Moffett, Mary

From: Indiana Department of Transportation <dot@subscription.in.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 11:23 AM

To: Moffett, Mary

Subject: New Streamlined Section 7 Consultation for Gray Bat

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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Greetings,

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

INDOT, FHWA, and USFWS have approved a streamlined consultation process for the gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*) under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This is effective immediately. Please see the <u>INDOT Environmental Policy Office website</u> for the <u>USFWS clearance letter</u> for additional details.

What this means:

If your project area is within the range of the gray bat, as identified from the Official Species List from IPaC, then this clearance letter may be applicable for use.

If your project is able to complete IPaC for the Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, and tricolored bat with an NLAA determination, and meets the criteria outlined within the clearance letter, informal consultation with USFWS is not required for the gray bat and the effect determination for the gray bat is NLAA for your project. If this streamlined consultation is applicable for your project, this can be explained within the text of your NEPA document. INDOT EPO is working on guidance language for this new clearance letter.

Please reach out to myself or the appropriate District Environmental team with any questions.

Drew Passmore

NEPA Review Team Lead

Indiana Department of Transportation Central Office, N758 — Environmental Services Division Phone: 317-439-7500

Email: apassmore@indot.in.gov

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