Michael Madigan  
Rep. Jim Durkin

Sen. Jason Barickman  
Rep. Dan Brady  
Raymond Poe, IDOA Director  
Craig Sondgeroth, IDOA

Warren Goetsch, IDOA  
Inter-Agency Committee  
McLean Co. SWCD  
Agency project file

# ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE STUDY OF AGRICULTURAL IMPACTS

## East Side Highway North-South I-55 and I-74 Connector McLean County, Illinois FHWA Funds

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) conducted a Study of Agricultural Impacts on the proposed construction of the East Side Highway from I-74 to 800 feet east of the intersection of Ziebarth and Pipeline Roads in McLean County. The majority of the project will construct the 4-lane freeway corridor within new right-of-way (ROW). The results of our Study are as follows.

- **New right-of-way** - Of the 1,188 total acres needed for the project, 939 acres are agricultural land to be purchased from 65 landowners. The corridor includes 245 acres of existing ROW.
- **Land use** – Of the 1,188 acres of right-of-way (ROW) to be acquired, 939 acres are in agricultural use (79 percent) while 245 acres are existing ROW containing urban build up, wetlands, and waterbodies (21 percent); 4.4 acres are prairies (0.4 percent).
- **Prime farmland status** - According to the McLean County Soil Survey as prepared by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, 910 acres off the 939 acres (97%) to be acquired are comprised of Prime soils and 29 acres (3%) are Important soils.
- **Additional Impacts** - The project will result in adverse travel impacts of 16.4 miles, create 63 acres of severance management zones, create one landlocked parcel totaling 5.5 acres and create 11 uneconomical remnants. In addition, five centennial or sesquicentennial farms are affected.
- **Relocations** - Eleven farm residences and 30 farm buildings will be displaced by the creation of the preferred alternative.
- **Secondary agricultural land conversion** - Agricultural land will not be used for required wetland mitigation, tree replacement or floodplain compensatory storage. Borrow will be needed during the grading stage of the project. Borrow could come from the affected landowners, landlocked parcels or be provided from an unknown source.
- **Field entrances** – Ingress and egress will be provided to those parcels severed. Field entrances will be rebuilt to meet the new grade line of the road.
- **Drainage impacts** - All tile and drainage systems will be retained, with repairs and new outlets being provided for any tile that is affected by the construction of the corridor.
- **Agricultural Conservation and Protection Area** - None of the proposed acquisition acres are located in a County-designated Ag Area under the Agricultural Conservation and Protection Act 505 ILCS 5/1.
- **Loss of gross agricultural receipts** - Conversion of the 939 acres of agricultural land will result in a potential annual loss of **\$751,200** cash receipts from crops and livestock based upon statistics from the *2013 Illinois Agriculture Statistics and the 2012 Census of Agriculture*. (*McLean County Total Cash Receipts*) ÷ (*Land in Farms in McLean County*) = (*\$800/ac*) x (*939 ac in ag use*.)

**IDOA Opinion** - The preferred alternative has minimized agricultural impacts by adding access roads to reduce landlocked parcels and adverse travel for farm vehicles, staying close to planned future growth areas to discourage leapfrog development of farmland, and by following property lines where possible to minimize farm severances. Because the project has been designed to acquire the least possible amount of agricultural land to meet the safety and transportation needs of the public and will minimize adverse impacts to agriculture to the extent possible, the IDOA finds the project to be consistent with the IDOT's Agricultural Land Preservation Policy and in compliance with the Illinois Farmland Preservation Act.

U.S. Department of Agriculture

## FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

<b>PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>		Date Of Land Evaluation Request	4/15/16
Name Of Project	East Side Highway	Federal Agency Involved	Federal Highway Authority
Proposed Land Use	Roadway/Right-of-Way	County And State	McLean County, Illinois

<b>PART II (To be completed by NRCS)</b>		Date Request Received By NRCS	4/15/16
Does the site contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland? <i>(If no, the FPPA does not apply -- do not complete additional parts of this form).</i>		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Major Crop(s)		Acres Irrigated	Average Farm Size
Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, Hay		N/A	372
Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres: 29,633,500		% 97	Amount Of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: 27,695,900
Name Of Land Evaluation System Used Illinois		Name Of Local Site Assessment System Statewide	Date Land Evaluation Returned By NRCS 4/18/16

<b>PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>	Alternative Site Rating			
	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly	938.7			
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly	5.5			
C. Total Acres In Site	944.2	0.0	0.0	0.0

<b>PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information</b>				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland	909.5			
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland	29.2			
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted	0.0			
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value	35.5			

<b>PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion</b> Relative Value Of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points)	140	0	0	0
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<b>PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b> Site Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(b))	Maximum Points				
1. Area In Nonurban Use					
2. Perimeter In Nonurban Use					
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed					
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government					
5. Distance From Urban Builtup Area					
6. Distance To Urban Support Services					
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average					
8. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland					
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services					
10. On-Farm Investments					
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services					
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use					
<b>TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS</b>	160	0	0	0	0

See the attached  
Illinois LESA System  
Site Assessment Corridor Factors

<b>PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>						
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)	150	<del>100</del>	140	0	0	0
Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)	150	<del>160</del>	130	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)</b>	300	<del>360</del>	270	0	0	0

Site Selected:	Date Of Selection	Was A Local Site Assessment Used? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Reason For Selection:

\*\*\* When utilizing the Illinois State Site Assessment Corridor factors, 150 points are assigned to the Land Evaluation portion, and 150 points are assigned to the Site Assessment portion of the LESA System for a maximum score of 300 points.

**East Side Highway  
McLean County, Illinois  
Federal Highway Administration Funds**

<b>PART VI-B Illinois Site Assessment <i>CORRIDOR</i> Factors</b>	<b>Maximum Points</b>	<b>Site A</b>
1. Amount of agricultural land required	30	30
2. Location of the proposed alignment	30	20
3. Acres of off-site agricultural land required for borrow materials	15	15
4. Acres of Prime and Important farmland required for mitigation	15	15
5. Creation of severed farm parcels	10	10
6. Creation of uneconomical remnants	10	10
7. Creation of landlocked parcels	10	10
8. Creation of adverse travel	10	10
9. Relocations of rural residences and farm buildings	10	10
10. Utilization of minimum design standards	10	0
<b>TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT <i>CORRIDOR</i> POINTS</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>130</b>

**PART VII**

Relative Value of Farmland	150	140
Total Site Assessment <i>CORRIDOR</i> Factors	150	130
<b>TOTAL ILLINOIS LESA POINTS</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>270</b>

5416  
JL

\* *The Illinois LESA System applies the 225 point cutoff when evaluating state and federally funded projects. Site or Corridor alternatives receiving 175 or fewer points have a low rating for protection, and it is not necessary to evaluate additional alternatives. Those alternatives receiving 176 to 225 points are in the moderate range for protection. In most cases, alternatives exceeding the 225 point level should be retained for agricultural use, and an alternate site should be utilized for the intended project. Selecting the alternative with the lowest total points will usually protect the best farmland located in the most agriculturally viable areas. LESA also serves to maintain and promote the agricultural industry in Illinois.*



# Illinois Department of Transportation

## Memorandum

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To: Salmon Danmole                      Attn: Doug DeLong  
From: Maureen Addis                      By: Brad Koldehoff  
Subject: Continued Coordination with IL SHPO  
Date: June 22, 2016

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**McLean County  
Bloomington, Normal  
East Side Highway, Preferred Alternative  
Section # 10-00183-01-ES  
IDOT Seq. # 16141D**

Further coordination with the Illinois State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) is required for the above referenced project. Attached is a letter supporting a finding for "No Adverse Effect" from the SHPO indicating that the project meets the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings" (Standards) and that they concur in a finding of no adverse effect pursuant to 36 CFR 800 provided that the following condition is met:

- **A SHPO reviewed and approved plan for vegetative screening will be installed to hinder views of highway from Duncan Manor.**

Therefore, the cultural coordination will not be complete until we receive the SHPO's approval of the vegetative screening plan.

Please forward the vegetative screening plans to IDOT's Cultural Resources Unit when they become available in order to continue SHPO coordination.

Brad H. Koldehoff, RPA  
Cultural Resources Unit  
Bureau of Design and Environment

BK:el



# Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

RECEIVED  
JUN - 8 2016

Preservation Services

June 8, 2016

McLean County  
East Side Highway, Preferred Alternative  
Bloomington  
Section: 10-00183-01-ES  
IDOT Sequence #16141D  
IHPA Log #064122214

**IHPA REVIEW**

H/A \_\_\_\_\_  
AC \_\_\_\_\_  
AR \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_

**FEDERAL - Section 106 Project**

**CONDITIONAL NO ADVERSE EFFECT**

Dr. Rachel Leibowitz  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
1 Old State Capitol Plaza  
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Dear Dr. Leibowitz:

In ongoing coordination with your office, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and McLean County, please find attached correspondence from McLean County that documents their efforts to engage the McLean County Historical Society and the current owners of Duncan Manor as consulting parties. Neither the owners nor the Historical Society responded to repeated attempts to solicit their comments regarding the project in general and visual impacts to Duncan Manor in particular.

The FHWA and IDOT, in consultation with your office, have determined that with the installation of vegetative screening (see attached) the undertaking will not adversely affect the qualities that made Duncan Manor eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. At this time, we are requesting State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurrence with our finding that the undertaking will not cause an adverse effect to Duncan Manor provided that the SHPO reviews and approves the vegetative screening plan.

In accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.3(c)(4), the FHWA will proceed to the next step in the Section 106 process if we do not receive a response from your office within 30 days.

Sincerely,

Brad H. Koldehoff  
Cultural Resources Unit  
Bureau of Design & Environment

**CONCUR**

By: R. Leibowitz SHPO  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: 6/16/16



# Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

McLean County  
East Side Highway, Preferred Alternative  
Bloomington, Normal  
Section: 10-00183-01-ES  
IDOT Sequence #16141D  
ISAS Log #14092  
IHPA Log #064122214

June 29, 2016

Federal - Section 106 Project

## **Archaeological Properties – Adverse Effect**

Dr. Rachel Leibowitz  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
1 Old State Capitol  
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Dear Dr. Leibowitz:

In continuing consultation with your office, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and McLean County please find attached copies the Archaeological Survey Report completed by Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS) personnel concerning archaeological resources within the undertaking's Area of Potential Effect (APE). The APE encompasses the Preferred Alternative, which covers 1,199 acres.

Potential impacts to architectural resources have been coordinated with your office, resulting in a Conditional No Adverse Effect finding for Duncan Manor. This property, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), falls outside the APE, but the undertaking will affect its view shed (see attached concur letter dated June 8, 2016).

The archaeological survey resulted in the identification of 54 sites. However, because certain landowners within the APE denied access to survey crews, further survey work is required. This additional survey work will be conducted when access has been secured. Accordingly, IDOT in coordination with FHWA will implement a phased (or staged) approach to the identification and NRHP evaluation of archaeological resources within the APE, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4(b)(2).

Five sites within the APE warrant NRHP consideration under Criterion D: 11ML1051, 1055, 1060, 1063, and 1074. Based on current plans, potential impacts to these five sites cannot be avoided (see attached letter from McLean County dated February 26, 2016). The sites do not warrant preservation in place, but additional efforts will be made to avoid and minimized impacts as project design plans are finalized. Yet, based on current project design information, it is

likely all or most of these five sites will be at least partially impacted, resulting in an Adverse Effect.

Therefore, a Memorandum of Agreement will be developed stipulating, that when access is secured, IDOT will ensure: (1) additional survey work will be conducted, targeting high-probability areas, (2) test excavations will be conducted to evaluate NRHP eligibility, and (3) when impacts to NRHP-eligible sites cannot be avoided, the sites will be subject to data-recovery excavations prior to the initiation of construction activities.

In coordination with the FHWA, IDOT requests the concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in our Determination of Eligibility and Adverse Effect findings described above, in addition to our plan to stage the work required to complete the Section 106 process.

Please provide your written concurrence with the above findings within 30-days. In accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.3(c)(4), the FHWA will proceed to the next step in the Section 106 process if we do not receive a response from your office within 30 days.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Koldehoff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Brad H. Koldehoff  
Cultural Resources Unit  
Bureau of Design & Environment

## Thomas, Heidi (FHWA)

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**From:** Fuller, Matt (FHWA)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2016 1:04 PM  
**To:** Koldehoff, Brad H.; Piland, Janis (FHWA)  
**Cc:** Land, Emilie; Stitt, Scott E; Thomas, Heidi (FHWA)  
**Subject:** RE: East Side Highway clearances #16141D  
**Attachments:** e106-instructions-form.pdf

Hi Brad – We don't need to receive concurrence on the adverse effect finding...we can just proceed with the next step in the 106 process. Please have the documentation described in 36 CFR 800.11(e) prepared so FHWA can notify the ACHP of the adverse effect finding. The ACHP will have 15-days to enter consultation, otherwise, we can proceed with preparation of an MOA.

ACHP can accept electronic submittals. See the attached instructions. IDOT may prepare the documentation using these instructions and provide it to FHWA and then we can notify them through an electronic submittal.

Please let Jan or me know if you have any questions.

Matt

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**From:** Koldehoff, Brad H. [<mailto:Brad.Koldehoff@Illinois.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2016 8:44 AM  
**To:** Fuller, Matt (FHWA); Piland, Janis (FHWA)  
**Cc:** Land, Emilie; Stitt, Scott E  
**Subject:** FW: East Side Highway clearances #16141D

Matt/Jan – Please consider sending letter to SHPO that 30 days have passed and FHWA is moving to next step in the Section 106 process for this project. Brad

---

**From:** Koldehoff, Brad H.  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2016 8:35 AM  
**To:** Sherer, Bart L; Land, Emilie; Runkle, Ken  
**Cc:** Neihart, Scott W; Trygg, Brian K; Roark, Timothy P; DeLong, Douglas; Stokes, Jerry; Jerald T. Payonk  
**Subject:** RE: East Side Highway clearances

Bart – As you know, we received SHPO concurrence on a finding of “Conditional No Adverse Effect” for Duncan Manor. In terms of archaeology, we submitted the archaeology report and a finding of “Adverse effect” to SHPO June 29<sup>th</sup>. To date, there has been no reply from SHPO. Brad

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**From:** Sherer, Bart L  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2016 3:42 PM  
**To:** Koldehoff, Brad H.; Land, Emilie; Runkle, Ken  
**Cc:** Neihart, Scott W; Trygg, Brian K; Roark, Timothy P; DeLong, Douglas; Stokes, Jerry; Jerald T. Payonk  
**Subject:** FW: East Side Highway clearances

Brad/Emilie,

Please see the below e-mail requesting information on the status of the SHPO review for the subject project; I believe the 30 day review period by the SHPO is today; any information you can provide is greatly appreciated.

Ken, please see the second paragraph in the below e-mail; any guidance regarding this subject is greatly appreciated.

**Bart L Sherer**  
**217-466-7305 (Office)**

**"In God we Trust"**

**"A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed."**

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**From:** Jerald T. Payonk [<mailto:Jerry.Payonk@clarkdietz.com>]

**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2016 3:07 PM

**To:** Sherer, Bart L

**Cc:** Trygg, Brian K

**Subject:** East Side Highway clearances

Bart;

Any word yet on cultural clearances for the ESH? This is the last piece of the puzzle needed to get sign-off on the Final EA.

Also, when we publish the EA and make it available to the public, the PSG has suggested having a copy of the document accessible for viewing at the D5 office, at McLean County, the City of Bloomington and the Town of Normal. Does that suffice, or should we have it at more locations.

Thanks,  
Jerry

**Jerald T. Payonk, P.E.**

Executive Vice President

**Clark Dietz, Inc. - Engineers**

125 West Church Street

Champaign, IL 61820

217.373.8945 - office

217.373.8923 - fax

217.493.2023 - cell

[jerry.payonk@clarkdietz.com](mailto:jerry.payonk@clarkdietz.com)

[www.clarkdietz.com](http://www.clarkdietz.com)

 Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
Jerry Stokes, Acting County Engineer  
102 S. Towanda Barnes Road  
Bloomington, IL 61705  
(309) 663-9445 FAX (309) 662-8038  
[highway@mcleancountyil.gov](mailto:highway@mcleancountyil.gov)

David & Randi Howell  
1002 Towanda-Barnes Road  
Towanda, IL 61776

February 29, 2016

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Howell:

The Federal Highway Administration, the Illinois Department of Transportation, and McLean County in consultation with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA), have determined that the proposed construction of the Eastside Highway will not have an adverse effect on the qualities that made Duncan Manor eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) if vegetative screening is installed during project construction. The Duncan Manor is considered a historic property under Criteria C of the NRHP, significant for its architecture.

The visual screening will consist of tree plantings within the right-of-way of the Eastside Highway as shown in the attached exhibit.

The plantings will not occur until construction starts on this section of the Eastside Highway project. A certified arborist or landscape architect and IHPA will be consulted with to determine the appropriate spacing and species of trees. The trees will be low-maintenance native species to Illinois that are salt tolerant or moderately salt tolerant, of both salt spray and soil salt.

The Environmental Assessment for the Eastside Highway project will include a commitment to implement the installation of vegetative screening.

At this time we are requesting your concurrence with this determination of no adverse effect. You may mail or email your comments to us at the following:

Jerry Stokes, P.E.  
Acting McLean County Engineer  
102 S. Towanda-Barnes Road  
Bloomington, IL 61705

or at [jerry.stokes@mcleancountyil.gov](mailto:jerry.stokes@mcleancountyil.gov).

If we do **not** hear from you within 30 days, we will assume that you concur with the proposed vegetative screening, and that the project will have no adverse effect on Duncan Manor.

We appreciate your input in the decision making process as we work to preserve the historic resources and heritage of McLean County while accommodating the transportation needs of Illinois' citizens today and in the future.

Sincerely,

Jerry Stokes, P.E.  
McLean County Engineer (Acting)



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
Jerry Stokes, Acting County Engineer  
102 S. Towanda Barnes Road  
Bloomington, IL 61705  
(309) 663-9445 FAX (309) 662-8038  
highway@mcleancountyil.gov

McLean County Historical Society  
Attn: Greg Koos, Executive Director  
200 North Main St.  
Bloomington, IL 61701

February 29, 2016

Dear Mr. Koos:

The Federal Highway Administration, the Illinois Department of Transportation, and McLean County in consultation with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA), have determined that the proposed construction of the Eastside Highway will not have an adverse effect on the qualities that made Duncan Manor eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) if vegetative screening is installed during project construction. The Duncan Manor is considered a historic property under Criteria C of the NRHP, significant for its architecture.

The visual screening will consist of tree plantings within the right-of-way of the Eastside Highway as shown in the attached exhibit.

The plantings will not occur until construction starts on this section of the Eastside Highway project. A certified arborist or landscape architect and IHPA will be consulted with to determine the appropriate spacing and species of trees. The trees will be low-maintenance native species to Illinois that are salt tolerant or moderately salt tolerant, of both salt spray and soil salt.

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Acting McLean County Engineer  
102 S. Towanda-Barnes Road  
Bloomington, IL 61705

or at [jerry.stokes@mcleancountyil.gov](mailto:jerry.stokes@mcleancountyil.gov).

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We appreciate your input in the decision making process as we work to preserve the historic resources and heritage of McLean County while accommodating the transportation needs of Illinois' citizens today and in the future.

Sincerely,

Jerry Stokes, P.E.  
McLean County Engineer (Acting)



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
Jerry Stokes, Acting County Engineer  
102 S. Towanda Barnes Road  
Bloomington, IL 61705  
(309) 663-9445 FAX (309) 662-8038  
highway@mcleancountyil.gov

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
Attn: Mr. David Halpin  
Preservation Services Division  
1 Old State Capitol Plaza  
Springfield, IL 62701

February 29, 2016

Dear Mr. Halpin:

The Federal Highway Administration, the Illinois Department of Transportation, and McLean County in consultation with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA), have determined that the proposed construction of the Eastside Highway will not have an adverse effect on the qualities that made Duncan Manor eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) if vegetative screening is installed during project construction. The Duncan Manor is considered a historic property under Criteria C of the NRHP, significant for its architecture.

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The Environmental Assessment for the Eastside Highway project will include a commitment to implement the installation of vegetative screening.

At this time we are requesting your concurrence with this determination of no adverse effect. You may mail or email your comments to us at the following:

Jerry Stokes, P.E.  
Acting McLean County Engineer  
102 S. Towanda-Barnes Road  
Bloomington, IL 61705

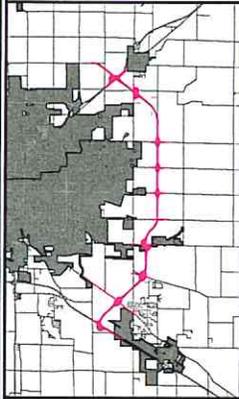
or at [jerry.stokes@mcleancountyil.gov](mailto:jerry.stokes@mcleancountyil.gov).

If we do **not** hear from you within 30 days, we will assume that you concur with the proposed vegetative screening, and that the project will have no adverse effect on Duncan Manor.

We appreciate your input in the decision making process as we work to preserve the historic resources and heritage of McLean County while accommodating the transportation needs of Illinois' citizens today and in the future.

Sincerely,

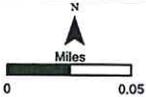
Jerry Stokes, P.E.  
McLean County Engineer (Acting)



- Legend**
- Area of Tree Planting
  - Preferred Alternative
  - Proposed Edge of Pavement

Historical Front of Duncan Manor

E Northtown Rd



Proposed Eastside Highway  
 Duncan Manor  
 Visual Screening Area  
 McLean County







# Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

McLean County  
Downs, Bloomington, Normal, Towanda  
East Side Highway, I-74 southeast of Bloomington to I-55 near Towanda  
Section # 10-00183-01-ES  
IDOT Sequence # 16141D

December 19, 2014

## FEDERAL 106 PROJECT

### **ADVERSE EFFECT – Architectural Resources**

Ms. Anne Haaker  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Dear Ms. Haaker:

This Environmental Survey Request concerns a proposed highway project around Bloomington-Normal extending between I-55 near Towanda to I-74 southeast of Bloomington. A review of potential impacts to historical, archaeological, and architectural properties for this project was completed by IDOT's professional Cultural Resources staff. The archaeological survey for this project is not yet complete.

Upon review of this project's earlier addenda, our staff identified one National Register-listed property, Duncan Manor, in the project area as well as five properties that are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register. Our office requested the avoidance of these historic resources (see attached) and measures were taken to minimize impacts to the historic resources. The Preferred Alternative (as submitted through this addendum) completely avoids three of the potentially eligible resources, while one on CR 1300 N will have right-of-way taken in front of its outbuildings only and the other on CR 1750 E (near the project's southern terminus) is densely wooded and will not be negatively affected.

Unfortunately, not all effects could be avoided. At a September 21, 2012 meeting at your office, two alternative alignments regarding the northern terminus were thoroughly discussed as they were both relatively near to Duncan Manor and IHPA noted their preference of the southernmost option. Regrettably, the Preferred Alternative is the northern alternative and lies close to Duncan Manor, which would constitute an Adverse Effect.

In accordance with the established procedure for coordination of Illinois Department of Transportation projects, we request the concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Officer in our determination that the Preferred Alternative will adversely affect an historic resource which is subject to protection under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

Very truly yours,

Brad H. Koldehoff, RPA  
Cultural Resources Unit  
Bureau of Design & Environment

BK:ee

# CONCUR

By:   
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: 12/22/14





# Illinois Department of Transportation

## Memorandum

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To: Gary Galeki  
From: John Walthall By: Laura Root  
Subject: East Side Highway  
Date: January 7, 2011

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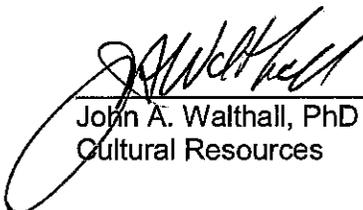
McLean County  
East Side Highway  
Sequence Number: 16141

Upon review of the photo log for the above project, two properties were identified as historically significant, or potentially historically significant.

Photo 117 (Duncan Manor) is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Photo 271 (House on the west side of County Road 2100) is potentially eligible for the NRHP

In accordance with the established procedure for coordination of Illinois Department of Transportation projects, these properties are protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. If an aforementioned property will be impacted a Section 106/4(f) report will need to be completed.

  
John A. Walthall, PhD  
Cultural Resources



## MEETING NOTES

**Project:** East Side Highway Environmental Assessment  
**Subject:** Project Team Meeting with IHPA, IDOT Cultural Resources Unit  
**Date:** January 27, 2016, 1:00 PM  
**Location:** McLean County Highway Department, Bloomington, IL

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Minutes of this meeting were prepared by Richard Ray of Huff & Huff, Inc. Please inform him of corrections or modifications.

**Project Team Attendees:** Jan Piland (FHWA), Heidi Thomas (FHWA), Eric Schmitt (McLean County), Jerry Stokes (McLean County), Bart Sherer (IDOT District 5), Ken Runkle by phone (IDOT BDE), Jerry Payonk (CDI), Richard Ray (Huff & Huff)

**Agency Attendees:** Brad Koldehoff (IDOT – BDE, Cultural Resources), David Halpin (IHPA), Darius Bryjka (IHPA), Megan Gilbert (ISAS)

The purpose of the meeting was to review proposed visual screening measures for the East Side Highway (ESH) in the vicinity of Duncan Manor, with respect to potential cultural resource impacts.

1. Attendee Introductions
2. Jerry Payonk gave a summary of efforts to gather consulting parties input. Jerry mentioned that both the Duncan Manor owners and the McLean County Historical Society were contacted several times and invited to this meeting with no response. There was a meeting in September at Duncan Manor with the owners of the property to discuss the project and its impacts. The owners were shown an example of tree plantings that were used as visual screening for a new interstate at a rural farmstead eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The owners were asked for their input and to send any suggestions on any measures to reduce visual impacts. No verbal or written input has been received from the owners of Duncan Manor.
3. Measures to provide visual screening for Duncan Manor were discussed. It was mentioned that any measures would not occur unless the East Side Highways is built and that will be dependent on future growth in the area. It was discussed that the historic front of the house

## Meeting Notes

East Side Highway Environmental Assessment

Project Team Meeting with the IHPA, IDOT Cultural Resources Unit

January 27, 2016

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faces west towards I-55 and the railroad not east towards Towanda-Barnes Road.

An example of tree plantings that were used as visual screening for a new interstate at a rural farmstead eligible for the National Register of Historic Places was presented (This is the same example that had been shown to the owners of Duncan Manor at the September meeting). Dave Halpin (IHPA) said that if the tree planting for the visual screening of Duncan Manor is committed to in the Environmental Assessment (EA) the IHPA would recommend a finding of no adverse effect after consultation occurred with the other consulting parties. If there is the commitment to the visual screening in the EA and no adverse effect, a Section 106 report and a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for mitigation of visual impacts will not be needed.

Jan Piland added that FHWA will make the final determination on effects in consultation with the IHPA/SHPO and other consulting parties.

Brad Koldehoff said the other consulting parties that may be interested should be contacted about the proposed measures to reduce visual impacts for their opinions. Dave Halpin said he thinks that IHPA, the owners of Duncan Manor, and the McLean County Historical Society are the consulting parties for this project.

Mr. Halpin also stated that specifics about the tree planting and a graphic showing the area of proposed plantings should be included in a letter to the consulting parties (Mr. Halpin indicated on a map the area where he thought the plantings would be appropriate). The letter should ask each consulting party if they agree to a no adverse effect finding if the visual screening is committed to in the EA and state that if there is no response within 30 days concurrence will be assumed. Dave Halpin said he would provide an example letter. Copies of the letter sent to the consulting parties should be sent to FHWA, Ken Runkle (IDOT BDE), Bart Sherer (IDOT District 5), Eric Schmitt (McLean County), Brad Koldehoff (IDOT BDE, Cultural Resources Unit), and David Halpin (IHPA).

The specifics of the tree plantings were discussed. The plantings would occur within the right-of-way of the project. The advantages of planting trees in the right-of-way include that the owners of

## Meeting Notes

East Side Highway Environmental Assessment

Project Team Meeting with the IHPA, IDOT Cultural Resources Unit

January 27, 2016

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Duncan Manor might not allow the planting of trees on their property when the project would be built and this would prevent the possibility of any future owners of Duncan Manor from cutting down the trees. A certified arborist or landscape architect and IHPA will be consulted with prior to the plantings on the spacing of trees and species of trees. Trees that are low-maintenance native species to Illinois that are salt tolerant to moderately salt tolerant, of both salt spray and soil salt, will be used.

#### 4. Archaeology

There are five archaeological sites in the project area that cannot be avoided that warrant National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) consideration. There are also areas of the corridor that were not accessible and have not been surveyed yet. A MOA is required that will outline future archaeological surveys that will be required for these areas prior to construction. Brad Koldehoff asked for a letter from the County stating that the sites cannot be avoided and a statement on why they cannot be avoided. This letter will be added to the archaeological report and sent to IHPA.

#### 5. Next Steps

- a. Write a letter to consulting parties asking for their concurrence on no adverse effect on Duncan Manor if visual screening is committed to in the EA (create a figure showing the proposed tree planting area for visual screening to be included in the letter) (Huff and Huff).
- b. Write a letter to Brad Koldehoff (IDOT BDE, Cultural Resources Unit) about the archaeological sites that cannot be avoided and a statement on why they cannot be avoided (Huff and Huff/McLean County).
- c. Write Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on commitments for future archaeological work (Huff and Huff).



## MEETING NOTES

**Project:** East Side Highway Environmental Assessment  
**Subject:** Project Team Meeting with owners of Duncan Manor  
**Date:** September 11, 2015, 3:00 PM  
**Location:** Duncan Manor, McLean County, IL

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Notes of this meeting were prepared by Richard Ray of Huff & Huff, Inc. Please inform him of corrections or modifications.

**Project Team Attendees:** Eric Schmitt (McLean County), Jerry Payonk (CDI), and Richard Ray (Huff & Huff)

**Duncan Manor Attendees:** David Howell, Randi Howell

The purpose of the meeting was to review the current East Side Highway (ESH) Preferred Alternative in the vicinity of Duncan Manor, with respect to potential cultural resource impacts and potential mitigation.

Jerry, Richard, and Eric meet with the new owners of Duncan Manor. Mr. Howell is from Utah and Mrs. Howell had previously lived in Illinois. When they first moved into house it did not have water or electricity (it does now). They are on the process of renovating the house. The previous vandalism that was occurring to the site when no one was living there has stopped. The owners would like to be able to hold events at the site such as weddings. So far they have not been able to get the County to change the zoning to allow this.

1. History of East Side Highway – Jerry Payonk
  - a. Jerry presented an overview of ESH project development, timeline, alternatives development, and the Preferred Alternative. He stated that the ESH would not be built until there was a need for it based on development and traffic. If there was no growth in development and traffic the ESH would not be built. It was also mentioned there are currently no funds programmed to design, acquire land for, or to build the ESH. Jerry gave the homeowners copies of past project newsletters.
2. Duncan Manor Impacts – Richard Ray
  - a. The National Register nomination form for Duncan Manor contained no boundary map or definition. To be conservative the five acre parcel boundary was used for the site instead of just the

## Meeting Notes

East Side Highway Environmental Assessment

Project Team Meeting with the IHPA, IDOT Cultural Resources Unit

March 13, 2015

Page 2

house. There will be no use of any of the five acres of land Duncan Manor is located on.

- b. There will be no noise impacts according to noise modeling and FHWA policy.

The noise level at Duncan Manor is currently 56 dB(A), as measured through noise monitoring. In 2035, the noise level with the construction of the ESH is predicted to be 60 dB(A), as determined through traffic noise modeling using FHWA's Traffic Noise Model 2.5 (TNM), using year 2035 traffic data and the proposed ESH preferred alternative geometry. FHWA determines a noise impact occurs when the Noise Abatement Criteria (NAC) is approached, met, or exceeded for the future build condition. The NAC is approached at a level of 66 dB(A) for residential locations, including Duncan Manor. A noise impact can also occur if the noise levels increase by greater than 14 dB(A) from the existing condition to the future build condition. Neither of the conditions for determining a noise impact (as defined by FHWA) will be met with the proposed project.

- c. There would be an adverse visual impact to Duncan Manor. The ESH will introduce a new transportation facility to the view shed that will be about 300 feet from Duncan Manor to the south. The new northbound ESH ramp to eastbound I-55 will be about 900 feet to the west of Duncan Manor. The ESH will be about 10 feet lower than Duncan Manor to the south. The ramp that will connect to I-55 over the UP rail and old US Route 66 will be about 21 feet higher than Duncan Manor.

Maps were given to the homeowners including the project alignment, the distance from the house to the roadway from various view sheds, and elevations.

### 3. Mitigation

- a. The homeowners asked if the ESH can be moved further away from Duncan Manor. Jerry Payonk said it could not be moved further away. The ESH alignment is at a very good skew across I-55, old US 66, and the railroad and moving it would introduce a greater skew and would have problems connecting to Ziebarth Road. Alternatives that would move the roadway further from the house would also impact wetlands. The northbound ESH ramp to the

## Meeting Notes

East Side Highway Environmental Assessment

Project Team Meeting with the IHPA, IDOT Cultural Resources Unit

March 13, 2015

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eastbound I-55 ramp has been moved about 300 feet further from Duncan Manor than originally planned. A map showing where the roadway and ramps were previously planned and how they have been moved further from Duncan Manor was given to the homeowners.

- b. Planting trees along the right-of-way would be an option to create a visual screen between Duncan Manor and the highway. Plantings would likely have to occur on highway right-of-way which IDOT would control instead of the Duncan Manor property. This would likely be done in case there was a future Duncan Manor owner who would not allow the trees to be planted on the property when the ESH is built and to prevent any future potential future owners of Duncan Manor from being able to cut down the visual screens. An example of a project in Indiana was shown where trees were planted to block the view of a new interstate that was built there.
  - c. The owners of Duncan Manor were asked for their input and to send any suggestions they have for mitigation including if they had comments on types of trees/vegetation that could be planted, how close trees would be planted together, or other visual screens or mitigation ideas.
  - d. Jerry Payonk mentioned that mitigation would not occur until the ESH is built. Mitigation needs to be appropriate for the resource and the impacts. FHWA makes the final determination and will approve the mitigation.
4. Next Steps
- a. Meet with Duncan Manor owners, FHWA, IDOT, McLean County, local historical groups and agencies, and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) on mitigation measures.



# Illinois Department of Transportation

## Memorandum

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To: Salmon O. Danmole                      Attn: Greg S. Lupton  
From: Maureen M. Addis                      By: Thomas C. Brooks  
Subject: Natural Resources Review-Update  
Date: July 8, 2016

*Thomas C. Brooks*

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East Side Highway  
Section 10-00183-01-ES  
T23N/R2E/S25  
McLean County  
Seq. #16141 & Addenda A-D

The proposed project involves the study of the preferred alternative for the location of the proposed Eastside Highway between I-74 and I-55 east of Bloomington.

There will be 1,188 acres of land acquisition. There will not be in-stream work. There will be an undetermined amount of tree removal. Land cover in the vicinity of the proposed improvement is primarily agricultural land.

### **Review for Illinois Endangered Species Protection and Illinois Natural Areas Preservation – Part 1075**

The Illinois Natural Heritage Database contains records of the Loggerhead Shrike and Slippershell mussel in the vicinity of the proposed improvement. Avian, mammal, fish, botanical, invertebrate, water quality and mussel surveys were previously conducted by Illinois Natural History Survey in calendar year 2010. All surveys concluded absence of listed species. We conclude no adverse impacts to any state of federally listed species. Furthermore, there are no Illinois Natural Area Inventory sites, dedicated Illinois Nature Preserves, or registered Land and Water Reserves in the vicinity of the project location. **Therefore, consultation under Part 1075 is terminated.**

A Native Prairie Remnant (Botanical Site #3 in 2011 INHS botanical report) shall be impacted in the amount of 4.4 acres. The site is located along Old Route 66 from Airport Road and continuing northerly into Towanda. In order to protect the prairie, parking of vehicles or storage of equipment or materials should be avoided as much as possible within the prairie site. After construction, the disturbed area should be seeded with a native mix in accordance with Section 250 (Seeding) of the standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction.

**This review for compliance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously**

considered; the proposed improvement is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the proposed improvement has not been implemented within two years of the date of this memorandum, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new review will be necessary.

#### **Review for Illinois Interagency Wetland Policy Act – Part 1090**

The National Wetlands Inventory shows wetlands in the vicinity of the project location. A survey for wetlands was conducted in 2013 within the Environmental Survey Request limits for the proposed improvements. All potential sites were examined and 15 were determined to be wetlands. The Wetland Delineation Report and spatial information (ArcGIS shapefile) are saved in the project folder.

The project sponsor will consider location and design alternatives to avoid and minimize adverse wetland impacts to the extent practical. After the extent of impacts is determined, a Wetland Impact Evaluation (WIE) form will be completed and submitted to the IDOT Bureau of Design and Environment. Unavoidable adverse wetland impacts are subject to the applicable ratios specified in 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1090.50 (c)(8). If the project will avoid adverse wetland impacts, the WIE should reflect the determination that adverse wetland impacts will not occur. The WIE form and instructions for its completion can be accessed at <http://www.dot.il.gov/environment/wetlands.asp>.

#### **Review for Endangered Species Act - Section 7**

The proposed improvement was reviewed in fulfillment of our obligation under Section 7(a)2 of the Endangered Species Act. Our review included use of the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) web-based review tool. Through IPaC, an official species list was received and is saved to the project folder. The list contains the endangered, threatened, proposed and candidate species and proposed and designated critical habitat that may be present within or in the vicinity of the proposed improvement. The following species are listed: Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat and eastern prairie fringed orchid. No proposed or designated critical habitat is listed.

We assessed the potential for adverse impacts to the Ibat and NLEB in accordance with the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Railroad Administration Range-Wide Biological Assessment (BA) for Transportation Projects for Indiana Bat and Northern Long-Eared Bat.

We cross-referenced the preferred habitat of each listed species with our knowledge of the project area and determined that there may be suitable habitat present for the Indiana bat and the northern long-eared bat. We determined that the proposed improvement will not likely to adversely affect either species of bat provided **trees three (3) inches or greater in diameter at breast height shall not be cleared from April 1 through October 1.**

**We have determined that the proposed improvement is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of any critical habitat.**

Should the proposed improvement be modified or new information indicate listed or proposed species may be affected, consultation or additional coordination should be initiated.

VH



# United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Rock Island Ecological Services Field Office  
ROCK ISLAND ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE, 1511 47TH  
AVE  
MOLINE, IL 61265  
PHONE: (309)757-5800 FAX: (309)757-5807

Consultation Code: 03E18000-2016-SLI-0512

June 20, 2016

Event Code: 03E18000-2016-E-00568

Project Name: 16141D

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 attached species list identifies any federally threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project or may be affected by your proposed project. The list also includes designated critical habitat if present within your proposed project area or affected by your project. This list is provided to you as the initial step of the consultation process required under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act, also referred to as Section 7 Consultation.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 requires that actions authorized, funded, or carried out by Federal agencies not jeopardize federally threatened or endangered species or adversely modify designated critical habitat. To fulfill this mandate, Federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representative) must consult with the Service if they determine their project "may affect" listed species or critical habitat.

Under 50 CFR 402.12(e) (the regulations that implement Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act) the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally. You may verify the list by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website <http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/> at regular intervals during project planning and implementation and completing the same process you used to receive the attached list. As an alternative, you may contact this Ecological Services Field Office for updates.

Please use the species list provided and visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Region 3 Section 7 Technical Assistance website at - <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/section7/s7process/index.html>. This website contains step-by-step instructions which will help you determine if your project will have an adverse effect on listed species and will help lead you through the Section 7 process.

For all wind energy projects and projects that include installing towers that use guy wires or are over 200 feet in height, please contact this field office directly for assistance, even if no federally listed plants, animals or critical habitat are present within your proposed project or may be affected by your proposed project.

Although no longer protected under the Endangered Species Act, be aware that bald eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.) and Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq), as are golden eagles. Projects affecting these species may require measures to avoid harming eagles or may require a permit. If your project is near an eagle nest or winter roost area, see our Eagle Permits website at <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/midwestbird/EaglePermits/index.html> to help you determine if you can avoid impacting eagles or if a permit may be necessary.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. 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: 16141D

## Official Species List

**Provided by:**

Rock Island Ecological Services Field Office  
ROCK ISLAND ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE  
1511 47TH AVE  
MOLINE, IL 61265  
(309) 757-5800

**Consultation Code:** 03E18000-2016-SLI-0512

**Event Code:** 03E18000-2016-E-00568

**Project Type:** TRANSPORTATION

**Project Name:** 16141D

**Project Description:** New road construction through mainly row crop fields East of Bloomington Il

**Please Note:** The FWS office may have modified the Project Name and/or Project Description, so it may be different from what was submitted in your previous request. If the Consultation Code matches, the FWS considers this to be the same project. Contact the office in the 'Provided by' section of your previous Official Species list if you have any questions or concerns.





United States Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: 16141D

## Endangered Species Act Species List

There are a total of 3 threatened or endangered species on your 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. Critical habitats listed under the **Has Critical Habitat** column may or may not lie within your project area. See the **Critical habitats within your project area** section further below for critical habitat that lies within your project. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

Flowering Plants	Status	Has Critical Habitat	Condition(s)
Eastern Prairie Fringed orchid ( <i>Platanthera leucophaea</i> )	Threatened		
<b>Mammals</b>			
Indiana bat ( <i>Myotis sodalis</i> ) Population: Entire	Endangered		
Northern long-eared Bat ( <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> )	Threatened		



United States Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: 16141D

## **Critical habitats that lie within your project area**

There are no critical habitats within your project area.

